



Fairford RFC Newsletter

Number Twenty-Four
May 2018



Juniors and Mini's End of 2017/18 Season Event – Sunday 22 April



The sun came out to create a great atmosphere for our end of season event, Sunday 22 April. Thank-you to all who turned out, players, mums, dads, grandparents, friends and extended family, and to George Ellis and his team at the Outside Inn Company. All the ingredients needed for a great day. All our members received a certificate and medal for their commitment to rugby throughout the season. For those who couldn't attend we will send your medal and certificate in the post to your home address. At the end of each season we traditionally recognise players in age groups who have been outstanding and shown the values of rugby throughout the season. The Presidents Shield for Outstanding Contribution to Youth and Mini's Rugby throughout the season was awarded to our U10/11 Coach, Luke to Freitas. , A huge thank-you to our senior players who presented the awards, the roll call of 2017/18 season winners are:

Under 5 – Coach Khalid Moore

- Most Improved Player – Jacob Luff
- Coaches Player – Freddie Baines
- Players Player – William Leach



Under 6 – Coach Xanthe Messenger

- Most Improved Player – Jessica Ross
- Coaches Player – Matthew Ross
- Players Player – George Bull



Under 7 – Coach Barney Jenkins and Coach Nick Whitlam

- Most Improved Player – George Phillips
- Coaches Player – James Francis
- Players Player – Jack Whitlam



Under 8 - Coach Matthew Amor and Coach Kevin Bailey

- Most Improved Player – Rory Foresheew
- Coaches Player – Lucy Bull
- Players Player – Oliver Messenger



Under 9 – Coach Jonathon Luff and Coach Jonny Butler

- Most Improved Player – Reece Bishop
- Coaches Player – Immy (Imogen) Ransom
- Players Player – George Bagoban



Under 10/11 – Coach Luke De Freitas

- Most Improved Player – Molly Freebury
- Coaches Player – Harry Seward
- Players Player – Jack Cook



A Big Volunteer Thank-you

The club would not function without the commitment and passion from all our volunteers for community led rugby. All junior and mini's volunteers were thanked at the end of season event, with a bottle of wine and a cheer from all our members. A list of this seasons junior and mini's volunteers is below, THANK-YOU for everything that you do for the club, it is truly appreciated. We always need more volunteers, from the butty van, to helping organise events through to coaching, we have a huge variety of roles to suit everyone. Please get involved and if you are interested in volunteering for the 2018/19 season please email your interest to Lindsey at rugby@fairfordrfc.co.uk

Under 5/6 coaches

- Khalid Moore
- Xanthe Messenger
- Tristan Court
- Mark Garrett
- Danny O'Brien
- Christine Luff

Under 7 Coaches:

- Barney Jenkins
- Nick Whitlam

Under 8 Coaches:

- Matthew Amor
- Kevin Bailey

Under 9 Coaches:

- Jonny Butler
- Jonathon Luff

Under 10/11:

- Luke DeFreitas

Other Coaches:

- Kenny Robins – U15
- Nick Matthews
- Dave Jackson

Volunteer Coordinator:

- Emma Bishop

Kit Store:

- Debbie Rees Jones
- Katie Cox / Flach

Membership and Communications:

- Jenny Cook

Treasurer:

- Helen Ross

Admin/Safeguarding/First Aid& Data:

- Lindsey Thurlow

Butty Van

- Simon Hill
- Matthew Dawson
- Andrew Woodward
- Chloe Dodgson
- Catherine Elliot
- Jim Huish
- Claire Huish
- Jessica Landells



Save the Date

All members of Fairford Rugby Club are invited to the 'End of Season Awards' evening on **Friday 22 June**. The event will take place in the newly refurbished function hall at Cinder Lane, the home of Fairford Town FC. Details are being finalised so look out for details in the next edition of the newsletter, on Facebook or on our website.



In the meantime, please save the date. This event is not just for seniors but for all club members and it would be fantastic to see a huge turnout from parents, carers, volunteers and coaches, we encourage you all to come and celebrate.

Roaring Rugby Camp – Thursday 12 and Friday 13 April

A sell out camp for the Roaring Rugby and Fairford RFC Easter Camp. A big thank-you to Chris and his team for a fabulous two days. We are running another joint Roaring Rugby Camp in the Summer Holidays, Thursday 16 and Friday 17 August. Places can be booked on the Roaring Rugby website: <https://www.roaringrugby.co.uk/booking/> We truly value our relationship with Chris and the Roaring Rugby team, their support in developing a thriving juniors and mini's section is invaluable. Photo below from the camp:



U7 Tournament at Painswick RFC – Sunday 8 April

A fabulous morning for our U7 team at the Gloucestershire RFU tournament. Some great rugby and lots of fun. Thank you to all those who attended, to Painswick RFC for hosting and to coaches Nick and Barney. A massive thank you to Martyn Cox for the photos. Play 'spot the green hoodies'.....



U8, U9, U10 Away at Cirencester RFC – Sunday 8 April

Thank-you to Cirencester RFC for hosting our U8, U9 and U10/11 teams on Sunday 8 April. Thanks to everyone who turned out during the Easter holidays. Thanks also to Emma Bishop and Richard Rees Jones for the photos.



AGM – Thursday 17 May 1930hrs at Fairford Cricket Club

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for Fairford RFC (Seniors, Juniors and Minis) will take place Thursday 17 May, 1930hrs at Fairford Cricket Club. All members (parents / carers of members) are invited to attend. The AGM allows all members to hear reports from the Committee, on the achievements and work of the Committee over the year including annual accounts and future plans. The Committee will also be elected for the 2018/19 season. This is your opportunity to have a say in how the club is run and in defining its future. Please come along and support, it would be good to have as many members present as possible. The bar will be open!

HOLD THE DATE - 2018/19 Season starts Sunday 16 September

A great photo below from Emma Bishop of our U9 team practising scrums for the first time in preparation for the 2018/19 Season



The 2018/19 Junior and Mini's Season starts Sunday 16 September. We will be running three free sessions Sunday 16, 23 and 30 September and encourage you all to invite all your friends and family to come along and give rugby a try. Our coaching volunteers will be running rugby sessions in catchment schools throughout September to encourage uptake of membership. We ask all to have signed up to membership before or on our official 2018/19 season start date, Sunday 7 October. Please spread the word. The season may have finished but the fun hasn't! Please see the events over the summer:

FAIRFEST – 18, 19 & 20 August 2018



A 'must attend' date for all to write on the 2018 calendar. Next year's Fairfest, Fairford's very own Beer, Food and music festival, run by Fairford RFC will be held 18, 19 and 20 August. This event can only happen with the support of all our members and we ask

that you consider volunteering for the event. Please hold the dates in the diary, the more volunteers we have the more profit we generate to invest in the club for the future. Thank-you.

Fairford Festival 31 May to 3 June

The annual community run Fairford Festival takes place this year from 31 May to 3 June:

<http://www.fairfordfestival.org.uk/> Each year the club (juniors and seniors) join the community parade. Last year the booty van even put in an appearance and the club won 2nd place (after Dr Who and the daleks)! Please keep Saturday 2 June free to join in the parade and promote our amazing club. The afternoon of 2 June is a sports taster session run by all clubs in the local area.

Dave Bull has kindly agreed to run the junior's rugby taster session and we hope all our members will come along and get involved. The Saturday is always a fabulous day with food, drink, music and activities, as is the whole weekend.



Seniors Update

There are no photos in the Senior's update this month. We are always in need of photos for the newsletter and Facebook, please feel free to send your photos for inclusion in the next monthly addition to Jenny gaslane@hotmail.com. A big thank-you to Kenny Robins who writes the senior section of the newsletter each month.

Fairford end League Season on a High

Fairford ended the league season with a typically free-flowing last game away to Westbury RFC away. Despite some of the players getting their sat navs crossed and turning up at the wrong Westbury, the game eventually began 15-a-side! Fairford took an early lead but could not keep up consistent pressure. The game became more like ping pong than rugby with each side taking it in turn to score tries. However, Fairford's superiority shone through and they walked away 45-38 winners. Congratulations to Winger Jake Denness who scored his first try for the club!

Fairford put out 2 sides!

Perhaps most importantly this month, the club were able to put out two senior's sides in cup competitions, with 43 players taking part overall. Fairford '2s' took on Dursley 3s in the Stroud combination Bill Adams cup at Coln House School. Despite some spirited displays, it showed that it was the first 2's game and some of the players were familiarising themselves with one another. They eventually lost 40-18. We hope to be able to put out two teams more regularly next season.

The '1s' had the task of replicating their earlier cup final win over at Painswick RFC, as they faced them again, this time in the Stroud Junior Cup competition. The visitors started uncharacteristically well, with Sam Johnson scoring within minutes of kick-off. Painswick however riposted well and scored two tries of their own. The game ebbed and flowed, with Fairford having to defend for long periods of time. However, when they got the ball they were lethal, scoring at will latterly in the game. In the end, it was reasonably comfortable 36-22 win.

We now play Dursley RFC 2's away in the Junior Cup Final on the 12 May. We hope as many people can make it along to support.

Seniors Tour – 18 to 21 May, Dendermonde, Belgium

On the Weekend 18-21 May 2018 Fairford will be going on their first tour abroad for almost a decade! The tour will be taking place in Dendermonde, Belgium for the annual Flanders' 7s tournament. Over 40 tourists will travel with nearly 20 'virgins' amongst them. It promises to be a quiet and civilised weekend for all those attending!

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 25 pairs of boots exchanged 'feet' since the start of the season, helping to save some pennies. **WE HAVE A GROWING COLLECTION OF SMALL PAIRS OF BOOTS IF ANYONE NEEDS THEM** (you don't need to have anything to swap, we just ask that when you do, pop them in the box)

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.

We have a new Sponsor – Premier Leasing and Financing Ltd



We are delighted to announce that we are now sponsor Premier Leasing and Financing Ltd:

<https://www.premlease.co.uk/> Since opening their new offices in South Cerney, Gloucestershire, they have enjoyed working with local businesses, helping them with their equipment leasing and finances. Thank-you to all at Premier Leasing and Financing Ltd for their support and we are looking forward to developing our relationship with you and all our sponsors. We appreciate all the support you give.

Sponsors

Thank-you to our sponsors:



Website

We have a 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. <http://fairfordrfc.co.uk/>

Kit Store

The Kit Store is open Sunday mornings when our mini's and juniors are training or playing at home. We have a great selection of Fairford RFC branded clothing for both children and adults ranging from Beanies, Caps, Socks, Shorts to Padded Jackets. Debbie, Jenny, Emma and Katie will be around to help you with your purchases. A link to all our branded merchandise and price list can be found on our website: <http://fairfordrfc.co.uk/kit-store/> and can be purchased or ordered on a Sunday morning 1030 to 1200hrs.

Your Feedback

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