



# 2016 SQUAD GUIDE





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Player information is current as at 27 October 2015



# THE 2016 CRUSADERS



## FORWARDS

### PROPS

Michael Alaalatoa  
Wyatt Crockett  
Alex Hodgman  
Joe Moody  
Tim Perry  
Owen Franks

### HOOKERS

Ben Funnell  
Codie Taylor  
Ged Robinson

### LOCKS

Scott Barrett  
Luke Romano  
Sam Whitelock

### LOOSE FORWARDS

Tim Boys  
Kieran Read  
Pete Samu  
Jordan Taufua  
Matt Todd  
Jimmy Tupou

### WTG

Jed Brown (MedEx)  
Mitchell Dunshea  
Tim Perry (MedEx)

## BACKS

### HALFBACKS

Andy Ellis  
Mitchell Drummond

### FIRST FIVE-EIGHTHS

Marty McKenzie  
Richie Mo'unga  
Ben Volavola

### MIDFIELD BACKS

Ryan Crotty  
Kieran Fonotia  
Robbie Fruean  
David Havili

### OUTSIDE BACKS

Sione Fifita  
Mitchell Hunt  
Jone Macilai  
Johnny McNicholl  
Nemani Nadolo  
Sean Wainui

### WTG

Israel Dagg (MedEx)  
Leon Fukofuka  
Jack Goodhue (MedEx)

## COACHES & MANAGEMENT

### HEAD COACH

Todd Blackadder

### ASSISTANT COACHES

Dave Hewett  
Tabai Matson  
BradMooar

### TEAM MANAGER

Angus Gardiner

### STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

Mark Drury

### TEAM DOCTOR

Deb Robinson

### PHYSIOTHERAPIST

John Roche

### SPORTS DIETICIAN

Johnny Rae

### KIT MANAGER

John Miles

### ANALYST

TBC

### MEDIA MANAGER

Juliet Calder

*(MedEx) = Medical Exemption*

## TODD BLACKADDER

POSITION Coach  
DATE OF BIRTH 20.09.73 in Rangiora  
COACHING ROLES  
Tasman Coach 2008; Tasman Director of Rugby 2007; Crusaders Technical Assistant 2007; Edinburgh Gunners Coach 2006; Scotland Assistant Coach 2004-05; Edinburgh Forwards Coach 2004-05.

Former All Blacks and Crusaders Captain, Todd Blackadder returns for his eighth year as Head Coach of the Crusaders. Blackadder took on the Crusaders role after playing and coaching in Scotland and then taking Tasman to the quarterfinals of New Zealand's national provincial competition in 2008. He had previously enjoyed an illustrious playing career consisting of 25 All Blacks games including 14 as All Blacks captain; captain of the Crusaders Super Rugby team; and captain of the Canterbury provincial team. He is the only man to ever lift the Super Rugby trophy three times as captain of the winning team.

## DAVE HEWETT

POSITION Assistant Coach (Forwards)  
DATE OF BIRTH 14.07.71 in Christchurch  
COACHING ROLES  
New Zealand Secondary Schools Coach 2014-15; Crusaders Technical Advisor - Forwards 2010; Crusaders Scrum Coach 2009.

Former All Blacks prop, Dave Hewett, first joined the Crusaders coaching team as a Scrum Coach in 2009. He has been an Assistant Coach for the last five seasons and his expert guidance with the forwards has helped give the Crusaders the reputation of having one of the most effective scrums in the competition. Hewett played 22 Tests for the All Blacks after making his first appearance at age 30. He scored a try on his Test debut against Ireland at Dublin in 2001 and played the last of his 22 Tests for New Zealand at the 2003 Rugby World Cup. He also played 71 times for the Crusaders, 55 times for the Canterbury provincial team and eight times for South Canterbury. He played 35 games for Edinburgh, under the stewardship of fellow coach Todd Blackadder for 2 years.

## TABAI MATSON

POSITION Assistant Coach (Attack)  
DATE OF BIRTH 14.05.73 in Fiji  
COACHING ROLES  
Maori All Blacks Assistant Coach 2013-2014; Canterbury Head Coach 2012, Canterbury Assistant Coach 2009-2011, Head Coach Gold Coast Eagles RC 2009, Gold Coast Breakers Div 1 Head Coach 2008, University of Queensland Assistant Coach 2007; Head Coach Yamaha Rugby Club 2003-2006

Maori All Blacks Assistant Coach 2013-15, Fiji Rugby World Cup Assistant Coach 2015, Canterbury Head Coach 2012, Canterbury Assistant Coach 2009-2011, Head Coach Gold Coast Eagles RC 2009, Gold Coast Breakers Div 1 Head Coach 2008, University of Queensland Assistant Coach 2007; Head Coach Yamaha Rugby Club 2003-2006

Tabai Matson joined the Crusaders coaching team in 2013 fresh from a season as Head Coach of Canterbury. He led the Canterbury team to its fifth successive national provincial title plus set try scoring and defensive records for Canterbury and the ITM Cup. Matson is also a former All Black, Canterbury and Crusaders centre and a Fijian International. During the 2015 Rugby World Cup Matson was an assistant coach for the Fiji national team. Having lived in France, England, Japan and Australia for more than ten years, Matson brings a wealth of overseas playing and coaching experience. He is one of very few New Zealand Coaches to have the ARU Top Coaching Qualification. His focus with the Crusaders this year is attack.

## BRAD MOOAR

POSITION Assistant Coach (Backs)  
DATE OF BIRTH 28.08.74  
COACHING ROLES  
Southland Stags Head Coach 2014 - 2015; Southern Kings Assistant Coach 2013; Eastern Province Kings Skills & Kicking Coach 2012; Canterbury Colts Assistant Coach 2011

Brad Moar joins the Crusaders coaching team after being the Head Coach of the Southland Stags in 2014 & 2015. He played age group rugby for Canterbury reaching the Canterbury B side as a number 10 before playing for Mid Canterbury from 1997-99. After playing overseas Moar returned to Christchurch, finished his playing career and started coaching with the Christchurch Club 2006-2010 & then the Canterbury Colts in 2011. He moved to South Africa in 2012 to coach the Eastern Province Kings in Currie Cup Division 1 and the Southern Kings in the 2013 Super 15. Brad moved back to New Zealand after the 2013 Super Rugby campaign to take up the role of Head Coach, Head of High Performance and Director of Coaching for Southland and joined the Crusaders after the conclusion of the 2015 Stags campaign.

## MICHAEL ALA'ALATOA

POSITION: Prop  
PHYSICAL: 1.90m | 136kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 28.08.91

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SUPER GAMES: 1  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: 2014 v Reds (for the Waratahs)  
in Brisbane

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2015 PROVINCE: Manawatu  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 10  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 5 (1t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2015 v Counties Manukau in  
Pukekohe

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Michael is new to the Crusaders this season, he was formerly part of the Waratah's wider training group. He has played well for Manawatu in the ITM Cup and we are expecting great things from the big man.

## TIM BOYS

POSITION: Loose forward  
PHYSICAL: 1.88m | 99kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 19.02.84

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SUPER GAMES: 45  
SUPER POINTS: 5 (1t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2006 v Cheetahs

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2015 PROVINCE: Southland  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 130  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 50 (10t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2006 v Northland

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

He was Southland's ITM Cup Player of the Year and he topped many of the stats alongside Matt Todd. He is a really good team man with a huge work rate and we are really excited about having him in the group.

## SCOTT BARRETT

POSITION: Lock  
PHYSICAL: 1.97m | 112kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 20.01.93 in New Plymouth

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SUPER GAMES: 7  
SUPER POINTS: 5 (1t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2015 v Rebels in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 8  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 0  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2014 v Auckland in  
Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Scotty played really well for us in his debut year but then unfortunately got injured and has been out for the ITM Cup. He is chomping at the bit to get back into Super Rugby and is really looking forward to it.

## WYATT CROCKETT

POSITION: Loosehead prop  
PHYSICAL: 1.93m | 116 kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 24.1.83 in Christchurch

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SUPER GAMES: 154  
SUPER POINTS: 65 (13t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2006 v Highlanders in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 73  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 30 (6t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2005 v Marlborough in  
Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 44  
TEST POINTS: 5 (1t)  
TEST DEBUT: 2009 v Italy in Christchurch

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

He is the most capped Crusader and one of the best team men the squad could ask for. A diligent player and superb scrummager.

## RYAN CROTTY

POSITION: Midfield Back  
PHYSICAL: 1.81m | 96kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 23.09.88 in Nelson

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SUPER GAMES: 95  
SUPER POINTS: 65 (13t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2009 v Hurricanes

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 66  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 75 (15t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2008 v Otago in Dunedin

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TEST CAPS: 15  
TEST POINTS: 5 (1t)  
TEST DEBUT: 2013 v Australia in Sydney

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Ryan is highly experienced and highly capable. I think he found 2015 to be a frustrating season but he has had a fantastic ITM Cup for Canterbury and seems to have found his stride again. I am really excited to see him step up again in 2016.

## ANDREW ELLIS

POSITION: Halfback  
PHYSICAL: 1.82m | 89kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 21.02.84 in Christchurch

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SUPER GAMES: 140  
SUPER POINTS: 134 (25t, 3d)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2006 v Reds in Brisbane

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 73  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 84 (15t, 3d)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2005 v Nelson Bays in Nelson

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TEST CAPS: 28  
TEST POINTS: 20 (4t)  
TEST DEBUT: 2006 v England in London

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Andy is one of our most seasoned campaigners. He is a great leader on and off the field and has a really good skill set as a 9. He has the ability to understand the game and drive the team well around the park.

## MITCHELL DRUMMOND

POSITION: Halfback  
PHYSICAL: 1.80m | 84kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 15.02.94

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SUPER GAMES: 16  
SUPER POINTS: 10 (2t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2014 v Rebels in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 24  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 12 (2t, 1c)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2013 v Manawatu in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Mitchell made his debut for us in 2014 and is going from strength to strength. Mitch got more game time than he was expecting and made the most of it. We see great potential and are expecting even more growth from him this year.

## SIONE FIFITA

POSITION: Outside back  
PHYSICAL: 1.89m | 105kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 17.04.90

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Counties Manukau  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 9  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 10 (2t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2015 v Manawatu in Pukekohe

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Sione has been playing for Counties Manukau in the ITM Cup and has proven to be a hard-running outside back who is uncompromising with ball in hand. He will add some depth in this area for us in 2016 and bring some healthy competition to the group.

## KIERON FONOTIA

POSITION: Centre  
PHYSICAL: 1.86m | 108kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 02.02.88

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SUPER GAMES: 23  
SUPER POINTS: 20 (4t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2014 v Stormers in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Tasman  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 54  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 50 (10t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2011 v Northland at Whangarei

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Uncompromising players are needed in the midfield and that is something that Kieron brings. He is a hard-running back that takes a lot of stopping with the ball in hand and is very good from a defensive point of view too, stopping the opposition when they are going down his channel.

## ROBBIE FRUEAN

POSITION: Midfield back  
PHYSICAL: 1.90m | 107kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 13.07.88 in Wellington

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SUPER GAMES: 69  
SUPER POINTS: 80 (16t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2009 v Blues (Hurricanes) in Wellington

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2015 PROVINCE: Hawke's Bay  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 73  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 155 (31t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2007 v Auckland (for Wellington) in Wellington

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

We all know what Robbie can bring to a game, and he is probably in the best physical condition he has ever been in. He is a leader in our group and gives everything to the team. This year is going to be a good year for Robbie.

## OWEN FRANKS

POSITION: Prop  
PHYSICAL: 1.85m | 118kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 23.12.87 in Motueka

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SUPER GAMES: 107  
SUPER POINTS: 10 (2t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2009 v Force in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 18  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 5 (1t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2007 v North Harbour in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 77  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: 2009 v Italy in Christchurch

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Uncompromising on the field, but quiet and considered off the field. Nobody prepares for each game more conscientiously than Owen.

## BEN FUNNELL

POSITION: Hooker  
PHYSICAL: 1.80m | 105kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 06.06.90 in Palmerston North

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SUPER GAMES: 49  
SUPER POINTS: 10 (2t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2012 v Waratahs in Sydney

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 56  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 40 (8t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2011 v North Otago in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

He's tough, robust and does his core roles very well - he's a good lineout thrower, good scrummager, and good in the set-piece.

## DAVID HAVILI

POSITION: Midfield back  
PHYSICAL: 1.84m | 88kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 23.12.94

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SUPER GAMES: 11  
SUPER POINTS: 10 (2t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2015 v Lions in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Tasman  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 21  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 52 (5t, 3c, 7p)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2014 v Hawke's Bay in Blenheim

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

David is just an exceptional young talent out of the Tasman team. He came through the wider training group last year and made every post a winner. He has played every minute possible for Tasman and it is awesome to have him back in the squad this season.

## MITCHELL HUNT

POSITION: First five-eighth  
PHYSICAL: 1.74m | 80kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 19.01.95

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Auckland  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 8  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 10 (1t, 1c, 1p)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2015 v Southland in Invercargill

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Mitchell is from the Tasman region and played in the New Zealand Under 20 team in 2015. He plays full back or first five and is a great goal kicker. We are really excited to welcome this young talent into the Crusaders.

## ALEX HODGMAN

POSITION: Prop  
PHYSICAL: 1.94m | 119kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 16.07.93

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SUPER GAMES: 5  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: 2015 v Chiefs in Hamilton

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 21  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 0  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2014 v Auckland

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

A great young man with a good work rate. He was in the Crusaders wider training group last year and played really well with his limited opportunities. We are really expecting him to put the pressure on our props this season.

## JONE MACILAI

POSITION: Outside back  
PHYSICAL: 1.77m | 87kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 27.08.90

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SUPER GAMES: 4  
SUPER POINTS: 5 (1t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2015 v Reds in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Northland  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 19  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 15 (3t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2013 v Southland

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Another of our Fijian flyers. He had a disappointing first season with the Crusaders because he broke his arm in the pre-season, but when he did come back from injury he scored a try with his first touch. This is going to be a really big year for Jone and we look forward to helping him reach his true potential.



## MARTY MCKENZIE

POSITION: Utility back  
PHYSICAL: 1.83m | 85kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 14.08.92

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SUPER GAMES: 10  
SUPER POINTS: 23 (4c, 5p)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2013 v Bulls (for the Blues)  
in Auckland

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2015 PROVINCE: Taranaki  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 41  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 224 (10t, 36c, 31p, 3d)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2011 v North Harbour (for  
Southland) in Invercargill

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

This is a great opportunity for Marty as one of our new first-fives. He is a good goal kicker, he is good at driving the team around the field and he was a major part of Taranaki winning the ITM Cup in 2014.

## JOE MOODY

POSITION: Loosehead prop  
PHYSICAL: 1.88m | 112kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 18.9.88 in Christchurch

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SUPER GAMES: 34  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: 2013 v Blues in Auckland

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 26  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 15 (3t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2011 v North Otago in  
Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 10  
TEST POINTS: 5 (1t)  
TEST DEBUT: 2014 v Australia in Sydney

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

After an injury in 2014, Moody has been working his way back to his best in 2015. He is an incredibly strong prop and we are really excited to see what he can do for the Crusaders this season.

## JOHNNY MCNICHOLL

POSITION: Outside back  
PHYSICAL: 1.85m | 96kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 24.09.90

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SUPER GAMES: 25  
SUPER POINTS: 45 (9t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2013 v Hurricanes in Wellington

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 48  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 130 (26t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2011 v North Otago in  
Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Johnny has had a really good ITM Cup with Canterbury and has shown the class that we know he is capable of. He is on fire right now and I know that he will be wanting to display that same level of class at the Super level in 2016.

## RICHIE MO'UNGA

POSITION: Utility back  
PHYSICAL: 1.79m | 86kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 25.05.94

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 28  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 88 (2t, 24c, 10p)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2013 v Manawatu in  
Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Richie has earned the promotion from wider training group to full squad this season. He is not a big man, but brings a lot of excitement when he is going forward. His game has gone from strength to strength with the amount of game he had for Canterbury in the ITM Cup.

## NEMANI NADOLO

POSITION: Outside back  
PHYSICAL: 1.96m | 125kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 31.08.88

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SUPER GAMES: 27  
SUPER POINTS: 105 (21t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2014 v Rebels in Melbourne

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2015 PROVINCE: -  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: -  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: -  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: -

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TEST CAPS: 23 (for Fiji)  
TEST POINTS: 192 (17t, 25c, 19p)  
TEST DEBUT: 2010 v Australia

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Everyone knows how good the big man is. He has got a skill set that I don't think I have seen in anyone before - the ability to put the ball on the boot and chip it through, and his aerial skills are second to none for a man his size.

## GED ROBINSON

POSITION: Hooker  
PHYSICAL: 1.78m, | 105kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 20.06.83

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SUPER GAMES: 66  
SUPER POINTS: 40 (8t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2009 v Highlanders  
(for the Hurricanes) in Wellington

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 65  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 10 (2t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2008 v Canterbury (for Wellington) in Wellington

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Ged is an experienced campaigner, he has been through several Super seasons and we expect him to bring a lot of knowledge and guidance to the team both on and off the field.

## KIERAN READ

POSITION: Number eight  
PHYSICAL: 1.93m | 110kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 26.10.85 in Papakura

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SUPER GAMES: 119  
SUPER POINTS: 90 (18t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2007 v Blues in Auckland

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 37  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 50 (10t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2006 v Wairarapa Bush in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 83  
TEST POINTS: 100 (20t)  
TEST DEBUT: 2008 v Scotland in Edinburgh

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Reado is a great leader, a great man and an exceptionally talented player. He has skill sets out wide that could probably see him play in the backline if he chose to.

## LUKE ROMANO

POSITION: Lock  
PHYSICAL: 1.99m | 115kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 16.02.86 in Christchurch

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SUPER GAMES: 67  
SUPER POINTS: 30 (6t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2011 v Bulls in Timaru

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 26  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 20 (4t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2009 v Tasman in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 22  
TEST POINTS: 5 (1t)  
TEST DEBUT: 2012 v Ireland in Hamilton

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

He is a big, robust, physical player. At his very best he is probably one of the best ball carriers in Super Rugby.

## PETE SAMU

POSITION: Loose forward  
PHYSICAL: 1.85m | 101kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 17.12.91

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Tasman  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 18  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 45 (9t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2014 v Auckland in Auckland

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Pete has had two fantastic seasons with Tasman. He was the Player of the Year for the Crusaders Knights in 2015 and then joined the Crusaders on a Wider Training Group contract at the end of last season. He is an absolute standout with ball in hand and just an outstanding individual.

## CODIE TAYLOR

POSITION: Hooker  
PHYSICAL: 1.83m | 106kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 31.03.91 in Levin

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SUPER GAMES: 20  
SUPER POINTS: 5 (1t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2013 v Kings in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 21  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 25 (5t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2012 v Auckland in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 4  
TEST POINTS: 10 (2t)  
TEST DEBUT: 2015 v Argentina in Christchurch

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

He brings the X-factor with his explosive running. He is very skilled and has shown that he is a player of the future.

## JORDAN TAUFUA

POSITION: Loose forward  
PHYSICAL: 1.85m | 100kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 29.01.92 in Auckland

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SUPER GAMES: 35  
SUPER POINTS: 25 (5t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2013 v Stormers in Cape Town

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2015 PROVINCE: Counties Manukau  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 43  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 45 (9t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2012 v Canterbury in Nelson

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Jordan, aka 'the beast', has such a huge physical presence. He is one of the best, most physical defenders in the game, as well as an all-round great ball carrier.

## MATT TODD

POSITION: Loose forward  
PHYSICAL: 1.85m | 103kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 24.03.88 in Christchurch

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SUPER GAMES: 80  
SUPER POINTS: 95 (19t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2011 v Blues in Auckland

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 58  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 55 (11t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2009 v Waikato in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 3  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: 2013 v France in New Plymouth

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Matt is one of our most consistent performers, backing up week after week with great performances no matter who he is playing for. He is a leader within the group, through his actions. He has skill sets over the ball and with ball in hand, that a lot of other loose forwards don't have.

## JIMMY TUPOU

POSITION: Loose forward  
PHYSICAL: 1.96m | 109kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 08.08.92

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SUPER GAMES: 25  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: 2013 v Waratahs in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Counties Manukau  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 39  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 15 (3t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2012 v Southland in Pukekohe

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT:

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Jimmy has great leadership qualities, which he has shown with his captaincy of Counties Manukau in the ITM Cup. He has come on in leaps and bounds over the last couple of years and his consistent performances will be valued.

## SEAN WAINUI

POSITION: Midfield back  
PHYSICAL: 1.91m | 102kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 23.10.95

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Taranaki  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 10  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 15 (3t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2014 v Waikato in Hamilton

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Sean is a young, talented New Zealand Maori player who plays in the ITM Cup for Taranaki. When we were looking for 12s and 13s he stood out immediately. He is a young man, but he is big, physical and has a great character. We are excited to welcome him to the squad.

## BEN VOLAVOLA

POSITION: First five-eighth  
PHYSICAL: 1.91m | 91kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 13.01.91

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SUPER GAMES: 8  
SUPER POINTS: 10 (2t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2013 v Reds (for the Waratahs) in Brisbane

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2015 PROVINCE: -  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: -  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: -  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: -

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TEST CAPS: 9 (for Fiji)  
TEST POINTS: 48 (1t, 8c, 9p)  
TEST DEBUT: 2015 v Maori All Blacks in Suva

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Another new first-five for the squad, Volavola comes from the Waratahs and also played in the 10 jersey for Fiji during the Rugby World Cup. Ben is a really exciting young man with a lot of potential.

## SAM WHITELOCK

POSITION: Lock  
PHYSICAL: 2.02m | 116kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 12.10.88 in Palmerston North

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SUPER GAMES: 88  
SUPER POINTS: 20 (4t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2010 v Highlanders in Christchurch

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 19  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 15 (3t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2008 v Wellington in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 72  
TEST POINTS: 20 (4t)  
TEST DEBUT: 2010 v Ireland in New Plymouth

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

He is one of the best players in the world. He sets high standards, he's got a great skill set and great work rate to match. He probably scored one of the best tries I have ever seen during a Super Rugby game for us in 2015, it was just exceptional.



# CRUSADERS 2016 WIDER TRAINING GROUP



## JED BROWN (MEDICAL EXEMPTION)

POSITION: Loose forward  
PHYSICAL: 1.86m | 102kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 12.03.91

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 18  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 0  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2012 v Auckland in Christchurch

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Jed is a classic seven, very much in the mold of Matt Todd. He is fast, agile and strong over the ball. He has been unlucky through injury but he's showed he is resilient and tough, so we are thrilled to have him back this season and we look forward to him returning to fitness around April.

## ISRAEL DAGG (MEDICAL EXEMPTION)

POSITION: Outside back  
PHYSICAL: 1.86m | 95kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 06.06.88

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SUPER GAMES: 89  
SUPER POINTS: 233 (27t, 19c, 20p)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2009 v Brumbies (for the Highlanders) in Dunedin

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2015 PROVINCE: Hawke's Bay  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 50  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 86 (15t, 34c, 1p)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2006 v Counties Manukau in Napier

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TEST CAPS: 49  
TEST POINTS: 70 (13t, 1c, 1p)  
TEST DEBUT: 2010 v Ireland at New Plymouth

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

He's a world class fullback. Had a great season for us in 2015 before injuring himself. He's a free spirit on and off the field and a pleasure to have in the team.

## MITCHELL DUNSHEA

POSITION: Lock/Loose forward  
PHYSICAL: 1.96m | 107kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 18.11.95

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 11  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 0  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2015 v Otago in Dunedin

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

He has had an absolutely outstanding debut season for Canterbury. He was also a member of the New Zealand U20 team in 2015 and in both cases he took every opportunity that presented itself. He is a tough player and it is great to see him come through the ranks and now make the squad.

## LEON FUKOFUKA

POSITION: Halfback  
PHYSICAL: 1.90m | 91kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 08.05.94

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Auckland  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 8  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 0  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2014 v Tasman in Auckland

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Leon joins us from Auckland and was also in the Chiefs Wider Training Group last year. He brings another dynamic to our halfbacks and gives us a new edge. He is a great ball runner and a physical halfback.

## TIM PERRY (MEDICAL EXEMPTION)

POSITION: Prop  
PHYSICAL: 1.88m | 116kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 01.08.88

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SUPER GAMES: 17  
SUPER POINTS: 5 (1t)  
SUPER DEBUT: 2013 v Bulls

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2015 PROVINCE: Tasman  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 49  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 25 (5t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2010 v South Canterbury (for Mid Canterbury)

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

Tim has had a difficult couple of years with injuries, but he's got everything there to go all the way and we look forward to having him back to make some real impact in about April. He is a great team man.

## JACK GOODHUE (MEDICAL EXEMPTION)

POSITION: Utility back  
PHYSICAL: 1.87m | 98kg  
DATE OF BIRTH: 13.06.95

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SUPER GAMES: 0  
SUPER POINTS: 0  
SUPER DEBUT: -

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2015 PROVINCE: Canterbury  
PROVINCIAL GAMES: 7  
PROVINCIAL POINTS: 10 (2t)  
PROVINCIAL DEBUT: 2014 v Waikato in Hamilton

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TEST CAPS: 0  
TEST POINTS: 0  
TEST DEBUT: -

### THE CRUSADERS SAY

A rising star who captained the New Zealand U20s earlier in the year. He injured himself in his first game for Canterbury so is fighting his way to recovery. A great lad with real maturity for his age. A really good distributor; one to watch for the future.

# CRUSADERS IN 2015

FINISHED 7TH OVERALL AFTER ROUND ROBIN

P	W	D	L	B	PF	PA	PD	B4	B7	PTS
16	9	0	7	2	481	338	143	8	2	46

PLAYOFFS

Photos: Getty Images



