



# TOC NEWS

ISSUE 4 SUMMER EDITION 2020



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- COVID-19

BY OLIVER THOMAS

Dear Players/ Members/ Supporters,  
I hope you are all well and have been enjoying the freedom and weather post lockdown. It has been quite a bumpy ride over the last couple of months on all fronts and in particular the certainty we are all craving around when we will be able to get back to training and ultimately when competitive rugby will commence again. It is now looking unlikely that this will happen in 2019 and our focus is on the format and competition structure proposed for a January 2021 start which will be detailed further to all when finally agreed. We also hope to gain more clarity about the junior and Ladies games in the coming weeks.

As you will probably have expected lockdown has also impacted the other key clubs associated with Didsbury Sports Ground, namely Didsbury FC and Didsbury Runners. It is fair to say that during adversity we have managed to improve communication between the clubs, found common ground through the mutual challenges of getting back playing and running and we look forward to working closely with the clubs and DSG to ensure that we can reopen the facility at the right time and safely in the not to distant future.

I would like to urge you all where to keep in touch, where possible and opportunities present consider giving up some of you time to volunteer and assuming you can, continue to pay membership fees to allow us to come back financially stronger. We are planning a crowd funding initiative to raise money to improve the facilities at the club as we look to restore some of the heritage back to the club house and refurbish the bar and changing facilities. All help both physically and financially is very welcome.

Whatever the remainder of the year brings we are hopeful that some normality will resume towards the end of the year and into the new year allowing us all to meet up and enjoy each other's company once again and hopefully see some competitive rugby played.

Look forward to seeing you all soon

Cheers  
Oliver Thomas - El Presidente

DIDSBURY TOC H  
NEWSLETTER

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# RETURNING TO RUGBY

BY ARTHUR CRABTREE

After writing this two weeks ago, we have had some good news in the past few days. RFU has confirmed our to move to Stage D. Which means we can start training in contact and some inter-club competitions.

If we continue on the same trajectory, we are hoping to be back playing in late October/early November.

In the mean time training has started across the club; The mini's and juniors, starting with staggered sessions from the 6th September.

The Ladies have started welcoming new players to their Monday sessions (1830 meet).

The Men are now into their 3rd month of daily fitness sessions, they have done more broncos and press-ups than you could count. So they were grateful for the news that we could start training in larger groups. We are going to continue the daily fitness sessions, but the main session is on Tuesdays at 1830.

Now that we can play some inter-club games, we are currently organising a competition between local teams, hoping to start over the next few weeks.



**England Rugby RETURN TO RUGBY ROAD MAP: COMMUNITY GAME AUGUST 2020 UPDATE**  
AT EACH STAGE THE STATED ACTIVITY IS THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED, HOWEVER ALL ACTIVITIES IN PREVIOUS STAGES ARE ALSO PERMITTED. FURTHER DETAILED GUIDANCE ON ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES AT EACH STAGE WILL BE PROVIDED.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
<b>PHASED RETURN</b>	INDIVIDUAL TRAINING WITH ONE OTHER PERSON	SMALL GROUP TRAINING	NON CONTACT TRAINING & INTRA CLUB MATCHES	ADAPTED CONTACT TRAINING & NON CONTACT FEATURES	ADAPTED CONTACT FEATURES	RETURN TO MATCH PLAY & PLAYING
<b>TRAINING</b>	Socially distanced training (max 2 players) Maintain social distance No equipment sharing	Socially distanced training (max 8 players) No face to face (F2F) /close contact Equipment sharing kept to a minimum	Ready2Rugby & Touch Rugby training (max 20 players, based at own club only)	Low & medium risk training activities (restricted numbers) A full list of permitted training activities will be provided	Low, medium & increased risk training activities (full speed) Progression (TBC) to full contact match training	Return to full contact match play
<b>ALL ACTIVITY TO INCLUDE APPROPRIATE SOCIAL DISTANCING, STRONG PERSONAL HYGIENE MAINTENANCE, AND FOLLOW THE LATEST RFU &amp; GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE.</b>						
<b>PLAYING</b>	No competitive or formal playing opportunities at this stage 2M	No competitive or formal playing opportunities at this stage 6 MAX	Non Contact training & intra club matches 20 MAX	Intra-club Ready2Rugby & Touch Rugby formats with restricted numbers	Adapted lower tier/risk formats (Not leagues)	Full speed wide league fixtures



## STAGE D - ADAPTED CONTACT RUGBY ACTIVITY

### THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF RUGBY ACTIVITIES AND WHAT IS/ISN'T PERMITTED DURING TRAINING SESSIONS.

**TOTAL TIME OF ALL CONTACT ACTIVITY MUST NOT EXCEED 15 MINUTES PER SESSION**  
**ALL CONTACT ACTIVITY MUST BE CARRIED OUT IN SMALL GROUPS (MAXIMUM 6 PLAYERS PER GROUP).**

#### RUCK

- Maximum 2 v 2 players in a ruck (ball carrier and tackler, plus 1 v 1 on their feet over the ball). **✓**
- No team game play activity. **X**

#### LINEOUT

- Unopposed lineout drills. **✓**
- Lifting of a jumper (under 16 and above only). **✓**
- Ball thrown to a catcher. **✓**
- Reduce the time the front lifter and a jumper are face to face in lineout set up to under 3 seconds. **✓**
- No opposed jumping. **X**
- No maul to be formed after ball secured. **X**



#### TACKLING

- Tackles at the waist or below only.
- 1 v 1 tackles only.
- Small group activity, preferably with players working in pairs for the entire activity. **✓**
- Use of tackle bags, shields and pads that are cleaned and sanitised after each player use. **✓**
- No upright tackles.
- No tackling above the waist including trying to hold the ball carrier up or prevent an offload.
- No team game play activity. **X**
- No equipment such as tackle pads, bags and shields to be used by multiple people without cleaning and sanitising.
- Coaches must NOT hold pads or shields or bags for age grade players. **X**



#### SCRUM

- None. **✓**
- No scrum practice allowed, including use of scrum machines, sleds and unit practice. **X**



#### MAUL

- None. **✓**
- No maul practice activity allowed, including from a lineout. **X**

# NEW DSG BOARD

BY ARTHUR CRABTREE

Some of you may have heard the through the Didsbury grapevine, there have been a few changes in the management of DSG.

Firstly, Oli and I joined the DSG Board the week before lockdown and over the last few months we have had to cut costs, to limit our outgoings whilst DSG has no income. With rugby unlikely to start until the new year and with the current restrictions, we can't see the venue holding events until the 2021.

On a more positive note, the Footballers have linked with Interfootball Academy and Clive Szmit has taken over as Director of Didsbury Football. They will be using the academy to build the football club back up. He already has 10 teams signed up from M&Js through to the Vets. Oli and I have spoken to Clive and he is keen to invest in the club and to create stronger links with the Rugby Club, especially the juniors.

Unfortunately, during lockdown there has been an increase in antisocial behaviour down at the club (damage to property, BBQs, broken glass and dog poo on the pitches), to try and combat this we have started asking people to use the Fletcher Moss pitches.

If you would like to use the pitches for a kick around or some fitness, please drop me a text and we will get an area set up for you. We are doing this so we can contact users if anyone does test positive for covid and to make sure people are respecting the facilities.



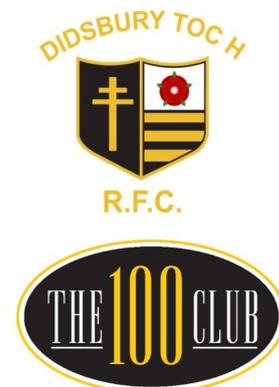
## 100 CLUB DRAW

Apologies to everyone who has been paying into the 100 club. There have been a few admin and banking complications, so there hasn't been a draw in a while

To try and get back on track we have decided to do a big draw and then start a fresh. If you have any questions regarding this please contact Arthur.

- 100 Club Catch up Winners;
- 1st Place Bill Birch (£400)
- 2nd Hannah Watson (£200)
- 3rd Aidan Murphy (£100)

Moving forward we will be doing monthly draws starting on the last weds in September.



# OTHER NEWS

- The Minis and Juniors are looking to start training from Sunday 6th September. With registration day being on the 20th September.
- To try and make the most of this quiet period, we have started a crowdfunding campaign which will be matched by sports England (up to £10,000) i.e if you donate £20 the club receives £40. This money will be used to buy new flood lights, equipment and to spruce the club up.
- There will be another Food bank collection at the club on the 12th and 13th September from 1000-1400. This will be split between Mustard Tree and Didsbury Food bank.
- There is now a Didsbury Toc H Walking group, they go for walks twice a week around the local countryside. It's organised by Bob Brooks and Jamie Evans.
- Back in May Didsbury Toc H was awarded the High Sheriff Special Recognition Award, for outstanding activity and contribution to the community.



## DIDSBURY TOC H WALKING GROUP

IF YOU FANCY GOING HIKING, CLOSE TO MANCHESTER. PLEASE DROP ARTHUR A TEXT ON 07979777532



DIDSBURY TOC H RUGBY CLUB

STAY FIT BUT STAY SAFE



DIDSBURY TOC H, DIDSBURY TOC H RUGBY CLUB, DIDSBURY TOC H  
WOULD LIKE TO HELP THE  
COMMUNITY IN THESE HARD TIMES.



## FOOD BANK COLLECTION

On Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September, the club will be collecting food for Didsbury and Chorlton Food Bank and also for Mustard Tree. Drop off at the CLUB, from 10-2pm

PLEASE CONTACT 07979777532  
ARTHURCTOCH@GMAIL.COM  
IF YOU NEED SUPPORT



# 2019/20 SPONSORS



Residential & Commercial Mortgage Brokers

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