

Council Report – 2024-06-04

Area Representatives

Again little happened but vital information that area leads need to get to clubs.

1 Area Leads – Council Members (Elected)

Together with the CB Chair I have held a second session on this project – Chris is preparing the report for this where we looked at how to split Wiltshire into two groups. Importantly we need to start the search for 2 representatives to stand for Council to cover Wiltshire North and Wiltshire South

2 Huddle Meetings

No meetings held, but East Dorset Rep (Danny) has been in contact with his clubs making them aware of who he is and his role. It is hoped to get huddle meetings in place over the summer break for all areas

3 - Adult Registration 2024 onwards

At risk of repeating myself, this is very important and one reason why Clubs need to be involved in interaction with the CB representatives. Club AGMs will be starting soon so its vital that the correct message gets across. RFU are running webinars so no reason for clubs to panic. Registrars will have been given the chance to register for the webinars and club trainers (me included) are ready to run sessions to help clubs sort out their club data and help to get registration completed will be available from us – I am due to trial a new session on this with my club in the very near future

Executive Report

Tours 2024-25

Following the events surrounding the poor management of in-coming and outgoing tours by some clubs during the 2023-24 season.

Example – On Friday 19th April 2024, GB received six applications for both Incoming and Outgoing Tours to be held over the next two weekends.

On Monday 22nd April 2024 NMCC emailed regarding a tour to Wales by Swindon RFC, no request to tour was received from Swindon RFC.

Later in that week Caerphilly RFC informed both the WRU and GB that Swindon RFC had cancelled their fixture against them.

On Saturday 27th April 2024, GB received reports from JF that Swindon RFC had gone on tour to Wales that weekend without consent from the WRU or the D&W RFU.

This action has resulted in Swindon RFC receiving a 5.12 Disciplinary Charge for breaches to RFU Regulations

GB will ask the D&W RFU Council to implement the following mandate.

The following deadlines will become mandatory within the Dorset & Wilts RFU

- Closing date for all touring application including the completion of Schedule One
30 days before tour date

- Visiting Union approval 20 days before tour date
- Risk Assessments 30 days before tour date
- Consent Forms 30 days before tour date
- Safeguarding Requirements 30 days before tour date
- As per RFU Regulations 10.7 "which reads" 30 days after the tour date

Record Keeping

Constituent Bodies must ensure that they have a record, available to the RFU when requested, of all Incoming and Outgoing Tours (including Home Union cross border matches) arranged by their clubs during the season. Where the Constituent Body has provided its clubs with pre-approval for matches, as permitted by RFU Regulations 10.5 or 10.6, then at the end of the season the Constituent Body must collect from the relevant clubs the following information for each match:

- a) *Name of RFU Club*
- b) *Date of Match*
- c) *Venue (Home or Away)*
- d) *Name of Opponent's Club and which Union it is a member of*
- e) *Details of teams involved (1st XV men, 2nd XV Women, U16s boys etc)*
- f) *Result*

Any player or individual serving a Disciplinary Sanction will not be permitted to participate in or to travel on any tour.

All documentation requested to be submitted to the D&W RFU by the deadlines set out above, any failure to do so could result in one of the following actions to be instigated.

1. Any existing tour approval to be withdrawn.
2. Disciplinary action against the Club and/or the Tour Management.

Any club has the right to apply to the RFU for consent to be involved in a tour if they so wish.

There are suggestions that Tour Applications may have to be done online next season.

Agreed

Club Conferences

Draft running order from GB – CB to the Executive Committee

		Venue	Contact
Location	Dorset Wiltshire	Swans or Dorcheseter Pewsey Vale	
Date	07/09/2024 14/09/2024		
Format			
Arrive	9.30 Coffee/Teas available all day		
	Lead Person		
Start	10.00	President welcome	Sean
	10.15	RFU Presentation	Nicola - Scott
	10.45	Information Table Opens - Break-out Rooms	
	Quick discussion about the issue, arrange follow up meeting with the right people. This could be in person or via Zoom. Using a template information request form		
	Governance Subjects		
			Jane
	Safeguarding Discipline GDRP RugbySafe GMS Tours Age Grade Regulations Inclusion & Diversity Drugs		1st Aid Pro-Active
	Club Support Subjects		
			Alan
	Advice Volunteering Facilities Training Clubs at Risk Club Finance		Grants

Community Rugby Subjects	
	Mike
Leagues & Merit Table	
County Senior Competitions	
Walking Rugby	
Womens & Girls	
Coaching	
Other forms of Rugby	Touch Mixed Ability

Representative Rugby Subjects	
	Taff
Senior Men	
Senior Womens	
Under 20's Men	
Under 17-18's Boys	
Under 17-18's Girls	

Age Grade Subjects	
	TBA
Age Grade Regulations	
Competitions	
Forums - Fixtures	
Age Grade Calendar	

RFU Council Representative	John
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Referees	Denis
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12.00	Open Brain Storming Forum	Chris
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13.00	Lunch	
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13.30	Closing statements	Sean
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Depart	13.45	Return home
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Add Player Registration – Dates Review

From: Nicola McCombe

Subject: RE: Club Conferences

Hi all,

Had a catch up with Ben and Scott regarding the club's conference and please find below some comments/ideas/questions.

1. GREAT initiative to engage clubs
2. Content – can we look at refining it to ensure appeal to maximise attendance and engagement
3. Carousel section may need to be longer
4. Brainstorming – what are we trying to draw from people?
5. The more specific and structured we are the smoother the day will run and the more people will take away from the event
6. Dates – these are the first 2 weekends of league rugby which may hinder attendance as club people will have commitments with their clubs, could we look at 31st August perhaps?
7. Two dates – is this to run one in Dorset and one in Wiltshire? What locations were you thinking?
8. Topics that may interest clubs.
 - Volunteers – Recruitment, Retention and Reward. A number of clubs received the volunteer project funding and will have completed their projects by then which could give us some MOGP to share
 - Education Links
 - Facilities – D&W grants, share any successful projects
 - W&G – Impact 25 initiatives, forums and RWC25
 - Social Media
 - Club Healthcheck tool
 - Playing Formats – mixed ability, walking rugby, X-Rugby, Game On, Bath Foundation work in these areas
 - AGR – playing up/down, school links, safeguarding
9. Try to keep a positive focus to receive positive comments/engagement

We are keen to support this initiative to support the clubs and work with you to build a superb day!

Nicola

England Rugby are looking into supporting three club-based CRCs within Area 1 (South West).

Talks are planned with RWB regarding fulfilling the requirement.

AGM

The AGM is booked for Wednesday 17th July 2024, starting at 7.30pm at Salisbury RFC.

Please can you submit your report to GB by the Sunday 30th June 2024.

GB has received an email from the RFU Solicitors regarding a Head Injury Claim. (part of the claim against World Rugby – RFU – WRU)

Club Support

Grants

Following a meeting with the RFU South West Facilities team, the following was agreed

Amesbury RFC

Walking Rugby:

Support for “Open Day Events” throughout season – Cost £200.00 – **(request £100.00) – Recommended**

Indoor training to facilitate year-round offering (essential to retention) - £100.00 **(request £50.00) – Recommended**

Rugby Post repair and maintenance:

Due to the age we procured the posts from dissolving a number of years ago, we are unable to purchase adequate brackets to replace the crossbars. To ensure player safety we have had to and will this off season, be required to pay for bespoke welding services to ensure they remain serviceable for the coming season. This also includes the servicing of the sleeves and hinges (allows us to drop posts to ground in poor weather situations).

Approx cost based on previous charges £200.00 (**requested £150.00**) – **Recommended**

Floodlight Battery Pack:

X 4 52 AH Battery packs for existing floodlights £1584.00 (**requested £792.00**) – **Recommended**

Marlborough RFC – On hold

Green Gazelles

[The Big Green Clash](#) – Charity Rugby Match (**requested £500.00**) – **Recommended**

Oakmeadians RFC – RFU South West Facilities team to contact club

Pewsey Vale RFC

Replacement Posts (**requested £2,000.00**) – **Recommended**

Venue for Club Conference – FOC

Chippenham RFC – Mixed Ability

Kit and Equipment – **Payment of £500.00 Recommended**

Warminster RFC – more information wanted

Swanage & Wareham RFC

Grass Seed and Fertiliser (**requested £9,845.00**) – **Payment of £1,600.00 Recommended**

Devizes RFC

Steve Morgan has been appointed Facility Manager at Devizes RFC – contact for more information.

Grants/Loan for Battery Storage. Maybe an issue around who is running the site, the club, or the trading company. Passed to the South West Facilities team for advice.

Agreed

Awards Evening – MM to update.

A joint meeting was held between the RFU South West Facilities team and the D&W Club Support regarding Bournemouth RFC.

Bournemouth RFC appear to be in the At-Risk category until they reduce expenditure/ increase income and manage their finances accordingly.

We are not aware of others right now, although a number are probably susceptible to modest changes including loss of key operating personnel/ player numbers or adverse/ unexpected financial changes.

Following the meeting above we met with BCP Council representative regarding East Dorset Dockers RFC (Site Redevelopment). We also reviewed the issues surrounding the pitches at Oakmeadians RFC.

Calne RFC + Sport England / Calne Town Council and Wiltshire Council are due to meet regarding relocation.

Trowbridge RFC and Supermarine RFC are both currently under consideration for Impact 25 Social Space Projects.

There are also the ongoing discussions over Wimborne RFCs ground move.

The Storage Container at Weymouth & Portland RFC needs to be relocated, do we still need it. W&P are interested in purchasing it.

Governance

[Discipline](#)

We had a total of 110 case this season,

Breakdown (please note that not all cases were proven)

- 40 cases were received from or referred to the RFU or other CBs.
- 25 Age Grade cases
- 3 School cases
- 7 Spectator cases
- 17 Match Official Abuse cases
- 4 cases against a club

More Panel members wanted for next season.

Bystander Training course delivered by Scott at Chippenham RFC – relating to Age Grade players and parents.

GMS

Push is on for clubs to get all players emails up to date and verified. Quite noticeable that some clubs are not actually bothering at the moment so will come as a shock next month when their players can't re-register.

CB GMS still needs tidying up. We have to remove all players and parents no longer involved in DPP and its replacement – Girls U16 specifically. This is something that will need help from those "in charge"

Our own membership also needs tidying and removing any folk no longer involved in CB activity as volunteers – again help need from each section to review.

Registrar activity

Again, see GMS part, it's vital we get out to clubs how important this work is so players will be able to register. Upcoming webinars have been set up and have been advertised to all clubs' senior registrars.

Girls Section Report

The end of the season has been particularly busy.

We are now working towards the start of next season.

U18 PDG

The U18 Centres of Excellence have been replaced with 9 Centres run exclusively by the RFU. Our CB will be grouped with Bucks., Berk., Oxon., and Hants. This covers a vast area and consideration is being given to the positioning of the main centre and whether the training can be moved around the area. The County Coaches from the U16 & U18 groups have put forward their nominations to the RFU.

U18 County Squad

The U18 County team nominations will be requested from clubs in September with assessment and selection dates to be released this week.

U16 PDG

The U16 PDG programme will start assessment during August with 2 sessions. All players are encouraged to attend both dates. This year girls returning from last year will be re-assessed before being allowed to rejoin. There will continue to be two centres as it was decided that 1 would possibly work against many players being able to attend. Therefore Melksham RFC and Dorchester RFC will be hosting these centres for the 24/25 Season.

There will be a Face-to-Face meeting for all Coaches and Managers of Girls rugby on conjunction with the RFU on Sunday 14th July, Sherborne RFC 9.30am for 10am, Coffee and cake. This will be followed by a festival of U12 rugby from 2pm followed by a BBQ. I anticipate using some of the grant from the RFU to fund the U12 festival.

I will be contacting all clubs over the next couple of weeks to discuss their successes and plans for next season. This will give me a chance to try and answer any queries direct and arrange cluster.

Community Rugby

Previous month's activity:	<p><u>Dorset and Wilts Cup Competitions</u></p> <p>The Counties Cup concluded as planned and the winners are detailed below;</p> <p>Counties 2 Cup: Marlborough II Counties 2 Plate: Wimborne II Counties 3 Cup: Chippenham III Counties 3 Plate: Bournemouth III</p> <p>The Competitions Committee are meeting in July to discuss the format and timings of next seasons cups across all sectors.</p> <p><u>Dorset and Wilts Leagues</u></p> <p>The winners are as follows:</p> <p>C2DWN – Chippenham II C2DWC – Melksham C2DWS – Lytchett Minster</p>
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	<p>C3DWN – Fairford C3DWC – Bradford On Avon C3DWS – Swanage & Wareham II</p> <p>Following the SWROC meeting on May 19th, where the leagues for 24/25 were ratified and can be seen in full on the attached document. <u>Merit Tables</u></p> <p>No issues to report</p> <p><u>Tribute</u></p> <p>The D&W Tribute Team of the Month:</p> <p>September: Melksham October: Sutton Benger November: Swanage & Wareham II December: Lytchett Minster January: Swindon II February: Cricklade March: Royal Wootton Bassett April: Bradford on Avon</p> <p>Talks are ongoing between SWROC and Tribute regarding the extension of their league sponsorship (which ends this season). An announcement is expected soon.</p>
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RFU Competition Line-Up -2024 – South West Division (copy attached)

League Secretary Updates

Regional 1 South West

S. Macey

Home: 01249 712901

Mobile: 07711 019422

Email: r1sw@swrugby.co.uk

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Regional 2 Severn (R2S)

D. Preece

Home: 01736 796694

Mobile: 07769 757048

Email: r2s@swrugby.co.uk

Regional 2 South Central (London & SE ROC)

B. Myland

Mobile: 07958 786164

*

Counties 1 Southern South (C1SS)

R. Hawkins

Home: 0118 981 4615

Mobile: 07889 348415

Email: c1ss@swrugby.co.uk

*

Counties 2 Dorset & Wilts Central (C2DWC)

M. Moysey

Mobile: 07834 519831

Email: c2dwc@swrugby.co.uk

*

Counties 2 Dorset & Wilts North (C2DWN)

J. Constable

Home: 01929 551468

Mobile: 07970 500357

Email: c2dwn@swrugby.co.uk

*

Counties 2 Dorset & Wilts South (C2DWS)

A. Morrison

Mobile: 07963 640890

Email: c2dws@swrugby.co.uk

*

Counties 3 Dorset & Wilts Central (C3DWC)

M. Moysey

Mobile: 07834 519831

Email: c3dwc@swrugby.co.uk

*

Counties 3 Dorset & Wilts North (C3DWN)

R. Jones

Home: 01225 766647

Mobile: 07713 619535

Email: c3dwn@swrugby.co.uk

*

Counties 3 Dorset & Wilts South (C3DWS)

R. Jones

Home: 01225 766647

Mobile: 07713 619535

Email: c3dws@swrugby.co.uk

Vacancies

Area Representatives

West Wiltshire

Swindon & North Wiltshire

Safeguarding Lead (Wiltshire)

Discipline Panel members

Age Grade Lead

Hamish Morton is to step down from his role as Age Grade Lead, with Neil Bibby taking over until the role is confirmed.

Robert Langan has been appointed Sponcership Manager.

Information wanted by Rob

Just wanted to update you on all thing's sponsorship, some of which I'll need yours/the committees help with, if you didn't mind?

In terms of current plan, I intend address the below (in order):

1. Compile asset register (with assistance from DW Rugby)

2. Compile sponsorship pitch
 - a. DW Rugby Values
 - b. What we're offering
 - c. Elevator pitch
 - d. What makes us different
3. Identify potential sponsors
4. Make contact & get selling

ASSET REGISTER

This is where I need your input. On the link below (let me know if this doesn't work – you'll need to request access) is a Google Doc with an Asset Register template which I have put together.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/10iYXl6maamCqsCtxJ8V5aokdgutf2j0Ybgtsz5tAsZY/edit?usp=sharing>

What you should find is examples of Benefit & Assets Dorset & Wilts Rugby has available to sponsor down the right-hand side column, and the list of Sponsor across the top row with examples of what it is we're offering in the matrix.

Actions for you/committee

- ❖ Clarify existing sponsors and what the current arrangement is (i.e. what have they paid for?)
- ❖ Clarify all the other opportunities we have to offer potential sponsors. I have listed as many as I thought relevant, please delete, or add as appropriate, with as much detail as possible please.

This will give me the right information to put packages together in the pitching material.

Beyond this I have a few questions which I need clarity on, are you able to come back to me on the below questions, please?

WHAT HAVE WE ALREADY SOLD?

- ❖ Asset Register
 - As above
 - The key here is that fewer, quality relationships are better than too many, this way you offer sponsors more value, and a smaller number means you can focus less resource on managing them.
- ❖ What previous sponsors have not recently renewed but might be interested in partnering again in the future?

WHAT ARE WE SELLING/WHAT DO WE WANT?

- ❖ Asset register
 - As above, some things to consider:
 - Exposure via our sponsors marketing channels?
 - Sponsor access to England tickets.
 - Hospitality to DW games?
 - Sponsor plan (I can help draw this out with a bit more info)
 - Timescale – key dates & deliverables
 - Key club dates (do we send fixture card out?)
 - Dates for social media posts
- ❖ What type of payment are we after?
 - Value in Kind (e.g. coach travel, or kits/products, e.g., what do we need?)
 - Cash
 - Marketing exposure via sponsors
- ❖ What will the sponsorship money be used for?
 - What is our long-term vision and what will sponsorship funds help achieve?
- ❖ DW Rugby values
 - What are they? Looking for sponsors with similar values

- ❖ What is the audience of DW Rugby? Potential sponsors will expect us to be able to tell them about the audience make-up of our union, the better-quality information we have on your audience base, the better
 - How many clubs, how many players?
 - Anything we can gain from GMS?

SPONSOR MANAGEMENT

- ❖ Social media/website/etc – who manages this? What can we offer?
- ❖ Sponsorship liaison
 - Who is the current officer? E.g. Answering questions, ensuring sponsorship assets are delivered to schedule and producing reports demonstrating delivery of those assets – who will manage this going forward?
- ❖ Measurement – do we provide anything similar to the below, if not, can we?
 - Media coverage (e.g. shirt sponsor in photo in local paper)
 - Likes and engagement with social media posts
 - Website visits

PITCHING COLLATERAL

- ❖ History & success: Any unique stories or narratives in the union’s past – photos?
- ❖ Do we have any DW players who have gone on to be internationals/well-known?
- ❖ How do we compare to other local unions? Largest Women’s section? Most junior teams? Etc?
- ❖ Are we the largest sport in the area based on membership numbers (compared to other sports like Football, Cricket, Netball, etc)

ADMIN

- ❖ Is there a sponsorship@dwrugby.co.uk email address? If not, can I have one set up, please? Looks more professional than approaching sponsors with my personal email address
- ❖ Can I have a DW Rugby Shirt/Tie for face-to-face meetings, please?
- ❖ Any existing sponsorship decks that I could look at please?
- ❖ Any brand fonts, assets, and imagery I need to use?

That’s all for now – sorry, I appreciate it’s a lot, but I want to make sure I have everything I need before going to market.

Working Group wanted.

RFU Council Representative

<p>Previous month’s activity:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended various RFU Sub-committee meetings, National Calls, CB Drop-ins plus work on several task & finish groups. • The T&F groups include the FCS (Future Competitions Review) where the key focus will be on whether to raise the glass ceiling to allow lower X’s into the structure in coming seasons. Vote coming at RFU Council 14th June My view is this is not a good idea and will vote against raising the glass ceiling. • Part of the group that has been looking at the restructure of Reg 19-Discipline. Now concluded and going to RFU Council 14th June. • Still involved in the Adult Registration group. Regulation 13 and 14 which governs Player Registration has been agreed by RFU Council and is now available on Englandrugby.com. There are now a number of webinars being lined up to support club Registrars and players, plus continued communications to players/the game during the summer months. • Age Grade Regulation 15 has also been agreed by RFU Council and is also now available via the website.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Age Grade Summer guidance has been issued and can be found on England rugby. • Adult Competition Sub Committee, - Papa John Oversight group-review of the Competition has taken place Full report will be shared in due course. • Professional Game Partnership (PGP) linked also to the new Tier 2 (Championship)- there has been a number of sessions with Council to keep us updated on progress and also the chance to provide feedback. Still some key areas to be resolved and update coming at RFU Council. The new PGP is also linked to a new structure around the Academies there is a meeting on the 11th June at RWB to provide updates on how this is looking. Main change is no U14 PDP, the process to start at U15 but with a smaller cohort of players. This should help clubs in not losing players from club training so much. <p>Has the CB received the RFU AGM notice etc.? Some clubs may not have had this, intend to check with the clubs. I am happy to act as proxy for any club.</p> <p>There has been an issue with e-mails being sent via GMS not getting through and ending up in Spam/Junk- this was affecting those with Microsoft accounts (Outlook, Hotmail, Yahoo etc.). This was raised by myself and several other Council members but we have been advised this has been settled. If you hear of/or have any issues with GMS mails going to junk, Suggest you log a ticket on the GMS help portal so they are aware of the size of the issue.</p>
Current Budget update:	n/a
Proposed Activity (including estimated cost)	<p>Continued attendance at meetings where possible.</p> <p>Continued club visits- if anyone wants to suggest clubs to visit let me know.</p> <p>RFU Council Friday 14th June- starts at 9.45am and ends at 7pm!. This is the meeting where all the regulations still to be agreed, plus Community Game Future and the New PGP will no doubt be discussed. Will share report post meeting.</p>
Other items for discussion (please attach paper with estimated discussion time allocation)	<p>The SWROC (Regional Organising Committee) has a representative from each CB on its executive and I have been asked to stand, being also the current SWROC treasurer. Having checked with my fellow league secretaries they are happy, hope the CB is. We do have a gap in league secretaries in our lower leagues and Mike Moysey has agreed to take on overseeing Counties 2 and Counties 3 D&W Central leagues. There are some minor changes in league secretaries- Sean is now LS for Regional 1, Alistair Counties 2 South, myself Counties 2 North and Ron Jones Counties 3 North & South. SW Rugby website will be updated soon with new details.</p>

Representative Rugby

Under 20's Match

One Red Card to D&W

The Hampshire Prop was transferred to Salisbury Hospital for a CT and MRI. He has showed no signs of a recovery to his eye socket injury and is in Southampton hospital currently.

Final vs East Midlands at Twickenham – 15th June 2024

Sponsorship Idea

Devon RFU – Representative Rugby
'One Off' Twickenham Final Match Day Shirt Sponsor
Sunday 16th June 2024

Top Chest £200
Sleeve £200
Main Sponsor £400
Sides £200
Above Number £300
Below Number £300

All logos need to be sent in by Monday Morning 9:30am (3rd June)

Contact Glenn Channing
07974039014
Email: headreugby@devonrfu.com

All prices are subject to + VAT



119 likes

devonrfu *Sponsorship Opportunity*

We are playing at the home of @englandrugby... more

 Add a comment...

6 hours ago

Twickenham Stadium | June 16th

Finals Day

Player Sponsorship

Player Sponsors
£150 + VAT

You will be supporting the player to cover the costs of accommodation, overnight stay, travel, food and kit for the final.

You will also get a mention in the match day programme, along with any team graphics that go out your company logo/ name will go with it.

We will also provide individual graphics with the sponsored player.

Contact Mark Long
markilong@hotmail.co.uk