

MEET ENJOY GROW

Welcome to a new season of Mini and Youth Rugby at Bridgnorth Rugby Football Club, where we are rightly proud of the achievements and the excellent attitude of our young players.

The club aims to ensure that players, coaches, parents, spectators and volunteers uphold the Core Values of rugby union, Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship. These values will stand our young people in good stead both on and off the rugby pitch and are reflected in the RFU's Code of Rugby.

Bridgnorth RFC supports its aims that we:

- Play to win - but not at all cost
- Win with dignity, lose with grace
- Observe the Laws and regulations of the game
- Respect opponents, referees and participants
- Reject cheating, racism, violence and drugs
- Value volunteers and paid officials alike
- Enjoy the game

Last season Bridgnorth managed to both win with dignity and lose with grace and we are proud that our young teams are as renowned for their fair play as for their successes. We are also proud of our RFU seal of approval status, which recognises our achievement in reaching and maintaining the standard of a club committed to providing a quality rugby union experience for young players.

Bridgnorth RFC is a local club at the heart of our community, with links with local schools. We are delighted by the number of players who progress up the age levels and into our senior teams. Keeping players involved throughout their school days and beyond means that they benefit from being part of the rugby family and from the friendships and health benefits that our sport offers.

The credit for our success as a club is due to the commitment of our young players, the endeavours of the club's qualified and enthusiastic coaches, our many marvellous volunteers, our players' parents and supporters and our sponsors. We would like to thank you all and look forward to your continued support.

With a full fixture programme and a full programme of social events coming up, we would be delighted to see our new players and their parents and families fully involved. We are always glad to have help so please talk about volunteer roles with our coaches, managers or anyone on the Mini & Youth Committee.

Registration day is always tremendously busy, so I would ask for your patience and understanding as there are many tasks to perform to ensure that the club lives up to its high standards so that your children are properly registered and cared for in the coming season. I would also ask for subs to be paid within four weeks of registration so that we can handle the finances to everyone's benefit. However, if any parent or guardian has a particular financial need this can be discussed in confidence with Ellie Taylor, Club Secretary and Welfare Officer.

This pack should contain all the information you need but do ask questions or log on to the club website at www.bridgnorthrfc.co.uk.

A very warm welcome to the 2011/12 season at Bridgnorth Rugby Club and we hope that you all enjoy the rugby.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Lewis
Bridgnorth Rugby Club
Mini & Youth Chairman

JOIN OUR SPORT

Insert club Mini and Youth section provides rugby for children of all ages and abilities.

Our Mini Section caters for children of six years old (under 7s) up to 11 years old (under 12s). The Youth Section provides for children from 12 years old (under 13s) up to 18, at which age they can join the senior section.

All age groups adhere to the RFU Age Grade Regulation 15 (rfu.com/regulations), a playing and coaching pathway by which clubs and schools introduce rugby in three incremental stages (Mini-Midi Rugby) so that by Under 13 level, players have the skills and knowledge to participate in the full 15-a-side game.

Each stage has its own rules distinguishing it from the adult game. This progression accommodates the changing developmental abilities of children as they mature, with the emphasis on the improvement of individual skills through purposeful and enjoyable activity. Provision is made for testing these skills in match situations during a limited number of competitive fixtures and festivals/tournaments each season.

The enjoyment and safeguarding of children is of paramount importance at insert club here and we are committed to providing opportunities for all children to play rugby in a friendly, fun and safe environment. For a beginner's guide to rugby's rules and regulations visit rfu.com/beginners.

BE PART OF A TEAM

Training, selection & availability

Training for the Mini Section is on Sunday morning from insert time, with matches usually kicking off at insert time. Any alterations will be notified by the team coach or manager. At insert club here we want to ensure that all children have opportunities to play, selection for individual matches being the responsibility of team coaches and managers.

Training for the Youth Section is on insert day evenings from insert time pm and on insert day mornings from insert time am, matches usually kicking off at insert time am on insert day . Alterations will be notified by the team coach or manager. Insert club here will aim to maximise playing opportunities for all, with selection for particular matches the responsibility of team coaches and managers.

All training and home games are held at the club house at insert training/home game address.

Parents & Guardians

Remain responsible for their children at training/matches and are encouraged to stay, especially if their children are in the Mini Section.

Punctuality

Children should be in rugby kit ready to start sessions on time, especially on match days. Please let the coach know if your child is unavailable to train or play as they will not want to let team mates down.

Two-way conversation

Get to know your team's coach and manager who will be glad to chat and receive constructive feedback or particular information regarding your child.

Necessary kit

As with most sports, players need kit, at the club this will be: rugby boots, socks, shorts and shirt, mouth guard, and water bottle. Insert club shop or name of sports shop that stocks these items.

The club colours are insert colours. Team shirts should be worn on match days. Shorts should be insert colour. Kit and items are available from insert club shop or name of sports shop that stocks these items.

- Boots, with safety studs, should be certified to IRB regulations. In warm, dry weather trainers or melded boots may be acceptable.
- Mouth guards are strongly recommended, and you can obtain custom made mouth guards. A custom fitting mouth guard service is available on insert day at insert time or delete.
- Any other protective equipment is worn at the discretion of the parent/player but must conform to IRB standards (a reputable sports shop can advise).
- Wearing layers means players can discard items as they warm up. Waterproof tops must not have zips.
- Players will need a set of clean clothes to change into after training or matches.
- Players' drinks should be provided, especially on hot days, when sunscreen may be needed.

COACH REFEREE VOLUNTEER

Coaching [L1 SEP]

Young players are coached under the RFU Age Grade Regulations and boys and girls train and play together up to and including the Under 12 age group. Beyond this, boys and girls play separately, for safety reasons.

All lead coaches at insert club here are qualified to UK Coaching standards. We aim to have for each age group at [L1 SEP] least one Level 1 qualified coach, which means they are trained and accredited. If you are interested in becoming a rugby coach, please contact insert person's name.

Refereeing [L1 SEP]

The club has qualified referees to officiate at matches. [L1 SEP] However, to cover all matches every weekend, we are always actively recruiting referees. You do not need to have any previous rugby experience as training is provided. Please contact insert person's name for more information.

Volunteering [L1 SEP]



We very much welcome your help with the running of the club. It takes a great deal of work to ensure everyone can train and play. So if you could help in any way, for example coaching, managing, refereeing, helping in the kitchen or at social events, fund raising or with the website or publicity please join our fabulous army of volunteers.

We have listed some volunteer roles and would be grateful if you could contribute a little time each week to help with the running of the club. For more information, please contact insert person's name.

To achieve the RFU recommended minimum ratio of adults to children - 1:10 for children over 8 years old; 1:8 for children under 8 years old and 1:6 for children under 7 years old – we need to recruit volunteer coaches and managers each season.

PLEASE NOTE

Safeguarding children & vulnerable adults

At insert club here we are committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. Everyone works in partnership to promote children's welfare, health and development and all allegations and suspicions of harm  will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly  and appropriately.

Adults involved in any activity of a specified nature (e.g. teaching, training, care, supervision, advice, treatment or transport) which involves contact with children or vulnerable adults, intensively and or/overnight (frequently or intensively meaning carrying out the role at least once a week, or four times a month or more) must have an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) disclosure processed and risk assessed by the RFU. This is in line with the RFU's Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy, which is implemented within this club. CRB certificate applications are free and are only seen by the individual applicant and the RFU Safeguarding team at Twickenham, where clearance is approved.

For further information regarding the safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults contact the Club Safeguarding Officer: insert name email: insert email phone number: insert phone number .

Insert name will be on duty most Sunday mornings in and around the clubhouse; if unavailable please contact insert name Junior Chairperson.

Sponsorship & fundraising



Each year we endeavor to raise funds for the club through events and sponsorships. If you might be able to help or suggest possible sponsors please contact the Club Sponsorship Officer insert name at insert address or the Chairman.

First aid



In the event of a player being injured, in the absence of the parents the team officials are responsible for deciding whether further medical

assistance is required. Parents and/or guardians will be contacted as quickly as possible. The club has invested in First Aid training and there is on site someone qualified in Emergency First Aid during training or matches at the club, delete if incorrect.


Transport

In most instances it is the responsibility of parents, not  the club, to transport their child to and from the club or nominated meeting point. If parents make arrangements between themselves this is a private arrangement and at  the parents' discretion.


When insert club here formally arranges transport we will ensure that drivers and vehicles comply with the RFU's Safeguarding Policy.

In the event of a late collection coaches and volunteers will attempt to contact the parents, wait with the child, preferably  in the company of others, notify the Club Safeguarding Officer and remind parents of their responsibility to collect their  child promptly.

Photographic Images

We encourage the taking of appropriate images of children involved in rugby celebrating the Core Values of the sport. The RFU's guidance for parents and the paid and volunteer workforce can be found on the Safeguarding pages of rfu.com. 

It is based on common sense and we would ask everyone to read and comply with this guidance.

Any parent or guardian who does not want their child photographed for any reason should talk in confidence to  the team's coach or manager. We will then take all reasonable steps to ensure the child is not photographed whilst playing or training at the club.

Dogs

Dogs are/are not allowed on the club fields, providing they are kept on a lead and that any

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delete where necessary

GET IN TOUCH

Club contacts

Our location is:
Insert Address First Line
Insert Address Second Line
Insert Address Third Line

The telephone at the clubhouse is: 1234 5678

Volunteer roles	Name	Telephone
Honorary Secretary	Insert Name	1234 5678
Honorary Treasurer	Insert Name	1234 5678
Fixtures Secretary	Insert Name	1234 5678
Club Safeguarding Officer	Insert Name	1234 5678
International Tickets Contact	Insert Name	1234 5678
Disciplinary Officer	Insert Name	1234 5678
Club Volunteer Coordinator	Insert Name	1234 5678
Club Referee Coordinator	Insert Name	1234 5678



