

# KENT COUNTY RFU INFORMATION SENDOUT FEBRUARY 2019



## 1. RECOGNITION FOR VOLUNTEERS.

### Do you have an unsung hero?

The Kent RFU Volunteer awards are in their 5th year. There are 9 categories and a chance to say thank you to those volunteers that go the extra mile to give a great rugby experience.



We are still needing nominations in the following Categories:

Spirit of Rugby  
Student Volunteer of the year  
Young Rugby Ambassador  
Womens Rugby Volunteer

Do you know of an unsung hero, a person that has made a valued contribution at your club? Check out the other nomination categories **HERE!**

If your nomination is chosen as one of the top three you will be invited along with your nomination and their guest to attend an awards dinner scheduled for Thursday 6th June 2019 at Shepherd Neame Old Brewery Store.

Awards close Saturday 6th April 2019.

**SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS HERE!**

## 2. INSIGHT EVENINGS AROUND THE COUNTY

### Who is Attending From Your Club?

A reminder that Kent County RFU have arranged Club Consultation Evenings, on the below dates. It is your chance to let Kent know what the priority needs are for your club. If you haven't already done so, please do let us know who from your club is attending.

Ideally we would request the following roles - Chairman, Director of Rugby, Honsec and Senior Team Captains - as we will be discussing competitions which was one of the main concerns harvested from our Insight Evening held at Faversham.

We see this as a key event for clubs to highlight concerns and needs to help prioritise County activities/spending for 2019/2020. Don't miss the opportunity to make a difference that could benefit your club next season.

Weds 27th Feb at Maidstone RFC @ 7pm.  
Weds 13th March at Canterbury RFC @7pm.  
Weds 10th April at Westcombe Park RFC @7pm.

Please contact the Kent County Office with:  
Which event attending?  
Club Name?  
Name and role of attendees?

Email: [office@kent-rugby.org](mailto:office@kent-rugby.org)

## 3. SARACENS KENT DEVELOPING PLAYER PROGRAMME FOR BOYS IN YEAR 9

The nomination process is now OPEN for coaches and teachers to nominate suitable boys to join the Saracens Kent U14 Rugby Developing Player Programme. Nominated players should be those with above average talent. To assist you in making the correct assessment and for further information regarding the programme see our helpful guide **HERE**. This form is for use by Kent Club

Coaches/Teachers, it enables you to nominate boys in the U14 age group into the Saracens Kent U14s Developing Player Programme (DPP) for season 2018-19.

WHEN USING THE ONLINE NOMINATION SYSTEM PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU READ ALL THE IMPORTANT GUIDELINES. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WILL MEAN THE PLAYER WILL NOT RECEIVE AN INVITE INTO THE PROGRAMME.

All information will be retained in line with GDPR guidelines and our Data Protection Policy can be found on our website **HERE**.

Deadline 1st March – Assessment date Wed 13th March 2019

[ONLINE NOMINATION FORM LINK](#)

#### 4. ENGLAND RUGBY LAUNCHES 'WE PLAY RUGBY'

England Rugby has launched a new rugby participation campaign "We Play Rugby" which is focused entirely on participation and increasing numbers involved in the community game.

Watch the short 'We Play Rugby' campaign video.



Please ensure your Club details are correct on the 'Club Search Finder' ([www.weplayrugby.co.uk](http://www.weplayrugby.co.uk)) – should you have any queries please contact your local Rugby Development Officer.

#### 5. LEVEL 3 COACHING AWARD 2019/20

The RFU will be opening the Level 3 course to any coaches who meet the pre-requisites for the course and welcome applications from those coaching children, schools and youth, player pathway and adult rugby in both male and female game. More information can be found **HERE**.

[INFORMATION ON LEVEL 3 COACHING AWARD](#)

Should any individuals have any specific queries regarding the Level 3 Coaching Award – please contact their local Community Rugby Coach.

#### 6. GAME MANAGEMENT SYSTEM – CHANGES TO TICKET ALLOCATION

As a reminder the RFU Council recently endorsed changes to the method for allocating tickets to England internationals at Twickenham to various sections of the game. The new system requires clubs to have inputted data via the Team Management tool on the Game Management System, across both the 2018/19 and 2019/20 seasons. For examples of how entitlements will be allocated to the game, and further information on the endorsed changes, please click [here](#).

At this stage all clubs are encouraged to use the Team Management Tool to record the results of all their 15-a-side matches played to date this season for their male and female age grade teams and their men and women's adult teams, noting matches played in many league and cup competitions organised by the RFU or their CB will already be recorded.

For support on using the Team Management Tool – please visit the Game Management Section of the Kent RFU website: <http://www.kent-rugby.org/gms-guidance/>

#### 7. WHITING & HAMMOND SEVENS @ TUNBRIDGE WELLS RFC

Secure Trading 7's Series is back for 2019 and teams can enter local qualifiers now – the Kent qualifier is taking place across the weekend of April 27th & 28th, and is being held at Tunbridge Wells RFC.



Saturday will see the Men's Open and Social events whilst Sunday will see the Ladies teams and Kent Girls under 13s, 15s and 18s events during a "Festival of Female Rugby". Providing Open and Social events endeavours to cater for teams and players of all standards and with a full array of catering and bars, plus live music, the well-established event promises to be another excellent weekend of rugby.

For the more ambitious sides, teams that finish in the top 8 places in the Men's and Women's Open competitions will collect rankings points. If teams collect enough points to put them in the top 20 in the National leader board (there are currently 37 events scheduled nationally), they will progress through to the National Finals. This will be held on the 29th June and all teams at the National Final (20 male and 20 female) will receive travel funding to attend. At the finals, teams will compete for the title of "NATIONAL CHAMPIONS", receive London 7s hospitality and a cash prize of £3,000.

Early entry is recommended and the entry forms and a link to the designated website page can be found **HERE!**

## 8. KENT COUNTY YOUTH SEVENS ENTRIES

ENTER YOUR TEAMS FOR KENT COUNTY YOUTH SEVENS 2019 IN THE FOLLOWING AGE GROUPS:

Under 13s @ Canterbury RFC on 28th April  
Under 14s @ Folkestone RFC on 28th April  
Under 15s @ Venue TBC on 28th April  
Under 16s @ Beckenham RFC on 28th April  
Under 17s @ Venue TBC on 7th April  
Under 18's @ Venue TBC on 7th April

Download the entry form and send your entries to John Reilly by 8th March [johnreilly984@btinternet.com](mailto:johnreilly984@btinternet.com)

N.B. All entries are subject to payment in advance. See entry form for details.

[Youth Sevens Entry Form](#)

## 9. KENT COUNTY PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

Clubs may not be aware that as part of their membership of Kent County RFU, we also purchase block membership of Kent County Playing Fields Association.

Clubs are able to apply for grants or loans or general advice via KCPFA and clubs should visit their website for full details of their services:

<https://www.kentpfa.org.uk/>

## 10. YOUTH PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY

The Developing Player Programme (DPP) was developed based on some key messages from the RFU:

- A single clear pathway towards the professional and international game where school, club, county and DPP complement and don't compete with each other
- The engagement of a broad base of players
- A focus on player development, over talent identification
- A large cohort of skilled coaches

The principle of adding another layer of activity to the player's loading is an issue within an already congested Age Grade Calendar and as such Kent Rugby do not currently support District or Sub-County activity at any age group. Talent development at U15s is a key age group and should be broad but there is a very healthy Developing Player Programme in place in partnership with Saracens which achieves this target without the need for further provision of area or 'District' activity.

As a county Kent recognise that at all age groups, the development of good club coaches is key to the retention

and development of our players and to ensure they stay playing within their clubs with their peers, which should be the ultimate aim. For all the reasons above Kent County RFU cannot endorse the reintroduction of District training and playing because it would be unregulated, and therefore uninsured activity.

In terms of Coach Development, Kent County RFU produce an annual plan to support various aspects of club and grassroots rugby, with Coach & Match Official development high on the agenda – if your club feel you need support in this area, please contact [honsec@kent-rugby.org](mailto:honsec@kent-rugby.org).

## 11. PAYMENTS PROTOCOL

Can all Club Treasurers making payments to Kent County RFU, please ensure that all payments are referenced clearly. Failure to do this, means that Kent County Treasurer is unable to identify your payment this may mean that your team is therefore not registered for a competition.

If submitting cheques they should be made payable to 'Kent County Rugby Football Union Ltd' do not shorten as the bank will refuse to process.

If making a BACS payment it is **VERY IMPORTANT** to reference your payment, please say which club and what the payment is for e.g Club Name - Mini, Youth or Senior fees.

## 12. KENT WOMEN & GIRLS CHAIR OPORTUNITY

We are still looking for a person to fill the role of Women & Girls chair. The purpose of this role is to lead the development of women's and girls rugby within the County ensuring the successful promotion and development of Women & Girls club and schools rugby and to plan and run the Kent Women & Girls Representative Rugby Programme.

There is a dedicated team running the programme who need a leader to drive Women & Grils Rugby forward.

Details of the main tasks and responsibilities can be downloaded **HERE**.

To register your interest in this role please contact the Kent County RFU Office ([office@kent-rugby.org](mailto:office@kent-rugby.org))

## 13. KENT COUNTY RFU WOMEN TRIALS

If you are interested in trialling for the Kent Women Representative Team please contact the Women's Head Coach, Max Melville Brown through the county office. [office@kent-rugby.org](mailto:office@kent-rugby.org)

## 14. KENT REFS GROUP LEAD NEEDED

Do you have a desire to improve the quality of club referees? Are you a club referee or retired from active refereeing and want to make a difference?

We need somebody to come alongside our coaching & refereeing chair to lead the development of Kent Club referees. As the game moves on it is important that club referees continue to move on with the game and receive updates and training. Kent Refs Group supports the club referee to maintain their confidence on the field.

This role is an administrative, management role with support from Kent Referees Society for training meetings.

If interested, or want to talk more about the role, contact Dan Phimister, [coaching-refereeing@kent-rugby.org](mailto:coaching-refereeing@kent-rugby.org)

## 15. OLD GRAVESENDIANS SEEKING HEAD COACH

Old Gravesendians is a thriving amateur rugby club in North West Kent, with two competitive adult senior sides, a successful veterans team and an emerging, developing youth section. The 1st team currently compete in Kent League 1 (level 9), with the 2nd team playing in the Kent Merit Leagues.



The club is seeking a Head Coach for the senior section for the 2019/2020 season. The coach will oversee all coaching delivery at the club, be responsible for matchday management and coaching of the 1st team, whilst ensuring that a consistent pattern of play is developed throughout the club.

Old Gravesendians is a friendly, family orientated environment, with many members having progressed through the club youth section into senior rugby. Whilst hugely competitive and driven to succeed on the pitch, the club prides itself on a vibrant social scene, with players enjoying their rugby both on and off the field, and is proud to display all the positive values associated with amateur rugby. The club Head Coach is expected to display similar values, with a determination to succeed on the field combined with aligning themselves with the history, ethos, and values of the club.

Competitive remuneration is available for the right candidate. See more information about the role [HERE!](#)

Interested applicants should contact Michael Hodge, Old Gravesendians Chairman, on [mhodge@FTSERussell.com](mailto:mhodge@FTSERussell.com)

or 07971 670964 to outline their interest. A coaching CV and covering letter should be included alongside any expression of interest or application.

## 14. SAVE THE DATES

### **Kent County Annual Awards Dinner Thursday 16th May**

Once again we will be holding our Annual Awards Dinner at the Ashford International Hotel on Thursday 16th May. We had lots of good feedback last year and therefore will be following the same structure for the event.

An invitation will go out next month to clubs, to offer the opportunity for 2 club representatives to attend the event.

Invitations for league winners and runners up will be requested at the end of the season when leagues have finished.

### **Kent County Kent finals day Sunday 28th April.**

The finals day will be held at Charlton Park RFU. There will be finals played through the day displaying a great day of rugby. First final kicking off at around 11:30am.

## 14. GRASSROOTS SPORTS PROGRAMME

The sport sector has demonstrated a high level of commitment to good governance in recent years but we feel there is now a huge opportunity to drive positive change among local grassroots clubs.

For this reason, Sport and Recreation Alliance have teamed up with Birkbeck Sport Business Centre to create a free sports governance workshop specifically for grassroots clubs and activity groups. The workshop will take place in central London on Tuesday 19 March from 18:00-20:30 and you can reserve your place today.

This workshop is perfect for sports clubs, community clubs, volunteers or organisers of sports activities in local communities, who are looking to review and revise their current organisational structure or need help establishing good governance practices. We understand that governance can seem like an overwhelming topic but it's important to understand and adopt good practice and this workshop will explain how you can break it down into manageable bite size chunks.

This is a free workshop and light refreshments will be provided but registration is required and spaces are limited so book now.

[BOOK NOW >](#)