

# **TAS Development Rugby Tour to New Zealand 2008**

## **General Information (written by the Sportsmaster, Dick Hodgson)**

### Overview

Every second year we plan to take a “Development Squad” to the South Island of NZ. The last tour was in 2006. In 2008 the squad will comprise approximately 40 players from boys who will be in Years 10 and 11 in 2008. We envisage the 1<sup>st</sup> XV and 2<sup>nd</sup> XV in 2009 to be chosen mainly from this Development Squad.

### Itinerary

The full itinerary is available on this website.

Depart Sydney, Monday 7 July, 9:50am on Air New Zealand flight NZ782 – arrive Christchurch 2:50pm.

Depart Christchurch, Thursday 17 July, 7:00am on Air New Zealand flight NZ 781 – arrive Sydney 8:30am.

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 will only miss one day of practice if they participate in this rugby tour.

### Tour Cost

The cost for players is \$2,570. 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.

### Other Costs

Most meals are included but one or two lunches are not included. Allow about a maximum of \$10 for each of these meals. All tourists must have a valid passport (approx cost \$150).

### Fund Raising

It is anticipated that some of the funds raised by TAS P & F at The Rugby Carnival (for Primary school students) to be held at TAS on 26 and 27 April will 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.

### 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 tracksuit, one large kit bag and one carry-on bag. These have all been especially designed for the tour and are already included in the tour cost.

### What to take (players)

A suggested list of what to take is available on this website. 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.

### Each boy will need a TAS Honours Blazer

Boys in Yr 11 (in 2008) will already own an Honours blazer. Boys in Year 10 (in 2008) will have two options: (1) borrow an Honours blazer from another student (ensure this has no embroidered writing on it), (2) buy an Honours blazer in preparation for moving into Yr 11 in 2009 (this could be slightly large to allow for growth)

### Spending money

Players should check with their own financial institution whether their ‘plastic card’ would 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 Honours blazer. No. 1 uniform will also be worn when arriving at venues for matches and at after-match functions.

#### Transport to/from Sydney

It is up to players to get themselves to Sydney airport by 7:50am on Monday 7 July where they will be met by the TAS staff. If there is enough interest, I will organise for transport from Armidale to Sydney on 6/7 July and from Sydney to Armidale on 17 July. This would be at additional cost. Complete the 'Request for Transport Form' available on this website.

#### TAS Tour Condition

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

#### Deposit

A non-refundable deposit of \$125 (cheques made payable to The Armidale School) is required to be paid by 14 December 2007 to participate in this tour.