



DORSET & WILTS RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION LIMITED

A meeting of the Dorset & Wilts. RFU Council was held on Tuesday, 11th October 2022, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

MINUTES – AGENDA

[working assumption: papers sent with or referred to in this agenda will be taken as having been read]

No **Item** **Lead/Action**

1.

2. Attendance, Inc. apologies: co-options and any introductions

Mike Moysey [MM]	Atte	Stuart Murrow [SM]	Apol	Gerald Burden [GB]	Atte
Alison Hunter [AH]	Apol	Jane Hart [JH]	Atte	Alistair Morrison [AM]	Apol
John Constable [JC]				Keturah Watts [KW]	Atte
Denis Nolan [DN]	Atte	Ed Taylor [ET]	Atte	David Wookey [DW]	Apol
Julie Fisher [JF]	Atte	Chris Burton [CB]	Atte	Sean Macey [SM]	Atte
David Stirling [DS]	Atte	Nick Elbourne [NE]	Apol	Nicola McCombe [NMc]	Apol

Red represents Non-voting members

3. Minutes:

To note the of the Council meeting held on the 13th of September 2022 and the AGM held on Wednesday 20th September 2022.

Copies available on the D&WRFU website, please [Click here](#)

Noted

4. Matter arising:

Restructuring of Governance members on the Council.

Update on Body Cameras offer for the Referees.

CB/GB/DN met and agreed to purchase three Audio devices to trial.
Safeguarding Conference – Detailed costings wanted.

Play-it-Safe courses in each huddle area.

Meeting with Under 17's Management.

CB updated the meeting – no clear pathway or guidance from the RFU, just comments about how we should manage the programme. CB suspect that there will be some sort of CB led DPP programme for next year.

Under 17's Rep Rugby Coaches to have completed the Play it Safe course. Names on the D&W website JF to check details on GMS. (Boys and Girls) **JF**

RFU/D&W Drop in dates. No updates for the Dorset dates

Game Conference on 16/17th September 2022 at Warwick Uni. JC's notes circulated prior to the meeting.

Update the content of the D&W website for referees <https://dwrugby.co.uk/referees/>

Update the content of the D&W website for safeguarding <https://dwrugby.co.uk/safeguarding/>

David Stirling to be Co-opted on to Council

5. Area Representatives Updates:

Date:	4 Oct 2022
Reportee:	David Wookey
Previous Quarter activity:	East Dorset – Meeting held 3 Oct. 5 Clubs attended West Dorset – Meeting held 22 Sep. 4 clubs attended North Wiltshire- No Meeting held Mid Wiltshire – No meeting held South Wiltshire – Meeting held F2F 26 Sep all 7 clubs present
Clubs at risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None that area reps are aware of, Still concerning that some clubs do not engage with the area groups. • Most clubs across the CB have expressed concern at low numbers of Age Grade players in the U14-U16 bands. The emphasis from RFU has been on retaining the 16 to 24 age s but perhaps the issue is lower down • While we look at developing the girls game there is concern that some club through the “super Cluster” have encouraged girls to move to the bigger clubs, leaving the smaller ones in the situation where they cannot support the remaining girls. This has been passed to the W&G CB representative, this is leaving parts of clubs at risk of folding
Club development requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching courses continue to be an issue, particularly with the system now in operation where the second day of the course isn't until almost end of season, thus meaning part qualified coaches are having to run sessions for most of the season. – Same with Referee courses. Clubs are needing the coach qualification early in the season and completed in first half. Many are turning to Rugby for Heroes to undertake the same RFU training but this is only available for serving and ex serving people. • GMS support required still by many clubs as we are seeing important tasks not being undertaken
Problem issues: (from more than one Huddle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still concern over changes to Mens League rules allowing only 5 subs not being fully approved by RFU, clubs are worried this could be reversed at L8 which could lose players due to not being able to offer league

	<p>rugby. Possibly not enough slots to raise friendlies to provide rugby for all.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's league at NC is of concern given travel time and distance. Clubs with sufficient players to take over 20 find themselves struggling to get 15 plus subs to travel • Female AGR restructuring still seen as concern, but feel after this season it should rectify itself • Game on principle – Once again it has been noted that some clubs were reluctant to accept the principle and loan players on the day (even at Colts level for a friendly match in one case)
<p>Other items for discussion (e.g. Items from Management Board Reports) Minutes to be sent to the Council at least a week prior to a meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CB Girls 1000 project is floundering owing to insufficient numbers of players to form a team within each huddle. 1 huddle only has 1 club with U18s and they can form a team alone, others struggle to get 15 across all clubs. This needs returning to a central sandbox for a rethink – There are ideas and we have got coaches on board with ideas. • Growth of Walking Rugby continues but it was unfortunate that some clubs did not get the opportunity to claim the CWG £100 towards recruiting sessions. Would be interesting to know why. • Together with Peter King of Amesbury I intend to run a CB sponsored Walking Rugby Festival for the CB clubs. As WR runs as a summer game its intended this should be between March and May. This should encourage clubs who are starting to have some close competitive event to participate in • Clubs would still support local coaching courses – see concern above. • WD & SW reps have made first club visits. These should be encouraged to take place when other than senior mens rugby is on which in the past has been the norm and CB presence has not been seen at clubs on other occasions. Its important we are seen supporting ALL rugby • Clubs were all reminded about the need to ensure safeguarding and Rugbysafe issues are correctly addressed and clubs reminded that if U18 players are approved to senior Rugby, correct Safeguarding has to be in place for that team. • All clubs were concerned about Energy Bills. RFU have seminar on 12 October to help

Huddle Area – South Wilts	Date – 26 Sept 2022 – Pewsey Vale
<p>Attendees / Clubs Marlborough, Pewsey Vale, Devizes, Amesbury, Wheatsheaf, Warminster, Salisbury D&W: Dave Wookey (chair), , RFU: John Constable, Ben Smith</p>	
<p>A F2F get together to discuss progress on a number of aspects Warminster attended from a AGR PoV (Steve Bidgood) to meet other club representatives and gain knowledge. We also welcomed Aimi Dallyn, Martin Bills and Chris Long from Devizes for their first meeting.</p>	
<p>Agenda Items:</p>	

- **Clubhouse and pitches condition** and situation and whether any clubs are looking for financial support – The energy situation is of great concern, and I advise that a RFU webinar on this is being held in October and all clubs that have energy concerns are advised to book on early as it will fill up! I left this as the agenda intro as we did not really discuss much on this, however the webinar was mentioned by Ben. We did mention the project grants available reiterating the point raised by CB Treasurer at last week's AGM so clubs are encouraged to look at projects for their clubs and seek guidance if these fall under the sort of thing the CB will look favourably on.
- **Girls 1000** was discussed, and Aimie will lead with Jonny. I am concerned that within the group we may not have sufficient players at U18 level to accommodate this. It seems that as a result of the super clusters the larger clubs had been able to pull players towards them leaving few clubs with sufficient to form a team so meaningful matches will be a problem. This is something our new W&G rep on Council- David Stirling – will seek to address
- **AG rugby** including development of Girls AG rugby at clubs including AG competitive offering, player sharing to ensure match experience from players at small clubs. Most clubs running AGR are progressing. There is a problem with teenage Boys age grades being low in numbers, this is consistent across the clubs. Amesbury boys are dual affiliating to Marlborough to be able to form a team (while remaining members of Amesbury only) Similarly Salisbury Colts coming to Amesbury. This form of working together should be encouraged and now multiple affiliation can be done it is possible and practical to be able to make a good match play offering to the Boys. For the Girls there is work to be done in Schools and hopefully centrally by RFU with the RWC about to start in NZ and England hosting the next one it may spark some more interest. At Mini ages all clubs are being pretty successful and in general Devizes are again setting up their schools visiting program. Salisbury are working with the Salisbury Senior State Schools at older age grades
- **Mens and Womens senior teams** – Been concerns at numbers of lost games due to lack of players or lack of referees. Unsure how to deal with this, but RFU are aware The issue of Level 8 5 subs is apparently still awaiting formal RFU approval but the ROC has sanctioned this as it gets more players available and lessens the risk of player staying on after injury. General comment is still that as the pyramid is flattened the restriction in Subs should really be released to a higher level in the name of increased player involvement and player safety. Same applies to the Womens leagues which at NC level are managed centrally. There is a thought that north of the Plain there perhaps are too many clubs which is leading to shortage of numbers leading to games at risk. Perhaps CB should give thought to combined teams (which RFU does not want) or persuading some clubs to withdraw from leagues to allow players to dual register (register with one and affiliate with another) to ensure better match play.
- **Walking Rugby** I mentioned the idea of a WR festival being put in place across the CB. Pewsey are still interested in generating a team and I will be putting them in touch with the Amesbury lead for this to encourage and give guidance. Currently there are active teams at Salisbury, Amesbury and Devizes.
- Finally and not really discussed was the old **GMS** point that must be a standing agenda item. My offer of one to ones with any club always stands as data cleanse and accuracy is important
RFU have developed a new course on match and team management. I am delivering via Zoom on 17 October so this will be on GMS to book soon (it will show as for Farnham but ignore that)

Notes

Included above

Actions

- Contact Dave for GMS training/assistance with Data Cleanse

Date of next meeting: I suggest we move to Zoom for darker evenings. I think we should look at around 6-8 weeks

Huddle Area – East Dorset	Date – 03/10/2022
Attendees / Clubs Jane Hart- Club Rep and Oakmeadians. (JH) John Constable- D&W RFU Council Rep. (JC) Dave Wookey- D&W Cluster lead and GMS (DW) Gordan Horsley- Oakmeadians (GH) Morgan Leadbetter- East Dorset Dockers (ML) Andy & Nicola Wallace-Walton Oaks (NWW) Dave Cole- Wimborne (DC) Vince Ward- Lytchett Minster (VW) Andy Barrett- Oaks (AB) Apologise Tim Wynn- Poole (TW)	
Agenda Items: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Club Rugby Round-up 2. Girls 100 3. Rugby Safe/Safeguarding 4. GMS 5. Referees. 	
Notes Brief summary of progress or problems. Feeling around the clubs. Comments on agenda items. 1)- Wimborne- have had to train away from club due to grounds issues but now slowly working wat back to the club. Girl’s numbers picking up. Offer to link with GH around contact details for schools for Girls. Senor playing numbers look ok as do Age grade. Club currently being audited- assume its Club Affiliation. East Dorset Dockers- have started age grade at club and after the first couple of weeks the numbers look promising. Thanks to Julie Fisher for the guidance on Safeguarding. Senior numbers have taken a hit due to a number of players moving away, changing jobs, stopping playing- a struggle to get a 2 nd XV out. Ladies’ numbers look ok- first game in just over a weeks’ time. Oaks- Both Senior and Age grade numbers are good but the u14 age group has ceased due to issues with the coach. A lot of parents are struggling with the quirks of GMS in trying to affiliate the kids. Concern over the impact of energy rises- JC mentioned the upcoming Webinar for clubs to attend on energy details were in the recent community game update. Lytchett- Big changes on the committee side of things. Senor numbers are ok but a number of age groups have ceased due to issues around lack of coaches etc. Club accepts it took its eye off the ball but working hard with local clubs to at least keep games being played. NORTE TO ALL- DON’T FORGET ‘GAME-ON’ THIS CAN BE USED FOR ALL LEVLES OF GAME INCLUDING AGE GRADE. 2)-GIRLS 100- It seems the only team in the cluster with U18’s is Oaks. Contact with David Sterling is needed by clubs since he is the D&W Women & Girls lead now. Suggestion from GH is for this season to look to hold cluster-based Girl’s training sessions and then look towards games more inter-cluster next season. Also, could D&W look to do a generic poster that clubs could use to push into local schools to promote Girl’s rugby and where local clubs have teams? 3)- Rugby Safe/Safeguarding- Clubs reminded to do the online Safeguarding audit via GMS. Also, clubs need to consider the Risk assessment details that are available. Play it Safe courses- local ones are on GMS to book- again clubs need to get anyone involved in Age grade coaching or management to do Play it Safe. Suggestion that clubs look at the Rugby Safe pages on England rugby- a lot of useful information there. Headcase- mentioned that all players, coaches, parents should do this online course- it will hopefully help stop some trying to play on when they have had a head injury. Note there is NO Head Injury Assessments below level 2. The electronic match card also has the chance to note anyone who suffers a concussion- this will notify the club Rugby Safe Lead but also enables the player to get information to help manage recovery.	

<p>4)- GMS- DW reminded everyone that they need to accept any Age Grade affiliation as soon as it comes up on GMS- don't wait for the membership to be paid. Offer to help clubs with GMS There is a course being run for those who do match card administration- the first course is fully booked but others will follow. Clubs need to continue to press for players to update their records with any medical history and also emergency point of contact- this will become even more important next season when player affiliation comes in.</p> <p>5)- Referees- JC advised that there is a shortage of referees so can clubs do their utmost to make sure that either Saturday or Sunday, the refs are given respect, looked after and not at the end of abuse/comments from players or the touchline. If we are not careful, we will have less and less referees so more games without one.</p> <p>6)- AOB- Contact for advice on WR is Peter King - amesburyrfc.walkingrugby@gmail.com<mailto:amesburyrfc.walkingrugby@gmail.com> Peter is happy to give advice to anyone setting up. He is also going to help set up an end of season (or early season in their case) cross D&W Walking Rugby Festival</p>
<p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can D&W provide a generic flyer that clubs could use to help promote girls' rugby in local schools and links to the local club.
<p>Date of next meeting TBA-</p>

Poster wanted for Age grade – Schools. To include contact details of local clubs.

GB

GB asked about Self accreditation on GMS, it appears that your history disappears. JH stated that it is still available.

The movement of Age Grade players between clubs is becoming an issue and is down to several factors (like coaches moving clubs – the wish to play with their friends etc). Huddle Leads to research the Under 14's to 16's age groups, this will enable the D&W to highlight any issues.

Area Reps

6. Non-Area Representatives Updates:

Women's & Girls

1. I have now contacted all clubs in Dorset and Wilts that have a Women's or Girls section and with a few exceptions have spoken to all the people involved. This was to gauge their current numbers, discuss the need to enter information on GMS and to generally discuss any problems or plans the clubs had. These contacts will continue.
2. I have had meetings with Chris Burton, Bath Rugby (x2), Bristol Bears(x2) and the CSU alongside Bath Rugby.
3. I have attended 2 U16 DPP training sessions at Trowbridge to understand how the DPP system operates. Dave Ward and Rich Hines of the Bears attended a session upon invite.
4. I have held discussions with the U18 county team coaching set up to understand their programme for this season.
5. I have distributed the invitations for the Super Cluster event at Oakmeadians RFC to be held on Sun16th Oct and responses are now coming back.
6. I am hoping to set up a Girls under 18 match play opportunity at North Dorset on Sunday 23rd Oct as a county wide chance for the under 18's to play. This will be finalised upon confirmation from North Dorset that the ground is available.

7. I attended the launch event by Bath Rugby for their Club Affiliate programme. They intend to hold a separate event for their school's affiliate programme
8. I have set up a Facebook group "Dorset and Wiltshire Girls Rugby" which is growing and have tried to make contact with Brett Bader to take over the admin rights of the Women's page. Caz Durston is setting up a Spond group for all the girls' coaches in the twin counties.
9. I am revamping the invite list for the next women's and girls' forum to reflect the people actually involved in this sphere. I hope to hold a Forum in early November.
10. Priorities for the next 6-week period - Build up knowledge and hold conversations with the SGO's in D & W, as getting more activity into schools alongside Bath Rugby is vital to grow numbers. Complete discussions with clubs and look to create better's links between schools' activity and the clubs. Push forward with plans for the RFU U12 initiative. Have a day off.
11. Generally, clubs are making progress on the girls' game with increasing numbers and am trying to get the message across about GMS because it will otherwise not be reflected.

ET asked DS to attend his huddle, DS agreed to subject to it been held via Zoom.

Referees.

DN

DN confirmed that the fixture list for this coming Saturday (15th of October 2022), there was no referee shortages.

There has been matches that was cancelled due to the shortage of referees.

We are not alone with having a shortage of referees, with the neighbouring societies all reporting a shortage of referees.

Diversity and Inclusion

KW

GB to ask KW to update the content of the D&W website for D&I
<https://dwrugby.co.uk/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/>

KW attended a RFU D&I workshop – a change of direction by the RFU, now more about inclusions.

Safeguarding

Date:	09/10/2022
Reportee:	Julie Fisher BD Safeguarding manager
Previous month's activity:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Audits started for Bournemouth, Christchurch, Dorchester 2. Discussions with Safeguarding team re Audits being planned with CSO's for Blandford, Wimborne, East Dorset Dockers, Weymouth, Lytchett, Poole to be carried out by JF. Amesbury, Pewsey Vale, to be carried out by David Wookey. Swindon and surroundings to be carried out by Joe Walsh. North Dorset and Blandford by Richard Smallbone Trowbridge, Melksham and Warminster by David Binding. <p style="color: red;">Following the publication of D&W Re-structuring document in June 2021, under the D&W Standing Orders states no member of the Governance Group can sign off issues relating to their own club.</p>

JF stated that these are low key Audits and if needed, a full Audit would be carried out by others.

To view D&W Re-structuring document please [Click here](#) {page 15) **Home clubs highlighted in Yellow.**

GB to ask on behalf of DW should we official invitation Dave Binding to join the SG team.

JF to write to DB, inviting him to become a member of the Safeguarding Team.

Following the publication of D&W Re-structuring document in June 2021, under the D&W Standing Orders sets out how the recruitment process is managed.

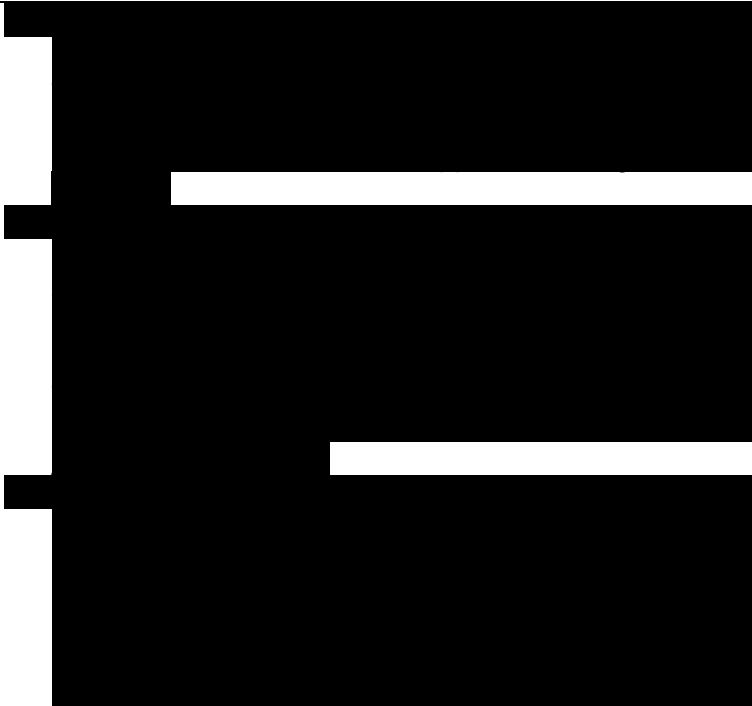
To view D&W Re-structuring document please [Click here](#) {page 25).

3. Self-audits need to be completed by all clubs, date is end of December for the RFU but I have asked for it to be done asap so we can use that along with the self-audits from last year to decide where more intensive support is needed. Several clubs have been identified where they need support and this is in place.
4. Contact made with CBSM from Somerset, Devon and Hampshire re conference to increase value and reach. All looking for a cost-effective venue. JF has access to the Hamworthy club on Magna Road that is suitable, but we need to think about travel for everyone. Local CSO have suggested a weekday would be better due to rugby at the weekend. Working collaboratively with other CB will enable us to increase the value of a face-to-face conference. The RFU Safeguarding team have agreed to attend as needed once we have identified a venue and Date. Speakers also approached. Rich Berry also happy to do a session on Mental health support so hope to have a more solid plan for next meeting.

JF's initial plan was to hold a week day meeting, in and around the Poole area but following comments from several CSO about the fact that they would not be able to attend due to work commitments, JF is to re-visit the planned timing.

GB expressed his concerns that this type of conference would not work due to travel, and he suggested it may be better to hold an Area A meeting, managed by the RFU.

New CSO's in post in several clubs so working with them to ensure they have completed the prerequisites

	<p>and are aware of the demand and experience needed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Playing adult rugby forms are now online with the forms going to JF, JW, DL. All 17yrs old wanting to play adult rugby have been approved within 48 hours. Playing up and down as well as combining age groups is needed across the CB due to low numbers in some age groups. 6. Tutors have delivered 3 Play it safe courses. Well attended. 10 more are in the diary for October and November. Committee members attending which is increasing the awareness of Safeguarding from the top which is supporting CSO's 7. Working with Rugsby safe lead to ensure permissions for tours etc are not approved if the risk assessment date is not completed on GMS. Shared Document to keep track of this to ensure full compliance. 8. Approval for future Festivals coming in and are being looked at as needed. 9. No Tours yet requested.
Current Budget update:	<p>None spent. Request for a portable lectern to be purchased for when presenting at clubs to support JF Cost about £35</p> <p>Following the publication of D&W Re-structuring document in June 2021, under the D&W Standing Orders a Section Lead is authorised to spend up to £200.00 without consent.</p> <p>To view D&W Re-structuring document please Click here {page 22}</p>
Proposed Activity (including estimated cost)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finish Audits and check requested work has been completed 2. Confirm dates for audits that are planned 3. Check back with the CBSM from Hampshire, Devon and Somerset this week re venue and progress for Conference.
Confidential Information not to be published but Council and Management Board need to be aware of.	

	<p>and others about aims, values etc. Use of same words all the way through Age grade helps consistency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should coaches go back to having to do at least 1 CPD per year to keep up to date with the modern game- recommendation is YES. ▪ Should D&W lead on some of the bulk buying partnerships i.e., bulk buying items- sand, drink, 1st aid kit etc. ▪ Club of the future- is this the chance for CB's to reinvent themselves (as facilitators and lead collaboration) <p>These are just a few points to think about. There will be follow up sessions later in the season and any news will be shared.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still part of the Adult Competition Sub Committee, recent meeting looking at impact of early season postponed games on the structured season and potentially the Cup window at the end of the season. Already some teams have games rearranged for the 2 'spare' weekends before Xmas so now any postponed games will go to Feb 2023. I have an ACMSC meeting on the night of our meeting so if anything comes up of interest will advise at the meeting. • Early season postponements have been mainly due to lack of referees. Clubs need to work hard to make sure the referee has as enjoyable afternoon as possible and is not disrespected, otherwise this issue will only get worse. • Have circulated for info some notes from the recent RFU Council meeting and will circulate the Middlesex notes when they come out.
Current Budget update:	n/a
Proposed Activity (including estimated cost)	<p>Continued attendance at meetings where possible. Continuing to try to get out to clubs- if any clubs need a visit or anyone going to a club let me know and if free happy to tag along.</p> <p>Hopefully most clubs would have seen the webinar for Wednesday night on Tackling Energy use etc. and I hope many from our clubs have signed up.</p> <p>I have been asked to be part of the Energy Oversight group. I have the first meeting Wednesday afternoon. Will update in due course with any news.</p>
Other items for discussion (please attach paper with estimated discussion time allocation)	<p>Sorry to ask but could people please at least acknowledge e-mails so that we know they have been received, I think at times has my message been received because nothing is heard back, and I do not think I am the only one.</p>

D&W RFU Council Member's notes

Apologise a little lengthy but please do read.

Had an RFU council meeting on Friday 30th Sept- will share the Middlesex notes when they come out but for info some of the main areas of debate.

Prior to the formal meeting we had our last workshop with Fantail as part of the EDI (Equity, Diversity & Inclusion) programme for all council members. Probably the main message was 'Listen to each other, respect each other'. A lot of the discussion has been around mainly things that are common sense, but we need to always consider the impact of our actions and make sure we are inclusive to all. I am sure Keturah

can add more on this and maybe we should have a 'slot' in one of our meetings set aside for some discussion around this topic? I have already sent around the information about the 'Pitch' online meeting, and I would suggest that where possible we all try to attend or watch later on these meetings.

In Council the early debate was around the way the press is portraying the Head injury/concussion position.

I have shared the briefing note that has come out to help try to show what the game is doing around identifying the problems and responding to them. I think we are now much more aware of the whole picture than we were say 10-15 years ago, this continued gathering of data will help going forward. Maybe the game needs to look at how its coached at all levels- a debate for another day no doubt.

We then had a talk from England Head Coach Eddie Jones- explaining how, as we get closer to the RWC the focus will change on the game played, the influence of the referee on results and so on. The need for getting players physically and mentally equipped to handle the harshest of conditions since to win a RWC you have to win 7 games in a row. Last time we were probably 1 game short of that. There is a drive to improve coaching quality and have a strong leadership team on the field. The team are looking at ways to try to reduce the penalty count- by having a referee attend training sessions for example. There is a need to try to balance the youth with experience. Players need good physical preparation, and the crowded Northern Hemisphere season does not help. In an ideal world need 12-week prep time. Other thoughts- should the number of replacements be reduced from 8 to 5- U12 tackle should be below the hips (i.e., get how to tackle right at an early age), the game needs to have flexibility in its format and the impact of poor social media on players is significant.

There was then an update on Worcester which we know where they are now and Wasps who are not in administration, but the situation is being monitored by the RFU.

Question- Bearing in mind what is now coming out around how Worcester was structured- should D&W look more closely at how its clubs are structured and financed – Can we have an indication on club's accounts say over the last 3-4 years and what clubs responded to the player payment declaration? This might help identify any clubs that might face a sudden risk of financial instability.

Note to everyone- The Red Roses 6 Nations home game v France is at Twickenham at the end of April- it would be great to see the stadium as full as possible for this game- pass the word around the clubs.

County Championship- will be 2 levels for both the Men and ladies based on what level of player teams hope to use. For U20's it's all players from Level 5 and below and more regionalised to help cut travel costs.

We then had a short briefing on the Governance & Business Transformation Project. This is something that is primarily aimed at teams playing levels 1-6 and lined to the Government funding of the Winter Survival money. This is more of a programme to help clubs identify what they might need to work on as far as governance is concerned. It is in effect a club health check. Will be launched in October for the clubs involved but it is hoped the system can be extended to all clubs over time. As well as having the funding from government to help develop this tool, it is also being adapted to support reviews of CB's - WOULD D&W LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN THE TRIALS? We need to encourage those clubs this will apply to, to get involved when its launched.

Game Congress- brief details covered in recent CGU but I hope to have a separate note shortly for everyone. Further dates later in the Autumn

Community Game Board - concern over the poor level of match completion, especially around Merit tables. (only 44% of games played to date). Leagues are 3% off target but the W&G game is ahead of target. Happy to feedback on any ideas around solutions- we know that locally the lack of referees has been a problem, plus hard pitches but overall numbers playing are down. Do we need to look at more merged teams?

Finances- these are generally on budget but like everyone, not knowing in detail the impact of increased utility costs and general inflationary costs is causing everyone to worry.

Finally, after a recent audit of the Injured Players Foundation it was identified that they are ok finance wise, so they have been giving out grants to those in need to help cover the increased living costs.

MM suggested that we set up a Club of future review. Additional work needed to be carried out before the review starts.

JC suggested could the D&W support clubs to obtain a lighting certificate for evening league matches.

7. Executive Committee Update:

a) Accounts

Our accounts are now complete and will be circulated to the clubs later this month.

b) Outstanding Invoices

Updated list for payments received for Non-voting Affiliated Clubs, GB will issue a final reminder giving them to the 31st of October 2022, to settle all outstanding invoices. Failure to comply will result in the exclusion from the D&W with immediate effect including all competitions. **Agreed**

The D&W Affiliated Clubs listed below have not paid by to today's date (10th of October 2022). Normally clubs pay by Standing Order.

1. Calne RFC
2. Christchurch RFC
3. Colerne RFC
4. Corsham RFC
5. East Dorset Dockers RFC
6. Minety RFC
7. Royal Wootton Bassett RFC
8. Sherborne RFC
9. Sutton Benger RFC

GB stated that he was not concerned due to these clubs only being 10days overdue.

List of outstanding invoices wanted.

AH

c) Discipline

We have had several clubs who have failed to comply with RFU Regulation 19, regarding the reporting of a Red Card or Match Official Abuse within the mandated period of 48 hours from the completion of the match to the D&W Discipline Secretary. This regulation also applies to Age Grade Matches as well. Clubs by failing to comply are incurring extra cost if the case is proven. **Area Reps**

Club Referee's also have to comply with RFU Regulation 19, regarding the reporting of a Red Card or Match Official Abuse within the mandated period of 48 hours from the completion of the match to the D&W Referee's Discipline Secretary. **Area Reps**

Two clubs will be receiving formal warnings for failing to comply with RFU Regulation 19 (failing to manage and report an incident in the correct manner). A third club is also under investigation for the same offence.

Bystander Training

The D&W is one of first CBs to be selected to participate in a new RFU course about Bystander Training.

The course, built in conjunction with a leading training provider Pearn Kandola, is Bystander training and this is aimed at giving people the tools and confidence to challenge inappropriate behaviour. This interactive course that will be delivered by RFU training staff, either in-person or through Zoom, will focus on several scenarios that many of us will face not just in the Rugby environment but in our day to day lives.

This session is a key education module that will be delivered to your clubs, and it is essential that our leaders across the game have been through the training.

Please could you let me know over the next week or so when you would be available for a period of 2 hours, either in person or zoom.

Names to GB, of those who wish to attend. So far JC & JF.

Total number of cases this year is 20, with 35% of all cases being Age Grade.

Date	Ref No	Club	Recipient	Section	Charge	Outcome	Sanction	Notes
10/09/2022	D&W-22/001	SCOB	Eoin Crean	Adult	9.12 - Striking	Proved	1 match Ban	
10/09/2022	D&W-22/002	Devizes	Craig Bryant	Adult	9.12 - Striking	Proved	3 match ban	
10/09/2022	D&W-22/003	Buckingham	James Temple	Adult	9.12 - Intentional Contact with Eye(s)	Proved	6 match ban	Passed to Bucks RFU
09/09/2022	D&W-22/004	North Dorset		Age Grade	9.12 - Striking	Overturned		
09/09/2022	D&W-22/009	North Dorset		Age Grade	5.12 (Striking)	Proved	2 match Ban	Charge based on the video received
09/09/2022	D&W-22/005	Clayesmore School		Age Grade	9.12 - Striking	Proved	2 match Ban	
09/09/2022	D&W-22/006	Wimborne 2's	Will Spriggs	Adult	9.27 – Two Yellow Cards	Proved	1 match ban	
17/09/2022	D&W-22/007	Corsham	Kieran Dry	Adult	9.27 – Two Yellow Cards	Proved	1 match Ban	
17/09/2022	D&W-22/008	Melksham	Richard Carlile	Adult	9.11	Proved	4 match ban	
18/09/2022	D&W-22/010	Supermarine	Jose Mantinan	Spectator	5.12 - MOA			Passed to the RFU
	D&W-22/011	Poole	Club	Adult		Proved	Warning	For failing to report an incident
	D&W-22/012	Swanage & Wareham	Club	Adult		Proved	Warning	For failing to report an incident
	D&W-22/013	Mimi DeWinters	Poole	Adult	5.12	Proved		
24/09/2022	D&W-22/014	Sherborne	Elliot Cuff	Adult	9.13			
24/09/2022	D&W-22/015	Sherborne	Toby O'Loughlin	Adult	9.28 - MOA			
25/09/2022	D&W-22/016	Salisbury		Age Grade	9.12 & 9.28	Proved	4 match ban	Plus Other Conditions
01/10/2022	D&W-22/017	Wheatshaf CC	Daniel Chapple	Adult	9.12 Player Abuse - 9.28 Dissent			
01/10/2022	D&W-22/018	Wimborne 2's	Alex Mason	Adult	9.12			
02/10/2022	D&W-22/019	Lyvett Minster Un 16's		Age Grade	Citing			Club Citing also
02/10/2022	D&W-22/020	Wimborne Un 16's		Age Grade	9.28 - MOA			

CB asked if there is any way the D&W could support the referees, regarding Match Official Abuse. DN stated that unfortunately referees are not allowed to have a bad game like others can. The common view is that if the referee has a bad day, they have ruined the weekend for everyone. DN commented the planned Bystander Training may be something to look at.

GB reported that the feeling is that this year we will see a higher number of cases of Match Official Abuse, but with an increase in sanctions being enforced now, which will result in a drop in recorded offences next year.

GB also stated that it is important that all referee's report cases of Match Official Abuse.

GB suggested that maybe the appointment of Pitch Side Marshals should be incorporated into regulations.

GB to talk with JC about the idea.

CB suggested that we should review which clubs the abuse is happening at and which referees are being abused. This information would allow us to intervene with support.

d) Club Support

Claim received from Swanage & Wareham RFC for last year's Rugby Focus Grant (£1,000.00). Still two £1,000.00 grants from last year, not claimed Christchurch RFC and Weymouth & Portland RFC (W&P have been in contact about theirs – issues with the planned scheme, which are still to be resolved).

Wheatsheaf Cabin Crew reported that the boiler has failed, issue reported to both the Council and the RFU South West Facilities team.

RFU South West Facilities team and D&W Club Support (GB and Alan Ottaway) attend a meeting with Wimborne RFC and Dorset County Council, regarding the relocation of the club.

Grant Applications

No response

We have several clubs which do not engage with the D&W. Therefore CB/GB recommend that if a club does not engage with the D&W.

1. Clubs will have a qualifying period from now to August 2023 to engage with the D&W.
2. Thereafter starting in September 2023, they will automatically lose the right to be considered for any D&W Grants or Support for 1 year.

Agreed

e) Community Rugby

CB outlined the Community Rugby Co-ordinator role; it was agreed that we should proceed, and it should be a paid role. CB to draw up a JD for the role and circulate.

GB on behalf of DW outlined details of the Walking rugby Festival. Which would be held in March 2023.



Date:	9th October 2022
Reportee:	Sean Macey
Previous month's activity:	<u>Dorset and Wilts Cup Competitions</u> Entry to the RFU Papa John Community Cup appears to have been brought forward to December. There also seems to be an indication that some form of travel reimbursement will be on offer. In regard to our own competitions this will give us an earlier insight into how many of our 1 st XV's will effectively give way to a CB cup in favour of a national one; the travel expense detail could well be a strong factor in decision making.

	<p>There is a meeting of the Competitions Committee planned for 19th October to further discuss the situation.</p> <p><u>Dorset and Wilts Leagues</u></p> <p>All leagues are now up and running. Thus far we have had 8 games which have involved walkovers resulting in league points being deducted.</p> <p>Concern surrounds East Dorset Dockers II who play in C3DWS. They are, already, one game away from being expunged from the league. In all likelihood this seems a foregone conclusion. The knock on effect for the league is that there will be only 5 teams competing. This means fewer games. Hopefully the Dorset Merit table will be of assistance when requires.</p> <p><u>Tribute TOTM Award</u></p> <p>Marlborough RFC won the September award. We are still awaiting delivery of the slabs of Tribute prior to making the presentation.</p>
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f) Representative Rugby

Under 20's Lead Coach vacancy – two candidates withdrew on the day (5th of October 2022) of the interview. New round of interviews Wednesday 12th October 2022.

Bill Beaumont County Championship Division 2

06-May-23 Gloucestershire vs Dorset & Wilts (Date of the Coronation)
 13-May-23 Dorset & Wilts vs Devon (Possible Double-header with GBCC)

Gill Burns County Championship Division 3

14-May-23 Dorset & Wilts vs Devon
 21-May-23 Middlesex vs Dorset & Wilts



Club Details received to date

- Wheatsheaf Cabin Crew RFC
- Sherborne RFC
- Oakmeadians RFC
- Pewsey Vale RFC
- Marlborough RFC
- East Dorset Dockers RFC
- Salisbury RFC
- Christchurch RFC
- Amesbury RFC
- Wimborne RFC
- Swanage & Wareham RFC
- North Dorset RFC
- Puddletown RFC
- Dorchester RFC
- Blandford RFC
- Weymouth & Portland RFC
- Corsham RFC
- Colerne RFC

JC asked for a list of clubs who have not replied. GB to compile and circulate.

The following Non-voting Affiliated Clubs to be removed from GMS

GB/DW

- Fairford RFC (Paid by mistake, refund wanted) **AH**
- Guys Marsh Barbarians RFC (The RFU have been in contact with them for non-payment of Discipline invoices). Payment plan to be set up for [REDACTED] agreed by GB and RFU.
- Wiltshire Police
- Wiltshire Fire
- Frome Valley Lions
- Dorset Police

The clubs listed below have until the 1st of October 2022, to confirm their D&W Non-voting Affiliated status.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| ❖ Wincanton RFC | |
| ❖ New Milton RFC | Paid |
| ❖ Combe Down RFC | Paid |
| ❖ Ellingham & Ringwood RFC | Paid |
| ❖ Frome RFC | Paid |
| ❖ Nationwide (Swindon) RFC | |
| ❖ Aldbourne Dabchicks RFC | |
| ❖ Yeovil RFC | |
| ❖ Bovington Bisons | |
| ❖ Bath Saracens RFC | |
| ❖ Fordingbridge RFC | Paid |
| ❖ Chard RFC | Paid |
| ❖ Avonvale RFC | Paid |
| ❖ Walcot | Paid |

At least two clubs are recorded on GMS, but do not appear in the D&W club listings

- ✓ Green Gazelles Rugby Club (162870)
- ✓ Compeed Marlborough Nomads 7s (162871)

Paid

Gerald Burden - Gen Sec