



Old Coventrians RFC

Junior Section

Presentation Nights Season 2012/13

Friday 17th May 2013

Saturday 18th May 2013



Under 7s & 6s



- We started with a good number of boys who were previously in the U6's, along with a few new lads and it was clear we already had a squad of players who were going to have a successful season.
- After a few training sessions we had an early season festival over at Broadstreet in October. We took the whole squad, and managed to get everyone on for some game time. This was capped off by winning 5 out of 5 games – tournament winners!
- By November, we had doubled the coaching team from 2 to 4 and we also had volunteers Emma and Michelle on board looking after admin and welfare
- Winter came, and with it numerous cancellations. When the weather allowed, we were extremely proud of the boys who would turn up in the cold and wet and still put all their efforts into playing.
- When spring finally arrived, so did the festivals. In three consecutive weekends the U7's managed to win our own OC's festival, Barkers and Leamington festivals and finally Kenilworth festival.
- The U7's: a great squad with bags of potential – roll on next season!
- Finally a big thank you to all the players and their parents for their continued support



Under 7s

Under 7s



Under 7s



Under 7s





Under 7s

Under 7s



Under 7s



Under 7s



VOLUNTEER HELPERS NEEDED!



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If you have some spare time and are interested in helping out, the roles we need to fill next season are as follows;

- Junior Fixtures Secretary
- Assistant Junior Treasurer
- Coaching
- Refereeing
- Events and Publicity
- Kitchen Rota
- Parking and Gate
- Player Registration
- Safeguarding
- First Aid
- Can you help?.....
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Under 8s



- The last season of tag at U8's came around in a flash! It was great to see the regular returning happy faces and welcome some new faces to increase the squad to a very healthy and competitive 28!
- The kids soon picked up from where they finished off last season, getting back in the groove both at training sessions and during games. The new players fitted in well and after they got to understand the game of tag rugby they were soon adding even more quality to the squad.
- The Christmas break came and not a lot of rugby had been played due to the bad weather but we managed to get out on the pitch between rained off, snowed off or frozen off Sundays and Wednesdays to prepare for our OC's festival and 3 others we had entered. We had some tough games at the festivals but the lads enjoyed themselves despite being pipped to the post and, as we have come to expect, they always tried their best!
- A large part of the squad signed up to an end of season tour to Burnham on Sea and it was a great way to finish off the season both on and off the pitch. The boys were split up into two teams, the Lions and the Bears. The Lions played their hearts out and never took a backwards step in all their games. The Bears got through the first day unbeaten and with another great performance on day two they managed to win the cup and enjoyed the win with all the squad.
- Moving forward..... Contact. This will be a big change and even bigger test for the players but they are all very capable of doing it! It also sees Hayden stepping down from the coaching team leaving a fantastic group of kids and he takes with him some very special memories!

Under 8s



Under 8s



Under 8s



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Under 9s



- This season we had 32 registered players!
- We've had a difficult time this season as many games were cancelled due to bad weather. We turned up at Old Laurent's and continued to have a game in the snow!
- It was our first season with contact and tackles, players have adapted well. They have showed courage, determination and spirit cannot be faulted. In all our matches and festivals the team have played by the rules, shown respect for the referee and displayed great discipline and control.
- It is now up to us as coaches to bring out the best in them all next season as we move to rucks, mauls, scrums and line-outs.
- The main highlights were:-
 - Winners Harbury Festival – October 2012
 - Winners Broadstreet Festival – October 2012
 - Successful Tour to Burnham on Sea – May 2013
- Well done to all players, your coaches are proud of you.

See you all next season!

Garry, James, Gary, Neil & Clark

Under 9s



Under 9s



Under 9s



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Under 10s



- The lack of games due to bad weather this season saw a slow build this year, the trial game against Earlsdon saw us draw 1-1, and they only scored due to our Achilles heel which seems to be the inability to tackle. We then went on to beat Earlsdon in our own Festival with our squad size of 12 on the day verses theirs with 20+
- This year has seen amazing commitment by the players and parents, even when playing in monsoon weather with mud like the Somme at Barker's and snow blizzards at Old Laurent's.
- Thanks to all the parents for getting the players all over the county in all sorts of weather and supporting the team through thick and thin - some cars will never be clean again!..
- Possibly the high point of the year for me personally was the improvement we saw in the team at the Leamington festival, the commitment shown by the squad was amazing. We drew with teams we have always historically lost to, lost by one try against a team we had lost 5-0 to the previous week. An unbelievable effort from everyone and let's hope we can keep on playing like that into next year.
- All in all we have seen big improvements and a greater understanding of the game from all players.
- With Matt stepping down next year and myself taking a less involved role, I would also like to take this opportunity to invite any other parents or Coaches to assist with the team going forward into the u11's and with a squad of around 13 players we always need new recruits.

Under 10s



Under 10s



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Under 11s



- A solid season for the team with a good level of development and improvement from all squad members. We have played games under the pilot and normal age grade rugby, and the lads have coped well with both sets of rules.
- A core of returning players with the addition of 2 new players have made this possible and the season has proved again that teamwork and passion, with the support of parents and families are what makes the sport so enjoyable for the players
- The lads have coped well in a season heavily disrupted by the weather.
- Highlights of the season included;
 - Winning the Harbury Festival at the start of the season.
 - A very strong performance against Banbury during the Broadstreet festival
 - Playing in awful conditions against Barkers (torrential rain & wind) and Old Laurent's (sleet and snow).
 - Very competitive performances in the Leamington and Kenilworth Festival.
- The season culminated in a tour to Burnham-on-Sea where the lads played some great rugby against sides that were a) bigger than them and b) had played age grade rugby all season. The lads were competitive in all their games and had a great time off the field as-well.
- Well done lads. We are looking forward to coaching you and watching you develop further next season.

Rich, Mark, Dave, Jeff, Jason and Graeme

Under 11s



Under 11s



Under 11s



Under 11s



Under 11s



Under 11s



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Under 12s



- On the face of it there didn't appear to be too many changes in the step up from U11 to U12, but the biggest hurdle for many of the boys was the difference between school rugby and club rugby. School rugby being 15-a-side with a full back row in place and handing off allowed, but club rugby being 13 a side with only a number 8 and no handing off to name just a couple of the differences !!
- Starting of the season it was great to see the majority of the boys back after the summer and we were lucky to have a core of regular boys turning up week after week, allowing us to continue to develop and integrate the newer boys into the squad. I am pleased to say, without exception, that all of the newer lads have worked really hard during both training and on match days and have done themselves and their team-mates proud. We have worked hard throughout the season to build a real team spirit within the squad which is beginning to show in the way the boys interact with each other.
- On the playing field it has once again been a very successful season, despite the interruptions by the weather! with the boys only losing 1 match in the regular season. On a positive note, we did play some very good sides for the first time.
- The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the boy's performance at our own OC's festival. The style of rugby played by the boys, in very blustery conditions, was a joy to watch as they passed the ball around, off-loaded in the tackle, interlinked between forwards and backs and generally just kept the ball alive. This resulted in a try count in the region of 14 tries scored and 0 conceded. It was a great effort by the entire squad.
- As is tradition we ended the season with a family tour to the Burnham-on-Sea festival. There was stiff competition in the U12 age group with 17 teams entered. We came top of our pool, winning all of our matches and once again only conceding 1 try. We were drawn against Buckingham in the semi-finals that would turn out to be a closely matched game, which we unfortunately lost by 1 try to nil. Buckingham went on to win the final 25-0. Despite the result, it was a great tour which once again contributed to the building of a real team spirit amongst the lads.
- On a final note we would like to thank all the parents for their continued support, and we will see you all for the same next season.

Under 12s



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Under 13s



- It was tough season! We had to cope with full 15 man rugby and the loss of 12 registered players from last year. We lost a lot of games to the weather and we have had our worst season ever for long term injuries. These disruptions combined with our inexperience did show and was reflected in our overall results
- However there were still lots of positives that came out of the season:
 - Recruited 8 brand new ones!
 - The fantastic away win against Oadby Wyggs on the Leicester Tigers training ground
 - The performance against Syston – scoring 5 great tries but losing by one conversion
 - The character shown against Berkswell & Balsall where we would have won had we not lent them players
 - Maiden tries for Luke, George & Zack – well done lads!
 - The determination shown in the games against Barkers Butts & Kenilworth
 - The brilliant day we had Paintballing – thank you Faye!
 - The commitment and team spirit that the guys have shown in consistently turning up for training despite results not going our way.
- Bring on 2013/14 – we are much stronger as a squad and have lots to look forward to.

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Under 14s



- Pre season wasn't looking too promising, as we were short of players, which worried us all with what lay ahead. However, we were lucky to have an influx of new players as the lads rounded up their school mates to come and join the squad for the coming season.
- The season got off to a great start with a convincing win over Earlsdon, when our discipline was far superior, resulting in a high try count. This was followed by a tough game against Leamington, when the lads put in a great performance to claim a victory, albeit by a narrow margin.
- Suffering a few injuries to important players, we then lost 3 on the bounce to tough opposition. But the attitude and effort from the lads made these very close contests, of which were all very proud (players and coaches alike). 3 losses were then followed by 3 victories.
- Our next few games involved some close run things against good opposition. We certainly gave Old Leam's a bit of a scare on their own turf, not to mention Kenilworth (chattering ref) and then there was the away draw at Rugby Lions (as good as a win in anyone's book).
- Tour time arrived, with us visiting 2 clubs in South Wales. Rhymney were the most fantastic hosts, showing us brilliant hospitality after a narrow, but incredibly hard fought, loss to a good team and great bunch of lads. Our final tour game was against a bigger club in Penalta. The boys were really up for this one, with a 43 - 22 win showing how much they wanted to take a tour victory back across the border. Probably the best memory of the tour was seeing the Rhymney coaches cheering on our boys against the Penalta club. We certainly made some good friends in the valleys.
- This group of players and parents have again been exemplary in their representation of our great club, showing respect, discipline, enjoyment and kinship in abundance.

Under 14s





Under 14s



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Under 15s



- The u15 season has once again been a fantastic!
- New forwards coach Mark Jones and Mike were welcome additions to the coaching team creating great foundations for us to build on
- Unfortunately we have seen two players move on, but have had 4 new players join the team adding different strengths to squad and as the season was closing we had more lads join us.
- The season started with some exceptional games of rugby being played and some fantastic try's being scored.
- We seen a record number of boys achieve great success at district level. There were 14 lads who achieved district level, 3 county players and 3 players at elite level. This is testimony to how hard these lads train. Two boys represent us by getting through to final rounds of the Irish Exiles selection.
- As a coach I look forward to enthusiasm that these boys show every week. Their love for the game is something that I applaud along, with their support for one another.
- The British weather kept us from playing as much as we wanted but to look back on a season with only 4 losses is not easy but they did it – Well done!

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Under 16s



- This has been a difficult season for the U16's with injuries to the squad affecting continuity and ability to field a full team on occasions. However the commitment, skill and hard work put in by those that have played was admirable and earned respect from many of our opposition.
- 7 of the squad trialled for and represented Coventry District U17's in the annual Warwickshire Inter district competition. The Team were unbeaten and shared the winners honour with Nuneaton after a close final in which both teams could not be split. 4 of those players were then forwarded to the full Warwickshire U17's trials, 1 of which has been successful and gone on to represent Warwickshire U17's.
- Well done and congratulations to all concerned.
- Thank you to Amanda Sheepy and Jen Harrison for their continued hard work and dedication, throughout a busy season .
- A big thank you to the parents for your support though out the year, particularly those that have transported players.
- We wish those injured players a speedy recovery and remind everyone that there will be an U17's team for next season, so look forward to seeing you all for pre-season training.

Under 16s



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The Rugby Football Union's Core Values

..... are part of the **“This is Rugby”**
campaign which seeks to promote
teamwork, respect, enjoyment,
discipline and sportsmanship in
Rugby.

**THIS IS
RUGBY.**

Teamwork Respect Enjoyment Discipline Sportsmanship

**"This is Rugby" is fully supported by
Old Coventrians RFC**



OLD COVENTRIANS
R.F.C.

And finally

Many thanks to all players, parents, coaches, officials and all other volunteers for a very successful season throughout 2012/13 and we look forward to seeing you all again in the new 2013/14 Season.

Enjoy the evening!!!

OC's Junior Section

