



**EASTERN
COUNTIES RUGBY
UNION
NOTEBOOK**

No.42- September 2010

The RFU have confirmed that they will continue to run the Intermediate, Senior and Junior Vase competitions for Level 7 (London 2NE and below) for the 2010/11 Season. All competing Clubs have now been registered, and advised (unless you know differently, in which case let me know)

**Senior Rugby
Team EC**

*Dates for your Diary –
May 7th. v Nth. Midlands (at Nth. Walsham RFC)
May 14th. v Northumberland (at Shelford RFC),
May 21st. v Durham (away, probably at some god-foresaken hole)*

EC School of Rugby

(an explanatory note from Ian Forton, EC SoR Manager)-

In April 2006 the RFU agreed to the formation of CB Schools of Rugby; this to be funded and designed by the RFU, delivered locally, and implemented with support from Northampton Saints and Leicester Tigers. SoR is about individual skill development in Young Players throughout a single, national core curriculum, of nine two-hour sessions each year. The top 10-15 players showing the required attributes at each age-grade within ECRU to achieve 'outstanding' status, are invited to attend. Assessments start at the end of the U-12 season and then, via Partner County squads, at U 14/15 and 16, or by Club or School Coach recommendation.

A continuous assessment process then allows us to ensure that we set numbers according to progress, thus leaving a way to pick up the 'late developers' Thank you, Ian, in what is a difficult task.

**Player Registration
(reminder)**

Many Clubs will now be registering their Players onto RugbyFirst; please remember to do so, as several Clubs were penalised by Competitions last season for a failure to do this. If you have a Player transferring from another Club, it is the responsibility of the receiving Club to ensure that the previous Club consents to this. Don't lose precious League points, guys.

EC Coaching

A RugbyReady course has been set at Shelford RFC, for 15th. Sept, (cost £18/head), and a Tag Course at Wendons Ambo on 22nd. Sept.(£20/head). Another RugbyReady Course is set for 3rd. October at Haverhill RFC – for all above, please contact Lisa to register. To learn of forthcoming Coach Development opportunities, please contact Alan Young at: Alan_young@btinternet.co.uk (Norfolk), John.Winders@btinternet.co.uk (Suffolk) or [Bob Mann bobalina2001@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Bob.Mann@bobalina2001@hotmail.co.uk) (Cams), or go to [www.rfu.com/TakingPart/Coach/FindA Course/London North.aspx](http://www.rfu.com/TakingPart/Coach/FindACourse/LondonNorth.aspx)

Youth Rugby

Congratulations to West Suffolk College who turned out in pink kit in support of Ipswich Hospital recently. The U-18 and U-19 Squads raised £1600 to donate to the Radiotherapy Unit at Ipswich. Thanks, guys,(and Nigel Brown) and good luck for the forthcoming season.

Suffolk RFU are staging their Annual 7s at RHS, on September 26th This year they are sponsored by Touchline Sports, to whom many thanks. Details from Ross Cowie – ross@family145.freeserve.co.uk

Girls Rugby

We move slowly, but purposely, towards a CB-wide Girls development programme; a 'Development Day' has been set for Sunday September 26th. at Thetford RFC, starting at 12.30 with Registration. Whatever your skill level, or interest, please come along and have a go. Details from Lisa.

Clubs Court & Social

Steve and Julian (Woodbridge RFC) attempt a bicycle journey from Land's End to Lowestoft between 4-11th. September in support of the Wooden Spoon Charity. Their target is to raise £1000 – contact Simon on 07710 -400446 to donate or to help.

Stowmarket RFC are hosting a 'Help for Heroes' day, on Saturday, September 11th, (k.o.)

Wymondham RFC hold their seventh Charity Day at Tuttle Lane, starting at 10.00 am.on Sept. 12th. They have raised £23000 so far for Macmillan Cancer Support, and the East Anglian Air Ambulance, and hope to add substantially to this. They acknowledge the considerable input from Bill Yeates, U-13 Coach, and Brett Larke to ensure an enjoyable and successful day out for everyone.

Mistley RFC are holding a Hog Roast & Disco on September 18th. at Bradfield Village Hall. Cost is

£10/head -contact Dave Woods
07904-149212 or e-mail at :
Dj-w@hotmail.co.uk

Shelford RFC are holding a
Fundraising Golf Day on
Wednesday, September 22nd. at
Cambridge Lakes GC – entry fee
£20 covers Golf and a Curry (not at
the same time) and starts at 15.00,
moving to Shelford's Clubhouse at
19.00.

Details from: Jim Foreman, 20,
Greenfield Close,
Shelford, CB 22 5 BT.

Bury St. Edmunds RFC hosts a
'Kicking Clinic' on Monday 11th.
October, led by Rowly Williams, a
Premier Club Consultant. Cost is
£10/head –details from Dwain
Brown, on 079790 -11586, or
dwain.brown@bserufc.co.uk

Eastern Counties 10s

Following successful events over
the past 2 seasons there will be a
10s tournament run by ECRU at
Cambridge RFC on Sat 4
September. Details have been
sent to clubs , but to register an
interest contact
andrewsarek@therfu.com

Referees

Suffolk and NEE Referees next
meeting, on Monday, 6th. September,
at Sudbury RFC starts at 19.15.
Guest for the evening is **Andrew
Small**, full-time RFU and IRB
Referee. Everyone welcome.

COMMUNITY RUGBY

Please read the attached flyer about
SKY TV subs for rugby clubs

Running Rugby Workshops

The Norfolk committee had a
presentation about the valuable
work of the Injured Players
Foundation and what to do in case of
a potentially catastrophic injury.

The presentation will be give and the
forthcoming Suffolk and
Cambridgeshire meetings, so please
make sure your club is represented.

Other planned workshops are:

- 14 Oct, Stowmarket –
RugbyFirst for beginners
- Late Oct/Early Nov, –
Funding & Facilities,
CASC & Incorporation
- Early December – Club
Volunteer Coordinators

More information will be sent
shortly.

Facilities & Funding

Clubs may find the following
Funding information from
Andrew Sarek of interest:

The new Financial Year brings a
new set of criteria for the RFF
Groundmatch Grant Scheme.
Because of the popularity of the
scheme, the new criteria will
ensure that the money available is
accessible to as many clubs as
possible. With this in mind, the
key changes are as follows:

- The maximum
Groundmatch Grant
available is £5,000
- It is no longer possible
to apply for an Interest
Free Loan and a
Groundmatch Grant for the
same project
- Clubs are only able to
apply for one grant in any
24 month period
(calculated from the last
payment made on any
previous award).

For full details please refer to
www.rfu.com/microsites/rff/

Sport England Small Grants

Programme Designed to help
local communities increase access
to sport or to improve the
experience of people playing
sport, this programme gives
grants of £300-£10,000 to
eligible organisations. The
attached guidance note [21 page,
PDF] provides more details.

If your Club is looking for
Funding support, please
contact Andrew Sarek,
Chairman, ECRU Community
Rugby Committee, at:
andrewsarek@therfu.com

Child Safeguarding

A SPYP Course will be held at Holt
RFC on 1st. September, and at
Watton RFC on 29th. Sept. both start
at 19.00; a Safeguarding Officers
Workshop is being planned for
November at Norwich RFC –details
soon.

Serious Injury

**ECRU Clubs had the misfortune to
suffer two cases of serious injury
last season; Clubs have a
responsibility to report this, to the
RFU, and to our Safeguarding
Team Manager, Martin Peacock, so
that appropriate support can be
provided to Player and Club.**

**Reminder - the RFU have
withdrawn the ability of U8s to
practise contact rugby in the final
two months of the season – this is
now for U9s.**

SPYP Courses – the following
Courses have been arranged-
Sept. 2nd. –Holt RFC
29th. Sept – Watton RFC
CRB information

**Although the Government has
postponed the 'Vetting & Barring'
scheme, all Clubs are reminded that
those in frequent contact with
minors MUST be CRB checked.
This is the time of year when
changes happen in Youth & Mini
set-ups, so will all Clubs please
notify Lisa of changes in Coaching
and support staff, plus also any new
Club Safeguarding Officers, so that
Martin can arrange appropriate
training.**

**Clubs need to remain properly
briefed about developments, as this
affects their Child Safeguarding
practise, and thus their 'Seal of
Approval' process.**

ECRU Discipline

**Clubs are reminded to provide
adequate barriers, and a Technical
Area, for all their Home matches.
In the event of disciplinary cases
being notified, and proper
protection has not been made, this
will be taken into account. Repeated
offences could result in punitive**

action being taken against the Home Club.

RFU Helpline reminder

**In response to the current financial climate the RFU have launched a Helpline for Clubs that have concerns about financial matters. Malcolm Duncan is your Advisor
The telephone number is: 01782 – 610315, Monday to Friday (office hours)**

Incorporation - a Reminder:-

All Club Hon. Secretaries recorded in RugbyFirst have been sent a four page leaflet and CD-ROM explaining the need, and process, to incorporate. If your club has not received its hard copy, please contact karenaveleck@rfu.com

RFU Legal Helpline

From 1 July 2009 the RFU Legal Helpline number will be 0844 5618177. To access the service rugby administrators will simply call up and quote the scheme number 81066.

Croner Consulting Ltd has been appointed as providers of the service. They are a leading specialist company, which supports 400,000 businesses in the UK. Their qualified advisors will provide immediate, independent advice on all aspects of rugby operations including: Tax, VAT, PAYE, Payroll, Employment & Personnel, Health & Safety and Commercial Legal. Clubs will also be informed of the change via the Community Rugby e-zine, Touchline and RFU website.

If you need advice, please contact Lisa - 01449 – 614674

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ECRU Ltd.
Meetings etc.

Sept. 1st. – CBRDP
Sept.14th. – ECRU Exec

Andrew Sarek
Sat/Sun 4/5 – Twickenham
Fri 10. Sept – CB Conference (with Bob Cranna and Roger Pierson)
Sat 11 Stowmarket RFC
Mon 13 Suffolk RU Meeting
Tue 14 RugbyFirst Project Board (Twickenham)
Sat 18 Clacton RFC
Wed 22 Cambs. RU Meeting
Sat 25 Mildenhall RFC

Roger Pierson
Wed. 1st. CBRDP
Thurs.9th. London Division Forward Planning Committee
Fri.11th. CB Conference (as above)
Sat. 25th. Club Visit (with John Winders and Martin Peacock)

Other RFU-related matters of interest to Clubs:

Information regarding Planning Applications on:
<http://www.community-rugby.com/communityrugby/index.cfm/Fuseaction/Home.Downloads/StoryTypeld/104/Sectionld/1165/Storyld/13293.cfm>

or a Hard Copy from:
franthorner@rfu.com
or phone 0208 – 831 – 7985

(EC should also be advised – details to Lisa, please)

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ECRU AGM and Dinner –
advance notice:

Next year's event will take place at Sudbury RFC, on Friday 10th. June –the AGM will start at 18.15, and the Dinner at 19.30 – cost for Dinner is £30/head.

To publicise your Club activity in this notebook, please contact:

Roger Pierson:
rogerpierson@btinternet.com