

KENT COUNTY RFU INFORMATION SENDOUT JULY 2023



1. KENT UNBEATEN ON SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR

National County Champions Kent have returned from their 3rd overseas 'Player Development' tour, this time to South Africa. The development tour was seven years in the making, due to COVID. The delayed tour allowed Senior Representative Director, Taff Gwilliam and player-coach, Tom Stradwick to blend the best of our talent as part of the future plans to maintain Kent's position as English County Champions.

See our news page for full details [HERE](#).



2. RFU COUNCIL MEMBER FOR KENT REPORT 2023

A report from Roger Clarke RFU council member for Kent can be read on our website [HERE](#). Roger talks about what committees he has been involved with and the initiatives he has helped support here in Kent.

3. AGE-GRADE REGISTRATION FOR 23-24 OPEN

A reminder that Regulation 15 requires that all Age-Grade players **must be registered**. Registration needs to be completed, at the latest, 45 days after an Age-Grade player starts their season.

As communicated in the Community Game update, Player Registration (including Age-Grade Registration) opened on 3rd July for the 2023/24 season, which gives plenty of time for the process to be completed.

Registered players from the 2022/23 season **will automatically be de-registered** at this time. Following feedback from the game last season, the switch-over is again happening early in the summer, providing clubs with the opportunity to begin their registration renewal process early if they wish.

Parents/guardians who have registered young players to play rugby during the 2022/23 season will receive an email asking them to renew the registration of their dependents. We strongly recommend that parents/guardians verify their email address to ensure they receive the communication.

Over 20,000 Age Grade players across the Country have already been registered in the first week!

To help say a big thank you to clubs for the positive way in which they are helping to make this happen, England Rugby are offering 10 free tickets to the England v Wales Summer Series match at Twickenham on 12th August for every club that has registered an Age Grade player before 6th August.

This offer will open up to Club Ticket Contacts once an age grade player has been registered to the club, so they can simply apply in the usual way. We will add new clubs to the list of those able to access the offer every 2 or 3 days between now and the 6th. We would like the tickets to benefit your age grade section and provide a great Twickenham match-day memory for young players and their families

4. ACTIVE KENT COACH/OFFICIAL BURSARY FUNDING

The Active Kent and Medway Coach and Official Bursary provides funding for coaches' and officials' development. It seeks to increase the quantity and quality of coaches and officials in Kent, and therefore assist the development of sport and physical activity in the county.

Active Kent and Medway will prioritise applications that can demonstrate a commitment to tackling inactivity and inequalities in sport and activity participation. Their focus will be for those up to level 2 or equivalent and they are no longer able to prioritise applications that focus on talent development and high-performance coaching/officiating.

Application Form [HERE!](#)

5. COACHING WORKSHOP - SAVE THE DATE

Kent County RFU is running a coaching workshop in partnership with 'Coach Centred' on Saturday 28th October. It is the same day as the Rugby World Cup Final however the conference finishes at 4pm so plenty of time to get home for the final, which kicks off at 8pm.

KCRFU will be subsidising places for Kent Clubs to enable you to invest in your club's coaching development. It is a one day conference with refreshments/lunch provided. There will be a mix of coaches from Professional Clubs across the men's and Women's game. Save the date, more details to follow.



XV ASIDE COACHES CONFERENCE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



KENT RFU SUBSIDISING 1ST 50 COACHES BY 40%

Delivering inspirational content to influence positive change in coaching practice

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 28

COURSE CONTENT

- Attack transition
- Defensive principles and strategy
- Tackle execution & dominance
- Improving contact skills and speed of ball
- Attacking shape to manipulate defences

COURSE TIMINGS



9.30am Registration
10am Start
4 pm Conference close
Finish time 4 Hrs before W.Cup final

6. HONDA PREMATCH HOSPITALITY

Honda is continuing its support for grassroots rugby by recognising the thousands of volunteers who are an integral part of the sport.

As part of the Honda Volunteer Recognition Programme, club volunteers who have match tickets to one of England Men's Summer Series home fixtures (12 August v Wales or 26 August v Fiji) can register for up to four tickets each for pre-match hospitality, which is situated outside in the British Airways Fan Village at Twickenham.

More details can be found [HERE!](#)

7. REGULATION 5

As many of you are aware due to recent high profile problems at certain clubs, the RFU has asked its various

CBs to better monitor the health of their respective clubs. This comes under RFU Regulation 5.

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.

The purpose of this is to try and better understand the health of the sport post Covid and to help those clubs that might be struggling sooner.

In Kent, to try and make this as painless as possible we have introduced an online system. Where the existing accounts can be uploaded and further details filled out. Please do so by **31st Dec 2023**

The link is [HERE](#)

Many clubs have not yet filed with us their 21/22 accounts and may be in breach of regulation 5. If you have not filed season 21/22 accounts please do so urgently.

In the event of any queries please contact Ben Ashby, the county treasurer at hon-treasurer@kent-rugby.org

8. ENGLAND RUGBY TRAINING OFFERS

England Rugby Training offers are now available to book on GMS including;

England Rugby Coaching Award,
England Rugby Refereeing Award,
Kids First Tag,
Kids First Contact
The Principles of Scrumming.

All coaches registered with a rural Kent club on GMS should have received an email with their recommended courses to complete - if you have not received one, please email jackbairstow@rfu.com

9. KENT COUNTY RFU: INJURED PLAYERS' FUND

The RFU's Injured Players Foundation provides support to rugby players who sustain a catastrophic spinal cord or traumatic brain injury.

To complement the Foundation's work and for lower grade, though no less distressing injuries, the KCRFU runs its own Injured Players' Fund. The Fund provides financial support, on a discretionary and temporary basis, to those players who are injured playing rugby and who, as a result, are prevented from working and being paid for the period in question. In essence, the Fund exists to relieve temporary financial hardship.

The Fund does not have charitable status. As such, this allows the fund and those who administer it to have flexibility in the awards it makes, both in terms of amount and taking into account the nature of the injury that has prevented the player from working.

Application process

Applications for temporary financial support must include the following information:

- Name of player
- Club
- Personal details (address, date of birth, email address, phone / mobile number) GDPR
- Occupation
- Employer
- Nature of the injury and date it occurred
- Proof of injury sustained, e.g. A&E attendance and/or if admitted to hospital, the dates and copy of discharge note, copy of GP sick/incapacity to work certificate
- The period during which the injured player has been unable to work
- The amount of temporary financial support sought
- Proof of loss of pay (if employer does not provide sick pay and/or full payment of salary)

Retention of personal data will be in accordance with GDPR and the KCRFU's Data Protection policy.

Application criteria

Applications for financial support are assessed on merit and a case-by-case basis by a panel of three individuals (currently, Robert Horner, Tony Power, and Peter Dessent).

The panel will take account of the nature of the injury and likely recovery time, the impact that it has had on the player and the duration that he/she has been unable to work.

All applications for temporary financial support should be submitted to honsec@kent-rugby.org and will be considered sympathetically. However, any award may not amount to the sum applied for. This will depend upon such things as the number and nature of any other applications and funds available within the County at any given time

10. WOMEN & GIRLS HEALTHCARE

Over the coming months, England Rugby will be providing brand new resources covering different health and welfare issues impacting female rugby athletes. The toolkits are being developed with experts within the fields of women's health and sport and are designed to empower female rugby athletes to make the right choices for themselves when it comes to their training and game preparation. The toolkits are also designed to support those who are involved in coaching female athletes, to enable them to have a greater understanding into the needs of their teams and to feel more confident in talking through these issues.

11. KCRFU YOUTH COMPETITION LINKS

To register for any of the age-grade competitions, please access the registration forms on our website. **HERE!**



KENT COUNTY RFU SPONSORS

