

KENT COUNTY RFU INFORMATION SENDOUT MARCH 2019



1. GIRLS' SEVENS EVENT 28TH APRIL

For the third time, Tunbridge Wells RFC are the proud hosts of the Kent Girls Sevens on Sunday 28th April at St Marks, Tunbridge Wells. Whilst this is the designated county event it is also open to clubs from other counties as they aim to develop Girls rugby and help it to prosper and grow.



For the first time they will be holding events at Under 11s (by popular demand), 13s, 15s and 18s. If you have girls playing at your club that qualify for the under 11s event, but not enough to make a side, they encourage you to bring them along in any case and they will help clubs liaise to form barbarians' teams if necessary.

What to do next

Please discuss this within your clubs and advise how many teams that you would like to enter at each age group as soon as is practicable and enter no later please than Saturday 20th April.

If you have under 11 Girls but not enough to enter a squad then a rough idea of how many you might bring along will be much appreciated by the above deadline too although they will, of course, be flexible on the day. Entry is FREE for all teams.

If you have any questions or want to make entries, then please contact Graham Withers.

Graham Withers
07786 666348

2. SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT OF PLAYER DECLARATION

The payment of players declaration is due to be submitted between Friday 1 March and Sunday 30 June 2019 and is mandatory for all clubs (Level 3 and below) wishing to be eligible for RFU benefits.



The declaration covers the period of 1 June 2018 – 31 May 2019.

For any queries around Payment of Players, contact PaymentofPlayers@rfu.com, and for any player registration queries, contact PlayerRegistration@rfu.com.

Submission of the declaration is not mandatory but is a pre-requisite for all RFU funding (including travel and the supplemental pot distribution) for all clubs at Level 3 and below.

A list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) can be found below and a guide on how to submit the declaration.

[FAQs](#)

[Guide on how
to submit](#)

3. 'LEST WE FORGET' - TOUR OPPORTUNITY- MAY 2020 Victory in Europe 75th and Dunkerque 80th Anniversaries

World Rugby Memorial Project

For the second time in the 20th century the world was plunged into a second global conflict. This time the nature of warfare was very different to that of 1914-1918. Once again "Rugbymen" followed the call to arms, and it is fitting that an event should be created to their memory.

In 2020 two significant anniversaries will be combined. The 75th anniversary of "Victory in Europe Day" takes place on May 8th, and the 80th anniversary of the Dunkirk Evacuation. The evacuations from the beaches of Northern France took place between May 26th to June 4th 1940 where over a third of a million troops were rescued.

An opportunity has now arisen where these two anniversaries can be commemorated with one fitting remembrance and rugby festival with the proposal to hold this in Dunkirk. With easy access from the UK and the historical relevance Dunkirk is the ideal location. It is proposed that a Rugby Festival takes place at the Stade Litterol at Grand Synthe near Dunkirk on Saturday May 9th for commemorative rugby matches for Veterans Teams playing in Anglo- French games. In addition to this a special Anglo- French Youth Competition for U14 players.

The day will finish with a commemorative dinner. The final part of the event will be a Remembrance Service dedicated to the "Rugbymen" of World War Two on Sunday morning May 10th closing this special tribute.

If your club is interested in sending either a Veteran's team or Under 14s, please contact John Dennison at john dennison@francourt.org for further information.

4. INSIGHT EVENING AT WESTCOMBE PARK

Your Opportunity to Shape the Future of Rugby in Kent?



A reminder that Kent County RFU have our last Club Consultation Evening, on 10th April at Westcombe Park. It is your chance to let Kent know what the priority needs are for your club and come up with ideas for restructuring our competitions to better serve our clubs. 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.

Please contact the Kent County Office with:

Club Name?

Name and role of attendees?

Email: office@kent-rugby.org

5. RUGBY DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS - OPEN Q & A



On April 15th the Rugby Development Officers within Kent, Gareth Jackson and Mike Hollis, will be holding an open Question & Answer session, through Social Media – further information will be sent out in due course.

As an overview this will be an opportunity to ask general Rugby development queries, and if the event is a success, then similar sessions will be planned going forwards.

6. ENGLAND RUGBY FOCUSED WORK (2019-20)

This is the time of the year when the 2 Rugby Development Officers and 4 Community Rugby Coaches begin to finalise their planning specific to their areas of focus across Kent for 2019-20. To support this planning they draw on data from a variety of areas, a few of which are – Number of Walkovers, Game Management System Data and Club Accreditations – working with Kent RFU to ensure a joined up approach. As data is always helped by local conversations, should your Club have an action plan for 2019-20 that they feel they would like to raise to potentially be included in this focused work, please do contact your local Rugby Development Officer.

7. SEASON FINALE FOR AGE GRADE RUGBY

During the next month we will see the best of Kent Age Grade Rugby in action in our County Festivals.

We kicked off last Sunday 24th March with the Finals of our inaugural Colts Trophy competition. Through a series of matches teams "cascaded" into a host of trophy groups until they finally reached a final or 3rd / 4th play-off.

The 7th April is the date for the U12 and U13 Waterfall

festivals at Canterbury and Gravesend respectively, whilst our U14s, U15s and U16s will vie for honours at Ashford. On that same Sunday the Colts will be back in action at Charlton Park for the Sevens tournament

The remaining Sevens tournaments, for U13s to U16s will take place on 28th April.

These festivals are a testament to the players' perseverance and the mentoring of coaches who nurture them throughout the season. If you love rugby but are not involved in the age grade part of the game I urge you to get along to watch just what these youngsters can achieve.

8. TOUCHLINE BEHAVIOUR

One of the areas of increasing concern for our game is the rising incidences of inappropriate touchline behaviour.

This can impact negatively on the quality of experience enjoyed by young players, their families, referees and other spectators. In extreme cases, of which we have seen several in Kent over the last season, the behaviour is such that it results in a safeguarding incident which at best involves disciplinary action by KCRFU and at worst may involve criminal prosecution.

In an attempt to raise awareness of the importance of behaving appropriately KCRFU Youth Committee have produced guidance on the back of this season's festival programmes and we ask all officials involved in age grade rugby to spread the message for the benefit of the game and the players' enjoyment. We will not tolerate abuse of any kind towards players or match officials.

AS MEMBERS OF THE KENT RUGBY FAMILY

WE NEVER

Force our children to play rugby
Stray from the Touchline onto the pitch
Verbally abuse match officials, players or other spectators
Threaten, intimidate or use bad language
give offence by way of insult, humiliation or discrimination

WE ALWAYS

Support positively and applaud good play
Respect officials and opposition players
Remember that children are here to have fun
Behave as a good role model on the touchline
Congratulate the opposition and make their supporters feel welcome

9. RECOGNITION FOR VOLUNTEERS.

Do you have an unsung hero?

There is still time for you all to thank someone at your club, who steps up and volunteers to do something needed to help run your club.

What they do might be small or maybe they do lots of things, they make a difference and without them your club or team or function would not run smoothly.

There are several awards available and details can be found on the Kent RFU website , in the Volunteering section under Club Support.

If they are someone special take a little time to nominate them now.

SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS HERE!

There are nominations across all categories, but we would welcome further submissions in; the Girl's Rugby Volunteer, Woman's Rugby Volunteer, Young Rugby Ambassador, Student Volunteer and RFU Spirit of Rugby awards.

Awards close Saturday 6th April 2019.

Kent County Volunteers Award dinner 6th June 2019

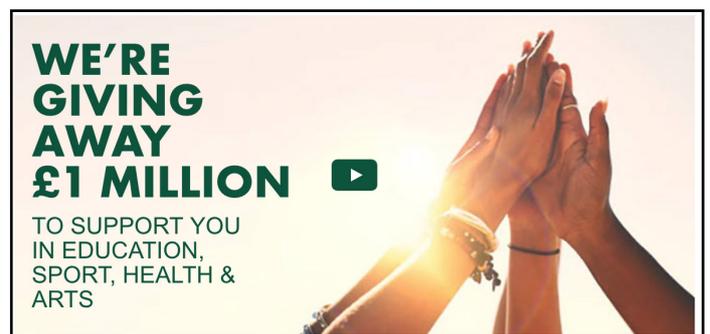
10. PERSIMMON-BUILDING FUTURES

The Building Futures programme helps grassroots projects with financial grants of between £1,000 and £100,000.

In 2019 they're giving away over £1 million to support children in health, sport, education and the arts through their brand new Building Futures competition.

Persimmon Homes is joining forces with Team GB - the British Olympic Association - to give away over £1 million to help children in England, Wales and Scotland.

Applications are open until May and for further information please see their website and promotion video for more information.



11. ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Annual Awards Dinner 16th May

This year, the Annual Awards Dinner will take place on Thursday 16th May in the Kent Suite at the Ashford International Hotel, 7.00 pm reception for Dinner at 7.45 pm.

Each club are cordially invited to secure 2 places for a representative of their club to attend the event. Please complete the form and return to Tracy Pettingale in the Kent Rugby Office, office@kent-rugby.org by 5th April.

Annual Awards Booking Form

Kent Cup competition and all league winners and runners up will be invited to receive 2 free places to the dinner to receive recognition and to celebrate their achievement.

12. COACHING CONFERENCE

Save The Date 23rd June 2019. Details to follow.

KENT RUGBY

Coach Development Conference

Sunday 23rd June 2019
9.00am - 3.00pm

FREE to attend | FREE lunch | Goodies for all attendees
Speakers and booking information to follow!



Sutton Valence School
North Street
Sutton Valence, Kent
ME17 3HL

Coaching-Refereeing@Kent-Rugby.org

13. KENT MINI FESTIVAL

Sunday 24th March brought thousands of our Club's Minis together to play at this season's Kent Mini Festival. The weather was as good as the rugby, with smiles all around.

Thank you to all who attended and took part, making the day so enjoyable. It was great to visit each of the venues and watch everyone having so much fun.

Extra thanks go to our five hosting clubs and their volunteers, without whom it wouldn't have been possible.

The date for next years Kent Mini Festival will be Sunday 29th March 2020.

Dawn Waters
KCRFU Mini Chairperson
Mini-rugby@kent-rugby.org

14. LEVEL THREE COACHING COURSE REMINDER

Want to push to the next level?



The RFU is opening the Level 3 Coaching course to any coaches who meet the pre-requisites and welcome applications from those coaching children, schools and youth, player pathway and adult rugby in both the male and female game.

The course cost is £1000 (inc VAT) and applications will be via the online course booking system only on a first come first served basis.

Course booking is open, and full payment must be made at the point of booking.

To be considered for this course you must meet the pre-requisites, and it is your responsibility to ensure that your RFU Game Management System profile shows them. If they do not appear on your RFU record when you attempt to book this may prevent your booking being accepted.

If your Game Management System profile is inaccurate you should contact the Game Management System help desk by email: gms@rfu.com

SEE HERE for further details, including the pre-requisites and course dates.