



AIR NEW ZEALAND

Let the love of Rugby take you places



## SPECIAL SAN DIEGO FESTIVAL EDITION July 2005

Welcome home!

We trust you arrived home from San Diego safe and sound, that you all had a great time and those that did happen to pick up an injury are well on the way to recovery. For those of you unable to make it to San Diego, hope to see you at our

Wellington, New Zealand Festival in 2006.



In this special edition of Rugby eNews we thought we would show you some more Festival action, update you on available

facilities following the 'big week', detail the award and prize winners, highlight some thought provoking issues and announce some exciting news.



### THANKS

Firstly a huge vote of thanks goes to Festival Director, Regan Tully and his host committee for their time and effort in mounting the sporting side of the Festival. Securing the magnificent San Diego Polo Clubs grounds for all our games and the PETCO Park Baseball Stadium for the Welcome Party in particular were achievements that it was said locally, could not be done.

An event of this size takes a lot of organising, let alone in a country where there is little Rugby infrastructure, to provide the playing and recreational facilities. When you consider that EVERYTHING had to be imported into the

grounds - conveniences, showers (thanks to the US Marines!), catering, drinks stations, field marking, goal posts (who HAS got those palm trees!) etc etc, this was an achievement in itself!

## **AWARD WINNERS**

Congratulations to all our 'Award Winners', as presented...

at the Opening Ceremony...

Keisurke Takarabe - 'in appreciation of your lifetime support of the game of rugby'

at the Grand Finale Dinner aboard the aircraft carrier 'USS Midway'...

'Best Team Uniform' - Mikes Marauders ( from throughout the Far East )

'Best Supporters' - STARS Russian Dedy ( Russia )

' Personality of the Festival' - 91 year old Sadayoshi Morita ( Japan )  
( first picture below left )

'Spirit of the Festival' - Cyril Andrews ( Australia )

'Friendship Award' - Avatiu Nikao Golden Oldies ( Cook Islands )

Tom and Joe Hendrix ( bottom picture below ) - 'in appreciation of your dedication lifetime support of the game of rugby'

...and the winners of 25 free return air tickets to the 2006 Festival in Wellington, flying Air New Zealand were... 'The Sydney Downunders' from Australia.



## **TEAM & ACTION PHOTOS**

For all those Team and action photographs contact Toby Oliver at....

Action Shooters  
14132 Firestone Blvd  
Santa Fe Springs, CA90670

Tel: ( 562 ) 483-1760  
Fax: ( 562 ) 483-1765  
Mob: ( 51 ) 3293819  
Email: [social@actionshooters.com](mailto:social@actionshooters.com)



### **SAN DIEGO FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE**

In case you missed out, a selection of items from 'International Athletic' ( our merchandiser at the Polo Fields ) is still available. Go to their website at [www.iarugby.com](http://www.iarugby.com)

### **DID YOU SEE US ON TV?**

Yes that's right, the Golden Oldies San Diego Festival featured in a two hour documentary on US television recently. The documentary, commissioned by your host committee covered every aspect of the Festival and Golden Oldies

Rugby in the USA and worldwide. But don't panic if you missed it! A video copy will soon be available to all Golden Oldies worldwide for a nominal cost. Watch our website ( [www.goldenoldiessports.com](http://www.goldenoldiessports.com) ) for further details as to when and where to order your copy.

### **...AND ON THESE WEBSITES**

Mark ( 'Fitzzy' ) Fitzgerald an ex-patriot Aussie and founding member of 'Four Skin Divers Minus One', has his own neat little website, in which he reviews the Festival with his own unique photographs. Visit him at [www.aussiefitzzy.com](http://www.aussiefitzzy.com)

See also [www.poltroonsrugby.org/sdgameone.html](http://www.poltroonsrugby.org/sdgameone.html) for the 'Washington Poltroons' site - shots of all their action, games, sightseeing and more! Got a site featuring San Diego, that you would like us all to visit? Let us have your address!



## DOWN, DEFINITELY NOT OUT AND RECOVERING!

Two unfortunate injuries, in the 'more serious' category were sustained by players at the Festival.

- Graham Jackson of the 'Old Tasmanian Devils' from Australia, took a bad neck injury and although hospitalised, is now back in Australia and doing well
- Bob Stallard from England's 'Brentwood Famous Fives' had a an allergic reaction, compounding the severe dehydration that he suffered and was hospitalised for 36 hours. Bob is not sure his doctor will let him play again after the state he arrived home in, but is recovering well now!

Get well guys!

## 'THE LATE TACKLE' - ISSUE THREE

During the Festival two issues of 'The Late Tackle' were printed and distributed via Team Managers. Issue three is now on its way to you, once again via your Team Manager. If you don't get yours... get on to him/her!

Theres' some great shots from the final game day and that fantastic Grand Finale Dinner on board the 'USS Midway'.

We do have limited copies of Issue One and Two available, so let us know if you need to complete your set!

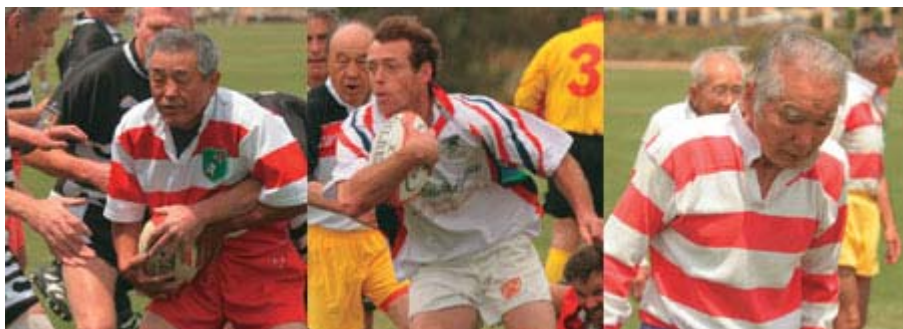


## TEAM MANAGERS FORUM

On the second to last day, Team Managers had the opportunity to give us their opinions regarding the Festival and Golden Oldies in general. Some good positive feedback was received along with how future Festivals could be improved. The minutes from this meeting are being distributed with the third issue of 'The Late Tackle', ask your Team Manager for details.

## RUGBY PLAYING LAWS

One of the issues discussed at the Forum, was a re-vamp of some of the Golden Oldies playing laws. Particular reference was made to the restrictions on players wearing coloured shorts and the need for some 'fine tuning' in this area. The Secretariat has taken these comments 'on board' and the subject will be fully reviewed at upcoming International Representatives meetings. Let us have your opinion on the current grading and playing laws - contact your local International Representative (see our website for contact details) or the Secretariat.



## **SAN DIEGO FESTIVAL TO BENEFIT LOCAL YOUTH SPORT**

The mission of the 2005 Golden Oldies World Rugby Festival hosts, the 'Old Aztec Athletic Club' is...

'To benefit youth sports in San Diego, including youth rugby. Our goal is to provide an athletic field and associated clubhouse for alternative sports such as rugby near the ocean in San Diego County'.

All profits from the Festival, sponsorships etc are going towards this most worthy cause. Our thanks go to all sponsors and in particular to Anheuser-Busch for their generous sponsorship resulting from the sale of Amberbock beer as the official beer of the Festival.

## **AIR NEW ZEALAND PROVIDES FURTHER SPONSORSHIP**

A further outcome of the San Diego Festival was that Air New Zealand recently provided return air fares from Los Angeles to Auckland for two up and coming young American College Rugby players.

The United States Rugby Football Foundation awarded Saia Vainuku and Conrad Bontrager Foundation grants to attend the International Rugby Academy of New Zealand.

Although its main focus is supporting youth and high school rugby, the Foundation also provides grants to coaches and referees; establishes international student exchanges and college scholarships, has assisted the United States Collegiate All-Americans and Boys Under-19 teams, and also provides grants to Safety and Risk Management Research..

For more information about the United States Rugby Football Foundation, visit [www.usrugbyfoundation.org](http://www.usrugbyfoundation.org) .

## **FREE 'PARKAS'**

The Secretariat still has 20 yellow 'Parkas' ( plastic jackets with hood ), left over from the 2003 Rugby Festival in Brisbane. All are a large size ( XL ), but would make a good fundraiser for teams saving for the next Festival First in first served....contact the Secretariat.

## **AND SO TO WELLINGTON IN 2006!**

One of the last formal actions to take place at the end of the San Diego Festival, was the handing over of the Golden Oldies World Rugby banner.

A new innovation inaugurated in San Diego, the banner signifies the formal 'handing over of the reigns' from one Festival Director to the next. Steve Dunbar on behalf of the



Wellington 2006 Host Committee had the honour of accepting the banner, which detailed place names and dates of all past Festivals going back to 1979 and accepting the challenge to bring 'Fun Friendship & Fraternity' to our next Festival venue - Wellington, New Zealand, 29 October - 5 November 2006...



AIR NEW ZEALAND

<sup>®</sup>  
**GOLDEN OLDIES**



**WORLD  
RUGBY  
FESTIVAL**

**WELLINGTON  
2006**

**SEE YOU THERE!**