



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **HSBC WARATAHS MUSCLE UP TO SUPPORT KIDS WITH CEREBRAL PALSY**

**The HSBC Waratahs are once again throwing their support behind caring for children with cerebral palsy (CP).**

Captain Phil Waugh yesterday presented a cheque for \$50,000, raised through his participation in the 2009 Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. He was joined onboard 'Loyal' by former Wallaby Phil Kearns and other celebrities.

CEO of the Cerebral Palsy Foundation, Rob White, said the HSBC Waratahs' ongoing support was vital to helping children with cerebral palsy and their families.

'Cerebral palsy is the most common physical disability affecting Australian children, with a baby born with CP every 15 hours', Mr White said. 'We appreciate the HSBC Waratahs' commitment to raising money to help us continue research into the prevention and cure of cerebral palsy, and also to provide much needed therapy and equipment for kids with CP.'

Children with cerebral palsy will benefit from a range of fundraising initiatives to be held by the HSBC Waratahs throughout the Super 14 season. They will donate 50 cents from every program sold at Waratahs' games, and \$2 from every sale of a specially designed Charity Cap.

There will also be other fundraising activities associated with the HSBC Waratahs' final round clash against the Hurricanes on 14 May. In a repeat of last year, a special jersey will once again be made for the charity match. The jersey will then be put up for auction.

'Waratahs' fans will have the chance to own a piece of memorabilia from the charity match and the Super 14 season, with money raised helping children with cerebral palsy', Mr White said.

'We particularly appreciate the generous support we've had from captain of the Waratahs, Phil Waugh, who is an Ambassador for the Cerebral Palsy Foundation. His public profile is helping us raise community awareness about the incidence of cerebral palsy, and the need to fund support services and research to find a prevention and cure.'

Phil Waugh presented the \$50,000 cheque at a Cerebral Palsy Foundation Boardroom Lunch hosted by Macquarie Group Foundation. Director of Waratahs Rugby and Governor of the Cerebral Palsy Foundation Sally Loane, and Andrew Coorey officiated at the lunch.

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#### **The facts of cerebral palsy**

- Cerebral palsy (CP) is the most common, physical disability in childhood
- CP is a permanent disability that affects movement
- CP results from damage to the developing brain, usually before birth
- In Australia, 1 in 400 babies is diagnosed with CP
- There is no known cure and, for most, the cause is unknown
- People with CP may also have seizures, and sensory and intellectual impairments

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