

BALI RUGBY UNION

History

Rugby in Bali traces its roots back to 1995 when a group of Bali expats and visitors formed a team to participate in the the annual Bali 10's tournament, lead by the Sutherland Brothers Hamish & Sandy, the team took its name from its Mambo sponsored boxer shorts with a chicken motif, hence the team was known as the Bali Chooks.

After a successful 10 years in which the Bali Chooks won the Bali 10's 5 times, second twice and the Plate once, in 2005 decided to to call it a day, and the Chooks were retired.

In 2006 with a visiting French team looking for a game of rugby, the rugby team was reformed, with a view to a permanent club, so crystallising in 2006 with the founding of the Bali Rugby Club (BRC), by rugby stalwarts Craig Harrington, Rodney Holt, Robin Quinn, Ant Lennan, and with Riki Teteina as founding President. Affiliated with the Indonesian Rugby Football Union (Governing body of Rugby in Indonesia) (IRFU), which in turn is a member of International Rugby Board and KONI (Indonesia's Olympic Federation), has a mandate to develop and manage the game of Rugby through out the Island of Bali.

In its first year, BRC's goals were modest; only to enter a team in the Bali 10's Rugby tournament, (see below)

Flush with new found confidence, BRC set its horizons higher in 2007, with a number of firsts. Namely, their first tour, which was to the Jakarta 10's which saw BRC eliminated on a count back, even though BRC remained undefeated.

From that tournament saw the first BRC players selected to the Indonesian National team, with Rodney Holt going on to play for Indonesia in the successful 2007 Asian Rugby Football Union Championship.

In its effort to promote the game of Rugby in Bali, BRC hosted its first tournament in August 2007, a Touch Rugby Championship with teams from around Indonesia and in a major first, the first Beach Rugby tournament held in Indonesia.

2007 Thieess Bali 10's saw Bali entering a record 3 teams, including the first Bali team composed of Balinese under coach Robin Quinn.

The BRC firsts continued with the Bali Schoolboy Tour to Jakarta in November 2007 with Nico de Ribas assisted by Kurt Lovell to the British International School U16 10's. Once again BRC (see below) with only three months practice, performed creditably against much more experienced opponents.

So after a momentous 2007, BRC kept the momentum moving forward in 2008 with the first tour by the Bali Development Team of Balinese players to the Sengatta 10's in March with

Bali coming 3rd in the Jakarta 10's this May ,and from that tournament 3 BRC players; Nathan Flax, Grant "Olly" Olsen and Mark Parthezious, were selected for the 2008 Indonesian National Team for the HSBC Asian 5 Nations regional series against Laos & Cambodia in July in Jakarta.

In July 2008 Bali beat Samurai at Canggu Club, and in August in another first Bali Rugby hosted as part of the Sanur Village Festival BRC the Bali National 10's and Bali Beach Rugby Cup .

The Bali Development team recorded its first wins on its way to 3rd place.

In the 2008 Bali Intenational 10's Bali Rugby entered 2 teams,a senior team which got as far as the Cup semi final and the Development team which won the Jug competition,the Development team's first silverware.