

KENT COUNTY RFU  
INFORMATION SENDOUT  
NOV 2018



### 1. MINI FESTIVALS

Invitations have been sent out for the Kent County RFU Mini Festival 2018-19, to be held on Sunday 24th March 2019. Venues to be confirmed.

If you are one of Kent's Club Mini Chairpersons, and have not received an invitation please contact Dawn Waters at [mini-rugby@kent-rugby.org](mailto:mini-rugby@kent-rugby.org). Email's have been sent out via GMS so please do ensure it is up to date. Thank you to all who have responded so far.

It would be great to get a full Calendar showing all our Kent Club's Festivals, so please also let me know the dates of these.

Dawn Waters  
Email: [mini-rugby@kent-rugby.org](mailto:mini-rugby@kent-rugby.org)

### 2. ANNUAL FINANCIAL GENERAL MEETING

Representatives from our member clubs, and Individual Members are invited to attend the Annual Financial General Meeting, which will be held at the Holiday Inn, London Road, Wrotham Heath, Kent TN15 7RS on Tuesday 11th December 2018 at 7.00pm for the purpose of transacting the following business:

#### AGENDA

1. To receive the Company's Financial Statement for the year ended on 30th June 2018 and the Auditors' report thereon and to make any suitable order in respect thereof.

2. To hear any other relevant financial matter for the consideration of the County Committee during the ensuing year, but on which no voting shall be allowed.

Kent County RFU accounts are currently with the Auditors and will be available for inspection at the meeting.

Sylvia Taylor Kent Hon Sec  
[honsec@kent-rugby.org](mailto:honsec@kent-rugby.org)

### 3. CELEBRATE YOUR GOOD NEWS!

Do you have any club news/success stories that you think will be great items for the County's bi-annual newsletter, 'In Touch'? If so please send written articles with any good quality (large size) images for possible inclusion in the publication by the 20th December, to Roger Clarke, Chairman of Kent County RFU.

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



### 4. INSIGHT EVENINGS

Kent County RFU recently held an Insight evening - with the help of Shepherd Neame our major sponsor-that brought together Club Presidents and Chairmen to present and discuss:

Priority areas that Kent County RFU (KCRFU) are delivering in the County during 2018-19.

How KCRFU communicates its priorities for the game and how it could further improve its transparency.

How KCRFU and clubs can work together to build a closer relationship.

Through the survey conducted earlier this year, combined with the Insight Evening, we have begun to capture some of the challenges grass roots rugby is experiencing. These insights assist Kent in understanding how best to fulfil its role in helping clubs meet these challenges in growing the game.

The evening with Chairmen and Presidents was a successful one for the County Executive Members and for

those who attended for the clubs. However, the process is not complete. For this reason the county are planning to hold three more insight evenings in East Kent, Mid Kent and West Kent/ Metropolitan in the new year. Clubs Officers and players in each area will be invited to attend the evening to have an open discussion with KCRFU on key topics e.g competitions.

These events will be held again with the help of Shepherd Neame at local clubs. Dates and venues will be confirmed before Christmas.

If there is an issue you would like to be discussed at these evenings please let us know by email at the KEnt Rugby Office to help us in making these events as effective as possible for the game in Kent.

office@kent-rugby.org

### 5.SARACENS KENT U13 DPP NOMINATIONS

Online nominations is now open, it enables you to nominate boys in the U13 age group (year 8) into the Saracens Kent U13s Developing Player Programme (DPP) for season 2018-19.

You are being asked to advise which players you believe should get first chance to be involved in the programme. You can nominate up to 4 players for inclusion.

Please remember the aim of the DPP is to identify the top 10% of the counties registered playing population for this age group, 70 boys. Therefore, the key message is PLEASE do not feel the need to use your full quota for the sake of it, instead only nominate those players you truly feel meet the nomination criteria.

In asking you to nominate players for the U13 DPP we are asking you to consider the 4 elements shown in the Saracens Pathway Criteria to help guide your decisions. If you strongly and genuinely believe this 4 player restriction is too aggressive for your club/school then please discuss that with the Saracens Kent DPP (Developing Player Programme) Administrator, Kirstin Hoyle, in the first instance, contact e-mail saracens-kent-dpp-admin@kent-rugby.org;

Please also remember this is the DEVELOPING player programme and NOT the DEVELOPED player programme. Therefore, any decision is not necessarily as straightforward as who are your best players now.

**READY TO NOMINATE?  
ACCESS OUR ONLINE FORM HERE!**

**Nominations close  
on 21st December 2018.**

#### DPP Player Skill Set

##### SPECIFIC TO U13's

##### GOOD GAMES PLAYER:

Feel and time on Ball understanding. Demonstrate Super Strength in games.

##### FOUNDATION SKILL SET:

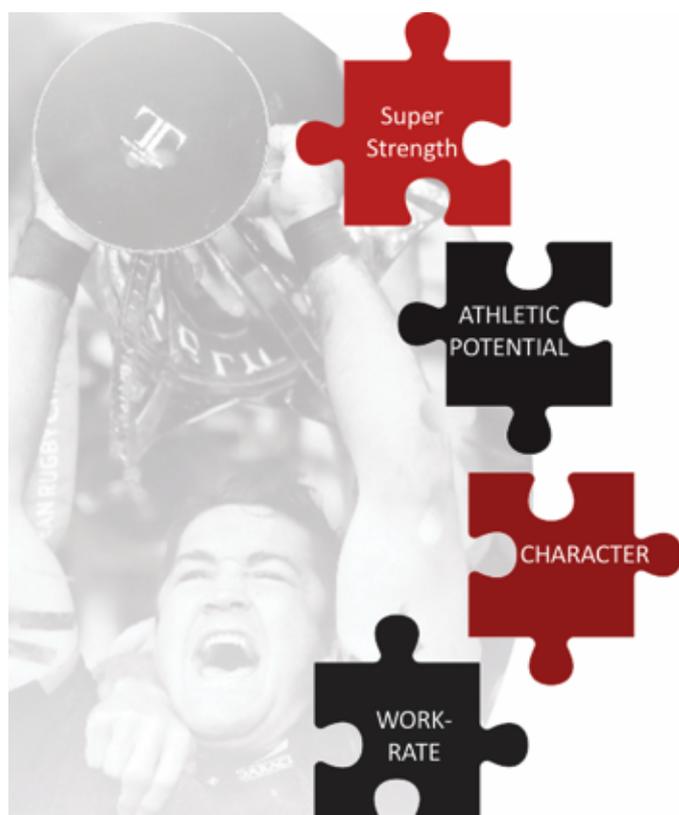
Ability to pass, kick, run

##### COMMUNICATION:

Small talk, Energy, General volume in games

##### Strength & Conditioning:

Movement efficiently, work-rate and speed



SUPER-STRENGTH	ATHLETIC POTENTIAL
The ability of an individual player to influence a training session or match by doing something special, positively and consistently.	A player that moves efficiently and demonstrates balance, co-ordination, speed and/or power – and what can they potentially achieve in the future with correct guidance?
CHARACTER	WORK-RATE
An energy giver who accepts pressure and rises to the challenge from setbacks and demonstrates the Saracens Values; <b>Honesty, Discipline, Work-Rate and Humility</b>	Fundamental value to develop and succeed. Ability to work hard all the time and hungry to improve in all areas on and off the pitch.

## 6. KENT SOCIETY REFEREE PROTOCOLS

### Confirmation of fixtures

When you have received a notification of your designated referee for your game you must confirm the game with the referee and any other personnel e.g. advisor also appointed to the game. This can be done by phone or email but please make sure that you have received a reply from all personnel appointed to the game to ensure that your confirmation has been received. Confirmation of the game must be done no later than 3 days before the fixture. Failure to confirm the game may mean that the referee is removed from the fixture.



### Cancellation of fixtures

After confirming the game with the referee if your game is then cancelled you must contact all personnel appointed to the game about the cancellation. All cancellations must also be reported to the appointments team by email no later than the day before the fixture. All cancellations on the day will be charged. However, (In cases of icy weather conditions) where a pitch inspection is required on the morning of the game, 3 hours notice is required so that the referee can be informed before they begin their journey. On the day cancellations should be notified by phone followed by a confirmation email.

If your game is cancelled and you arrange another game you must inform the appointments team by email. Holding onto the referee is not acceptable. (This does not ensure that the best level referee available is appointed to all games and in some cases the referee can be under qualified) This decision of keeping the referee on an alternative game or moving them to a more appropriate fixture is solely down to the Society Appointment Officers. This ensures that the best available referee is appointed to each fixture.

appointmentsteam@kentrefs.co.uk  
07986 762316 for Saturday Cancellations  
07718 325242 for all other Cancellations

## 7. HEADGEAR

You may have seen recent media coverage relating to a study by the University of Dundee looking at rugby headgear and concussion.

World Rugby is leading on responses to media for this and here is a copy of their statement, which the RFU supports, for reference.

A World Rugby spokesperson said: "World Rugby and its

unions are committed to an evidence-based approach to injury-prevention and while welcoming the study, caution should be exercised when linking the outcomes to a possible reduction in concussion risk as this is yet to be confirmed in extensive peer-reviewed and published research.

"Padded headgear is approved in rugby as a preventative measure for cuts and abrasions only and the most effective way to prevent injury is through the promotion of correct technique, particularly in the tackle, and strict on and off-field sanctions."

Headguards (sometimes called scrum caps) can help to protect the head from cuts and abrasions, and prevent the development of cauliflower ears. Wearing headguards is permitted on the basis that they should not cause harm or injury to any player and meet World Rugby standards (see World Rugby Regulation 12: <http://playerwelfare.worldrugby.org/reg12>). However, padded headgear has never been approved or marketed by World Rugby or the RFU to reduce the risk of concussion and there continues to be no conclusive evidence that wearing headguards reduces the chances of sustaining a concussion while playing or training.

Wearing a headguard should be the personal choice of the player/parent. While a headguard can provide some protection (e.g. covering the ears) and confidence (e.g. when introducing players to contact); there is a possibility that wearing protective equipment could potentially change a player's behaviour. So we would encourage players and coaches not to neglect correct technique, particularly in the tackle and ensure that players are aware of the purpose of headguards and their limitations.

## 8. U16 FIXTURE REQUEST

Hove Rugby Club are looking for fixtures for their U16 team in the new year.



Dates on offer:

17th Feb, 24th Feb, 3rd March, 24th March, 31st March, 21st April, 28th April.

If you fancy a trip to the South Coast, or want a home fixture, they are happy to travel to you. Any interested teams please contact Andy Winter directly at: [andy.winter@aexp.com](mailto:andy.winter@aexp.com)