



**International Rugby Academy**  
NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

Welcome to the November issue of the International Rugby Academy Newsletter

#### Upcoming Courses

##### 2009

###### Elite Players' Course

2-9 December (SA)

###### Elite Coaches' Course

2-9 December (SA)

###### Advanced Players' Course

6-12 December (NZ)

###### Advanced Coaches' Course

6-12 December (NZ)

###### Development Players' Course

12-19 December (NZ)

###### Development Coaches' Course

12-19 December (NZ)

##### 2010

###### High Performance Players' Course

31 January - 19 February (NZ)

###### High Performance Coaches' Course

8 - 19 February (NZ)

###### Practical Coaching Course

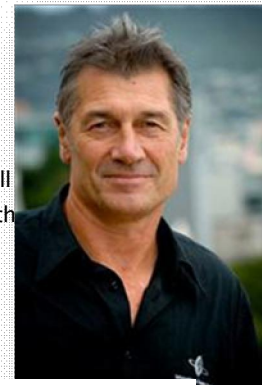
## The Way I see It !

The Boks are the best team in the World this year. Now that wasn't so hard to say after all. One off victories like France vs All Blacks in Cardiff can be an aberration. Three zip is not and South Africa deserved the Tri Series. Their victory was based on decision makers in key positions (not the normal formidable physicality of their forwards), Fourie du Preez, Morne Steyn and to a lesser extent Jacques Fourie and Brian Habana.

Defeat will be good for this All Black team going forward. It will force something I call "the search factor". It has already begun with the arrival of Franks, Ross, Crockett, Jane and De Melmanche. There will be more and I'm sure the current northern tour will identify others like Zac Guildford. With the return of players like Ali Williams, Boric, Kahui and possibly Jack and Hayman, all of a sudden the AB's will look like World Cup winners again.

The most important thing is for the coaches and selectors to be continually reassessing and questioning their own performance. Sometimes selectors can get away with poor selections if their team still wins. No one gets away with poor selection when the team loses.

Murray Mexted



## Inaugural North American Course a success



Staging the inaugural IRANZ coaches' course in the United States was a new challenge for us and we were very pleased with the success of both the players and coaches programmes. We certainly enjoyed experiencing the difference in disciplines between American players and their South African and New Zealand counterparts. The delivery of leading-edge knowledge is the hallmark of our programmes and we will continue to bring selected specialists to Infinity Park.

We have signed an alliance agreement with USA Rugby and are committed to staging high level coaching courses at Infinity Park on an annual basis. We have appointed Steve Tarr as our Operations Manager of the North America International Rugby Academy (NAIRA) and we will be running a variety of courses between 24 July - 6 August 2010. For more information on our NAIRA programmes contact Steve Tarr at the International Rugby Academy Office in Denver - [steve.tarr@internationalrugbyacademy.com](mailto:steve.tarr@internationalrugbyacademy.com)

Congratulations to Maximo Deachaval who earned the top players' award on the US course. He was fortunate to have All Black legend Grant Fox as his position specific coach.



## Rugby Greats Impressed with Investec Academy (IRASA)

Seven months since the launch of the Investec International Rugby Academy in South Africa, IRA Founder Murray Mexted and IRASA Director Dick Muir have both expressed their delight with the results from the three courses staged so far.

"The Investec International Rugby Academy first and foremost provides a platform for development for players and coaches into professional rugby," said Muir.

At the initial high performance course in Pretoria we were blown away with the talent on offer and the opportunity the courses presented to us to harness that talent. This trend continued with the second and third Advanced Courses at Michaelhouse in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands and the King Edward VII School in Gauteng.

"The success stories speak for themselves, and judging by the results from the first three courses, we are definitely on the right track."

Some of the standout performances at senior level came from Duncan Naude, Derrick Harwood, Torie Meyer, Jeffrey Taljaard, Tembani Mkokeli, Royden Kennedy, Sabelo Kolanisi and Dewald Nel.

Harwood and Meyer made the Lions squad and played in the Currie Cup this season, while Taljaard played in both the Vodacom Cup and Currie Cup for the Vodacom Bulldogs. Mkokeli, Kennedy and Kolanisi all made the Border squad and played Vodacom and Currie Cup, and promising flyhalf Dewald Nel ran out for the Lions Under-21 side.

On a junior level, several participants advanced to the Craven Week and made their Interprovincial teams. Tommy Allen (nephew of Springbok and Scotland hooker, John Allan) also made the Under-17 squad for Scotland.

Mexted says that there can be no doubt that the Investec International Rugby Academy plays an important role in paving the way for young players to find their way to the professional stage, and for coaches to raise the level of their game.

After attending the first High Performance Course in Pretoria, Duncan Naude showed lots of potential and was approached by different South African franchises to play Currie Cup, but opted to take the opportunity to attend a second course in New Zealand.

Muir added that there are a number of players who have been approached to further their careers.



## Adidas Scholarship Available for Club Development Players' Course

IRANZ will again be holding its annual Development Course for both players and coaches at the Sport and Rugby Institute in Palmerston North 12-19 December 2009. The players' course is suitable for talented club players aged 18 years and older and could be seen as a reward for a player who has shown outstanding performances throughout the '09 club season. There is an Adidas player scholarship available for a young New Zealand club player at senior level who has shown outstanding leadership. Contact [admin@iranz.co.nz](mailto:admin@iranz.co.nz) [[admin@iranz.co.nz](mailto:admin@iranz.co.nz)] for an application form.

## Investec International Rugby Academy launches new Elite Course for Players and Coaches

The Investec International Rugby Academy will be holding a new eight day course for players and coaches at the Rugby Performance Centre (RPC), Paarl, Riebeeck West, Western Province from 2 – 9 December 2009. The players' course is aimed at players 18 – 21 years with aspirations to be professional players. This intensive eight day course will be facilitated by Johan Ackerman. The programme will build a solid foundation for the players and will better prepare them for their rugby future.

The coaches' course runs alongside the players' course and is being facilitated by Dick Muir and Ian McIntosh. They will be covering all aspects of coaching at the professional level.

IRASA have had an outstanding response to these programmes and there are only a few spaces remaining on both courses.

## Seven IRANZ graduates feature in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Team

New Zealand Schools rugby coach Karl Jones and his assistant coach Andrew Douglas named 7 IRANZ graduates in the New Zealand Secondary Schools squad for 2009, which has just completed a two match tour of Australia.

Congratulations to IRANZ players course graduates Michael Allardice (Palmerston North BHS, Manawatu), Carl Axtens (Reporoa College, Bay of Plenty), Norman Goodes (Wellington College, Wellington), Antonio Kiri Kiri (Palmerston BHS, Manawatu), TJ Perenara (Mana College, Wellington), Ben Tameifuna (Hastings BHS, Hawke's Bay) and Codie Taylor (Fielding High School, Manawatu) on their selection.

The team travelled to Australia for games against Australia Schools A in the Gold Coast and Australia Schools in Brisbane.

They won their first game convincingly against Australia Schools A 47-7, running in four tries in the first half and two more in the second half, including tries to halfback TJ Perenara and number eight Antonio Kiri Kiri.

“I am pleased with the start the boys made but we will need to lift our intensity and accuracy if we want to win against Australia Schools”, said Jones after the first game.

Their second victory against Australian Schools was a hard fought battle in Brisbane – New Zealand finally emerging to take the game 28-24.

Coach Karl Jones said it was a tough test match played with a lot of intensity.

“Our set piece let us down in the first half and we didn't get the ball we were after. The second half was an improved performance from our forwards, therefore the backs were able to dominate and we managed to hold off an Australian come back by remaining focussed,” said Jones.

