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Arvada's Tigers Rugby celebrates 8th season

Matches played, awards presented and officers elected during festival at north metro park

By Paul O'Brian

YourHub.com Contributor

Tigers Rugby Football Club gathered recently to celebrate its eighth season at Championship Field in Broomfield County Commons Park. The traditional event included two matches, a barbecue and an awards ceremony. The Tigers Rugby Men's Side collected a victory over the Denver Wolverines, 27-7, and the Tigers Rugby high school boys side defeated their alumni side on the last play, 29-26.

Awards were presented to the high school players, including Most Valuable Player Patrick O'Connor. In addition, Tigers honored the following players for their accomplishments in the 2011 Rugby Colorado season:

- Tyler Hsin (Best Underclassman Back)



Former Scottish U-19 player Ben Wright, wearing Tigers Rugby colors, pop-kicks to advance the ball against the Denver Wolverines on June 25. Jim O'Connor, YourHub.com Contributor

- Matt Wright (Best Rookie Back)
- Warren Wood (Best Back).
- Jamison Escobar (Best Underclassman Forward)
- Jeff Madigan (Best Rookie

Forward)

- Andrew Hutchinson (Best Forward)

Elections for the Colorado nonprofit corporation were held at the business meeting follow-

ing the matches. Those individuals elected to serve included Paul O'Brian as president, Mike O'Brian as vice president, Jeff Gossman as treasurer, Ed Madigan as recording secretary and Dash Weeks as match secretary.

Tigers Rugby sponsors presented awards to other high school players for their contributions to the success of the team in the 2011 spring season. Accelerate Physical Therapy, Gases & Arc Supply Inc., Boselli and Sons LLC, The Coffman and Companies Group, and EchoLabs.net contributed financial support to supplement the activities of the club. Representatives were on hand to present awards to recognize Nick Allen, Jimmy Higdon, Rob Nees, Peter Loving and Jake Gossman for their efforts this season.

Tigers RFC finished with a

record of 13-13-3 overall, and 3-3 regular season record, 4-5 in Division I play after three rounds in the playoffs, including a loss in the third-place match. Freshman/sophomore players amassed a 2-6 record at five leaguewide freshman/sophomore festivals, making the 2011 Tigers 15-19-3 overall. This was the highest finish (fourth) ever achieved for Tigers Rugby Football Club, which has never yet been rated lower than a previous year in eight years with Rugby Colorado (formerly Colorado Youth Rugby).

In the end, 18 of 24 Tigers Rugby players were nominated to play in the Rugby Colorado All-Star Matches at Heritage High School May 21.

Paul O'Brian of Arvada is the founder of the Tigers Rugby Football Club.