



January 22, 2010

Dear Coach:

I trust you had an enjoyable Christmas Season and a Happy New Year. With the rugby fields of Ontario still under snow and frozen, it is time to start thinking about the 2010 rugby season. Over the course of December and January we have been in the planning stages for the 2010 Ontario Blues season. As a whole, we feel the inaugural Ontario Blues season was very successful. Even with a narrow defeat to the B.C. Bears in the Canadian final, we had a lot of positives. We were able to defeat the USA "A" squad, we placed 6 players on the NSMT fall test team against Japan, and Russia; for three players, it was their first Cap for the NSMT. We also have two players with RGC 1404 in North Wales, and have had 5 players take early season Canada 7s tours.

With our first season under our belt, we are looking to build and improve on our success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Rugby Clubs of Ontario for all their help, support and understanding. One of our goals this year is to improve communication with the Clubs and keep you up to date with what we are doing. As a result the Ontario Blues have a few things we would like to update you on.

First off, we have been working on our 2010 schedule. This year, as per below, we will be playing our games a little earlier, with the round robin games being played in August and first week of September. We have also scheduled our exhibition season as well.

Sat May 1 st	Inter Squad Trial Match	Venue and time TBA
Sat May 15 th	UK Police @ Ontario Blues	Venue and time TBA
Tue June 8 th	England Counties @ Ontario Blues	Venue and time TBA
TBA July	Midwest USA @ Ontario Blues	Venue and time TBA
Sat Aug 7 th	Ontario Blues @ The Rock	St Johns NFLD, 3 pm
Sat Aug 21 st	Ontario Blues @ The Wolf Pack	Calgary Rugby Park, 3 pm
Sat Sept 4 th	B.C. Bears @ Ontario Blues	Venue and time TBA
Sat Sept 18 th	Canadian Finals	Venue and time TBA
Sat Sept 25 th	ARC Finals	Venue and time TBA

Clubs will be able to host some of our home games, so if your club is interested in hosting an Ontario Blues home game please contact the Rugby Ontario office.

Last year I believe we did a good job getting around to a lot of different clubs to look for talent. The staff watched over 100 rugby games, looking for the best players in Ontario. Overall I feel confident that we were able to pick the best players in Ontario. After saying that, I also understand due to the size of Ontario and the massive number of rugby games being played over the course of the season, we may have missed a diamond



in the rough. The second piece of information we would like to share with you is an open try out for any and all players who may be interested in playing for the Ontario Blues. On SAT, FEB 27th, 7 am-9am @ Varsity Stadium we will have an open tryout. All interested players are welcome. The open try out will consist of fitness testing, skills sessions and mini games (if time permits). Any successful players will be invited to train with the Ontario Blues during the winter months and into April. We will need your help getting this information out to all the players in Ontario. PLEASE FORWARD THIS INFORMATION ON TO YOUR CLUB PLAYERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Open Try Out for all Ontario Senior Mens' Rugby Players

When: Saturday February 27, 2009 7 am-9 am

Where: Varsity Stadium, Toronto, Ontario (Bloor and Avenue Rd area)

Cost: \$20/Player

Required: players must be registered with RO (2009 season still qualifies); please bring-own water/sports drink; shorts, socks, proper rugby footwear (no metal cleats); TWO rugby jerseys, one dark and one light in color; tape, mouthpiece, shoulder pads as applicable

Itinerary: Fitness testing, Skills session, Mini Games

We are excited about the upcoming season and look forward to seeing you on the pitch. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us or the Rugby Ontario Office.

Finally, we would like to remind you to forward on any information (including dates, venues and times) on your pre-season matches so that we may assign staff to attend.

Thank you for all your support and I hope to see you at our home games.

Yours truly,

Les Gilson
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