



LAUNCESTON RUGBY CLUB

17 March 2021

Hi Everyone,

I hope this letter finds you all well and looking forward to starting some rugby. I must admit I found this lock down very difficult compared to the one last summer, not sure if it was the weather or the fact that I was so disappointed to the way season ended so abruptly. As a very positive person I found myself questioning everything and growing increasingly frustrated. The turning point for me was about 6 weeks ago. Whilst at work, I met a young fellow rugby player maybe in the U13 age group, he plays for another local team. We got talking about rugby and how much we missed it, he then proceeded to tell me about that one game where he made this awesome try saving tackle and then this other game, where he scored this try, running the length of the pitch and how his team had a great after match social, despite losing the game, at no point did he mention covid or how bored he was or how often he had to sanitise his hands or wear a mask, but for that minute, I could see the excitement in his little face and it made me realise that however long we have been in lockdown we will never lose the love for the game and the joy it brings us on and off the field.

As you may have heard the government and the RFU have agreed a road map for the return to rugby for the remainder of the season, the RFU have also extended the season to the end of May, the number of matches will be difficult to gage, due to teams being available to play.

Despite this **we are back**, the club will be open to all age groups for training starting the 30th of March, all training will be as per the RFU road map D1, so get you gum shields cleaned and ready for action.

After the very successful pitch up and play sessions that Goldie and Westy ran pre lockdown, you will be pleased to know these will be back, With the first one starting 7pm on the 15/4 and will continue till the 26/4. Following on from this there will be a senior club tournament including colts and ladies ending with finals night towards the end of May.

At the Start of May we have the green light to play actual rugby, with the exclusion of scrums and mauls, but at least it is something. We do not have any fixtures planned in yet but are positive that this info will be available very soon. Including the possibility of a double header against Redruth.

As for the Mini/Junior's training starts on the Wednesday 31st March for all age groups at the usual time slots. Please take care as it has been ages since doing any physical contact so slow and steady is the key phrase to our return and coaches will facilitate this safe approach. As the club will remain open during the off season any age groups who wish to continue training all the way through the summer are welcome to do so.



I am also pleased to announce we have partnered with VX3 as the official on and off field kit provider for the next 4 years. VX3 are Devon based and supply kit to a wide range of clubs across the country. This is great chance to bring our on and off field look up to an excellent standard, I'm sure you will all be very pleased with quality and choice available. Check out their website at www.vx-3.com where soon we will have an online club shop with a huge range of cool clothing so keep an eye out for the official launch date.

RETURN TO RUGBY ROAD MAP: COMMUNITY GAME VI - 05/03/21

FOR INFORMATION ON USE OF CLUBHOUSES, CHANGING ROOMS AND OFF-FIELD PROTOCOLS, PLEASE SEE [THE LAUNCESTON RUGBY CLUB WEBSITE](http://www.rugby.org.uk/returntorugby)

PHASED RETURN	A	D1	D2	E1	E2	F
	INDIVIDUAL TRAINING WITH ONE OTHER PERSON	READY RUGBY & SOME CONTACT TRAINING	ADAPTED LAW MATCHES	FULL CONTACT TRAINING	FULL CONTACT MATCHES	ALL RESTRICTIONS LIFTED
	UNTIL 29TH MARCH	FROM 29TH MARCH	FROM 28TH APRIL	PROVISIONALLY WHEN STEP 3 OF GOVERNMENT ROADMAP REACHED (NOT BEFORE)	2 WEEKS AFTER STAGE E1 REACHED	NOT BEFORE STEP 4 OF GOVERNMENT ROADMAP REACHED (COULD BE LATER)
PERMITTED ACTIVITY	CURRENT LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS REMAIN INDIVIDUALS ALLOWED TO EXERCISE WITH ONE OTHER PERSON FROM DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLDS SCHOOLS & COLLEGES ABLE TO PLAY TOWARDS INTERNALLY FROM 6TH MARCH	CONTACT TRAINING (EXCLUDING SCRUM & MAUL) READY RUGBY, 02 TOUCH & TAG MATCHES AGAINST OTHER CLUBS	CONTACT TRAINING (STILL EXCLUDING SCRUM & MAUL) ADULT & AGE GRADE MATCHES, WITH ADAPTED LAWS (NO SCRUM & MAUL)	FULL CONTACT TRAINING (INCLUDING SCRUM & MAUL)	ADULT FULL CONTACT MATCHES* SOME OFF FIELD RESTRICTIONS LIKELY TO STILL APPLY	ALL RESTRICTIONS LIFTED
	<p>PLEASE NOTE</p> <p>*Age Grade use of session activity (after 21st May) permitted in line with revised RFU training and playing guidance to follow †Progression to the next set of Age Grade rules, along with any dispensations for 17 year olds to play adult rugby, are suspended until 1st January 2022 ‡All adult and age grade competitions anticipated to start in September as normal, under full laws §References to contact rugby includes tag, tag and tag ¶Stages B & C in previous roadmaps are no longer currently relevant due to changes in Government restrictions</p>					

Launceston Rugby Club Ltd
Directors

A. Crichton, S. Crawford, J. Dinnis,
G. Duke, M. Haines, J. Tucker, M. Yeo. (President), J. Samways (sec)



Our grandstand seating has unfortunately seen better days. They are over 20 years old, have seen many a rear end and are now unsafe to use. We have sourced new plastic seating that will be installed this season ready for next. The black and white seats will display the largest St Pirans Flag in the county for many years to come.

Planned essential work on the entrance to the club should be completed by the end of March, this will include repairs to the drainage and a new concrete driveway, I will miss those potholes....

Shaun our treasurer has negotiated a better deal for our telephone and broadband which means we now have fibre to the premises at a lower price than we paid before, well done Shaun great work.

Our old faithful tractor has entered a stage of retirement and will only be used for special occasions, Jimmy and Graham have searched the deepest darkest depths of the county and found a New Holland ride on mower with mulching kit, I am hoping some of you know what that means, but she's a real beaut and the pitches will look even better than they currently do.



Something for the diary, 10th July the rugby club will be the venue for the West Of England Tug O War competition and St Leonards Horse trials is scheduled for the 19th July.



Club house bar will be open, sun will be out so a good couple of reason to pop down.

Talking club house, it still looks great and has been well maintained during lock down thanks to Leigh, Jon and Crispin. We also plan to turn the front of the club house into a beer garden with benches and parasols, so as of the 12th of April we can enjoy a well-deserved drink and great food prepared by a resident Kitchen Proper Ansome.

As we intend to stay open now all the way to the start of the new season, we are looking into the feasibility of running some evening class activities, including stretching and body balance etc and summer rugby camps for the kids, keep an eye on our social media pages for further information.

Once lock down is officially over in June, we are hoping to have a rugby celebration party. This will be like the M/J end of season presentation without the prize giving, but a day where we as club can all come together and celebrate that we have pulled through this as a team, and we will now build our club even better and stronger than ever.

Lastly, I would like to thank each and everyone of you for your support, from those who have paid membership, volunteered and kept the club going it is greatly appreciated and I look forward to welcoming you all back.

#comeonyoublacks

Cheers
Andy Crichton
Chairman
Launceston Rugby Club Ltd

