



Hornsby Lions Secure Premier Coach for 2011 Season

The Hornsby Lions have secured the services of Ben Manion, former first grade coach of Premier club Warringah, to lead the charge towards a successful 2011 season. The club is embarking on a new era as it approaches its 50 year anniversary in 2012.

Ben is excited about the challenges and opportunities the Lions present and having an eager new audience for his rugby skills and philosophy was a major attraction to the Hornsby based club.

Ben identified an 'obviously talented young group' at the club in recognition of the ongoing achievements of the Hornsby Colts teams. The Hornsby Lions Colts have enjoyed significant success particularly in recent years with a premiership and appearances in the last four final series including two grand finals. Retaining this talent is important to the ongoing growth of the club and many of the Colts have continued their success alongside their more experienced senior grade team mates.

Matt Rugers, the Hornsby Rugby Club President, is proud of the clubs achievement in securing the services of this respected coach. The Hornsby Rugby Club Committee is looking at new ways to develop and nurture a positive culture within the club and quality leadership was identified as a fundamental part of this. Mr Rugers describes securing the new coach as 'a major coup for the club'.

Ben's initial focus will be getting to know the players as he leads structured and challenging pre-season training sessions across all five grades. The Lions have been a consistent presence in the Second Division competition for the last 12 years and their goal this year is to strength their position within the competition and build a framework for a memorable 50th year anniversary season. This will be key in establishing ongoing prosperity for the local club. Providing a family friendly environment with close links to the community is an important part of this and the new Culture & Community Sub-Committee is already making great strides in this area.

The Lion's first round will be held at Waitara Oval on Saturday April 2 against the University of New South Wales. The day kicks off with the Colts match at 10:45 followed by the senior grades and culminating with First Grade at 3:15pm. UNSW are always a tough competitor but Hornsby have had some great wins against them in the last couple of years so it should be a great day of rugby and set the tone for a positive year.

If you are interested in playing with the Hornsby Lions or joining the Lions coaching team under Ben Manion please contact us.

For more information please see the Club website or contact us on info@hornsbyrugby.com.au

Matt Rugers – Club President

Lucas Robinson – Culture & Advertising/Sponsorship