

Eagles pipped at post

Josh Bartlett

THE Group 16 pre-season rugby league tournament was held at Ack Weyman Oval, Moruya on Saturday.

All seven teams put in an impressive display, in particular Tathra Sea Eagles, which finished runners-up.

The tournament was taken over by the newly reformed Moruya Sharks while Bega Roosters also enjoyed a good day out.

Moruya took home the grand prize of \$1000 and the Eagles won \$400 for their effort.

Utility forward Mitch Kennedy of Moruya was awarded \$250 as the tournament's best player.

Group 16 secretary Tony Megahey said it was good day out for all involved.

"We had a good turn out... it was a positive pre-season tournament," Megahey said.

"All seven teams were in contention until the final, which indicates the depth of the competition - it was pretty competitive all day.

"There was a decent crowd as well - I reckon we had a few hundred."

Moruya flexed its premiership muscles with an eight-tries-to-one victory in the decider against Tathra.

"It's a dream start to the season for the newly reformed Moruya club," Megahey said.

"Tathra was super too and they look really good this year."

Megahey also praised the efforts of the Roosters, which finished with three wins and three losses.

The highlight of the day was a close encounter with rivals Tathra, but the Eagles took the honours by 7-6 tries.

"The Bega boys were good,



• Bega's Brendan Bartlett looks to battle his way past three Cooma defenders on Saturday.

they had a lot of numbers, and they were typically strong," Megahey said.

It was also positive news for the Bombala-Merimbula/Pambula club which only formed last week.

"They were the success story of the day," Megahey said.

"The two clubs actually combined about 20 years ago (before splitting) so they know each other well.

"They were really competitive."

Unfortunately, it wasn't all positive news, with the Cobargo

Eels unable to field a side.

Megahey said the Eels won't be competing in first grade in 2012 and may struggle to have a side in any competition due to numbers.

The format for the tournament was seven-a-side with 10 players used in each game.

Clubs were able to use 20 players on the day and each club played seven matches, apart from finals.

The final was held at 5.30pm on Saturday and a presentation followed at Adelaide Hotel, Moruya.



• Tathra skipper Scott Barton kicks long down field.



• Enjoying table tennis during Seniors Week are Geoff Brown and Bridgitte Dohm.

Fun and games

IT WAS fun and games at Pambula during Seniors Week when Far South Coast Table Tennis Group joined in the activities for the first time.

The club held two sessions and organisers were happy with the turn up of members and visitors who joined in and played some great games.

Organisers thank everyone who supported the sessions.

Regular game times at the club are Monday from 2-4pm and 7-9pm at Frank Maher Pavillion, Pambula Sporting Complex.

The club welcomes all to come and try this great activity which is proudly supported by the Bendigo Bank.

Contact Kevin Sertori on 6495 4983 for more information.

Locals selected

FIVE local rugby league players have been selected in the South Coast squad to compete at the state championships.

Cobargo duo Lachlan Carey and Grant Moon, Narooma's Tyler Hextell, Eden's Joe Stewart and Josh Schaefer from Merimbula/Pambula will head into camp on April 11.

Selection trials were held recently in Batemans Bay.

Best jumpers recognised

THE best local showjumpers will be acknowledged this Saturday.

The presentation dinner for the 2012 Far South Coast Showjumper of the Year will be held at the Asian Pearl Restaurant, Bega from 6.30pm.

Major prizes up for grabs are the Keith Gordon Senior Showjumper of the Year Award and the Graham Johnston Junior Showjumper of the Year Award.

The series was initiated in 2009 to honour the memory of two devoted contributors to the local show circuit and sport of showjumping.

These awards will be presented to the horse and rider combination with the highest point-score in showjumping at events on the Far South Coast.

Guest speaker on the night will be former local and Bega Pony Club member Dion Williams.

Williams represented Australia at the World Equestrian Games in Rome in 1998 on a horse called November Rain.

The event is equivalent to the Olympics. All five Williams children were very successful horse riders, particularly in showjumping, with many high accomplishments between them.

Although Dion Williams and his siblings have moved away to forge careers down other parents, their parents Warren and Nola keep a small team of showjumpers in operation on their property at Tarraganda.

Williams competes on his parent's horses as much as he can squeeze into his busy work schedule.

Bookings are essential - please RSVP to Kirsty McPaul by tomorrow.

Tickets for non-members cost \$15 and for more information, contact Kirsty on 0421 902 438.

Thrashings in round seven

THE seventh round of the Tulgeen Disability Services Bega night tennis competition was played under pleasant conditions last week, finishing with runaway wins to several teams in division one and two.

Paul Batten's ANZ Bank team completely dominated against Mark Irvin's Bega Valley Toyota side in division one, recording a 36/13 game win and taking the sets 6-0.

Batten, Alan Seaman, David Salter and John Willington began the contest with a close 6/5 with in the first and then walked away with match, taking the next five sets 6/2, 5/2, 6/2, 6/0 and 6/2 to easily retain first position.

The second match in division two was a much more even contest, with Grant Smith's LJ Hooker Bega team taking out the points with a 31/28 game win over Mark Anderson's Barbeques Galore side.

Grant Smith was in top form and took out two of his three sets 6/4, 6/5 with Jacqui Bosanko and Steve Smith, losing 4/6 with Craig Chauvier.

Steve Smith also won two of his three sets for the winners.

Rod Sirl subbed for Brendan Constance and proved to be the most successful player in the losing team, winning his three

sets 6/4, 6/4, 6/5 with Robert Lockerbie, Anderson and Nathan Batten.

Bruce Toomey's Auto-Pro Bega team gained its third win in division two with a 30/22 game victory over Bob Deighton's (Jococoa Rogers sub) Grant Hotel team, with the sets level at three-all.

Sam Johnston and Cael Kelly won two of their three sets for the winning team while Toby Locerkbie won his three sets 6/4, 6/5, 6/3 with Rogers, Jeff Kelly and Doug Martyn.

Steve Raczowski (Howard Blacker sub), Malcolm Clune, Grant Jessop and Mark Dickinson provided a high standard of tennis for their Top Video team, running away with a 36/11 game win over Barry Dunstan's (Maree Boulton sub) MGM Panelbeaters team.

Dunstan, Geoff Eastwick, Megan Brens and Melanie Lockerbie tried hard all evening but could not match the winners' standard of play.

Richard Johnston, Bronwyn and Mitch Venables, and Paul Walters also proved the stronger combination with a 36/12 game win for Pell-Rixon over Peter Balcomb's The Shed Team of Kristina Dummett, Kim Tarlinton and John Harrison, with the sets 6-0 to the

winning team.

The division two has been put to the test of late with four number one players being ruled out with injury and they are very hard to replace, creating some lop-sided results.

Josh Black's (Pat McMahon sub) Hayes Haulage team came away with a 32/26 win over Brydie Tarlinton's Momsen Motors team to retain third position in division three on 16 points.

McMahon and team won the first four sets 6/3, 6/4, 6/4, 6/5, dropped the fifth set 2/6, and finished the night with a 6/4 win in the last set.

Nathan Collins, Hayley Jessop, Louise Taylor and Corinne Markov gained a very close 32/30 win for their Rodney Griffin Pty Ltd side over Corey Leahy's Caltex Energy team to remain in second place.

Collins won his three sets for the night and was well supported by Jessop who won two of her three sets to set up the win.

Luke Keft's Mals Pizza Bite team gained its second win with a 36/20 game win over Ray Spencer's Bega Newsagency team.

This win has given Keft's team the important fourth position with 15 points.

Pat McMahon's Stowe

Australia side received the bye and still leads the competition on 18 points.

Stephanie Symons' Plevays Pharmacy team finished the night with a three sets, 26 game draw with Pam Hahne's Bega Village Motor Inn team in the division four competition.

Symons and team retains top position with 18 points.

Hahne's team was very pleased with its performance, pushing the number one team to a draw and are looking forward to retaining that form for the final rounds of the competition.

Anne Moore, Josh Bartlett (Lane Clarke sub), Darcy Mullens and Philomena O'Brien completed a 32/24 game win for Bega Bolt Barn over Jordan Tarlinton's Caddey Searl and Jarman team.

The Bega night competition committee has set the washed out match of March 1 in divisions three and four to be played on April 12, the first week of the school holidays.

All teams have agreed to the change as this will finish the competition in the third week of May as the two washed out matches are being played.

Players are also advised all competition fees must be paid this week so see the treasurer tomorrow or Thursday night.