



Fairford RFC Newsletter

Number Eighteen
October 2017



Welcome to the 2017/18 Season by Fairford RFC Chair, Jonathan Chambers

Welcome to the start of the 2017/18 season at Fairford Rugby Club. Last season we enjoyed a great opening to the new mini and youth pitches with England International, Billy Twelvetrees, and the Seniors won the Stroud Combination Cup.

This season we are continuing our **'one club'** philosophy with a joint mini/youth/senior's committee and myself as the role of Chairman for the whole club. Huge thanks go to Scott Cohoon who was Chairman for the minis and youth for many a year. I am extremely happy that Scott is now the club's Honorary President. My main aims for this season are:

- (1) to increase numbers across the club for (young and old);
- (2) to increase our number of volunteers;
- (3) field a Seniors 2nd team for social rugby which would enhance the club and enable new players to enjoy our sport.

Volunteers are the life-blood of the club. Without people helping out, Fairford Rugby Club would simply no exist. There are a small number of members who spend a huge amount of their busy lives making sure Fairford Rugby Club can thrive. We can't always rely on the a few people, we do need players, parents and supporters to help out in any way they can to make sure we remain a great club to be proud of. If you would like to help out, please get in touch. Before I sign off, I'd like to thank all our committee members, coaches and volunteers for their continuing sterling efforts, commitment and dedication. I hope you all enjoy this season and good luck to all of our teams. *(Jonathan Chambers)*

National RFU Survey

The National RFU Survey is vital to gather insight from everyone involved in the sport helping to develop and review the game and the RFU's rugby offer. The survey is open to everyone involved, or previously involved in the game, from players and lapsed players, to coaches, match officials, volunteers, spectators, teachers and parents. Please take time to contribute:

<http://surveys.tell-us-what-you-think.com/s3/NRS-2017>

Meet our Junior and Mini Coaches – a fabulous line up.....



Under 6 – Xanthe Messenger and Khalid Moore

Under 7 – Barney Jenkins and Kevin Bailey

Under 8 – Matthew Amor and Nick Whitlam

Under 9 – Jonny Butler (coaching coordinator) and Jonathon Luff

Under 10 / 11 – Luke de Freitas and Charlie Bailey

Under 15 – Kenny Robins and Keelan Little

Additional Coaching – Nick Matthews / George Ellis

Under 12's Update

It is with deep regret that we have decided not to run an U12's team this season. Sadly, we are a long way from having the numbers needed, a squad of around 15 players consistently training and playing together to develop skills and teamwork. We have contacted those effected and wish them all the best of luck with any new clubs they choose to join.

Start of the New Season – Juniors and Members

We hope you have enjoyed the start of the season as much as we have, the atmosphere has been fantastic and our membership has grown and continues to do so. This is great news for all and we look forward to the season ahead. Membership is open all year so please keep spreading the word, we will continue to our practice of try before you buy! Below are a series of photos from our September sessions.





Fairford RFC Quiz Night – 28 October, 8pm at Fairford Cricket Club



Come and join in the second social event of the season. You are all invited to join a quiz night, Saturday 28 October, 8pm at Fairford Cricket Club. Teams of no more than six individuals. Bargain at £1 per person and prizes tbc. We are hoping to have a great turnout so please put on the calendar and get a babysitter organised (if needed)!

Fairford RFC & Roaring Rugby Autumn Camp – Thursday 26 to Friday 27 October

ROARING RUGBY CAMPS

Fairford RFC
26th - 27th October
All are from 9.30 to 3.30 inclusive

2 Day Rugby Camp
Non-Contact (Age 5-8)
Contact (Age 8-9)*

- Games & Activities
- Skill Development
- Mini Tournaments

Beginners welcome as well as experienced players.

The emphasis is on **FUN** all the way with the core values of rugby teamwork, respect, discipline, sportsmanship and enjoyment.

* Children must be 8 years old on the 31st August 2017 or 9 years old on the 31st August 2017 to play in the contact group.

£50 for 2 days or £30 a day

Book your place online at
roaringrugby.co.uk
chrisa@roaringrugby.org.uk 07867317206

All camps are led by a qualified and licensed RFU Level 2 coach with enhanced DBS clearances.

Book quickly.....

our the Fairford RFC / Roaring Rugby Camps are one of most popular events in our junior and mini's calendar. There are 30 slots available for the camp running Thursday 26 and Friday 27 October from Fairford Cricket Club utilizing our Leafield Road pitches. We recommend early booking to avoid disappointment. Places can we booked through Roaring Rugby website:

<https://www.roaringrugby.co.uk/booking/>

An Evening with Andy Powell – Friday 20 October

TICKETS are on sale for an evening with former Wales international and after dinner speaker, Andy Powell. The event is a fundraiser for the club's 2018 Belgium Tour and will be held at Fairford Town FC, Friday 20 October (7pm for 7.45pm start). Individual tickets are priced at £25 and will include a two-course meal with a relaxed dress code in place. Bookings can also be made for a table of eight for £200. There will be a talk from the 23-cap Welshman, as well as the opportunity for a Q&A, an auction and Golden Ticket Raffle. **To book tickets for this event please email Chris Tanner at: cmt115@hotmail.com**



Primary and Secondary School Programme - September and October 2017

The sessions in local primary schools have and are going well. This year we have focussed on primary school years 5 and 6, in an attempt to tempt new players to join our under 10 and 11 teams. A huge thank-you to **Nick Matthews, George Ellis, Sam Johnston, Charlie Bailey, Keelan Little and Jonathan Chambers** without whom these sessions would not have happened and to Lindsey for all her coordination and communication. A fantastic team effort.

Seniors Update

Fairford seniors began their pre-season campaign, 2 September away to Avonmouth 2's where a spirited XV came up short against tough opposition 32-27. Congratulations to Keelan Little who captained the side that day. Only last year Keelan was playing Colts rugby and is now a coach of our under 15's!

The Badgers then travelled to Tetbury, 16 September for their final pre-season game. This time the seniors were able to take an impressive 25 players, many of whom have graduated from the youth section to win an entertaining game 36-37. Congratulations to try scorers Ben and Tom Cohoon, Laurence Lynch, Eric White, Charlie Bailey and Sam Johnson. All of whom have played junior rugby for the club. A big thank-you also to Sam Johnson who is leaving the club to go to university; Sam has coached both U15's and Colts in the last two seasons. (Thank-you to Charlotte Fryer- Eccles for the amazing photos).





Senior Fixtures - September to December 2017

Games will be played at Coln House School as the club have secured a lease from Gloucestershire County Council for the upcoming season. Fixtures to Christmas are below, please follow our updates on Facebook and Twitter.

30th September	Fairford	Westbury-on-Severn
7th October	Cainscross	Fairford
28th October	Fairford	Gloucester All Blues
4th November	Kingswood	Fairford
11th November	Fairford	Norton
25th November	Painswick	Fairford
9th December	Fairford	Tetbury
16th December	United Bristol Hospitals	Fairford

The Boot & Kit Exchange – we need your old boots and Fairford RFC Kit.....keep swapping!

Thank-you to all of you that have been using the boot exchange around 12 pairs of boots exchanged 'feet' in September, helping to save some pennies.

Parents and Carers have requested that we also run a Fairford RFC kit exchange and we are very happy to oblige. Young people grow very quickly and new boots / kit are expensive. If you have any unwanted studded boots and Fairford RFC kit (only our branded kit please) that you are happy to exchange or pass on, please bring them (MUST BE CLEAN) to the cabin on a Sunday and put into a box until a new owner comes along.



New Website

We have a new website for the club, (seniors, juniors, mini) that brings all our information and social media into one hub. For those who do not have Facebook / Twitter access you will be able to follow all updates through the new website. We hope you like it as much as we do (feedback appreciated): <http://fairfordrfc.co.uk/>

Sponsors

Thank-you to our sponsors:



Your Feedback

If you are receiving this newsletter but no longer wish to please email Lindsey at rugby@fairfordrhc.co.uk. If you have feedback on the Newsletter or content that you would like to added to the next edition (November 2017) please contact Jenny at gaslane@hotmail.com