



Foxbury News

Old Elthamians RFC
Youth Section
Newsletter

Issue 2
July 2011

Chairman's message



Dear members,

No sooner than one season ends we start preparing for the next. In fact it is a constant with plenty of activity throughout the year. These activities include further training and development of the coaches, ordering of new equipment, agreeing fixtures and ensuring we can continue to build on the various successes of the club.

The season will be particularly special in that it marks 100 years of rugby at OE's. Before you ask, the answer is no. Peter Leaton wasn't a founding member! There will be various activities going on throughout the season so keep checking the web site and look out for information.

We welcome this season U16's into the academy, which begins its third year and I am pleased to report that we are meeting our main aims of integrating the older players within the youth section (U16, 17 and 18) and by doing so supporting their development in order to progress to senior rugby within the club.

This is also world cup year and as such presents us with some great opportunities to promote the club

in terms of recruitment and to get together and support the teams in the world cup. Look out for some breakfast events! This will also allow us to support "Choose Rugby" the RFU's current campaign to encourage the development of rugby.

Our RFU Seal of Approval application is in and we are waiting confirmation of our accreditation. Thanks to all those who have made a tremendous contribution to getting us ready. This will mean however that we have to maintain the standards laid down under the scheme so there will be a need to make sure coaches, team managers, team administrators know what is expected. We will be issuing further information and advice but if in doubt check the RFU web and/or ask myself, Mark Pryor or Mark Garrett.

Once again the Foxbury Festival features at the beginning of the season and as Mini Chair Mark Pryor has taken over the reins to organise the event. We will be looking for some sponsorship and as always plenty of volunteers so if you can help on either front please contact Mark.

We have also formally

adopted the charity CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) for this coming season. The charity has been set up to support research, screening and testing relating to sudden death syndrome (SDS) and Young sudden cardiac death (YSCD). Tragically a junior member of our cricket section suffered from this and his family have set up a memorial trust fund in his name to raise money for CRY. It was agreed at our AGM at the end of the season that any youth rugby fund raising event will contribute to the fund. So please look out for future events at OE's and lend as much support as you can.

I know, like me, you will be looking forward to the start of the new season, keen to build on the back of last year. We have some great opportunities ahead to really show what OE's is all about and I am confident that with the ongoing commitment and dedication of all of those involved the 11/12 season could be one of our best.

Kind Regards,

Alan Farmer
Youth Rugby Chairman

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Another First @ OEs

On the 12th and 18th of June OEs hosted its first RFU Entry Level Referees Award Course Levels 1 and 2. The course was run by Phil Bowers, Society Referee, Surrey with the RFU Referee Development Officer also in attendance for the first day. Approximately 18 attended the two-day course from OEs, Aylesford and Blackheath RFCs. The course included theory and practical sessions with a qualification exam on the last day. Our new referees will cover the Under 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s and 13s next season.

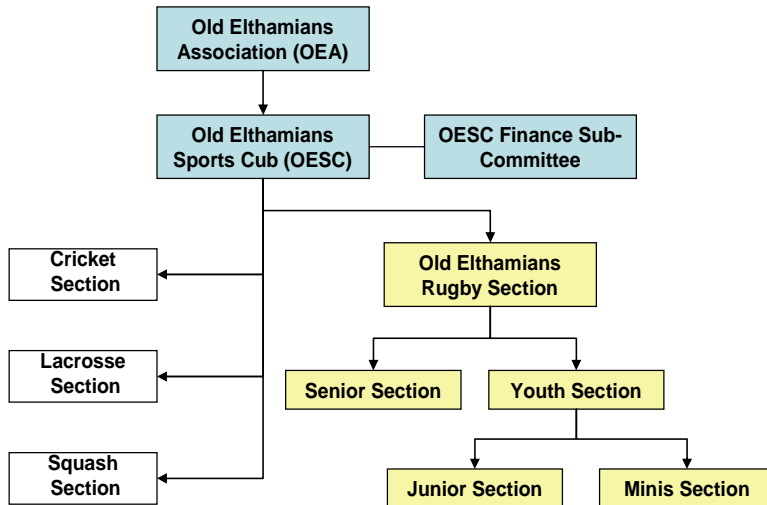
We have received many favourable comments on the course and now plan to extend our hosting to include other qualification courses as well as CPD sessions such as The Scrum Factory, Rucking/Mauling and Continuity in Attack.

Club Structure



The Rugby Section is actually one of 4 sections within the Old Elthamians Sports Club (OESC) which in turn, is part of the Old Elthamians Association (OEA). Ian Beith is the president of the OEA while David Norris is the Chairman of both the OEA and the OESC. The Treasurer of the OESC is Paul Davies who is also the Clubhouse Manager. OESC meet monthly.

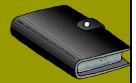
The Rugby Section is divided into the Senior and Youth Sections with the latter broken down further into the Junior Section (13s and upwards) and the Minis section (7-12yrs). Alan Farmer as Chairman of the Youth Section represents us on the main OESC Committee.



In addition, our Treasurer Adrian Perry sits on the OESC Finance Sub-Committee.

The Youth Organising Committee meets every month as does the Coaches Forum represented all age groups. The minutes of the meetings are posted on our website.

Diary Dates



- *Saturday 3rd September — Registration and kit collect @ OEs*
- *Sunday 4th September - Open Day and official start of the season @ OEs (Bring a Friend)*
- *Sunday 11th September— Centenary BBQ @ OEs*
- *Saturday 17th September— 1st XV at home to Guernsey*
- *Sunday 2nd October— Foxbury Minis Festival @ OEs*
- *Sunday 9th October— Foxbury Shield (Under 13s) @ Foxbury*

Centenary Season



It will not have escaped most of you that the coming season marks 100 years of rugby at OEs. A Centenary Committee has been set up with one of its key objectives to leverage off this historic landmark to raise the profile of the club. A number of signature events are planned that include amongst other things:

- A Centenary BBQ on Sunday 11th September
- 1st XV matches against Sutton & Epsom RFC in November (commemorating the first match in OEs history) + a boxing day fixture away to Old Dunstonians RFC
- A Centenary Ball (date to be confirmed)
- The issuing of Centenary Shirts to all players who re-register for the 11/12 season
- The selling of commemorative merchandise e.g. umbrellas, ties, centenary shirts etc. More information will be on our website for these and other Centenary events .

Club Development Plan



Linked to our Seal of Approval (SoA) application, the section need to have an annual development plan for the first three years. For year one we will be concentrating on the following areas:

- Development of Women's/Girls Rugby
 - Improving our links within the local community/schools
 - Improving the level of coaching qualifications and the development of our coaches
 - Developing the RFU Proficiency Awards initiative
- Progress against these areas and other initiatives will be reported in future newsletters.

Rugby World Cup at OEs

The 2011 Rugby World Cup kicks off in New Zealand on Friday 9th September with the quarter finals on 8th and 9th October, the semi finals on the 15th and 16th October and the Final on Sunday 23rd October at Eden Park.

England are in Pool B along with Argentina, Scotland, Georgia and Romania.

Throughout the tournament OEs will be hosting a number of events at the club that will include:

- A sweepstake
 - Breakfast watching the big screen for England Games
 - Playback of games at the club in the evening
- Keep an eye on the website for more details.