



Chattanooga Rugby Football Club Bi-Weekly Newsletter

March 2011

Volume 4, Issue 1

NOOGA RUGBY BEATS HUNTSVILLE 31 - 22



In their first matrix match of the 2011 season, Nooga Rugby defeated the Huntsville RFC 31 - 22. After a slow start, which allowed Huntsville to score an early try, Nooga Rugby scored five times to take a commanding 31 - 8 lead late into the match. After several substitutions, Huntsville was able to score two quick tries but it was too little too late. Nooga was helped by tries from prop Ethan Wine, flyhalf Kirk Neubauer, wing Steven Jones, reserve prop Taron Smith, & fullback Tim Mayberry. After careful consideration, our **Isle of Skye Man of the Match** was blind-side flanker Jason Shrabel, who had a great day in support & defense. Honorable mention went to Troy Smith, who made his CRFC debut at outside center. This victory gives Nooga a 1-0 record in the 2011 matrix, which keeps them at the top of the standings.



<u>Team</u>	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>
Chattanooga	2	0
Huntsville	0	3
Knoxville	1	2
Little Rock	1	1
Memphis	1	2
Nashville	3	0

CRFC Wins Again With a 41 - 21 Victory Over Knoxville



With a solid performance by their forward pack, Nooga Rugby, beat the Knoxville RFC 41 - 21 to remain unbeaten in the 2011 matrix. This victory, the first over Knoxville since 2005, has kept Nooga at the top of the leader board and in great shape to earn just their second playoff birth since 2000. Tries were scored by prop Ethan Wine (2), 8-man Pat Flynn (2), blind-side flanker Jason Shrabel, prop Brent Saxon, & inside center Tom Snow. Though solid performances were turned in by several players, 8-man Pat Flynn was selected the **Isle of Skye Man of the Match**. Pat's big day was highlighted by multiple bruising runs, great defense, & solid support. Honorable mention went to fullback Thomas Lawson who had several, long-range, counter-attacks that set the platform for multiple CRFC scores. CRFC now sits at 2 - 0 in the matrix, behind Nashville who at 3 - 0 leads the division.

* Thomas Lawson (CRFC) & Knoxville M.O.M. shown here.



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CRFC vs. Huntsville
CRFC vs. Knoxville

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Tales from the Old Boys - A Kilt, A Spook, & An Elevator

After a great first day at the Savannah St. Patrick's Day Rugby Tournament, we were pumped to get an early start out on it's famous River Street. The "mature" crowd on the trip was, as usual, rushing the young guys to get it together so we could join in on the Mardi Gras style party going on all over downtown Savannah.....mature guys being Drew Whitley at 34 or 35, Patrick Johnson older, married, wearing a kilt and sporting hair gel, Pete Steyn, oldest, cocktail in hand, dark jeans, white sneakers, polo shirt and no belt and finally Rand "spook" Nichols, fresh off some clandestine training, was also in attendance but nobody really knew where, when, or why he was there! Along for the supposedly short elevator ride down was a fine young Christian lad named Elias who was getting all he could handle by choosing the wrong group, the wrong room, and unfortunately the wrong elevator. To make the story short, as we got on the elevator the forever young Clay Hicks and his man-child sidekick Blaz Ruzic thought it would be a great idea to A) pack the elevator full with 12 or 13 guys B) jump up and down as we left the 8th or 9th floor and C) not bring any beer. About the time Whitley and Steyn said, "stop jumping" the elevator's emergency brakes system kicked in somewhere around the 6th floor. With absolutely nothing to drink, Pete's complaining, the spook slipping into some sort of Indian style pose on the floor in a POW trance like state, and Patrick Johnson sweating profusely with his shirt off it was needless to say a nightmare. I would gather the elevator was around 80 degrees and with 13 grown men that is serious heat. After several failed attempts we finally got through to 911 and the Savannah Fire Department was dispatched. Several hours later and a dozen one by one rescues up the elevator shaft our group was freed. Honestly looking back it was crazy, if anyone of you know these guys personalities its pretty hilarious. Patrick does not like to be crowded or touched, Pete was constantly harassed by everyone, Drew trying to keep the peace, making meaningless conversation about what dream world the spook was in.....it made for what turned out to be a great night.

Submitted by Drew Whitley
CRFC '98 - '05

Player Profile



Name: Matt Killebrew
Position: Lock
Hometown: Chattanooga, TN
Age: 30
Yrs Playing Rugby: 8
Previous Club: None
Hobbies: Work!

Captain's Corner

It's been a great start to what looks to be a great season. The boys have repeatedly impressed me & our Vice-Captain, Tom Snow, day after day with their commitment, hard work, and ability to improve. Things are looking so good that numerous supporters & old boys alike have said this could be one of the best Chattanooga Rugby teams they've seen in years. With five matches left, it's now our job to prove it! We look forward to our next home match (Mar. 26th) & seeing all of you out!

- Clayton Parr

Old Boys Update

As part of our efforts to improve our fan-base, Nooga Rugby is looking to institute new activities during our home matches that thank our fans for attending. The first activity, which was implemented at the Knoxville match on Feb. 26th was our gift card raffle. In this event, each fan received a free raffle ticket and was entered into a drawing for a Smoothie King gift card and an Honest Pint gift card. Shown on the right is CRFC Board Member Doug Casey presenting the gift cards to our two winners.

What we'd appreciate from the CRFC Old Boys are more suggestions on building our fan-base. If you have any thoughts or potential options, please email Jack Head at jackzhead@cs.com or James Howard at james-p-howard@utc.edu. Thanks!



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