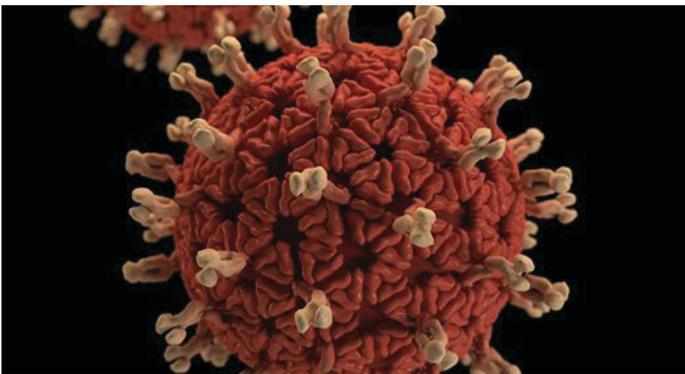


# KENT COUNTY RFU INFORMATION SENDOUT MARCH 2020



## 1. UNPRECEDENTED TIMES COPING WITH COVID-19

Both the RFU and Kent County RFU understand the very serious effect the premature end to the rugby season has had on club finances and activities. Kent RFU in conjunction with the RFU are working quickly to provide a relief fund and selective advice to clubs on how to close down for this season, plan for next and then how to 'reboot' playing and club facilities for next season.



To aid the operation of the relief fund we are asking all clubs to do a thorough assessment of what an end to the season at this stage looks like financially, and guidance on what we will need from you on this will be sent within the next few days. If you have already provided a picture of what the premature end of the season has meant to you then wait to hear from us and we will be in touch if we require any further information.

## 2. CLUB ACCOUNTS

### DON'T MISS OUT ON COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDING

A reminder that clubs who have not submitted their accounts to Kent County RFU as shown in Regulation 5.1 will **not** meet one of the criteria for receiving financial funding.

*'RFU Regulations 5.1 – Sending copies of accounts  
5.1.3 On or before 31 December each year, each club at Levels 1 to 4 (inclusive) shall send to the RFU's Chief Financial Officer and every other club shall send to the treasurer of their respective Constituent Body or other relevant organising body for inspection, a properly*

*prepared financial statement for the previous season as presented to Club members at a general meeting that has been audited (if applicable) or examined as appropriate in accordance with Regulations 5.1.4 and 5.1.5.'*

If you are reading this as your club's Honorary Treasurer, please check that your club is up-to-date and if not please submit a set of accounts to **hon-treasurer@kent-rugby.org** as soon as possible to ensure you qualify to receive financial support in these unprecedented times.

## 3. APPROVED CLUB TOURS AND CAMPS

Do you still have your tour booked?

Please note that in accordance with current restrictions on travelling and gatherings, and the RFU decision that the current season has now ended, all tours and camps which have already been approved by Kent RFU which are scheduled to take place during this period of restriction will now not have approval. This means should you travel you no longer have the **RFU's Death & Catastrophic injury insurance** for playing rugby while on tour.

## 4. NATWEST RUGBY FORCE

### Kent County RFU Funding

Did you know that Kent County RFU is offering to match fund up to £500 any club successful in gaining NATWEST funding to make your club welcome, even better?

If you are successful please do get in touch with Nigel Fray, so Kent County RFU can help you improve your facilities. **facilities@kent-rugby.org**



Supporting your club & community

## 5. REPRESENTATIVE RUGBY

Both the Kent Senior Men and Kent Senior Women's representative rugby has been cancelled due to Covid-19

## 6. VOLUNTEER AWARDS NOMINATIONS STILL OPEN

Have you made your nomination yet?

Although we won't be able to host an awards dinner in June due to Covid-19 we do still plan to reward our volunteers with a drinks party and presentation of awards later in the year as soon as we are allowed. So who has committed their valuable time to their clubs and is worthy of recognition for their efforts? See our website for the different awards [HERE!](#)



Any club member can make a nomination. In choosing the recipients of the Awards, regard is given to the nominee's achievements in the year immediately prior to receiving the award, as well as their past achievements and ongoing contribution to the Rugby Union within Kent.

Ensure that the person nominated is involved in volunteering within the section they are nominated in.

**Make your Nomination [HERE](#). Closing date 24th April 2020**

## 7. LEADERSHIP ACADEMY ADMINISTRATOR ROLE

Kent RFU is seeking a volunteer, to administrate and coordinate the County's successful Leadership Academy programme. Details are displayed on our opportunities page [HERE!](#)



If you are interested please get in touch with Kevin Cope our Club Development Officer. [club-development-chair@kent-rugby.org](mailto:club-development-chair@kent-rugby.org)

## 8. PLAYING U17-YEAR-OLDS INTO ADULT RUGBY

### Moving to online submissions

All clubs will by now be aware that EACH SEASON you will need approval to play 17-year-olds up into adult rugby.

Thanks to much "behind the scenes" work, Club and Player Approval Forms for 2020-21 can be completed online. This will cut down the amount of administration and paperwork we have all had to deal with this season.

The 2020-21 season forms will be available from August 2020.

## 9. MINI RUGBY FESTIVALS

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak and the need for social isolation the County Mini Festivals have been cancelled. We are in the process of returning fees to those clubs that have paid.

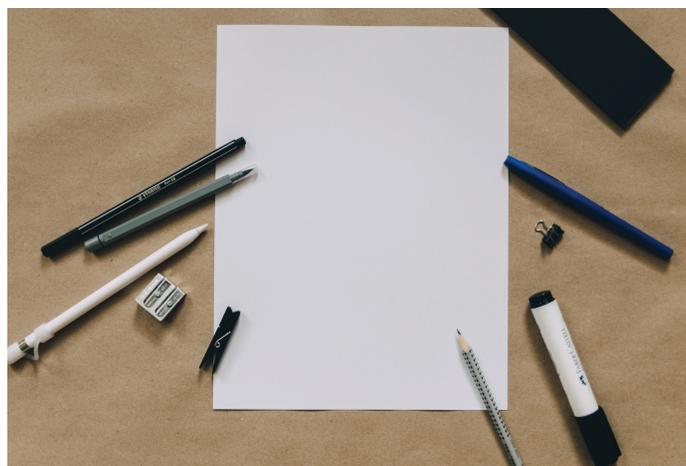
## 10. COUNTY YOUTH COMPETITIONS

A decision has been made to draw a line under this season's competitions following RFU and government advice. Providing we have the "all clear" signal, we will start afresh with a new season from September 2020.

We are unable to refund fees paid by clubs this season as we had already incurred considerable expenditure in relation to Finals Days. However, we can carry some merchandise forwards to next season and in so doing reduce the cost of fees to clubs which we hope will come as a welcome gesture.

## 11. POSTER COMPETITION

Poster Competition for Creative young talent...



We're launching a poster competition for all young Kent players. There will be prizes for five groups:

**U7-U8 U9-U11 U12-U13 U14-U16 U17-U18**

See our website Youth page for more details about our competition. [HERE!](#)

The content and criteria will be circulated via age-grade competition managers and will be available on the Youth page of the County website.

## 12. KEEPING THE YOUTH SPIRIT STRONG

A note has been issued to all clubs, via their Youth and Minis Chairs, inviting young players to let us know how they are keeping their Rugby Spirit soaring. Their stories, memes, video clips will be posted on our website and Facebook feed.

## 13. IN TOUCH

Kent Rugby would love to share your success stories in our next In Touch publication. What is your club doing during these unprecedented times coping with COVID-19?

What initiatives are you taking?

How are you helping your community?

Send your story to Kent Rugby - [office@kent-rugby.org](mailto:office@kent-rugby.org) for our next publication of In Touch.

## 14. GILLINGHAM ANCHORIANS HEAD COACH ROLE

Gillingham Anchorians RFC is looking to appoint a new Head Coach for the 2020-21 season. This is a paid position with the remuneration to be negotiated.

Their preferred option is for the appointment to be for a minimum 3- year period, to be reviewed annually. This will provide continuity for the Club and security for the appointed coach.

More details are displayed on our opportunities page [HERE!](#)

## 15. ENGLAND RUGBY LOCAL DELIVERY TEAM

We hope that this message finds you safe and well. As you would have heard, the suspension of Rugby Activity has been implemented to help prevent the spread of the Covid-19 Virus that is effecting our lives.

Although that has changed the way the local England Rugby delivery team currently works, they are very much working away, albeit remotely! Therefore if you have any Rugby related issues, please do not hesitate in getting in contact should you need to.

The local team's contact details can be found [HERE!](#)  
So from the local England Rugby team in Kent, stay safe!



# RFU

## 16. GMS TRAINING

I hope you are staying safe and well during the challenges that currently face us. Please see below an invitation for 1 to 1 GMS support for yourself and your key volunteers.

You/they can book a session to help support you/them with any questions or issues concerning GMS. This service started on Tuesday 24th March and you can book more than one session.

These sessions can take place via Skype, Whatsapp, Facetime with Messenger or by direct dial, choose whichever one suits you best.

Whilst the season is closed it gives us all a good opportunity to support you to update this resource and discover how it may better assist your club in the future.

Please book using the link [HERE!](#)

Thank you for all your efforts to support rugby at your clubs and in your communities. Please take care and stay safe and well. Look forward to hearing from you.

Mark Finnis  
Community Rugby Coach (Kent)  
Area 3 GMS Lead  
07872073667



**Would you like support with your Clubs  
RFU GMS ?**

**From Tuesday 24th March**

Sessions available

Mon-Fri 12pm-8pm & Sat & Sun 10am-4pm

**Book a 1 hour support session here:**

<https://gms4.reservio.com/>

**Sessions will be delivered by**

- Skype
- Whatsapp Video Call
- Facetime via Messenger
- Dial in

This a FREE service to support you and your club with GMS.



For Further Information

Email: [MarkFinnis@RFU.com](mailto:MarkFinnis@RFU.com)



**England  
Rugby**

