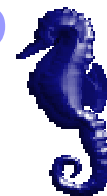




Weymouth Rugby Football Club

Mini and Youth Section



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News Letter

On the 27th May 2007 a new Weymouth RFC Mini and Youth committee was formed / elected to underpin the hard work of the past years and to ensure the Mini and Youth prospered in the future. The initial committee is made up of six members who look after the main committee functions. By the time the new season begins additional roles will have been identified and communicated to all parents.

Committee Members:-

Glyn Arnold – Chairman – 07707-036432
Des Quick – Vice Chair / School liaison / fixtures– 07729-845216
Sally Chittick – Welfare – 07977-450470
Chris Davis – Secretary– 07736-599021
Ken Pipe – Treasurer– 01305-789912 or Work 01179-188615
Denise Davis - Fundraising– *via Chris Davis* 07736-599021

The meeting also saw the introduction of Team Managers for each age group who will support the coaches and improve the communication between the club, players / parents. Team Managers will directly look after initial enrolment, session attendance & registration and will be available for the parents to seek advice / help etc.

All age groups from under 7`s upwards have both a male & female point of contact, either Coach or Team Manager.

Team Managers for 2007/08 are: -

Diane Adams– Under 14`s
Lisa Keenan- Under 12`s
Jackie Arnold & Andy Dewell Under 10`s & 11`s
Rob Hutton & Alison Waller Under 9`s
Kate Berry & Sean Hawker Under 7`s & 8`s

Photos, Contact numbers & email address's will be available shortly via the web site

Coaching 2007/08

This new season will see the introduction of five new coaches to supplement the already dedicated coaching staff, improving the player / coach ratio, which will allow more time for skills / team development in more manageable groups.

The Mini and Youth Section and Colts rugby help to provide the building blocks for the senior team of the future. The coaching at club is under the leadership of head coach, Barry Ross Mackenzie, his coaching coordinators and his coaching staff. There is greater focus on long term player development, streamlining of ideas and coaching across the age groups to promote "best practice" wherever possible. The coaching staff regularly attends Weymouth RFC coaching sessions and RFU organized events to ensure they are kept up to date on all new developments within the game.

Coaches for 2007/08 Season are: -

Colts under 17 & under 18 (plus under 16`s playing up)

Des Quick assisted by Rob Maisey, players are eligible for senior matches on their 17th birthday (front row on their 18th)

Under 14`s (Plus u13`s playing up)

Gordon Harding, Robert Adams & Lian Berry **NEW** (senior club player wealth of experience, has helped out in previous years, daughter plays for the club)

Under 12`s

Andrew Tanner & Pablo Harding

Under 11`s (Plus u10`s playing up)

Sean Weeks, Mark Wildman **NEW** (helped out end of last season, ex senior player, son plays for the club), Jim Collins **NEW** (new to the club, experienced in rugby and working with children, son is also joining the club) & Andy Dewell (due to work commitments Andy will be coaching as and when he can, also team manager for this group)

Under 9`s

Glyn Arnold, Chris Davis & Justin Waller **NEW** (Experienced working with children, has two sons at the club)

Under 7`s & 8`s

Paul Heather & Angela Hearn **NEW** (helped out end of last season, experienced in ladies rugby and very experienced first aider)

Under 6`s

Andrew Martin, very experienced working with younger children has son in this age group

Head Coach-Barry Ross McKenzie

Coaching Co-coordinators – Graeme Williams & Jon Hallett

Photos, Contact numbers & email address's will be available shortly via the web site

First Aiders for 2007-08 are:-

Chris Davis, Glyn Arnold, Sally Chittick, Diane Adams, Des Quick, Barry Ross McKenzie, Bob Adams, Jim Collins, Angela Hearn & John Lloyd ,from the seniors

Additional Points

New for this season will be a club shop selling all the kit the children should need, shirts, shorts socks etc

This will be a joint venture between the seniors and us and full details are still waiting to be finalized.

This year we are looking into the possibility of entering teams into local rugby festivals such as Dorchester, Wimborne, Bournemouth & Salisbury (subject to acceptance and RFU regulations)

There is also a possibility of us taking part in the Guernsey festival next February but we will need to gauge interest & commitment in attending prior to making any agreement to taking part

The Club is anticipating being awarded the RFU seal of approval in early September; many thanks to everybody for they're hard work especially Sally Chittick

Currently we are trying to raise the profile of the Club within the local community by

our involvement in local events like, Beach Rugby, RAF Youth Festival & Weymouth Carnival (see separate notice) and the publicity generated through the Dorset Echo. By raising the profile of the Club it should hopefully make it easier for us to attract much needed sponsorship and involvement from local business both large and small. Recruitment of players in the different age groups should also benefit although the best recommendation is often from the children themselves direct to their friends and classmates.

This year we will also be trying to forge even closer links between ourselves and the Senior Club by: - Asking senior players to attend Sunday coaching sessions as they act as role model for the children. Mini and Youth representatives to lead out the First Team players at home games, the first game of the season perhaps the clubman & players of the year for each age group from last season could participate.

It has been suggested that we start up a veterans team at the club is anybody interested or ideas to get this off the ground!

Registration for the new season will commence at 10:00 o'clock on Sunday September 2nd at the clubhouse. Team Managers for the age groups will administer the registration process allowing the coaches and the children to commence training without delay.

After much debate the decision has been taken to increase the membership fee to £30 per child, the club membership fee will stay unchanged at £5 per family per season. The fee has remained unchanged for many years and the increase is needed to help cover the rising cost of replacing and funding training equipment like the junior scrum machine to promote safe scrummaging, as well as various other costs that are incurred. Some age groups may also request weekly subs to assist with additional costs of travel, catering etc. etc)

Weymouth RFC Mini and Youth can only be successful with the buy in of everybody involved in the Club, children, parents, coaches and everybody involved in the Club. Please remember that the Club is here for everybody and it needs everybody help and support!

We need every parent to get involved in any way possible, from car park marshaling cars at home games, transport to away games, working in the kitchen. The list goes on and on and can seem virtually endless, but if we can utilize everybody's skills and attributes the children will reap the rewards both on and off the rugby pitch.

This letter is one of the many ways that we will try to keep you as parents informed of what is going on at the Club. We hope to hold Monthly Parents meetings at the Clubhouse after training, Regular updates on the web site of what's going on & Quarterly newsletters to all parents at the Club.

Yours,

Chris Davis
On Behalf of
Mini and Youth Committee