



New Player Welcome Pack

Contents

Message from President.....	1
Message from Captain.....	2
Training.....	2
Match Days.....	3
Website and Social media.....	3
Membership.....	3
Kit.....	4
Post-match.....	4
Club History.....	5
Who's who?.....	6

Message from President

On a Tuesday in the autumn of 1975 I arrived at Northern looking for somewhere to train for football. On the Saturday I was playing at Lasswade for the bottom XV and in 2010 I played for the over 35s in what most members hope was my last game but still played with my trademark bags of enthusiasm and very little skill! Football had been discarded somewhere along the way!

Your own career at Northern may not last as long as mine but if you get a small fraction of the enjoyment from this club that I have had then you will have had a great time. You will have made lifelong friendships, taken part in memorable tours to strange places and enjoyed both winning and losing on the rugby field. It is not for nothing that Northern prides itself on being the friendliest club in Edinburgh, if not the country, and there have been some unforgettable nights in "The Bunker"!



I know you will enjoy your time with us and I look forward to meeting you, watching you play, and having a pint with you after the game for many years to come.

John Archer

President, ENRFC

Message from Captain

Welcome to Edinburgh Northern. I washed up on Northern's shores 3 years ago having made the move to Edinburgh from Yorkshire for work reasons. I had previously played against Northern whilst on tour with my previous club and was fully aware that they offered a vibrant social offering as well as an opportunity to continue with my rugby. After 3 years I can say with confidence that this really is a unique and special club. It fully embraces the "one club" mentality with players old and new socialising together within the Northern "family". A big part of settling into my new life in Scotland has been the friends I have made at Northern and I know that is the case for many other players as well. I like to think we embrace a work hard/play hard mentality to our rugby and after game socials. (some work harder than others and some play harder than others)



We currently run 2 teams with our first team competing for the last 3 seasons in East Division 2 so whether you are a serious rugby player looking for a competitive team to advance your rugby career or a new starter we will have a level to accommodate you. We have seen players advance from relative novices to within a few years proudly wearing a first team jersey so there is the opportunity to learn and progress for all players.

I look forward to seeing more of you over the coming months.

John Leatham

ENRFC Club Captain

Training

Training takes place Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6.30 at Inverleith Park. We have a team of 4 coaches who will be running the sessions this season. Don't worry if you're running late. Get along when you can, warm yourself up and get stuck in. If you feel there are individual aspects/skills of your game that require more attention please tell John Leatham the 1st XV captain beforehand so that we can try and accommodate some focused coaching for you within the context of the session.

It's important to train if you want to play. We appreciate that work and/or family may restrict your ability to attend training. In such circumstances just let the captain, team secretary or the coach know. We'd expect if you aren't restricted that training becomes a must-do rather than an option.

Match Days

Games are always on Saturdays. Kick-off from August-October and February-May is usually 3pm and November-January is usually 2pm. This may vary depending on competition being played, international fixture clash, etc. so you're encouraged to check emails or the website regularly.

It is mandatory to wear a shirt and ENRFC tie on match days for all within the playing squad for either team. See sections on Kit and Post-match for further match day information.

We collect a match fee of £5 from each player which is to cover jug of ale/food/kit etc.



Website and Social media

You can find us online at enrfc.co.uk

This is where you can update your availability for matches, find information on team selections, meet times, kick-off times, read the weekly Captain's Column and find out some history on ENRFC among other things.

We can be found on Facebook with a search for 'Edinburgh Northern RFC' or follow us on Twitter.

There is a closed group on Facebook for players where we keep everyone up to speed on day-to-day goings on. We can add you in once you've liked the main page.

We ask that any posts on our website or social media pages are considerate and respectful of other clubs. Also, that the obvious social manners are adhered to.

Membership

To become a member of Edinburgh Northern RFC we need to know the following information from you:

Name, DoB, phone number, preferred email and address.

Annual subscription is £80 for players or £40 for student/U21 players. This can be reduced to £60 and £30 respectively if paid before 1st October each year. Annual subscriptions cover insurance, upgrades to facilities, bills, washing of kit and purchase of training aids.

Payment:

- Bank transfer to Bank of Scotland Account: 0027 4267, Sort Code: 80-11-00 please use your name as a reference and send a confirmation email to treasurer@enrfc.co.uk
- As a backup cheques can be posted to Kris McElhinney, 20/3 Restalrig Drive, EH76FY. or left in an envelope behind the bar.

Kit

Edinburgh Northern plays in hooped jerseys of Old Gold and Navy colours. These playing kits have been sponsored by The Antiquary Bar and are collected, washed and returned following each game. You will not be asked to purchase one.

Your own playing kit should consist of navy shorts and club socks. Ideally, the Canterbury made, ENRFC embroidered shorts available through PSL Sports are what we want all players to wear. We do however appreciate joining a club can be an expensive process so are happy for a grace period to be granted.



Playing socks can

be purchased across the bar for £8.

www.psleteamsports.com/EdinburghNorthern.html

The PSL website has most of the items available for order and we'd encourage you to order the shorts as a minimum when possible. For match days, we turn up in the tracksuit so we'd also encourage this purchase again when possible.

We do a bulk order over the summer each year which keeps prices low and eliminates the individual postage cost. If there's enough demand this is something we can consider doing on other occasions.



Post-match

Players are expected to wear a navy shirt and club tie following home and away fixtures. A tie can be purchased across the bar for £12.

Edinburgh Northern has a proud tradition of being a sociable club and this applies when playing away from home. There is an expectation to remain at the oppositions bar for food and minimum 1-2 drinks (alcoholic or otherwise). Doing the same at home as an absolute minimum helps to keep the bar running well and creates a strong club atmosphere.



Club History

ENRFC was founded in 1920 after a meeting of several hopefuls in the Northern Bar, Howard Place, aiming to develop the game of rugby in the area. The name was either derived geographically or from the location of this meeting. Thomas Henderson believes initial establishing of the club was "undoubtedly partially or entirely the work of the Murdoch brothers, David and John."

The first home ground was Warriston Park before moving from and between Canal Field, Fettes College, Murrayfield among others, however in 1926 Inverleith Park was settled upon.

In 1953 a post-war delousing facility at the west entrance of Inverleith Park was renovated and rented from council authorities and so a home was found. This has been much upgraded and is still in use today.

ENRFC currently hosts Scotland's largest annual 7's competition. The club is based in Inverleith Park, just off East Fettes Avenue and runs a 1st XV, a 2nd XV and The Gents, a veterans' team for over 35s.

See the website for more history sections, including the 75th anniversary booklet.

Who's who?

Mr John Archer

President

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Mr Drew Chapman

Secretary

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Mr Kris McElhinney

Treasurer

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Mr John Leatham

Club Captain

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Mr Michael Mawdsley

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Entertainments

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Mr Ally Scott

Sponsorship

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Mr Rory Pounds

House

Mr Joe Smith

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