

Welcome Back

Written by CalgaryRiderFan
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Hello and welcome to the “new and improved” Riderfans.com. First of all, a big thank you to Shane “Chaps” Chapman in a job well done. He also came up with a good idea where a few words right now might be appropriate.

I thought this would be a good chance to share the story of how this site got started with people who may have only signed up the last few years. When I got to thinking back it startled me to realize that riderfans.com is over 10 years old now! It was the spring of 2001, and with all the wonders of the internet I had discovered (insert your own porn joke), I had yet to find a place where Rider fans talked Saskatchewan Roughrider football. Lucky for me and the rest of us, a young Rider fan in Regina had come to the same realization in 2000. Unlike me, this fan had the vision and ability to do something about this and create rf.com. When I first found this site, there were probably about 20 or 30 posters, most of whom are still here today.

It's not an exaggeration to say this site has exploded since then, with over 10,000 members and closing in on 2 million posts. Lots of people have contributed to this effort. We've had various contributors writing articles, submit pictures. We even had a radio show for awhile. Thanks go out to the mods who have volunteered their time to make this place run smoothly and keep the peace. I'm talking about the current mods and past mods who also made were a big part of this site's success. Thanks to the advertisers who support the site. Hopefully they are getting value out of it, because their contributions help cover the costs to make sure this place is always up and running.

Of course the engine that drives this site is the membership. I continue to be in awe of the passion Rider fans continue to show for their team on here. The amount of information that comes from the membership is amazing: practice reports, scoops on news, scouting reports on new players, breakdowns from watching games on PVRs. Then you have people stepping up to get tickets for each other, give rides to each other to games....it really is quite a community. It was never the goal of this place to become known as the highest traffic place to talk CFL football; it was you fans who made it so.

We've been thought a lot in this decade on here. The lowest of the lows with the 2004 West Final and 2009 Grey Cup. And we've been on top of the world with the 2007 Cup run and the last two Western finals. With all our different points of view the one common bond is always an unwavering love for this team. As Chaps one put it, it's a site by fans for fans. As long as Rider fans want to come on here to talk Rider football, I hope this site will always be here for them. I hope you find the changes helpful. Suggestions that have come up from you folks were kept in mind.

Thanks for all the good times so far and here's to many more.