

## COVID UPDATE



With M&J's back in training and the Seniors & Colts hosting visits from Maidenhead, Fullarians and Leighton Buzzard, Under 11s coach, Nick Turner, has been instrumental in devising our Club Covid-Safe strategy which has been greatly observed by members and guests.

On a previous Saturday we had the RFU at the pre-Seniors Tournament lunch who was very complimentary and has asked us to share information and help other clubs in their quest to 'Return to Rugby'. The chairman of Herts, Adrian Sparks has put us on a list of clubs in Herts as a model and to help others stage games and events. A big thank you to everyone who has helped and to all members and guests who have followed the rules and guidelines.

We haven't had a visit from local authorities yet but you can be sure they will arrive unannounced so please all be prepared.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

The club has obviously been hit hard by the interruption to normal rugby, and the overall situation has also hit some of our members and sponsors very hard. The club is on a reasonably solid footing after financial surpluses in the last 2 years and some strict cost control. Scenarios have been calculated by the Treasury team for: (A) Normal operation from January, (B) The current 'partial' operation continuing and (C) another lockdown.

If we continue to apply our financial discipline we should be able to pick up normally in September 21 but we have a tough road ahead and will need everyone's support. We will need assistance from various people if vital initiatives and measures are to succeed and will be contacting them in due course to ask for their help and support.

## TRAINING LIGHTS

Brian Rogers, Martin Walters and Dave Harris are in the midst of improving the training lights. They are wiring new LED lights to replace the current Halogen lights. This will provide improved training facilities which means all users will be able to train in better conditions and not all in one space. Hopefully this will help the pitches in the coming months.

## STORAGE

There is a lot of unwanted equipment and a build up of rubbish around dead areas and near the containers. Will try and remove this rubbish and provide one or two new containers so sections can house their equipment safely. Simon Mann is doing a lot of work to clear the copse which is one area we may put a new container.



## MARQUEE

We erected the marquee as shelter for players, parents and spectators who will all appreciate this in the coming months.

**I. INDOOR SPACE** - This is when all sides are closed and the marquee is considered an indoor space. Therefore please enter with a mask and take a seat. We are currently working on how we serve food and drink to members but please think of this as a pub and follow those rules.

**II. OUTDOOR SPACE** - The marquee also provides playing changing shelter for Minis, Juniors and Seniors. For this we need to open at least 3 panels to provide the ventilation we need to show this abiding by the rules of an outside space.

We can make the marquee bigger and we can put heating in when needed.

## BAR AND FOOD

As you may be aware Adam and Claudia are starting a new venture in Tring so are leaving us but I know they won't be strangers. Their son Owen plays in the U13s and I know Claudia will not want to miss a tour. We wish them luck and look forward to working with them again in the near future.

As replacements, we have had some luck. Sandra and Rob Dorsett are able to come back to us so please give them a warm welcome. The handover will continue through October and I am hoping you won't notice any changes.

We are working with Sandra and Rob to produce a system that works for parents on a Sunday considering the rules of having a parent on the touchline while they are playing.

## EVENTS

Cashflow is very important for our club. Having piloted a return to rugby on Saturday and Sunday I feel we are ready to push on in terms of events. We have a marquee and clubhouse to arrange socially distanced tables of 6 so please do not hesitate if you feel you can organise a social. We are working on the 6 Nations final, Gallagher Premiership final and the Autumn Cup in order to televise the matches.

## SPONSORSHIP

We are continuing our sponsorship efforts and talking to our existing partners to see where we can help them. You will notice **Finura** (professional financial planning services, including tax, investment, retirement and inheritance services) regularly sending useful financial updates across our social media platforms. Please try and take time to read who they are and they may be able to help you as they already do with several of our members.

I am also pleased to announce we have a new sponsor called **This Is The Want** and if you can spare some time to look at this new business of club member and former Junior and Senior player, Max Richardson. Certainly our lady members will be interested as this is a way to be the proud owner of a new, designer handbag!

**Oakman Inns** continue to lead the way in the hospitality industry locally and nationally. Our former Chair, Peter Borg-Neal has been very active in the media during lockdown promoting a safe environment for customers to eat and drink. Peter, through his friend Mike Clare, managed to win a bet via BBC's Question Time, which I am sure is already well documented. The bet resulted in Peter winning and donating the winnings to Tring Rugby Club. We thank Peter and Mike which resulted in us providing the marquee to members.



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