

the Inside Oil



the official Inside Running Newsletter

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From the Editor

Well it has been a while between drinks for the Inside Oil with quite a bit happening over the past two months or so. A big congratulations to Luke Braid, Red Retallick, Jarrod Hoeata & Romana Graham on their first selections at Super 14 level for 2010.

The UK/European transfer window is more or less coming to an end now and it has been another big season for us. We are still slightly up placements-wise on 2008, which is encouraging given the economy. Our focus for Inside Running Recruitment now shifts to the New Zealand and Australian markets where we are always looking for good players to fill the demand from clubs.

So what has the Inside Oil got for you this month?

- We profile NZ Olympic cross country skier, Katie Calder, and her plight ahead of the Winter Olympics in Vancouver in February 2010.
- We discuss the merits from a UK club/player's perspective of spending an offseason playing in New Zealand or Australia; and
- We give you the chance to win tickets to the Wellington 7s!

Standard features each month include news and current vacancies which highlight some of the more urgent club vacancies we have available. Make sure that you check them out and get in touch if any take your interest.

Cheers — Mike Rogers, Director, Inside Running

The Olympic Dream

It isn't common knowledge, but Inside Running Elite Management actually provides assistance to elite athletes across a whole range of sports. In a small economy like New Zealand this service is quite limited in terms of what we can do for athletes, but we are always prepared to help.

In the case of Olympic Cross Country Skier, Katie Calder, our focus is to assist her in getting to the Winter Olympics in Vancouver early next year. In what is one of the largest participation sports in the world it is surprising to many that Katie is struggling to fund her Olympic campaign. Katie receives no SPARC funding in New Zealand, despite reaching the A qualifying standard. This means she has had to rely upon prize money (very limited) and help from her parents and her primary sponsor, Grace Orthopaedic, in Tauranga, New Zealand.

Basically we are appealing to individuals and businesses to get behind Katie in her bid for Olympic glory. Katie needs to raise around \$15,000 over the next 2 months to fund her Olympic campaign and pre-games campaign. We are happy to accept pledges of amounts of \$20 or more.

Check out Katie's website – www.ktcalder.com

Please direct all enquiries to:

Mike Rogers, mike@insiderunning.com,
+64 21 784 839

Be part of Katie's Olympic Dream. ►►►



From the field:

- **19/11/09** Former Brumbies academy player, **John Stephenson**, signs with Italian club, Colferro, for the 2009/10 season.
- **12/11/09** Inside Running Recruitment launch a **Wellington 7s competition**. Apply online: www.insiderunning.com.
- **11/11/09** Former Chiefs and Waikato Lock, **Mark Burman**, signs with Italian club, Rovigo, for the 2009/10 season.
- **11/11/09** Bay of Plenty Centre, **Wayne Hughson**, signs with Italian club, Colorno, for the 2009/10 season.
- **5/11/09** Manawatu Backrower, **Hamish Gosling**, signs with Italian club, Catania, for the 2009/10 season.
- **4/11/09** Inside Running gets 12 in the 2010 Chiefs squad. Inside Running Elite Management clients James McGougan, Aled de Malmanche, Hika Elliot, Romana Graham, Culum Retallick, Luke Braid, Jarrod Hoeata, Liam Messam, Dwayne Sweeney, Richard Kahu & Sitiveni Sivivatu are named in the 2010 Chiefs squad.
- **9/10/09** Former Taranaki Backrower, **Semisi Taulava**, signs with English National league club, Worthing, for the 2009/10 season.

Play Rugby Downunder

There seems to be a real lack of marketplace awareness that Inside Running Recruitment also provides the same level of player recruitment service to clubs in New Zealand and Australia as it does further afield on an international scale. I thought we would take the time to outline 7 of the most frequently asked questions about playing rugby downunder.

What are the season dates?

The club rugby season in New Zealand runs from late March—early August. The representative season then runs from August—October. The Australian club rugby season runs from early April—mid September.

What do clubs tend to offer?

A provincial (regional) representative rugby structure exists in New Zealand and Australia. This means there are clearly defined levels of rugby—amateur, semi-pro and professional.

In New Zealand club rugby is 100% amateur. Clubs are forbidden from paying players for playing. Typically though, for a quality player from overseas, clubs will assist with:

- **Flights costs** – Typically just a contribution is paid, not the full amount.
- **Accommodation** – Typically clubs will provide free accommodation for the first few weeks and then the player covers their own costs.
- **Employment** – Most clubs are very good at helping players to find meaningful employment.
- **Other benefits** – Some clubs will also provide gym memberships, etc.

Virtually the same applies in Australia, with the exception of a handful of clubs in Sydney that also provide match fees.

If a player turns out to be a real success he would be eligible for NPC selection, which is semi-pro/pro in New Zealand.

Are there clubs for all levels of player?

Yes definitely. We can cater for players of all levels. We have an excellent understanding

of the comparative levels of rugby around the world. The golden rule, however, is that clubs expect players to add value. If a player hasn't played to a level that we are confident in his ability to add value, then the player really can't expect to get any material benefits from a club.

What benefits are there for the player?

Most players find that playing rugby in New Zealand or Australia is great for their development. The rugby tends to be a lot different—faster and higher impact. The vast majority of players that we have placed with New Zealand or Australian clubs agree that it has benefited their rugby.

How can a Northern Hemisphere Club use this as a player retention tool?

We have a number of clubs in Europe that use an offseason in New Zealand or Australia as a tool to retain players, especially young players that might be tempted to move to a club higher up the leagues.

The home club raises funds to assist with the flights costs and in return the player signs up to return to the home club at the conclusion of their season downunder.

Are visas difficult to obtain?

No. Most European countries have a working holiday agreement in place with New Zealand and Australia, making visas very easy to obtain.

When do clubs start recruiting?

Clubs are recruiting NOW for next season. If you are interested please contact your local Inside Running Agent or email Mat Koubaridis on mat@insiderunning.com. ➤➤



Win tickets to the Wellington 7s, aka the Worlds Largest Costume party!!

We are giving away a deluxe prize package which includes:

- 2 x tickets
- 2 nights accommodation (share twin)
- Designer costumes

To enter the competition simply go to our website and follow the competition link: www.insiderunning.com The competition closes on 5 December 2009. ➤➤

Current Vacancies:

Canadian Club Seeks Player-Coach

20 November 2009 #CANG

Canadian Club Seeks Player-Coach

Position runs from April - October 2010. Any position considered. Package of flights, accommodation, job assistance and \$1500 per month.

Scottish Premier 1 Club Seeks TH Prop

20 November 2009 #SCOP1EA

Scottish Premier 1 Club Seeks TH Prop.

Club based in Edinburgh. Package of flights, accommodation, job and small match fee (possibly). **URGENT!**

London Division 1 Club Seeks 9 and 8

20 November 2009 #ENGL1BSE

London Division 1 Club Seeks 9 and 8

Club based North of London. Package of flights, accommodation, job and match fees. Seek high quality candidates only.

English Midlands 1 Club Seeks 8

20 November 2009 #ENGM1B

English Midlands 1 Club Seeks 8

Club based near Birmingham. Seeks strong running forward. Package of flights, accommodation, job and match fees.

Scottish Premier 2 Club Seeks TH Prop

20 November 2009 #SCOP2K

Scottish Premier 2 Club Seeks TH Prop

Package of flights, accommodation, job and match fee available. **URGENT!!**

NSW country club seek 1/3, 7/8 and 10

16 November 2009 #NSWUNE

NSW country club seek Prop, Backrower and First Five for next season

Package of flights contribution, 1 month free accommodation and employment.

ACT premier club seek 1/3, 4/5, 8 and 11

16 November 2009 #ACTEST

ACT premier club are looking for a Prop, Lock, Backrower and Outside Back for 2010

Package of flights contribution, accommodation assistance and employment assistance.