

Durham County



RFU Schools Union



**Durham County Schools Update
February 2021**

Celebrating 125 years of Rugby 1896 – 2021

**Message from Secretary
John Pearson**



This is my penultimate UPDATE as I will cease to have anything to do with the Schools Union in May. There are a number of issues to be addressed before then including the planning of the AGM and the structuring of the Schools Union Committee. As in previous years unless I hear otherwise the roles which people have been undertaking on the Committee will continue. There are obviously other roles to be undertaken by gaps which are indicated on the attached Committee list not least being the role of Secretary.

Please see attached list of Committee roles and those fulfilling them.

The new Committee will need to address issue such as the Action Plan which I will update for the AGM, the continued development and implementation of the Vic Young Young Match Officials Programme There have been two continuing offers of support with regard to this related to Committee roles but it would assist the new Committee if there are other volunteers who are willing to assist with the organisation of the Competitions. Can you please let me know if you are interested by contacting me on p.e.c@hotmail.co.uk The organisation of the 7's will stay in the very capable hands of Martin Pepper, Mark Bedworth, Lee Dixon and the staff at Barnard Castle School.

Please note below that there will of necessity be a flat rate charge of £50 to enter the competitions.

Schools Union [Committee 2021 -22](#)

**ERFSU Representative
Martin Pepper**



As there were no other nominations for the role of ERFSU Representative Martin T Pepper, the Second Master at Barnard Castle School, is duly elected. He will undertake this role until June 2022.

The ERFSU continues to send out information relating to activities and news updates to all affiliated schools who are registered on GMS. For the moment Durham Schools Union also sends out this information when received. All schools wishing to be affiliated to the ERFSU should have completed the links which have been sent out previously.

For your interest please see the attached information relating to the All Schools programme which is continuing.

[All Schools CB Overview](#)

Cup Competitions and 7's Competitions

The following attachment illustrates the proposed dates for the competitions.

[7's Dates 2021-2022](#) [Cup Competitions 2021](#)

In order to facilitate the organisation of these entries will taken in May.

PLEASE NOTE that due to the RFU slashing the funding to the County it will be necessary to charge an entry fee of £50 which covers entry into all the competitions. This is in line with the directive from the ESRFSU. The entry fee will cover the cost of hiring facilities and the cost of referees/advisers with any surplus that there might be being used to purchase trophies. Further information will be sent to schools in May. The fee for 6th Form Colleges and Colleges of FE will be £10.

Durham County



RFU Schools Union



Durham County Schools Update
February 2021

Celebrating 125 years of Rugby 1896 – 2021

Schools 7's Competitions

The latest information from the RFU/ERSFU indicates that even if Schools return on March the 8th there should be no inter school rugby activity until the beginning of the summer term. It is with great sadness that the Girls and Boys 7's which were planned for March are therefore cancelled. Investigations are being undertaken with regard to the possibility of these being timetabled for the summer term and schools will be informed if progress is positive.

Discipline

There are new Age Grade Disciplinary procedures which persons i/c Rugby and the Leader of the School/Academy/College should be aware of. Information regarding these has been sent out by Phillip Walton the Age Grade Disciplinary Officer. If you have not received these please contact waltonpip@blueyonder.co.uk

Young Match Official Programme Vic Young (South Shields) Ltd

I asked for schools to indicate if they have any interest in being involved in the highly successful programme initiated by myself and Matthew Bradford with significant financial support from Vic Young (South Shields) Ltd, Sport England, the ERSFU and the County but to date have only received a request from 4 schools who will receive full financial support for these activities and who may be able to undertake the activities involved this year. Thanks to the generosity of Vic Young especially there will be funding to undertake these activities in the forthcoming academic year. If you wish to be involved can you please let me know at your earliest convenience so that planning with regard to this can be undertaken?

Home School presentations from the Premiership

Premiership Rugby are offering elements which can be used in home schooling. The link is available [here](#).

125 and still going

2021 marks the 125th year of the Durham County RFU Schools Union. We are already beginning to look at possibilities for the celebration but we would like have your thoughts please send to p.e.c@hotmail.co.uk on how you think 125 years can be celebrated.

Useful Links

[All Schools CB Overview](#)

[SU Action Plan](#)

[COVID Update Link ERSFU](#)

[COVID Update Link ERSFU 2](#)



/DCRFUSU



@DurhamCSU



Durham County RFU