

23 July 2020

I hope you are all well and keeping safe in these very strange times.

With the season rapidly approaching, I wanted to write to all members to keep them updated about what is happening at Driffield RUFC.

1. 1st XV Fixtures

The RFU have announced the fixtures, but there is little sign that we will be able to get under way in September - a start depends on the outcome of discussion between the RFU and the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. This will result in an action plan that could accelerate a return to some form of community rugby.

In the meantime, our male and female senior squads are back in training, following the safety guidance issued by the RFU, so that they are prepared for when the season starts.

2. Annual General Meeting

We are hoping to hold some form of AGM as soon as possible, but are reluctant to place members at undue risk. The Executive Committee will hold another 'virtual' meeting in early August (using Zoom) and hope that we will be able to hold to confirm the AGM in late August.

In the meantime, if any member would like a copy of last year's accounts, please contact Adrian Harrison and he will forward a copy : adrian@dee-atkinson-harrison.co.uk

3. Club Finances

Many members have asked if we will be able to cope financially if the start to the season is significantly delayed. We have discussed this, and do not currently see the need to fund-raise as some other local clubs have done. We will continue to assess this as the situation develops.

4. Community Hub / Food Bank

This continues to use our facilities, both upstairs and down. The income this is generating is helping us through these hard times, and we have been able to keep Veronica, Nigel and Richard on normal working hours for the time being. It is likely that the food bank will be there until at least the end of August.

5. Opening the Bar

A few members have been in touch to ask if we can open the bar to bring some revenue into the club. We cannot do this at the moment, as we have committed to the space being available to the Food Bank till the end of August.

We are looking at how we could open up downstairs, and will keep you updated.

6. Club Clothing

We have agreed a new contract with Canterbury rugby clothing – this will be a rolling contract for the next few seasons subject to the service we receive. We will be keeping a very close eye on this after the shocking service some members received from Zoo Sports last season – I can only apologise for the inconvenience.

Canterbury will provide an online shop for all members, with individual pages for senior player, ladies, mini juniors and supporters. We will keep you updated on the club shop progress and let you all know when it is up and running.

Newitts will continue to provide all playing shirts through the main club sponsorship deal.

If anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Dom Thompson

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