

# KENT COUNTY RFU INFORMATION SENDOUT DECEMBER 2022



## 1. SAFEGUARDING SELF-AUDIT. DEADLINE 31st DEC 2022

Clubs will be aware of the need to complete the RFU Safeguarding Audit. Completion of the audit is mandatory for all clubs that offer Age Grade activities, or that wish to have 17-year olds playing up into the adult game (Reg 21.1.6).

The deadline for completing the audit is 31 December 2022. No further edits or submission will be enabled after this date, except for adult only clubs, which have a 17-year-old who wishes to play up into the adult game at a later date.

**Failure to complete the audit by this deadline may result in the KCRFU declining clubs' Age Grade applications and/or rescinding existing approvals, especially with regard to young individuals playing adult rugby.**

The audit consists of 16 questions and can be completed by the Club Safeguarding Officer or another officer with permission level 2 or above access to the GMS Organisation Profile module (located under the Questionnaire tab). Please answer questions honestly, with your answers reflecting current practice at your club; the Audit can be used to assist clubs in recognising areas for development.

If you have any difficulties with completing the audit, please contact the RFU Safeguarding Team on: [safeguarding@rfu.com](mailto:safeguarding@rfu.com)

Nigel Fray  
Hon. Secretary & Director of Governance

Dawn Stanford  
KCRFU Safeguarding Officer

## 2. COACHING THE COACHES IN WOMEN & GIRLS RUGBY

On Monday, January 9th at 7 pm Kent County RFU will be hosting a coach development session for all coaches involved in coaching the women's and girls' game in Kent at Medway RFC.



This will be an indoor session and light refreshments will be included. Ealing Trailfinder's DOR Giselle Mather will lead the session supported by Steve Wagstaff.

If you would like to attend, could you register with Taff Gwilliam with your name, club and coaching role within Women & Girls Rugby at [director-representative-rugby@kent-rugby.org](mailto:director-representative-rugby@kent-rugby.org).

This was advertised on our website and on Social media and has had a huge take up so only a few spaces left so please register your attendance.

## 3. ARTICLES FOR IN-TOUCH

Deadline is approaching for your articles for our bi-annual newsletter, 'In Touch'. Do not miss out on sharing your club news to be part of our January/Feb 2023 publication?

Please send written articles with any good quality (large

size) images for possible inclusion in the publication by the 3rd of January 2023, to office@kent-rugby.org



#### 4. LEAGUE AND MERIT TABLE MID SEASON ADJUSTMENTS

As promised when the new league structure was introduced at the start of this season and during the October and November clusters Kent has kept a keen eye on how leagues and Merit tables have progressed.

As a result and after discussion with our ROC- Tim Fagg- in liaison with the London and SE competitions Committee, John Day the Chair of the Kent Competitions Group and relevant league Secretaries it has been determined to rearrange Kent Counties 4.

Once any postponed games have been played in January the league will be split between the top 6 sides and the bottom 8. The top 6 will play each other at reversed venues from before Christmas for the 2 promotion places.

The bottom 8 will split into two leagues of 4 with each club playing 3 games and with the top two from each then playing semi-finals and a final for a trophy.

All clubs involved have now been contacted by the League Secretary Peter Javanovic to communicate these changes which address problems experienced in the league before Christmas. Flexibility regarding home game dates where a club has a special event or a lunch will be demonstrated wherever possible.

In addition further discussions are being held regarding some of the Metropolitan Merit leagues where some amalgamation is being looked at to ensure that more games can be played.

Chair KCRFU Executive Committee.

#### 5. THE NHS AMBULANCE SERVICES

The NHS Ambulance Services will be on strike (Wednesday 21 December) and on Wednesday 28 December.

As most community rugby activity takes place on different days this is unlikely to affect many community club activities. If your club has training/fixtures on these dates you may wish to limit it to non-contact.

Clubs should factor this into your risk assessment and planning of any activities taking place on those days, dependent on the ambulance provision available to you.

#### 6. KCRFU LAUNCHES ITS ONLINE SHOP

The KCRFU is delighted to announce the opening of its online shop, which is operated and managed by VX-3.

The shop offers a full range at competitive prices of adult- and youth-sized Kent Rugby-branded training and casual clothing and kit bags. All are available to be purchased directly from VX-3's online store: <https://vx-3.com/collections/kent-rfu> .

#### 7. COUNTY OFFICE XMAS CLOSING

The County office is now closed for the Christmas period and will re-open on the 3rd of January 2023.

If your matter is urgent please use our contacts page on our website for alternative contact details. Important information regarding NHS Ambulance Services.

[www.kent-rugby.org](http://www.kent-rugby.org)