

MAIDS



OF

KENT



EAST
KENT

v

WEST
KENT

UNDER 18 GIRLS: TRACY PETTINGALE CUP

FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2024

AYLESFORD BULLS RFC, HALL ROAD, AYLESFORD ME20 7DS

Welcome

GRAHAM WITHERS
CHAIR, KENT WOMEN & GIRLS RUGBY

The 2023/24 Kent County Under 18 Girls programme draws a close with the inaugural East Kent v West Kent match for the Tracy Pettingale Cup.

This has been something of a transitional season for the programme as it has been the first to run parallel with the new England Rugby Centre of Excellence (Southeast) for Kent's girls which has, effectively, seen around 25 of the county's leading players leave the Kent pathway to focus on this instead. However, Mark Cornford and his team of coaches and managers preferred to see this not as a negative, but instead as a positive way of elevating more of Kent's best players to receive the additional experience of training and playing rugby at county-level. Consequently, over 50 non-CoE players have pulled on the Kent shirt in matches against Essex, Sussex and Hampshire this season.

One final match awaits, where we pit East Kent versus West Kent, with the winners awarded the Tracy Pettingale Cup.

It is fair to say that Tracy is now a very well-known figure within Kent rugby, primarily for her prowess as a ground-breaking female referee and in her current role as Kent Rugby's Office & Funding Manager. However, there is a lot more to her rugby CV than that. Back at the turn of this century, Tracy was a founding member of Aylesford Ladies in 1999 and captained the team from 2001-03. As a player, she wore the Kent jersey for "numerous" years and was also the first lady at Aylesford Bulls to represent Regional Rugby, which she did for 4 years.

It is as a referee, though, that Tracy has truly been a pioneer for female match officials. Tracy has officiated at the Women's Six Nations (2011-2018); the Women's World Cup 7s in Moscow in 2013; the European 7s Series at Amsterdam, Riga, Dubai and London (2011-15) and was also honoured to be the referee of Oxford v Cambridge Women's Varsity Match in 2014. Sharing pride of place amongst these illustrious events was the receipt of an invitation by Queen Elizabeth II to a reception at Buckingham Palace in 2015 on the occasion of the Rugby World Cup 2015, issued for her services to rugby, and we must not forget that she also found time to act as Kent County Women & Girls Chair for two years during this period too!

I know that Tracy feels immense pride at the growth of the female game within the county - not just in player numbers but amongst match officials too with a growing number of female referees now joining the Kent Society. The referee for tonight's game, along with her assistants, are examples of Tracy's pioneering work to develop female referees in our sport.

I shall give the last words to Mark Cornford: "Tracy is such a source of knowledge, guidance, support, a true trailblazer from the county women's game" and the county is delighted to honour her by being able to award an annual trophy in her name.

“The pathway for Women & Girls in rugby has come a long way since I travelled that path. There is now much more focus on developing players from a younger age, helping them to be the best they can be and reach the higher playing levels.



“Over many years I have enjoyed my participation in the sport – first as a player, then as a referee – and am now dedicated to helping the next generation of female players and referees to progress and excel.”

Tracy Pettingale



Why the 'Maids of Kent'?

Kent's largest river is the Medway which divides the county east and west.

If you are born on the east side of the Medway, you are a Maid (or Man) of Kent. If you're born to the west, you are a Kentish Maid (or Man).

For tonight's game, we pit the Maids of Kent against the Kentish Maids (with one or two exceptions...) in a battle for glory!



Henderson Rowe

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Kent Womens & Girls Rugby
and the Tracy Pettingale Cup.



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2023-24 SEASON REVIEW

The coaching team are incredibly proud of the efforts of every player who has donned a Kent shirt this season and represented her county with spirit, tenacity and skill. We have a young squad and look forward to a number of players staying with us for the 2024-25 season. To those players moving up to the senior game, we wish you every continued success in your rugby career!

Kent 19 – 19 Essex

26 November 2023

A nail-biting game which saw Kent pull back a 0-19 half time deficit to take the draw at Dartford Valley RFC.

[Read the match report!](#)



Sussex 44 – 17 Kent

17 December 2023

A spirited performance against a strong Sussex team, with Kent fighting to win the second half.

[Read the match report!](#)

Hampshire 58 – 0 Kent

14 January 2024

Kent's sternest test – a tough and physical game, but the girls leave with their heads held high.

[Read the match report!](#)



EAST v WEST



Lia Armstrong	Thanet Wanderers	Cerys Adams	Tunbridge Wells
Lauren Brooks	Ashford	Daisy Cleaver	Old Alleynians
Lily Clarke	Medway	Olivia Collins	Medway
Caitlin Connolly	Langley Park School	Ruby Copeland	Old Alleynians
Grace Cripps	Aylesford Bulls	Stella Flynn	Tunbridge Wells
Juliet Downard	Medway	Leah Hickmott	Gravesend
Mia Evans	Old Colfeians	Amelia Lawton	Medway
Lydia Francis	Aylesford Bulls	Annabelle Long	Langley Park School
Anya Hughes	Medway	Scarlet Lygo	Ashford
Janae Jacobs	Ashford	Ruby Marshall	Sutton & Epsom
Alex Jones	Aylesford Bulls	Kara Mitchell	Dartfordians
Izzy Lodge	Thanet Wanderers	Erin Murray	Sevenoaks
Dan Mills	Dover	Aisling Navin	Gravesend
Maisie Peters	Medway	Libby Noble	Old Colfeians
Lily Philpott	Ashford	Hollie Parker	Tunbridge Wells
Eloise Pike	Deal & Betteshanger	Sophie Pooley	Sidcup
Ella Preston	Folkestone	Evie Porter	Tunbridge Wells
Rhiannon Pullen	Ashford	Ruby Prodrick	Dartford Valley
Megan Serfontein	Medway	Jessica Taylor	Tunbridge Wells
Sasha Spain	Beccehamians	Ellen Williams	Dartfordians
Hermione White	Medway	Charlotte Wiseman	Sevenoaks
Tierney Wootton	Medway	Chanel Wright	Old Alleynians

Referee: Chloe Cannon (KSRFUR)

ARs: Elly Cole and Ffion Price (both KSRFUR)



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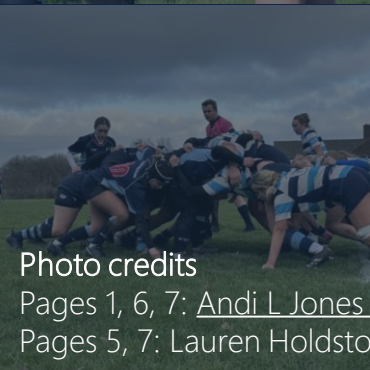


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