

24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

6TH EDITION NO 4

2024 PLATINUM SPONSORS



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## LADIES DAY IN THE RAIN



**WAIKATO  
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WAIKATO TRACTORS ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT MANA WAHINE AND  
THE PIRONGIA RUGBY & SPORTS CLUB!

*A huge thank you to our sponsor of the day!*

## 2024 GOLD SPONSORS



## B'S TOO GOOD FOR SUBURBS

**Pirongia scored a convincing 30 points to 12 victory over Suburbs on a wet day played in front of a good crowd.**

Pirongia through their strong kicking game started to dominate the larger suburbs team. The first try was scored by Marc Walton after Billy Ouston made an outstanding break, running 40 metres, being tackled centimeters from the line. Walton, like all good flankers, was quick to the break down and was able to go over untouched. 7 to nil lead.

Pirongia were using the kick to good effect pushing back the Suburbs team and with good field position Sam Denize was able to convert two penalties to increase the lead to 13 to nil. Pirongia were all over Suburbs by now and were able to score two quick tries both to Jack Kelly. The first was when Denize put a lovely chip kick over the defenders and Kelly was able to run onto this and score untouched near the post. It was the Denize Kelly combination again for the next try. Denize went on his own, sidestepping past 3 defenders then threw a wide pass to Kelly who was able to gather and run to the corner and score to finish the half with the score reading 25 to nil to the home team.

The second half was more of a grind. Suburbs using the wind to good affect and with Pirongia not able to get the flow of the first half back.

Suburbs were able to score two early tries, to close the score to 12 to 25, but this only spurred on the Pirongia team who were able to score again, after some good forwards play Brook Witehira was able to gather the ball from 2 metres out and barge his way over. When the final whistle sounded Pirongia had a well deserved 30 to 12 win.

Player of the day went to Brook Witehira who was outstanding in the tight, tackling well and taking hit ups all game. His try put the game to rest and one of his core roll of throwing in were on point all game.

A special day for father and son, Ross and Sam Denize who were able to have a game together. A great win for the boys on ladies day, and they are now sitting third on the table.



*Father & son running out together! Proud moment!*

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## COLTS LOSE CLOSE BATTLE

Pirongia Colts lost a close encounter to their rivals from Leamington 17-12 but will be ruing a number of opportunities they were not able to capitalize on.

Leamington started strongly and through sustained pressure were able to open the scoring after 7 minutes and take a 7-0 lead.

Pirongia had chances to strike back but the last pass to the open man was going undelivered to see opportunities squandered. Lemington were able to work their way bay down field and score a second try to open a 12-0 lead. Pirongia were able to



*Boston Zeuren with another strong charge*

strike back and Finn McLean scooted over from close to the line from some sustained attack from Pirongia to close the gap to 12-5 at half time.

Much of the same was to follow in the second half as Pirongia created openings and space but were unable to put the last man in the gap. More solid play from Leamington saw then score a further try to extend their lead to 17-5. This saw Pirongia finally create some positive play and after a surge down field a nice offload from Mitch Zeuren to his brother Boston saw Boston crash over for a try close to the posts for the resulting conversion close the gap to 17-12.

Boston Zeuren was a last minute starter but had a whale of a game to secure player of the day.

## GREAT GAME IN THE WET

In a fierce battle on the rugby field, the Pirongia women faced off against Waitete in challenging weather conditions at Pirongia.



*Ladies Day with our ladies playing! How cool!*

From the outset, Waitete asserted their dominance, securing four tries in the first half. However, Pirongia's debutant, Kura Falleni, showcased her talent with an impressive try, keeping her team in contention. HT 5-20.

Undeterred by the halftime scoreline, Pirongia emerged with renewed determination in the second half. They began to find their rhythm, with Milla and Dobbs each contributing tries to their team's effort. Despite their solid performance in the second half, Pirongia ultimately fell short, with Waitete claiming victory with a final score of 30-17.

Acknowledgments are due to Pirongia's sponsor, Waikato Tractors, whose support is invaluable to the team's success.

Additionally, the club is commended for organizing a memorable Ladies' Day event, fostering a sense of community and celebration within the rugby fraternity. Though the outcome wasn't in their favor, Pirongia's women can take pride in their resilience and determination on the field.

Player of the day AJ Tyer

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# A BIG DAY IN THE RAIN!

**A big day under the mountain on Saturday as the 4 senior teams played at home. Unfortunately the weather gods didn't play ball and there was a fair amount of rain all day.**

The A team, wearing pink jerseys that would be auctioned later that night, had a bit of a reversal of that form, in that Suburbs A's dominated most of the game with the local guys struggling to get on top of their adversaries for large parts of the game.

Suburbs came out the stronger and kicked an early penalty from about 40 meters out on a slight angle to take a 3-0 lead. A few minutes later they extended their lead to 10-0 when their first - five dummied and split the Pirongia defence to score near the posts giving their kicker an comfortable conversion.

The Pirongia team did respond by controlling possession and managing to put some phases together. From a scrum 5 meters out from the Suburbs goal line No 8 Inoke Dauniseka picked up and managed to ran around the close defenders to score in the corner.

At 10-5 there was hope the mountain men would take control and turn phase possessions into points but too many errors and penalties conceded resulted in turning over possession too frequently.

Two more tries (one converted) meant the visitors went into the halftime break 22-5 ahead.

The second half was more of the same as the visitors dominated possession and utilised the ball they won more effectively than the home team who had their moments but couldn't hold onto possession for long enough spells to put the visitors under pressure to convert possession into points.

Although as a team they struggled for most of the game there were some strong individual performances. Amongst the forwards captain Shaun

Coutts laid all he had on the line winning his lineouts, taking the ball up strongly and making tackles when they were required. Prop Liam Hobbs was a mountain of strength and power in the tight work. No 8 Inoke Dauniseka ran hard all day questioning the Suburbs defence.

First-five Graham Wade tried all day to improve the field position of the home team. He was then required to play the last 20 minutes at halfback where he looked comfortable clearing from the base and looking to challenge the Suburbs defence. Onward and upward as next week we take on Leamington at home.



*Absolutely love the PINK jerseys! Nice touch lads*



*Tom Kirkbride's blazer game! Well done chap!*

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## 2024 DRAW

### 6TH APRIL

A's and B's - Putaruru - Away  
Colts - United matamata Sports - Home  
Womens - Hauraki North Diamonds - Home

### 13TH APRIL

A's and B's - Kereone - Away  
Colts - Hinuera - Away  
Womens - Hautapu Sports - Away

### 20TH APRIL

A's and B's - Suburbs - Home  
Colts - Leamington - Home  
Womens - Waitete - Home

### 27TH APRIL

A's and B's - Leamington - Home  
Colts - Suburbs - Away  
Womens - BYE

### 4TH MAY

A's and B's - Frankton - Home  
Colts - Rugby United (Thames Valley) - Home  
Womens - Taupiri - Away

### 11TH MAY

A's and B's - Taupiri - Away  
Colts - Hamilton Marist - Home  
Womens - Hamilton Marist - Home

### 18TH MAY

A's and B's - Te Rapa - Home  
Colts - Hautapu Sports - Away  
Womens - Putaruru Wahine - Home

### 25TH MAY

A's and B's - Bye  
Colts - University - Away  
Womens - Suburbs Fillys - Away

### 1ST JUNE - KINGS BIRTHDAY

A's and B's - Surf (Tokoroa) - Away  
Colts  
Womens

### 8TH JUNE

A's and B's - Hinuera - Home  
Colts - Hamilton Old Boys - Home  
Womens - United Matamata Sports - Away

### 15TH JUNE

A's and B's - Ohaupo - Away  
Colts - Fraser Tech - home  
Womens - TBC (Start of second round / Playoffs)

### 22ND JUNE

A's and B's - TBC (Start of second round)  
Colts - Morrinsville - Away  
Womens - TBC

Presidents Rugby does not start till later in season - draw not available yet.

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