

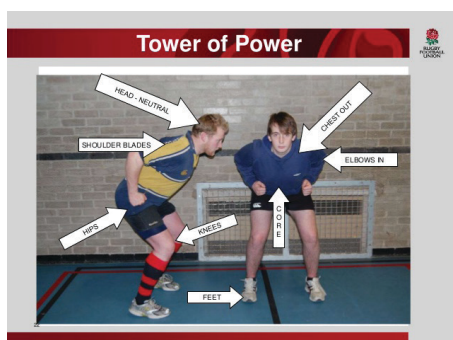
# KENT COUNTY RFU INFORMATION SENDOUT FEBRUARY 2020



## 1. CLUB FORUMS

The first of our four Club Forums is on Wednesday 26th February at 19.30hrs, hosted by Dartfordians RFC.

Please contact the Kent County Office to register the attendees from your club, this will assist with our planning of the event. [office@kent-rugby.org](mailto:office@kent-rugby.org)



### NEW Front Row Clinic

On the evening we will be offering a FREE 'Front Row Clinic' which will run concurrently outside. The clinic is targeted at all front row players, in the senior male and female game, an opportunity to refresh or learn the 'dark art' of the Front Row and improve player safety. Coaches are welcome to watch this practical session.

Similar to last year we are keen to get together with representatives from all aspects of club activities.

At each forum we will update you on measures taken by us and the RFU to try and support each of these concerns together with a number of 'Success Stories' delivered by local clubs.

In addition to these topics we will be launching a new 'Club Champions Initiative' which will be focused on how clubs might market themselves, improve sponsorship and grow their club.

There will be an open forum on the evening with representatives from Kent RFU and the RFU to discuss any

issues you might have, together with a number of focus clinics e.g. GMS, Facilities, Front Row, Safeguarding etc.

### Club Forums will take place on:

Wednesday 26th February 19.30hrs @ Dartfordians RFC

Monday 2nd March 19.30hrs @ Medway RFC

Wednesday 11th March 19.30hrs @ Folkestone RFC

Wednesday 18th March 19.30hrs @ Sevenoaks RFC

## 2. NATWEST RUGBY FORCE

Registrations are still open for NatWest Rugbyforce 2020, with a reminder that Clubs who register are in with a chance of winning a £3,000 grant for their Club! The focus for this season is 'Social Spaces', as these are at the heart of every club and help to boost the local community spirit.

It is also recognised that they are a great way for clubs to open their facilities to be used by the wider community and as a result a great income source.

Click [HERE](#) to apply for funding or for further information.



**RFU**

Supporting your club & community

### Kent County RFU Funding

Did you know that Kent County RFU are also offering to match fund any club successful in gaining NATWEST funding to make your club welcome even better. All successful clubs should contact Nigel Fray, [facilities@kent-rugby.org](mailto:facilities@kent-rugby.org)

### 3. KENT COUNTY WOMEN'S SQUAD

There is still time to register for Kent County Women trial sessions.

From these sessions a representative squad will be selected to represent Kent. All training and fixture dates are advertised on our website on the Kent Teams page (Kent Women)

Register your attendance [HERE](#).

### 4. COMMUNITY RUGBY OPEN DAYS

Since the Rugby World Cup 2019, and throughout the 2020 Six Nations there has been a rise in the number of clubs who have run Open Days for their local community.

To support Clubs further with this, there is now a guide to help with planning and running such days, along with a checklist to use as a starting framework.

Download the guide [HERE!](#)

### 5. VOLUNTEER AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN

Have you made your nomination yet?

Every year we have our Volunteer Awards Evening which is hugely successful in rewarding our volunteers in the county who every week commit their valuable time to their clubs. The awards have changed this year to be more inclusive.



Any club member can make a nomination. In choosing the recipients of the Awards, regard is given to the nominee's achievements in the Year immediately prior to receiving the award, as well as their past achievements and ongoing contribution to the Rugby Union within Kent.

Ensure that the person nominated is involved in volunteering within the section they are nominated in.

Make your Nomination [HERE](#).

If your nomination is chosen as one of the top three, both you and your nominee and their guest will receive an invitation to the awards dinner scheduled for Thursday 4th June 2020 at Shepherd Neame Old Brewery Store.

### 6. CLUB ACCOUNTS

Our clubs in Levels 5 and below are reminded that they are required to submit a set of their accounts to Kent County RFU, as shown in Regulation 5.1

*'RFU Regulations 5.1 – Sending copies of accounts*

*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.'*

Clubs who are participating in Levels 1- 4 are required to submit their accounts to the NCA, however, we are advised by the RFU that it is of course best practice for Clubs in Levels 1-4, to submit to the Constituent Body also.

Most clubs submit their accounts each year as a matter of routine, but we are still missing quite a few. Each year, the RFU issue an audit of our clubs and we have to sign a document to the effect that all of our clubs have fulfilled all the regulations.

If you are reading this as your club's Honorary Treasurer, please check that your club is up-to-date, and if not please submit a set of accounts to [hon-treasurer@kent-rugby.org](mailto:hon-treasurer@kent-rugby.org) by 20th March.

### 7. IRWIN MITCHELL MENTORING WEBINARS

**The Adolescent Rugby Player** - 9th March 6:30 - 7:30pm. This webinar helps coaches to better understand how to mentor the adolescent Rugby Player. **BOOK HERE!**

**Refereeing the Age Grade Game** - 2nd April 6:30pm - 7:30pm. This webinar will help referees who officiate youth games, 14-18 years old. **BOOK HERE!**

### 8. MENTORING AWARD

Ever found yourself in a mentoring role and felt inexperienced to fulfil the role? England Rugby have produced a mentoring course to make you feel more qualified for the role.



Mentoring is a powerful tool that can be used in the development and education of people involved in Rugby.

Everyone involved in the game can benefit from an effective mentoring programme. Successful programmes enhance behaviour and practice, but in order for change to occur, learning must take place.

This mentoring training course will explore how you, in your role as a mentor, can support an individual through their learning journey.

The course costs £175 however, if you book on to the course please get in touch with the office at Kent County RFU as there is funding available for 10 places who go on to complete the course.

This is part of Kent County's objective to assist clubs in developing their coaches, referees and volunteers to help player retention and recruitment.

Click the venues to access booking links for all courses.

#### **Dings Crusaders RFC**

15th March, 9:00am -5:00pm & 20th May, 6:30pm-9:30pm

#### **Reading Blue Coat School**

22nd March, 9am -5pm & 24th May, 10am-1pm

#### **Campion School, Essex**

15th March, 9am -5pm & 11th May, 7pm-10pm

#### **Trinity School, Surrey**

8th March, 9am -5pm & 18th May, 7pm-10pm

### **9. YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSE**

England Rugby are offering CB's a two day course for individuals to qualify as a Youth Mental Health First Aider.



The course qualifies you as a YMHA giving you:

1. An in depth understanding of young people's mental health and factors that affect wellbeing.
2. Practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues.

3. Confidence to reassure and support a young person in distress.

4. Enhanced interpersonal skills such as non judgemental listening.

5. Knowledge to help a young person recover their health by guiding them to further support- whether that's through self help sites, their place of learning, the NHS, or a mix- engaging with parents, carers and external agencies where appropriate

6. Ability to support a young person with a long term mental health issue or disability to thrive.

7. Tools to look after your own mental wellbeing.

If a CB can confirm a course a 50% discount will be applied making it £150 per person. (16 candidates per course). If there is sufficient demand Kent RFU RugbySafe are looking to hold a course during the off-season.



If this is something you or someone at your club might be interested in please express your interest by email to: [rugbysafe@kent-rugby.org](mailto:rugbysafe@kent-rugby.org)

Could all expressions of interest please be submitted no later than 20th March 20

Further information about the course can be found **HERE!**

### **10. ADULT MALE SURVEY**

England Rugby would like to invite you to take part in their Adult Male Future Competitions Structure Survey. This is focused around how they could enhance competition structures within the game.



Click below to access the survey, which won't take longer than 10 minutes. There is also information, data and insights that have been provided to help you complete it; it is encouraged you read this information before starting. The survey is best completed using a desktop device.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HTKBFMN>



Thank you in advance for contributing your views which will be a great help in planning the future of adult male competitions

The closing date for the survey is 6th March 2020.

## 11. COUNTY YOUTH SEVENS COMPETITION

Applications for Entry to the County Sevens Competition 2019-2020 can be accessed **BELOW!**



**U13's** - 26th April @ Canterbury RFC

**U14's** - 26th April @ Folkestone RFC

**U15's** - 26th April @ TBC

**U16's** - 26th April @ Beckenham RFC

**U17's** - 3rd May @ Medway RFC

**U18's** - 3rd May @ Medway RFC

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 8th March 2020**

## 12. YOUR RUGBY STORY

Many inspirational stories exist of our clubs using Rugby World Cup 2019 to recruit new and returning players.

Kent Rugby would love to share your success stories in our next In Touch publication.

England Rugby would also love to share innovative ways rugby clubs did this and to hear about players of every age who experienced rugby afresh or for the first time and now play regularly.

It could be someone inspired to pull their boots back on at their local club, or a newbie who decided to give it a go and is now hooked. Why did they start, what did the club do to engage them and what is making them come back week after week? England Rugby would like to hear what makes their story really special.

Clubs with the most inspirational stories will win the opportunity to be involved in the guard of honour or mascots team at the Quilter Cup England XV v Barbarians at Twickenham on Sunday 21 June, along with tickets for their club.

Sharing your player's story couldn't be easier; simply post your video or content on social media including Twitter and Instagram using the hashtag #yourrugbystory.

Also, send your story to Kent Rugby - **office@kent-rugby.org** for our next publication of In Touch.

Deadline for entries is Thursday 30 April and winners for the RFU competition will be announced by Friday 15 May.

## 13. QUILTER CUP - ENGLAND V BARBARIANS

### Ticket Offer

Kent County Rugby Football Union Limited has access to 100 free tickets for the 2020 Quilter Cup match England v Barbarians on 21 June 2020.

The ticket initiative is part of the RFU's commitment to grow the game through the transition from age grade rugby to the adult game, and the RFU is offering each Constituent Body (ie Kent County RFU) 100 free tickets to watch England v Barbarians in the Quilter Cup on 21 June 2020 at Twickenham.

The exclusive offer has been created to enable us to use this match as a reward and incentive to keep players aged 18-24 within our game.



### PLEASE ENSURE YOU READ AND CONFORM TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES

All clubs have the opportunity to nominate players aged 18-24 that have returned to rugby or transitioned from age grade to adult club rugby across the season.

There is the opportunity for a small number of relevant coaches/volunteers who have done great work with this age group to receive tickets as a way of reward. Interested clubs should submit their lists to: **honsec@kent-rugby.org** BY FRIDAY 13th MARCH.

21 June 2020 at Twickenham.

9:00 am - Car Parks open

3:00 pm - England XV v Barbarians kick off

9:00 pm - Car Parks close