



APPLIANCE SHED FOX MEMORIAL QUALIFYING HEATS UP *Howick Hornets qualify for the first time in 49 years*

Auckland, 27 April 2010. Competition for the final two places in the 2010 Appliance Shed Fox Memorial Premiership has gone down to the final round for the qualifying series with 4 teams still vying for the final two spots in the competition. With 6 teams having already qualified there will be at least two - possibly three, new teams in the competition from last year. Howick Hornets have qualified for the first time in their 49 year history after winning their last 4 games in a row, while the Glenora Bears are unbeaten this season after having lost last year's Sharman Cup final to the Hornets.

Also in the running for a place in the Fox Memorial are the Richmond Bulldogs who must win by a large margin against Howick on Saturday and hope that the Te Atatu Roosters lose to the Bay Roskill Vikings. The other big match up this weekend is between last year's beaten Fox Memorial finalists Papakura Sea Eagles who play East Coast Bays Barracudas at Prince Edward Park for the final spot from Section B.

The challenge for the 2010 Stormont Shield, to be contested by the winners of each section of the qualifying round, is also still alive, with Northcote Tigers and Glenora Bears both with a chance of finishing first in Section B. The Bears will need to beat the Mangere East Hawks and hope that Tigers lose to the Manukau Magpies if they are to play the winners of Section A - Otahuhu Leopards for the Stormont Shield on Saturday 8th May.

Confirmed Appliance Shed Fox Memorial teams are:

Otahuhu Leopards, Northcote Tigers, Glenora Bears, Mt Albert Lions, Howick Hornets, Manurewa Marlins

Important games this weekend:

Papakura Sea Eagles v East Coast Bays Barracudas
Prince Edward Park, Papakura - 2.30pm

Richmond Bulldogs v Howick Hornets
Grey Lynn Park 2, Grey Lynn - 2.30pm

Northcote Tigers v Manukau Magpies
Birkenhead War Memorial, Northcote – 2.30pm

Glenora Bears v Mangere East Hawks
Harold Moody Park, Glen Eden – 2.30pm

ENDS