

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
AUGUST 24, 2008**

The Executive and members of the Cowichan Rugby Club would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your past support of rugby in the Cowichan Valley. Without your contributions, we certainly would not be where we are today

As we head into the new season, we wish to remind you of the need for financial support in order to operate our ever growing rugby club. The budget for the 2007-08 season was a staggering \$225,000.00. Running Senior Men, Senior Women, Junior and Mini rugby with all the inherent costs of equipment, insurance, travel, referee expenses, dues etc. is a costly business and shows no signs of receding this year.

Our goal is to bring many of our supporters on board for the 2008-09 season. Our target this year is 100 social members, and we know there are many Cowichan RFC veterans out there that would like to contribute something in order to ensure our many programs move forward. Please visit our website @ www.cowichanrugby.ca to see many of the exciting players, teams and programs involved with the club.

CDI Premiership Rugby is back! After 11 years absence, we are very excited to announce that the Cowichan Valley will once again see Premiership Rugby at the Cowichan Rugby Club. The BCRU has agreed to forgo relegation and has wisely accepted 12 teams into the best League in North America. This will mean we will once again see all the best sides at our local venue.

The goal is to bring the club back to the success we had in the late 1990's where we secured two Rounsefell Cups as BC Premiership Champions.

Player News: This summer we have set out to secure a strong core of players in order to meet the expected challenges. Our mandate is to thrive by using our very good local talent and we are very excited to announce the following players are once again in the fold.

Ian Manley: 20 Years Old. **FLANKER.** Mill Bay. Played in U-20 World Cup for Canada and was a strong component of that squad. Ian is back after 2 years with U-Vic.

Kyle LeClerc: 20 Years Old: **HOOKER.** Malahat. National level player fresh of an outstanding season. Scored 21 tries for us in 17 games played last season.

Elatria Enute: 26 Years Old: **CENTER.** Fiji. Fijian National who comes to us from Bayside RFC . Strong runner. Was approached to play for Fiji National 7's in '04.

Tom James: 22 Years Old. **SCRUM HALF/WING:** Cobble Hill. Is back after a year off from injury and completion of his University degree last season. BC #9 in 2003.

Marvin Seymour: 23 Years Old. **PROP/#8.** Ladysmith. Is back again after taking the Spring off. Marvin was the most dynamic High School player in BC in '03. 285 lbs.

Doug Woolridge: 24 Years Old. **LOOSEHEAD PROP.** Doug is back after a solid year with us. Played for Canada vs. Scotland and NA4 East this past summer.

Andrew Gudmunseth: 24 Years Old. **SCRUM HALF/CENTER.** Our team Captain is back again this season.

Dan James: 20 Years Old: **TIGHT HEAD PROP.** This will be Dan's 4th year with the Senior Men. Played a game for NA4 West this summer.

Sylvano Dario: 26 Years Old: **LOCK/#8.** Comes to us from Benattin RFC in Italy where Sylvano played 2 years professionally in the Italian League.

John James
President, Cowichan Rugby Club