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Welcome to the PRFC Spring 2011 Pre-Season Newsletter! The newsletter is here to inform, inspire, and entertain... so anything goes. As opposed to monthly newsletters, my intention is to provide a quarterly newsletter worthy of bed-side (or john-side) real estate, containing valuable information, before and after each season. Any major events (i.e., Brufest, the Collegiate Classic, etc.) will be announced well in advance, and each of the men's and women's upcoming/past seasons will be reviewed. And following with the past traditions, current and old players will be interviewed, ridiculous pictures of Dan Talbert will be exploited, and club members' news will be shared. Any and all ideas for future newsletters are welcomed. I look forward to providing you with a quality publication throughout the year to come.

Yours in sweat and blood,

Ben Doolittle  
PRFC Secretary



Congratulations to the Angels for placing at the USA Rugby 2010 Women's Division II Tournament in November! The team traveled well to Mesa, AZ and pulled out a tough win against 2009 tournament rivals Raleigh, NC for a third place finish. Congrats, Ladies!



# Spring 2011 Angel's Schedule



Date	Opponent	Location
4/2	Cleveland NOVA	Home
4/9	Univ. of Pitt (Alumni Weekend)	Home
4/16	Detroit	Away
4/23	Off (Easter)	--
4/30	Ruggerfest	Away (DC)
5/7	Off (Mother's Day)	--
5/14	Mystery Tour	Away
5/21	Harrisburg	Home

*Pre-season Report (Pittsburgh, PA) –The Angels are coming off of another successful fall season after placing third at Nationals in Arizona and beating the previous year's champion's, the Raleigh Venom. This spring the team is looking forward to creating depth, developing players, and challenging ourselves by advancing core rugby skills while also increasing the pace of our game. Spring highlights should include challenging D-1 matches, tournament play, and simply enjoying a fun season.*

*-Boo Filipek (Angels Co-Captain)*

# Spring 2011 Men's Schedule



Date	Opponent	Division	Location	Result
3/12	Washington Irish	DII	Away (DC)	L 32-17
4/2	Cleveland East SRU and IUP	DII DIII	Home Away	
4/9	Erie and Canton UPJ Tourney	DII DIII	Home Away	
4/16	Canada Canton	DII DIII	Home Home	
4/23	Off (Easter)	--	--	--
4/30	Detroit	DII/DIII	Away	
5/7	Happy Valley Erie Tourney	DII DIII	Home Away	
5/14	Mystery Tour	DII/DIII	Away	
5/21	Harrisburg	DII/DIII	Home	

*Season Opener report (3/12, Washington, DC) -*With only 3 hrs of training under their belts, twenty-three brave PRFC men traveled to test the Washington Irish with all they had on a flooding and sloppy DC pitch. With rising waters coming only 10 feet of the touch lines, PRFC controlled the first 60 minutes of the match; unfortunately, the Irish's unstoppable winger attacks pushed our exhausted ruggers on their heels as PRFC fell to a 32-17 defeat.

The Men's Club will be focusing on training new and younger players to create depth between Division 2 and Division 3 sides, as well as giving different combinations a chance during game action. Through a competitive schedule that has both difficult opponents and tournament aspirations we are looking to make both division 2 and 3 teams a force in the Midwest for the fall.

*-Derek Neubauer (Men's Co-Capitan)*



Yinz know they ain't got no Yuengling over there?!



In mid-December, the PRFC welcomed home their very own Rikki Renkin Robey. As an Air Force electrician, Rikki served 7 months in Iraq, mostly in the Baghdad region. The Angels missed her red hair and her running during this past season and are very excited to have her viciousness back on the pitch. Her friends and family - especially husband and Harlequin Josh Robey- missed her very much, but we are all proud of our own hometown hero who bravely served her country and did her club proud overseas. Welcome back, Rikki! We're so happy to have you safely home.



Only three short weeks ago, one of the beloved members of the men's team (and Convener) announced that he will be moving to Philadelphia come March 5 for career reasons. Paul Chang had only been a member of the PRFC for 3 years, but the mark he's left on the club runs deep. His willingness to serve as a board member proved that PRFC's future was important to him, and the charisma and leadership that he showed with the newly formed Division III squad proved that the development of rugby itself was also important. Bang-bang (aka, Chang-bang, One Ball Paul, etc.) will be truly and greatly missed, and the PRFC can only hope that he will not become a stranger.





**President**

**First Rugby Experience:** February 1995. Working out at Pitt's gym and saw a sign for Pittsburgh Women's Rugby Club reading "no experience necessary". I had no idea what it was so I decided to attend a practice on the Cathedral lawn. New to the dreary Pittsburgh winter and just dumped by my boyfriend, I found this amazing group of intense, crazy girls training and tackling each other in the snow. It was just what I needed, and I never left.

**Best Rugby Experience:** It took 14 years but...getting to play at Nationals with a team of women who deserved to be there for what they are both on and off the rugby pitch. It's the only time I can honestly say I left it all on the field.

**Current Employer:** Labrador Contracting, self-employed  
**Favorite Pittsburgh Restaurant:** Thai Cuisine (Bloomfield)...ask for spicy 9

**Favorite thing to do in the summer:** Anything that allows me to enjoy the sun: gardening, grilling, hanging out with my dogs, & playing touch, of course.

**"MADAM PRES"**



**LORI  
ALTENDERFER**

**Vice-President**

My first rugby experience was the second semester of my first year at UVA. I had a few friends on the team and they asked me to come out and play, the selling point was free beer at the rugby house!

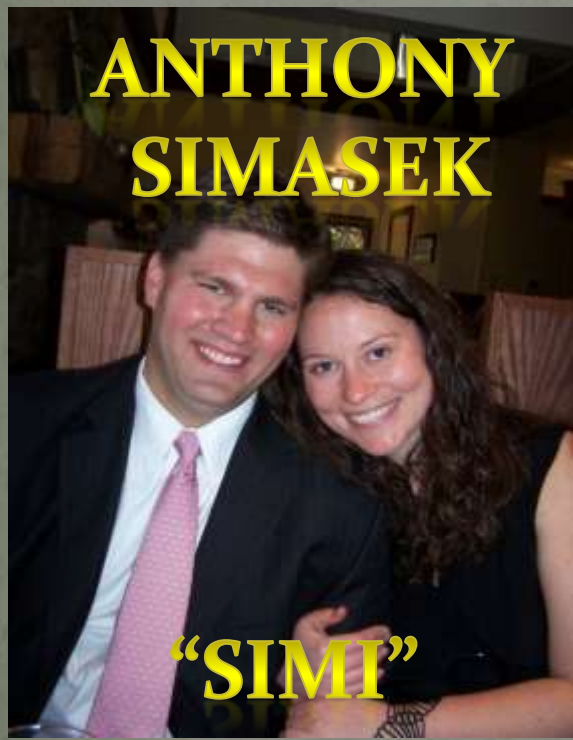
Best Rugby Experience is a tie between the 2010 USA Seven's in Vegas and the 2011 USA Seven's in Vegas. Playing against the French National B-side was definitely cool even though they spanked us!

**Employer -** The Bank of New York Mellon and Clydesdale Chef's Intl

**Favorite Pittsburgh Restaurant -** Typhoon (in shadyside)

**Favorite thing to do in the summer:** Sail or Watersports

**ANTHONY  
SIMASEK**



**"SIMI"**



Hello Pitt City!

The Pittsburgh Collegiate Classic (Coopers Lake - we are trying to get the new name going so help us out!) is less than three weeks away and I need your help to make the tournament another successful event! Just a reminder that this is our second largest fundraiser and we stand to make 6 to 7 thousand dollars for the club so please do you part to make this event a success.

### What I need:

- Volunteers to help box out fields and line them on Thursday and Friday. We have seven fields so it is vital that some people can help out.
- Certified Refs who are willing to donate a few games to help save the club money on referee fees!
- Everyone else to sign-up for jobs such as concessions, field representative, parking, etc... This sign-up sheet will be out soon.

We already have 34 collegiate teams confirmed, not only is this a great opportunity for us to make some cash for the club, but it is an awesome recruiting event as well!

Please send me an email and let me know if you are available for Thursday March 24th or Friday March 25th. Your help will be much appreciated!

Anthony Simasek  
asimasek6@gmail.com  
757-869-2302.

**Coopers Lake Campgrounds**  
205 Currie Road  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057-4527



Pictured: Joeylyn Miller, Meesha Gerhart, and Alex Gralia

The 2010 PRFC Brewfest was held on Friday, December 3 at three locations in Station Square: Steelhouse, Bar Room, and Saddle Ridge. The event was a huge success, and as the largest annual fundraiser held by the PRFC, it is very important to our club's future. The money raised helps to build our "field fund", which will one day be used to purchase a field that we can call our own. A portion of the funds also went to the non-profit International Amateur Rugby Association, a large supporter of amateur rugby in the area. Events like Brewfest and the Collegiate Classic play a vital role, and members' participation is imperative. A big thank you goes out to all who have helped make PRFC what it is today, and what it will be in the future, which includes the Collegiate Classic, Steel City 7s, Brewfest, and Ruggers Pub.



## Happy Birthday!

- March 1: Jessica Landis
- March 5: Joe Pizcorski
- March 13: Brian Lemme
- March 14: Tricia DiBasilio
- March 28: Travis Gatewood, Ben Doolittle
- May 12: Katy Rank Lev

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## Future Player Profile



**Name:** Giada Marconi Sikon

**Born:** 2/11/2011

**Weight:** 6 lbs, 14 oz

**Position (Fall 2030):** If newly father Stephen Sikon has anything to say about, scrumhalf (but he'll settle for fly)

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE SIKONS!!!**



## ARU Coaching Clinic

The ARU will be holding a Coaching Clinic on April 2nd and 3rd at Founder's Field (Harlequin's pitch). The event is a great opportunity for those interested in coaching to hone their knowledge of the game, while providing a great opportunity to move your rugby career beyond being a player. Look for emails soon for more information!

## Congratulations!

To Bill Slowik getting married on June 19

## Good Luck!

Katy Rank Lev has started training for the Rachel Carson Challenge on June 18: 34 miles in one day. Good Luck!

## Remember the DUES!

Pay your conveners. Your *DUES* for the spring season are:  
Regular: \$135                      Student/Rookie: \$115                      Social: \$50

## Volunteers Needed!

PRFC has an excellent opportunity to volunteer with the Veterans Wheelchair Games this August! Pittsburgh is hosting a Quad Rugby event, and needs volunteers for scorekeeping, announcing, etc. This is a great way to gain club exposure, while helping out the community. See the dates and times below, and contact Lori Altenderfer for any further information:

Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>: 1pm & 3pm

Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>: 8:30 pm

Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>: 6:30pm & 8pm

Saturday: 8am & 1pm

# Welcome New Players!



As a somewhat new player to the club myself, let me be the first – but hopefully the second- to welcome all new players to the Pittsburgh Rugby Football Club. Whether you're a long-time veteran, or this is your first season of rugby, we want to make sure that you feel at home with our club. Feel free to ask any and all questions, but here are some quick facts about our club:

- Founded in 1965 (men) and 1976 (women); the men and women joined in 2002
- We typically play games in Monroeville
- PRFC is a stakeholder in the Ruggers Pub
- Current coaches/captains:
  - Women's Co-Captains: Boo Filipek and Nikki Ridgway
  - Women's Coach: Tony Chappie
  - Men's Captains: Derek Neubauer and Rich Trotter
  - Men's Coach: Brian Wood
- The Angel's have finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place at Nationals over the last two years
- We have a pub in the South Side, [www.ruggerspub.com](http://www.ruggerspub.com)



40 S 22<sup>nd</sup> St

[www.ruggerspub.com](http://www.ruggerspub.com)

**PITTSBURGH  
RUGBY  
FOOTBALL CLUB**

# Dan of the Month





## Spring Training

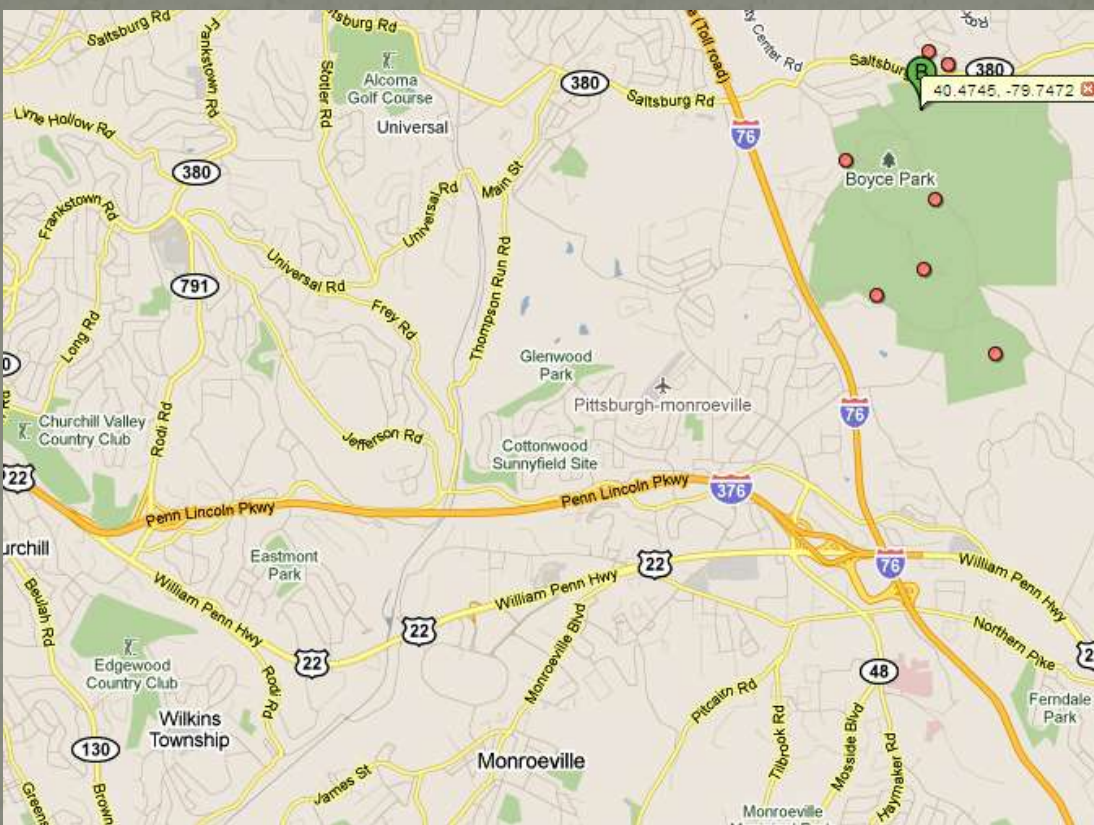
Mark your calendars: the PRFC will be granted field space at Manchester Field in the North Side beginning April 4<sup>th</sup>. Practice will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9pm for both the men and women's team, rain or shine.

## Manchester Field

Use the Google to find the easiest route from your location. The intersection of "N Franklin St & Fulton St" seems to work best for everyone.

PS- The board knows that April 4<sup>th</sup> is after the first scheduled matches. Due to the City of Pittsburgh's planning, no field permits are being issued prior to April 4<sup>th</sup>. If anyone knows of field space that can be utilized for training prior to the April 2<sup>nd</sup> games, please make the board and your coaches/captains aware. If anyone happens to have a 100m x 50m field that we can have, we'll pay you with a case of PBR tall boys.

# Directions Boyce Park



## **BOYCE PARK**

### **From Turnpike:**

Exit at Exit 57 Monroeville, stay to left and take Business 22. Take First right onto 48 North (orange belt)

### **From I 376**

Take 376 East to Monroeville; go through the Squirrel Hill Tunnel  
Take the fifth exit (84B) after the tunnel you will see sign as you approach the exit for BOYCE PARK. When you exit you want to take 48 North (Haymaker Rd) this is the "Orange Belt." Go through the first light and at the first stop sign make a right onto Beatty Road (becomes Cooper Road). Go straight through the first two stop signs (you will pass CCAC on the left). At the "T" intersection, turn right onto Old Frankstown Road. Take the next immediately left onto Spring Miller Road. Keep left at the "Y" intersection, onto Pierson Run Road. The entrance to the soccer fields will be on your right (kind of comes out of nowhere - but you can see a entrance to the rest of the park on the left, directly across from the field entrance.) Turn right into the field area. At the "T", turn left into the soccer parking lot.



40.474515, -79.747231

Green

Boyce Park

432

Pierson Run Rd

Pierson Run Rd

Pierson Run Rd



## Vegas 7s

The 2011 USA Rugby 7s International tourney was held this year once again in Las Vegas over Valentine's Day Weekend. Both men and women from the PRFC have represented over the last two years, and the men even played in 2009. For anyone looking to mix the Viva of Vegas with the thrill of international rugby, start saving for next year!

## Recruitment

With the Spring Season now upon us, it is important to re-iterate how heavily the PRFC relies on recruitment. The spring season proves to be both a fun and rewarding season; neither the women nor men are in league play, which will allow both recruitment and development to be major focuses. Bring a friend, hang up fliers, welcome and meet the new players as they come out to practice. Bottom line: build our team, and spread the game. Behm.

## Volunteering

The club is exploring some interesting ways to gain club awareness (and possibly monetary reimbursements) - from volunteering at the Wheelchair Games, to working concessions at Heinz Field. If you know of any valuable resources that the executive board could explore, email us at [fundraising@pghyrugby.com](mailto:fundraising@pghyrugby.com). Watch for emails for volunteering specifics!

## Field Space

The task of finding useable field space in Pittsburgh for both games and training is difficult to say the least, but please know that the board is pursuing all options for the short and long term. Every extra dollar that the club earns goes straight to our field fund, and the day of claiming a PRFC pitch is soon approaching. If you have any leads

## This Way Out

Advanced apologies for any misinformation. Comments on how to better the newsletter are always welcome. Bashes/rants/typo-attacks should be sent to \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_.com. I hope everyone is excited as I am for the spring season.

Cheers,  
Doolittle



## Club Officers

*President:* Lori Altenderfer  
lalttenderfer@gmail.com



*Vice President:* Anthony Simasek  
asimasek6@gmail.com



*Men's Convener:* Travis Gatewood  
arugbyplayer@yahoo.com



*Women's Convener:* Michelle McGraw  
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*Treasurer:* Nicole King  
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*Secretary:* Ben Doolittle  
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## Other Info

*Fundraising:*  
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