



## AU May 2025 Newsletter

Alhambra Union Rugby Football Club

[www.aurugby.nz](http://www.aurugby.nz)

*vis unita fortior*  
'unity is strength'



May is the AU club's busiest month with all teams playing regularly as there are few disruptions. The two Colts 2 teams have been playing most games on Friday nights as this helps take pressure off referees, who we need more of.

The eight junior teams are playing at 9am, 10am or 11am. Last Saturday the Year 3 team in their first year of tackle had a workshop organised by the ORFU before their game. Here are our team training times for this season. Please keep an eye out on your team pages/messenger groups for any changes!

Year 7/8: Thursdays 4-5pm

Year 6, 5 and 4: Wednesdays 4-5pm

Year 3: Tuesdays 4-5pm

Year 2 and 1: Fridays 3:30pm

Under 5's: Saturdays pre-game

All trainings are at Ōpoho Park except for Year 7/8, the combined team with Harbour, which will train at Ravensbourne.

*Year 7/8 playing Pirates and Year 3 players learning good tackle techniques before their first game.*



**Liquorland Leith, The Baa Baa, AlSCO, Gardens New World, EFTPOS  
Specialists, Speights, Scope Group Limited, Placemakers.**

### Alhambra-Union Rugby Football Club

#### 2025 100 Club, \$100 per ticket

1st Prize \$1500 and either side \$150 each

2nd Prize \$750 and either side \$75 each

3rd Prize \$500 and either side \$50 each

10 Prizes of \$150

Drawn on Sunday, 13th July 2025



Name:  
Ticket no.

PAID



**100 Club.** Do not forget to take a ticket in our annual 100 Club raffle. First prize \$1500. Deposit \$100 into 060901 0191529 00 and include your name with reference 100C. The day for all the draws is Sunday, 13th July from 2pm. **Club Bank Account Main - 060901 0191529 00**

Congratulation to Oli Thode who is in the Otago wider group to play Southland's wider group on Tuesday 27th May in Gore.



*Oli Thode scores the Broncos first try against University and not long afterwards Willie Thode gets an intercept and runs over 80m for a try in the corner.*

**Rugby Bricks, Icon Interiors, Mclver Building, SBW Building, Diesel Transport, Columb & Co, Oil Changers Dunedin, Garrick Station, NRG Health & Fitness.**

There are some wonderful events coming up at AU this month. This Saturday, 17th May is a cultural night. Thanks to Andy Matoto, five cultural groups will perform during the night, so arrive by 6pm. There is sure to be entertaining displays from the Māori, Tongan, Fijian, Samoan and Cook Island performers who will be finished by 9pm. A week later the AU Ball takes place. For \$25 food is provided for free and a drink is included. The band is Dusty Sunday. Our sponsors' night is on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> June when we expect the Bronco Women to be hosting a semifinal game and hopefully the Bronco Men will be allocated a home game. Come and thank the sponsors. Keep Friday night, 4<sup>th</sup> July free.

**Custom Construction, Perfectly Imperfect, Wolf's Painting, Skevingtons, Sharon Hyndman - Bayleys.**

Thanks to the Macandrew Netball players for organising an Olympic night on 3<sup>rd</sup> May. It was a shame three of our rugby teams had the bye that day, but hopefully something similar can be held next season



*Netball, like most sports, is about creating and finding space as these Macandrew Netball teams demonstrate.*





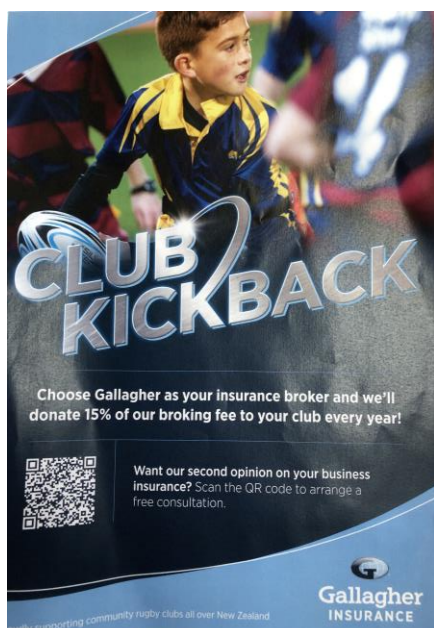
Many players may not realise the responsibility holders of liquor licences have to adhere to. Food and free water must be available, and certain standards must be maintained. Some rugby clubs in Dunedin have recently placed their licences at risk by not stopping alcohol from being taken away from their premises and promoting excessive drinking. AU have had a visit from the licensing people this season and they will be back to see we are maintaining our high standards.

**Otago Brick & Block Ltd, GHP Law, Beds R US, Eureka Café, Feldspar, Windsor New World, Laser Plumbing, Highland House Boutique, MD Building.**

Both women's teams are leading their competitions. The Bronco women bounced back from a loss to Dunedin with an emphatic win over University. The Fillies remain unbeaten but have a big challenge this Saturday playing the Waitaki Wahines who have been relegated from the top section.



*Taylor Anderson has support on her left from her Bronco team mates Hedi Atken, Eilis Doyle and Tessa Brown. Kiran Kaur is challenging the Dunedin defence for the Fillies with Alice Gilbert and Lara Clough closest in support.*



An easy way to help the club.

**Gallagher Insurance** is AU's insurance brokers, and they are offering the club's supporters and sponsors the chance to easily help the club financially. If you are not with them then upon renewal of your current house or business insurance contact Mitch Pryde, [mitch.pryde@ajg.co.nz](mailto:mitch.pryde@ajg.co.nz), 027 423 9024 or 03 470 3290 and he will offer you a competitive quote. If you accept it the AU club gets a 15% commission on their broking fee every year.

<https://www.ajg.co.nz/about/community-and-sponsorship/sponsorship-and-partnerships/gallagher-club-kickback/>

Andrew Golightly, who attended the AU 150<sup>th</sup>, and captained the AU Whale Watchers in 1989 is on the board of the NZ Rugby Foundation. Here is a brief resume of his career.

“His facilitative skill base is a reflection of years of experience in commercial discussions, paired with his experience on the



Northland Rugby Union board as Chairman (September 2008 to April 2014). He was a director for New Zealand Rugby from 2014 to 2020. He continues to serve on the boards of New Zealand Rugby Foundation and Northland Basketball. He was President of the Northland Rugby Union. He is also the Honorary Solicitor for a number of sports clubs including the Whangarei Racing Club.”



*Rugby Foundation representative Andrew Golightly.*



*Taylor Fahey keeps the ball alive as he is tackled in the Stallions game. Right: Good lineout possession is secured by the Ponies.*



To register this season our players., or if a junior their parents, need to set up a profile in Rugby Xplorer. Then the player must be linked to the AU club. In future, players only change their profile if something has altered and they link it again to the club they are playing for.

## 100 Years Ago



**A veterans' match on Dunedin's North Ground to mark the 60th anniversary of Albion Cricket Club. — Otago Witness, 31.3.1925**

COPIES OF PICTURE AVAILABLE FROM OOT FRONT OFFICE, LOWER STUART ST, OR [WWW.OOTSHOP.CO.NZ](http://WWW.OOTSHOP.CO.NZ)