

clontarf
foundation

Irrawang's first Ross Kelly Cup Rugby League Carnival

Words and photos by Cliff Sampson

On Thursday 15th August, the Irrawang Academy joined forces with the Newcastle Academy to form the Newcastle/Irrawang Turtles and take a team down to the big smoke for the annual Ross Kelly Cup rugby league carnival held at the prestigious St Ignatius College, Riverview in Sydney.

The boys combined really well to win our first couple of games and you could see the confidence building after each win. This resulted in us winning our next game and finishing on top of our pool to progress to the quarter finals only to be pipped at the post by the boys from Dubbo's Delroy Academy in a very close hard fought game.

One of our boys from Irrawang Academy Brodie Allison was selected to go on to represent the Clontarf NSW team that beat Holy Cross Ryde to finish of a very successful day.

The trip wasn't only about the footy - the boys also got to tick off a few activities they have never done before such as touch footy and lunch at Manly Beach, dinner at the Big Top in Luna Park, meeting NRL stars Brendan Naden (Panthers) and Clontarf alumni Chris Smith (Bulldogs), watching a live NRL game (Manly V Wests at Brookvale Oval) and getting behind the wheel at Go Karts Go.

Back in Newcastle the boys were really appreciative of these opportunities and are already keen to work hard in all areas for the chance to play in next year's carnival.

