



Age Grade Players (U6 – U18) - Joining Harrogate Rugby Club

Firstly, welcome to Harrogate Rugby Club!

There are three steps you need to go through in order to be able to play at HRUFC

1. to be registered with Harrogate Rugby Club as a member
2. to be registered with the RFU as a player, affiliated to Harrogate RFC
3. to have the Pitchero Club app which we use for all team communications

1. Membership

Membership is managed by the Clubhouse team and payment can be made over the bar or alternatively you can pay online. Membership forms for new members can be picked up in the clubhouse or downloaded from the Harrogate Rugby Club website under Information/Documents/Membership.

Payment details are on the form. For BACS payments please put the player name as reference so we can trace the payment.

Any membership queries should be sent to accounts@harrogaterugby.com

For new starters, we will allow 4 weeks' grace for a child to try out rugby, but we expect membership to be paid by the beginning of October.

If you are joining late in the season (after Christmas), please check with the Clubhouse as a reduced membership fee may be offered.

Either

2a. RFU registration/affiliation – (new players)

Players MUST be registered with the RFU in order to play in fixtures. Registration is free.

For GDPR compliance reasons, registration must be done by the parent/guardian not the Club's Age Grade Registrar, as you 'own' the data you input.

Link to Harrogate Rugby Club's profile page to begin registration is here:

<https://gms.rfu.com/GMS/Dashboard/Organisation/2330>

For new registrations, you start the process using the 'Get started. Create new account' tile.

The parent/guardian first creates a profile for themselves. Remember you MUST respond to the 'Verify email' message. Look out! It can end up in a spam folder.

Once completed you then 'Add child' to your profile. Once that is done you should see a notification in the green box to Affiliate your child to a club. You need to select Harrogate RFC and remember to SAVE.

Only at that point will the Age Grade Registrar see an affiliation request to approve.

Link to a screen-by-screen guide for parents/guardians is here (if you get stuck!):

<https://help.rfu.com/support/solutions/articles/15000031972-age-grade-player-registration-for-a-parent-guardian>

If you already have another child playing at the club you need to log into your existing profile and 'Add another child'.

If you cannot remember your log in details for the RFU Game Management System, contact the Age Grade Registrar: kate_standen@hotmail.com (that's kate underscore standen) and she can then send an email from the system which has a log in link in the footer so you can re-set a new password.

PLEASE DO NOT use the 'Buy membership' function in GMS, even if prompted to do so, as we do not run our membership payments through the RFU site.

Please try to self-help, but if you get really stuck, email the Age Grade Registrar who will try to help you or signpost you the RFU GMs support team.

Or

2b. RFU registration/re-affiliation (existing players)

From the 2021/22 season it is a requirement for existing players to re-affiliate to their club each season.

This link takes you to a screen-by-screen guide to the re-affiliation process.

<https://help.rfu.com/support/solutions/articles/15000031980-renew-age-grade-child-affiliation-process>

If you cannot remember your log in details for the RFU Game Management System, contact the Age Grade Registrar: kate_standen@hotmail.com (that's kate underscore standen) and she can then send an email from the system which has a log in link in the footer so you can re-set a new password.

PLEASE DO NOT use the 'Buy membership' function in GMS, even if prompted to do so, as we do not run our membership payments through the RFU site.

3. Team Communications

We use the Pitchero Club app for all team communications: training times, fixtures, team selection and any urgent updates such as last-minute cancellations due to bad weather, so having the app on your phone is advisable.

Download it on your phone and search for Harrogate RFC. The app is free.

Create a profile for your child (without an email address) and request for them to join the team in question as a player. Remember rugby age groups go with the school year (U6 = Y1, U7 = Y2, etc).

Then create a profile for yourself as parent/guardian (not player) and request to link to your child in their age group. Remember to add an email address and allow communications in 'preferences' otherwise the club cannot communicate with you!

*Your child **must** play in their designated age group unless there are grounds for dispensation to play out of Age Grade. For details of this contact safeguarding@harrogaterugby.com*

Other important information

What we expect of our parents/guardians:

Parents/guardians remain responsible for their children at all times during training and matches.

Rugby is a contact sport and accidents and injuries can happen. Parents/guardians must be contactable at all times whilst at the club in case of injury or curtailment due to bad weather. We encourage all parents/guardians to remain at the club whilst their children are training or playing. If they have to leave the pitch side for any reason, they must nominate (with their agreement) another adult to take

responsibility for their child. This cannot be a coach as they have other responsibilities to all the players on the pitch.

For older players who may be driving themselves to matches/training, parents must be contactable if not present, in case of an injury occurring.

Officers of the Day:

Throughout the season you will be asked upon to support the club where required. Either as Officers of the Day, or on special occasions such as our junior festival. The more parents that help the less there is to do!

We need volunteers to take on these roles so the coaches can concentrate on the coaching!

Your help will most likely be to support the smooth running of the club, with options to be in the clubhouse serving food/drinks, car parking or the general maintenance of the site to ensure a safe and clean place for you and your child to enjoy.

Club kit:

Kit for age U6 – U12 age groups is available to purchase from the kit shop in the wooden hut on training days.

Orders for kit for U13 and above needs to be co-ordinated by the Age Group Manager as shirt numbers need to be allocated. Please discuss your requirements with the Manager.

Mouthguards:

We are currently unable to offer the usual mouthguard fitting service at the Club due to ongoing Covid restrictions affecting dentists.

We therefore recommend that you order a 'home impression kit' from Opro to ensure your child gets a well-fitting mouthguard. <https://www.opro.com/>

Alternatively, you can get a mouthguard fitted by your own dentist or make an appointment to visit our usual dental supplier, Lion House Dental Practice, but they are based in Richmond, North Yorkshire.

Safeguarding:

We take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously. The Club Safeguarding Policy is displayed in the Clubhouse lobby and can be downloaded from the Club website here:

https://www.harrogaterugby.com/d/documents.html?group_id=4288

If you have a question or want to raise a concern, please contact a member of the safeguarding team:

- The Club Safeguarding Officer is Kate Standen 07870 564329
- The Assistant Safeguarding Officer is Alison Grant 07818 086812

Their email addresses can be found on the Safeguarding Policy document.

We want to recruit more Safeguarding Assistants so please get in touch if you're interested in joining us.

COVID PROTOCOLS

While Covid restrictions have largely been lifted, please remember that if your child gets a positive test and has been playing at the club, you and your child must not attend the club and we ask you to please notify the club so we can alert other parents/guardians to get a PCR test for their child.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU AND YOUR CHILD(REN) TO HRUFC.