

Newmarket Rugby Union Football Club

Youth Section

Scaltback School
Elizabeth Avenue
Newmarket
Suffolk
CB8 0DJ

2nd September 2007

Dear Player and Parents,

Welcome back to another season of rugby at Newmarket Rugby Club.

This year promises to be an exciting one, with nearly 200 boys and girls turning out for the club and our plans for moving the club to a new location taking shape. Yes, we're on the move we can't say too much right now but promise to keep you updated on the progress being made.

Back in May a number of people got together to discuss the future direction and aims of Newmarket Rugby Club. It was a very productive day, and the end result was a five-point plan. We won't bore you with all the detail, but needless to say it's very positive for the youth section of the club.

The key elements of the plan are as follows:

Within two years

- to raise the profile of the club so that it is seen as an important asset to the local community
- to operate as an integrated unit offering playing opportunities from the youth teams ages through to the seniors.

Within five years

- to offer a full programme of matches for at least four senior teams
- to achieve sustainable promotion to the London leagues
- to establish a self-sustaining ground and clubhouse able to support future needs of the club.

To get this plan to work, the club recognises the need to support and develop the youth to create an environment which encourages them to move through the 'ranks' and ultimately represent the club at the highest level.

There is a lot of work still to be done, but one of the immediate aims is the introduction of a Youth Development Academy. Its aims are to identify and develop our young players and provide an environment in which they can further develop and improve their skill levels and knowledge of the game of rugby. This is very much in its infancy, with specific details still to be worked through. Further information will be made available through the coaches in the coming weeks.

In addition to this the club is looking to form an affiliation with one or more of the higher profile clubs in the local area, such as Northampton Saints and Leicester Tigers. This will provide an opportunity for the more gifted players to play at the highest level, and it will give everyone else a focal point and something to aim for. There will be further details available when more plans have been established.

Subscriptions

We have decided to restructure the subscriptions this year. This is mainly to reflect the impact of the respective age groups on the running costs of the club.

The subscriptions have been split into three groups:

Age group	Subscriptions
Up to 8yrs	£15 per child
9yrs – 12yrs	£30 per child
13yrs +	£35 per child

We recognise that there are many families involved with the club so we have continued with the family membership, although the structure is slightly different from last year. For every additional child member, you will receive a discount of £5 on the total.

An example of how the new subscriptions will work:

1x 12yrs	£30
1x 8yrs	£15
<u>Less discount</u>	<u>(£5)</u>
Total payable	£40

Fixtures

The latest fixtures list is attached and the members' handbook, which should be available soon to all players, will list all matches for all teams within the club. However, please check frequently throughout the season with your coach as matches may be re-arranged, cancelled or amended (often at short notice), depending on our own and the opposition coaches' assessment of matching and training needs as well as pitch suitability and availability. Please check out the website www.newmarketrugby.com for updates on fixtures and other news items.

Volunteers

All successful clubs boast about the number of volunteers they have – those who give up valuable time to help move the club forward. This is not just in the coaching but also behind the scenes, performing such duties as child protection, catering and kit merchandising, to name but a few. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Cameron Wade, the Youth Club Chairman, or Tony Clayton-Smith, the Club Volunteer Coordinator. We welcome your help – the more the merrier, as this lessens the jobs for those already involved.

Sundays are particularly busy – last year the committee introduced a rota whereby each age group was responsible for serving in the kitchen. This practice has been continued this year and we very much appreciate the support given. Please check the fixtures list to see when it's your turn.

Sponsorship

As with all clubs, sponsorship is always greatly received. One of the initiatives which came out of the meeting was to have a more co-ordinated approach to this. The club has designed a number of sponsorship packages (please see attached). These are primarily designed for the seniors, but nevertheless provide an opportunity for the club to raise money which will in turn enable it to work toward its aims and objectives. If you know of a person or organisation that may be willing to become a sponsor please contact the Youth Club Chairman.

Merchandising

After some discussion it was decided that the club should try and introduce a rugby jersey exchange programme. Specific details on how this will work will be made available in due course.

Club standards

In trying to raise the profile of the club and encourage players, parents, coaches and sponsors to be a part of Newmarket Rugby Club we need to establish standards – standards about behaviour, commitment, quality of coaching, adherence to the child protection policies, etc. To this end we have attached an ‘informal contract’ between the player and the club. It briefly outlines obligations on both sides and we ask you to read it and sign up to it. We will, in turn, do the same, as part of our commitment to you.

May we wish you all an enjoyable season, whichever age group you play for or support. It is the number of enthusiastic and dedicated players and parents who turn up each week to training and matches that makes it all worthwhile for our team of coaches, volunteers, referees committee members and helpers. While success is less important among the lower age groups, we hope that each player is looking forward to improving their skills, teamwork and fitness, and above all having some fun along the way.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to talk to any of the coaches or committee members.

Best of luck and have a great season.

The Committee

NEWMARKET RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION CLUB

MINI and YOUTH SECTION

Agreement to commitment

We the coaches commit to you as a player to the following: -

- Provide an opportunity to have fun and develop your game
- Provide a safe environment to play rugby
- Be honest and respect you as a player
- Listen to you when you need to discuss matters related to the game of rugby and specifically the coaching provided.
- Adhere to the Child Protection Policy

Signed

The Coaches

I the player commit to the rugby club and specifically to the coaches to the following: -

- Have fun and enjoy playing the game of rugby
- Listen to and respect the coaches
- Adhere to the laws of the game and rules of the club
- Fair play
- Adhere to the codes of conduct

Signed

The Player

Newmarket Rugby Union Football Club

Sponsorship Benefits for Season 2007/08

Package A - £1000

- Two tickets to a designated England International at Twickenham with transport to and from the game and breakfast at the Club before departure. (Tickets may be exchanged for another match by agreement, but would not include breakfast and transport.)
- Right to purchase additional international tickets through the Club
- Titled sponsorship to two home league games
- Two tickets for the pre-match lunch at the two titled home games
- Company logo on the Club web site
- A pair of tickets to the annual end of season awards dinner (a black tie dinner and dance)
- Press coverage to the sponsorship presentation
- Advert in the fixture book (advertising copy etc. to be provided by the sponsor)
- Advert in every league match programme (advertising copy etc. to be provided by the sponsor)
- Advert in annual sponsors page in the “Newmarket Journal” (advertising copy etc. to be provided by the sponsor)
- Free membership of NRUFC Vice-presidents for two members of the sponsors organisation
- Pitch side advertising at all home league games (appropriate advertising medium to be provided by the sponsor)
- Acknowledgement on the “Sponsors Wall” of the Clubhouse

Package B - £500

- Two tickets to a designated England International at Twickenham
- Right to purchase additional international tickets through the Club
- Two tickets for the pre-match lunch at one home league game
- Company logo on the Club web site
- A pair of tickets to the annual end of season awards dinner (a black tie dinner and dance)
- Advert in the fixture book (advertising copy etc. to be provided by the sponsor)
- Advert in annual sponsors page in the “Newmarket Journal” (advertising copy etc. to be provided by the sponsor)
- Free membership of NRUFC Vice-presidents for one member of the sponsors organisation
- Pitch side advertising, at a rate to be agreed, at all home league games (appropriate advertising medium to be provided by the sponsor)
- Acknowledgement on the “Sponsors Wall” of the Clubhouse

Match Ball Sponsorship - £100 (1 for each league game)

- Press coverage
- Acknowledgement in the match programme
- Advert in the fixture book (advertising copy etc. to be provided by the sponsor)
- Free membership of NRUFC Vice-presidents for one member of the sponsors organisation
- Right to purchase international tickets through the Club
- Framed photograph of Captain being presented with the ball, a copy will be featured on the Club web site
- Acknowledgement on the “Sponsors Wall” of the Clubhouse

Annual Award Sponsorship - £250 each for:

- First team player of the season
- Most improved player of the season

Sponsor receives:

- A pair of tickets to the annual end of season awards dinner (a black tie dinner and dance)
- A framed photograph of the sponsor presenting the award
- Copy of the photograph on the Club website
- Press coverage of the awards
- Advert in the fixture book (advertising copy etc. to be provided by the sponsor)
- Free membership of NRUFC Vice-presidents for one member of the sponsors organisation
- Right to purchase international tickets through the Club
- Acknowledgement on the “Sponsors Wall” of the Clubhouse
- Pitch side placard advertising, at a rate to be agreed, at all home league games (appropriate advertising medium to be provided by the sponsor)

NRUFC Club 200

The Club 200 is one of the major fund raising activities of NRUFC and its aim is provide money for capital projects which may be undertaken from time to time. Recent projects have been the development of the entrance to the Clubhouse, the expansion of the Clubroom itself and improvements to the kitchen.

You may have heard that NRUFC has to seek new playing facilities within the next five years. A project team has been put in place to liaise with all the relevant parties

and we are exploring a number of sources of funds to contribute to this exciting and important project. Club 200 will be one of the ways in which NRUFC will be raising funds.

The Club 200 is in its fourth year in its present form and we are looking for new members for the start of the fifth year in November. The way in which Club 200 operates is to ask members to pay an annual subscription of £52, for which they become entitled to take part in a monthly draw for cash prizes. Currently there are three prizes each month, which are supplemented by additional quarterly and annual prizes. This gives a total of forty one prizes each year and in 2005/06 thirty one of the seventy two members have won prizes; some members have won more than one prize. Should you want to join please contact Jim Paxton on the following email address james@iceni.idps.co.uk or the Youth Club Chairman who in turn will send through all the relevant documents to enable you to join.

As the first draw for 2007/08 will be in November membership will need to be completed by 8th October. I look forward to hearing from you.