



**CRFC NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 6**

**9th of
September
2022**

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2022

On behalf of the Crawley RFC community, we are very saddened to hear of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and offer our condolences to the whole Royal Family at this time.

RIP



Welcome to this issue!

Both our squads did us proud this weekend.

The ladies faced Pulborough, a team that competes in a league above them. They run out of gas in the last quarter but were quite impressive in the first three,

The men faced a well-drilled Maidstone II team with loads of players getting their debut in Crawley colours.

Ladies will face Aylesford on Sunday the 11th while the men have a rugby social to bond before the start of the season. (As this is published we still don't have confirmation if the game is going ahead, we will keep you posted in our social media channels.

Join the boys at the club on Saturday evening and come and cheer the girls on Sunday.

See you at the Field of Dreams.

Sergio Rodríguez



CLUB NEWS

Kit shop now open

The Kit shop is now open on Sunday mornings or emails can be sent to kitshop@crawleyrfc.com. As we had a remaining stock of O'Neills branded kit we've been selling those at the old prices for the first couple of weeks. A new branded Akuma kit is now on order and will be in the kit shop within 3 weeks but it looks very similar and will, unfortunately, be slightly more expensive.

In addition, The online store is also now live and can be accessed at <https://akumashops.com/crawleyrfc.com/shop>. You, therefore, have a choice of whether to order yourself for delivery to your home or from the kit shop on Sunday mornings.

NOW OPEN

NEW ONLINE SHOP
akumashops.com/crawleyrfc

#AkumaFamily

Member News

Congratulations to our Chairman Dan and now Maria McGurran on their recent wedding, a few of the club were able to attend and are included in the picture.



Membership renewal time

The 1st of September marks the start of the new season and Club Membership. This year we are doing ALL membership (new and renewing) using an online form. This allows us to easily track contact detail changes and manage payments etc.

The link to set up membership should have been provided to you via your team manager or is available via the SPOND app.

For payment, we would prefer that if people want to spread payments monthly that they set up our new Go Cardless Direct Debit system, again instructions to do this are on the SPOND app. We prefer this direct debit approach as it gives us much greater flexibility than via standing orders. If you have standing orders set up already we'd really like you to cancel those and set up a direct debit if possible.

For age grade parents - please affiliate your children using this link:
<https://gms.rfu.com/gms>

500 Club winners for August 2022



SPONSORSHIP

We have opportunities for local businesses to get involved and benefit from the positive messages that rugby extols while getting access to our membership as well as to the many visiting clubs playing matches throughout the season.

MAIN CLUB SPONSOR



CLUB SPONSOR



WEELCHAIR SQUAD



SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT COACH SPONSOR





COMICAL SUCESS

Our important relationship with Crawley Comedy Club & Rangatainment Ltd continued last weekend with another Comedy on the Pitch event.

Despite having fewer volunteers than normal, those present are now experienced veterans of the setup, marshaling and outside bar running so it all came together like precise clockwork. The rain held off which was a worry and the event went to plan with over 250 people attending the single show in the evening.

Generally, the Comedy events run indoors on the 1st Friday of each month, but twice a year we put them on the pitch allowing us to open up to be a bigger spectacle.





VOLUNTEERS

Following the successful launch of the WhatsApp "CrawleyRFC volunteers" group. This is reminder for anyone interested to help the club and join the group. This is something that is 100% voluntary, we will not be putting people into the group (unless they ask us too) but we really need your support and willingness to join. Without members support we simple can't run any activity we have planned, many hands make light work for everyone.

Please use the link below to join the group

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KR9rQ2IjbGSKeYViJeDaRh>

Upcoming events that need your help:

Saturday 29th of October Crawley RFC Fireworks night





FIREWORKS NIGHT

The club will again be running the annual firework display, this time moving to a Saturday rather than the normal Friday evening. Please put the 29th of October in your diaries. Online tickets will be on sale soon and a call for volunteers to assist with setup and running will also be made. The mini squads run the scare rooms and take all proceedings, the youth teams can run stalls to do the same. It's a great opportunity for everyone to have some fun and make a little money for your teams.





CRAWLEY RUGBY

JOIN US!

recruitment@crawleyrfc.com



Clayton Saunders

Men's

Head Coach

Crawley much improved at home

Crawley had their first home game of the season against an excellent Maidstone side. Crawley made changes to last week's backline with Corey Toogood starting at 10, Vinny Dessena 12, Elliot Anderson 13, and Josh Rodwell at 14. However, they were short in the forwards. This was evident when recently retired Arron Alison had to play the full 80.

There was another handful of new players too with David Marfe playing a full 80 in the front row. Then Oscar Gravell and Ryan Robinson wore Crawley shirts for the first time.

Crawley ran out to an early 14-0 lead, which saw Maidstone bring on the big guns. With a front row that resembled that of the French team! And a 1st team prop who looked like he ate his past opposition props for breakfast. Basically, the Maidstone scrum destroyed Crawley and it ended up having to go uncontested (however, it is worth noting, that Crawley had 4 backs in their scrum, and a back row playing prop at the time!)

Maidstone fought their way back into the game, locking the scores up 14-14. Before Kris 'Houdini' Dean pulled a rabbit out of a hat to put Crawley back in front with a lovely solo try. Moments later Maidstone equalised again 19-19. Then, in the game's last play Ben Wright kicks a winning penalty. Crawley win 22-19!

All in all a much-improved performance from last week's game against Horsham. Next week we take a break from rugby, as most of the lads are playing golf in the Coby United Networking Tournament up at the local golf course in Ifield. Before the league season kicks off at home against Eastbourne on the 17th of September.



One minute clap was held in memory of Geoff Lodge.



Let's get to know...

Gorm Young

What position do you prefer to play and why?

Scrum half, I trained in this position and feel I play my best games here

When did you join CRFC and why?

1994 I was brought down by a friend as I have played rugby before, I stayed due to the social and community we used to have always sticking together on and off the pitch and always having a place to go, the club used to look after all its players

What are you most looking forward to this season?

Playing and growing with the teams, learning and building also seeing how I can improve when back coaching.

What is the strangest food combination you enjoy?

Egg, bacon and prawns with Marie-rose sauce

What is your go-to karaoke song?

Follow me, Uncle Kracker or Country roads

Who is the funniest teammate?

Kris Dean

What do you think it would be a great improvement for the club?

I have a few ideas: more community socials on game days, owning a pitch or two so we can maintain it, etc. Listening to individuals. More acknowledgments for volunteers and coaches etc.

What is your favorite CRFC memory?

Playing rugby league and the teams we had back when a lot of the teams played for Crawley, we always had fun on and off the pitch



WE ARE LOOKING TO EXPAND OUR TEAM
TRAINING TAKES PLACE TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 19 00-20 30
NEW OR EXPERIENCED YOU ARE WELCOME!
WILLOUGHBY FIELDS PAVILION I FIELD AVE CRAWLEY RH11 7LX



Crawley
Borough Council

TEAM OF THE YEAR 2022



NATIONAL
RUGBY
AWARDS

CLUB OF THE YEAR 2019



Oli Plunkett

Women's

Head Coach

With the new season approaching Crawley ladies started their preparation with a pre-season friendly against last year's NC2 champions Pulborough, a fixture which was chosen to give Crawley an idea of the standard they will be facing next year in their new league.

With a number of new players being given their first run-outs in Crawley shirts and a number of players returning to rugby after some time out of the game, it was a chance to get some match fitness and game experience.

The game started pretty evenly and Crawley was showing they had the upper hand in the set piece. As both teams settled into the game Pulborough had a lot of possession and showed Crawley that if you give the ball away good teams will punish you. Pulborough scored two unconverted tries and led 10-0 after the first 20 minutes.

In the second 20 minutes, Crawley started to play to their game plan by protecting the ball better and maintaining possession. It was clear Pulborough wanted to play a quick expansive game and Crawley wanted to play a more patient game, punching holes in the Pulborough defence with strong carries and waiting for the gaps to open up for them to attack.

Crawley finished the first half strongly and scored out wide with Carley Beeson showing her pace to beat the Pulborough defence.

The score at halftime was 10-5.

The second half started again very evenly with both teams trying to play their own style of rugby. With some strong carries by the likes of Kelsey Fazackerley, Amber Wiggan, Holly Donovan and Laura Webb, Crawley kept breaking the gain line in attack. In defence some last-ditch tackles from Toni Smith, Abi knight and Carley Beeson, and defence up front in the forwards from Dee Croft, Julies Taylor, and Pulborough were not finding it easy to beat Crawley's defence.

Crawley managed to suck the Pulborough defence in and score out wide again through Carley Bessons pace.

Pulborough was dominating the break down with Crawley being slow to put numbers in on the attack. Pulborough was gaining a number of turnovers and was starting to have more of the ball and once again punished Crawley scoring two quick tries.

With Just over 20 minutes to go Crawley managed to get a try back. Camped in Pulboroughs 22 Crawley was waiting patiently to find a hole. They slowly worked their way up into Pulborough's 5-meter line and with some quick thinking from Dee Croft, she off-loaded to a full-speed Amber Wiggan who crashed over the line for Crawley's third try and Amber's first try for Crawley.

This left the score at 22-19 with 20 minutes to play.

Crawley was starting to tire and a few injuries meant the side had to be shuffled around a bit and a few players had to brave the pain. Crawley showed some real heart and bravery to keep battling hard against a strong Pulborough side. The experienced fly half for Pulborough was starting to pull the strings in attack and exploited Crawley's bruised and tiring defence.

Pulborough didn't let off with their quick expansive style of rugby and ran in 22 unanswered points.

The game finished 55-19

It was a brave and positive display from Crawley which they can defiantly take a lot from. They competed with a good side for the majority of the game.

“From a coaching point of view Sunday was a positive performance, we gave a lot of players much-needed game time and match experience and competed against a team a league above us. We know what we need to work on and we will carry on building ready for the start of the season in two weeks.”

Crawley ladies are back at home this Sunday 2 pm kick-off in another pre-season against Aylesford Bulls.

Next Fixtures

Sunday 11th - Aylesford Bulls (H) Pre-season friendly

Sunday 18th - Uckfield (H) RFU national Junior Cup 1st round

Sunday 25th - Oakmeadians (H) NC2 South East league





Let's get to know...

Abi Knight

What position do you prefer to play and why?

12/13- just the first position I tried.

When did you join CRFC and why?

Jan 2022- wanted to give rugby a go before it was too late for me to.

What are you most looking forward to this season?

Pushing on and learning more about game plays/tactics

What is the strangest food combination you enjoy?

Marmite & peanut butter- try it, then judge!

What is your go-to karaoke song?

I do not sing!

Who is the funniest teammate?

Without a doubt- Amber Wiggan!

What do you think it would be a great improvement for the club?

Clubs pretty cool as it is

What is your favorite CRFC memory?

Winning the league in our inaugural season!



CRAWLEY JETS

JOIN US!

recruitment@crawleyrfc.com



Youth Section

MINIS SUMMER TRAINING

Will be held on Sunday mornings between 10:00 and 11:30 AM starting on the 10th of July for **U7, U8 and U9 squads.**

U10 and U11 teams will train on Thursdays between 18:30 and 20:00 from Thursday 7th of July



COACHES

All our coaches are DBS checked.



Junior Section

Girls' Rugby is recently been restructured to be U12, U14 and U16, we will be starting with the U12/U14 training as a combined squad on Tuesday evenings from 6-7pm.

All interested girls are welcome to attend to give Rugby a try. We have experienced coaches from the current Ladies' team and youth setup and a manager offering their time to start this important new venture at Crawley RFC.

If you have any questions please contact **youth@CrawleyRFC.com** for more information.



CRAWLEY YOUTH

JOIN US!

recruitment@crawleyrfc.com



CLUBHOUSE & KITCHEN Opening hours

Monday

Bar 19:00 to 23:00

Kitchen CLOSED

Tuesday

Bar 19:00 to 23:00

Kitchen CLOSED

Wednesday

Bar 18:00 to 00:00

Kitchen 19:00 to 22:00

Thursday

Bar 19:00 to 23:00

Kitchen 19:00 to 22:00

Friday

Bar 16:00 to 00:00

Kitchen (A selection of Rolls behind the bar will be provided)

Saturday

Bar 12:00 to 00:00

Kitchen 13:00 to 19:00 (depending on home senior matches)

Sunday

Bar 12:00 to 22:00

Kitchen 10:00 to 14:00





DO YOU KNOW WHAT CRAWLEY RFC OFFERS?

Venue Hire

If you'd like to host an event, whether a party (excluding 18th/21st birthdays), wedding, wake or work do (meeting or social) contact Events@CrawleyRFC.com

Social bar

If you'd like to become a social member of Crawley RFC (enjoying 10% discount with our club card) contact Membership@CrawleyRFC.com

Play

We have 3 senior men's teams, a league-winning ladies team and a Wheelchair rugby team, if you're interested in getting involved contact Recruitment@CrawleyRFC.com

CRAWLEY R.F.C.

Juniors

We have youth rugby from U7 to U18 (with little Micros from 4 years old), if you know someone who might want to join a team contact Youth@CrawleyRFC.com

Sponsorship opportunities:

If you'd like to sponsor the club, where we have a wide range of partnership options.

Please contact
Sponsorship@CrawleyRFC.com

**If you have any other
questions please
contact
Info@CrawleyRFC.com**





JOIN US!



@crawleyrfc



@crawleyrugbyclub



@crawleyrugby

**Willoughby Fields, Ifield Avenue
Crawley RH11 7LX
01293533995**

**Rugby Club of the Year
Guinness Rugby Club
Awards 2019**

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