

FAN FORUM

Q: What are you most looking forward to seeing this season?

The new video ref system in a comp setting. Hopefully it's shown effectively at the games, as it was on the TV during the trials.

Benjamin Angus

The Melbourne Storm making it consecutive premierships.

Scott Mckenzie

How the Tigers adapt to Mick Potter.

Steven Fattore

I want to see GI run over SBW!

Kylie Thompson

The Bulldogs to still be a force without Barba, and take out the comp when he gets back! I'm keen to see how Rabbitohs go with Te'o on the edges too, set for a big season.

Adrian Barnes

Todd Lowrie shoring up the middle of the ruck for the Warriors à la Kevin Campion. Bring it on.

Darnie Brydon

Marika Koroibete running the ball, that damn beast!!

Aaron Purtell

The media with egg on its face when the Dragons don't lose every week.

Russell Needham

Looking forward to seeing Minichiello lift the trophy in October.

Andrew Panaretos

For 2013 to be over, as my team will probably get the spoon or close to it.

John Mouawad

The Roosters collect the spoon.

Peter McGuire

To participate in the *Big League* Fan Forum simply 'Like' *Big League* on Facebook and keep an eye out for the weekly question.



MUM KNOWS BEST... He has never given up an inch on the football field without fighting tooth and nail so it was nice to hear that Sydney Roosters premierships winner

Adrian Morley still needed the help of his mum when putting together his autobiography, *Moz*. "I thought the whole process might be a bit of a pain but me mam, God love her, she'd kept scrapbooks from day one so there were a lot of things I'd forgotten about and then I looked at these scrapbooks and remembered." And just like the way he plays the game, there is no holding back in the book, "the good, the bad and the ugly" as Morley says.



BIG DOG... Much has been said about Tony Williams as he's settled into his new home at the Bulldogs during the summer, but one thing is for sure – the man is ready to play. "I came in pretty heavy and I had to lose it real quick," Williams said. "I'm back to my fighting weight and I'm ready to go. I think there are high expectations. I just have to focus on myself and forget about all the pressure that's been put on me. I just have to play my game and

do my best." Williams' large mates Sam Kasiano and Frank Pritchard will likely be out with leg injuries for the next month.

SYMONDS' NEW NEST... Another last-minute pre-season switch happened on Tuesday with the Sydney Roosters releasing Tom Symonds so he can join the Manly Sea Eagles. Symonds is seeking more first grade minutes and the Roosters were happy to let the local junior go to try to achieve that at another club.

PICKING THE RIGHT CLUB...

Sam Burgess and brother Luke (pictured right) along with Rabbitohs team-mates Greg Inglis and Adam Reynolds and coach Michal Maguire appear as though they will conduct future post-match reviews at The Coast Golf Club at Little Bay having all taken up membership recently. Both Burgess boys play off single digits and had nothing but praise for the course. "We've always loved coming out for a hit and because the wind direction varies the course is not always the same," says Luke. "Golf in such a beautiful location is also the perfect way to get your head away from football for a couple of hours."

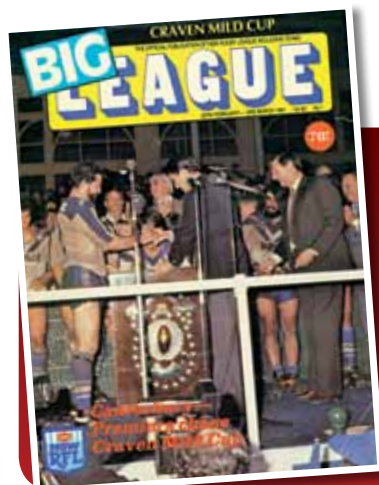


SAM STILL THE MAN?... Still on Burgess and there would be few 'Sexiest Men in League' polls that wouldn't include Ben Te'o at present but team-mates insist Sam hasn't given up on his title as the spunkiest South Sydney superstar. "He still rates himself up there I think," Rabbitohs halfback Adam Reynolds revealed. "He's always out trying to improve himself in the sun, working on his tan or doing something to make himself look better."

UNFRIENDED... Luckless Melbourne winger Matt Duffie forced himself to unfollow his Storm team-mates on social photo app Instagram during their entire stay in England. After missing the second half of 2012 with a shoulder problem, the Kiwi international was hit with a right hamstring injury during the pre-season and didn't want to know what he was missing out on. He's since re-followed them upon their triumphant return.

LAST DAYS OF LOTE?... We're hearing that Tigers winger Lote Tuqiri may well have played his

last game at the club. The former Bronco and dual international, included in the Tigers' 25-man squad for 2013, recently underwent further arm surgery after tearing his biceps in Round 18 last season. His injury-prone return to rugby league – he broke his forearm in 2011 – appears likely to come to a premature end with Tigers insiders telling us his contract is yet to be



Time TUNNEL

February 25, 1981: The 1980 premiers, the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs, are the team every other Sydney club wants to dethrone this season, which kicks off with the Craven Mild Cup; 'How embarrassing'. That's Balmain Tiger Neil Pringle's reaction to being the first player to spend time in the sin bin in an article written by John Brady, now the NRL's General Manager of Media and Communications; Cronulla Sutherland and North Sydney will open the campaign for the 1981 Tooth Cup at Leichhardt Oval on March 18... but with the final of the Craven Mild Cup scheduled for the following Saturday night, March 21, organisers will review the draw should the Sharks or Bears be in that final.