



**EASTERN  
COUNTIES RUGBY  
UNION  
NOTEBOOK**

**No.44- November 2010**

**DAVID FORD**

We wish to inform you of David's passing; President of Diss RFC, a life-long Rugby enthusiast, David will be sorely missed.

**RFU Mini Roadshow**

EC was pleased to welcome John Steele, recently-appointed CEO of the RFU, and Martyn Thomas, Chairman of the Management Board, to Shelford RFC on Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>. Both gents came to listen to the issues that affect our Clubs; some 25 delegates from Member Clubs attended, and put their points. John came across as a 'grassroots' Club supporter, and both he and Martyn answered questions frankly, and will take back our concerns to HQ, where John is intending to conduct a strategic review, the outcomes of which should be known early in 2011. Our thanks to those that came, and to Shelford for their hospitality.

**Senior Rugby**

**Team EC**

Dates for your Diary –  
May 7<sup>th</sup>. v Nth. Midlands (at Nth. Walsham RFC)  
May 14<sup>th</sup>. v Northumberland (at Shelford RFC),  
May 21<sup>st</sup>. v Durham (away)TBC

**U20s**

As part of our development plan for this group a 'round-robin' event for the three County U20 teams has been arranged for Nov.7<sup>th</sup>.  
Details on our Website.

**EC Coaching**

The launch of an EC Coaching Association took place at Stowmarket RFC, on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup>. October at 19.30. Some 65 Coaches attended, and more are welcome to join up - details are on our Website.

Another Level One Course will be held at Wymondham on 17,21,28<sup>th</sup>. November -for this, please contact Lisa to register.

**Note: Applicants must have Completed a RugbyReady Course.**

\* \* \*

To learn of forthcoming Coach Development opportunities, please contact Alan Young at:

[Alan\\_young@btinternet.com](mailto:Alan_young@btinternet.com) (Norfolk), John Winders [john.winders@btinternet.com](mailto:john.winders@btinternet.com) (Suffolk) or Bob Mann [bobalina2001@hotmail.com](mailto:bobalina2001@hotmail.com) (Cambs), or go to [www.rfu.com/TakingPart/Coach/FindA\\_Course/London\\_North.aspx](http://www.rfu.com/TakingPart/Coach/FindA_Course/London_North.aspx)

**Youth Rugby**

**Kit for Kids**

St. Josephs College has offered to be a collection point for redundant playing kit (in reasonable nick, please). This kit will be shipped to Papua New Guinea to help launch Rugby in Schools and Clubs; contact is: Bev Hudson, on [bevhudson@btopenworld.com](mailto:bevhudson@btopenworld.com)

**Girls Rugby**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> saw another Taster Day at Colchester, rapidly followed by another at Lakenham-Hewett RFC on 24<sup>th</sup>. The next scheduled event is on Sunday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>. at Ely RFC, starting at 13.00. The emphasis this time will be on skills for the developing Player, so newcomers will again be most welcome.

\* \* \*

**Clubs' Court & Social**

Wymondham RFC hold their Annual Fireworks Display, with a Laser/Light show, on Friday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. at Tuttle Lane. The gates open at 18.30,

and the show starts at 19.30. Admission is £4 Adults/ £2 Children over 16 –Bar and grub available. **Please show consideration for their neighbours when accessing the ground.**

**Referees**

Suffolk and NEE Referees next meeting is on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup>. November at Sudbury RFC; this starts at 19.15. Guest for the evening is Dave Broadwell, SE Group Referee Development Officer, the subject is 'Communication'. Everyone welcome.

**A reminder to Mini/Youth Managers/Coaches –Leggings are not permitted to be worn -(IRB Directive)**

**Community Rugby  
Facilities & Funding**

**Two Workshops will be held during November:**

At Ely RFC on Wed.3<sup>rd</sup>. and Stowmarket Office on Wed. 17<sup>th</sup>. **Please note the date of the Stowmarket workshop has changed!**  
**Both start at 19.00.**  
**Please book in with Lisa**

**Volunteering**

ECRU is holding a 'Club Volunteer Co-ordinators' Workshop at our Stowmarket Office, on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup>. December, (see Poster attached). This will start at 19.00. Guest Speakers will address the issues that affect you all, and Refreshments will be available – further information can be obtained from your County Volunteer Co-ordinators, whose details can be found on page 14 of the ECRU Handbook.

\* \* \*

**Child Safeguarding**

**Many welcome newcomers as CSOs need to be supported with training. Are your details on RugbyFirst? If not, please ask your Club webmaster to register you. We can then provide regular e-briefings and advance notice of Courses.**  
**Thanks.**

*A Safeguarding Officers' Workshop is planned for November 6<sup>th</sup>.at Norwich RFC –details from Martin Peacock.*

*A SPYP Course will be held at Colchester RFC on 24<sup>th</sup>.November. to start at 19.00-this Course is now fully booked; if your Club, either alone or with your neighbours, wants to hold a Course, please contact Martin Peacock. This is essential as preparation for Seal of Approval.*

#### **Age-Grade Reminder**

*17 year-olds are NOT allowed to play in Front Row positions in Senior Teams – backs only; they MUST be mentored and the Club is required to complete an RFU 'Playing Adult Rugby' Form. Section 15 of the RFU Regulations covers this issue- breaking these regs.could have dire consequences for your Club.*

#### **Serious Injury**

*ECRU Clubs had the misfortune to suffer two cases of serious injury last season; Clubs have a responsibility to report this, to the RFU, and to Roger Pierson, Hon. Secretary, or to Safeguarding Team Manager, Martin Peacock, so that appropriate support can be provided to Player and Club.*

*Reminder - the RFU have withdrawn the ability of U8s to practise contact rugby in the final two months of the season – this is now for U9s.*

#### **CRB information**

*Although the Government has postponed the 'Vetting & Barring' scheme, all Clubs are reminded that those in frequent contact with minors MUST be CRB checked. This is the time of year when changes happen in Youth & Mini set-ups, so will all Clubs please notify Lisa of changes in Coaching and support staff, plus also any new Club Safeguarding Officers, so that Martin can arrange appropriate training.*

*Clubs need to remain properly briefed about developments, as this affects their Child Safeguarding practise, and thus their 'Seal of Approval' process.*

#### **RFU Helpline**

***In response to the current financial climate the RFU have launched a Helpline for Clubs that have concerns about financial matters. Malcolm Duncan is your Advisor  
The telephone number is: 01782 – 610315, Monday to Friday (office hours)***

#### **Incorporation**

All Club Hon. Secretaries recorded in RugbyFirst have been sent a four page leaflet and CD-ROM explaining the need, and process, to incorporate. If your club has not received its hard copy, please contact [karenaveleck@rfu.com](mailto:karenaveleck@rfu.com)

#### **RFU Legal Helpline**

*From 1 July 2009 the RFU Legal Helpline number will be 0844 5618177. To access the service rugby administrators will simply call up and quote the scheme number 81066. Croner Consulting Ltd has been appointed as providers of the service. They are a leading specialist company, which supports 400,000 businesses in the UK. Their qualified advisors will provide immediate, independent advice on all aspects of rugby operations including: Tax, VAT, PAYE, Payroll, Employment & Personnel, Health & Safety and Commercial Legal. Clubs will also be informed of the change via the Community Rugby e-zine, Touchline and RFU website.*

*If you need advice, please contact Lisa  
01449 – 614674*

\* \* \*

**ECRU Ltd.**  
*Meetings etc.*

Tues. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Finance Committee

Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup>. CBRDP 7-18 Group  
Tues. 16<sup>th</sup>. Executive Committee  
Tues. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Community Rugby Committee  
Wed. 1<sup>st</sup>. Dec. CBRDP

#### **Visits/activities**

##### **Andrew Sarek**

Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup>. F & F Workshop (Ely RFC)  
Wed. 17<sup>th</sup>. F & F Workshop (Stowmarket)  
Thur. 4<sup>th</sup>. PFR Meeting, Twickenham  
Frid. 5<sup>th</sup>. RFU Council  
Tues. 9<sup>th</sup>. Tigers Academy Meeting (Leicester)  
Fri. 19<sup>th</sup>. PFR Meeting (Twickenham)  
Sat. 20<sup>th</sup>. PFR Support Group Training  
Tues. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Community Rugby Committee (Stowmarket)  
Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Saints Academy meeting (TBC)

##### **Roger Pierson**

Wed. 17<sup>th</sup>. F&F Workshop Stowmarket  
Sat. 13<sup>th</sup>. Crusaders  
Sat. 20<sup>th</sup>. Wymondham  
Fri. 19<sup>th</sup>. PFR Meeting (Twickenham)  
Mon. 22<sup>nd</sup>. London Management (with Ian Forton)  
Tues. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Community Rugby Committee (Stowmarket)

##### **Martin Peacock**

Sat. 6<sup>th</sup>. CSO Workshop – Norwich RFC  
Fri. 12<sup>th</sup>. -Sun. 14<sup>th</sup>. RFU National Safeguarding Workshop  
Sat. 20<sup>th</sup>. Stowmarket RFC  
Wed. 24<sup>th</sup>. SPYP Course at Colchester RFC  
Sat. 27<sup>th</sup>. Suffolk Plate semis  
Sat. 4<sup>th</sup>. Dec Harwich

**Other RFU-related matters of interest to Clubs:**

**Information regarding Planning Applications on:**

<http://www.community-rugby.com/communityrugby/index.cfm/Fuseaction/Home.Downloads/StoryTypeld/104/Sectionld/1165/Storyld/13293.cfm>

**or a Hard Copy from:**

[franthorner@rfu.com](mailto:franthorner@rfu.com)

**or phone 0208 – 831 – 7985**

*(EC should also be advised – details to Lisa, please)*

\* \* \*

***ECRU AGM and Dinner*** – advance notice:

Next year's event will take place at Sudbury RFC, on Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. June – the AGM will start at 18.15, and the Dinner at 19.30 – cost for Dinner is £30/head.

***To publicise your Club activity in this notebook, please contact:***

***Roger Pierson:***

***[rogerpierson@btinternet.com](mailto:rogerpierson@btinternet.com)***