

JUNIOR SECTION BLANDFORD RFC



AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2007

We have now been back training for over a month now and most age groups have already played their first match. Generally it has been a very good start to the season for the Junior Section with a steady rise in new players joining our ranks in all age groups. This influx of players means that as a Junior Section we can field a team in every age group from U7 to U15, well done to all those who have brought along a friend or family member.

Most of you have already paid the yearly subscription fees though there are still a few fees outstanding, remember if you have not paid your child is not covered by the insurance and is not allowed to play under the RFU regulations. Please see Joy at the earliest opportunity to pay outstanding fees.

In order to ensure that we have the correct details listed for your child there is a Player Data Folder containing your child's details. Please review and sign the appropriate data sheet making any alterations. We are only human and transcribing the information from written to electronic can result in the occasional error. Remember there are certain changes which will require you to submit a new registration form via the club to the RFU. If you are unsure if you need to do this speak to Joy and she will advise you.

Most parents have completed and returned the Medical Information/Photo Permission forms. If you have not completed your forms please complete and return them to either myself or Joy.

Kit sales are a popular source of Christmas presents so to avoid any disappointment parents should contact Noel to ensure that he has time to order kit as he only carries a small number of each item and especially with things like the hats when the weather turns cold the demand exceeds the stock held.

As we have now started to play matches I have included both the Players and Parents Codes of Conduct as a reminder of how we all should behave whilst representing or supporting BRFC. These codes are extracted from our Junior Section Policy documentation pack. If you are unsure of any welfare point please do speak to your age group coach who will put you in contact with the correct member of the Administrative staff to help you.

We will be adopting the RFU published guidelines concerning the taking of photographs and/or videos of your child whilst playing. If you wish to do either then please contact either Joy or myself and we will explain the acceptable procedures which you will have to comply with. BRFC Junior Section is not the only club within the county to follow these guidelines and indeed the County Welfare Officer is keen to have all clubs within the county complying with these guidelines as soon as possible.

Do you spend the morning waiting around to take your child home after training or a match, if so have you ever considered helping out in some way? As a section we are always looking for a parent who could spare some time to help with a variety of jobs which help in the smooth running of the section. No doubt some of you will be wondering where the source of tea and coffee has disappeared to – well as we now have so many age groups not everybody is in the same place at the same time. As a mum of a playing child I am often taking him to away matches, hence the unavailability of the tuck shop. The tuck shop provides a good source of income for the section. It is also used to provide the traditional hot dogs for the U7 to U12 after home matches and without a couple of volunteers to run it whilst I am at away matches there will be no food for visiting teams or our children after matches. There must be a couple of parents in this age group who would be willing to undertake this job, the more who volunteer the least frequent one person who have to undertake the job. Please contact me to discuss this if you would be interested in lending a hand.

Finally you will find enclosed a BRFC Junior Membership Card for your child. This card will provide proof of eligibility to use the facilities of the clubhouse in town. Remember to check the website on a regular basis to see what events are up coming.

Helen Oliver
Chairperson BRFC Junior Section

Players Code

All BRFC Coaches, Administrative Staff and Parents should encourage all players to:

- Recognise and appreciate the efforts made by all coaches, parents, match officials and administrators in providing the opportunity for them to be able to play rugby and enjoy the rugby environment.
- Understand the values of loyalty and commitment to coaches and fellow team mates.
- Understand that if an individual or group of players feel they are not being treated in a manner that is acceptable, then they should tell an adult either at the Club or outside the game.
- Take part in rugby because they want to do so, not because they want to please coaches or parents.
- Remember that skill development, fun and enjoyment are the most important part of the game.
- Be attentive at all training and coaching sessions.
- Work equally hard for themselves and their fellow team mates, both will then benefit.
- Recognise good play by any players either on their own team or by their opponents.
- Be a good sportsperson – win with dignity, lose with grace. Play to the rules of the game and accept without question, all referee's decisions even if they appear to be incorrect.
- Control their emotions. Verbal or physical abuse of team mates, opponents, coaches, match officials or spectators is not acceptable behaviour.
- Treat all players, as they would be like to be treated themselves. Do not interfere with, bully or take advantage of any player.

Parents Code

BRFC will encourage Parents/Guardians/Carers to:

- Be familiar with the coaching and match programme in order that they can ensure that their child is fully involved and the coaches are aware of their availability.
- Be familiar with the teaching and coaching methods used by observing the coaching sessions in which their child participates.
- Be aware that BRFC has a Duty of Care to ensure that the safety of players and therefore, where appropriate, assist coaches with the supervision of players, particularly where numbers are large and there is a need to transport players to away fixtures.
- Be involved with BRFC activities and share their expertise, qualifications or skills
- Share concerns, if they have any, with BRFC officials.
- Be familiar with the BRFC Codes of Conduct contained within this document and the Conduct Guidelines set on in the RFU Continuum. In particular be aware that coaches should recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when coaching players, and coaches should keep winning and losing in perspective, encouraging players to behave with dignity in all circumstances. Support coaches in instilling these virtues to their children.
- Remember that young people play rugby for their enjoyment – do not force them if they do not want to play.
- Focus on the efforts of the player – not on winning.
- Be realistic about the ability of their child, do not push them towards a level that they are not capable of achieving.
- Provide positive verbal feedback, both in training and during any games.
- Remember that persistent negative messages will adversely affect the players' and referee's performance and attitude.
- Always support BRFC in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from the game.
- Remember that all young people learn much by example.
- Always show appreciation of good play from any player from either BRFC or the opposing team.
- Respect any decision made by match officials, even if they appear to be incorrect, and encourage the players to do the same.