

Club Helensvale proudly presents the:

Henselite \$50,000 National Club 5 a Side Challenge

The 2011 Henselite \$50,000 National Club 5 a Side Challenge is shaping up as a must see affair after one of the strongest fields in Australian history was recently unveiled.

With an increased prize pool and a first place cheque of \$20,000 up for grabs, 20 powerhouse clubs from seven states across the nation have accepted Club Helensvale's invitation to participate in the fifth staging of the annual event.

Featuring more than 20 past and present internationals, including former world number one Steve Glasson, Commonwealth Games gold medallists Kelvin Kerkow, Mark Casey, Wayne Turley, and Lynsey Armitage, and not to mention dozens of state representatives, the red hot action will take place at Club Helensvale from September 5th to 8th.

Leading the charge this year will be 2010 defending champions, **Warilla**. Although missing four of their stars from last year, Jeremy Henry has recruited well securing the likes of World Champion – Leif Selby and NSW stalwarts Geoff McGillivray and Wayne Crane. Their title defence will not come easy however, with challengers lining up at every angle.

Challengers to this year's title include **Club Helensvale**, who boasts five Australian Internationals in their ranks. After suffering a close defeat in last years final, they are sure to be fired up to go one better this time round. NSW Premier League champions **Cabramatta** will return to the event and field four internationals including New Zealand legends Peter Belliss and Rowan Brassey, as well as Aussie starlet Claire Duke and Canadian hot shot Ryan Bester.

Hot on their heels will be NSW powerhouses **Taren Point** and **St Johns Park**. Internationals, Wayne Turley and Aron Sherriff, will provide Taren Point with the platform they need to all but guarantee a top four finish. While the legendary Steve Glasson and ex-Queenslander Ben Twist, will ensure St Johnnies (who you could say have underperformed in previous years) are featured come Grand Final day.

Newcomers to the event in 2011 include Victorian Club **Richmond Union**, Australian Open Champions Lisa Phillips and Nev Rodda will ensure they are a force to be reckoned with. Tasmanian club **Longford** will send state legend, Mark Strochetter, to spearhead their attack on the event. **South Toowoomba** also makes their first appearance after a tremendous Premier League season, finishing runner up to Club Helensvale in the Grand Final. And sure to slip under the radar will be the ACT's **Weston Creek**. Although this will be their first appearance they possess two of last year's champions - Damon and Adam Jeffery, so they could be the dark horse in this year's field.

The \$50,000 prize pool is sure to make the competition fierce. Featuring singles, pairs, triples and fours, each team is asked to field their best five players, regardless of sex, with the top-four teams qualifying for the semi-finals on the Thursday following three action packed days of round games.

A Calcutta will be held on Sunday September 4th from 6:00pm preceding the tournament before the draw is finalised. This is a must see event with clubs last year selling from as little as \$100 all the way up to \$2500! Spectators and potential bidders are all welcome to attend.

Club Helensvale must thank the assistance of major sponsors: Henselite, Coke, Carlton United Breweries, Wymark Insurance Brokers, and Helensvale Quality Meats.

For more information, contact: Lynsey Armitage – 0401643958

Competing teams: QLD – Bargara, Broadbeach, Helensvale 1 and 2, Mooloolaba, Pine Rivers, South Toowoomba, South Tweed, and Wynnum Manly. NSW – Cabramatta, St Johns Park, Taren Point, and Warilla. VIC – Essendon, Richmond Union, and Melbourne. ACT – Weston Creek. SA – Grange. Tasmania – Longford. WA – Victoria Park.

NOTEWORTHY PLAYERS:

- World Singles Champion: Steve Glasson (St Johns Park)
- World Champion of Champions Singles winners: Leif Selby (2008 - Warilla) and Brett Wilkie (2009 - Helensvale)
- Commonwealth Games Gold Medallists: Kelvin Kerkow (South Tweed), Lynsey Armitage (Helensvale), Mark Casey (Helensvale), Bill Cornhels (Wynnum Manly), Wayne Turley (Taren Point)
- World Champions: Claire Duke (Cabramatta) and Jeremy Henry (Warilla)
- Asia Pacific Indoor Singles & Pairs Champion: Anthony Kiepe (2009 - Helensvale)
- Australian Open Winners Lisa Phillips and Nev Rodda (2011 - Richmond Union)
- Australian Representatives (past or present): Nathan Rice (Helensvale), Aron Sherriff (Taren Point), Robert Thompson (Mooloolaba), Mark Berghoffer (St Johns Park), Brody Pitham (Taren Point), Sean Baker (Broadbeach), Ben Twist (St Johns Park), Michael Brown (Pine Rivers), Adam Jeffery (Weston Creek), Mark Strochetter (Longford)
- New Zealand representatives: Rowan Brassey, Peter Bellis (Cabramatta)
- Canadian representative: Ryan Bester (Cabramatta)