

BECKENHAM RFC NEWSLETTER 2011-12 SEASON EDITION 2: 21 OCTOBER 2011

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SOUNDCRAFT



Apologies but things have been rather busy here over the last few weeks (months) and I have not managed to get a newsletter out.

The season is in full swing now and the world cup is almost over, most of the home nations will be a little bit disappointed with their final showings but I think that we are all a little bit fed up now with early kick offs and it will be nice to get back to normality.

That said I think it will be worth making one last effort to watch the final, it is live on the big screen this Sunday with a 9:00 am KO. The kitchen will be open.

A mixed start to the season for most of the teams – good and bad – read on for summaries of each of the teams performances below.

We need as many players as possible to help us to run our **SEVEN** senior sides. If you know someone, friends, family, work colleagues or if you see someone who even looks like a rugby player then get them to come down to Beckenham.

If you have not already done so can you please join the website as a member/supporter? Just go to the home page at www.beckenhamrfc.com and on the left hand menu click on the “join website” tab and follow the simple instructions.

May I remind you that your membership is now due – If you do not pay by the 31st October then you will lose the discounted rates. See below for more details.

Please email me if you:-

1. Have any comments on the content or format
2. Have any news items you would like to include
3. If you would like to be removed from the address list

Paul Skelly: Chairman

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

We have a big programme of events coming up over the next few months – details are on the website – See <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/beckenham/events/>

- Friday 28th October 2011 – Kids Halloween Party - Sold Out Sorry!
- Friday 4th November 2011 – Floodlit mini rugby U7's & U8's. Starts at 6:30pm. Bar and Kitchen open from 6
- Friday 11th November 2011 – Floodlit mini rugby U9's and U10's. Starts at 6:30pm. Bar and Kitchen open from 6
- Sunday 13th November 2011 - Beckenham RFC Christmas Fair 10 am – 2 pm Jewellery, Accessories, Candles, Cushions, Gifts, Decorations, Cards and Gift Wrap. It's never too early to start your Christmas shopping!
- Friday 25th November 2011 – Music Quiz. More details to follow

PRESIDENTS LUNCHES:

Prior to every home game we will be having a formal 3-course sit down sponsored Lunch. All members and guests can join in for £18.50 per head.

Starting this Saturday, 22 October 2011 we will be having our first formal President's Lunch. We will then hopefully continue this before every 1st XV home league game. Unfortunatley this lunch is booked out but look for details of the next pre-match Lunch.

Sponsorship packages are available - Contact Chris Stevens for more details.

QUOTE OF THE SEASON TO DATE

from a couple of weeks ago as we were leading Old Elthamians by a single score going into the last few minutes, **Andrew Sailor Martin** was overhead saying to the rest of the players

“Keep calm boys, keep your heads, don't lose your cool, no penalties”

Ultimate poacher turned

TEAM PERFORMANCE OF THE SEASON TO DATE

Lots and lots of contenders since the start of the season – The **Ladies** for their table topping performances – **The 1's** for a fantastic defeat of Old Elthamians and the **5's** for a couple of storming wins, not to mention a few of the minis for some excellent wins in the Foxbury and Bromley Festivals. However, the man of a thousand phone calls, Christian Scade managed to fight off wave after wave of Canterburyitis and get a **2nd XV** (with subs) to play away at Canterbury and claim the **Team Performance of the Season to Date**.

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE OF THE SEASON TO DATE

Again, lots of contenders for this, far too many to mention, but my choice goes to **Lorraine Hooton**. Lorraine helps coach the Ladies, the U15 & U18 girls, does Medical officer for the Ladies and girls, supports pretty much every first team game home and away, Is Child protection officer until the new persons takes over (thanks Gail C!) and does and Chair of Ladies Playing. To top it all off she can even be found relaxing at the bar with either a pint of cider or glass of white wine! If you see her there make sure her glass is not empty!

SUMMARY OF SEASON SO FAR BY TEAM

1st XV

A great pre-season with excellent performances away against Tadley and Staines (from the league above) the season took a bit of a nose dive with a comprehensive defeat away to **Tunbridge Wells** in the first round of the Kent Cup.

The league started to following week away to a strongly fancied **Chichester** and the scoreline did not do us justice as we went down by **50 to 7** in a game that we were still in contention at the break.

A comprehensive **28 to 3** home bonus point victory followed against **Sutton and Epsom** with tries being scored by players recently out of our youth. We then travelled to **Basingstoke**, who came down from the league above, again one that we could have won got away from us in the second half as we lost by **23 to 6**.

A see-saw battle at home against **Hove** saw us come out on top with two tries from new boy **Charlie Baffour** in a **24 to 18** win, but it was at the cost of a long term injuries to Skipper **Luke Aylward, Reggie Rayner** and the unfortunate **Dan Leek**, whose comeback after two seasons lasted a mere four minutes before tearing his ankle ligaments. Another season out but Dan Assures me that he will be back playing next September following his successful reconstruction operation this week.

Next up was the long away trip to **Trojans** (Southampton) and although we were losing in the second half we ran out comfortable winners with Thorne, Rounph, Currie, Jones and Headlam all hitting top form as we secured another bonus point win by **13 to 37**.

Nest up were high flying local rivals **Old Elthamians**, who had only lost once this year and came to Balmoral Avenue with high expectations. But they went away empty handed as we denied them even a losing bonus point in a **44 to 33** thriller.

Last weekend the long journey to **Guernsey** was in vain as we came second best by **37 to 7** in a most forgettable game.

We lie 6th in the league see -

<http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/beckenham/s/league-table-14618.html> and if can hold off any more injuries we have several players on their way back and will hopefully mount a challenge for the rest of the season.

2nd XV

An excellent start to the season for the 2's who have lost only one game so far in what has been one of the worst cases of "Canterburyitis" ever seen in these parts.

A massive thank you to all the players who made the effort to travel to Canterbury and we were at the end of a **67 to 0** defeat against a team who's 1's are top of the league above us. Personally I think it will be a different story when they come to Balmoral Avenue to play us without their army of wannabe paid first team players!

Apart from that we have won all our other league games with victories against Blackheath, Westcombe Park and Dover to lie third in the table. See - <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/beckenham/s/league-table-14644.html>

3rd XV

A mixed start to the season one league win as we find it difficult to get players committed to turning out each week. One league win out of 5 (we have dipped again this week). Results and tables on http://www.kentrugby.org/5_invicta_tables2.html

4th XV

An extremely difficult start to the season for the 4's. Having committed to playing in the very difficult Invicta 3 West League, we are finding it very difficult to field a competitive team as cry-offs further up the club have taken a devastating effect on the team. However, if they can stick together then the boys know the results will come. Results and tables on <http://www.kentmetrugby.co.uk/201112/invicta3west/index.htm>

VETS

The VETS usual slow start has been extended unseasonably good weather resulting in very firm pitches giving the likes of Old Alleynians 4's the opportunity of running round the pitch with the ball. Normal service will be restored shortly as the inevitable wet weather arrives. . Results and tables on <http://www.kentmetrugby.co.uk/201112/spitfire/index.htm>

5th XV

Having picked up several players that might have made it into one or two of the World Cup squads the boys have secured three wins and a draw to be up in contention at the top of the table. Results and tables on <http://www.kentmetrugby.co.uk/201112/bishopsfinger/index.htm>

Ladies

Any concerns that having been promoted, the Ladies might find the going a bit tough have been well and truly put to bed as they sit proudly at the top of the table.

It all started a bit difficult when they scraped a team to play **Ashford** away and managed a **15** all draw.

Next up was **Guildford** at home and we secured a comfortable **20 to 5** win and then we travelled to **Camberley** and came away with a **7 to 22** victory to put us firmly at the top of the table. See <http://clubs.rfu.com/Fixtures/MatchByDivision.aspx?DivID=129496008>

I will have some news on the youths and minis in the next newsletter but many of the age groups have got some excellent match reports on their websites. See

www.beckenhamrfc.com

FIXTURES THIS WEEKEND

All 3 pm KO's unless otherwise stated.

Sat 22nd October: 1st XV – Home to Haywards Heath.

2nd XV – Away to Gravesend

3rd XV – No game

4th XV – Home to Alleynians 3's

5th XV – No game

VETS – Away to HSBC

Sun 23rd October: Ladies - Home to New Ash Green. 2:30 KO

U16B Boys - Home to Old Alleynians B's 12 noon KO

U15 Boys - Away to Canterbury

U14 Boys - No Game

U13 Boys - No Game

Minis 7-12 - Away at Bromley

U18 Girls - Away to Folkestone 1 pm KO

MEMBERSHIP FEES

I am not going to say any more about this – your membership fees are now due and you will lose the discount if you do not pay by 31st October.

The rates applicable from the start of this season are as follows:-

Membership Type Membership fees are due by 1st September *early payment discount when full payment received by 31st October	Full Fee	Discount Fee*
Adult Playing Member (over 18 on 1 Sept) (excludes match fees)	£120	£100
Student (over 18 in full-time education) Valid student card to be produced	£60	£50
Non-Playing Member	£60	£50
Family Membership FM1 1 non-playing parent and a youth player	£75	
Family Membership FM2 1 adult playing member and a youth player	£150	£130
Additional adult(s) or youth player(s) to be added to either Family Membership. Adults to complete new form.	£25 ea	

Payment of membership subscriptions is viewed by many people as optional and all the people who pay up on time and who give up countless hours to help to run this club find this extremely demotivating. You can help, in several ways:-

- If you are not already a member why not join
- If you are a member get some friends to join as a member
- If you know someone who is using the facilities and they are not a member get them to join and pay up

Our membership team will continue the hard work of the last couple of years and will be very focused on collecting the subscriptions on time. Of course we are aware of the current economic situation and if you have any special circumstances please talk to the membership team and I am sure we can work something out, but please **don't just not pay!**

SPONSORSHIP

In order to help fund the ever increasing costs of running the club we need to raise the commercial activities of the club. We have set up a new marketing sub-committee comprising Chris Stevens, Sarah Taylor, Christian Scade and myself. If you have the capabilities and the time to help on this sub-committee please contact me as soon as possible.

We are developing a new marketing strategy for the club from scratch and details will be made available in the New Year so that we are up and running for next season. However, in the meantime we have lots of sponsorship opportunities:-

- Team and Kit Sponsorship
- Advertising hoardings
- Matchday programmes
- Website

If you know of any companies that may be interested in sponsoring please let one of the above people know and we will get in touch with them

NEWS

Beckenham RFC Cyclists: For all ages and all levels of ability, this group meets at 7 pm every Tuesday and Thursday at the Chinese Roundabout (Hayes Lane Exit)

We have now started on the winter route and up to Polhill and back (circa 22 miles) If you want to join in (it really is for all levels and ability) please contact Pat Markey. The last Thursday of each Month we meet back at the Club after the cycle for purposes of rehydration!

Also, from this Monday, we are starting a new group for the less experienced Cyclists – Departure from the Chinese roundabout at 7:15 pm. Contact Pat Markey if you would like to join in.

Beckenham RFC Outdoor Fitness Club: Cycling not your thing? Tired of indoor gym workouts? Then come along to our new outdoor circuit training. Improve your fitness, improve your health, weight and have fun! In the fresh air. Again for all levels from novices to advanced. Every Tuesday evening and Saturday morning .

Easyfundraising: Did you know you can support Beckenham RFC via donations from well-known high-street retailers when you do your shopping online; you do not spend anything extra?

Do you shop online at Amazon, John Lewis, Carphone Warehouse, ASDA, Joe, Brown's, Zavvi, Virgin Vie, I Want One of Those, Firebox, WH Smith, Argos, Play.com, iTunes, HMV, Tesco Entertainment, The Gadget shop.....to name but a few, - 600+ names to be more specific? If so, they will donate up to 15% (but mostly about 2.5%) of your purchase amount to the cause of your choice – **all at no extra cost to you.**

To do this just register yourself at easyfundraising.org.uk and register your 'cause' as Beckenham RFC, then enter the retailer website via the Easyfundraising link (each time you purchase) and the retailer's donation will automatically be credited and sent to Beckenham RFC.

Christmas is a great time to do this as even small donations will mount up nicely; another good time is when you buy household goods worth a three figure sum or more. Beckenham receives the money when it has £15 credit or more. Only this week I booked a ferry trip and as a result Beckenham RFC will receive almost £10!

So to support Beckenham RFC for nothing and relatively effortlessly using Easyfundraising go online at www.easyfundraising.org.uk, follow the instructions, and get shopping.

200 Club:

The 200 Club, run by Desmond and Jackie Walsh costs £60 per annum to join, option of payment by s/o only £15 a quarter.

42 winners every year!

- Two at £600
- Four at £300
- Twelve at £150
- Twenty four at £60.

The club is the 43rd winner, receiving over £4,000 every year to support Beckenham Rugby. Contact Desmond or Jackie for further details. (desandjackie@tiscali.co.uk)

News Wanted:

I am sure there is a lot more going on, so please email me if you have something that you want to include.