

The Wanderer

WRFC NEWS February 2021

Dear members, players, parents and friends

It looks like things are moving in the right direction and we can begin to look forward, later this year, to the return of something like normal. Well at least the new normal.

A shorter newsletter this month but some important information about the future and the part we want you to play.

Town Hall Event

Members, players and parents will shortly receive an invitation via GMS to an on-line Town Hall event to be held on 16th March 2021. The event is a key part in our plans to be ready for when the Government and RFU give us the green light and, importantly, ready to meet the challenges that undoubtedly lie ahead. The event will consider:

- Our initial thoughts on how we safely emerge from the C19 restrictions.
- The move of membership and subscriptions to GMS and what it means for members and senior players.
- Our financial outlook and building a sustainable financial model for the club.

The invitation will provide you with all the information you need to register and participate. I look forward to seeing you on the 16th.

New Club Roles

I am delighted to announce two appointments following the advertisement last month:

Player Welfare/Rugbysafe Lead

David Church has been appointed to the role of Club Player Welfare/Rugbysafe Lead for all age groups and teams.

David, who is a Response Police Officer, joined the club 1998 as mini junior, playing age group, colts, 4th, 3rds and 2nds rugby. He has been a player/coach since the start with the Mixed Ability team and coached the u15s and u16s whilst completing his Level 2 coaching qualification which included the RFU's 'Headcase' concussion course. David has also undertaken the RFU's Leadership and Management course and is fully qualified as an emergency response first aider.

Working with established leads such as Safeguarding, Team managers etc. will oversee:

- First Aid / Immediate Care Pitch-side Provision (with the Club's First Aid Coordinator)
- Playing and training policies e.g. the management of head injuries
- Safeguarding (with the Club's safeguarding lead) across all age groups and teams
- Emergency Action Plan
- Player mental health
- Inclusion
- Adoption of best practise, training, guidance and awareness
- A welfare subgroup of key Club leads.

David will report into the Director of Rugby and be the point of contact for and represent the Club on all welfare matters. This is a new role and there is much work to be done to determine our priorities and, rightly, give player welfare the prominence it

deserves. David's first job is to talk to everyone involved in running teams to agree on our priorities and next steps.

Club Social

Adam Law has been appointed the Social and Events Manager at WRFC, a club which he joined little over 14 years ago back in 2007. Adam has

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played through the senior teams including 4ths, 3rds, 2nds and Mixed Ability. Adam has recently helped set up the Mixed Ability rugby team at WRFC along with AJ Mills and Nick Lee.

Adam has continued to help be the driving force behind this team which has helped gain many new members to the club. Adam is currently an On Board Catering Manager for the Great Western Railway and has also had experience within schools for Children with Special Educational Needs in the past.

This role will be part of the Business Development team and involve close working with Bars and Commercial.

Please look out for more communications in the near future and we all look forward to seeing you at the next evening!

Volunteer Co-ordinator

Unfortunately, we have not had any interest in the volunteer co-ordinator role. If you might be interested making your club an even greater place contact Jeff Crawshaw on: secretary@worcesterrugbyclub.co.uk to discuss the role.

Club Finances

We will say more about our finances at the Town Hall event. Despite the club being closed for most of the last 12 months it looks like we will show a modest surplus at the end of the year. This is as a result of members and players paying their subs – *thank you*, reductions in expenditure and various grants associated with Covid19. At the Town Hall event we will talk about how we make use of any surplus recognising that it is largely down, in a

tough year, to the support and generosity of members. We will also talk about our underlying financial position which requires attention and your input.

One piece of good news is that due to the tenacity of Stuart James Severn Trent have confirmed that the £20,000 water bill we receive last year was in error. Indeed, we are now in credit with ST! A big thank you to Stuart.

Club Web site

Hopefully, you will have started to see improvements in the content of the Club Web site worcesterrfc.rfu.club/. The Home page is much clearer and whilst it lacks news at the moment it should be your first port of call for all the news, business and events of the Club. Unfortunately, we have no control over the RFU's site design and technical gubbins but are trying to make the most of it.

With the easing of the C19 restrictions you will start to see more information on the web site so please check it out.

Weekly News Round Up

In a further attempt to help inform members about what is going on we trialling a weekly news round up. It will be sent to all members and players signed up to GMS. The round up will provide a summary and links to the latest news on our web site. If you haven't seen it and are registered on GMS check your spam folder!

And Finally...

With the Club being 150 years old this coming season we wanted to make a big statement about

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the amazing Club we have. Our playing numbers are very strong and, as we have discovered, we

need better facilities during the Winter months. This includes additional floodlighting and we are looking at lighting the M&J training area behind pitches 1&2. New lights aren't cheap so we launched The 150 Challenge.

We are asking everyone to Do ANYTHING related to 150 before the new season and raise some money – a 150 miles running. 150km maybe? A bike ride, press ups, weightlifting, cake making... even soap bar making. Yes someone is doing that.

Raise £150 or any amount that will help raise around £150 each for YOUR club. If we all do this we'll have plenty to get these floodlights in before next Winter & what a brilliant way to mark 150 years.

To sign up follow the instructions and video on the club website.



Stay safe
Steve Lloyd
Chair



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MEMBERS & PLAYERS
DON'T FORGET...
GMS