

Leicestershire Society Of Rugby Union Referees Newsletter:



Leicestershire Society Of Rugby Union

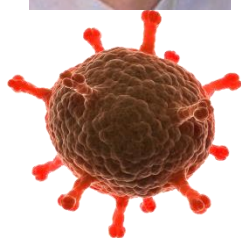
Referees Newsletter:



In the October edition:



A Chairman's Note



Covid and where we stand



RFU

Return to play - Stage by
stage guidance



Society Training Sessions



End of month Society
meetings and training:



Joint Training Sessions



A Chairman's Note



Wednesday 11th November 2020

It has been a sad day today.

I, along with other members of the Society, stood at Vipers RFC to pay our last respects to Mr Nick Lacey, as he passed by on his final journey to the Crematorium at Great Glen.

Nick sadly passed away on Friday 30th October, after a battle with cancer. Most of you will have known Nick, but for those who did not, he was one of the great personalities within the Leicestershire Society of Referees and was extremely well known throughout the rugby community in Leicestershire. In his playing days, Nick played for Vipers and Leicestershire, before taking up the whistle with the Society. Nick rose quickly up the ranks and achieved membership of the old 'A List' of Referees, which meant that he was in the top 100 referees in the country. Therefore, he officiated at the highest level countrywide, but his real passion was for the Society in Leicestershire. In recent years, Nick turned his hand to Match Observing and has guided many referees on their journey in the game.





A Chairman's Note

Along side all this, Nick has been a stalwart of the Committee of LSRUR, for many, many years. He has served as Appointments Secretary, Chairman, Treasurer and is also an Honorary President of the Society; his contribution has been enormous. I am so, so pleased that we followed up on an original idea by our Secretary, John Hill, to bestow the honour of becoming an Honorary President on Nick, before he passed away. When his sons told Nick about the award as he lay in bed in LOROS, he was emotional and deeply touched and then commented that 'the Society can't just do that.' This has made us all laugh out loud as it is a true measure of the man, to still be considering the Constitution of the Society at that stage!





A Chairman's Note

The wider rugby community in Leicestershire will also remember Nick as the MC for our annual Society dinner, a role he has fulfilled for as long as I have been a member of the Society.

Nick was a rugby man through and through and will be missed by us all. Nicks family have set up a Just Giving page for LOROS in his memory. On your behalf, the Committee have donated £500 from the Society to this fund, in honour of Nick.

I feel privileged to have known Nick, as a colleague on the Committee, as a fellow referee, as a true lover of our wonderful game, but most importantly, as a friend.

Our thoughts are with Jane, Stephen, Mark and all the family at this time. Rest easy Nick and keep them on side in the after life.





A Chairman's Note

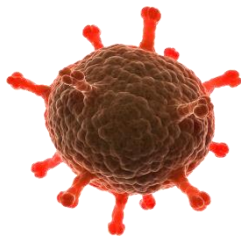
On other matters, as you are all probably aware, due to the latest Covid-19 restrictions, we have now returned to Stage A in the RFU's return to rugby road map. This is a real shame as Ready4 Rugby was really taking off in the County and Saturday afternoons were getting back to some sort of normality. Hopefully we can start along this roadmap again in the not too distant future and we will eventually get back to the proper game that we all know and love. At least we will have some Rugby to watch from this weekend, with the start of the Autumn Nations Cup on Friday. I am now finally pleased that I was duped in to signing up for Amazon Prime a few months ago!

In the meantime, please do get involved with the virtual training sessions that George Richardson, our new Training Officer, is spending so much time and energy organising. These are a great way to stay in touch with fellow members of the Society and to keep our knowledge and skill base up to speed. Many thanks to George for all he is doing on this front.

Stay safe all and I look forward to catching up with you all in the not too distant future, I hope.

Mark Elliott
Chairman
Leicestershire Society of Rugby Union Referees



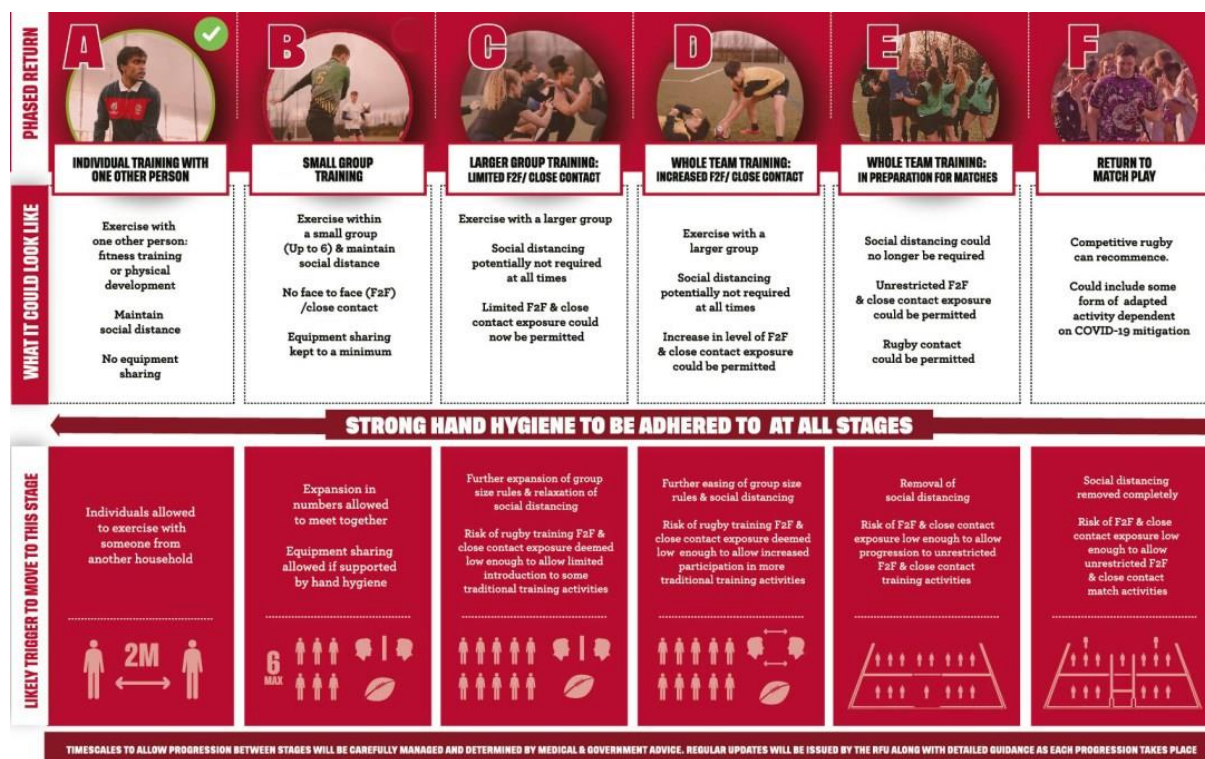


Covid and where we stand

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE & SUPPORT

The RFU has developed a range of resources and information to help clubs affected by Coronavirus visit:

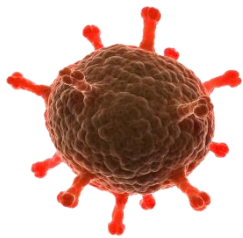
www.englandrugby.com/participation/running-your-club/coronavirus



Return to Rugby Roadmap

From Thursday 5 November until Thursday 3 December all community team sports will be suspended. This restriction applies to all **club** Age Grade and Adult rugby activities below Championship and Premier 15s.

Club rugby activity will return to Stage A on the Return to Community Rugby Roadmap for the lockdown period. This means that no competitive or formal rugby activities can be undertaken until at least Wednesday 2 December. While group training sessions are banned, a maximum of two players can participate in socially distanced (two metres plus), individual training sessions outside without sharing equipment.



Covid and where we stand

Rugby in School, Colleges & Universities

University rugby is subject to the same restrictions as our community clubs and will return to Stage A on the Return to Rugby Roadmap until Wednesday 2 December.

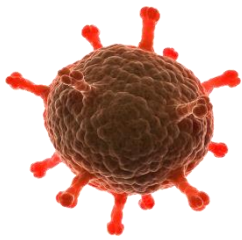
Schools and colleges are able to play rugby but must follow the [DfE guidance](#) for schools and further education settings. Further clarification can be found [here](#). In summary, this is:

Rugby can be played as part of the curriculum, i.e. in PE and games lessons, timetabled activity during the school day and as part of courses, such as BTEC Diplomas in Sport and GCSE/A-Level PE

No extra-curricular rugby clubs, training and activities (outside of the DfE guidance on childcare provision for parents) or inter-school/college matches are permitted

Activity must continue to be played to the RFU government-approved action plan, i.e. play the formats and follow off-field logistics as permitted before half term and lockdown ([Ready4Rugby](#), [O2Touch](#) and limited contact training in approved group sizes)

We continue to encourage schools and colleges to provide rugby union for the health and wellbeing of their students during lockdown; in particular with community sport being unavailable. However, we also recognise that there are a large number of additional factors for Headteachers/Principals to consider and that it is ultimately their decision whether they can play in line with the government guidance.



Covid and where we stand

Rugby Club Facilities

Whilst sport and leisure facilities must close during the lockdown period, clubhouses can remain open to provide take away, click and collect and food delivery services (no alcohol). They may also be used in the following limited circumstances:

- Education and training (including for schools to use sports and leisure facilities where that is part of their normal provision)
- Childcare purposes and supervised activities for children, i.e., parent and baby sessions or play groups
- Blood donations and food banks
- To provide medical treatment, i.e., if being used for flu vaccines or mobile testing centres

Handling a positive coronavirus test

Following consultation with Public Health England, the RFU have produced [overview guidance](#) which explains the actions required by a club following a positive COVID-19 test. There is also [extended guidance](#) available for clubs who have a confirmed COVID-19 test case.

The RFU request that clubs submit notification of all positives tests with in a club (including retrospective cases). This information is requested to allow the RFU to monitor the number of confirmed positive COVID-19 test occurring in clubs and ensure the club has the appropriate support.

Clubs can do this by filling out the [Positive Test Notification Form](#).



Restarting Competitive Grassroots Rugby: Return to Rugby Roadmap

STAGE BY STAGE GUIDANCE

September 2020

The following information provides an overview of the key components in stages A-D of the Return to Rugby Roadmap.

Before running any rugby activity, clubs should ensure they are aware of any local lockdown restrictions and/or changes in RFU and Government guidance which may affect which stage they are in and what activity can be undertaken.

All Activity (in all stages) should include appropriate social distancing, strong personal hygiene maintenance, and follow the latest RFU & government guidance.

Stage A

- Socially distanced activity only
- Maximum of 2 people in a session
- No equipment sharing permitted

Individual Training with
One Other Person



Stage B

- Maximum 6 players in a group per ¼ pitch
- All players and coaches must remain socially distanced at all times
- Only essential equipment sharing (ball)
- No contact activity permitted
- No touch Rugby activity permitted.
- No Tag Rugby permitted
- Maximum 15 minutes activity before a break to clean and sanitise.

Small Group Training



More Information is available in the
[Return to Rugby Roadmap: Stage B Webinar](#)

Stage C

- Maximum 20 players per half pitch
- Only Touch Rugby and Ready 4 Rugby activity permitted for the game zone
- All non-game activity must still remain socially distanced
- Intra club fixtures only permitted
- No contact rugby activity permitted
- No Tag rugby permitted

**Non-Contact Training &
Intra Club Matches**

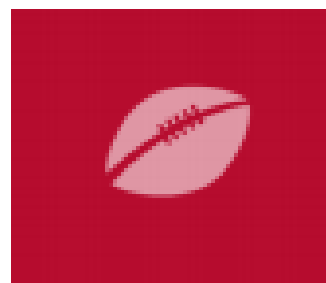


More Information is available in the
[Return to Rugby Roadmap: Stage C Webinar](#)

Stage D

- Maximum 20 players per half pitch
- Only Touch Rugby and Ready 4 Rugby activity permitted for the game zone
- 15 minutes specific adapted contact skill zone activity permitted per session
- Inter club fixtures permitted
- No contact training games permitted
- No scrum activity permitted
- No maul activity permitted
- No opposed lineouts permitted
- No Tag rugby activity permitted

**Adapted Contact
Training & Non-Contact**



More Information is available in the
[Return to Rugby Roadmap: Stage D Webinar](#)



Society Training



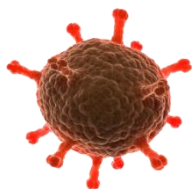
All of our training sessions are recorded and are on youtube. You can find the links under “Training and Documents” on our website.



We have our own Zoom professional page now which allows us to have unlimited meetings, record sessions with an unlimited time frame. Details of zoom meeting ID's are sent out on the day of each session.



We held our first live training session on the scrum. This was recorded and has now been placed on the website for viewing.



Covid stage by stage guidance as seen in this newsletter is available on the website under training and documents.



Monday 16th November – Developing a PDP – Zoom
Tuesday 24th November – Looking after your body – Zoom
Monday 30th December – Line out – Youtube presentation
Monday 14th December – Line out – Live zoom call
Monday 21st December – Foul play – Zoom



End of month Society meetings and training:



November: The meeting has been moved to the Tuesday night to accommodate our special guest:

Professional Referee, PT and Nutritionist - George Selwood

Tuesday 24th November





Joint Training Session

For those that don't know, our Chairman; Mark Elliot is also the Chairman of a federation between ourselves and NLD referee society. As a result of this, we had a joint training session on Zoom.

The special guest "professional referee Karl Dickson" shared the principles required when refereeing the breakdown around the new guidance.

Looked at the flow of the thought processes, how positioning is critical to effective management and then an open Q and A with Karl.



Leicestershire Society Of Rugby Union

Referees Newsletter:



With thanks:

I would like to personally thank Mark Elliott for his Chairman's piece and also NLD referee society for our joint training sessions.

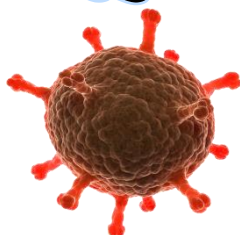
In the December Christmas special Edition:



A Chairman's Note



Christmas is Coming



Covid and where we stand



Society Training Sessions



End of month Society meetings and training: