

What's happening at the Rugby Club ?

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1. **1st XV Fixtures**

In March, we have four 1st XV games:

- 07 March : Scarborough (Home)
- 14 March : Percy Park (Away)
- 21 March : Huddersfield YMCA (Home)
- 28 March : Moortown (Away)

Please remember that the kick-off times now change to **15:00** for all Saturday games.

2. **Ladies XV Junior Cup Semi-Final on 22 March**

Our Ladies XV beat Mellish Ladies in the quarter-finals of this cup, and will now play Chester Devas Ladies on Sunday, 22 March. We are planning a lunch before the game, which, in case you had not already realised, is on Mothering Sunday. Why not make an event of it by bringing the family to lunch, and watch the Ladies as they compete to get into the final ?

Tickets to the lunch are £15 per head, for two courses, and can be booked by contacting the office, or calling Richard Mitchell-Williams on 07776 148668.

The Ladies XV have clinched the League title : they currently have 52 points, with 4 bonus points still to be added. The closest team to them is on 39 points – even if they win all three of their remaining games with a bonus point, they can only get to 51 points. Our ladies have another two games to play – even if they lose, they would pick up another four points, so they have gained enough points to win the league.

3. **Annual Dinner on Thursday, 9 April**

As is the tradition, this will take place at the clubhouse on the Thursday before Easter. The evening will include the usual dinner, and the award of the following :

- 1st XV Player of the year

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- 2nd XV Player of the year
- 3rd XV Player of the year
- 4th XV Player of the year
- Most improved player of the year
- Young player of the year
- Colts / U18s XV Player of the year
- John Harrison award
- President's Award

Tickets are £15 each and must be reserved in advance. Captains will be organising their own tables, and anyone else who would like to go should contact either Dominic Thompson, or Veronica in the office.

4. Mini Junior Festival on 19 April

Early news about this annual fund-raising event that will take place from 10:00 on Sunday, 19 April. Invitations have already gone to 30 clubs, and we already have commitment from the following clubs to bring teams along : York, Dinnington, Selby, and Hull Ionians. This means that there will be at least 600 junior rugby players across a range of age grades. As well as the rugby, there will be food and refreshment stalls for all.

The event takes a lot of organising, and the coaches and managers work flat out to manage the on-field activity. They would really appreciate volunteers to help with car parking at the start of the day, to make sure we get all the vehicles off the main road quickly and safely.

We would really appreciate it if you can set some time aside, and let Henry Waterhouse know you are able to help. You can contact him on 07951 916280 or email waterhousehenry97@googlemail.com

5. Annual Golf Day on 15 May

This annual fund-raising event will take place on Friday, 15 May. The cost of entering a team of four is £200 and includes : coffee and bacon roll on arrival; 18 holes of golf at Driffield Golf Club; a 2-course meal in the clubhouse afterward. Teams taking part will compete for the prestigious David Howe Memorial Trophy.

If you would like to enter a team, please contact Ben Medhurst on 07710 344603.

6. Oddballs Hats

We still have a supply of these custom-designed hats in Driffield colours that are available to buy for £15. Proceeds from the sale of the hats goes to raise awareness about testicular cancer.

If you would like to buy one, please ask James Watts or Dominic Thompson, or call in at the office during the week.

7. Yorkshire Under 18s success

Breaking news – Owen Fergusson has been selected to play for Yorkshire against Lancashire on Sunday 1 March. All the best to him.

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8. Six Nations games

Subject to any changes due to the coronavirus outbreak, there are still a number of games to be played across the next two weekends, finishing with Super Saturday on 14 March. There are no planned home games for our teams that day, so we will wait to see if the games are going to go ahead before deciding whether to open the clubhouse to watch a full afternoon's international rugby.

9. Race Night

Congratulations go to Gary and Becky Stephenson, who arranged the recent event to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital and Tommy's, who fund research to save babies lives. The event raised around £4,000 – thank you to everyone who took part and contributed.

10. England Rugby Tickets

The Red Roses are two wins away from successive Grand Slams in the Six Nations, so don't miss watching the team in their final home game of the Championship as they take on Wales at The Twickenham Stoop on Saturday, 7 March (KO 12.05pm).

Tickets are available at £15 for adults and £5 for juniors from the official England ticketing site at <https://www.eticketing.co.uk/rfu/>

Alternatively, watch England v Barbarians in the Quilter Cup at Twickenham Stadium on Sunday, 21 June as they finalise their preparations for their tour to Japan. Expect running rugby from both teams and lots of excitement for just £20 for adults and £10 for children from the official England ticketing site at <https://www.eticketing.co.uk/rfu/>

11. Turnbull Trophy

This annual event will once again go ahead, later in the season when we agree a mutually suitable date with Bridlington. We will let you have the date when it is agreed.