





UNDER EIGHTS

Welcome Pack

#### Welcome to U8s

Welcome to Cranbrook rugby under eights, I do hope that all parents, guardians and players enjoy the season ahead.

It's my pleasure to be the head coach of the under eights after last year coaching the under sevens.

I am extremely grateful to my fellow coach Darren for confirming that he will also be coaching again this year and to Gemma for continuing to manage the team affairs. They both contribute significantly to the essential running of the team.

We are always on the lookout for anyone who feels that they can help, so feel free to approach us.

The Mini's have been discussing a number of aspects about the club over the summer period and I hope that you will find things will run smoothly over the season. The main thing I can share at this stage is that festivals are closer to home and there are more of them.

Regards

Martin Taylor Head Coach



# Minis Mission Statement

The aim of CRFC's Mini rugby is to foster and develop young players (girls & boys) of all abilities in the game of rugby in

a safe, non-competitive, enjoyable environment through activities which ensure progressive skill development.

Using the foundation of the RFU's Age Grade Rugby and the progressive development tools guided by Quilter Kids First program. We will ensure all of our coaches 'Are In' and are committed to developing young athletes into compassionate and respectful individuals and team members.

We will ensure each player demonstrates the highest standards of RFU's T.R.E.D.S (Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline, Sportsmanship) at all times on and off the pitch and external to the club grounds.



Proposed new Clubhouse

#### Membership

Membership enrollment forms will be sent out very soon so they are ready for the start of the season (early bird discount will apply for members signing up before Oct 2019).

Family membership can and will include both parents and all children (under the age of 18).

The facility for a single child to sign up is not applicable before U17/18's (students and most likely only to play for part of the season due to schools rugby and commitments).

Club or Social membership are available for adults (see membership form).

Benefits:

- A family membership gives 12 months of sport (Rugby, Netball, Cricket etc) for roughly £3 per week
- RFU Insurance
- · Membership discount at the Club bar
- Entries to various Festivals
- Opportunity to purchase Rugby International Ticket
- Club liaison with Harlequins RFC
- All coaches' further development paid by the Club
- First Aid training paid by the Club
- And much more...

**PLEASE NOTE**: We operate a try before you buy policy for the children. In practice this means that a child can come to three training sessions before they will be asked to become a member.

A non-member will not be allowed to participate at festivals.

#### Café, Bar and Shop

The Café provide hot food & drinks and the licensed Bar opens from 9:30am on Sunday mornings.

The Shop, located in the Clubhouse sells a variety of Cranbrook Rugby Kit for players of all ages.

The shop is currently run by Mrs Forknall and Mrs Sellick (both volunteers) and is open most weekends from 09:15 to 10:00 plus 12:00 to 12:30.

#### What to bring and wear

Players are expected to wear club rugby kit consisting of Maroon rugby shirt, black shorts and black socks for Training and Festivals.

Bring additional clothes suitable for the weather conditions on the day.

Bring snacks and water as we have regular breaks through the training session.

Wear boots with IRB approved studs in good condition, no single stud to the toe and no rough edges or abrasions.

Wear safety googles rather than glasses.

Wear a smile whatever the weather and be prepared to get muddy!

### **U8** Training

Training is held on Sundays through September to April and start promptly at 10am and finish around 11:30am.

Training days are identified on the diary and will be regularly updated as the season progresses.

If inclement weather requires a cancellation of training during the season our method of communication will be via WhatsApp.

Please ensure that you provide your details asap.

Sessions will be interactive and fun throughout the season.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out at training sessions so be prepared to get active!

We welcome feedback. Feel free to speak to us in the Clubhouse after any session.



### **U8** Festivals

Festivals are identified on the diary and are subject to change. This year teams will consist of six players on a bigger pitch using tag techniques.

Travel is an essential component of festivals. Please advise me if you are having problems attending due to travel issues.

The normal cost of parking at a festival is £5 per car. Different clubs are able to cope with different volumes of traffic so be prepared.

Festival details will be emailed out in advance by Gemma.

Players will be required to a) be a member of CRFC b) registered by the RFU c) be within the appropriate age range and d) Wear club kit.

You represent the club at festivals and appropriate behavior is expected at all times.

The host of the festival normally have refreshments available on the day, however it's wise to bring additional snacks and hydration.

Kit such as tags, first aid & bids are brought to the festival by the coach(s).

The coaches endeavor to ensure all players get fair playing time. Players normally get either a medal or certificate for attendance.

Festivals are key to player development or team bonding and training sessions will be designed around strengths & weakness at festival performance.

### **U8** Training / Festival Diary

SEP 2019	1 8 15 22 29	Back to Rugby Bring a Friend Event	Training Training Training Training Training	H H H H
ост	6 13 20 27	Medway Festival Tunbridge Wells Festival Cranbrook Festival	Festival Festival Festival Training	A A H H
NOV	3 10 17 24	Tonbridge Juddians Festival Aylesford Festival Maidstone (H)	Festival Festival Training Training	A A H H
DEC	1 8 15	Training / Xmas Party	Training Training Training	H H H
JAN 2020	5 12 19 26	Tonbridge Juddians (H)	Training Training Training Training	H H H
FEB	2 9 16 23	Crowborough Festival	Training Festival Training Training	H A H H
MAR	1 8 15 22 29	Old Colfs Festival U7/U8/U9 Old Elthaniams Festival Beccs - Christy Jordan Memorial Festival (U7 - U9) Kent Festival U8 Beckenham	Training Festival Festival Festival Kent Festival	H A A A
APR	5 12 19 26	Train up day at club End of season awards	Training Training Training Training	H H H
MAY	3	Minis Tour		

Please note this diary is subject to change.

www.cranbrookrugby.com/cranbrook\_rugby\_kent/file/u8.php

### **U8** Safety & Welfare

The club treats welfare of the players as a paramount priority.

Both coaches have been DBS checked and hold first aid accreditation.

Coaches will reserve the right to remove players that they feel are unfit to play.

The clubs appointed Child Welfare Officer is Michelle Forknall.

#### **U8** Coaches



Martin Taylor



Darren Wilson

The U8s currently have two coaches.

Martin Taylor is the head coach and is responsible for all aspects of running the U8s .

Darren Wilson will be supporting Martin and deputising for him when required.

#### **U8** Coach Profiles

Martin has a wealth of experience of coaching at various sports, specific to rugby he has undertaken the Rugby Ready course and passed Quilter Kids First examinations for this age group.

Martin played rugby at school before being taken on YTS with Gillingham Football Club, following release he played football in the semi pro circuit before injury forced him to retire at the age of 25. Following that Martin became a football referee for 15 years achieving referring duties in the FA Cup & semi pro leagues. During his refereeing duties he became an FA Tutor Referee serving the National Football Association.

Martin is looking forward to applying some of those skills to the rugby world.

He was head coach of the U7s last season having previously coached the U6s at West Norfolk RFU.

Darren played rugby at school in Maidstone and is a qualified Fitness Instructor. He coached U7s last season and is due to complete a number of RFU Coach Training courses this season.

# **U8** Communication

The U8s will utilise WhatsApp as a communication tool between the club and parents/ guardians.

PLEASE ensure your contact details are provided.

### U8 First Aid

Martin holds a St Johns qualification in first aid and will be attending rugby specific first aid over the coming season. Darren will also be attending rugby specific first aid this season and is 'Headcase' certified.

A first aid kit is located in the training kit bag at both festivals & training. First aiders are not allowed to administer pharmaceutical medication.

If a player has a specific medical conditions then please discuss with the coaches the appropriate medical treatment protocol.

Festival first aid is provided by the host, with organisations such as St Johns being available on the day.

The clubs lead on first aid is Ruth Davies.

### **U8** Contact Info

Martin Taylor - Head Coach 07730 476880 Fmcc16@aol.com

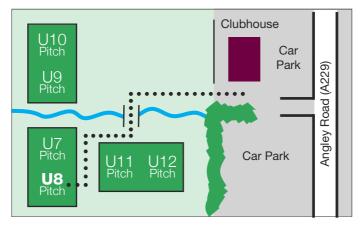
Darren Wilson - Coach 07710 558544 darren@roguegene.com

Gemma Haywood - Team Manager gemma.pateman@hotmail.co.uk

David Mcwilliams - co Mini Chairman 07726 233326 david.mcwilliams@hotmail.co.uk

Steen Mickleborg - co Mini Chairman 07860 690252 crfc.mini@gmail.com

# **U8** Pitch location



# **U8** Volunteers

We are always looking for extra help from Coaching, Car Parking Attendants, Cafe/Bar/Shop Staff to so much more. Please get in touch if you would like to help out.



Cranbrook Rugby Club, Tomlin Ground, Angley Road, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 2PN Tel: 01580 712777 www.cranbrookrugby.com/cranbrook\_rugby\_kent/file/u8.php