

KENT COUNTY RFU INFORMATION SENDOUT JANUARY 2024



1. HONDA VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

There are some amazing volunteers at your clubs, who have worked tirelessly in the last 12 months to enable on and off field activity to happen. The Honda Volunteer of the Year Awards 2024 will recognise and celebrate those volunteers for their achievements and efforts.



This year's national awards programme will focus on three specific categories:

Unsung Hero
Game for All
Connecting the Community
Game Changer

Please take the time to nominate and recognise the achievements of your volunteers - nominations can be made for an individual, or a team of volunteers within a club, who have gone above and beyond over the course of the past 12 months.

More information on the categories, and a link to the nomination form, can be found **HERE**.

Please pass this news on to your membership and, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch.

Nominations close at 17:00 on Friday 16 February.

**Pamela Kilmister
Volunteer Recognition, Kent Rugby**

2. CLUB HEALTHCHECK

As part of our wider 'Flourishing Rugby Communities' strategy to help clubs ensure they are healthy both now and in the future, we have created an online self-assessment health check tool. The tool will help clubs better understand their relative strengths and development areas across two key areas: Club management and Club business operations.

Once a club has completed the tool, it will have a bespoke action plan directing them to numerous support services and resources. This could range from business planning to the use of digital marketing, how to use space to generate more income, or measures to put in place to adhere to good club governance standards.

Each action plan will contain relevant links to guides and templates as well as how to access support from subject matter experts.

Accessing the Health Check is easy. All voting club Chairs, Honorary Secretaries and Treasurers have already been sent a registration link to the email address on the GMS.

If clubs have not yet set up their account and hold one of these roles, they can set a new password by navigating to <https://clubhealthcheck.rfu.com> and choose 'forgot password'. The Health Check will send a link to set a password. If they do not receive the email, it may be because the account was set up in a different email address.

If this is the case, ask them to email clubhealthcheck@rfu.com and they will create a new account for them.

3. ENGLAND RUGBY ADVANCED COACHING WORKSHOP

The England Rugby Advanced Coaching Workshop is now open for bookings.

This is a free on demand Workshop which acts as a pre-requisite for Coaches looking to book onto the Developing Advanced Coaching Practice CCD for the 2024/2025 Season.

The webinar will highlight the key course information, including updates to the 2024/25 course format, and will explain all the pre-requisites for booking. The completion of the Workshop is essential to be able to book onto Part 1 of the England Rugby Advanced Coaching Award-Developing Advanced Coaching Practice.

You can find further information on the England Rugby Advanced Coaching Award format **HERE**. This Workshop is now live and individuals are able to register on the below link until 12:00 (noon) on Sunday 3rd March 2024.
<http://tinyurl.com/58h37y5r>

4. RFU COUNCIL ELECTION OF CB REPRESENTATIVE REMINDER

Council members are elected for terms of three years, up to an aggregate maximum of nine years (with some limited exemptions). As a Constituent Body of the RFU, Kent (i.e., the KCRFU, KSRFUR or any individual from a voting member club – which also includes schools, colleges, and universities) is entitled to elect one individual to represent the CB's interests.

Its current Council member, Roger Clarke's second (of three, maximum) three-year term will draw to a close at the end of the 2023-24 season. As is required by RFU Rule 18 (Election and Removal of Council Members), we will soon be commencing the process to elect the CB's Council member for the three-year period from 2024-25.

It is Roger's intention to stand again, not least so that he can continue and complete the work he does as a member of the Community Game Board, a Trustee of the Rugby Football Foundation, Chair of the RFU Game Development Committee (covering such issues as Match official standards, Coaching Development, Medical Safety / Injury Monitoring); and on two ad hoc Oversight Groups (Adult Registration and the Payment of Player Regulation Review).

Read the full article on our website **HERE**, on how to nominate. Deadline Monday 1st March.

5. KENT YOUTH SEVENS ENTRIES

Kent Youth Sevens Festival 2023-24

We are requesting entries into our sevens festivals for all age groups. The competition will be held on the following dates at the venues indicated. Start time will be advised by the host clubs but is likely to be 9.30 am. Host clubs will provide a timetable for the day. To enter teams please use our online form below. Closing date 9th February 2024

Under 13s (Venue TBA 21st April 2024)
Under 14s (Venue Folkstone 21st April 2024)
Under 15s (Venue Medway 28th April 2024)
Under 16s Team (Venue Beckenham 28th April 2024)
Colts (U17 & U18) (Venue Charlton Park 28th April 2024)

Enter your Teams **HERE**.

6. KENT MINI FESTIVAL ENTRIES

Sunday 17th March 2024

This season brings us the 41st Kent Mini Festival where thousands of players between 6 and 11 years old will enjoy a morning of Age Grade Rugby. Grass roots rugby is where many of these players' journeys will begin and I hope they continue many seasons of enjoyment and love for the game.



Kent RFU is very grateful to all the clubs who expressed an interest to host one of our age groups festival. Sadly, we couldn't bring them all on board, but appreciate those volunteers at the heart of Mini Rugby for helping their clubs produce an excellent application. We hope all our clubs will apply again to host next season.

Our hosts for the 41st Kent Mini Festival are:-

U7 – Sittingbourne and Folkestone
U8 – Tonbridge Juddians and Beckenham
U9 – Vigo and Folkestone
U10 – Aylesford Bulls and Ashford
U11 Medway

Entries are now open, please use this link to register your teams:- Closing Date for entries is 28th February 2024.

Team Entry Form

7. KCRFU ANNUAL FINANCIAL GENERAL MEETING.

We remind clubs and members that the 2023 AGM approved that the Annual FGM should be reincorporated into the AGM. (i.e. there should no longer be a separate 'FGM'). As such, the 2024 AGM to be held later this year will submit for approval the CB's annual accounts for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24. We hope that this will ensure better attendance at the AGM and thus provide a greater opportunity for questions from members to be put to the Executive.

Nigel Fray
Hon. Secretary & Director of Governance

8. VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

Please see Club Support Webinar & Virtual Workshop programme – January-April 2024 please book early to avoid disappointment.

Workshops (Virtual)

Please see **Club Support Webinar & Virtual Workshop programme – January-April 2024** please book early to avoid disappointment.

TOPIC	DATE	BOOKING LINK
Growing and Maximising Sponsorship	20 th February 7pm-8pm	https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OmN9co6uRf23iPlguUV-PQ#/registration
Managing your Club Finances	21 st February 7pm-8:30pm	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-your-club-finances-tickets-776347956637?aff=oddtcreator
Growing Your Social Media Audience	27 th February 6:30-8:30pm	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/growing-your-social-media-audience-tickets-776287184867?aff=oddtcreator
Decoding DBS: A Webinar for Club Safeguarding Officers	28 th February 7pm-8pm	https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XulxldTPuhjMfWLiJKZw#/registration
Grant Funding	11 th March 7pm-8pm	https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUscuGqrDooH9cfOCUfzoEws9Cy_PpmUXDi#/registration
Review your Structure	7 th March 6:30pm-8:30pm	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/review-your-structure-club-leadership-teams-tickets-776359461047?aff=oddtcreator
Sustainability & Energy in Community Rugby Clubs	11 th March 7pm-8pm	https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ANbwW-gDSvGkvUOv1meUIA
Managing your Club Finances	19 th March 7pm-8:30pm	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/managing-your-club-finances-tickets-776356321657?aff=oddtcreator
Review your Structure	17 th April 6:30-8:30pm	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/review-your-structure-club-leadership-teams-tickets-776365589377?aff=oddtcreator