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TOWCESTRIANS RFC

Minis and Juniors Section

Welcome Pack

We would like to welcome you to Towcestrians Rugby Club.

This pack has been designed to keep our new players and parents informed of what is happening within their rugby club. It includes details of future plans, our codes of conduct, details of recommended kit, and some general information about the club.

Any feedback comments are welcome – please feel free to contact any member of the committee.

IMPORTANT:

Enclosed in this pack is the Player Registration form – THIS MUST BE COMPLETED ON REGISTRATION DAY AND RETURNED TO THE REGISTRATION TABLE – if you register after Registration Day, please pass the completed form to your Team Manager.



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Equal Opportunities Statement

- ❏ The club is committed to ensuring that equality is incorporated across all aspects of its development.
- ❏ In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Sport England definition of sports equality.
- ❏ Sports equality is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognizing 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.



Mini & Junior Section Committee

The Committee is currently:

Name	Position	Age group		Email Address
Liz Capurro	Chair	U13 parent	07909758566	liz.capurro@abthorpe.net
Mark Austin	Vice-Chair	U12 parent	01327 354839	mark.austin@ukonline.co.uk
Julie Brown	Section Secretary	U13 parent	01327 350954	julie.e.brown@eds.com
Lisa McQuarrie	Child Protection Co-Ordinator	U15 parent	01604 858058	lisa.mcquarrie@tinyworld.co.uk
Julie Brown	Child Protection Co-Ordinator	U13 parent	01327 350954	julie.e.brown@eds.com
Gail Gallagher	Child Protection Co-Ordinator	U13 Team Manager	01327 860253	gailandneil@secondstar2theright.fsnet.co.uk
Phil Bucknall	Child Protection Co-Ordinator	U10 coach	01327 341636	pb@pbcs.net

The team coaches and managers also attend the committee meetings. Their contact details can be found in the fixture booklet.

Did You Know??

That we always need Volunteers....

The Club has relied on a fairly small committee for numerous years and as the Committee Member's children get older and progress out of mini or junior sections these committee members will, obviously, leave the committee. We are sure you appreciate how the club is run and may take it for granted that there will be someone there every Sunday to run the bar, man the car parks, cook the sausages, sell you the kit, sell the kids their sweets, keep an eye on the changing rooms etc. etc. These jobs are all done by volunteers and for the club to continue to run WE NEED YOUR HELP. If you feel that you could give any time to help to run the section please speak to any member of the Committee, your coach or team manager.

That the bar is open every Sunday....

The bar is a great place to get to know other parents, other members of the club and to talk about how well the team has played, etc. It is open every Sunday lunchtime whether there are matches or just training.

That the players get a free hot dog after playing a match....

Assuming that someone comes forward to co-ordinate this, the club provides each player (Tows and opposition) with a free hot dog after they have played a match. The hot dogs will be made available to your coach or a team representative. Hot dogs and burgers are available to buy from the kitchen for parents, siblings and training players. Please be aware that the kitchen is only available when there is a volunteer to run it. When it is your age group's turn to cover the kitchen – please volunteer to help.



Child Protection

Towcester RFC is committed to providing a safe environment for our players, coaches and parents. To ensure this we follow guidelines set out by the Rugby Union for the protection and involvement of children under 18 in our teams. Our Child Protection Co-Ordinators have attended relevant courses and their contact details are on page 2. If parents have any child protection issues or concerns they are advised to take them directly to one of the Child Protection Co-Ordinators rather than your child's coach. A copy of the RFU Child Protection policy is available in the 'Seal of Approval' file behind the bar.

The RFU guidelines on child protection can be found on the web on
<http://www.rfu.com/PDFs/ChildProtection/CPPolicyText.pdf>

Insurance

The Club maintains Public Liability Insurance Policy to cover visitors to its premises in the event of an accident occurring during organised meetings.

However this does not cover the specific needs of players who may be injured during play.

We strongly recommend that parents of young players should take out additional insurance to cover all sporting activities in which their children are involved.

Information on policies can be obtained from the RFU who promote several Individual Injury Cover Options – further details can be found on their website:

http://www.rfu.com/index.cfm/fuseaction/RFUHome.Community_Detail/StoryID/3894

Valuables and Liabilities

The club does not accept liability for the loss, damage or theft of personal belongings on the Club premises. It is advisable not to leave valuables (i.e. jewellery and watches) in kitbags in the changing rooms as these are not secure. If you have no choice but to bring valuables to the Club, we advise that you pass them to a coach or parent for safe-keeping.

Cars parked in the club car parks, and all contents, are left at the owner's risk and the club will accept no liability for loss or damage in respect thereof.

Mouth Guards

The club recommends that all players wear a mouthguard. During September, Claridges visit offering moulded mouthguards in club colours. Please take advantage of this offer not only to save you money and protect your child but also to ensure continuity of service and competitive pricing year after year from our visiting supplier.

Website

The section has its own website which can be found on www.towsrus.org where you can find contact information and match reports throughout the season.



Fundraising and Sponsorship

We are always looking for ways to raise funds and would be interested in ideas to raise funds for the club and the section, current ideas are:

'100 Club'

You pay £5 per month by direct debit to be a member of the '100 Club'

- 50% of the money goes to the club and 50% to prize money.

A draw is done monthly. Please support this. Details are available on the Registration desk and on the notice board.

Second Hand Kit

What do you do with your old kit? Do you have a team shirt, training top, shorts or even body armour taking up space at home?

Have you considered donating it to the club?

Please leave any donations with the kit shop, your coach or team manager as soon as possible. The condition must be good enough for someone else to use.

Sponsorship

Do you own a company? Or who do you work for?

Could you consider sponsoring the mini & junior section or an individual team?

Should you wish a specific team or section of the club to benefit from your sponsorship this can be defined at the time.

You or your company could sponsor fleeces or waterproof jackets for the whole section or one age group – this would provide the players with a free or heavily discounted item of useful kit and your company logo would be visible in numerous homes.

If you are interested or would like more information, please speak to Dave Lawrence on 01327 350925 or email on dave@will36.freeserve.co.uk

Fundraising ideas are always welcomed and appreciated. Several age groups will be touring this season and we are currently seeking sponsorship to support these tours.



Sport England Accreditation

The club successfully gained the Sport England accreditation during the 2004/05 season and was the first rugby club in the area to do so.

Clubmark benefits your club by:

- promoting your club
- giving support from sports professionals
- increasing membership
- developing your coaches
- developing your volunteers

The development and accreditation scheme that Sport England has created in partnership with national governing bodies (NGBs) to recognize and accredit clubs that are committed to provide a safe, effective and child-friendly environment for children and young people.

Clubmark sets criteria in the following categories:

- Duty of care and child protection
- Coaching and competition
- Sports equity and ethics
- Club management

The development of Clubmark by Sport England has two main objectives:

- To ensure that the NGB accreditation programmes contain the core criteria of safe, effective and child-friendly clubs.
- To enable parents/carers and sports professionals to recognise an accredited club through a common branding.

Clubmark and Active Sports

Active Sports is a partnership programme between Sport England, local authorities, national governing bodies and other agencies. Forty-five sports partnerships have been created across the country to deliver the programme. Active Sports aims to provide better quality coaching and competition for those young people who wish to commit to playing sport regularly in the community.

The development of sports clubs providing opportunities for children and young people is an integral part of Active Sports. The 45 sports partnerships will work closely with national governing bodies to provide support to clubs working towards improving their quality and gain accreditation.

If you would like any further information on our work with Sport England, please speak to Tracey Lawrence (01327 350925). Further details on Sport England can be found on their website www.sportengland.org



What kit do I need?

The mini and junior section Committee at Towcestrians are trying to promote a more disciplined approach to kit and what is expected from our players. To try to help parents and players alike, we have produced this list for your guidance.

All players are expected to play in Towcestrians shirts, these are not supplied unless either the coach or another parent from the team has successfully obtained sponsorship from an outside source.

You will need to purchase:

- **Playing Shirt, available from kit shop**
- **Black shorts, any make will be fine however 'Tows' shorts are available from kit shop**
- **Socks, available from the kit shop**
- **Rugby or football boots, studs must meet the British kite mark standard (football studs are not acceptable). Replacement studs are available from the kit shop.**

All players must wear a mouthguard.

Mini Section – up to Under 12s

Whilst we cannot insist that player's shower after they have played rugby, they **WILL NOT** be allowed into the club house unless they have changed out of dirty kit in very wet & muddy conditions. We would, however, encourage players to change as this helps them with good habits expected in the future.

Junior Section – Under 13s upwards

We expect all players to change into trousers, a shirt and club tie after all games at home (your school shirts will be fine), and they are expected to travel in shirt and club tie to all away games. Ties are supplied to all players in the junior section, however replacements will have to be paid for.

Kit Shop

The Kit Shop will be open on most Sundays. If you require kit at any other time, please contact Derek Skelton to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet at the club.

The latest prices are available from the kit shop.

Please join your committee in promoting pride in your club.



Club Behavioural Policy

This policy is set up to create an environment where the children, parents and coaches all value, respect and encourage one another to build a happy, relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere.

Coaches and Team Managers will endeavour to:

- ❖ Always be publicly open when working with children.
- ❖ Ensure development and fun comes first, winning second.
- ❖ When coaching contact skills, ensure safety first.
- ❖ Never coach law violations.
- ❖ Never overtly criticise players – their confidence is paramount.
- ❖ Always reject the behaviour, not the player. Players will not be labelled as bad or naughty either to them or to someone else in their hearing.
- ❖ Give direction in a positive way, treat each player as an individual.
- ❖ Give players a clear idea of the behaviour expected and to follow it themselves.
- ❖ Players who break the rules will receive a warning, if not needed the appropriate action will be taken.
- ❖ Praise good behaviour.
- ❖ Set limits, so that the players know that their behaviour will not be allowed to get out of control.
- ❖ Be consistent and be fair.
- ❖ Avoid being late for coaching sessions and/or matches.
- ❖ Treat each player as an individual – ensure they are given equal opportunity to play.
- ❖ Work with parents/guardians, not against them. Involve them whenever possible e.g. encourage them to observe coaching sessions and support competitions.



Players will be encouraged to:

- ☒ Play for the fun of it, not just to please parents or coaches
- ☒ Bring appropriate kit and spare clothing for each training session and match.
- ☒ From U11s make sure they know what time they are expected to arrive for matches/training, the location and if relevant, drop off and collection points.
- ☒ From U13s - not to train or play with an existing injury. Prior to this, parents must make that judgement and inform the coach or team manager.
- ☒ Participate in all aspects of the training session or match, not just the parts that interest them the most. Listen to the coach.
- ☒ Understand that inappropriate behaviour will be challenged and dealt with.
- ☒ Recognise the coach's authority.
- ☒ Understand the spirit of sportsmanship.
- ☒ Above all, remember that it should be fun.



Parents will be encouraged to:

- ☒ Be familiar with this Behaviour Policy.
- ☒ Not to force an unwilling child to participate in sports.
- ☒ Ensure that his or her child has the appropriate kit and spare clothing for each training session and match.
- ☒ Make sure that they know what time and where training sessions/matches are taking place.
- ☒ Not to publicly question or criticise a referee's judgement and never their honesty.
- ☒ Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good play by your team and by members of the opposing team.
- ☒ Observe coaching sessions/matches at all times. Where appropriate, assisting the coaches when requested e.g. with moving equipment etc.
- ☒ Participate in voluntary activities required at the club when it is your age groups rotation e.g. car park duty, kitchen duty, BBQ duty.
- ☒ Make sure that the club has correct contact details.
- ☒ Be involved in club social activities.
- ☒ Share concerns regarding the club with committee members if they have them.
- ☒ Remember that children should be involved in rugby for their enjoyment, not yours. Encourage their efforts.



PLAYER DATA CAPTURE FORM

PLAYER INFORMATION:

Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Home Telephone No:	
Gender:	
School:	
School Year:	
Permanent Address:	
Email Address:	
Alternate Email Address:	

MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Doctor's Name:	
Telephone Number:	
Surgery Address:	
If the player has any medical condition or take medications which coaches should be aware of, please provide details:	

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION: (Please provide at least two contacts who can be contacted in the event of an emergency).

Contact 1: Name:		Relationship to child:	
Telephone Number:		Mobile Phone Number:	
Contact 2: Name:		Relationship to child:	
Telephone Number:		Mobile Phone Number:	

Photography

The club occasionally takes photographs of players during matches and training sessions and use these photos to promote the club either on our website or in print. If you do not agree to this, please tick here:

Responsibility Clause

The Club/Section of any of its designated officials shall accept no responsibility whatsoever for any child, should any parent/guardian fail to comply with or adhere to the rules and guidelines referred to.

Training and Match Times

The Head Coach of each team will indicate individual team training and match times and these should be adhered to in the manner indicated in the above clause.

Signed.....Date.....
(Parent/Guardian)

Name(Printed).....