



Chew Valley RFC

MINIS & JUNIORS

About the Youth Section

Who are we?

Chew Valley Rugby Football Club Youth Section is an open club for anyone aged 5 to 16 wishing to play Rugby Union in the Chew Valley area.

We have and hold RFU Accredited Status which means that all of our coaches are RFU trained and qualified and that we have passed the necessary accreditation from the RFU. We have an active development plan in place which is regularly checked and updated.

In 2012/13 we adopted the new RFU rules for playing rugby which concentrate on the 5 core values: Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship. This is reflected across all aspects of the Chew Valley RFC Youth Section.

Reception

Teaches basic rugby skills, running and catching a ball, playing as part of a team, to children of school age before their 6th birthday. Main focus is on teaching the skills required for the move into Mini Rugby. They train only at Chew Valley RFC.

What is Tag (or Mini) Rugby?

Tag Rugby is played by 6 to 8 year olds on a small pitch. It is non-contact so players wear tags attached with Velcro that need to be pulled off by another player instead of being tackled. When a tag is removed, the ball should be passed. This allows the young players to concentrate on improving their ball handling skills and team play whilst also retaining the excitement and agility of the full game. We generally play one or two matches every other week – with the actual game lasting no more than 10 minutes each way.

What is Midi Rugby?

Midi Rugby is designed to be a progressive and controlled method of teaching basic rugby skills so that by the age of 13, players are ready for the full 15-a-side game. Players are organised into four age groups – Under 9 to Under 12. In line with the latest English RFU continuum, the emphasis is on safety, and tackling is not introduced until the under 9 level. Matches against other clubs take place roughly every other week, but the emphasis is very much on development of skills and enjoyment rather than purely results.

What is Junior Rugby?

At 13 years of age, players move up to junior rugby playing 15-a-side games on a full size pitch. Juniors play up to under 17's when they can move into our Colts or senior sides. The County offer a development programme from under 14's onwards and players can be put forward for training and selection for County age groups.

Who are the Coaches?

Chew Valley RFC have an experienced pool of volunteer coaches, most of whom are parents and former players. RFU Coaching courses are run in Somerset every year to enable new parents or former players to become qualified to a recognised national standard.

When is Youth Rugby played?

The season runs from the first Sunday in September until the last Sunday in April inclusively. If we are training or playing a match at home, we start at 10.30am and finish at 12:00 midday. If we are playing away we either meet at the club prior to the match or at the oppositions club. Directions are always available. Training and matches take place in all weathers, and we only cancel if the ground is waterlogged or frozen solid.

Where do we play?

Chew Valley RFC, Lobbingtons, Chew Lane, Chew Magna, Bristol, BS40 8QB and we have full use of the club pitches. We mark out our individual Mini Rugby pitches and training grids which are normally between 1/3 and 1/2 the size of a full pitch. There is parking available at the club.

What kit is required?

Socks, black shorts and match shirts in Club Colours, are available from the club. Rugby or football boots with the correct studs are required.

Gum shields are mandatory and head guards are also recommended for all players Under 9 and above.

The RFU recommend that formulated mouth guards are purchased. It is suggested that parents seek the advice of coaches about any other equipment.

What facilities are available?

All youth players have access to the Club's changing rooms and showers after training and matches. The Club has a bar which parents and children are welcome to use and hot drinks and a wide range of snacks are available for spectators to buy. After inter-club fixtures, food is available for the children.

How much does it cost?

To start off, we recommend new children register, but don't pay any membership fees for the first 4 weeks, this allows the child to settle in and ensures that they are happy before proceeding. After that time membership is as follows, please note, if joining after Christmas the membership fees for the season will be reduced.

Membership is £65 for one playing child, this covers use of club facilities and RFU insurance. (Two children £100, 3 children £125). There are no other costs throughout the season. We also encourage parents to join as Social members of the club to benefit from the many activities that happen at the club.

How can parents/carers get involved?

Chew Valley RFC Youth Section is run entirely by volunteers and we rely on these volunteers to keep the Youth Section running. There are therefore many ways that Parents, Carers, Relatives or Friends can get involved, for example, with first aid, helping prepare/serve food for match days, joining/helping the Committee, Team Management or even Coaching. No experience is necessary as the Club can help in all aspects and even provide Coaching courses (leading to qualifications) if required. Please note that anyone coming into regular contact with the children will need to undergo a DBS/CRB check that will be organised by the Club.

How do I join?

You are welcome to visit the Club any Sunday morning between September and April. Please ensure that the age group you wish to join are at home that weekend. Come into the Club house and we will ensure that you meet up with the right age group.

Web Site?

www.pitchero.com/clubs/chewvalley/

Check out our web site for further information and contacts.