

Joseph Rush



<http://www.kintetsu.co.jp/rugby/index.html>

Joseph Rush is an interpreter for the Kintetsu Liners Rugby Team in the Top League competition (Japan's version of the super 15). Teams in the Top League are owned by companies; Kintetsu Cooperation is the company who owns the team he works for.

His job entails interpreting Japanese to English and English to Japanese, facilitating communication between the English speaking staff/ players, and the non English speakers. Their Head Coach and Backs Coach are from New Zealand and they have several players who also have limited Japanese ability.

Joseph is involved in most of the day to day communication within the team and also media conferences and interviews post game. This includes interpreting at meetings, translating documents and helping cultural understanding.

In addition to interpreting, he has also designed team posters, made team promotional videos and helped teach *Judo* for the team. These stray from his main role but in his current work environment everyone is encouraged to use other skills we may also have if it is to the benefit to the team. He is in his 3rd year this year.

The team is currently placed 5th on the table of 14 teams. The season runs from September - March with a 4 week break in November. Teams meet and start their preparation for the season in April or May so we have long years.

Joseph was born in Palmerston North and grew up in Wellington and Dannevirke. He went on student exchange for 10 months with YFU in 6th form (Yokohama), then did his 7th form at Awatapu College. He was at International Pacific College (Palmerston North) as a student from 2002 to 2004. He studied Bachelor of International Studies (Made up of International Relations, Economics and Environmental papers). He has worked for International Pacific College recruitment for 3 years

He enjoys his current job and would like to continue doing it for a few more years. His goal would be to make it to the National Team one day. He says he is still a long way off it now but he is working towards it.

In addition he would like to and is currently planning to open a bar in Japan in the future. He has really grown to enjoy life over here and working in his current job is allowing himself the means to think about opening his own business in the future.

Profiled by Yukie Oki, 2010