



2nd AUGUST 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians of Antlers mini players,

I hope you had a great summer break! As coaches, club officials and parents of our own mini-Antlers we're all very excited to be kicking off a season of 30 Sundays of rugby in a little over a month from now in the uniquely beautiful surroundings of Bushy Park.

Last season was a cracker! My personal highlights were the Tour to Bournemouth, Big Game festival on the field at Twickenham Stadium and some great occasions at Bushy including the Middlesex festival, our end of season awards and of course the visit from the Men's and Women's Premiership trophies courtesy of our close friends at Harlequins.



GET INVOLVED, MAKE NEW FRIENDS!

Our coaches, first aiders, team admins and all the other wonderful people who make this club so great - are all **volunteers**. We will always welcome offers of help for every aspect of the club. If you would be able to help out please reach out to your age group manager or me via the email address below. We cannot operate without your generosity. We're especially keen to see some female coaches join all age groups to support our strategy of encouraging more girls to take up rugby. We also need first aiders and people willing to attend a first aid course (funded by the club).

Each week a different age group will be charged with 'duty' which includes supporting the kit shop, kitchen, opening the club and a range of other jobs. Many hands make light work, so please get stuck in if your team manager asks for help! I have allocated September's duty roster so you know in advance! (see provisional fixture list attached).



SUBS PLEASE!

All subs are now available for you to purchase [here](#). If you are a returning member please ensure you pay your membership **prior to the start of the first training session of the season on 4th September**.

New folks get three trial sessions and then fees are due please. If you have any questions about what products you need to buy from the above link please contact your age group manager who will be happy to help.

With the pandemic and the increased costs of living, we appreciate some families may be under new financial pressures. We want every child to experience and benefit from community rugby, if you wish to discuss flexible payment terms with subs or help with providing playing kit, please contact me.

Like everything else in the world at this time, you will notice that the prices have gone up a small amount from last year. We try and keep our membership costs as low as we can, and we have managed to keep them the same for a few seasons now but our costs of running the club and maintaining our pitches at Bushy Park and Udney Park Road have inevitably increased over the last 12 months. The good news is our playing shirt price is lower thanks to the support of our various sponsors.

GMS AFFILIATION

As last year, in addition to paying subs on Pitchero, it is a requirement that all Youth players U7 to Colts are affiliated on the RFU GMS system - they cannot play without this registration. Most parents should have an account they created last year, so you should be able to log in here: <https://gms.rfu.com/GMS/Dashboard/Organisation/457475>. We will send a reminder email from GMS with your account name etc – please check your spam over the next few days! New players, especially U7s or U6s (optional) need parents to create an account first, or add the child to your existing account..

Once logged in as a parent, either click on the green banner at the top about affiliation at Teddington (if showing), or click on your child's name in the “Select Person” section on the left and then select “Affiliate” there. During the Affiliation process please make sure you check all of your child's details including medical are complete and click “Save” at the top – you will receive an “all done” message when the affiliation is complete. If you have problems, or need more information, detailed instructions are on the website: <https://www.teddingtonrfc.co.uk/a/gms-registration-process-57085.html> or email GMS@teddingtonrfc.co.uk

RUGBY!

Rugby starts again on the 4th September for all Minis, age groups (U6-U11). Halfbacks (U5's) starts again on the 11th September. Over the first couple of weekends (as with previous years), we will be using adjusted/split session timings before we are returned the use of all our fields by the cricketers in mid-September. Keep an eye out for these.

Our first fixtures start 2nd October through to Christmas with some training weeks interspersed. I am pleased to say many of our coaches have attended courses this summer and we've refreshed/updated our facilities and equipment.

We believe that all players are equally important - no matter which squad they play in or skill level they have. We also want to encourage more parents to participate whether or not they have a rugby background. We fully support the RFU principles of TREDs: teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship. This applies to children and adults. We have a great reputation as a club which is disciplined on the field **and at the pitch side**.



KIT

As a reminder, your player should purchase (and proudly sport!) our club shirt. We encourage all players to also purchase shorts and socks via the club shop. The club shop will be open in or near the clubhouse and staffed by volunteers **every Sunday morning in September**.

You can [pre-order here](#) - or pay by card in person at the club shop. When buying shirts, shorts and socks you don't need to select a specific size online - we will have stock at the club shop of all sizes at the start of the season and will have a record of your purchase.

This season we have a new shirt and new sponsors (pictured). The shirts are now £25 each.

We're also offering a kit bundle of shirt, shorts and socks for £45.



If you are able, I would also encourage you to buy [our warm training top](#), [bobble hat](#) and any of the other items from [our online club shop](#) (lead time normally 3 weeks and these deliver to your home straight from HALBRO). We love to see parents sporting our colours and it always makes our presence felt at Festivals and aids recruitment!

For the little ones especially (U6/U7) during the colder days of winter I'd recommend some form of [underlayer](#). These don't inhibit movement and keep them toasty on frosty mornings. Whatever else you choose, go for layers that can be taken on and off!

TOUR

The Teddington RFC Mini's Tour is one of the highlights of the season and after an incredible weekend in Bournemouth this year with over 250 of us in fancy dress/rugby festival heaven we can't wait to do it all over again.

Tour will take place from Friday 31st March- Sunday 2nd April 2023 in Dorset and we'll be repeating the same 2 festivals at Oakmeadians and Lychett Minster RFC.

Accommodation this year will be at [PGL Osmington Bay](#) on the beach- please note that availability is unfortunately capped at 200 places. First come, first serve.

The cost will be £195pp but this includes rugby, tour stash (hoody), **all meals inc. packed lunches/buffet breakfasts and dinners** and instructor lead activities on site (climbing/archery etc.). Bar on site and beach a short walk away.

We will be releasing full details very soon and I expect the tour to sell out quickly, so please be ready to book (£100pp deposits) in September when we launch.

FINALLY: A big save the date!

Sunday 18th Sept is our **Antlers family BBQ**. Music, food and drinks in the glorious surroundings of Bushy Park. Stick around for a burger, drinks, some free pizza courtesy of the Beech House and much more!! We'll also be arranging various events in tandem with our partners at **Harlequins** including a few match days at the Stoop and of course the Big Game festival at Christmas -still TBC!









Thanks and best wishes for a fantastic season!

Sam Seward,
Minis Chairman
minis-chairman@teddingtonrfc.co.uk





HEAD COACHES 2022/23

<p>TBC. Will be announced in Sept.</p> <p>Under 6's</p>		<p>Sam Elliot</p> <p>Under 7's</p>		<p>Chris Seale</p> <p>Under 8's</p>	
<p>Nic Marren, Mark Davis and Mark Broad</p> <p>Under 9's</p>					
<p>Matt Partridge</p> <p>Under 10's</p>			<p>Terry Buckle</p> <p>Under 11's</p>		

NEW SEASON: NEW SPONSORS

I am delighted to announce our new mini rugby sponsors for 2022-2025. These are local businesses who have made a financial commitment to the club for the next 3 years. Their logos are on our new shirts and we'll be communicating some Antlers membership exclusives and offers in due course! Please support these businesses as they support us.





PROVISIONAL FIXTURES SCHEDULE 22/23- WILL BE FINALISED SOON.

Yellow = Duty Age Group (volunteers needed).

	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	Notes
4-Sep	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	
11-Sep	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	
18-Sep	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Welcome BBQ
25-Sep	Training (H)	JT London Irish?	JT London Irish?	JT London Irish?	JT London Irish?	JT London Irish?	Fixture TBC
2-Oct	Training (H)	Richmond Festival	Richmond Festival	Richmond Festival	Richmond Festival	Richmond Festival	
9-Oct	Training (H)	Cobham/Chobham/Reeds Festival?	Cobham/Chobham/Reeds Festival?	Cobham/Chobham/Reeds Festival?	Cobham/Chobham/Reeds Festival?	Cobham/Chobham/Reeds Festival?	TBC
16-Oct	Training (H)	WLL Round 1	WLL Round 1	WLL Round 1	WLL Round 1	WLL Round 1	Girls at Weybridge Vandals
23-Oct	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	1st weekend half term
30-Oct	Training (H)	JT G'oppers (H)	JT Grasshoppers (H)	JT Grasshoppers (H)	JT Grasshoppers (A)	JT Grasshoppers (A)	2nd wknd half term
6-Nov	Training (H)	JT Twickenham (H)	JT Twickenham (H)	JT Twickenham (H)	JT Twickenham (H)	JT Twickenham (H)	
13-Nov	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	
20-Nov	Training (H)	WLL Round 2	WLL Round 2	WLL Round 2	WLL Round 2	WLL Round 2	
27-Nov	Training (H)						
4-Dec	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	London Welsh Festival (A)	U12 also invited - email sent to Pete
11-Dec	Training (H)	JT Weybridge Vandals?	JT Weybridge Vandals?	JT Weybridge Vandals?	JT Weybridge Vandals?	JT Weybridge Vandals?	Waiting confirmation
18-Dec	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	
25-Dec	Christmas	Christmas	Christmas	Christmas	Christmas	Christmas	
27 Dec	BIG GAME	Harlequins - Big Game festival at Twickenham Stadium- TBC					
1-Jan	New Year	New Year	New Year	New Year	New Year	New Year	
8-Jan	Training (H)	JT Twickenham (A)	JT Twickenham (A)	JT Twickenham (A)	JT Twickenham (A)	JT Twickenham (A)	
15-Jan	Training (H)	WLL Round 3	WLL Round 3	WLL Round 3	WLL Round 3	WLL Round 3	
22-Jan	Training (H)						
29-Jan	Training (H)						
5-Feb	Training (H)	WLL Round 4	WLL Round 4	WLL Round 4	WLL Round 4	WLL Round 4	
12-Feb	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	1st weekend half term
19-Feb	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	2nd weekend half term
26-Feb	Training (H)	JT Grasshoppers (A)	JT Grasshoppers (A)	JT Grasshoppers (A)	JT Grasshoppers (H)	JT Grasshoppers (H)	
5-Mar	Training (H)	Middlesex Festival	Middlesex Festival	Richmond Festival	Richmond Festival	Richmond Festival	Teddington hosting U7 tbc
12-Mar	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Middlesex Festival	Middlesex Festival	Training (H)	
19-Mar	Training (H)	LW Dragon Trophy (A)	LW Dragon Trophy (A)	LW Dragon Trophy (A)	LW Dragon Trophy (A)	Middlesex Festival	
26-Mar	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	Training (H)	END OF SEASON AWARDS
2-Apr	Training (H)	Tour	Tour	Tour	Tour	Tour	31st March - 2nd April
9-Apr	Easter Sunday	Easter Sunday	Easter Sunday	Easter Sunday	Easter Sunday	Easter Sunday	
23-Apr		Twickenham Festival	Twickenham Festival	Twickenham Festival	Twickenham Festival	Twickenham Festival	