



Notebook

MITSUBISHI MOTORS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2018 – NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominations for the Mitsubishi Motors Volunteer of the Year Awards 2018 are now open. Entries can be made online at <http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/volunteers/recognition/how-to-nominate/> until **midnight on 25th February**.

Last year, we achieved over 1500 entries from across the country! We are looking to equal that this year and to do so, we are looking for your support. Please promote the Mitsubishi Motors Volunteer of the Year Awards to your clubs and contacts, especially those which have not previously participated.

- There is no limit on the number of volunteers who can be nominated from a club/organisation.
- Anyone can make a nomination – volunteers can even nominate themselves!
- Selected volunteers, plus a guest, will be invited to attend one of up to 42 local events at a Mitsubishi Motors dealership in April/May/June 2018, at which Mitsubishi Motors prizes will be awarded. We will share the venue list once finalised.
- One finalist, selected from the volunteers attending each event, will be invited, together with a guest of their choice, to an Awards event at Twickenham Stadium on Friday 7th September 2018 where the overall winners will be announced.

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Used CLEAN Rugby kit?



If your club has spare Rugby kit that's not being used, then why not donate it via the Wooden Spoon to Jason Leonard's Atlas Foundation.

For more information and where to send your kit, please contact: -

Séamus Farrelly
Chairman
Wooden Spoon
The children's charity of rugby
Eastern Counties Region
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Norwich NR2 3BP

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ELECTION OF EASTERN COUNTIES RFU

REPRESENTATIVE

Eastern Counties has a Representative on the RFU Council, elected by the member clubs in EC. At present this is Roger Pierson. He has indicated his willingness to stand again, but anyone else can be nominated for the post also.

In the past we have had to elect our representative every year, but recent changes made by Twickenham mean that such an election will now take place only once every three years, so this year's election will be the last until 2021.

Here's a link to the [Nomination Form](#) ; if your club wishes to nominate anyone for this post then that form should be printed off, properly completed and sent to the ECRU Office at the address shown, to reach it by 1 March. Late, incomplete or incorrectly filled-in forms cannot be accepted

If more than one nomination is received, then a secret, postal ballot will take place in March, and I will be in touch with you again in that event.

Candidates are invited to send, with their nomination papers, a statement of not more than 300 words in support of their candidacy; these will be circulated with the ballot papers and we hope there would then be no need for any further canvassing.



Council Member Election 2018

GDPR (GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION) UPDATE



Data laws are changing. GDPR is new and represents a reshaping of the data protection landscape, giving consumers more rights and placing an increased onus on businesses to secure private data.

In simple terms the GDPR will help protect our players, members and clubs by ensuring better governance and transparency around management of data. Organisations holding personal data (including clubs and CBs) will need to give more information to people about what they do with those people's data, why, and for how long.

The RFU is working with all relevant stakeholders, including the government, to determine the implications of GDPR for both the RFU and its member clubs and CBs. The detail of the legislation, particularly how it impacts sport, is currently being debated in parliament, so at this stage it is not possible to give detailed guidance.

We will be providing further guidance and a toolkit for how clubs and CBs can work towards GDPR compliance in due course, ahead of the regulation coming into force on **25 May 2018**.

In the meantime, there are a few things that clubs can start to look at now to help prepare them ahead of further guidance from the RFU. This includes:

- Looking at what you use members' data for, e.g. do you do anything more than using it for running the club, such as sending out messages on behalf of sponsors?
- Looking at where you hold individuals' data, e.g. just on GMS, on a server, or on someone's desktop?
- Looking at whether you pass data onto anyone else, e.g. sponsors, other parts of the club if it is part of a multi-sport club etc.

In the meantime, for any data protection queries relating to you club, please contact the RFU Legal Helpline on 0330 303 1877

NATWEST RUGBYFORCE



NatWest RugbyForce returns for 2018

England Rugby in partnership with NatWest has launched NatWest RugbyForce 2018, the ninth year of a nationwide programme that helps grassroots rugby clubs up and down the country to attract new members and become stronger and more sustainable for the future.

Seize the opportunity to earn your club a unique NEW support package that will benefit your members and the local community by registering today.

6 large grant support packages which include one of the following:

- Pitch Maintenance Kick Start
- Energy Smart
- Transform Your Social Space
- A place for all to play
- Health & Safety/Accident Prevention/Safe Place
- Young Person (U24) led project

Register by ~~4th February 2018~~

**Now extended to
11th February 2018**

[Click here for more information](#)

ALDEBURGH & THORPENESS RUGBY CLUB NAMING CEREMONY

AVIVA COMMUNITY FUND – SUCCESS!



This national initiative offers local organisations the chance to obtain funding for an important cause that will help a community make a big difference through a small change.

This year the Lakenham-Hewett Club has been awarded £1,000 by the Fund.

The project is entitled "Lakenham-Hewett Keeps Rugby Safe".

This is the second year of success for the Club. Last year the Club was awarded £1,000 for the purchase of tackle bags for use at all levels of their game.



For more information on the Aviva Community Fund go to: -

<https://www.aviva.co.uk/good-thinking/community-fund/>



At a well-attended Club social function held on 6th January Tina Robinson, together with Club President Kevin Stannard, named the newly opened clubroom.

The building was named in honour of Tina's late husband Jimmy who was a founder member of the Thorpeness Club and a Past President.

The address of the Club is now "The Jimmy Robinson Pavilion". Tina confided that Jimmy would have been very proud to have created a rugby club in Aldeburgh.

FAKENHAM ARSON ATTACK

The Fakenham Club has recently suffered from an arson attack that has resulted in three floodlighting posts being put out of action. As a result, the ability of the Club to deliver training sessions is significantly limited.

If any Club has any mobile floodlights that might be loaned to Fakenham while they sort out their problems could contact be made with Chris Evans the Club Secretary at chris49.evans@btinternet.com





The statistics released by the RFU show that we in the Eastern Counties are better at providing referees than the majority of other Referee's Societies across the country. That is not to say that meeting our obligations and providing enough referees does not remain a challenge. Getting referee's qualification courses off the ground is not easy. However, we are starting to win. In 2017 we undertook two highly successful and well attended Young Match Official courses, one at Bury St Edmunds Rugby Club and one at Chantry Academy in Ipswich. We also delivered two Level 2 Adult courses, one at Chantry Academy in Autumn and one at Easton College near Norwich in the Spring of 2018. Great credit must go to the RFU for setting up these courses and to our regional RFU team, led by Chloe McMorran and Sam Carpenter for their support in making these courses possible.

Credit must also go to our Eastern Counties Management Committee for their focussed support of referees. This support is proving to be invaluable in helping our societies to enhance the quality of the work of match observers in providing coaching and mentoring for referees at all levels. In this respect the provision of additional microphones is helping our match observers to get a much better view of how well our referees are communicating with the players.

Looking ahead to the remainder of 2018 we are hopeful of being part of the RFU's pilot scheme to widen the range of opportunities for referees to become qualified. These plans are likely to include courses for smaller numbers of aspirant referees. There will also be more variations in tailoring courses to meet individual needs through a modular approach to delivery.

Finally, particular praise must go to our Hon Secretary and RFU Council Member Roger Pierson. Roger works tirelessly to help our referees to develop and thrive and provides a highly effective link, enabling us to liaise with colleagues at Twickenham.

Godfrey Bancroft, joint Chairman of Eastern Counties Rugby Union Referees

Sudbury RFC Newsletter



Sudbury Rugby Club in Suffolk has recently produced its first quarterly newsletter, packed with articles from all sections of the club, which is available as a glossy magazine or by download.

Chairman Bob Waller said the newsletter had been produced in response to requests to improve communication between the club and its members, its players, its parents, supporters, and the town of Sudbury and the surrounding areas.

"We are not just a rugby club. We have a gym open to everyone, we run loads of different events open to everyone, we play rugby most weeks throughout the season, and we have a

clubhouse that can be hired for events," Waller added.

To download the PDF, go to

www.sudburyrfc.rfu.club/Media/SudburyRFC/Newsletter%20Pdfs/R%20Newsletter%20DV2.pdf

DRINKS IN THE CAR
PARK
10TH FEB
ENGLAND VS WALES



Eastern Counties invite club volunteers and their guests who are attending the England vs Wales game on the 10th February to drinks and nibbles courtesy of our two main sponsors Greene King IPA and Musks Sausages.

This will take place in the Cardinal Vaughn Car Park prior to the game starting at 2pm, with last drinks being served at 4.15pm to allow time to get to your seats before the game kicks off at 4.45pm.



GAME MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - WORKSHOP



Clubs will know that the RFU has established the Game Management System as a central platform to promote the completion of a wide range of administrative tasks.

To help Clubs take benefits from the System, Club Development held a GMS Workshop at the Diss Club on 10th January at Diss RFC who kindly hosted the event.

The event was led by Sam Carpenter our Norfolk RDO, It was well attended by representatives from Clubs across EC as well as the Referees Society and County delegates.

ECRU RUGBY APP – NOW LIVE !!!

The Eastern Counties app is now available for download from both the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. Simply open up the store on your iPhone/iPad or Android phone or Tablet and search for “ECRU Rugby”, then follow the download instructions.

The app is primarily a way for EC to publish documents in electronic form such as this Notebook, but also the Annual Report and Handbook, thereby allowing access to these documents at all times from your Smart phone or Tablet.

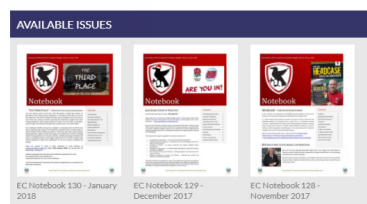
In addition, these documents will also be available on a PC using a Web Browser on this link

<http://publications.ecrurugby.com>



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Digital editions can be read on any computer, mobile or tablet device.



WHEREABOUTS FEBRUARY

- 3-4 England vs Italy
- 9 - RFU Council Meeting
- 13 - Management Committee
- 17 – Lakenham-Hewett RFC
- 22 – Club Development
- 28 – Norfolk RFU



Roger Pierson
RFU Council Member
ECRU Secretary

- 3 -Felixtowe RFC
- 10 – Hadleigh RFC
- 13 – Management Committee
- 17 – Southwold RFC
- 22 – Club Development Meeting
- 24 – Stowmarket RFC



John Winders
Chair Club
Development

JUNE 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

The **Eastern Counties Annual Awards dinner** has been confirmed as taking place on: - **Saturday 16th June 2018** and will be held at Thurston RFC

Guest speaker Peter Wheeler

More details to follow....



Ian Forton - ECRU President

- 3 – Watton RFC
- 11 – EC U20s vs Surrey
- 17 – Diss RFC
- 18 – EC U17s vs Herts
- 25 – U20s vs Kent



Alasdair Bovaird - ECRU Chair

- 3 – Mistley v Saffron Walden 2s
- 6 – Cambridge University and District Rugby
- 7 – Suffolk v Norfolk (Ipswich)
- 10 - Wendens Ambo v Cantabrigian 3s
- 11 – Under 20s v Surrey
- 13 – Management Committee
- 17 – Mildenhall Red Lodge v Wendens
- 18 – Under 20s v Hertfordshire (Hertford)
- 19 – Leadership Academy
- 21 – Cambridgeshire v Suffolk (Ely)
- 24-25 – Scotland v England (Murrayfield)



Pamela Clarke - ECRU Treasurer

- 10 – England v Wales
- 6 – Player Retention Meeting
- 13 – Management Committee
- 18 – Bury Foxes v Harwich Owls
- 19 – Leadership Academy



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

If you would like your club article to appear in this Newsletter, then please send it (preferably with a related photo/image) to:

Notebook@ecrugby.com




by the third Friday in the month.

Russ Clarke

ECRU – Chair Marketing and Communications

Eastern Counties Rugby Union


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EC REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS' – RESULTS/FIXTURES


EC U18's (Girls) and U15's (Girls)

29th October
Middlesex 17-30 EC U15s 

Middlesex 57-23 EC U18s 

19th November

EC 10-12 Essex U15s 

EC 24-59 Essex U18s 

3rd December

EC v Bucks H Stowmarket

EC U17's (Boys)

18th Feb (Sun) Herts v EC (away)

25th February EC v Essex at Thetford (2squads)

7th March EC v Norfolk, Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Baa-Baas


18th March Kent v EC (away)

EC Women's Trials

#2 - 11th February 12 noon – venue tbc

#3 - 4th March 12noon – venue tbc

EC U16's (Boys)

21st January EC 31-12 Leicestershire 

4th February EC v Notts Lincs & Derby at Holt RFC KO 2pm

18th February EC v East Midlands at The Leys School KO 2pm

EC U20s (Men)

Sunday 11th February v Surrey at Shelford RFC 2pm

Sunday 25th February v Kent at Shelford RFC 2pm

Sunday 18th March v Hertfordshire (away)



Well done to all our U16s who in difficult conditions at Culford went on to beat Leicestershire U16s 31-12. Great work boys

Course	DateStart	Additional Date Info	URL
Rugby Ready Coleridge Community College 29 Jan 2018	29/01/2018	29 Jan 2018 9am - 12pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337734
ERCA University of East Anglia 4, 18, 25 Feb 2018	04/02/2018	4, 18, 25 Feb 2018 9am - 5pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337761
ERCA The Leys School Cambridge 4, 18 Feb, 11 Mar 2018	04/02/2018	4, 18 Feb, 11 Mar 2018 9am - 5pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337275
Rugby Ready Lakenham Hewett RFC 5 Feb 2018	05/02/2018	5 Feb 2018 6.30pm - 9.30pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337815
Advanced CPD Game Planning Cambridge RFC 11 Feb 2018	11/02/2018	11 Feb 2018 9.30am - 12.30pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226335830
Advanced CPD Performance Analysis Cambridge RFC 11 Feb 2018	11/02/2018	11 Feb 2018 1pm - 4pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226335831
Rugby Ready Colchester RFC 12 Feb 2018	12/02/2018	12 Feb 2018 7pm - 10pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337517
Refereeing Children Sudbury RFC 13 Feb 2018	13/02/2018	13 Feb 2018 7pm - 10pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337888
EFARU Stowmarket RFC 19 Feb 2018	19/02/2018	19 & 26 Feb 2018 6.30pm - 10pm each evening	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226338030
EFARU Shelford RFC 25 Feb 2018	25/02/2018	25 Feb 2018 9am - 5pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337423
Rugby Ready Swaffham RFC 26 Feb 2018	26/02/2018	26 Feb 2018 6.30pm - 9.30pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337940
CPD Coaching Continuity West Norfolk RFC 5 March 2018	05/03/2018	5 Mar 2018 6.30pm - 9.30pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337941
CPD Scrum Factory Colchester RFC 5 Mar 2018	05/03/2018	5 Mar 2018 7pm - 10pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226338007
CPD Coaching Maul & Ruck Wymondham RFC 7 March 2018	07/03/2018	7 March 2018 6.30pm - 9.30pm	http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search/#/search?id=&c=&eventid=226337942

For More Information Contact: -

Norfolk - Sam Carpenter - samuelcarpenter@rfu.com / 07872 827151

Suffolk & Cambridgeshire - Chloe McMorran - chloemcmorran@rfu.com / 07715 856728



EASTERN COUNTIES RUGBY UNION

Join us for Beer and Bangers! Sat 10th Feb from 2pm



Greene King IPA – Proud Sponsors of Eastern Counties Rugby Union

