

Playing Squad Reports – AGM 2019

Lutterworth RFC

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Mens 1st XV – Manager: Steve Russell

Total games played - League & Cup

P	W	D	L
28	18	0	10

Points for = 832 Points against = 650

Midlands 1 East

P	W	D	L
26	17	0	9

Points for = 761 Points against = 615

Finished 6th in Midlands 1 East, only 2 points behind Oundle in 5th and 15 points clear of Towcestrians in 7th.

League bonus points; Try bonus = 17 points (4th best in league) ; Losing bonus = 2 points.

Leicestershire County Cup

Beat Market Harborough 58 – 15

Lost to Syston 13 - 20

The season to date

71 training sessions completed (including pre-season) with an average attendance to each session of 31. In total only 36 different players have represented the 1st XV this season.

Games played

11 players have played in 20 games or more; Andy Greasley, Dan Jones & Joe Sullivan = 21 games played; Eddie Allen & George Turner = 22 games played; Ed Hopkins & Charlie Neale = 23

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games played; Luke Ball = 24 games played; Charlie Turner & Blake Tressler = 25 games played; Josh Connor = 28 games played - Josh has played in every game!

Points

A total of 123 tries scored this season (including 3 penalty tries) an average of 4.5 per game.

Top try scorers

Conor Warburton = 14; Charlie Neale & Josh Connor = 15

Most points scored

Conor Warburton = 70; Charlie Neale = 79; Josh Connor = 102; Tom Hooper = 109; Luke Ball = 112

Man of the match

Throughout the season 17 different players were awarded M.O.M with 6 players receiving it on more than 1 occasion: Charlie Neale, Josh Connor, Paul Wilford & Tom Hooper all received it on 2 occasions; Conor Warburton has received it on 3 occasions; Ross Burgoine played in 19 games throughout the season and was awarded M.O.M on 6 occasions!!!!

1st xv debuts

Only 3 players made their debut this season: Dan Jordan & Justin Trombas played 5 games; Blake Tressler played 24 games

50 ties awarded to:

Andy Greasley, Joe Benjamin & Martin Rayner.

Other notable milestones

Ed Hopkins, George Turner, Luke Ball & Tom Hooper all passed 100 1st XV games this season. Adam Welsh, Josh Connor & Warren Tebb all passed 150 1st XV games this season. Joe Sullivan, Luke Evans & Paul Wilford all passed 200 1st XV games this season

Individual 1st XV awards

Captain's trophy.....Tom Vesty

Most improved player.....Ben Keable

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Young Player.....Ross Burgoine
Coaches' player.....Luke Ball
Players' player.....Ross Burgoine

The season

As in previous seasons preseason training began on the first Tuesday of July with numbers well exceeding 30 for both Tuesday and Thursday sessions.

Luke Ball joined the coaching team as player/coach, concentrating his efforts with the backs. Tim Walker remained as forwards' coach with Steve Lamb at the helm in the Head coaching position.

To balance the number of teams in Midlands 1 and much to the relief of the coaches, players and loyal supporters alike Lutterworth made a welcome return to Mids 1 East for 2018/19.

1st September was the first Saturday of the season and an away fixture against Towcestrians, who had been relegated from L5 the previous season. Perhaps the players just assumed we were the underdogs but on the day our game management was poor in a fixture that we could easily have won. Instead the home side claimed the spoils 29 - 22. On the plus side we did pick up 2 valuable bonus points away from home.

The first home fixture saw long time rivals Wellingborough visit Ashby Lane. Although trailing at half time 8 - 10 Luke Ball converted four 2nd half penalties for Lutterworth to notch up the first win of the season 20 - 10.

Kettering away was the next fixture and always a tough one with the home side in past seasons consistently pushing for promotion to Mids Prem. The writing was on the cards early as Kettering dominated, notching up a 20 point to 0 advantage at half time. Kettering then proceeded to more than double that in the 2nd half and only allowed Lutts 1 consolation score in a game that was pretty one sided, leaving the visitors licking their wounds with a 44 - 7 thumping.

Leighton Buzzard were the next home opponents, a side that in the past have usually given Lutterworth a torrid time. The game was even, 17 - 17 each at the break but Lutts dug deep in the 2nd 40, put on a strong performance and took a well deserved victory 31 - 22.

Newly promoted West Bridgford were next on the cards. A side that Lutterworth beat in the league play offs in season 2015/16. A beautiful autumn afternoon seemed to suit the home side more and although the game was close at halftime 19 - 16, West Bridgford turned the screw 2nd half with a final score 43 - 33.

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Another away game, this time a trip to Leicestershire rivals Melton Mowbray. Melton usually strong up front certainly didn't seem to be performing with 0 wins registered from the 5 games played to date. Lutterworth put on a commanding performance gaining their first away win of the season and a comfortable victory 0 - 34.

Back on home turf and another familiar opponent in Northampton Old Scouts. Although still early in the season Scouts were very near the bottom of the table and made it all too easy allowing Lutts to score 8 tries and leading 50 - 0 at the break. Scouts changed their tactics and played a tight game in the second 40, starving Lutterworth of the ball and re-gathering some pride registering 3 tries of their own! Final score 50 - 21.

Another side recently promoted to Mids 1 at the end of last season and another Leicestershire rival of old - Oadby Wyggs. Wyggs were certainly performing well and were above Lutterworth on league standings to date. The game was played in miserable weather and also miserable for the coaches as yet again Lutterworth's game management didn't seem to function which allowed Wyggs to record another win 25 - 6.

The first Saturday of November would see Old Northamptonians visit Ashby Lane. Lutts fielded a strong team, put on credible performance in a tight game that ended 21 - 17.

The 2nd Saturday in November and a County Cup fixture at home to Market Harborough who seemed to be cruising at the top of Mids 2 East South. Lutterworth seemed far too strong for the visitors, scored 6 first half tries and a further 3 in the second half to register a comfortable victory 58 - 15

Back to league action and a much changed side for various reasons saw Lutts make the trip to in-form side Oundle. The home side looked strong in every aspect of the game, proving themselves worthy winners in the end 38 - 14.

2nd in the league and a side also pushing for promotion, Paviers were the next visitors to Ashby Lane. Lutterworth were magnificent, in fact some loyal supporters reckoned it was the best they'd ever seen Lutts perform! A particularly strong first half saw the home side lead 18 - 7 at the break but Paviers came back strong in the second half, actually taking the lead as the game drew to a close but the ever dependable Lutterworth pack were awarded a penalty try in the dying minutes of the game for repeated infringements by the visitors defending a 5m scrum. Lutts triumphant 37 - 35 after a truly superb performance.

Peterborough away on the first Saturday in December was probably a game to forget with the referee doing his very best to make sure neither side were able to get a foothold on the game! 5 - 3 at half time with a final score 13 - 6 at the close after a pretty poor game all round.

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Rugby Lions, despite being a Warwickshire side had also been moved to M1E for the season. Lions started the better of the two sides, registering 2 early scores before Lutts finally got into the game with the aid of the support from the home crowd and taking a 5 point advantage into the 2nd half 24 - 19. The 2nd 40 was an even affair, Lutterworth triumphed with a score of 31 - 26 on the final whistle.

Wellingborough away was the first of the return fixtures and the final game before the Christmas and New Year break. On a miserable, wet and bitterly cold afternoon Lutts dominated the proceedings in what really were awful conditions to register a 3 - 20 victory and finishing 2018 sitting comfortably 6th in M1E.

Into the New Year and Kettering, who were still league leaders made the trip to Ashby Lane. Another tough game for Lutts would see the visitors register the double, triumphant over the home team. Final score 8 - 24. Kettering were by far the strongest team in M1E this year.

Back on the road and the trip south to Leighton Buzzard was next on the cards, a place Lutterworth never usually fair well. Buzzard were in the relegation zone and realised full well they needed a decent home performance to claw their way up the league table. The first half just didn't flow, all even 10 - 10 at the break. Lutts finally got a hold on the game in the second 40, winning reasonably comfortably in the end 17 - 34. Even though it was far from a champagne performance, a bonus point win away from home against a team and venue that in the past have been a bogey side is no mean feat.

Home soil and looking to right some wrongs from the earlier fixture away against West Bridgford, Lutts were keen to perform. Although down 12 - 14 at the break Lutterworth put on a first class execution in the second half, didn't concede any further points and registered 2 converted tries to seal a well deserved victory 26 - 14.

Another home game would see Melton Mowbray make the trip to Ashby Lane. Still yet to register a win in the season, Melton were floundering at the bottom of the league table and a sure thing for relegation. Lutts didn't disappoint, scoring a massive 13 tries, thrashing the opposition 71 - 3!

Another side also rooted to the base of the league table were Northampton Old Scouts and although it was the home side who registered the first score it would be their only score of the game with another bonus point win on the road for Lutterworth 7 - 41.

Mid February and back on home turf, facing local rivals Oadby Wyggs and seriously hoping to make amends for a poor performance at theirs earlier in the season. Unfortunately, that wasn't the case. Wyggs proved again why they were sitting towards the top of the league with the

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visitors up 3 - 14 at half time. Lutts did rally 2nd half but Wyggs never looked like relinquishing their lead and the game closed 22 - 31.

Old Northamptonians away was next on the cards and having had the last Saturday of February with no game, Lutterworth were in a confident frame of mind and looking for that all important bonus point away win. Lutts didn't disappoint, played some superb rugby and scored 4 first half tries to make it 13 - 22 at the break. The lads didn't falter in the second half either, again performing well against a determined side, registering a further 3 tries and taking the victory 25 - 42.

Oundle next. What a game that was and again, some of the loyal supporters saying it's the best they'd ever witnessed Lutterworth play. Lutts got off to an early lead, only handing the advantage to the opposition for a brief spell before once again grabbing the ascendancy and closing the game 41 - 26 in another absolute spectacle of rugby played by this group of players.

Lutts position of 6th in M1E was fairly well cemented now, with a slim chance of moving up to 5th and possibly 4th if all went well with results toward the end of the season. Paviers away from home was a huge ask though. A team that were riding high, 2nd in the league and more or less certain of that all important play off place for promotion to Mids Prem.

The game kicked off and Lutts dominated every facet from the off with the home side having to continually infringe to quell Lutterworth's dominance! Scoring 4 tries to 1 in the first 40 saw Lutts lead 7 - 25 at the break. The home supporters had been silenced and yet the band of loyal Lutterworth support could easily be heard from the other side of the pitch. The second half started the same, 3 more tries and Lutts now held the lead 12 - 44 with the home side totally shell shocked and unsure what to do to stop the mauling.

I'm not sure whether the lads were exhausted or took their foot off the gas but Paviers had the better of the last 15 or so minutes of the game, scored 3 tries of their own and finally managed to keep Lutts at bay! final score 33 - 44 a bonus point win away from home and a total of 7 tries scored against 2nd in M1E.

Peterborough at home was next on the cards. Another game that Lutts had hoped to right a few wrongs from the previous encounter earlier in the season away from home. Unfortunately this wasn't to be the case as the visitors took a 0 - 10 lead in at half time, came out 2nd half and scored a converted try from the off, giving Lutts too much to do against a strong side. Final score 12 - 29 and with it any realistic hope of finishing higher than 6th in M1E. On the plus side Towcestrians in 7th were way too far off to trouble Lutts from losing 6th place.

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April now and with only 2 league games left to play and a Cup semi-final against Syston the season was fast drawing towards it's conclusion. Lutts made the short trip to Webb Ellis road to face Rugby Lions! I'll be honest, it's far from my favourite place to go for a multitude of reasons but I'll leave it at that for now!

For some strange reason Lions supporters rarely seem to agree with the match official. Things certainly came to a head when said official finally issued 2 yellow cards in quick succession for repeated infringements in the second half as Lions had been taught a lesson at every scrummage throughout the game, invariably reversing at a rate of knots regardless of who's put in it was. The game score-wise was a tight affair though. 15 - 15 at the break with Lutterworth proving the fitter and more able team in the second half to register a season double against Rugby Lions 23 - 33 and help to keep them in a lowly 11th in M1E.

Towcestrians at home was the final league fixture of 2018/19. Lutts again had some wrongs to right after a fairly poor first game of the season at theirs. Lutterworth stuck to their game plan, were up at the break and had been very much in control all half. The second 40 was similar, Lutts had a job to do and they did it, taking the win 42 - 36 against a visiting side that were probably fitter and faster.

Syston seem to be Lutterworth's Achilles heel, having faced them in the semi-finals of the County Cup for the last few seasons. Lutts had the advantage of the home fixture this season and with the agreement of both sides the game was hosted midweek and under floodlights. Syston play their rugby in Mids Premier league and although would be relegated to Mids 1 for 2019/20 season their results in the second half of the season had been a complete turn around, even managing to beat teams well above them in Mids Prem.

Lutts started well, looked to want to play rugby and appeared the stronger side, taking a 13 - 7 advantage at the break. The second half was even tighter but the turning point of the game came as Lutts were attacking, a Syston player kicked the ball out of the ruck, their rapid winger gave chase, hacked the ball on again, collected and grounded the ball for their 2nd try of the game and the all important lead. The visitors then managed the game well, slowed everything down which in turn frustrated Lutts, resulting in Lutterworth conceding a silly penalty in front of the posts between the 22 and 10m line. The kick was converted, final score 13 - 20. A loss to Syston once again and with it a missed opportunity for another shot at the County Cup at Welford Road.

Although finishing 6th in M1E is the lowest league position since entering Level 6 rugby, Lutterworth have won more games this season, registered more league points and scored more points in all games than the previous 2 seasons in Mids 1.

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Here's hoping season 2019/20 will be as successful, if not even more so as we certainly have the players and the talent to triumph.

Mens 2nd XV – Manager: Ian Evans

County Cup **Winners**: Beat Oadby Wyggs 31 - 5

Clonmell Cup **Winners**: Beat Newbold 21 - 15

Altogether this season

Pld	W	D	L	F	A
30	21	1	8	1095	500

Leicestershire Premier League: Finished 2nd

Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
14	9	0	5	452	241	52

Biggest league win: Loughborough at home 73 - 12

Statistics

- Scored 163 tries, 99 conversions, 18 penalties, 0 drop goals, 4 penalty tries.
- Top 3 Point Scorers: Robbie Spencer 178; Jack Ketteringham 92; Josh Johnson 85.
- Top 3 Try Scorers: Josh Johnson 17 (23 games); Jarrad Carter 14 (26 games); Tom Westbury 13 (17 games)
- Most Games Played: Adam Wilson 29 (the 30th game was in the 1s); Jarrad Carter 27; Joe Ball (25).
- Used 72 Players; 38 Forwards, 34 Backs. 12 Colts also played during the season.

Awards

- Player of the season: Kieran Hussey
- Most improved player: Jordan Tebb
- Captains Player: Robbie Spencer

Mens 3rd XV – Manager: Rhys Jones

Under new management this season the number of players representing the third team week to week increased massively leading to only two occasions where we travelled with 15 or less men, this is a massive improvement on recent seasons. We managed to finish 5th in a league with 12 teams. Played 22, won 12 and lost 10. We honoured every league fixture which was the goal set at the start of the season.

I believe this season we have seen more 3rd team players progress into the higher teams such as the likes of Ike Gill who has only got better as the season has progressed, winning a man of

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the match in his first game back in the 2nd and then going on to represent them in the Clonmell cup final.

We have also seen a lot more players from the 1st and 2nd teams willing to lend a hand a pull on a 3rd team shirt on their rest weeks, this is a massive help as the regular 3rd team lads get to learn off those who player at a higher standard, which only improves the overall quality of rugby played at Ashby lane. A good example of this was the 55-5 win away at Oakham.

Next season the team will be under new management but they have expressed their goal to maintain a 5th place or above finish in the league. I believe they also look to get the core players training on a regular basis so that there is a good base to play off of each week.

Ladies XV – Team Manager : Emma Bliss

National Challenge 1 MIDLANDS (League)

P	W	D	L
14	5	0	9

Points For – 207

Points Against – 336

Other Games Played

Cup/Plate – 3

Friendlies – 6

National Challenge 1 (Midlands) Results Table	
<i>1st – Sutton Coldfield</i>	<i>63 points</i>

<i>2nd – Peterborough</i>	<i>45 points</i>
<i>3rd – Olney</i>	<i>43 points</i>
<i>4th – Five Ways Old Edwardians</i>	<i>40 points</i>
<i>5th – Shelford</i>	<i>33 points</i>
<i>6th – Rugby Lionesses</i>	<i>28 points</i>
<i>7th – Lutterworth</i>	<i>27 points</i>

<i>8th – Old Northamptonians</i>	<i>2 points</i>

Season Summary

Players: 31 different players have represented the Ladies XV this season.

Ladies XV Debuts: 7 players debuted for the team this season, one of which not only transitioned from U18s Girls into Ladies Rugby, but also went on to score most of the tries and represent Leicestershire at County Level.

- Mel Bland
- Rebecca Chandler
- Jade Furniss

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- Sheryl Jones
- Isobel Jones-Walters
- Gemma Peacock
- Anna Poulsen (previously U18s)

Top Try Scorers:

Anna Poulsen	17	(Number 8)
Emily Powell	15	(Openside Flanker)
Sophie Etheridge	8	(Scrum Half)

Points Scored:

Anna Poulsen	85	
Emily Powell	75	
Claire Evans	48	(Fly Half)

Awards:

Most Improved Player	Saska Bishop
Top Try Scorer	Anna Poulsen
Back of the Year	Natalie McDonald
Forward of the Year	Tara Smith
Players Player	Natalie McDonald
Coaches Player	Emily Powell

50 Ties awarded:

Hannah Faulds, Emma Bliss, Cat Hincks, Ruth Lawrenson, Natalie McDonald, Natalie Mee

County Representation

Our Ladies Captain, Carla Jones and open side flanker, Emily Powell were both selected to represent Leicestershire again, alongside our top try scorer and debut arrival from the U18s, Anna Poulsen. Carla was selected as part of the team to represent Leicestershire during their Gill Burns County Cup Final held at Twickenham Stadium. Jenny White, one of our most passionate and experienced forwards was also selected to represent Warwickshire. Blindside flanker, Carla Jones, were both selected to represent Leicestershire County this season. All four of these wonderful ladies represented Lutterworth RFC to a high standard and should be proud of their achievements.

Intermediate Cup/Plate

The Ladies automatically went through the first two rounds of the Cup, due to Sutton-in-Ashfield and Wymondham Wasps failing to fulfil the fixture. The Ladies then faced Birmingham Moseley from Championship Level 2. The ladies really showed their potential and gave everything they had, with neither side conceding in the first 30 minutes. Fitness and experience got the better of Lutterworth Ladies in the end, but it was a great performance against a side that is a league above. Unfortunately, the team failed to form any silverware this season, but watch this space.

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League

A very successful season for Lutterworth Ladies overall in regards to development. Although the Ladies finish the league in 7th place at the end of the season, there is a lot of promise for seasons to come. Only 1 point separated them from 6th position team, Rugby Lionesses and another 7 points from 5th position holders, Olney. They managed to secure '5' Losing Bonus points and '1' Try Bonus point out of the 9 games they lost in total. Similar to previous seasons the ladies came out a more structured, competitive side in the second half of the season.

Next season plans are already under way to ensure the Ladies Team have the strongest start to their 19/20 season. Mark Ellis makes an excellent addition to the coaching setup alongside Andy Greasley, Les Ketteringham and Luke Ball. The format promises to be better than before with more plans to develop and provide more structured training sessions. They will be training every Wednesday evening, as well as every other Friday to improve their fitness and match the amount of training that other teams in the league are already doing.

The Ladies are pushing recruitment and are hoping to arrange development fixtures throughout the season to increase numbers for seasons to come. There are a number of U18s able to play up next season and the focus will be to integrate with them in joint events and create a smooth transition period in the new year.

Pre-season training for the Ladies will start on Wednesday 3rd July, friendly fixtures have already been scheduled against Coventry Welsh, Old Newtonians and Rugby Lionesses and the team is competing in a 10s tournament in Bourneville, Birmingham in August to prepare for the new season.

Colts – Manager : Leon Brown

Finished 2nd in league (all bonus points collected based on TREDs)+(Only lost two games in the premier division by two points each)

Altogether this season

Pld	W	D	L	F	A
29	19	0	10	887	435

Representation

- Lads away with schools pushed for academy Jack Hewitt at Gloucester, Harry Smith (injured season with Worcester), England Lambs trials for Harry Hey and Ted Smith (via Leicester Grammar).
- U18 County : Justin Trombas, Ethan Swan, Sam Baker, Harry Hey and Jack Partridge.
- U17 County : Ollie Hutt, George Garnett, Dave Ridley, Wian Fritz, Waldo Fritz and Sam Burgoine. All retained as U18's next season. Midlands U18 trials : Jack Partridge.
- Rugby and District - Waldo Fritz and Wian Fritz both played and won.

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Statistics

- 142 tries for (5 per game)
- 66 tries against (2 per game)
- Biggest win 73-5 vs Newbold
- Notable wins against; Ashby, Ampthill, Kettering, Old Leams
- Biggest Loss - Ampthill Away 25-3
- Out National Cup in round 1 away to Ampthill
- Out U18s county cup quarter to Market Harborough
- Out U17s county cup quarter to Hinckley
- Average match day squad was 22 players (all playing)
- 37 different players used, retained 85% by end of season to those who started or tried the game
- Average weekly players to seniors was 3 amassing 116 senior caps, 87 from primary Colts players (regulars in 22 squad), featuring from 1's, 2's and 3's regularly.
- '10 ties' (represented the seniors) to Byron King, Will Simpson, Nick Rigo, Will Hooseman, Justin Trombas and Carter Molyneux. Several more within a 3 senior games or less. Shame the season had to end.

Most games: 25: George Garnett. 24: Ayden Trombas, Callum Smith, George Chapman and Jake MacLellan. 22: Josh Hawkins, Henry Clews and Henry Higgins.

Most points: Justin Trombas 211, Callum Smith 75, Ollie Hutt 71.

Most tries: Justin Trombas 26; Ollie Hutt 13; Oli martini 9.

Man of the Matches: 5 Hutt; 4 Robo; 2 Garnett, Hewitt and Martini; 1 Adam Broughton, Harry Hey, George Chapman, Charlie Vickers, Brandon Higgins, Dylan Maccameron , Ayden Trombas, Jake MacLellan, Henry Higgins, Waldo Fritz and Justin Trombas.

Awards

- Players Player : Jack Partridge
- Coaches Award : George Chapman
- Most Improved Award : Waldo Fritz
- Kevin Hubbard Award: Oliver Martini
- Captains Award : Nick Rigo

Managers Notes:

A long season, lots of twists and turns but a lot of good times, a lot of improvements both on and off the pitch, and also a lot to be proud of.

It's been a while since no trophies came home however looking at the list of achievements we're far from acknowledging a bad season. We managed to fight back numerous times from frustrating losses and really very few outplayed us, most of our down moments were self-

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inflicted. By going through this though we grew, we took on a lot of self-reflection and responsibility and at the end the older Colts became men and the younger Colts grew into key players for the future.

A trophy wouldn't sum up the many boxes we ticked in terms of player development, standard of rugby and overall success of being a team like no other. We left room to grow more, but the repetition of the theme of growth and development in my message only reiterates how the age section is there for the benefit of the future of the club which we'll no doubt see more with the players coming through.

U16 boys – Manager : Graham Benford

All players finished the season injury free
Unfortunately no silverware, 9 wins and 7 losses, full results attached.

End of season awards were as follows;

- Players player Archie Benford
- Parents player Devon Marshall
- Most improved Brandon Rowley
- Coaches player Harry Read

Things to note;

- Harry Read made it to the Wellington festival with Tigers, has achieved a sports scholarship at Denstone College and as been accepted into the Tigers U17 academy.
- Archie Benford made it to the Wellington festival with Tigers, has achieved a sports scholarship at Denstone College.
- Peirs Golby made it to the Wellington festival with Wasps not sure about his academy status as yet.
- Ed Faulds just missed out on Wellington but had several appearances for Warks County and Wasps.

There has been a fantastic team spirit throughout junior rugby with this team. All players looking forward to Colts rugby at the club next year.

U15 boys – Manager : Kerry Hubbard

Played 20, W 10, L 10. 20 players, 1 injured. Played a 7's festival over at Ashby on Sunday 5th May, beating Ashby, LFE & Old Leamingtonians to get through to the semi-final. Lost to the Vipers in a very close match with a last minute poor decision by the ref resulting in losing by 1 try.

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End of Season awards: Coaches Player – Sam Chapman, Most Improved – Kieran Russell, Parents Player – George Lilley, Players Player – James Phillips.

1 no. additional player signed up – Kade Miller

Whilst happy for Joe Walker and his promotion to Colts coach, we are clearly saddened by his leaving. We would greatly appreciate it if we could secure the services of another coach to provide additional help in developing the skills of next season's Under 16 squad.

U15/13 Girls – Manager : Ian Parnell

We have had games nearly every week - and had 13-17 turn up for games. Played 15 Full games (over 12 a side), and 3 X7's afternoons. We have beaten Newark, Market Harborough, and LFE/Hinckley convincingly at X7's. All 19 registered players scored at least one competitive try.

In the National Cup, our only defeat in the group stage was against the eventual winners - Barkers Butts. We missed out progressing to the next round of the competition by a single point!! At County level, we once again had the biggest representation from a club at U15's girls, with 14 of our players wearing the Leicestershire shirt this season, including this season's county captain Lily Keay.

From a management/coaches point of view, it was great to see the girls gain confidence as the season went on. Off the pitch, we have had a team bonding trip to Hunstanton, Christmas bag packing at Morrisons, the Christmas party and the annual quiz night to raise funds for tour; all were well attended. We also went on Tour to Wells-next-the-sea in Norfolk; a very successful weekend was had, both in terms of results and fun.

The vast majority of this team will now be moving up to the Girls U18's team.

Players Player of the season : Molly Gill

Parents Player of the season : Lily Adams

Coaches player of the season: Georgia Potter

Most improved player of the season : Lucy Cox and Chelsea Palmer

Spirit of Rugby award winner: Shannon Parnell

Achievements: 19 registered players; 14 represented Leicestershire, Including County Captain. 4 have also been invited to Loughborough's coaching Centre of Excellence to receive regular quality coaching by Loughborough Lightning ladies rugby team. Successful tour to Norfolk.

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U14 – Manager : Katy Urwin

Played 19, W 9, D 1, L 9. 26 players, 1 injured. Lost in Semi-final of the plate to Hinckley. Ollie Read, Matt Rigo, James Boyles and Jonathon Picton are all part of the Leicester Tigers Developing Player Programme. Team trip to Gloucestershire – successful trip in April – no fixture, it was a residential team building weekend

U13 – Manager : Danny Siddons

A great year for the team with the squad size increasing significantly to 32 players. During the course of the season the team have won 85% of all games played coming 3rd in the County Cup. The team welcomed Kev Jones into the coaching team which will be great for the teams development. A big recognition for the coaches, parents and players has been the exceptional intake into the Tigers DPP programme of eight players from our age group.

The season culminated in the team going on tour to Minehead on the Tigers Challenge. Enjoyed by all.

U12 – No report

U11 – Manager : Craig Dyke

Good performance from the whole squad this year where the fruits of always picking balanced sides as opposed to A and B teams came through. This was shown across the two county festival days where we played 8, won 5 and drew 3 with no defeats with some great feedback of how we approach the games from several teams.

Awards this year went to Ted Hinchley (Players Player), Harry Armstrong (Parents Player) and Jacob George (coaches player). For players player over half of the squad received votes which demonstrates it is a team effort and not a reliance on a handful of individuals.

Season ended with a tour to Minehead where we narrowly missed on the Matthew Tait Fair Play Award by 1 point after winning 3, drawing 1 and losing 2 games. Next season the focus will be on strengthening the squad ready for step up to Juniors and working closely with the High School, College and other schools to make sure the players are getting the opportunities out of playing rugby without risking overplaying and training.

U10 – Manager : Julian Collis

After losing 4 coaches and 4 players at the end of the 17/18 season, this year has been a focused on rebuilding and ensuring the team had fun. I am pleased to say that we started the season strong with a new coaching line up and, following a recruitment drive, 5 new players, including the team's first girl.

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Unfortunately we did have 1 player leave the team in the year, but we end the year with 15 registered players, with between 10-12 players turning up every week.

Some of the highlights of our year included:

- A training session at the Club with one of the Tigers community coaches;
- The Prima cup at the Club; and
- 4 other tournaments/fun days.

The attitude and spirit of the team and the coaches has been great this year. This year we introduced rucks and mauls to the team and they took to them well. Regarding results of matches, I think it is fair to say the team won some and lost some, however when they were focused, they were able to hold their own with the best teams we have played this year.

The coaches and manager all feel we have ended the season in a much healthier position than last year. Our coaches have already taken part in training for our under 11 season and believe they can continue to help deliver to the team a fun filled atmosphere and new rugby skills, whilst still ensuring they continue to learn about the Club's and RFU's values.

U9 - Manager : Sarah Harris

The under 9's have had another great season. We have continued to observe a high level of commitment from both players and training staff/management with no issues apparent.

Team has retained players from previous seasons as well as adding players this year. Unfortunately we have lost four players due to concerns with contact, as expected at the beginning of the season, based on previous season's team attrition.

Players have continued to grow individually and showing great attributes as a team also. Numbers are constant for turnout throughout the season with continual improvements with all aspects of the game. Constant feedback from players and parents is gained to continually evolve knowledge for the training staff for what to improve on. Mechanisms of the club seem to be working well. Overall a very positive season with great strides made.

Players and staff are really looking forward to the following season where we hope to add further players to the team with a number of initiatives, still to be determined. Continue to see smiles and have fun as a collection of players and staff; with a potential tour also on the horizon.

U8 – No report

U7/6 – No report

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**** end ****