



Souths rattle Norths to maintain advantage in A grade, Page 20



SportsMonday

Monday, November 19, 2007

FIRST WITH THE WEEKEND ACTION

ALL SYSTEMS GO

Finally it's official,
we're in the Cup



New Mackay Cutters signing, former Rooster Adam Schubert, centre, got a feel of the JRL grounds yesterday with operations manager Jamie McDonald and coach Shane Muspratt.

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IT'S official, the Mackay Cutters will be part of the Queensland Cup in 2008.

Cutters chairman Greg Sutherland yesterday confirmed that the QRL had given final approval at its board meeting on Friday for the team's entry into Queensland's top rugby league competition.

"They're issued us with a three year licence, we're delighted," Sutherland said.

Initial reports said there would be a two-week delay before the QRL announced whether the Cutters' application was successful, but Sutherland said the only issues were with southern clubs.

"There are some issues with clubs in south Queensland that they have to work through," he said.

"However there is no problem with our application."

The QRL also approved an application from the other new team for 2008, Cairns' Northern Pride,

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and from Rockhampton's Central Comets.

Sutherland said the Cutters' players could now get on with preparations for their inaugural season, and the first pre-season match on Saturday, Febru-



- Three year licence issued by QRL
- Other licences to Northern Pride and Central Comets
- First pre-season game February 16 at Moranbah against Northern Pride

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The Cutters have been in training for two weeks, and nearly the full squad is in Mackay beginning preparations for the season.

One of the latest to arrive is former Rooster Adam Schubert, who said yesterday he was excited to be joining the Cutters for their inaugural season.

"It's a good opportunity for me and from what I've seen the squad will be very competitive," Schubert said.

"I've met a lot of the boys and we'll get stuck into the training."

Schubert played first grade with the Roosters and was captain of its premier league side for the last two seasons.

He said the Cutters offered him an opportunity to get back into first grade through the Cowboys.

MANTA RAYS SURGE INTO STATE CUP SEMIS

Pages 22,23