



# RFU COMMUNITY GAME UPDATE

## 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014 - Update No.5

### For Action

#### **Club Chairmen & Honorary Treasurers:**

#### **CASC Response – email your MP**

Thank you to all those who submitted responses to HMRC's technical consultation on CASC.

The RFU has submitted a response on behalf of all member clubs and this is attached.

If you are able to do so, it would be helpful if you were to forward your response to your local MP. If you do not know who your local MP is or how to get in touch with them please type your club's postcode in [here](#). At the top of your email, please make clear that you are emailing on behalf of a rugby club in their constituency. You may like to add that you would welcome their support in making colleagues setting CASC policy aware of the vital importance the scheme plays in supports genuine community clubs like yours to increase participation and benefit the local community.

Please contact [davestubley@rfu.com](mailto:davestubley@rfu.com) with further enquiries.

#### **Club Chairmen:**

#### **O2 Touch: call to action**

This is the second of our two annual recruitment periods for any clubs, colleges or universities who want to become an O2 Touch centre. We can recruit a maximum of 25 new clubs, 10 new universities, and 25 new colleges in this block. Please speak to your local RDO or email [edcurran@rfu.com](mailto:edcurran@rfu.com) by 12<sup>th</sup> December to register interest and find out more info.

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**For Distribution**

**CB and Club Honorary Secretaries: distribute to membership**

**Video: Celebrating everyday rugby heroes**

England Rugby has today unveiled a new film celebrating rugby's core values of Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship. It covers the breadth and diversity of the game, with five scenarios focusing on everyday heroes of the game in each whose involvement with rugby brings the core values to life.

You can watch the video [here](#)

**CB and Club Chairmen, Honorary Secretaries: distribute to Youth Chairmen:**

**Age Grade Sevens Competitions**

Recognising concerns and in response to a number of questions about age grade sevens competitions, this note is intended to clarify the RFU position on weight limits for players.

RFU Schools & Youth Governance and ERFSU have agreed that weight limits should not be adopted as they can preclude children from playing rugby with their peers, and may force them to play with groups that they are not socially, physically or emotionally ready to play with. It also removes the pressure for players to 'make the weight' and issues associated with weighing-in prior to tournaments.

The RFU believes that teachers and coaches working with their teams are best placed to assess any potential risk to their players and make the appropriate decision as to who should or should not take part. This should always be done with the best interests of the players in mind. In conjunction with ERFSU, organisers of the HSBC Rosslyn Park 7s have agreed that no weight limits will be imposed for the 2015 festival.

**CB and Club Chairmen, Honorary Secretaries: distribute to coaches & captains:**

**Late postponements**

To help clarify the position regarding the late postponement of matches (RFU Regulation 13.6.6b(iv)), where a club decides that the pitch is dangerous and refuses to fulfil the fixture, they may be asked by the Organising Committee to provide evidence (photographic etc.) in support of their decision to not play the match. Such evidence must be sufficiently persuasive to the Organising Committee so as to establish that the club's decision not to play was justified.

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**CB and Club Honorary Secretaries: distribute to memberships**

**Share some Christmas spirit with the RFU Injured Players Foundation!**

What better way can there be to give back to the game this festive season than to buy the IPF's charity Christmas cards? There is a large selection of many different styles available and 15p from each card sold will go directly to the Foundation which supports people who sustain a catastrophic injury (CI) whilst playing rugby.

Simply go to [www.brunelcharitycards.co.uk](http://www.brunelcharitycards.co.uk) to browse and order online in plenty of time for the last posting dates. There is a large range of customisable cards in many different styles so that you can choose your own image and greeting to spread your personal seasonal message.

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**CB and Club Honorary Secretaries: distribute to Youth Chairmen & Safeguarding Teams**

**Rules of Play Update for Under 7 to 11 and Under 12/13**

There has been great feedback on the New Rules of Play since the summer and the season started, both in the pilot counties and across the wider game. We have taken the most common elements of feedback and added clarifications to the published rules up to and including Under 11. These are being uploaded at this [link](#)

The Under 12 and 13 pilot rules have also had clarifications applied and are being sent direct to the pilot counties.

For next season we will be implementing a monitoring and review process so that clubs and schools have all the rules fully signed off by RFU Council well in advance of the start of the season. This will be facilitated by our new Kids First Development Manager, Adam Cottingham, who will be in communication with the game in the coming months to kick off the process.

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**For Information**

**CB Honorary Treasurers:**

**Reminder: CB Accounts & DPP Payment**

CB Accounts are due on or before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014. Could Honorary Treasurers please ensure that the CB will meet this deadline, or contact [edrainford@rfu.com](mailto:edrainford@rfu.com) if unlikely to do so? Please note that 50% of the annual DPP payment has now been paid to CBs. Any queries from CBs should be addressed to Ed Rainford at the above email address.

**CB Chairmen and Honorary Secretaries:**

**Education Network available to support CBs**

Following previous communications please see the attached letter as a reminder of the network of education representatives available from Students RFU (SRFU), England Colleges RFU (ECRFU) and England Rugby Football Schools Union (ERFSU) that cover Schools, Colleges and Universities. The representatives are already operating locally and

can play an important role in supporting geographic CB Education Committees, PFR planning and to bring a joined-up and informed approach to achieving success in the development and delivery of local programmes. Please use the attached list to make contact with your local education representative; they in turn will contact you over the coming weeks.



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**Heads Up**

**TV Rugby Coverage**

In response to requests from a number of people, we will endeavour to highlight where we know rugby is being covered on TV. We will let you know when we hear of additional coverage to the matches below.

- QBE Internationals – Sky Sports
- The Varsity Match (11 Dec) – Sky Sports
- RBS Six Nations – BBC
- England v Barbarians (31 May) – Sky Sports

**Next Update**

More on the President’s Awards  
The All Schools newsletter will be delayed until December

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