

# PRFC NEWSLETTER

Pittsburgh Rugby Club

Pittsburgh Rugby Club

January 7, 2008

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## Important Reminders!

Get ready to start paying your Spring dues! Contact Kelly Greene to make payment arrangements or you can pay your dues in full by seeing Ron Holloway or Jess Ezykowsky at Spring practices!

Men's dues are \$125 and women's are \$100.

Please remember to check [www.usarugby.org](http://www.usarugby.org) to make sure you CIPP registration covers you through Spring 2008!

## Letter From The President

2007 was a great learning experience for me and those of the Executive Committee who were also holding office in the club for the first time. We learnt some things the hard way and also benefited from the experience of previous officers. On behalf of the entire Executive team I would like to thank those who attended the AGM for your vote of confidence in re-electing us.

Having been through a full year of running the club without making any significant changes, I have some ideas about how to improve things for

smoother and more efficient operations that will benefit the club and the players. In addition to the ongoing high level goals of pursuing our own field and running successful playing seasons, I would like to set targets for 2008 of greater cooperation and collaboration throughout the club and the promotion of club spirit through both teams.

I believe these things can be accomplished by a few small changes in process and organization, and the benefits will be considerable. Intangible concepts such as

these are difficult to measure, but I think it will be evident to all if we make progress on them. Success will be possible if all members participate in a positive way.

I will be outlining more details in future newsletters, but in the meantime please support all club activities in any way you can. Between now and start of practice there will be a number of social events, fundraisers, and alternative sports to take part in.

Dave Alexander  
President

## What's Going On?

Event	Date	Location
Dodgeball	Tuesdays	Downtown YMCA (starts 1/8/08)
Broomball	Mondays	Mt. Lebanon Ice Rink (starts 1/14/08)

## Special Events & Other Stuff!

## A Farewell Message From Red

Submitted by Red

This season didn't really go as I planned result wise, but the skills, techniques and knowledge of rugby improved vastly over the season so I count that as being successful. Players learned that it isn't just on the field that needs commitment, however, and off-field commitment such as attending trainings, after-match functions as well as fundraisers need to be a priority if on-field success is

desired.

Overall I had a very enjoyable time here in Pittsburgh and to me it's a home away from home and I wish to thank all those who worked hard to make my stay here as enjoyable as possible. I am glad that I was able to come here and I learned quite a bit from my visit and I am sure I will be able to incorporate a lot of

what I learned into my future coaching.

Finally, I would like to wish the men's and women's teams as well as the club all the best for the future and if anyone ever visits New Zealand then please don't hesitate to look me up as it would be my pleasure in showing you round the number one rugby country-just not in world cups.

## ► Spring 2008 Schedule

*This schedule is tentative and is subject to change. Check the website regularly for updates.*

Angels				Men		
Result	Opponent	Location	Date	Location	Opponent	Result
	<i>Savannah St. Patty's Day Tourney</i>	<i>Away</i>	3/15	<i>Away</i>	<i>Savannah St. Patty's Day Tourney</i>	
	Open (Easter)		3/22		Open (Easter)	
	Coopers Lake Tournament		3/29		Coopers Lake Tournament	
	TBD		4/5		TBD	
	Doylestown	Boyce Park	4/12		TBD	
	Scioto Valley	Away	4/19	Away	Happy Valley	
	Harrisburg	Boyce Park	4/26	Away	<i>Erie</i>	
	Rites of Spring	Baltimore	5/3	<i>Baltimore</i>	<i>Rites of Spring</i>	
	Akron	Boyce Park	5/10	Away	Harlequins	
	NOVA	Away	5/17		TBD	
	Mystery Tour	???	5/24	???	Mystery Tour	



*It's a little late, but...*  
**Congratulations...**  
*to Kim and D (David) Martyn on  
the birth of Mary Edith on  
September 27, 2007!*

### Rugger's Pub Update

Thanks to everyone's continued support of the Pub. We continue to add to and change our beer and liquor selection, with various seasonal beers being added every few weeks. Stop down to watch a Steelers or Penguins game!

Check out the Rugger's Pub MySpace page throughout the month for events, specials and new additions to the beer & liquor selection! Thanks to those of you who have visited our page and added us to your friends!

[www.myspace.com/ruggerspub](http://www.myspace.com/ruggerspub)

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### A Message From the New Men's Coach

Submitted by Kev

A little about me...

I came to this wonderful Country seven years ago after meeting my lovely American wife. Just as Americans are brought up on a staple diet of Football...Kiwi's are brought up on Rugby. I started playing rugby at 5 years old. in the "midget" grade. We would clear the sheep off the pitch that morning before game time. My Dad was a rugby fanatic as is all my family. Dad spent years on the New Zealand Rugby Union and heavily influenced me as to my love of the game. I recall clearly getting up at 3 am to listen to New Zealand play South Africa on antiquated valve style radios.

After snapping my hamstring for about the 5th time and hitting the grand old age of 30 something...it was time to retire. I sort of fell into coaching because of my love of the game and in my first year coaching a senior men's team in NZ we made the final of a 16 team competition.

After moving to the States I took over as the Coach of the Pittsburgh Harlequins. Within 2 years we were unbeaten in MARFU D1 and went on to beat the...at that time...current 2 time national champions San Mateo in the Sweet 16 and qualify for the D1 Elite 8. I then retired as Coach to work on the house I had just pur-

chased over the next couple of years.

I am looking forward to Coaching Pitt City. There is much to be done...however..."City" has much to be proud of. The very fact that we wear "Black" makes me feel very comfortable. I intend to bring changes in a number of aspects. How we play the game...how we view ourselves as a team...etc. I ask that you be patient and positive while we under go an adjustment period.

Regards  
Kev

[Kevwright@comcast.net](mailto:Kevwright@comcast.net)

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## Pittsburgh Sports League

*This Winter, members of the Pittsburgh Rugby Club will be participating in winter sports leagues sponsored by the Pittsburgh Sports League and PUMP. See below for information!*

**Dodgeball** \dɔʃ'bɔl\ n. A game in which players on one team try to eliminate players on another by hitting them with an inflated ball.

Tuesdays starting January 8th

January 8	6pm
January 15	7pm
January 22	8pm
January 29	8pm
February 5	7pm
February 12	6pm

**Broomball** \'brūm'bɔl\ n. A kind of ice hockey that is played with the players using brooms and a soccer ball instead of hockey sticks and a puck and wearing shoes or boots instead of ice skates.

Mondays starting January 14th

January 14	10:30pm	February 11	8:30pm
January 21	7:30pm	February 18	10:30pm
January 28	7:30pm	February 25	8:30pm
February 4	7:30pm	March 3	8:30p,

REMINDER: Please send any address, phone or email updates to Claire at [pghrugbyangel@yahoo.com](mailto:pghrugbyangel@yahoo.com)!

## Brewfest 2007 Recap

Submitted by Katy Rank Lev

Congratulations to the Pittsburgh Rugby Club for another banner year of Pittsburgh Brewfest. The club was able to make a donation of \$3175 to PLEA (Programs for Living, Education, and Advocacy) and raised \$5100 for their filed fund.

Another post-season playoff journey for the Angels limited the amount of lead time and promotion for this year's event, but thanks to a tremendous team effort the event brought 600 guests to the Boardwalk and earned nearly as much as last the 2006 Brewfest!

The team's off-season cross train-

ing efforts were also successful in garnering support for the club. Among the guests were the coaches from Three Rivers Rowing, who helped the Rugby boat to eventual victory last summer. The Brewfest offered a phenomenal showing of teammates' colleagues, friends, and family and was a great opportunity for the club to demonstrate its social traditions off the field.

The top beverages at the 2007 event included Breckenridge Vanilla Porter in first place, Ithaca Apricot Wheat in second, and East End Big Hop IPA in third. Participating brewers included Avery Brewing, Bells Brewery, Blue

Moon, Breckenridge Brewery, Church Brew Works, East End Brewing, Great Lakes, Grolsch Lager, Harpoon Brewery, Hereford and Hops, Hook and Ladder Brewing Company, Iron City Brewing Company, Ithaca Beer Company, John Harvard's Brew House, Killians, Magic Hat, Magners Brewing, Molson, New Holland, Penn Brewery, Straub Brewing, Three Rivers Underground Brewers, Troegs Craft Brewery, Victory Brewing, and Yuengling.

Thank you to all who participated in the event. We hope to see you again next year!



No Dan Talbert picture this month!! Instead, here's Kelly Evanovich on the mechanical bull at Calico Jack's!

If you have a picture you'd like featured here, **PLEASE** email it to [pghrgubyangel@yahoo.com](mailto:pghrgubyangel@yahoo.com) to have it included in the future!

### Who's In Charge Around Here?

As some of you know, each member of the executive committee has taken on the responsibility for specific club activities. Please continue reading to find out the Executive Committee contact and the chairperson(s) to contact:

**Dave Alexander:** Overall Club Liaison

- Major Events: AGM, Ruggers Pub, New Field, Men's Coach, Youth Rugby
  - Coopers Lake (Claire Preville)
  - Brewfest

**Dan Talbert:** Fields & Fundraising

- Fields - Practice & Match Fields
- Recruiting (Dan Talbert, Jaimie Sulli-

van)

- Equipment (James McCoy, Jenny Ovide)
- Sponsorship
- Volunteer Events
- Fundraising (Kelly Holloway, Jessica Landis)

**Kelly Greene:** Finance

- Annual Budget
- Dues Collection (Ron Holloway, Jess Ezykowsky)
- Merchandise (Christianna Elash, Jack McLaughlin)

### Executive Committee Update

**Claire Preville:** Communications

- Website
- Newsletter
- Yahoo Groups

**Christy Lust:** Women's Convener

- Match Secretary (Tricia DiBasilio)
- Team Equipment (Jenny Ovide)
- Social (Jess Ezykowsky)
- Match Reporting (Katy Rank)

**Mike Wilson:** Men's Convener

- Match Secretary (Adam Oakley)
- Team Equipment (James McCoy)
- Social (Chris Yohe)
- Match Reporting

### 2007 PRFC Executive Board

Dave Alexander	President	david.alexander@yahoo.com
Dan Talbert	Vice President	djtal10@att.net
Kelly Greene	Treasurer	kelgreene2003@yahoo.com
Claire Preville	Secretary	pghrugbyangel@yahoo.com
Christy Lust	Women's Convener	christy.lust@nepinc.com
Mike Wilson	Men's Convener	mwilson@capitol-technologies.com

If you have any suggestions for the newsletter or have something to contribute, please email Claire Preville.