



Old Coventrians Rugby Football Club



The Clubhouse

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GENERAL UPDATE August 4th 2020 - FROM OLD COVENTRIANS RFC COMMITTEE

Welcome to the latest update following our first combined, in person and Zoom, Management Meeting since lockdown started. We continue to assess all the advice and guidance that is available, primarily from the Government and the RFU, in making and revising our plans for training, playing and the next phases of club opening.

Whilst we are still in Stage B of the RFU's "return to rugby road map" for training and playing we are still unable to resume contact on or off the field. There does, however, appear to be some progress towards transition to the next phase. There has been a great amount of work to read, understand and communicate what is, and what is not, allowed and more detailed guidance will continue to be distributed to all members as it becomes available.

The time the club has been closed has not been wasted as there has been a core of dedicated club members that have generously given up a lot of time and put in a huge amount of effort to deep clean, redecorate and prepare the club for reopening. This has been successfully done with additional volunteers supporting the club in our journey back to normality and they have done a magnificent job. We have, recently held a number of Saturday afternoon social sessions to open the bar, always ensuring social distancing is maintained. These have been very successful and we urge members to come along. Our aim is to build up trade to a level where we can bring back and pay our furloughed employees.

We, as a club, are in this unprecedented situation with all the challenges associated with maintaining and managing our facilities, the grounds, accounts, memberships and friendships whilst continuing to assess the risks associated with a number of future options. Limited training is allowed with strict guidelines and limited pitch areas will be used following some significant ground works, about 75% of both the 1st XV and the 2nd XV pitches is available. Not all players, from whatever age group, will be allowed to train all at the same time so a rota is being implemented and will be based on predicted numbers.

In the short term we will continue to extend membership of the current members list and will reassess as soon as there is a fixed date for starting the new season. We will then look to collect membership payments to coincide with the start of the new season, potentially in November. To make it easier for you and for us current VP standing orders and payments will continue to be processed unless we receive a specific request to postpone or terminate your membership. As we said before the club only continues to exist because of you and we must continue to work together to support the club, and each other, in whatever way we can.

The NatWest Rugby Force volunteer day has been rearranged and is now planned for Saturday 5th September. Please put the date in your diary and look out for more details nearer the date.

We hope everybody keeps fit and healthy and we all have the opportunity to enjoy OCs rugby again soon.

Best Wishes

Phil Gill (President & Trustee)