



NATIONAL
LEAGUE 2
East



Rochford Hundred Rugby Football Club

Versus

Guernsey RFC



Saturday 26th November 2022 Kick Off 3.00pm



SARACENS
PARTNER CLUB

Referee - Katherine Ritchie *4th Official* - Tigan Renshaw

Assistant Referees - Chris Goss & Paul Carroll

Mascots - Under 6's & Under 7's

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Training nights

Senior Men - Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm

Senior Ladies - Thursdays 7pm

Academy - Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm

Youth (Boys and Girls) - Wednesdays 7pm

Minis (U6-U12) - Saturdays 9am

Little Rascals (2-6) - Saturdays 9am

Rochford Hundred Rugby Club - Telephone 01702 544021 - Website www.rochfordrugby.com

Rochford Hundred Rugby Club

Welcome to Rochford Hundred Rugby Club

Our Club History

Rochford Hundred was the brainchild of John Roden and Ernie Mills and was first discussed in November 1961 when the two met at the White Hart in Hawkwell. John had played at Ilford Wanderers and Ernie was an Old Tottonian, so both were keen to play on their own doorstep. The inaugural meeting was held on the 4th of January 1962 at the Bull Inn, Hawkwell, and was attended by a small group. The club now needed a ground and the assistance of County Councillor, later Alderman, Bill Wright was sought. He was appointed Chairman of the Club and very quickly secured the use of Rocheway School which had been closed due to its proximity to Southend airport.

This of course gave the club changing rooms and rugby pitches immediately. To get players, an advert was placed in the Southend Pictorial and no less than 45 replies were received. Old Westcliffians had seen the advert and invited the new committee to a beer and cheese evening at the Gables. From this Rochford secured a fixture and an introduction to the London fixture Exchange. The first fixture was in fact against Billericay and not Old Westcliffians however. The name of the club had been suggested by John Roden after he saw a poster by Rochford Hundred Licensed Victuallers Association in the White Hart. Rochford Hundred was after all the name of the district.

The club also managed to secure a clubhouse in the car park of the Horse & Groom thanks to Mrs Innell, the licensee, and quickly set to work to make it ready for use for season 1962/63, although it was in use from March 1962.

It is worth noting that the first games were played in March and April 1962 and that Bob Light was captain. Bob was Head of PE at the local comprehensive school and brought along many pupils from the school

to play for Rochford.

In Season 1962/63 the club fielded 2 senior teams and a Colts team which is remarkable for a first full season. It is recorded that over 70 fixtures were arranged for this first season. Tony Davies was the 1st XV captain in this season. The Colts team was made up of several players from Rochford Comprehensive School (now King Edmund), Rayleigh Secondary Modern School (now Fitzwimarc) and Sweyne School. Indeed David Allen (founder of DHL and then a 16-year-old) remembers being at one of the formation meetings at the Bull when he was still at school.

The first few years were not particularly successful, but things changed when the likes of Mike Treasure came onto the scene. He was captain in 1965/66 and 1966/67 and was our first full Essex cap. His team went unbeaten for 18 months and were one of the highest scoring teams in the country. He was fortunate in having players of the calibre of Peter Coster, who was a great centre.

With playing success there came a desire to move to our own ground and in 1968 Jim Sowter, who used to write a column in the local press, printed a story that the club wished to purchase a field in the Rochford district big enough for pitches and a clubhouse. He received a letter from the lady secretary of Southend Manor Football club stating that they had an option on 10 acres of land in Magnolia Road. They were unable to raise the money to proceed and suggested that we might like to take over the option. Jim arranged a meeting between her, and Ernie Mills. Ernie liked what he saw and took up the option. The land cost £3,200 and the purchase was completed in March 1969. The Rugby Football Union provided a loan of £2,100 towards the purchase.

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Rochford Hundred Rugby Club

The lengthy process of obtaining finance, building the clubhouse, and preparing the pitches could now be started. In September 1970 a grant of £5,592 was offered by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and this was supplemented by grants and loans from the Essex Playing Fields Association and the National Playing Fields Association. In July 1971 the Club gave the go-ahead to Muggleton's to start building based on an estimated cost of £11,320 of which we had raised only £8,000. The clubhouse was officially opened by Dickie Jeeps in April 1974 when the 1st XV played against a strong Eastern Counties XV.

In 1971/72, when Malcolm Fleming was captain, there were two memorable games in the Essex Senior Cup. The first game was against Old Bancroftians when Dickie Kent, who played scrum half for England, and Howard Waller, who was a renowned sevens player for Richmond, were in the Bancroft side. Rochford won 21-6 in a tremendous match and demonstrated that they had joined the top echelons of Essex rugby. The next round was against Barking Park Modern Old Boys at Rocheway, and a pulsating match was finally won by Barking 14-12. To those who were present these were two of the finest matches played by Rochford at that time.

The pitches in those early days at Magnolia Road were frankly dreadful but over the years there has been considerable work done on them and the 1st XV pitch is now one of the best plating surfaces in Essex. In the late 1980's and early 1990's the clubhouse was expanded substantially with new changing rooms a gym and a new clubroom and kitchen. Floodlights were also installed to the top pitch.

Our youth section started in 1991 has gone from strength to strength and provides players for our 1st XV and other club teams. In past seasons our Mens 1st XV has been almost entirely made up of former youth players and we have a strong, growing ladies' team, the Rochford Hundred Vixens together with a girl's section.

The Mens 1st XV played a lot of its rugby from the turn of the century in the London Leagues, dropping up and down from London 1 to London 3. Around this time the Essex Senior Cup was the major trophy to win and up until 1999 Rochford had never won it. In that year we reached the final and played Basildon at Westcliff in front of huge crowd, Rochford were triumphant that day to record their first ever win of the Essex Senior Cup. After that we reached many Essex Senior and Intermediate Cup Finals, winning them a further 6 times, before the Cup lost some of its glamour, and we are now too high in the league structure to be able to compete in the competition.

In 2017 the Mens 1st XV were playing in London 2 North East when we decided to have a concerted push for promotion. The team then went on an incredible journey to take the title by storm without losing a single league game, gaining a bonus point in every one of them, and knocking up 1280 points in the process. Promotion to London 1 North gave us stronger opposition, but we remained unbeaten for the whole season again, repeating gaining a bonus point in every match, and scoring 1480 points. The London Premier League saw us play at the highest level that the club had ever played at before but gave us our 3rd promotion as Champions in consecutive years. Starting our season again unbeaten and with full bonus points, with that run finally came to an end after 54 matches across 3 seasons.

Covid put an early end to this season, and the RFU league algorithm confirmed us as champions, with Guernsey runners up. Our tremendous performance and win away at Guernsey being the pivotal decider in the league placing, and the fact we only lost 2 matches during the whole season too.

We now find ourselves, for the first time in our history, playing National League rugby in National 2 East, somewhere we hope to stay for a long time, being in the top 81 clubs in the country, and we can look back on 60 years of activity with considerable satisfaction

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone.

Today we welcome Guernsey Raiders to Magnolia Road after a week's rest. Guernsey always provides us with a stern test, and I am sure today's game will be no different.

We are also very pleased to have our main club sponsor, SEETEC, with us here today. SEETEC have been a sponsor of the club for many years now and our main club sponsor for the last three seasons.

Their support for our club reaches across all areas of the club. Yes, their SEETEC Skills logo appears on the front and most prominent position on the 1st team shirts and other 1st team kit items, they have pitch side boards, internal and external advertising and pages in the match day programmes and handbook. But their influence goes further than that. They sponsor our Academy and have done so since we began it. They now sponsor the Vixens and all our senior men's sides and make a big contribution to our youth section.

As a rugby club we share many of the values that SEETEC have.

"At SEETEC, our people are our greatest asset. Their expertise and passion allows us to make a positive impact on the customers and communities we serve. To support this, we lead by example and invest in the development, health and wellbeing of our employees."

The same principles apply at Rochford Hundred RFC. We value all our members, and without members there is no rugby club. We value and support our volunteers in whatever role they perform. We recognise the many hours they all put in for the benefit of your club. We invest in

our volunteers as and when we can, such as the funding of 22 coaches who are taking the England Rugby Coaching Award, such that they can become better coaches and therefore enable the players they coach to become the best possible players that they can.

So, thank you SEETEC for your continued support and we look forward to working in partnership with you for many years to come.

As usual from me, can I please just remind you all to support either Rochford Hundred or Guernsey as loud as you want to but also, please show respect to both teams and especially the officials.

Have an enjoyable day.

Ray Stephenson

ROCHFORD HUNDRED RUGBY CLUB
- Chairman





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Rochford Hundred Rugby Club

LEAGUE LUNCHES

26th November 2022 v **GUERNSEY**

10th December 2022 v **NORTH WALSHAM**

7th January 2023 v **BLACKHEATH**

21st January 2023 v **DORKING**

18th February v **BARNES**

25th February 2023 v **CANTERBURY**

11th March 2023 v **OLD ALBANIAN**

1st April 2023 v **HENLEY**

22nd April 2023 v **TONBRIDGE JUDDIAN**

All members and friends are invited to attend any of the sponsored lunches at a cost of **£25.00** per head.

Book your seats through **Alan Gander**
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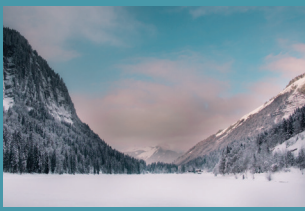
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COACHES CORNER

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to anyone who made the flight over from Guernsey.

Having no game last week and having a week away to completely switch off from rugby and rest some wounded bodies was much needed. It's been no secret our injury list has been huge all season with a number of players that still haven't returned back since last season such as Wouter Roters, Matt Needham, Will Ferrier and Sam Cappaert. Add other long-term injuries such as Sonny Gay, George Griffiths, Mark Ikhifa, Pat Jennings and Lewis Brunger, and recent concussions to David Rufai, Craig Strachan and Nathan Lockwood, it is clear to see why we welcomed that week off to rest the sore bodies to lads that are actually fit enough to still run out. But despite the injuries this crop of players has always given a good account of themselves and been competitive in 90% of our fixtures, and we feel like we really should have had some more wins on the balance of some of the games we have lost. Worthing, Bury and Canterbury are definitely 3 games that come to mind, and with a little more experience, discipline and luck we definitely could have won them games.

This next block of fixtures are really important to our season against 4 teams that are all in and around us and if we can pick up 2-3 wins then that puts us in a really good position going into the Christmas break. Guernsey are the first of that block and a team we know well over recent years. We had the joy of doing the double on them in our league winning season from London Premier and they have the recent success of beating us last time we played here a year ago. Their squad looks very similar to recent matches we've played with a few improvements, so we know it is going to be a very tough game and one we need to be at our best if we want to win. They come with not just a big pack but arguably the biggest set of backs in the league as well, but despite their size they actually play a nice entertaining brand of rugby as well and can definitely score from anywhere on the pitch.

We ourselves have had some mixed performances lately and despite the heavy defeat against OA's last time out it isn't a true reflection of the entire match. For 40 minutes we went toe to toe with one of the best teams in the league and dominated the first half and were deservedly in front at the break. Disappointingly we couldn't maintain that performance and we fell away second half. But we know if we can replicate that first 40 for the entirety of the match then we can cause anyone in this league trouble.

On writing this I am also hoping that we can welcome back long term absentee Sam Cappaert. He is a massive player for us and will add so much control and skill to our midfield.

Enjoy the game.

Danny Cleave

ROCHFORD HUNDRED RUGBY CLUB
- Head Coach



HOME TEAM SQUAD

ROCHFORD HUNDRED

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15	Jake Spivey	No Sponsor
<i>Substitutes</i>		
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17	Najee Mundicha	Simon Wakefield
18	Jake Collins	No Sponsor
19	Sam Cappaert	No Sponsor
20	Ewan Richmond	Peter Jay

Today's Lunch Sponsor



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AWAY TEAM SQUAD

GUERNSEY

RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

No.	Name
1	Sam Steventon
2	Tom Ceillam
3	Jacob Pinkney
4	Lewis Hillier (<i>Captain</i>)
5	Brad Webb
6	Matt Creber
7	Dom Rice
8	Jordan Smiler
9	Charlie Simmonds
10	Owen Thomas
11	Sam Boyland
12	Ciaran McGann
13	Ethan Smith
14	Anthony Armstrong
15	Charlie Davies

Substitutes

16	Dan Morgan
17	Thomas Bray
18	Hugo Culverhouse
19	Joe Andresen
20	Jordan Barrett

Rochford Hundred Upcoming Events

NEW YEARS EVE

Party

**Saturday
31st December**

8pm til 1am

Buffet Included

- ADULTS £7
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VOLUNTEER



As a community rugby club, we are always looking for more volunteers to help us run the club. We are the size of a small business run entirely by a very willing volunteer workforce, but we always need more help. If you have some time from only perhaps an hour a week to much more, we can find a worthwhile role for when you join our volunteer army.

If you are willing to donate some time, please email:

chairman@rochfordrugby.com

The Rochford Hundred 200 Club has just been relaunched to become the Rochford Hundred 250 Club. This is a great way to support your club with all profits going into supporting the growth and progress of your community rugby club. We draw 6 lucky winners every month with the prize money increasing for the December draw. If we can reach the 250 figure we will then increase the monthly prize money. Each number will cost you £5 per month and if you email janebrew@yahoo.co.uk Fred will happily arrange for you to pay and give you your numbers. You can have as many as you like.



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Rochford Hundred Squad 2022/23

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Head Coach



Bob Barba
Forwards Coach



Luke Brewster
Head of Strength & Cond.



Redmond Newbury
Assistant Forwards Coach



Mark Billings
Assistant Backs Coach



James Tirrell
Specialist/Skills Coach



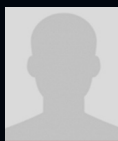
Josh Phelps-Knights
Harts Head Coach



Adam Faherty
1st XV Manager



Laura Bailey
1st XV Physiotherapist



Andrew Livett
1st XV Physiotherapist



George Phelps-Knights
1st XV Analysis



Tigan Renshaw
4th Official



Graham Pratt
1st XV Registrar



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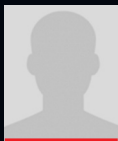
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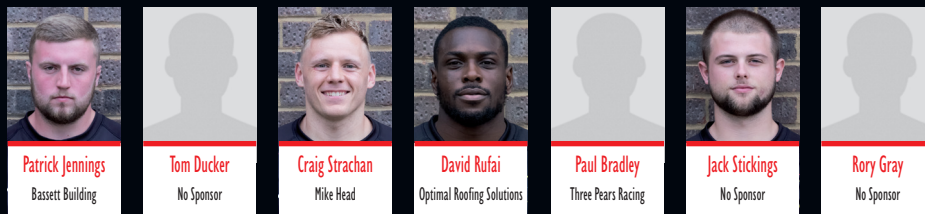
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