

RELEASED: Friday, February 12, 2016

## Offsiders celebrates ten years on ABC

**Airs Sunday, February 14 at 10am on ABC & iview, and  
3.30pm (AEDT) on ABC News 24**

On Sunday morning **Offsiders** celebrates ten years on air.

The program, which each week features a panel of leading sport commentators and experts, was conceived and initially hosted by *Insiders* presenter Barrie Cassidy.

“Barrie’s concept was a thinking person’s sports program, free of any commercial compromise or broadcast loyalties that are a reality elsewhere,” said current host **Gerard Whateley**, who has been with the program from the start.

“It was steeped in the idea that those in virtually every endeavour of life from politics to business, find their passion and release in sport. That portion of the community craved an adult conversation that extended beyond the on-field action and placed sport in its societal context.”

The weekly mix of respected, insightful and relevant panellists and Whateley’s sharp analysis has proven to be a winning formula. In 2015 **Offsiders** delivered its highest average audience on record, up an impressive 22% on the 2014 series, with audience gains experienced across all demographics.\*

On the panel to help celebrate on Sunday morning will be rugby league legend **Roy Masters**; author and writer for *The Australian*, **Gideon Haigh**; and editor of the *Footy Almanac*, **John Harms**.

We’ve also opened the vault and will be looking back at some of the most memorable moments from the show over the past decade.

Join the conversation: **#Offsiders**

The episode of **Offsiders** will be available on **iview** after the program airs and on the **Offsiders** website: **[abc.net.au/offsiders](http://abc.net.au/offsiders)**

Follow Gerard Whateley on Twitter: **@GerardWhateley**

Follow **Offsiders** on Twitter: **@OffsidersABC**

\*The 2015 series achieved a combined metro and regional average audience of 259,000, up 22% on the 2014 series. People over 50 up 26% and people under 50 up 13% on previous series. Source: OzTAM and RegionalTAM consolidated data, Webtrends.

---

For further information contact:

**Chris Chamberlin, News Publicist, ABC TV Publicity**

02 83333 2154 | 0404 075 749 | [chamberlin.chris@abc.net.au](mailto:chamberlin.chris@abc.net.au)

**@popculturechris**