

KENT COUNTY RFU INFORMATION SENDOUT JUNE 2021



1. KCRFU CLUB DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHANGES

KCRFU Club Development Committee has had some recent personnel changes.

Rugby Safe

We would like to welcome Peter Thompson onto our team; Peter takes over from Trevor Hopper as our new Rugby Safe Manager. He joins us with a wealth of experience including an extensive background in Health & Safety and audit compliance, plus over 20 years as a First Aid instructor.



Peter says, 'Over the last 3 years I have become more involved in the development of both First Aid and Mental Health First Aid training, two areas that I feel passionate about. I feel that due to the uniqueness of rugby as a sport, it deserves a first aid that is specifically designed to suit the needs of its players.'

We look forward to the support Peter will provide, in ensuring the County and our clubs provide safe environments for us all.

Peter: rugbysafe@kent-rugby.org

Marketing & Sponsorship

We are pleased to announce that Dave Pratt has moved from his role as Volunteering Officer to take on the challenge of Marketing & Sponsorship Manager.



Dave will use his professional experience in working with businesses, while bringing his branding and digital marketing skills to the role. Working closely with Club Champions he will help grow the Kent RFU brand while helping to secure sponsorship support for both the County and our clubs.

Dave: marketing-sponsorship@kent-rugby.org

Safeguarding

Sadly Owen Smith has stood down from his role as Kent RFU Safeguarding Officer due to work and club commitments, having given the County four years of service in this challenging role. We would like to thank Owen for his hard work, dedication, sound guidance, and support and wish him well as he continues to support rugby in our community. Therefore we are looking for a replacement.

Vacancy – Safeguarding Manager

Is this voluntary role for you? If you have a background in safeguarding young people in club rugby or from any of the statutory agencies, you can be instrumental in ensuring every child's experience of rugby is a positive one.

As Kent RFU's Safeguarding Manager you will have the ability to be objective, approachable and empathetic, demonstrating strong attention to detail and a dedication to the cause of safeguarding young people under 18 years old, you could hold a highly respected and very important role that reports directly to the Club Development Committee.

Kent RFU encourages diversity and inclusion and would welcome applications from within our local communities. Further detail (role description) can be found on the Kent RFU website [HERE!](#)

Interested?

Contact Kevin: club-development-chair@kent-rugby.org

2. KENT CUP ENTRY

Although early in the scheme of things we would like confirmation of entry to the Kent Cup.

It is hoped that the 2nd/dev teams will again enjoy the competition with the popular County Finals Day at the end of the season. First Round losers can choose to enter the Kent Plate.

Contact John Day
Chair KCRFU Competitions
kent-comp@kent-rugby.org

3. LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

If anybody has been on our Leadership Academy course and can recommend a candidate to come on our course next season, please get in touch with Trevor Martingel with your proposed nomination. Former attendees on this course have gone on to have important committee roles within our clubs.

Please ensure that this course continues by nominating somebody for the course. The course grows leaders for the future which ultimately ensures the future of our clubs.

Trevor: leadership-academy@kent-rugby.org

4. AGE GRADE LAW CHANGE

As many of you will be aware there has been a law change made which affects the tackle height for Under 15 - Under 18 age groups making any tackle above the line of the armpits illegal.



This is an extension of what has been the case for the younger age groups for many years and will help in avoiding injuries and concussions. More information can be found [HERE!](#)

5. PITCH-SIDE FIRST AID & IMMEDIATE CARE PROVISION

There has been an update to the Pitch-Side First Aid & Immediate Care Provision Guidelines which come into effect next season and whilst this is a club issue, there are particular requirements for Age Grade teams that should be taken into account. More details can be found [HERE!](#)



6. AUTOMATED ELECTRONIC DEFIBRILLATOR

Kent is doing a study on how many of our clubs have an Automated Electronic Defibrillator (AED) it would be really helpful if you could email our rugby safe manager to advise if your club has or has not got an AED or have plans to have one.

Contact Peter: rugbysafe@kent-rugby.org



7. RUNNING SUMMER CAMPS

Further guidance regarding the running of rugby camps during the summer has also been issued by the RFU. Please ensure that any planned camps comply with the guidance. More details can be found [HERE!](#)

Please make sure that your camp is approved by Kent Rugby RFU **BEFORE** being advertised. The online form can be found [here](#).



We have a comprehensive approval process which could take a couple of weeks to complete so please ensure enough notice is given before any intended camp. Please also note that in these current times a Covid Risk assessment and Camp itinerary must also be submitted.

8. ENGLAND RUGBY MENTORING AWARD

Do you want to play a role in supporting others to improve the rugby offer? Or do you already support other coaches, referees, and volunteers? Then the England Rugby Mentoring Award could be the course for you! Please select the videos below to hear from Dylan Hartley and Sarah Hunter about the importance a quality Mentor has had on their careers:

England Rugby Mentoring Award- Dylan Hartley

England Rugby Mentoring Award- Sarah Hunter

The England Rugby Mentor Award aims to support those who wish to develop others they're working with, whether

that's a fellow coach, referee, or volunteer. The course will focus on behaviour change, learning, and support of an individual with their practice. Irwin Mitchell has partnered with us to deliver this piece of work, with the aim of having a trained mentor in every club that offers U14-U18 Rugby.



The course is made up of one face to face day, plus an additional three remote sessions in November/ December/ January. Candidates will be required to attend all days and then complete a portfolio for one mentee that they're working with, to apply the learnings from the course back at their rugby club.

The course is now live on the **GMS Course Finder** and we look forward to welcoming you onto the England Rugby Mentoring Award in July and August.

9. PRINCIPLE OF THE LINEOUT CCD

This course is an introduction to coaching the lineout. The course has a blend of theory alongside a practical session observation exploring England Rugby's principles of the lineout and is designed to help coaches, match officials, and volunteers to know how to prepare players to be safe and effective when taking part in a lineout. The course is £20 per person and is available for those aged 14 and over. To book please click on the links below:

Deal & Betteshanger RFC - 18th July - 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Tonbridge Juddians RFC - 21st July - 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Thanet Wanderers RFC - 2nd August - 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Tunbridge Wells RFC - 11th August - 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Old Alleynians RFC - 12th August - 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

10. WOODEN SPOON VETS TEAM OPPORTUNITY

A men's Wooden Spoon Kent Vets team has been formed to play in Wooden Spoon's Vets Festival on Saturday 9th October at Bournville RFC (near Birmingham).



The team will compete against Wooden Spoon Regional Teams from across the UK. Men over 35 years of age wanting to put themselves forward for selection to play or support are asked to email: charity@WoodenSpoon.org.uk or to contact Matt Mitchell (07738999741) or Simon Wright (07874899145) for more information.



If you cannot attend but would like to support the team you might consider a donation [here!](#) The team is also looking for a shirt sponsor with all funds raised being used by Kent Wooden Spoon to fund programmes and facilities for disabled and disadvantaged children and young people in Kent on behalf of the Kent rugby community.

The final result of the Festival will be judged on a combination of both rugby games won lost & drawn and funds raised for each team's home region. Good luck Kent Spoon Vets.

#HelpingKidsThroughRugby

11. WEBINAR - INCREASING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Kent Sport's partner 'Everyday Active' is holding a webinar: Tuesday 29 June. Supporting local communities to increase physical activity.

The webinar will start with an introduction to Sport England's Local delivery pilots and the learning so far. We will then hear from Julie Smith and Dr. Alexandra Potts from Active Calderdale, one of the pilots based in Yorkshire. They will be sharing their approach and key learning in a specific place, the session will finish with an opportunity to consider how a place-based approach can work for you.

To register, please click on the link below
Tuesday 29 June: 9:30 am -11:00 am

Supporting local communities to increase physical activity

**KENT SPORT - EVERYDAY ACTIVE
PARTNER WEBINAR -
SUPPORTING LOCAL
COMMUNITIES TO INCREASE
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**