



# Fairford RFC Newsletter

October 2020

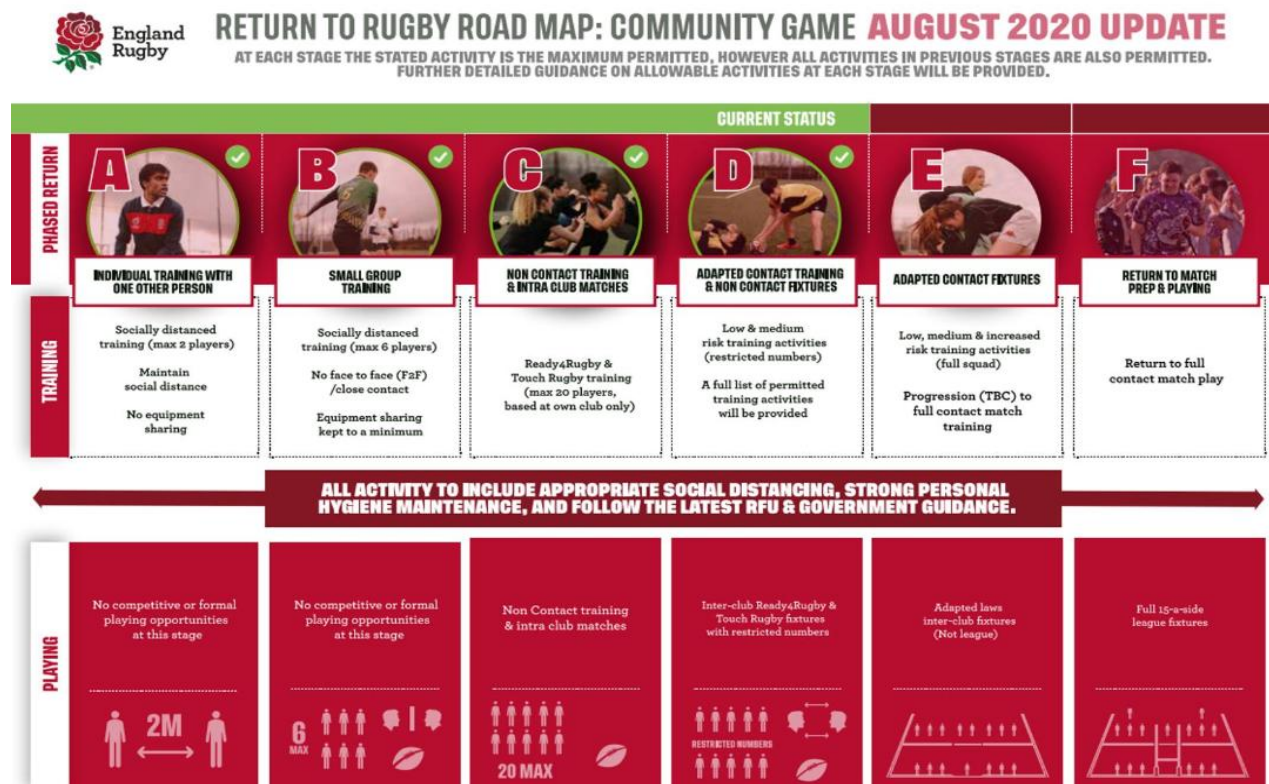


Here's the latest Newsletter from Fairford RFC, containing lots of news and updates. We hope you like it.

*(Production of the Newsletter will in future be down to me, Karen Spour. This is my first 'job' as a new volunteer for FRFC so please be patient as I get to know you all and how the Club operates. I will just be putting it together, but this is **your** Club and **your** Newsletter. It is nothing without your contributions and should include things you want to see as well as what you need to know. My aim is to make it an easy, enjoyable read to keep you coming back! If you have any ideas, feedback and/or content for future issues, please email me on [kspour@sky.com](mailto:kspour@sky.com)).*

## Return to Rugby roadmap – update

We moved to phase D on the return to rugby road map in August.



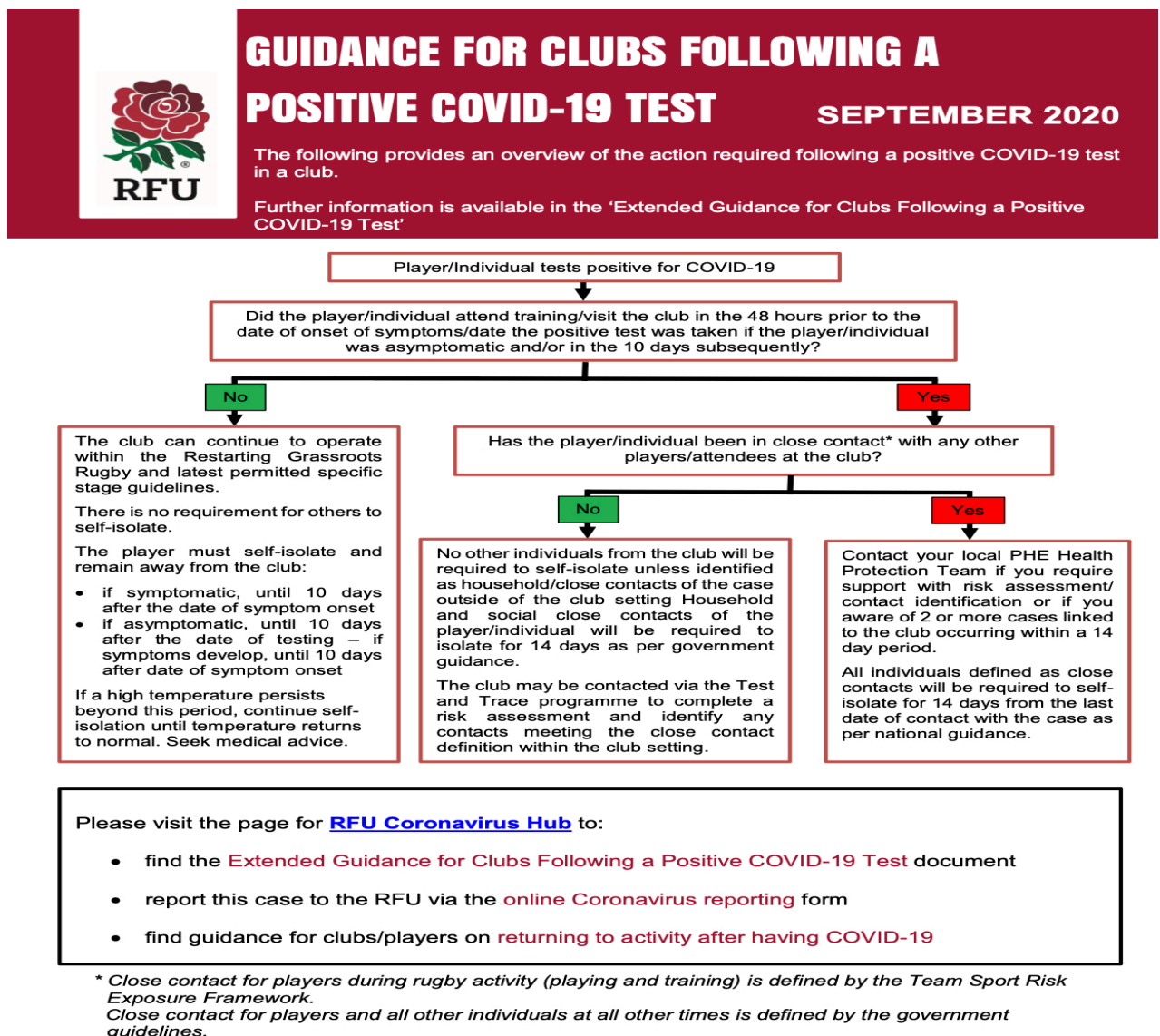
Following the government's latest announcements on national COVID restrictions, the RFU issued a statement confirming no competitive rugby until Jan 2021. Training,

touch/Ready4Rugby are all able to be played. The club continues to hold touch rugby for the ladies and gents on Tuesdays (the KitKat trophy series), Vixens training on Wednesdays and Seniors limited contact training on Thursdays.

Minis and Youth – we continue to increase numbers up to last season's totals. U5s and U6s proving very popular for newcomers, which is great. Training continues every Sunday.

## New RFU Guidance for Clubs – positive COVID tests

Please see below guidance issued by the RFU regarding actions required if a player has a positive COVID test result. It's important we all do our bit to keep everyone safe.



As per the current NHS and government advice, if your child develops coronavirus symptoms you should keep them at home for a period of seven days. Symptoms include a high temperature or a new, continuous cough. Where symptoms continue after seven days, or begin to worsen, you should call 111. If someone in your child's household has symptoms, your child must self-isolate for 14 days from the day the other person's symptoms started. This is because it can take 14 days for symptoms to appear. More information regarding symptoms and actions can be found on the NHS website (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>).



## Juniors - 2019/20 season awards

We promised details of all the Juniors' awards in the last issue and, wow, what a scoop! The awards ceremony took place on Saturday 26 September. Although it was a shame this had to be a virtual event, there was no shortage of fun, with appearances from a couple of amazing Pros to make the awards. Pictures of some of the winners and the table of awards can be seen below. Club congratulations to all winners and everyone who took part.

**Coming Very Soon**

**The FRFC Youth & Mini Awards  
Virtually presented by  
Gloucester Rugby's finest**

**Jamal Ford-Robinson  
&  
Danny Cipriani**



**Recorded especially for Fairford Rugby Club  
Courtesy of Moreton Cullimore & Gloucester Rugby**







	Player's Player	Most Improved	Coaches Player	Rugby Values
U5 and U6	Ewan Robinson	Nico Holden	Yola Worthington	Nicholas Baines
U7	Freddie Baines	Hugo Beary	Casper King	Reuben Bennett
U8	William Ransom	Joshua Garrett	Archie Liddell	
U9	Joe Cook	Daniel James	Rex Roberts	Sam Jenkins
U10	Ben Rees-Jones	Finnlay Redman	Poppy Whittingham	
U11	Luca Hadaway	Henry Welsh	Ollie Huish	George Bagoban
U12 and U13	Archie Anderson	Oliver Cook	Callum Thurlow	Harry Maunder

*The pics are, in order, all the U8 winners together (see table) plus Oliver Cook, Archie Anderson and Harry Maunder.*

## A Little bit of Fairford RFC nostalgia

Jonathan 'Beamer' Chambers kindly provided a fab feature for this month's newsletter. Be sure to scroll to the end of this edition if you want to read about the Club's 2005/6 season.....you might even get a mention or be in the pics! Thanks for the memories Beamer.

## Clubhouse – Update

Discussions are continuing with the Youth Football Club (after news of their successful grant). A more detailed drawing of the potential clubhouse on ECT land is being costed and the planning process is underway. So the Club continues to look at and more forward both options.

## Fairford RFC Challenge – What happened next



Well, we expect that any pain has passed and that Luke has managed to remove all traces of pink paint (!) but we hope that the memories of the May, June and the fundraising August weekend events live on!

We also hope these Club challenges continue to inspire you and your loved ones to get out there (on foot or on bike) to improve physical fitness and, most importantly (as the pandemic continues to impact how we live our lives) look after personal wellbeing too. If anyone has any personal targets/achievements or fitness related 'stories' we could share here, send details over and we can try to keep up some challenge momentum.....until the next one.....!

The instigator, key organizer and legend that is Danny Briggs, our Senior head coach, has provided an update on funds raised from the August event. Amazing results, thanks again to everyone involved.

### **Final Total = £4158**

Distributed so far:

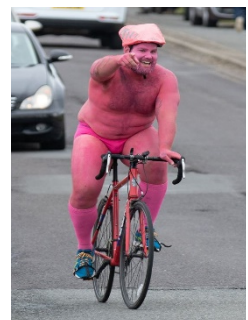
Hadgie's Memorial bench: £1028 (should be in situ in Mill Lane by end October)

Mind: £1100

Shine Bright: £1100

The balance will be spent paying the council to install the bench, with any remaining monies either used to buy a further bench to be used at CHOP or sent on to further support the charities. Brilliant effort by everyone who took part or donated.

Finally.....can we just have another moment's appreciation for.....Luke Sawyer, ladies and gentlemen!



## Shout Out - Freddie and Nicholas Baines

While talking fundraising, you may recall the last Newsletter included an article from these two FRFC Juniors, who had been manning a road -side stall selling produce to passers by. They had kindly decided to donate their takings to charity.



Well, if you see them around, be sure to give them a massive shout out. Their Mum gave us this update: 'The boys raised £100 for Mind and then a further £82 for the Red Cross!! They did SO WELL!!!'

They did indeed, Lou. Congratulations boys, awesome job, you should be very proud of yourselves!

## Fairford Bonfire Night Fireworks – Cancelled

The Club has been informed that this event, which we normally support, is cancelled in 2020, due to COVID. I'm sure this will not come as a surprise, but it is a little disappointing. Safety has to come first though, of course. Here's to 2021!

## FRFC 'Housekeeping' Content

### *Fairford RFC training sessions – a few reminders*

**There will be a QR code to scan on your way into the pitches for the Track and Trace we have in place**

There will be hand sanitiser available and all kit will be disinfected but please feel free to bring your own hand sanitiser.

All children must bring their own water bottle

**There is now a portaloo at the Leafield pitches but to minimize risk to all, we ask that you only use in an emergency and sanitise before and after use, thank you.**

Please talk to your children at home to explain about the importance of washing their hands regularly and coughing or sneezing into their elbow and keeping a safe distance

Each coach will have their own first aid kit available with full PPE kit should it be needed in an emergency for small incidents we will recommend that the parent assists their child.

## FRFC Kit

The last issue contained details of availability/prices. So, if you want or need anything for yourself or your kids, pop along to the cabin where kit will be ready and waiting every week. You can 'try before you buy', get in there quick while we hold last season's prices.

(NB: Card payments preferred to keep everyone safe). Also, remember:

- the opro mouthguard partnership and the '20% off' when ordered online (free delivery too). Go to: <https://www.opromouthguards.com> and enter code **FairfordRFC!** in the 'Apply promotional code' field at the checkout.
- The boot Xchange that we announced last issue; please bring clean but no longer needed boots to the cabin on a Sunday and we will pass them to a new home.

Any questions please email Debbie [dbracewell72@googlemail.com](mailto:dbracewell72@googlemail.com)

## The Buttie Van is going upmarket

George is bringing in some trend/environment led changes to improve the offering of the buttie van. See below, also for new prices:

- bacon sausage, egg or veggie sausage baps £2.50 add an extra item for 50p (all served in a brioche bap)
- hot drinks now £1,50 but only £1 if you bring your own cup (all our cups are compostable)
- no more plastic bottled water, instead it's free from our big jar (just a donation for our compostable cup)
- soft drinks still £1 chocolate bars only 50p.

Please remember to use the recycle, compostable and general waste bins provided.

Also, IMPORTANT always let us know of any allergies or dietary requirements.

EVEN MORE IMPORTANT your buttie van needs your help!! We are desperate for Volunteers to keep this service going. Training will be given and with your certificate you will receive the honour of wearing the very sought after buttie van technician apron, thank you and keep munching on, your club funds need it. (George tells us that last year the FRFC buttie van not only provided valued hot food and drinks on those cold winter mornings but helped take well over a £1000 off our bills with its profit during our season. That's fantastic, right? Thank you to all our technicians past and present. Please see volunteers section below, if you want to help the club continue to see this income stream flowing and enjoy lovely warmers on those chilly days ahead.

## More Volunteers Needed

Thank you to the wonderful coaches and their teams for setting their pitches up before training and putting away again at the end - It really is a great help and makes the

morning run so smoothly. It is especially poignant at the moment with the extra Covid precautions that we have to take.

As you know, the club is run by a wonderful team of volunteers who all do their bit to enable everyone to come and enjoy rugby. Without these amazing people giving up their spare (or not so spare!) time, it would not be possible. If you think that you may be able to help in anyway, small or large, please get in touch with me. In return for your time, the club offer not only being a part of the FRFC team, but also the chance for your name to be put into the draw for tickets to the 6 Nations, a cheese and wine night, an end of season bash (...go away Covid!) and a warm cup of coffee pitch side.... What more could you want?!

As per George's article on the buttie van above, we desperately need more volunteers to keep this going. There is going to be some rotas appear with gaps conveniently left for you to fill your name in to man the van and help out; After all, we all like a bacon roll and a warm drink on a Sunday morning - Keep your eye's peeled and please get your name on the list if you possibly can!

Once again, THANK YOU to everyone who makes this wonderful club run so smoothly and for turning up in all weathers!

Katharine Buchanan familybuchanan@outlook.com

## *Keeping in touch via Social Media*

Don't forget to give our Club Facebook pages a follow, so you can get real time updates, between Newsletters:

<https://www.facebook.com/fairfordrfc/>

<https://www.facebook.com/frfcjuniors/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FairfordLRFC/>

(Note - we do also use email to update in-between newsletters for non-Facebook users)

## *Feedback is a gift*

If you are receiving this newsletter but no longer wish to, have any feedback (on content, frequency etc) or have a contribution for a future issue, please email Karen at

[kspour@sky.com](mailto:kspour@sky.com) or Lindsey at [rugby@fairfordrfc.co.uk](mailto:rugby@fairfordrfc.co.uk).

***Don't forget to scroll down for a bit of FRFC history from Mr Chambers.....***



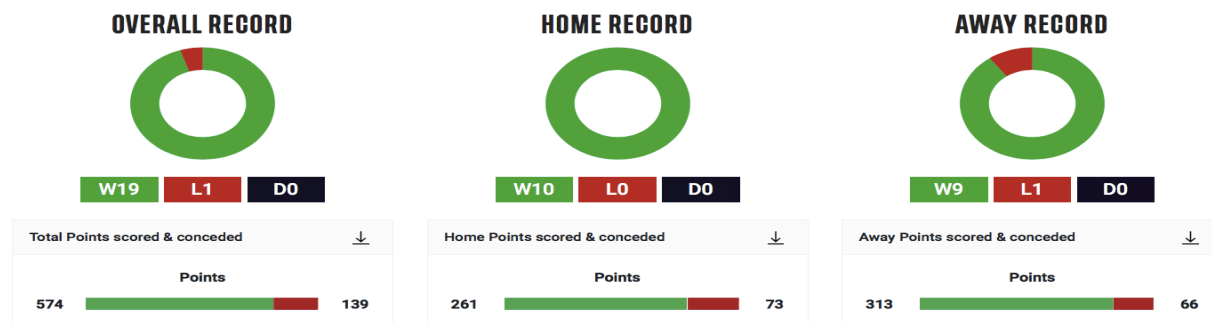
## Winning our first league championship – in numbers

In September 2005, Fairford hit the dizzy heights of leading Dorset and Wiltshire Division 3 North. By April 2006, they were still there and were crowned League Champions. We didn't get a sparkly cup, but we were presented with a RFU plaque that happily we still have! The team contained many characters including current Chairman and then Captain 'Beamer' Chambers, current Coach Danny Briggs, Fairford rock Ants Little and the never forgotten Richard Hadgekiss. We also had one American and one Mexican.



The team at the start of the season sporting the brand-new Canterbury kit

And now the story in numbers....



Average Points Scored per game <a href="#">↓</a>	Total Points Scored <a href="#">↓</a>	Biggest Winning margin <a href="#">↓</a>	Longest Winning streak <a href="#">↓</a>
<b>28.7</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>6</b>
1st of 11 in Dorset & Wilts 3 North	1st of 11 in Dorset & Wilts 3 North	Biggest victory margin	Most games won in succession

#	Team	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	+/-	TB	LB	Pts	Adj
1	Fairford	20	19	0	1	574	139	435	0	0	38	
2	Sutton Benger	20	14	1	5	574	209	365	0	0	29	
3	Melksham II	20	13	2	5	453	292	161	0	0	28	
4	Combe Down II	20	13	0	7	601	282	319	0	0	26	
5	Swindon College Old Boys II	20	9	0	11	417	380	37	0	0	16	-2
6	Corsham II	20	9	0	11	281	292	-11	0	0	16	-2
7	Supermarine II	20	8	0	12	344	486	-142	0	0	14	-2
8	Bradford-on-Avon II	20	8	0	12	371	401	-30	0	0	12	-4
9	Trowbridge III	20	6	0	14	204	697	-493	0	0	12	
10	Minety II	20	5	1	14	148	539	-391	0	0	7	-4
11	Devizes III	20	4	0	16	151	401	-250	0	0	-6	-14



The team celebrating the end of season at Devizes before a legendary journey home. In the picture are Paul 'Rosco' Ross, Tom & Sam Lovett, Steve McCann, Mo Lawson, Marcus Thatcher, Richard Hodgekiss, Ben Hunt,

Colin 'Moley' Bullock, Pete Sloan, Chris Clarke (Coach), Juan P, Danny Briggs, Mike 'Sofa' Bowman, Beamer Chambers (Captain), Ants and Keelan Little, Aaron Y, Corey Hadgekiss.

The author would like to mention the Captain's 100% goal kicking record that is still unsurpassed even today, but that's another story.....

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