

Yeomen Lions

Chronicles

Yeomen Lions Chronicles: where you will find all the latest news, updates, social events and any important information you need to know in one neat, compact newsletter!

Stellar Season Under New Coaches

By: Nina Bui

The 2014 season proved to be one of the most successful seasons the club has seen since merging in 2010 under the new coaching tutelage of Tony Godziek and Alison McKenna. The dynamic duo led the Firsts team to a 6-3-1 record, finishing second in the league entering playoffs.

The first game of the season pitted the Yeomen Lions against the perennial powerhouse the Aurora Barbarians. With some fresh new talent filling in some key positions, the Yeomen Lions took to the field strong and ferocious. The first 20 minutes saw the teams fight back and forth to gain territory and possession but ultimately, the Yeomen Lions would walk away victorious with a convincing score of 41-0. The team had shaken the league.

As the rest of the season progressed, it had seemed that the OWL had finally reached equilibrium with shocking scores week by week. No longer were there blow out scores as we've seen in seasons past. The Yeomen Lions enjoyed a steady

stream of W's before meeting with Waterloo County for the battle of the undefeated.

Unfortunately for the Yeomen Lions, the team suffered its first loss of the season with a disappointing 5-49 which would roll into the next couple of games with tight losses to the Toronto Saracens and the Aurora Barbarians. After regrouping and regenerating from the disappointments, the team would steamroll through the competition for the remainder of the season climaxing against their rivals, Waterloo County. Second time's a charm as the Yeomen Lions fought mercilessly for an end score of 17-17.

Entering playoffs in second seed, the Yeomen Lions received a bye and were through to the semi-finals against the Aurora Barbarians. With a 1-1 record against them this season, it would be anyone's game and until the final whistle blew, it was. The Yeomen Lions relentless physicality eventually won them the game with a final score of 12-8 and a berth into the OWL Championship.



Spirits were high entering the championship game. The team had come together nicely as a unit throughout the season and was confident about the outcome. As to be expected, both teams were playing for keeps and no one let up until Waterloo found space on the wing and put up the first points. The Yeomen Lions would courageously rally back with a couple tries of their own keeping the score as tight as possible but Waterloo County sealed the deal with a late try up the middle.

A well fought game with moments of spectacles and heartbreak, the Yeomen Lions would have to settle for second place to the end the season with a score of 26-12.

2014
Varsity
Squad



Rebuilding Year for 2nds Team

By: Twiggy Burkholder

The 2nds team started the season off well in 2014 with a victory over the Oakville Crusaders in Oakville. The team followed this up with another victory over the Toronto Scottish in their first home game of the season at Sunnybrook Park, defeating the Scottish 41-13.

Despite this great start to the season the team was only met with defeat in the next five outings as the team suffered crushing defeats from Waterloo and the Saracens.

The women also had to play the Aurora Barbarians twice in five days at the end of June. But the team never gave up and had a fun time in their second meeting with the Toronto Scottish in mid-July at Fletcher's Fields. The team was in control of the game until the final minutes when the Scottish scored a try in the final minutes of the game on an overlap, snatching victory from the team.

The women then played Waterloo at home and took them by surprise as they made Waterloo earn every point. The women were determined to beat Waterloo, hitting hard, tackling low, running into the gap as well as the forwards and the

backs working together to ruck over the ball and move it forward. The game was anyone's for the taking and it was the best lost of the season for the team as Waterloo was victorious, 19-17.

The final game of the season for the team was the quarterfinal match against the Barbarians at Fletcher's Fields. For the first 20 minutes of the game victory could have gone either way. But the Barbarians big forwards were too much for the team as they struggled to ruck and move the ball forward and they were defeated.

Ontario Women's League Finalists



TOP L-R: Coach Tony, Chelsie, Krissy, Emma, Krista, Bailey, Mac, Larry, Anna, Jacqueline, Leann, Michelle, Twiggy, Jess, Rozhen, Coach Alison, AT Nick

BOTTOM L-R: Maddy, Ashley, Ginge, Aisan, Shelley, Nina, Rachael, Mini Rachael (Carly), Mel, Jacky, Jolene, Lisa, Sarah, Deena, Urszula

McEwen Earns Queen's Gaels All-Time Leading Scorer Title

By: Lauren McEwen

My Queen's season this year had a lot of ups and downs. We started the season off with a huge bang by defeating Guelph and McGill in preseason, and rode that high into our first regular season game, defeating York 61-12 (sorry Mel). It was shortly after that our team fell victim to injuries, and we suffered from the loss of some of our key decision makers.

After a brutal 20-21 loss against McMaster our team quickly began rebuilding and had some big wins against U of T, Trent and Western. In just 3 games we scored 205 points and allowed only 29 points. Heading into playoffs we faced York, a game I had to sit out for because of a minor concussion. It was a tough game to watch as they played a close first half, but we pulled out the win in the end defeating York 41-21.

Unfortunately this would be the last win of the season as injuries took over and luck just wasn't on our side. Although this was not the outcome we had envisioned at the beginning of the season we are looking ahead to next year with the CIS

Championship being hosted at Queen's.

It was an incredible honour to be named Queen's all-time leading scorer this year as well as an OUA all-star and CIS All-Canadian. I had a lot of kicking practice this year with all the tries my teammates were scoring and without them, and a few lucky swings from the sidelines, I would not have been able to achieve these accomplishments.

I am looking forward to the Yeomen Lion season next year and to build off of our success this year!



Prost! Yeomen Lions Win at Drinking at Oktoberfest 10's Tournament

By: Nina Bui

Oktoberfest 10's is a friendly tournament hosted by Waterloo County RFC each year over Thanksgiving weekend. Entering the tournament for the third year in a row, finishing 1st and 2nd in the respective years, the Yeomen Lions rallied together a strong team to contend once again for Oktoberfest supremacy.

Playing against an unknown opponent, the Burlington Centaurs, a team who probably came to play more rugby than beer pong and actually conducted a pre-game warm up was never able to contend with the ever strong and sober, Yeomen Lions. Sergeant Nina marched her troops

into battle triumphantly and walked away unscathed with the first W on the day. Negotiating with the hooligan leader, Lisa Newton, who each and every year makes it her mission to be drunk by noon, Sergeant Nina was able to keep her troops at bay long enough to win their second battle against a familiar preseason opponent, the Stoney Creek Camels.

After round-robin play, the Yeomen Lions were among the top three seeded teams entering into the Cup Finals. Although trying to keep the team as competitive as possible, the "no drinking until at least 12pm" rule prevailed and as soon as the first can of Blue Ribbon was cracked, the drunken epidemic ran rampant through

the team and that was the beginning of the end.

As luck would have it, the Yeomen Lions would be faced again with Waterloo County. Having enjoyed running through the tournament as "Waterloo A" and "Waterloo B," when in actuality it was the same damn team, the Yeomen Lions were out for blood (and beer). In the end, beer prevailed and the team finished in 3rd place.

But for those who have attended in the past, the tournament is not all about rugby. Ultimately, it is rugby Christmas (in the words of Sarah Berry) where we gather together on a hill, drink beers, make bad decisions, rip shirts, and hope to God you don't run into your hookup the morning after. So although we didn't win the tournament, we won at drinking and that's all that matters. Bottoms up.

YEO-WHAT?

YEOLIONS!

Weekend Warriors: 7s Edition

By: Krissy Morley

Yeomen Lions took on four weekends of 7's rugby again this year! Starting out with only 5 players the first week we paired up with the Peterborough Pagans to create the "Yeo-Pagans" by sharing players between the two teams. The trend of sharing players was common this season as teams continually showed up short numbered. This practice would prove to be disastrous as the Pagans road this trend into being crowned League Champions.

We gained momentum in next few weekends with some great players and great weather. Each weekend, the teams were split into two tiers, with four teams in each, and playing round robin. At the end of the round robin, teams were ranked according to their results of the day. We won quite a few games and fin-

ished tied for first two out of the four weekends, coming out in 4th (out of 8) at the end of the season.

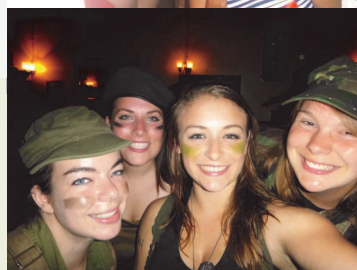
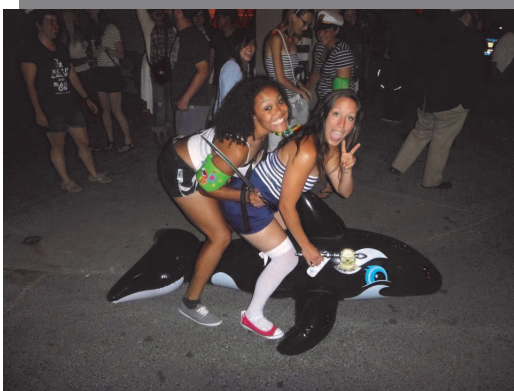
Unfortunately similar to last year, it was pretty cold but definitely not comparable (for those who remember the ice cold mud of last year, *shivers*). However

we managed to pass the time in between games playing "Heads Up" and having arm wrestling competitions for Instagram followers (that sounds weird written down, but I won so I'll hold that over Nina for a while).

Anyways, it was a great way to end the season and I'll miss you guys to the moon and back as I am moving to Vancouver in the Spring of 2015!



Pub Crawls and Socials



YeoCubs Club

By: Joyce Cheng

This junior's season was a blast! We were joined by lots of new faces and also welcomed girls from the Vaughan Yeo-men team, who made a great contribution to our success this season. We hope to be able to see them coming out again the future and that our club will continue growing as we move into our third junior season.

Some of our juniors even played with the seniors! Angel and Joyce had the chance to play a few games, and it was a great learning experience getting to play with higher level players. We hope that

more girls will continue joining the seniors and playing with the club this coming year.

This summer we also had three of our players represent the Toronto Rugby Union U17 7s team in the Ontario Summer Games hosted at the University of Windsor. Joyce, Mei, and Jessica had a great time representing the team and meeting players from different clubs all over the province. At the end of the month, Mei and Joyce will also be travelling with TRU to play in the New York 7s Tournament. They can't wait!

Overall, the season was fantastic and most importantly, a ton of fun. It was great to see many girls improve over the summer and develop their skills, and we can't wait to keep recruiting girls to join our diverse group.



2014 Award Nominees

Senior 1st Team Most Valuable Player



Senior Team Rookie of the Year



Senior 2nd Team Most Valuable Player



Club Person of the Year



Senior Team Most Improved Player



Junior Team Most Valuable Player

1) Mikayla 2) Jayne 3) Jasmine

Junior Team Most Improved Player

1) Angel 2) Clara 3) Taliya

Become a Member of the Club Executive

We need to understand the importance of the Club Executive and all the work they do. Most of the work needs to be done in the off-season. If the executive can commit to doing stuff from now until April, we can have a season where we can just focus on winning and not worry about logistics. In the past, the executive meets once a month through March to August. If we can do the same in the off season by meeting up once a month, we should be set up for a winning season. Please consider the positions below. We need to have more involvement from players if we want to be around for many years to come. As fewer players are involved, we get burn out and less enthusiasm for the roles below. Please read the descriptions below and see which one you feel most connected or interested in. It's not rocket science, but heart and commitment to being a Yeoman and the motivation to want to be the top team in the OWL. We are looking forward to getting the younger players involved in our Club Executive.

President

All information from Rugby Ontario is communicated through the presidents of the clubs, all emails regarding league structure, payment of dues, and any other issues are received throughout the year. These must be acted upon in a timely manner and the President must be present at the AGM and other important meeting held by Rugby Ontario.

As for the club, all ultimate decisions must go through the President regarding payment of dues, player registration, coaching, discipline issues and scheduling conflicts. The president should be the backup and cross reference for the treasurer. Set and run club executive meetings.

Recruitment and Retention Coordinator

The recruitment and retention coordinator actively pursues membership of new players and ensures the retention of new and old members. Being proactive, the coordinator seeks new members from a variety of environments: high school students, university athletes, recreational athletes, work, Facebook, Twitter, the gym etc. The recruitment and retention coordinator is the main communication contact for information to new members.

Social Coordinator

Plans, coordinates, and oversees the social events of the Club, including but not limited to, event coordination with affiliate men's team for annual pub crawls, post-game socials, registration, general board meetings, annual meetings, award ceremony and other events as determined by the Executive Board. Ensures that advance reservations of facilities are made. Suggests menus, decorations, and timing and sequencing of events, and manages costs of all events. Publicizes the events well in advance through various means and keeps the Executive Board informed on the status of planned and projected events.

Fixtures

The Fixtures representative on the executive is responsible for organizing fields for all practices and games, including exhibition games, league games and playoff games. For home games, emails are sent to the opposition and referee the Monday prior to the game. If no referee is assigned, other options must be assessed by the fixtures representative.

Confirmation emails must be received confirming game times, location and referees. As the away team, these emails should be received from the opposition. Practice location needs to be confirmed at the beginning of the season. Home field must be booked at the beginning of the season for all home games. The fixtures rep will also be responsible for making sure the field is available for practice and games on weather permitting days. Fixtures representative needs to make arrangements for money to be available to pay referees at home games.

Webmaster

The Webmaster role manages the website maintenance; keeping the website relevant and up-to-date, by updating the website with team news and recruitment information. Along with the communications coordinator, the webmaster assists with team's communication through the distribution list. The webmaster and communications coordinator roles are deeply hybrid so working in a team setting is essential. Webmaster also assists with preparation of promotional material, planning of recruitment and social events.

Communications Coordinator

The communications coordinator manages the club's communications strategy. The role heavily relies on e-mailing; sending out social reminders, game reminders etc. and managing the player request forms that come in to the account. The communications coordinator is also responsible for managing the Facebook and Twitter accounts, interacting and engaging with social networks to improve and bolster the image of the Yeomen Lions. In conjunction with the Webmaster, the communications coordinator also assists with coordinator Roster Manager.