

Mistley Youth to Senior Rugby Transition Policy



Transition

Mistley RFC aim to provide a rugby legacy pathway for all youth players to continue into the adult game. This pathway will allow players of all abilities to continue into senior rugby in a safe and managed way.

As a club we will provide Youth Rugby from ages U6 to U17 with the U18 age group becoming part of the club senior programme.

This transition will allow many U18 players to experience senior rugby before many move on to University or other types of education that could move them away from the area. It is hoped that this will encourage loyalty to the club and see a return of players in the future.

One of the biggest areas players are lost is the switch from Youth to Senior rugby, it is hoped that this pathway will give players a senior identity within rugby and keep them in the game for many years to come. If a player has had no contact with senior rugby before they go off to further or alternative education they may be lost from the game altogether. For this reason many clubs including Mistley RFC see the increased importance of their U18s becoming an integral part of the senior set up within the club.

By including the U18s in the club senior programme we aim to build a strong foundation for the club to see the rewards of having a strong Youth and Junior section. We aim to show all players/parents that Mistley RFC are a club looking to retain all players of all standards to progress into senior rugby.

Age groups U14s to U17s will have increasing contact with the senior coaching set up as they progress through the age groups so they are ready to make the transition when needed in the best possible way.

Any player from the U17s when reaching his 17th Birthday may play senior rugby with the correct consent obtained from parent and RFU playing adult rugby protocols carried out.

Playing Senior Rugby at Mistley RFC

When a player reaches U18 he will be deemed a senior player and will become part of the senior set up. All training and matches will be under control of the club head coach and his senior team.

- Each player will be assessed under the RFU playing adult rugby protocols and the RFU playing adult rugby form will be completed by Player, Parent and coach.
- Players will be graded to the standard of Senior rugby they will be able to play.
- Playing standard of all players will be continually reviewed to allow players to progress through the sides.
- No player will be asked to play in matches above the standard in which they have been graded to play in.

- If any player is deemed unready for senior rugby we will look at the options for that player on a case by case basis.

Conclusion

In conclusion it is hoped that this transition pathway to senior rugby will not only benefit Mistley RFC but the game of rugby as a whole. Not only will Mistley RFC see the benefits of all standards of players becoming senior players within the club but will lay a solid foundation for players of all abilities to play senior rugby within other clubs that their education/work etc may take them too.