



Rugby Groundsmen Connected - FAQ

What is it?

Rugby Groundsmen Connected (RGC) will be an easy access, two-way communication network between the RFU and rugby union groundsmen. It will be the main communication channel for the RFU to provide information and advice to groundsmen and will also have special offers and exclusive benefits for members.

How Do You Register?

Registration is free and easy, anyone interested should just email groundsmenconnected@rfu.com confirming their name and the name of the club or school that they are involved with.

Why is it needed?

It will enable the RFU to communicate directly with rugby club groundsmen and vice versa. As the club groundsman is typically not an official role within the club committee, ensuring relevant information reaches them has been a challenge. It is especially pertinent when the information is very urgent such as advice in response to flooding or drought.

But why do we need to help rugby club groundsmen?

The quality and more importantly the capacity of our natural turf pitch stock is pivotal as we look to grow the game in our clubs. An appropriate maintenance programme can increase the capacity of a single pitch by up to two matches per week and groundsmen need support to be able to deliver this.

How can a groundsman get involved with Rugby Groundsmen Connected?

Rugby Club groundsmen will register to join RGC at no cost. Registration will be by email/text or paper. Once they are signed up they will receive regular communications with advice, information and opportunities.

How is it going to be promoted?

During October general promotion will take place through RFU communication channels such as the CB sendout, RFU Touchline and englandrugby.com.

What are the main benefits of signing up?

- Members will have a direct communication channel with Keith Kent and other RFU staff on pitch maintenance issues
- All visits by Keith Kent will now be channelled to clubs who have a groundsman registered with RGC.
- The Keith Kent Equipment Package discount will only be available to clubs who have a groundsman registered with RGC.
- Free access to the brand new RFU pitch maintenance online training modules will only be available to clubs who have a groundsman registered with RGC.
- Free access to local and regional RFU pitch maintenance events and workshops will only be available to clubs who have a groundsman registered with RGC.
- Access to new and improved RFU Pitch Improvement Partnership maintenance contractors will only be available to clubs who have a groundsman registered with RGC.
- RFU/RFF funding for pitch improvement projects will only be available to clubs who have a groundsman registered with RGC.

What other opportunities exist?

- The chance to spend a match day with Keith Kent at Twickenham



Teamwork Respect Enjoyment Discipline Sportsmanship