

## 2024-01-09 Council Reports

### Area Representatives

No report for this meeting on Area Groups

Darran Astley – has resigned his role within the D&W

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### GMS

General reminder must go out all clubs that GMS must be made current. There should be no non-registered age grade players on any clubs list now as we are a long way past the 45 day point so should be removed from club to be compliant with Reg 15.

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### Club Support

Following a meeting of the D&W Club Support Committee On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at the Crown Hotel Blandford.

#### Attendees

Alan Ottaway and Gerald Burden

#### Apologies

Chris Burton (Agreed via email later) and Alison Hunter.

The D&W Club Support Committee recommends the following

#### **████████ RFC**

The D&W will support the proposed project for the refurbishment of the existing Kitchen, by approving a grant for the sum of £████████ (Subject to the following Terms and Conditions)

1. The club have several outstanding invoices with the D&W, and these will be deducted from this grant (Outstanding sum due is £960.00)
2. The D&W will be able to use the club's facilities – Free of Charge for a period of three years. Excluding the cost of Food and Drink.
3. The club will also be offered the opportunity of a VAT review regarding the whole refurbishment project by the RFU appointed consultant.
4. The club will produce a Case Study Report on behalf of the D&W, for future reference to other clubs and the RFU.
5. The payment of this Grant will be subject to completion of the project and the submission of the Case Study Report and will be made within 30 days of the receipt of this information.
6. GB visited Sherborne RFC on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2023, to assess the current work status. To complete the project will cost around £████████.00, the club currently has a cash reserve of about £████████.00.

#### **████████ RFC**

The D&W will support the proposed project for the installation of Solar Panels to the existing Clubhouse, by approving a grant for the sum of £████████ and an Interest Free Loan for £████████ (Subject to the following Terms and Conditions)

1. The Interest Free Loan will be repayable over a period of **Three** years
2. The Interest Free Loan will be subject to a Suitable Personal Guarantee

3. The full details of the proposed Interest Free Loan to be agreed, between both the D&W RFU and ██████████ RFC.
4. In the event that the payments due under the agreement are not met as per the final agreement, the balance of the Interest Free Loan will become immediately due for repayment.
5. The D&W will be able to use the club's facilities – Free of Charge for a period of three years. Excluding the cost of Food and Drink.
7. The club will produce a Case Study Report on behalf of the D&W, for future reference to other clubs and the RFU.
8. The payment of this Grant and Loan will be subject to the completion of the project and the submission of the Case Study Report and will be made within 30 days of the receipt of this information.

Gerald Burden  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Loan Draft Format example

**SUBJECT TO CONTRACT and FORMAL TRUSTEE APPROVAL OF the PRINCIPLE OF MAKING THE LOAN AND ITS TERMS HEREAFTER (or such amended terms as may be agreed)**

Berkshire Rugby Union Trust Fund (BRUT) will advance to the Legal Entity trading as ██████████ RFC (the Club) the sum of £██████████ (the Loan) subject to and noting the following

- The Loan will be used exclusively for the development of the Clubs facilities as approved by the RFU and will not be utilised for any other purposes (e.g to contribute to the clubs annual trading or other revenue expenses) during the term of the Loan
- The term of the Loan will be 5 years (the Term)
- The interest payable on the Loan will be 5%
- The Loan and the accruing interest will be repaid by 20 quarterly payments in the sums advised by the Treasurer
- If anyone payment is not made on the due quarterly date the whole amount of the Loan then outstanding and that it becomes repayable immediately with interest up to the repayment date unless BRUT agrees otherwise. (e,g an extension of the term referred to in 2 above)
- The Club may repay the Loan (and interest up to the date of payment) at any time during the Term upon one months' notice
- No security for or priority of the Loan over other loans or advances to the Club is required OTHER THAN the Guarantee(s) referred to in 7 below
- BRIT requires as a condition precedent to the granting of the Loan that three or more individuals execute a Deed of joint and several guarantee for the repayment of the Loan and interest in accordance with 4 above
- The names and addresses of the Guarantors referred to in 8 above are agreed by BRUT.
- Such other conditions as the Trustees of BRUT may decide.

I have set out in full BRUTs offer subject to contract in the hope that is all Jason needs and so you can circulate it to your Committee, the potential guarantors or whomsoever else you need to advise if you wish to proceed

If you have any queries, please let me know or confirm that BRUT's offer and terms are acceptable so we can hold it open for three months so you can complete your planning in the knowledge that BRUTs funding is available.

BRUT has made numerous loans for capital works to various clubs over the years always on almost identical terms as set out above.

Jason Bowers  
RFU Facility Development Manager (South West)

### **Honda Volunteer of the Year - Link & Assets**

Ahead of Honda Volunteer of the Year Nominations going live on **Monday (8<sup>th</sup> January)** I am just getting in touch to share the attached assets which can be used to promote the awards on your social media channels. These assets will also be available on the [ER website resources page](#), so that clubs can access & share via their own channels.

The link to the nomination form can be found here:

[Volunteer of the Year Nominations \(englandrugby.com\)](#)

and I will provide you with a fortnightly update so that you're aware of nominations received & clubs represented.

I am sure that this on your radar but a reminder to complete a short form to indicate details for your local recognition event by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January** (thanks to those who have already done it)

[Honda Volunteer of the Year 24: Local Events](#)






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### Under 18's Girls

The 23/24 D&W's ERDPP Girls U16 season sees two centres Trowbridge RFC and Dorchester RFC, both well attended and doing well, with developing players pathway and promoting girls' rugby.

ERDPP Girls U16 playing opportunities in 2024, there are three planned ERDPP games, would be good to see members attend....

Sunday 28th January – at North Dorset RFC in-house game D&W's ERDPP centres 13:30hrs KO

Sunday 18th February – Somerset vs D&Ws at Taunton RFC the KO TBA, expected 13:30hrs?

Sunday 17th March – D&W's vs Devon at North Dorset RFC KO 13:30hrs....

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### Community Rugby

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <p>Previous month's activity:</p> | <p><u><a href="#">Dorset and Wilts Cup Competitions</a></u></p> <p>The next raft of cup games are scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> February, of subject to any league cancellations which may affect these timings. Attached is a full list of draws and dates.</p> <p><u><a href="#">Dorset and Wilts Leagues</a></u></p> |
|-----------------------------------|---|

Prior to Christmas both C3DWN and C3DWS had a team expunged, Minety II and Ellingham & Ringwood III respectively. As league secretary for both leagues, I have contacted all the remaining teams with a proposal highlighting the team who can replace the expunged side. Lytchett Minster have also offered up their 2nd XV to help fulfil fixtures in C3DWS. At present there are no other teams which are in immediate danger of being expunged.

Merit Tables

No known issues regarding our Dorset Matrix. The case to introduce a Wiltshire Matrix seems to be gaining momentum. John Constable is to liaise with Pete Jacobs regarding this possibility. This now is possibly more pertinent given the loss of Minety II.

Tribute

The D&W Tribute Team of the Month for December was Lytchett Minster. Arrangements have been made for them to receive their award on 4<sup>th</sup> January.

- September: Melksham
- October: Sutton Benger
- November: Swanage & Wareham II
- December: Lytchett Minster

Can we please ensure that presentation photos are put onto our social media outlets promptly.

The £2000 Tribute sponsorship for the season has now been made available. John Constable has requested that this money be ring fenced and used to help regrow the adult game.

**DORSET & WILTS CUP DATES**

**2024**

| COMPETITION             | COUNTIES 2                 | COUNTIES 3 SOUTH           | COUNTIES 3 N&C   | COUNTIES 3 (combined) | COUNTIES 2 PLATE | COUNTIES 3 PLATE SOUTH     | COUNTIES 3 PLATE N&C | COUNTIES 3 PLATE (combined) |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ROUND                   |                            |                            |                  |                       | 24-Feb           |                            |                      |                             |
| QUARTER FINAL           | 24-Feb                     |                            | 24-Feb           |                       | 09-Mar           |                            |                      |                             |
| SEMI FINAL              | 13-Apr                     | 24-Feb                     | 09-Mar           |                       | 13-Apr           | 24-Feb                     | 09-Mar               |                             |
| FINAL                   | 20-Apr                     | 13-Apr                     | 13-Apr           |                       | 20-Apr           | 13-Apr                     | 13-Apr               |                             |
| FINAL                   |                            |                            |                  | 20-Apr                |                  |                            |                      | 20-Apr                      |
| SPARE DATES (CURRENTLY) | Mar-09<br>Mar-30<br>Apr-27 | Mar-09<br>Mar-30<br>Apr-27 | Mar-30<br>Apr-20 | Apr-27                | Mar-30<br>Apr-27 | Mar-09<br>Mar-30<br>Apr-27 | Mar-30<br>Apr-20     | Apr-27                      |

|  |    |                            |
|--|----|----------------------------|
| COUNTIES 2 CUP – Round 3               |    | 24 <sup>th</sup> February  |
| ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT 3                | vs | AMESBURY                   |
| WESTBURY                               | vs | LYTCHETT MINSTER           |
| N DORSET 2                             | vs | MARLBOROUGH 2              |
| WHEATSHEAF                             | vs | CHIPPENHAM 2               |
|  |    |                            |
| COUNTIES 3 (SOUTH) CUP – Round 3       |    | 24 <sup>th</sup> February  |
| SALISBURY 3                            | vs | SWANAGE&WAREHAM 2          |
| PUDDLETOWN                             | vs | DORCHESTER 2               |
|  |    |                            |
| COUNTIES 3 (NORTH & CENTRAL) – Round 1 |    | 24 <sup>th</sup> February  |
| BRADFORD ON AVON                       | vs | SWINDON COLLEGE OLD BOYS 2 |
| MELKSHAM 2                             | vs | CRICKLADE                  |
| CHIPPENHAM 3                           | vs | SWINDON 2                  |
| COLERNE                                | vs | TROWBRIDGE 3               |
|  |    |                            |
| COUNTIES 2 PLATE – Round 1             |    | 24 <sup>th</sup> February  |
| WIMBORNE 2                             | vs | CALNE                      |
| SUTTON BENGAR                          | vs | SWINDON COLLEGE OLD BOYS   |
|  |    |                            |
| Round 2                                |    | 24 <sup>th</sup> February  |
| TROWBRIDGE 2                           | vs | SALISBURY 2                |
| BLANDFORD                              | vs | EAST DORSET DOCKERS        |
| OAKMEADIANS                            | vs | BRIDPORT                   |
|  |    |                            |
| COUNTIES 3 (SOUTH) PLATE               |    | 24 <sup>th</sup> February  |
| N.DORSET 3                             | vs | POOLE                      |
| LYTCHETT MINSTER 2                     | vs | BOURNEMOUTH 3              |

COUNTIES 3 PLATE (N&C) – To follow on after Counties 3 (N&C) Cup round 1 above

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## Governance

## Safeguarding

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| Previous month's activity:                   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Play it safe course for Devizes postponed as only 10 booked on</li> <li>2. New tutor needs to co deliver with JF observed by Tim Pickard on the 17<sup>th</sup> at Devizes. He will then hopefully be cleared to deliver on his own.</li> <li>3. CB safeguarding Audit completed with Viv and Nicola. Report should now be available.</li> <li>4. Normal volume of calls and emails requiring answers but nothing major raised.</li> </ol> |
| Current Budget update:                       | Nothing  |
| Proposed Activity (including estimated cost) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CSO call next week has been set as an event within the SPOND group to see if we can increase attendance. Viv is attending this week to chat with the CSO's .</li> </ol>  |
| Items not for publication.                   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One child being supported following concerns being raised.</li> </ol>  |

## GDRP

[Website updated](#)

## Discipline

Website Sanction Table to be updated

The D&W Discipline Audit to be held between 5<sup>th</sup> January to the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2024, via SmartSheet.

During the last month I have received 3 reports about the standard of referees.

- Hampshire Referee who used a body cam and posted the incident on social media. This was before the red card report was received by the club, unfortunately the players partner viewed the images before she knew about it. I understand that Hampshire have disciplined the referee regarding this incident.
- The standard of Refereeing at Level 9.
- Referee Assessor contacting a club on a Saturday evening after an incident, this was before the Red Card Report had been submitted to the Referee's Discipline Secretary.

## **1. The RFU Head of Judiciary is authorised to issue practice notes and sanctions guidance (RFU Regulation 19.1.17).**

### **MATCH OFFICIAL ABUSE**

2. Offences that involve match official abuse ("MOA") contrary to RFU Rule 9.28.1 can take a number of different forms. It may be verbal, by gesture and, in rare cases, physical. It may come from players involved in the match or from coaches, parents or spectators. It may occur during the course of a game but sometimes only occurs after a game has finished.

3. A guide as to the different categories of MOA is set out in the RFU's "Match Official Abuse – A Guide for Referees" ([link here](#)). It is important to consider which category of MOA the proven or admitted offending falls within:

- 3.1. Disrespecting the authority of a Match Official, ordinarily described as "dissent".
- 3.2. Verbal abuse.
- 3.3. Using threatening actions or words towards Match Officials.
- 3.4. Making physical contact with a Match Official, and
- 3.5. Physical abuse of a Match Official.

4. It is essential that discipline hearings are conducted in a fair and just manner. That means that a Discipline Panel should determine the relevant facts and then impose the appropriate sanction to those facts.

5. RFU Regulation 19, Discipline (Appendix 2) ("Appendix 2") sets out the sanction entry points. There are three entry points:

- 5.1. Low-end,
- 5.2. Mid-range, and
- 5.3. Top-end.

6. The appropriate entry point is determined by an assessment of the seriousness of the offending conduct in accordance with RFU Regulation 19.11.8.

*1 On occasion, MOA is charged as Misconduct or as an offence contrary to RFU Rule 5.12. Sanctions for MOA charged as Misconduct or as an offence contrary to RFU Rule 5.12 should be dealt with in accordance with this guidance (i.e. as if it was charged contrary to RFU Rule 9.28).*

7. It is important to recognise that the low-end and mid-range<sup>2</sup> entry points are fixed. It is equally important to recognise that the top-end entry point is not fixed. The Discipline Panel should identify an entry point between the top-end and the maximum sanction for the particular offence.



8. Appendix 2 distinguishes the starting points for the different categories of conduct that are contrary to RFU Rule 9.28. Those categories are the same as those set out in the RFU's "Match Official Abuse – A Guide for Referees" (see paragraph 3, above).

## **THE NEED FOR A DETERRENT**

9. Offences of MOA are of considerable concern to the RFU. Rugby Discipline can only meet the overriding objective of RFU Regulation 19 to maintain and promote fair play and to protect the health and welfare of Players with the support of Match Officials. The recruitment and retention of Match Officials is affected by the number of instances of MOA.

10. The discipline statistics from the community game show that 18% of all discipline cases that were heard across the country last season were instances of MOA. The largest category of offences are for those involving dissent. Surveys of Match Officials in 2022 and 2023 revealed that 49% of the Match Officials who responded stated they were abused in the previous season.

11. That level of MOA offending is unacceptable.

12. In the same surveys the Match Officials who responded asked the RFU to consider increasing the sanctions available for cases of MOA. The consequence of the frequency of MOA is that Match Officials are leaving the game and MOA has discouraged people who otherwise would have taken up officiating. An additional deterrent is required to focus the minds of Players on the importance of respecting Match Officials and the consequences of not doing so.

13. Some Constituent Bodies, for understandable reasons, have either aggravated the sanctions imposed for MOA or used the extended powers of sanction available for MOA, Misconduct and Rule 5.12 cases (the power to suspend the effect of any sanction and to impose any other appropriate sanction, see RFU Regulation 19.11.20).

14. It is important that sanctions imposed for all offences dealt with by Rugby Discipline, including MOA, are consistent and determined in accordance with Regulation 19 and Appendix 2. Albeit that each case must be determined on its own facts, similar instances of MOA should attract similar sanctions whether the offence is dealt with by the RFU or a Constituent Body. It follows that any existing Constituent Body memoranda should be replaced by this guidance so that sanctions for MOA are imposed on a consistent basis throughout Rugby in England.

*2 With the exception of offences that had the potential to result and, in fact did result in serious / gross consequences to the victim (RFU Regulation 19 – Discipline (Appendix 2)). That is not applicable to this guidance.*

## **THE SANCTIONS GUIDANCE**

15. In order to provide an additional deterrent, from 1 January 2024, any offence contrary to RFU Rule 9.283 will be aggravated in accordance with RFU Regulation 19.11.13(b) as follows 4:

15.1. Low-end, by 2 weeks,

15.2. Mid-range, by 3 weeks, and

15.3. Top-end (whatever starting point is determined), by 4 weeks.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

16. It is important to recognise that the mandatory aggravating element as set out in paragraph 16 above should be applied after the Discipline Panel has determined the appropriate starting point and reduced the sanction, if it is appropriate to do so, for mitigating factors. The following examples assume that a Player has maximum mitigation of 50% available:

16.1. An offence of disrespect of a Match Official (dissent) that attracts a mid-range entry point of 4 weeks would be reduced to 2 weeks, and then be aggravated by 3 matches, making a total of 5 weeks. (see first example infographic on page 4)



16.2. An offence of verbal abuse of a Match Official that attracts a mid-range entry point of 12 weeks would be reduced to 6 weeks and then aggravated by 3 weeks, making a total of 9 weeks. (see second example infographic on page 4)

17. For the avoidance of doubt, the power of a Discipline Panel to suspend a sanction or to impose any other appropriate sanction (for example, to write a letter of apology or to attend a Refereeing course) remains available<sup>5</sup>. The suspension of any part of the sanction should be used only in conjunction with an additional sanction, such as attending a Refereeing course. Ordinarily, only one third and no more than half of a playing sanction should be suspended. It would be usual for the period of suspension to be for 12 months.

Richard Whittam KC  
Independent Head of RFU Judiciary

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## **Age Grade**

### **Schools**

Thanks to the tremendous work of our CSU Committee colleagues, cc'd into this email, our amazing rugby teachers across Dorset & Wiltshire, this report reflects the large amount of rugby provision across our patch.

These events are over & above the great work being done by teachers in our schools, continually growing & championing the sport in its various forms (more of the latter in particular will appear in our end of season report in April) & are with the support of some great club & Bath Grassroots colleagues, plus Active Dorset's Joey Wormington & his team.

It would be remiss if mention wasn't made of Mark Lerpiniere & his Y9 Trafalgar School, Downton Mixed gender Touch Team who in May 2023 reached the National Finals day held at Worcester's former ground, of the inaugural Y9 Schools Touch to Twickenham event, having won their group at the Inaugural event we held here in Dorset in partnership with RFU's Chris Sigsworth & his colleagues. Congrats to Mark & his students.

Also to Tom Farmer & his Y9 Malmesbury School Mixed gender Touch Team who took part in their closest geographically event, which was in Bristol, the team won their group, they also went on to National Finals day at Worcester, where they won their event & will now be playing at Twickenham ahead of the England v Wales Mens International this February. Huge Congrats to Tom & his students. We hope they enjoy their day.

### **D&W CSU 'Mid - Season Report 2023– 24**

Season 2023 – 24, has to date seen another great series of rugby playing opportunities for young people in schools across Dorset & Wilts. With this season, also seeing a continued growth in the number of events for Girls, with the focus being on developing opportunities for U12 Girls (Y7) in line with RFU drive, whilst at same time providing opportunities for U14 Girls (Y8 & 9). Additional developments have also been taking place for U16s (Y10 & 11) & U18s (Y12 & 13) too.

This first half of the season has also seen the continuation of great examples of stakeholder collaborative working, between D & W CSU, Bath Grassroots Dept & a number of Clubs across D & W area,

D & W CSU Rugby Activity provision during the first half of Season 23 - 24.

### **Boys Rugby in schools**

A variety of playing opportunities, have taken place this season, in response to what teachers felt best worked for them & their players.

Dorset State Schools Invitational 10s Boys Rugby Festival series.

Following the success of Autumn term season 22/23 events, a further series was run in Autumn term of Season 23/24.

The series saw a big increase in the number of state schools taking part & is a reflection of & with big thanks to the teachers running the rugby in their schools.

Each event was organised by Jan Edwards, D & W CSU Committee & the superb teachers from across Dorset & South Wiltshire who brought their teams along & helped events run so well on the day. Big thank you to them all.

A mixture of Schools & Club venues was used.

- October 5th Year 10 Boys ( U15s) - venue Bournemouth School for Boys, 14 teams took part, & were a mix of schools just developing their rugby & schools with a more established rugby programme. Thank you to Rich Thomas from BSB for the venue.
- October 11th Year 11 Boys ( U16s) - venue Bryanston School 12 teams took part & were a mix of schools just developing their rugby & schools with a more established rugby programme. Thank you to Nick Williams DoR at Bryanston for his work with JE in making this event possible & to all teachers who worked so hard on the day, A much appreciated venue.
- November 9th Year 9 Boys ( U14s) - Venue Swanage & Wareham RFC 17 teams took part, & again were a mix of schools just developing their rugby & schools with a more established rugby programme. The best performing school at the will be taking part on 8th February at the South West Eric Blackman U14s state schools rugby festival, for state schools who are either unlikely to enter the Continental Tyres Schools Compt at any level when they move into Y10, / are unlikely to go further than first round of compt. Thank you again to all the teachers for making this event possible & to all teachers who worked so hard on the day, A much appreciated venue. Big Thank you to Claire from Swans for kindly providing the excellent venue.
- November 16th Year 7 Boys ( U12s) - Venue Swanage & Wareham RFC ( massive thank you to Claire at Swans who saved the day, as Bryanston pitches were flooded & the event venue was moved. We were delighted to have 18 schools taking part. It was an excellent event, lots of enjoyment & rugby played in the true spirit of the game. Support from all the teachers involved was tremendous & it was good to see a few parents came along & they said how excited their sons were in anticipation of the event.
- November 28th Year 8 Boys ( U13s) - Venue - Bryanston School. This was the final event of the series & 20 teams entered, lots of enjoyment evident & camaraderie between teachers/organiser. Thank you to all involved & again to Nick Williams DoR Bryanston & his site team for having us at Bryanston
- U15s Boys D & W Schools County Cup Competition, - Organised by D & W CSU Committee Vice Chair Luke Cannon - Leweston School, schools from across D & W have taken part. Thanks to Luke for his work in this area. We know just how much work goes into these events organisationally
- U16s Eastern Dorset U16s Boys - Organised by D & W CSU Committee Member Dave Tomlinson - Bournemouth Collegiate School, which was open to both Indep & State Schools - thanks to Dave for providing this opportunity, which we are sure will grow year on year.

- U18s Boys D & W Schools Competition - Organised by D & W CSU Committee Member Rich Thomas - Bournemouth School for Boys, thanks to Rich for providing this opportunity. This year unfortunately the very small number of entities meant the competition itself didn't happen, however entrants were encouraged to make connections for fixtures.
- Annual Schools West Dorset Invitation Festival, for Y7s & Y8, - Run by D & W CSU Committee member Jordan Webber - Budmouth School & Rory Legg also Budmouth School, working closely with Weymouth RFC. This was an excellent well attended event, with the young people involved really enjoying their afternoon. Thanks go to all involved. This was a great example of School & Club working together, & also involves some Club coaches going into school to help with the rugby.
- Annual Thomas Hardy School, Geraint Hughes & Sean Bradley have once again been running the West Dorset Schools invitation 10s festivals for Y9, Y10, Y11 & Y12 @ Dorchester RFC. Each afternoon was extremely well organised & well attended. The Y12 Event, which had over 100 participants included a £1 per player entry fee, with the money raised going to a nominated charity.
- In Wiltshire, the Mid/ North Wilts Annual Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, & Year 10 Schools, Festivals/ County Cup Competition
- Run by Scott Ferguson D & W CSU Committee ( Kingsbury Green School)
- 28th November Year 7 Boys 10s ( U12s) event took place - 10 state schools took part, venue Devizes School. Many thanks to Scott & all the teachers involved. Schools with a wide range of rugby experience took part
- 21st November Year 8 Boys 10s ( U13s) event with 9 state schools taking part, venue Hardenhuish School, again a wide range of rugby experience, & the format of the event facilitated that.
- 23rd November, Year 9 ( U14s) 10 state schools took part, venue Kingsbury Green School. A really enjoyable event, thanks to all involved. The best performing state school goes on to take part in the Eric Blackman regional event where they will join a Dorset school & one from each geographical CSU area in the South West on 8th February 2024
- 7th November, Year 10 Boys ( U15s) 11 states schools took part, venue Chippenham Rfc. A really enjoyable event, thanks to all involved. & to Chippenham Rfc for the venue.

Many thanks to Scott & all the teachers in Mid / North Wilts for these opportunities for young people.

- South Wiltshire Schools Invitational U15s & U16s Super 12s Schools festivals, - D & W CSU Committee's Rich Dermain- Griffiths - Bishop Wordsworth School & Jason Yarwood-Salisbury RFC & Co-opted Community member of D & W CSU Committee. these events took place in September as part of an introduction to the new school year, thanks to work of Jason, Rich & Mark Lepinier from Trafalgar School Downton.
- The Continental Tyres Schools Competition has once again seen a number of our D&W Schools taking part, in the various levels of the competition, students enjoying the chance to take part in this National competition. Congrats to Tom Farmer ( D & W CSU Committee E D & I Lead) & his players from Malmesbury School who reached the last 16 of the U15s Vase Compt.

- Thank you to the staff involved from all our schools who took part as some distances travelled by teams in the competition, were not 'just down the road'.

### **Girls Rugby in D&W Schools.**

- Dorset Schools U12s & U14s skills Development Day - 23rd November. Schools from across Dorset brought girls to this event organised through stakeholder collaboration, including Active Dorset's Joey Wormington & his team, Jan Edwards D & W CSU & Lia Gingell & Marlo Boyd from Bath Grassroots Dept. 150 girls from schools across Dorset took part. It was a very successful day with lots of praise from teachers & most importantly lots of enjoyment by the girls.
- Thanks go to Claire at Swans Rfc for the venue, Candice Wong our prof pitchside medic cover & to coaches from Swans, Poole & Wimborne RFC's who came along to help run the skills carousels.
- North Dorset Schools Girls U14s & U16s Invitational Festivals, October/ November Jodie Jeffery D & W CSU Committee ( Gillingham School), has run festivals for both U14s girls, followed by an U16s festival. for the 2nd year running. This year 4 schools took part in each event. Thank you to Jodie for growing these opportunities for girls in our schools.
- South Wilts Schools U16 - U18s girls skills development sessions & playing opportunities, have been run by Jason Yarwood D & W CSU Committee/ Salisbury RFC Youth Chair & Bath Grassroots Dept, & also Rich D- G. D & W CSU Committee & Bishop Wordsworth School Salisbury. Thanks also go to Mark Lerpiniere of Trafalgar School for his on-going work in growing the rugby for both girls & lads in the area.

### **Mid & North Wilts Schools**

- Justin Derby D & W CSU Committee - Corsham School & Tom Farmer D & W CSU Committee - Malmesbury School, Jan Edwards D & W CSU Committee, Chloe Moss D & W CSU Committee ( St Joseph's School Salisbury) & Jason Yarwood D & W CSU Committee ( Salisbury rfc) have been working collaboratively with Bath Grassroots dept to create skills dev session & small, sided games, to replicate the event in Dorset on 23rd Nov. This was due to be on 7th Dec , venue Chippenham Rfc, but weather meant it had to be cancelled, & is being re scheduled for Spring term. Tom has also been linking up with Gloucester Community Dept to create playing & training opps for girls at schools like Malmesbury etc who have students who travel from Tetbury etc which lie in Gloucestershire
- Bath DPP & PDG Rugby & D&W Girls & Women Super Clusters & D&W CB Rep Rugby at y12/13
- We are delighted that so many of the young people in D&W Schools are taking part in these development & performance opportunities. Also that a number of the coaches involved in these areas are D&W teachers. Particularly pleasing to note the increase in the numbers of girls being part of the development pathways from schools & clubs across our area.
- D&W CSU continue to work closely with our colleagues who are stakeholders in ensuring continuing opportunities for both young people in our schools & teachers happen in the next half of the season. These will be included in D & W CSU End of Season Report in the Summer Term

Thanks go to everyone involved in all these great opportunities for our young people.

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### **Representative Rugby**

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| Previous month's activity:                         | N/A   |
| Current Budget update:                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ U17/ U18 – TBC</li> <li>➤ U20 – TBC</li> <li>➤ Men's XV - TBC</li> <li>➤ Women's XV – TBC</li> </ul>   |
| Proposed Activity                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ U17/ U18 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan Trg, 7<sup>th</sup> Jan Trial Match @ Hartbury</li> <li>➤ U20 – Nil</li> <li>➤ Women's XV – Nil</li> <li>➤ Men's XV – Nil</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Detail</p> <p><b>Fixtures list attached</b></p> | <p><b><u>U18 Male</u></b></p> <p>Programme up and running.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Team manager – Julie Sheppard</li> <li>➤ Lead – Kevin Dobie</li> <li>➤ Forwards – Jake Krige</li> <li>➤ Backs – Marc Ewart</li> </ul> <p><b><u>U20 Male</u></b></p> <p>Programme Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Team Manager – Lord Ian Moore</li> <li>➤ Lead Coach – Martyn Peel</li> <li>➤ Forwards Coach – Mark Ado</li> <li>➤ Back Coach – Martin Oxland</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Senior Women XV</u></b></p> <p>Programme Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Team Manager – Emma Santer</li> <li>➤ Lead Coach – Lauren Leatherland</li> <li>➤ Forwards Coach – TBC</li> <li>➤ Back Coach – TBC</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Senior Men XV</u></b></p> <p>No activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Team Manager – Dan Draper/ Richard Elliott</li> <li>➤ Lead Coach – Don Parsons</li> <li>➤ Forwards Coach – TBC</li> <li>➤ Back Coach – TBC</li> </ul> <p><b>Points for discussion/ remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have tasked each of the <b>Team Managers</b> with succession planning, I do not want a void every three years when the tenures expire of the entire management team.</li> <li>• To that end I will remind everyone of the three-year tenure at every opportunity and ask the committee to do the same, but <b>it must</b> include overlap. For example, if a Head Coach and</li> </ul> |

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|  | <p>Team Manager both quit at the end of a season the management team of that age group would be rudderless.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ideally an assistant coach will step up to be Head Coach, an incoming Team Manager will shadow the existing team manager for a season, so we continually to build capacity and not just react to a volunteer calling it a day.</li></ul> <p><b>Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/A</li></ul> |
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### **Executive Committee**

Two International Tickets were donated to The Wooden Spoon Charity New Year Rugby match at Bournemouth RFC. These tickets were auctioned after the match and raised £280.00; the total sum raised during the auction was approximately £1,000.00.

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