

RUCKING GOOD NEWS



The AKRFC Monthly Newsletter: Special Development Edition: February 2012

Introduction

Welcome to this Special Development Edition of RGN for season 2011/12.

Having said that here firstly are a few important dates for your diary

Saturday 25th February 2012: AK v Darlington Mowden Park: National 3 North

AK take on top of the league DMP at Stelfox ko 14.15 on the following Saturday and this will be followed at 16.00 by the 6 Nations game England v Wales on the big screen (definitely on the big screen this time!). So come down and make an afternoon of it supporting AK and your national team (whichever that is) for a great afternoon of sport and maybe the odd shandy or two!!!

Saturday 10th March 2012: AKRFC Big Fun Quiz Night

Quiz starts promptly at 8.00 pm. Teams of 6 at £9.00 per person, which includes a hot supper & glass of wine. Please note there is a limit of 90 tickets (15 teams) due to the size of the room. There are more details on the AK website but to enter a team please contact: robert.pattison@manairport.co.uk (07958 877 012) or Debbie.ford66@btinternet.com

Saturday 21st April: Captains Dinner Awards Night

The usual format or should I say mayhem, with captain's speeches (no pressure there then!), Player of the Year Awards and also a few 'alternative' awards. All players, coaches and Alis welcome to attend and it would be good to see both the Junior and Senior Colts in attendance.

Saturday 19th May 2012: End of Season Ball:

This is being held from 7pm until late at the Cresta Court Hotel in Altrincham. There is a 3 course dinner, DJ and live band, auction and raffle.

This is a black tie event not to be missed for which there are only 20 tables of 10 people available. Tickets are priced at £40.00 per head. To book contact Chris Barlow on 07983 724106 or chris.barlow@centricsports.com

Please note 10 tables have already been booked so you need to be quick to avoid disappointment.

AK Development Matters

Following the Club Members Development meetings back in November, and the consensus view of members expressed at those meetings an AK Clubhouse Improvement Sub Committee was formed, which includes Jerry Connolly, Jeff Atkins, Greg Maymon, Tristan Laga and Jon Bishop. The guys have now met several times both

formally and informally. They have also conducted various inspections of the clubhouse and surrounds, from which a Building Management Plan is being put in place, which details maintenance, refurbishment and renewal aspects both short and longer term.

The relevant aspects from the work undertaken to date were presented to a joint AK General and Development Committee meet last week, when longer term financial planning of the club was also discussed. There had previously been agreement that a certain sum of money within the AK Development Fund would be allocated to some short term projects to improve the internal clubhouse facilities, which would hopefully in turn generate more income from such as lettings and AK social events. Further agreement was reached at the meeting that in future all profits from the AK Firework Display would be ring fenced and allocated specifically to future development / maintenance projects, which enhance both the social and playing side of AK. To do this expenditure savings and additional sources of income for at least the next financial year have already been identified, and it is hoped to build further on the income side in future seasons.

The Sub Committee will now be meeting again in the near future to formulate what will probably be a 10 year prioritised Building Management / Improvement Plan, which will obviously link into projected financial allocations to the AK Development Fund Account. The following (which is not exhaustive or in any priority as yet) will give you a flavour of some of main aspects that are being considered

Short Term

- The chairs in the ground floor bar area have already been recovered and curtains have now been installed, which can be drawn to cover the club shields and team photos for lettings. Some remedial redecoration will also shortly be undertaken in this area. Hopefully this will make the ground floor area more appealing to people looking to hold events at the club.
- Some urgent repair work is required to both main and changing room roofs, guttering, fascia boards and external brickwork.
- Changing rooms will be at least given a good clean and redecoration this summer
- The fireplace in the ground floor area and chimney stack will be taken out. It is proposed to put in some additional patio doors (with security shutters) along the same wall. Again this should make the ground floor area more appealing to people looking to hold events at AK, particularly during the summer.
- The entrance and the approach to the club to be made more attractive. Included with this will be the provision of a new entrance gate and floodlights for the rear car park.
- A review to be undertaken of all the memorabilia in the clubhouse, with the initial thoughts on this that most of it be displayed in the Halo upstairs bar area.
- At least repair and possible extension to the floodlighting system to expand the training area.
- Some extension of the rear car park.

It is envisaged the quite a few of the above aspects either in full or part can be undertaken through club member working parties in the summer months. A schedule of working parties and related tasks (which will include a bbq and a few drinks afterwards – not before!) will be drawn up and advertised in due course. The Club Committee would ask that all club members make an effort to attend these and show their real support for the club and future planned development.

Longer term

There are two major areas which will need to be replaced sometime in the future. These are the main roofs (clubhouse and changing rooms) and the internal heating system, none of which will be cheap to do! Also within longer term considerations are the moving of the main clubhouse entrance to pitch side and the original plan of refurbishing and / or extending the changing rooms.

So as can be seen there is much to do, but with the appropriate building and financial planning over a period of time, and most importantly the support of club members it should be definitely achievable

At the Club's Annual General Meeting, which is now scheduled for Thursday 26th April, the AK Development Committee will give a presentation, which will give more detail on the building improvements proposed to be made both short and long term as well as the financial projections that link with that to make it all happen. In the

meantime if you have any thoughts on the above or wish to discuss further please speak to any of the AK Clubhouse Improvement Sub Committee or Dave Elliott

Future editions of RGN

So trust that you have found this edition of RGN informative. The next regular monthly edition will be out in late February. Any articles and photos relating to AK are very welcome, particularly any relating to gossip or rumour, as are any thoughts on the content of RGN. Also particularly nominations for the '*RGN Team of the Month*' and '*Player of the Month – NOT!*' Please email them to dave.elliott29@ntlworld.com

