

What's happening at the Rugby Club ?

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Happy New Year

1. 1st XV fixtures for January

The League season picks up again with an away game at West Leeds on Saturday, 6 January. The other games in January are :

- 13 January - Cleckheaton (Away)
- 20 - Alnwick (Home)
- 27 - Dinnington (Away)

The postponed Penrith (Away) game has been re-scheduled to Saturday, 10 February.

2. 2nd XV Fixtures

The fixtures for the second half of the season are now confirmed, with our 2nd XV competing against the other five teams that finished in the bottom half of the Merit Premiership League : Old Brodleians, Ilkley, York, Huddersfield and Cleckheaton.

Each team will play a home and away fixture against each other club – the website shows the details of all their fixtures, which start with a home game against 'Brods' on Saturday, 6 January – see driffieldruffc.com/2nd-xv-fixtures-results/ for more details.

3. Lunch opportunity

You'll know (we hope) that our 1st XV has progressed to the semi-finals of the Yorkshire Cup with a home draw against local rivals Hull. This is set for **Saturday, 24 February** – put the date on your calendar.

This extra fixture brings an additional opportunity to attend one of the popular pre-match sponsorship lunches; a quality 3-course meal (starter/main/cheeseboard and tea/coffee). The price of £25 per head includes entrance to the game.

Let's fill up the clubhouse and make sure our first team is given great support before, during and after the game.

Bookings are being taken and anyone interested, or wanting further information, should contact Ali Ulliyott in the clubhouse office (01377) 256598 or call Ben Medhurst on 07710 344603.

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4. RFU National Draw

Over 9,000 tickets have been given to a series of coordinators, who are distributing tickets to all members, playing and non-playing. We hope that you have now received yours, and have made good progress selling their allocation to friends, family and colleagues. Remember that Selby RUFC raised £18,140 last year!

This is much-needed financial help for the Club, and your help making it a success is very much appreciated. The club makes 90p tax-free from every £1 of tickets sold as the RFU arranges everything needed to take part in the fund raising: prizes, tickets, instructions, promotional material – even the postage is pre-paid.

There is still plenty of time to get them sold, as they do not need to be sent off to the RFU until the end of February. If you have sold your tickets please return them to your coordinator. If that is not convenient simply put the stubs and the cash in an envelope, with your name on the outside, and drop them into the Club when you are next passing. **Please do not leave them in the post box outside**, as that is not secure.

If you haven't yet received your tickets, would like some more, do not live locally and want tickets to sell or buy, or have any other questions, please contact the Draw Organiser direct : brad.webster@virgin.net .

5. Members subs are due

Parents who are paying for their child's membership in two instalments now need to make the second payment through the appropriate age group team manager or coach - payment should be made to ensure they are able to be selected to play in fixtures.

For non-playing members and senior players that haven't had time to make your payment yet, don't be shy – our membership team (Charles Burdass and John Turner) will be delighted not to have to chase, so make their day by seeking them out.

For many people payment will be easiest by BACS through online banking. The account details to use are :

Driffield RUFC Ltd 40-10-12 61588303 Payment reference <yourname>

If you prefer to pay by cheque please make it payable to Driffield RUFC and post or drop off at the Rugby Club.

6. Safeguarding Training

Information has recently been circulated to all Mini / Junior team managers, coaches and match officials about 'Play It Safe' training for those involved with club coaching and refereeing. It is pencilled in for Tuesday, 20 February at the Club, and we hope to confirm the date in the next few days.

A number of applications have already been made – if you have not yet applied please speak with [Dominic Thompson](#).

7. Rugby at Twickenham

There will be fantastic live rugby at Twickenham Stadium over the next 12 months, including :

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- England in end-of-season action as they take on the Barbarians in the Quilter Cup for the second year in a row on Sunday, 27 May 2018. Tickets are available from £10 for children and £15 for adults through the official England Rugby site at eticketing.co.uk/rfu/
- HSBC London Sevens returns to Twickenham on Saturday and Sunday 2 / 3 June. Tickets are available from just £20 through the official England Rugby site at eticketing.co.uk/rfu/
- Bath Rugby takes on fierce rivals Leicester Tigers at Twickenham when 'The Clash' takes place on Saturday, 7 April. With fantastic entertainment and a battle on the pitch, you can get tickets from £15 through the official England Rugby site at eticketing.co.uk/rfu/

8. Simplified law book

World Rugby's 'simplified law book' has been launched to enhance accessibility and understanding without altering the laws themselves. The result is a law book that is more logically laid out, clearer in its explanations and, with various repetitions and contradictions removed, 42 per cent shorter than the version it replaces.

The revolutionary law book is the product of almost two years' work by a specialist group – you can see it at laws.worldrugby.org and download it via the App store.

Now we realise that not everyone has read the law book, and there will always be differences of opinion about whether the laws are known and applied correctly, but now you have an opportunity to read them yourself, if you want.

9. Club Executive

In case you don't know, the Club is managed by the following volunteers, who meet monthly :

Chairman Andrew Chapman
Vice Chairman Dominic Thompson
Secretary Adrian Harrison
Treasurer Richard Booth
Communications James Kitching
Director of Rugby Patrick Burdass
Club Development Steve Gibson
Membership Charles Burdass
Sponsorship / Clubhouse Ben Medhurst
President Mark Goodson