

WRFC NEWS...

August 2019

Welcome to the August edition of your WRFC newsletter. It is still work in progress and I hope that over the coming months it will become a must read for players, coaches, members and sponsors.

It is only a few weeks before our season starts in earnest. Pre-season training is, for many teams, well underway and I met with some of the senior players after the Management Committee meeting last week. Numbers attending training have been excellent and everyone is in good spirits and looking forward to the season ahead.

The Mixed Ability squad travelled away to Llanelli Warriors in Cardiff earlier this month winning 28 – 17, a mixed squad had a good win against Shrewsbury 20 - 15 and also took on Pershore in a training match in glorious sunshine last Thursday. Players from the different teams playing together and enjoying a beer in the bar afterwards.

Graham Dargie has taken on a player development role to help players progress through the tiers and hopefully we will see some emerge as first team players in the future.



We have also welcomed Everett Sullivan from Worcester Massachusetts USA! Everett is on a year sabbatical and is here to develop his rugby skills. If you see him – you can't really

miss him – give him a big welcome.

The 1st and 2nd team squad have a pre-season match against Cheltenham on the 22nd August. The weather forecast is good so come along for some early season rugby and a beer.

Niall Annett – Worcester Warriors

I am delighted to welcome Worcester Warriors' Niall Annett to our coaching team. Niall is giving up some of his spare time on a Tuesday evening to provide specialist coaching support. Niall, who captained Ireland under 20 team in the 2011 world cup, joined the Warriors in 2014 and has been a regular in the number 2 shirt. Niall will work with the regular coaching team to provide skills training for



the senior squad. The early feedback from players has been very positive and if you see Niall around give him a warm welcome.

I am grateful to James Sinclair and Niall Crawford for their work to attract Niall to the club and I hope this will be the first of a number of links we can establish with our neighbours.



Mini – Junior – Ladies – Mixed Ability – Senior



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1st Team Fixtures - September

Saturday 7th Droitwich Away 3.00pm

Saturday 14th Newbold Home 3.00pm

Friday 20th Dudley K Home 7.45pm

Saturday 28th Old Hales Home 3.00pm

Note change to the Old Hales match. It is definitely on Saturday the 28 September and not Friday evening.

Gumshields

Look out for details from the M/J section about gumshields for the forthcoming season. Opro will be on site (dates to be confirmed) offering gumshields in a variety of designs and prices.

Look After Your Ground

I have asked Martin Swinerton, Chair of Grounds, to undertake an audit of the site. Many areas have fallen into disrepair and much of it needs a tidy. A tidy site is also important to help attract external business. The good news is that the leak in the tunnel is fixed and we have started cleaning up the area. We will also tackle pitch and carpark potholes, fencing and look at improving the lighting in the car park.

Of course, the club belongs to all of us and I would ask that **everyone does their bit**. Some of the damage and much of the litter is ours. So please respect the club – look after the facilities and put your rubbish in the bins provided.



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Worcester 100 Club

Are you a member of the 100 Club? The 100 Club was founded to fund areas of unexpected expenditure within WRFC. Each member contributes £50 per year with a draw every three months and £3000 of cash prizes to be won during the year. The Club also holds two great parties every year to thank the members for their contribution.

The two most recent donations to WRFC were £1362 for car park repairs and £1000 towards the Bordeaux Rugby Tour.

The 100 Club Application Forms may be printed off the photo's section of the WRFC web site or are available in the clubhouse. The Club is chaired by Dick Cumming - a familiar figure around the club – so if you are interested chat to him.

The 100 Club is there to support your Club so join up now!

Clubhouse WIFI

High speed wifi will be up and running in the Clubhouse by the start of the season. This will make life more bearable for those addicted to technology and also make it quicker to pay for your drinks at the bar!

Given the importance of technology and mobile communications we have now set up an IT sub-committee to oversee our IT developments and strategy. Membership is Henry Catherwood, Martin Swinerton and David Church.

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The Club's new web site <https://worcesterrfc.rfu.club> is now hosted on the RFU GMS fed site.

If there are any experts out there that want to contribute their knowledge and time to the sub-committee contact Henry at

datamanager@worcesterrugbyclub.co.uk

Dates for Your Diary

All events and matches are published on the club calendar on the new WRFC website.

A couple of dates to note:

6th September – Business luncheon. Details from Stuart James

12th October – Wooden Spoon Breakfast and England v France in the Clubhouse. Details from Steve Lloyd. Worcester v Stoke.

North Midlands RFU Centenary

As part of the North Midlands (NMs) RFU Centenary celebrations, the NMs are seeking both ex/current NMs Players and Edwardian players for a 10/15 minute appearance to play in an inaugural Centenary event to support Doddie Weir's Foundation. Further information from Charlie Hemmings at charliehemmings@btinternet.com

We have also had notice of the North Midlands RFU financial AGM on Monday, 2nd September 2019 at Dudley Kingswinford RFC, Swindon Road, Kingswinford DY6 0AW commencing at 7:45pm.



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Coaching Matters

The NMs has circulated details of the 2019/2020 Youth Cup Competitions for u14s, 15s and 16s. Entries by noon 23rd September. Details from Tim Cunliffe M/J Chair.

The RFU has published details of a revised simpler age groups registration process for parents and team managers. Again, details from Tim.

RFU Regulation 15 allows 17-year-old players to play adult rugby except for in the Front Row. Clubs must seek prior approval from the North Mids RFU. Further information from Niall Crawford DoR.

Regulation 15 also deals with the movement between age groups for players. The RFU rules are very strict and the charts setting out the what you can and cant do have been circulated to Team Managers.

Mitsubishi Journey to Japan

Mitsubishi Motors in the UK, Performance Partner of the RFU, is proud to support volunteering at all levels of English rugby. Which is why, in a hugely important year for the game, it wants to give back to this unsung community by offering volunteers the opportunity to journey to Japan this Autumn and be part of an exciting knowledge exchange programme with local Japanese rugby clubs.

Launching this week, Journey to Japan offers volunteers the chance to head east,

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experience a culture like no other and see how a Japanese rugby club functions. Whilst in Japan, the volunteers will have an opportunity to meet with their counterparts from a local club – to share opinions and exchange views on the game.

To win a place on this amazing trip, Mitsubishi Motors would like to hear from you on how this enriching experience would help you help grow the game back in England. To be eligible to enter, volunteers must be aged 18 and over and hold an unpaid voluntary role at an RFU Recognised Rugby Club, RFU Constituent Body or Society. Entries should be submitted via www.mitsubishi-motors.co.uk/journeytojapan before 23.59 BST on the 31st August 2019.

Entrants will be required to answer three questions about their current role and how this opportunity will help realise the shared ambitions to keep people playing or involved in the game. A select group of finalists will be invited to pitch their ideas to England Rugby and Mitsubishi Motors UK on 17th September, before the winners are announced. Full terms and conditions apply.

I will shortly publish details of ‘who does what’ in the Management Committee and also confirm the membership fees for this year.

And for next month’s newsletter I have passed the ball to Tim Cunliffe the new Chair of the mini/junior section. He will say a little about his plans for the year ahead.

As always if you have ideas about how we can make the Club even greater let me know.

chairman@worcesterrugbyclub.co.uk

Steve Lloyd
Chair



And Finally...



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