



## Decisive Victories to Convicts (5th May 2007)

Australia's only gay Rugby club has made a solid start to their 2007 season with both Sydney Convicts teams scoring decisive victories in both their games on the weekend.

The Convicts are looking very good this season after winning the Gay Rugby World Cup (the Bingham Cup) in New York last May. The Noice Cup side, currently ranked fourth on the ladder, were too tough for the boys from Lane Cove, defeating them 58-10.

The Noice team started the season mid-April with a crunching 74-nil victory over Killara-West Pymble, followed by two very close losses to Oakhill (15-10) and Rouse Hill (16-15). And the Halligan Cup team came back on Saturday from their 17-nil defeat at the hands of Kings Old Boys last month by defeating Briars 13-5 in a bruising encounter on Saturday – their second match of the season.

Convicts club president Andrew "Fuzz" Purchas said you could not have asked for a better performance from both teams. "The Noice side was literally on fire," he said. "Our forwards dominated the field for the entire game with team Captain Charlie Winn leading by example once again.

"Warhorse Gus played with heart through the entire match and - ably assisted by players like Jumbo - led the attack and carved up the opposition.

"Players like these really opened up the field and our backs were quick to capitalise – Charles scored three tries with the opposition unable to lay a finger on him. "Stevie scored a great try with yet another bruising run which left the Opposition dazed, while Sam also made a great burst to score yet another try he's scored one try per game each year which is great."

In the Halligan Cup game, Deano was an outstanding player, scoring one converted try and also nabbing a penalty goal. Halligan's forwards were also great in defence, fighting off some determined attacks from the Opposition. Convicts club captain Charlie Winn said he was proud of both teams. "We've got a lot of new players and the sides are really starting to come together," he said.

"You were able to see that in both sides on the weekend – it's great to see the guys working together, having a good time and winning games. "I hope we keep it up all season."

Coach Dave Jordan said he was confident of a great season ahead. "The boys are working hard at training and using those skills in the matches. Well done to both Halligan and Noice teams – Halligan withstood some strong pressure on their own line for about five minutes before taking the fight back to the other end of the field and scoring the points.

"And Noice stuck to their game plan and it paid off with a convincing win. I think we've got a great season ahead."

This Saturday the Noice team plays at their home ground of Rose Bay at 2pm (Woollahra No.2 oval on Manion Ave.). This is the Sydney Convicts' fourth season competing in NSW Suburban Rugby, and the second year they have fielded two teams in the Sydney competition.