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**1. Pre-Season Games**

The following 1<sup>st</sup> XV Men's games will be played :

- Friday, 9 August : Jed-Forest (H) 18:30 KO
- Friday, 16 August : Hull Ionians (H) 18:30 KO
- Saturday, 31 August : Pocklington (A)

**2. The Season's 1<sup>st</sup> XV Opponents**

Our Men's 1<sup>st</sup> XV retain their place in Regional 1 North East and will play :

- Huddersfield
- Heath
- York
- Alnwick
- Blaydon
- Scunthorpe
- Sandal
- Ilkley
- Cleckheaton
- Percy Park
- Selby

Our Ladies' 1<sup>st</sup> XV retain their place in Championship North 2 and will play :

- Sefton
- Kendal Wasps
- Manchester
- Harrogate
- Southport
- Birkenhead Park
- Blaydon
- Liverpool St. Helens

All fixtures are posted on the website at <https://driffieldruffc.com/results-driffield-1st-xv-first-team/>

**3. Next Season's Coaches and Captains**

Fred Davies, a former Bristol Bear now signed for Doncaster Knights, will be lead coach. Josh Williams will join him - formerly of Cornish Pirates, he is also coming to play for Doncaster Knights. They will lead coaching sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will be there on Saturdays if they are not playing.

Ideas for content for the Monthly Update are always welcome – just send the idea or 50-100 words to [Brad Webster](#).

Captains have been confirmed as :

- 1<sup>st</sup> XV : Simon Pettinger
- 2<sup>nd</sup> XV : Matthew Rowbottom
- 3<sup>rd</sup> XV : Will Megginson
- 4<sup>th</sup> XV : Gareth Culpan
- Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> XV : Laura Harris

#### 4. Off-Season Update

If you were not able to get to the AGM in July, here are some key points from the meeting - the minutes were posted on the website :

- Simon 'Leader' Megginson took over from Rodney Hogg as President
- Adrian Harrison was confirmed as the Senior Vice President
- Dominic Thompson has stepped down as Chair, and Simon Hornby confirmed in the role
- The financial accounts for the year were positive – we made a profit last season
- Membership subs are not being increased
- Overall numbers of sponsors and advertisers remains good, and are a valuable contribution to the funding of the club
- Centenary arrangements : the first game played by the club was on 4 September 1926. The 100th anniversary is therefore in 2026, and the 100th season is 1925-26. It was agreed that the Centenary celebration events would be arranged throughout the 2026-27 season
- All the fire doors have been replaced or renovated
- The clubhouse has been decorated throughout. The photographs and honours boards will go back up in the near future
- Ed Megginson is taking over the role of Fixture Secretary

#### 5. Pre-Match Lunches

These have been selling fast, and there are only a few tables available, on the following dates :

- 14 September - Sandal : three-course lunch @ £36pp
- 5 October - Blaydon Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> XV : two-course lunch @ £25pp
- 21 December - Scunthorpe : three-course lunch @ £36pp
- 18 January - Wharfedale 2<sup>nd</sup> XV : two-course lunch @ £25pp
- 15 February - Sheffield 2<sup>nd</sup> XV : two-course lunch @ £25pp

If anyone is interested in any of these dates please contact Kerry Booth at the clubhouse on (01377) 256598.

#### 6. Law Changes

Some changes to Global Laws will come in this season :

- A law change to encourage players to remain on their feet and drive the jackler instead of using a crocodile roll
- No scrum option from a free-kick
- Clarification of laws about offside in front of a kick

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## 7. Members Subs are now due

Please remember that all subs fall due on 1 September so, if you have not already taken care of them for the season, we would encourage you to do so. Subs have not increased and are :

- Vice President : Donation (at least equal to a non-player member's subscription)
- Non-Playing Member : £70
- Life Member : £1,200
- 10-Year Member : £600
- Senior Player – Men : £170
- Senior Player – Ladies : £115
- Development Squad : £100
- Player in full-time or further education : £100
- Mini / Junior : £110 for first child, and £100 for siblings
- Under 6 : £60
- Touch Rugby: £30 for over-16s, and £15 for under-16s

You can pay by :

- Bank Transfer to Sort Code 40-10-12; A/c no 61588303; Ref "Surname Initials"
- Credit / debit card at the bar
- Cash
- Cheque : payable to Driffield RUFC Limited

Please remember that we will reactivate your member's discount card once you have paid for the coming season – we hold any balance on the card until then. Also that the RFU insurance does not cover playing members until they have paid in full for the season, or have set up a Standing Order to cover the full subs.

## 8. Mini Junior Registration Days

We hope Mini / Junior players and parents have had an enjoyable summer break and are looking forward to a new season of rugby at Driffield. This will start with a Registration Day on Sunday, 1 September. We will be in the clubhouse from 10am - 12.30pm when it will be possible for players old and new to register for the season and pay their subs.

If you are unable to attend that Sunday, we will repeat the process on Sunday, 8 September. After that, if you have been unable to make your payment you should contact your Team's Manager or Coach as soon as possible since it may not be possible to play games for the club if you are not a paid-up member, and registered with the RFU.

Payment details are as above, but please use Ref "MJ Surname Firstname" e.g. MJ Smith John

## 9. Age Grade Player Registration

Parents will have received an email from the RFU system asking them to re-register their age grade players. If you have not already done so, please log into your RFU account and take care of it – details of how to login are in the footer of the email that includes this newsletter.

If you have received the email then you already have an account, so please do not create a new one – it will create a duplicate. Please only create a new account for a family that is new to Driffield RUFC – you can add a child to an existing parent account.

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Parents are now responsible for their own children's data, easing the administration burden on volunteer club administrators. The process allows you to check and update your details, such as a change of address.

Details of how to do this are on the club's web page at:

<https://www.driffieldruffc.com/2021/08/28/age-grade-player-affiliation/>

If you are having problems, please contact Brad Webster on [driffieldruffc@gmail.com](mailto:driffieldruffc@gmail.com)

## 10. New Sponsors

We are always looking for more, so are delighted that we have some new sponsors for the coming season:

- East Yorkshire Joinery
- Gareth Culpan Financial Planning
- White Rose Farms