

Letter to Parents – General Information

May I congratulate your son on being selected in this squad to tour New Zealand in 2010. A list of boys selected is attached.

The reasons for this letter include:

- # Provide you and your son with basic information about this exciting opportunity
- # To get permission from you for your son to tour

Overview

Every second year we plan to take a “Development Squad” to the South Island of NZ. The last tour was in 2008. In 2010 the squad will comprise 44 players from boys who will be in Years 10 and 11 in 2010. We envisage the 1st XV and 2nd XV in 2011 will be chosen mainly from this Development Squad.

Itinerary

The full itinerary is attached.

Depart Sydney, Monday 5 July, 7:15am on Qantas flight QF45 – arrive Christchurch 12:15pm.

Depart Christchurch, Thursday 15 July, 1:30pm on Qantas flight QF46 – arrive Sydney 2:50pm.

Some boys will also be in the TAS Rifle Teams to compete at GPS Shooting and there is a slight overlap of dates, but they should only miss one day of practice if they participate in this rugby tour.

Staff

The TAS rugby coaches accompanying the boys will be Alan Jones, Ian Lloyd, Jason Lincoln, Brett Monley, Alex Smith and Jim Pennington.

Tour Cost

The cost for players is \$2,590. All meals, transport and activities identified in the itinerary are included in the tour cost (including airport taxes and travel insurance). The players ‘touring kit’ is also included in the tour cost.

Additional Meal Costs

Most meals are included but one or two lunches in NZ are not included. Also meals on the coach trip to and from Armidale/Sydney are not included. Allow about \$10 for each of these meals.

Fund Raising

It is anticipated that some of the funds raised by TAS P & F at The TAS Rugby Carnival, to be held at TAS on 17 and 18 April may be used to help purchase the tour kit for players (approx \$350 per head). So we would like as much help as possible at the canteen.

Passport

All members of our touring party will need a valid passport (approx cost \$200).

Travel Insurance

This is mandatory. A group policy will be organised through New England Travel and is included in the cost of the tour.

Tour Clothing

The following clothing will be ordered for each player: one rugby jumper (playing), one pair of rugby shorts, two pairs of rugby socks, one tie, one beanie, one waterproof jacket, one large kit bag and one carry-on bag. These have all been especially designed for the tour and are included in the tour cost.

What to take (players)

A suggested list of what to take is attached. Note that players will only be allowed to take their tour kit bag and their ‘carry-on’ bag. Everything taken must fit into these two bags.

Spending money

Players should check with their own financial institution whether their 'plastic card' will work in ATMs in NZ. A MasterCard or Visa Card may also be useful. Goods can be easily bought on credit using these and there are plenty of ATMs about which these cards can be used at for accessing cash. I think these cards require the owner to be at least 18 years old, but if parents already have one of these cards it's easy to get an additional card on an existing account for your son. Please discuss this with your financial institution.

No. 1 Uniform

Dress for the flight to and from NZ will be TAS No. 1 uniform, including the School blazer. No. 1 uniform will also be worn when arriving at venues for matches and at after-match functions.

Transport to/from Sydney

An Edwards coach will be travelling to Sydney overnight on 4/5 July (departing Armidale approx 8:30pm Sunday 4 July). Boys are welcome to travel on this or they can meet at the airport at 5:15am on Monday 5 July. The Edwards coach will collect boys from the airport on Thursday 15 July, arriving back in Armidale at approx 11:45pm. This is included in the tour cost.

TAS Tour Condition

Please note that in order to participate in this tour, your TAS school account must be up-to-date.

Action from you

All parents need to return the "Permission to Tour (or not tour) Form" to Dick Hodgson by Friday 20 November 2009. Failure to return this form by this date will result in another boy being offered your son's spot. If you give permission for your son to tour, you also need to complete:
The "Booking Application Form".

Note. When completing this:

Surname and First Name: Your son's surname and first name must be exactly as it appears on his Passport (or will appear on his passport if he does not have one yet)

Passport Details: If your son does not have a Passport yet, still return the form but leave this section blank. When the details become available, please email them to me

Mail the completed forms to:

Dick Hodgson, Sportsmaster, TAS, Locked Bag 3003, Armidale NSW 2350

Enclosed:

Squad lists

Tour Itinerary

Tour Conditions

What to take list

Permission to Tour (or not tour) Form **(must be completed and returned by all parents)**

Booking Application Form

TAS Rugby Development Tour to New Zealand 2010

PERMISSION TO TOUR (or not tour) FORM

STUDENT'S NAME

PARENT'S NAME

Please tick one box

- I give permission for my son to participate in the TAS Development Squad Rugby Tour of New Zealand 2010. I understand that a non-refundable deposit of \$500-00 will be debited from my TAS account this year (2009). If my son does not tour (after payment of the deposit) the \$500 will only be refunded if a suitable replacement can be found.

For the Tour Kit, my son's chest measurement is cms

OR

- My son will not be able to participate in the TAS Development Squad Rugby Tour of New Zealand 2010. I understand a replacement player will be offered his spot.

PARENT'S SIGNATURE Date