

# CONSETT RFC



CONSETT RUGBY CLUB

**YOUTH SECTION HANDBOOK  
SEASON 2007-2008**

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## **Message from our Child Welfare Officer.**

On behalf of Consett RFC I would like to say welcome to you all. Consett RFC is a club open to all young people and children (both boys and girls) between the ages of six and eighteen.

The club fields three Senior Teams, an under 18s team and Junior and Mini teams from the age of 6 – 18yrs.

In this pack you will find general information about the club, if you should require anything further please do not hesitate to contact your team manager (these are detailed further in the pack)

Please can you take the time to read your pack and sign and return all relevant forms needed for your child's participation within the club. It is important we receive the completed forms (including parental consent) to allow your child(ren) to train/play for the club, and for insurance purposes.

If anyone wishes to volunteer, you are more than welcome to join our growing volunteer team which aids in the smooth running of the youth section. For details of volunteer roles please contact Ian Jackson our Club Volunteer Coordinator on 07795208185.

The youth section depends solely on volunteers, donations and its members' subscriptions, please pay your child's subs each week.

I hope that everyone has a fantastic season and don't forget it's also about your child / team having fun – IT IS A GAME.

Your rugby season begins in September and runs to May each year for both the Junior and Mini Sections.

Our clubhouse is open seven nights a week for members and their guests and the functions rooms are also available for hire.

## **Training & Matches**

It is important that all players attend both training sessions and matches. If for any reason you are not able to attend please let either your coach or manager know as soon as possible.

Mini Section Training takes place each Sunday morning from 10.00am, can you please be ready in your kit for this time.

All training and home games are held at the club house at Belle Vue Park.

Matches for both the minis and junior squads take place on a Sunday morning KO usually at 11am (if this is to change your team coach will notify you of the change in the previous training session).

On cold days plenty of layers, if you get hot it is easier to take layers off to cool down than it is to warm up.

For the junior players please wear a club shirt and tie (which are available from the club) – to get these see Vicky Harrison.

## **Personal Hygiene**

Consett RFC and its volunteers are advocates of Healthy Lifestyles and place high on its agenda Personal Health & Hygiene. Our aim is to have all players washed/showered and changed into clean clothes at the end of both training session's and matches. Could you please ensure that you child brings with them a towel and a change of clothes each week.

## **Equipment**

Equipment needed by each player for their training and matches are as follows:-

- Boots – these must be fitted with rugby studs not the football ones
- Shorts/Tracksuit bottoms
- Socks
- Suitable training top
- Gum shield or any other protective equipment
- Water bottle
- And a towel for use after training session

Please note not to use expensive clothing for training, and any other clothing for health and safety must be free of zips or other sharp fastenings.

For match days the club colours are black shorts, red, yellow and white socks. The players are to provide their own shorts and socks, however the top is provided by the club.

## Transport

Transportation will be provided for away fixtures for the players but we would appreciate any help where possible from parents at both home and away fixtures.

## Coaching

Young players are coached within the guidelines of The RFU's Continuum.

The teams are mixed for both boys and girls up to and including the Under 12 age group, where if girls wish to continue within the sport they must join Gateshead District Girls Rugby which is based at Ryton RFC.

All coach's are at present taking part in various courses from 'Equity in your coaching' to 'good practice & child protection'. Each coach also has a Full Enhanced Disclosure (CRB Check) as inline with child protection policies which are implemented within the rugby club and the RFU Guidelines.

## Age Groups

The age groups we use are set down in the RFU's Continuum for all Rugby Clubs and they are based on the player's age at the start of each Season (September). They correspond to school year groups as follows:

Club Team	School Year
Under 7	Year 2
Under 8	Year 3
Under 9	Year 4
Under 10	Year 5
Under 11	Year 6
Under 12	Year 7
Under 13	Year 8
Under 14	Year 9
Under 15	Year 10
Under 16	Year 11

## Membership & Subs

All players must complete a Consett RFC and RFU Registration Form (club application forms are included in this handbook and RFU forms are available from your Team Manager).

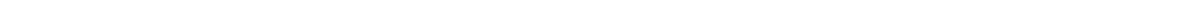
Annual Membership for players up to Under 16 are £5 per year. Players are asked to pay their subs each week, £2.00 per week for Junior Section Members (over 10) and £1.00 per week for Mini Section Members (under 10). Each player must also register at the beginning of each session. All monies raised are used within the club in the form of training equipment, selection boxes, cost of food and various other ways which benefits your child.

**Volunteering**

The Rugby Club welcomes parents who wish to watch their children play within their teams and also any who wish to become involved with the running of their children's/young persons team.

Quite a lot of work goes on behind the scenes, not just the coaching of the individual teams, such as taking kit to the laundrette, helping in the kitchen (making teas, coffees) etc.

If you would like to get involved and have a couple of hours spare on a weekend, please contact John Paul Heatherington or leave the attached slip with Vicky Harrison.



**Volunteering at Consett RFC**

I can help with .....

My name is: .....

Contact Details .....

.....

.....

# **CODES OF CONDUCT**

## **Parents/Carers/Guardians and Spectator Guide**

- Encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to take part in a sport.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Publicly accept official's judgement.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use the correct and proper language at all times.

## **Players Guide**

- All members must play within the rules and respect officials and their decision.
- All members must respect each other and their opponents.
- All members must pay their subs weekly, unless arranged otherwise (this nominal amount contributes towards the cost of food, drinks, transport and fuel for all the games both home and away).
- Junior members are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions
- All members are not permitted into the clubhouse after playing and training without being clean.
- Please remember the players are taking part for their enjoyment not yours.
- Be on your best behaviour. Do not use foul, sexist or racist language or harass players, coaches or match officials.

## **Coach's/Team Manager's & Volunteers**

- Consider the wellbeing and safety of the participants before the development of performance.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with performers, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
- Promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play etc).
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Follow all guidelines laid down by the national governing body and the club.
- Hold the appropriate, valid qualifications and insurance cover.
- Never exert undue influence over performers to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibitive substances.
- Encourage performers to value their performances and not just results.

- Show respect to all players, spectators and match officials.

## **EQUITY POLICY STATEMENT**

This club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Sport England definition of sports equity.

Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.

The club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status.

The club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.

All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.

The club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to club disciplinary procedures.

# CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

It is widely accepted that it is the responsibility of every adult to protect children from abuse. Abuse can occur within many situations including the home, school and sporting environment. Some individuals will actively seek employment or voluntary work with children in order to harm them.

Everyone who works in Rugby Union, either in paid or voluntary capacity, together with those working in affiliated organisations has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of children and preventing their abuse. All adult club members and coaches may have regular contact with children and can be a very important link in identifying cases where a child needs protection.

The Management Committee & Members of Consett RFC recognise that they have a responsibility:

- To safeguard and promote the interests and well-being of children with whom they are working;
- To take all reasonable practical steps to protect children from physical harm, discrimination, or degrading treatment;
- To respect their rights, wishes and feelings.

Our child protection procedures will:

- Offer safeguards to the children with whom we work and also to our members of staff, coaches and club members;
- Help to maintain the professionalism and the safeguards of good practice which are associated with the RFU and the sport of Rugby Union.

In addition Consett RFU will ensure that:

- The child's welfare is paramount;
- All children whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse;
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- Anyone under the age of 18 years of age will be considered as a child for the purposes of this document.

Consett RFC are committed to the sound recruitment, provision of support and appropriate training for all professional staff, coaches, volunteers and club members who have responsibility for children in connection with the Club. This will enable them to work together with parents/carers and other organisations to ensure that the needs and the welfare of children remain paramount.

If you would like a full copy of the Child Protection Policy, please contact Paul Dixon. Alternatively, a copy is available at both the changing facilities at Belle Vue park, and at The Demi.

## Club Shop

Below is an order form for all equipment available from the club shop.

The shop is open every Saturday and Sunday for the purchase of equipment and sportswear. Should you require any items please see Vicky Harrison who will organise your requested equipment.

### Order Form Details

Players/Volunteers Name: .....

Contact Details: .....

.....  
.....

Telephone Number: .....

Signed : .....  
(Please note if under 18 years of age parent/guardian must also sign)

Date: .....

Collection Details (To be signed by Club Official and Player/parent)

Order Collected on: .....

Club Official:..... Player/parent: .....

# **FORMS & CONSENT**

## **Membership Form**

The club membership form is attached to this pack. This form must be completed by both the player and parent/carer. It is very important that we have all details completed on this form. Please pay particular notice to the emergency contact information and any medical information that we may need in the future. If anything changes or your child is diagnosed with a condition that you did not tell us about, please let us know as soon as possible.

All information that you return to us will be treated in the strictest of confidence and stored under the Data Protection Act.

Each player must also complete a RFU membership form which is available from your team manager. This should be completed and returned with 2 passport size photos (this is free for all players)

## **Consent Form**

This consent form must be completed also. Without this we are not able to let your child travel for away games.

This is also used for any team photos that are taken, these are published on the club web site and sometimes used in the newsletter and other publicity material. If you do not wish your child's picture to be published in any way we will make sure that this does not happen.

# CONSETT RFC

## YOUTH MEMBERSHIP FORM

We are pleased to welcome you to Consett RFC.

To ensure that we have the correct contact details for you, please insert the information requested below and return this form to your Team Manager. If you are under 16 please also ask your parent or guardian to sign this form before it is returned.

We will also use this information to ensure that you are kept informed about club events.

### **Personal details**

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Home Telephone Number:

Mobile Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Date of Birth:

Gender: Male      Female

### **Sports Equality Monitoring**

Whilst it is not compulsory that this section is completed the following paragraph explains why it is important.

“Sport can and does play a major role in promoting the inclusion of all groups in society. However, inequalities have traditionally existed within sport, particularly in relation to gender, race and disability. Sport England is committed to promoting and developing sports equity, which is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. By monitoring the profile of young people in sports clubs, national governing bodies of sport and Sport England can identify any issues relating to under-representation of different groups and can together develop strategies that ensure that all young people have the opportunity in the future to develop and progress in sport.”

## **Ethnicity**

In order to help the club monitor its membership can you please tick one of the following boxes to identify your ethnic group/origin.

Chose one section for A to E and then tick the appropriate box.

### **A White**

British

Irish

Any other white background (please specify)

### **B Mixed**

White & Black Caribbean

White & Black African

White & Asian

Any other mixed background (please specify)

### **C Asian or Asian British**

Indian

Pakistani

Bangladeshi

Any other Asian background (please specify)

### **D Black or Black British**

Caribbean

African

Any other Black background (please specify)

### **E Chinese or other ethnic group**

Chinese

Any other background (please specify)

## **Disability**

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 defines a disabled person as anyone with a 'physical or mental impairment' which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out day-to-day activities.

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?                      Yes      No

If yes, what is the nature of your disability?

Visual impairment

Hearing impairment

Physical disability

Learning disability

Multiple disabilities

Other (please specify):

