



BSR RFC

OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME

THIS WEEKS FEATURES:

**NEW SEASON
NEW CAPTAIN**

**THE ROAD
TO NATIONAL 1**

**THE NEW LAWS
FOR THIS SEASON**

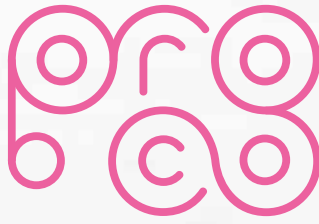
NATIONAL LEAGUE 1

BISHOP'S STORTFORD RFC V CALDY RFC

2 September 2017

£12

Members £5



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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

PERRY OLIVER



WELCOME BACK TO SILVER LEYS FOR THE FIRST GAME OF THE 2017/18 SEASON AND OF COURSE OUR FIRST IN NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE. THE SUMMER, IF IT DESERVES TO BE CALLED THAT, SEEMS TO HAVE FLOWN BY BUT AT LEAST THE UNSEASONAL WEATHER HAS HELPED TUBBY WORK HIS MAGIC AND RESTORE ALL OF OUR PITCHES TO A1 CONDITION.

I'd also like to extend a special welcome to the Players, Officials and Supporters of Caldy RFC on this first time our clubs would have met, and of course everyone associated with our Match Day sponsors - Tees & Match Day Experience sponsors - Russell Partnership.

Like ourselves, Caldy are new to National One. Like us they were promoted as Champions of their National 2 league - the North, failing to win only 3 of their 30 games. Both teams will therefore have identified this as a chance to start the season on a positive note when the fixtures were announced. So it's sure to be a keenly contested match.

I know we spoke of 'consolidation' the last time that we were promoted and ended up 3rd! But if you remember we won only 2 of our first 9 fixtures of 2013 /14 season and it may once again take us a little time to find our feet at this level. So please let's stay positive in our support for our players and I'm sure that way we can all enjoy the experience of welcoming & visiting clubs against which, like Caldy we have never played before. It is fanciful to believe that we can win as many games as last season but Longy and the squad believe they can be competitive and maybe surprise a few of the more established teams at this level.

I would also like to extend my very best wishes for successful seasons to all our other teams but most notably to our Ladies XV who enter league competition for the first time and our Mitres who have moved to join our Blues in the Zoo Sports Shield Leagues

Thank you to everyone who helped us raise the magnificent amount of £8374.43 for last season's Presidents Charity 'Ellies Fund'. This season we have decided to make The Essex & Herts Air Ambulance our club charity. On the final weekend of last season as we were all celebrating promotion and the Blues winning the County cup, we learnt that one of our youth players had sustained a serious concussion whilst playing in a 10's tournament at Brentwood. His condition deteriorated so quickly that an Air ambulance was scrambled to help him. He was airlifted to the Royal London hospital but after an anxious 48 hour wait it was confirmed that he would make a full recovery. The speed with which care was administered pitch side and with which he was conveyed to hospital were undoubted factors in achieving this happy outcome. We are greatly indebted to the crew of the air ambulance and aim to show our gratitude whenever we can this season

It costs £2700 every time the aircraft is deployed and we have set ourselves the target of raising enough for 2 flights. Your support for this fantastic cause, starting today is much appreciated.

Finally let's hope the sun finally shines & that you all enjoy your day here at Silver Leys.

Perry Oliver
President

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DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

ANDY LONG



OUR PROMOTION CELEBRATIONS BACK IN APRIL NOW SEEM A DISTANT MEMORY; PREPARATIONS FOR LIFE IN NATIONAL ONE QUICKLY TOOK PRIORITY ENSURING WE ARE FULLY PREPARED FOR LIFE IN NATIONAL 1.

It was great to retain the majority of the squad from last season but we do have a few new faces that will add further strength in depth to the group. These lads have settled really well and have all bought into our culture.

Our pre-season preparations have been very good, with tough fixtures against Bury St Edmunds, Canterbury and Cambridge meaning that we are as well prepared as we could be for our opening fixture.

As a group we are excited about the challenges that lay ahead for us, trips to some iconic rugby clubs like Blackheath, Rosslyn Park and Coventry mean we are entering new territory. With these challenges come great opportunities, opportunities to see how far we can take this journey of ours.

However we are not looking further than today's opponents, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Caldy and congratulate them on their achievement last season. They seem to have kept the majority of their squad intact from last season so we know we will be in for a tough encounter.

Lastly I'd like to thank all the sponsors and supporters for your backing of the team and the club, I know you feel every pass, tackle and kick, it means a huge amount to us to know that we have you with us.

Enjoy the game
Longy

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CHAIRMAN'S VIEWS

COLIN TILLEY

I'M NOT TOO SURE WHERE THE SUMMER WENT BUT HERE WE ARE AT THE BEGINNING OF ANOTHER SEASON AND WHAT A SEASON IT PROMISES TO BE!

The huge celebrations at the end of last season in the wake of our promotion are just memories now as we prepare to meet the challenge of National 1 rugby. Everyone throughout the Club is excited at the prospect and I know that the players just want to get on with it now and so it is that we offer a very warm welcome to today's opposition, Caldý, who were last season's winners of National 2 North. It is good to begin such a momentous season at home and there is a certain irony in the fact that we have been drawn against each other in the first game. Both sides will be desperate to get off to a winning start, so we should be in for a very competitive game.

Hats off to Tubby once again for the quality of the playing surface he has produced, not only on the 1st team pitch but all the Club's pitches, which are looking superb. The Club has invested heavily in renovating the pitches during the close season, together with a rabbit fence around the back pitches, to prevent all his good work being ripped up – literally!

One of the few downsides to the close season was the loss due to vandalism of the pitch side bar, hence the temporary arrangement for today. The good news is that we have managed to obtain a replacement that will be bigger and better than the original, as well as far more robust, which is due to be delivered in mid-September.

I would like to thank Mullucks Wells especially for their generous donation towards the replacement and to Andy Banks, who will be sponsoring it under the banner of 'Banksy's Bar'!

You will also notice that we have a new till system behind the clubhouse bar, which is far more flexible and powerful than the old one. Club members will be asked to hand their membership card to the bar staff, who will swipe it in order to apply the discount to all bar purchases. The card can also be preloaded with cash that will be automatically deducted when swiped through the system. The new system has only recently been installed and, whilst it is quite intuitive to use, our bar staff are still getting fully acquainted with it. Consequently, I would ask that you bear this in mind when being served and show a little patience if the service is a bit on the slow side on occasions.

Finally, today is the first League match day in the next phase of his rugby career for Tom Coleman, who retired from playing at the end of last season. His role today is as a highly valued member of the senior coaching team and I suspect he will have very mixed emotions. I am sure you will all join me in wishing him every success.

Yours in rugby
Colin Tilley

THE PLAYERS

BSRFC 1'S XV 2017/18



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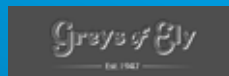
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2017-18
 1XV CAPTAIN



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Julie North

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NEW SEASON – NEW CAPTAIN AND WHERE HE LEADS.....

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT SAM WINTER HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO SUCCEED TOM COLEMAN AS CLUB AND 1ST XV CAPTAIN

Sam (27) who plays at Outside Centre, takes over for the forthcoming 2017 / 18 season from Fly Half, Tom Coleman who announced his retirement from playing after securing promotion to National League One at the final game of last season. Tom had been Captain for the last six seasons (2011 -2017) with another Club stalwart Mark McCraith, for the three seasons before that (2008- 2011)

What Sam has in common with both Tom & Mark is that he is 'Stortford through & through' having joined the club as a 10 year old back in 1999. He was part of the Colts team that reached the Semi-finals of the National Cup in 2007 and Final of the National Plate

Competition in 2008. After spending 3 years studying at Loughborough University he returned and has been an integral part of the team ever since being instrumental in helping the club secure two promotions.

He was selected for the England Counties teams that toured Romania & Canada in 2015 & 2016.



Sam says about his appointment

"I'm hugely honoured to have been appointed as club captain of Bishops Stortford. I've got some big boots to fill when you look at the success we've enjoyed under TC, but it's massively exciting to lead the club into the uncharted territory of Nat 1."

BSRFC Director of Rugby Andy Long comments

"Sam displays all the qualities required to be a successful captain, leading by example both on and off the field and like many of our players he bleeds blue and white."

George Cullen and Matt Tomlinson will take on the roles of Vice Captains

This is an exciting time for our club and Sam is the perfect person to be leading this group of players forward."

Sam's father Karl also played for our 1st XV Aa did his younger brother Josh. Both his parents, Karl & Sally are Club Vice Presidents.

HIS LEADERSHIP TAKES US TO NEW AND FORMER PLACES..... THE FACING PAGE SHOWS WHERE AND HOW FAR.

NATIONAL LEAGUE 1 CLUBS

LOGO	NAME	ADDRESS	FROM B.S.	SHIRT	POSITION
	AMPTHILL & DISTRICT	DILLINGHAM PARK, WOBURN STREET, AMPHILL, BEDFORDSHIRE. MK45 2HX	37.5 MILES		3RD
	BIRMINGHAM MOSELEY	BILLESLEY COMMON. YARDLEY WOOD ROAD, BILLESLEY, BIRMINGHAM. B13 0HN	126 MILES		5TH
	BLACKHEATH	RECTORY FIELD, CHARLTON ROAD, LONDON. SE3 8SR	38 MILES		7TH
	CAMBRIDGE	VOLAC PARK, GRANTCHESTER RD, CAMBRIDGE CB3 9ED	30 MILES		13TH
	COVENTRY	BUTTS PARK ARENA, BUTTS RD, COVENTRY CV1 3GE	107 MILES		4TH
	DARLINGTON MOWDEN PARK	THE NORTHERN ECHO PARK ARENA, NEASHAM RD, DARLINGTON DL2 1DL	223 MILES		9TH
	ESHER	369 MOLESEY RD, WALTON-ON-THAMES KT12 3P	78 MILES		8TH
	FYLDE	WOODLANDS MEMORIAL GROUND. BLACKPOOL ROAD, ANSDELL, LYTHAM ST. ANNES, LANCASHIRE FY8 4EL	248 MILES		12TH
	HULL IONIANS	BRANTINGHAM PARK, BRANTINGHAM RD, ELLOUGHTON, BROUGH HU15 1HX	178 MILES		14TH
	CALDY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB	PATON FIELD, TELEGRAPH ROAD, THURSTASTON, WIRRAL CH48 1NX	230.6 MILES		PROMOTED FROM NATIONAL 2 NORTH
	LOUGHBOROUGH STUDENTS	SPORT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY, LEICESTERSHIRE, LE11 3TU	120 MILES		11TH
	OLD ALBANIAN	WOOLLAMS PLAYING FIELDS, 160 HARPENDEN RD, ST ALBANS AL3 6BB	35 MILES		10TH
	PLYMOUTH ALBION	PLYMOUTH, PL1 4NE BRICKFIELDS RECREATION GROUND 25 DAMEREL CLOSE	284 MILES		2ND
	ROSSLYN PARK	PRIORY LN, LONDON SW15 5JH	50 MILES		6TH
	OLD ELTHAMIANS RFC	COLLEGE MEADOW PAVILLION, MARVELS LANE MOTTINGHAM SE12 9PH	51.8 MILES		PROMOTED FROM NATIONAL 2 SOUTH & PLAY-OFF

1836.9 = 3,673.8 MILES ROUND TRIP. ONLY 110 MORE MILES THAN 2 SOUTH !
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TODAY'S OPPOSITION

CALDY



IF THERE WERE SUCH A THING AS “CLUB TWINNING”
ALONG THE LINES OF TOWN TWINNING THEN CALDY RFC AND
BISHOP’S STORTFORD RFC COULD MAKE A MATCHING PAIR. IN
TERMS OF THE PLAYING RECORDS LAST SEASON

CLUB	PL.	W	D	L	For	Ag'st	Dif	TBP	LBP	PTS.
B.STORTFORD	30	25	0	5	1053	549	564	25	4	129
CALDY	30	27	1	2	1060	434	606	21	2	169

A Potted History of Caldly Rugby Club 1924 – February 27th When some Old Boys of Caldly School, with the encouragement of the then Headmaster, decided that they must carry on playing rugby together so the ‘Old Caldeians’ R.F.C. came into being at a meeting held at a café in West Kirby. They started playing in a farm field and changing in the farm buildings, bathing facilities were somewhat primitive they used a tin bath which was filled from a tap in the farm Yard.

If that sounds familiar how about this quotation from Caldly's web site: “We have also been awarded the RFU presidents XV Award for our submission “More than a club” which laid out our vision of a “one club ethos” which we feel is the way forward.” and continuing:

We had approximately 500 members under 19 including 73 in our under 7's last year. Such is the size of our Youth section the club is now actively seeking ways to increase the size of our playing areas.

The key objectives are:-

1. To raise the profile of Rugby in the area
2. To provide access to a physical activity for all.
3. To increase the numbers participating in Rugby.
4. To provide a broad base in the sport this will lead to increased numbers at senior level.
5. To provide the right level of coaching to enable the level of skills to improve.
6. To provide players who with the skills to benefit rugby at a national level

What encourages the ‘rugby spirit’ is the similarities between clubs rather than the differences, It sounds like our two Clubs are cut from the same cloth.

Founded 1924

Nickname Ravers

Ground Capacity: 4,000

Home Colours Sable, Claret, Silver and Gold shirts. Black shorts



Away Colours White shirts, black shorts

On 8 April 2017 Caldly reached the highest level in the club's history when they beat title rivals Sale 28–26 in front of a crowd of 1,432 at Paton Field (the best attendance at the ground in over a decade) to win National League 2 North and gain promotion. For the final home game at Bishop's Stortford the attendance was 1,664 !

Both Clubs approach the new season probably having prepared even more thoroughly but still not knowing quite what to expect. Despite the ‘National’ title the overall travelling mileage difference for Bishop's Stortford is less than 100 miles in total but some individual journeys could. No doubt, take their toll.



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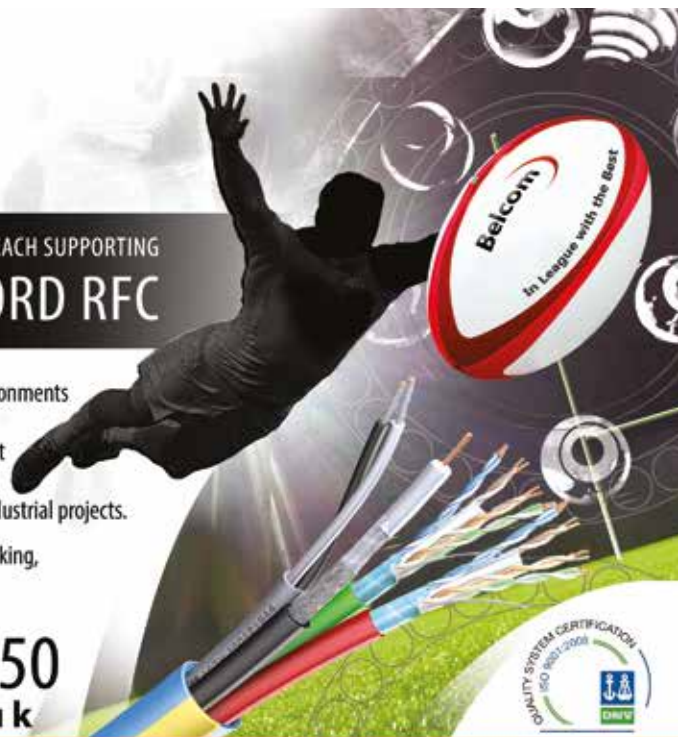
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BSRFC Touch Group

KENNY BYRNE - CHAIRMAN BSRFC TOUCH GROUP

LIKE SOME OTHER SPORTS RUGBY IS STARTING TO DEVELOP DIFFERENT FORMATS OF THE GAME TO BROADEN ITS APPEAL TO A WIDER AUDIENCE, RUGBY 7S IS NOW AN OLYMPIC SPORT; WHEELCHAIR RUGBY WAS IN THE PARA-ATHLETICS; WHILE ANY MINI COACH KNOWS TAG RUGBY IS AN INTRODUCTION FOR KIDS TO RUGBY - BUT THERE ARE THRIVING ADULT TAG RUGBY LEAGUES TOO AND TOUCH RUGBY.

Touch Rugby takes the handling, running lines and strategy of open play in rugby but removes all contact – so no rucks, no mauls, no scrums. The rules and structure of the game mean it is ideal for both sexes to play together.

So it is for BSRFC Touch Group we have about 60 players registered with a regular 25-30 turning up on a Wednesday evening



Training sessions Wednesday evenings

to play Touch. We have focused on being an open social group so as any age, any ability, any experience (or none at all) are welcome. There is a winter league of other touch clubs in the area with a final usually played on Saracens fantastic 4G Pitch. We regularly take part in day tournaments and host our own in the summer – this year our tournament at BSRFC attended by 10 teams and approx. 300 people. We also go on an international tour every year, last year was France and this year was Portugal, each year the international tour gets bigger as more teams from more countries enter.

The social and fun aspect to the Touch group's Wednesday's where the bar is as important as the pitch has really worked for us as we have brought new people to the club who wouldn't have even given a thought to rugby and the club can retain players who perhaps due to work commitments or age, or level of 'decrepitness' can't play the 15 a side game



Summer Tour 2016 in France

but can still actively play touch. We often hear the comment 'its great to be back playing rugby'. The touch group works the other way too as we have had players move from the touch group to playing in the senior sides and we have touch players in the ladies rugby side too.

...But we also want to focus on how we perform at tournaments and competitive games, so we have started to look at improving our core skills and applying Touch specific strategies to the game so that we can start to develop a 'tournament squad' that are more focused on the competitive side. As with any sport the more we enter competitions the more we learn and the desire to win grows within the group.

It is at this point I should thank the dedicated volunteers to help the group run smoothly and the fantastic support given to us by the club itself both Perry and Colin and the executive which has enabled us to thrive. We

have great plans to grow further, incorporate a youth side to perhaps 'catch' those kids that like rugby but dislike contact. Wherever we get to, we will strive to retain the core values that make BSRFC great and retain the fun and social aspect of this great game of rugby (in all its formats).



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THE ROAD TO NATIONAL 1

PROFESSIONALISM HAD FOR MANY YEARS BEEN CONSIDERED A TABOO TOPIC WITHIN THE RFU AND THE FORMATION OF LEAGUES WITH PROMOTION AND RELEGATION WAS SEEN AS A SIGN OF PROFESSIONALISM AND TO BE “OUTLAWED”.

In the 1960's the Sunday Telegraph published Merit Tables for the leading English Clubs with a Club's position based upon the percentage of matches won against other clubs included with the Table. The 1970's saw the experiments with County Merit Tables and the introduction of a National Cup competition.

Under pressure the RFU finally approved the creation of two national merit tables where clubs had to play a minimum of eight games against other clubs in their division. 1987 was the first formation of a true national league system. Today there are in excess of 1,500 Clubs competing in 101 leagues.

Bishop's Stortford RFC had been playing in the County Merit Tables and gained selection for the national leagues by a fraction over Barnet in what was then London 3 North West. In that

first season under the captaincy of Gordon Campbell, Bishop's Stortford won 8 out of 10 of their matches to become Champions and gain promotion into London 2 North where they stayed until 2002-03.

Now with Rob Faiers as Captain they became Champions and promoted into London 2. The restructuring of the league system the title became National 3 London & South-East. Tom Coleman captained the Club to two Championship wins in 2012-13 pipping Dorking by one point and a memorable final match of the season against Old Elthamians and again in 2016-17. This time Old Elthamians get the runners up spot and promoted alongside Bishop's Stortford by winning their playoff.

AND THAT IS HOW BISHOP'S STORTFORD RFC CAME TO BE IN NATIONAL 1.

TOM COLEMAN
LEADS THE
SIDE TO TWO
LEAGUE TITLES
NATIONAL 3
LONDON &
SOUTH EAST
IN 2012-13 AND
NATIONAL 2
SOUTH IN
2016-17



LEVEL 1	AVIVA PREMIERSHIP RUGBY 12 CLUBS			
2	GREENE KING IPA CHAMPIONSHIP 12 CLUBS			
3	NATIONAL LEAGUE 1 16 CLUBS			
4	NATIONAL LEAGUE 2 NORTH 16 CLUBS		NATIONAL LEAGUE 2 SOUTH 16 CLUBS	
5	MIDLANDS PREMIER 14 CLUBS	NORTH PREMIER 14 CLUBS	LONDON & SOUTH EAST PREMIER 14 CLUBS	SOUTH WEST PREMIER 14 CLUBS
6	MIDLANDS 1 WEST 14 CLUBS	NORTH 1 EAST 14 CLUBS	LONDON 1 NORTH 14 CLUBS	SOUTH WEST 1 (W) 14 CLUBS
	MIDLANDS 1 EAST 14 CLUBS	NORTH 1 WEST 14 CLUBS	LONDON 1 SOUTH 14 CLUBS	SOUTH WEST 1 (E) 14 CLUBS
7	MIDLANDS 2 WEST (NORTH)	MIDLANDS 2 EAST (SOUTH)	LONDON 2 NORTH EAST	TRIBUTE WESTERN CO. NORTH
	MIDLANDS 2 WEST (SOUTH)	SOUTH LANCASHIRE/ CHESHIRE	LONDON 2 NORTH WEST	TRIBUTE WESTERN CO. WEST
	MIDLANDS 2 EAST (NORTH)	DURHAM/ NORTHUMBERLAND 1	LONDON 2 SOUTH EAST	SOUTHERN COUNTIES SOUTH
	MIDLANDS 2 EAST (SOUTH)	YORKSHIRE 1	LONDON 2 SOUTH WEST	SOUTHERN COUNTIES NORTH
LEVELS 8 - 12				



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RESULTS GRID, TABLE & FIXTURES

NATIONAL LEAGUE 1

National League 1 Results Grid																
	Ampt&D	B'ham	BSRFC	B'heath	Caldy	Camb	Coventry	DarlMPk	Esher	Fylde	Hull Ion	L'boro S	O.Alb'n	O.Eltham	Plym'th	RossPk
Ampt&D		28/4	20/1	6/1	17/2	21/10	14/4	7/4	23/9	7/10	16/12	3/2	9/9	4/11	10/3	25/11
B'ham	2/9		21/10	7/10	25/11	10/3	23/12	23/9	3/2	12/2	16/9	4/11	20/1	2/4	0/12	21/4
BSRFC	30/9	10/2		3/2	2/9	21/4	27/1	25/11	11/11	7/4	14/10	9/12	28/10	23/12	16/9	13/1
B'heath	16/9	27/1	4/11		25/11	2/4	23/12	21/10	12/2	10/3	30/9	24/11	14/10	31/4	2/9	23/12
Caldy	29/10	25/3	28/4	14/4		23/9	3/3	20/1	16/12	9/9	11/11	6/1	2/12	27/1	14/10	10/2
Camb	10/2	11/11	16/12	2/12	13/1		28/10	6/1	14/4	28/4	3/3	9/9	24/3	30/9	27/1	14/10
Coventry	9/12	9/9	7/10	23/9	4/11	17/2		21/4	20/1	3/2	28/4	21/10	6/1	10/3	25/11	7/4
DarlMPk	2/12	15/1	24/3	10/2	30/9	16/9	16/12		3/2	14/4	23/12	2/9	27/1	14/10	28/10	11/11
Esher	13/1	14/10	10/3	28/19	21/4	9/12	30/9	4/11		25/11	27/1	2/4	10/2	2/9	23/12	16/9
Fylde	27/1	28/10	2/12	11/11	23/12	2/9	14/10	9/12	24/3		10/2	21/4	3/3	16/9	13/1	30/9
Hull Ion	21/4	6/1	3/2	20/1	10/3	4/11	2/9	9/9	7/10	21/10		17/2	23/9	25/11	7/4	0/12
L'boro S	14/10	3/3	14/4	24/3	16/9	23/12	10/2	28/4	3/12	16/12	28/10		11/11	13/1	30/9	27/1
O.Alb'n	23/12	11/11	12/2	3/2	2/4	25/11	16/9	7/10	21/10	4/11	13/1	10/3		9/12	21/4	2/9
O.Eltham	3/3	2/12	9/9	16/12	7/10	20/1	11/11	3/2	28/4	6/1	24/3	23/9	14/4		10/2	28/10
Plym'th	11/11	14/4	6/1	28/4	3/2	7/10	24/3	12/2	9/9	23/9	2/12	20/1	16/12	21/10		3/3
RossPk	24/3	16/12	23/9	9/9	21/10	3/2	2/12	10/3	6/1	20/1	14/4	2/10	28/4	17/2	4/11	
Round 1-15																
Round 16-30																

Season 2017-2018**NATIONAL 1****02-Sep-2017**

Home Team		Away Team	Kick Off
Darlington Mowden Park	V	Loughborough Students	14:00
Birmingham Moseley	V	Amphill & District	15:00
Bishop's Stortford	V	Caldy	15:00
Blackheath	V	Plymouth Albion	15:00
Esher	V	Old Elthamians	15:00
Fylde	V	Cambridge	15:00
Hull Ionians	V	Coventry	15:00
Old Albanian	V	Rosslyn Park	15:00

National League 2 South - Season 2016-17 Final Table

Club	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	PD	TBP	LBP	Ded	Pts
1) Bishop`s Stortford	30	25	0	5	1053	549	504	25	4	0	129
2) Old Elthamians	30	25	0	5	1071	533	538	19	3	0	122
3) Chinnor	30	24	2	4	1111	546	565	21	1	0	122
4) Taunton Titans	30	19	3	8	901	735	166	19	4	0	105
5) Redruth	30	19	1	10	824	609	215	18	5	0	101
6) Redingsians Rams	30	16	1	13	756	618	138	12	9	0	87
7) Cinderford	30	16	2	12	746	725	21	16	5	5	84
8) Canterbury	30	15	0	15	720	732	-12	11	7	0	78
9) Henley Hawks	30	13	1	16	775	840	-65	14	7	0	75
10) Clifton	30	14	0	16	683	843	-160	11	4	0	71
11) Bury St Edmunds	30	11	1	18	675	818	-143	11	7	0	64
12) Worthing Raiders	30	9	0	21	657	938	-281	9	8	0	53
13) London Irish Wild Geese	30	8	0	22	664	960	-296	14	6	0	52
14) Barnstaple	30	9	1	20	532	886	-354	6	7	0	51
15) Barnes	30	6	3	21	599	817	-218	12	9	0	51
16) Exmouth	30	3	1	26	554	1172	-618	9	6	0	29

THE TEAMS



Referee Robbie Bourke **Assistant Referee 1** Mich

BISHOP'S STORTFORD 1ST XV

BLUE AND WHITE

Nick Hankin	1
Conor Austin	1
Sam Winter ©	1
Matt Riddington	1
Jimmy Rea	1
George Cullen	10
Tom Banks	9
Rory Young	1
Declan Caulfield	2
Sean Edwards	3
Jon George	4
Matt Tomlinson	5
Dan Leo	6
Dan Elsom	7
Steve Ball	8

REPLACEMENTS

Will Roberts	10
Tom McCrone	11
Johnny Neville	12
Alex Patton	13
	2

Director of Rugby Andy Long | **Team Manager** Ed Merivale | **Physio** Paul Sharma
Coaches Danny Johnson, Richard Gill, Tom Coleman, Marcus Cattell

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nael Tutty **Assistant Referee 2** Mathew Shephard



CALDY MAROON, WHITE AND BLACK

5	Mark Dixon
4	Nick Royle
3	Gav Roberts
2	Delwyn Jones
1	Ben Jones
0	Reece Hayes
9	Chris Pilgrim
1	Jack Parker
2	Ted Stagg
3	Derek Salisbury
4	Tom Sanders ©
5	Louis McGowan
6	Harrison Crowe
7	Jack Collister
8	Joshua Dickinson
REPLACEMENTS	
6	John Whitaker
7	Nyle Davidson
8	Martin Gerrad
9	Andrew Souter
0	Jack Beavers

Director of Rugby Gareth Davies | **Coaches** Andi Kyriacou, Simon Verbichas

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THE NEW LAWS FOR 2017-18

The northern hemisphere will be catching up with the southern hemisphere from August 1st with the Global Law Trials. And then getting ahead with the new ruck/tackle and scrum laws.

Of the 17 trials, the following are the most relevant:

- The tackler has no special rights at the tackle anymore. After the tackle, they can only enter the tackle from their side of the tackle.
- A ruck commences when one player on their feet is over the ball on the ground at the tackle. They don't need to be in contact with an opposition player (sorry Italy!)
- Any player in the front row can strike for the ball. At least one player from the team who put the ball must strike for the ball. Free kick if not.



Other changes:

- Uncontested scrums must have 8 v 8, even if a team has less than 15 players.
- If you kick for touch from a penalty after the whistle to end the half, it is still possible to kick for touch and have a lineout. If you want to kick the ball dead to end the half, you simply tap kick and then kick to touch.
- Penalty tries are automatically worth seven points and there's no need for a kick for a conversion.
- A player cannot kick the ball out towards the opposition try line when it's in a ruck.
- There's no signal for the ball to come into the scrum. Once it's stable it must be put in.
- The scrum-half can stand with their outside shoulder on the middle line.
- The number 8 can pick up the ball from the feet of the second rows.
- Other laws are on clarifications on in-goal and in-touch.



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BISHOP'S STORTFORD COLTS ACADEMY

BY CHRIS HADLEY

THIS WEEKEND, U17S AND U18S PLAYERS IN THE COLTS ACADEMY WILL FIRE UP THE BARBIE AFTER TRAINING TO MARK THE END OF AN ACTION PACKED PRE-SEASON UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE NEW PROFESSIONAL DIRECTOR OF COLTS RUGBY ANDRE BEUKES.



Players have been put through a high-energy and highly enjoyable five week rugby curriculum, as Andre sets out to deliver his promise to players and parents that, regardless of whether they aspire to an England cap or to play social rugby with their friends, they would receive a year of rugby that they would never forget. It is a big promise, but a necessary one at a time when – more than ever before -- the club has to ensure that they continue to retain young players and provide them with first class coaching.

As a former headmaster, Andre knows a thing or two about getting the best out of young people. He has coached Brentwood 1st XV and Colts and previously worked with Danny Johnston at Colchester. He takes on his new role at the same time as he becomes director of rugby at Bishop's Stortford College. Andre inherits an already successful Colts section at Stortford and continues to be supported by a number of existing club coaches as well as by David Paine, rugby master at the High School and County Strength and Conditioning Coach. The senior coaching team are also working closely with the Academy, and the boys have benefited from pre-season sessions with Andy Long, Danny Johnston and Marcus Cattell.

The intention this season is to align Colts ever more closely with the Seniors and throughout August the returning players have been introduced to elements of the Senior play book, defensive systems, techniques and vocabulary. It has been a big ask, but the boys have met the challenge head on.

Energy levels, enthusiasm and ambitions are sky high. Early tests come in a fortnight's time with friendlies for the U18 As and Bs and the first league matches for all four sides the following week.

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CLUB STORTFORD

NOW IN ITS FIFTH SEASON, CLUB STORTFORD WAS SET UP BY A SMALL WORKING PARTY, TO SUPPORT THE 1STXV SQUAD AFTER PROMOTION TO NATIONAL LEAGUE RUGBY IN 2013/14. OUR AIM IS “TO ENSURE BISHOP’S STORTFORD RFC HAS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE IN NATIONAL LEAGUE RUGBY AND CONTINUES TO NURTURE HOME GROWN TALENT.”

Working in conjunction with the 1stXV coaching team, CS provides funding for various expenditure beyond the financial resources of the main club. These are specific to the first team/Blues squad, and include items such as strength and conditioning, video analysis of matches, equipment, additional medical support, travel and overnight stays for long distance away fixtures.

Director of Rugby, Andy Long, has reiterated on a number of occasions the importance he attaches to the financial support given by Club Stortford. Quite simply, without it's support, the team would not be able to perform at such currently high levels. Two third place finishes, a second place play off and now promotion to National 1 in the last four seasons is an outstanding achievement.

Club Stortford currently has 30+ like-minded members, all willing to provide the necessary funds to allow the club to play at National league level. These are either individual, corporate or syndicate members, enjoying various benefits associated with their membership.

We continue to look for new members, to allow us to broaden and deepen the extent of our support. We would urge you to consider joining Club Stortford.

If you are interested and would like further information, please contact our secretary, Russell Cattell 07778 101988, Charlie Dunsford 07710 120011, Brian Moore 07768 356746 or our chairman Neil Parker 07860 300080.

THE OVAL CLUB



THE OVAL CLUB WAS FOUNDED IN 1998 BY A GROUP OF MEMBERS WHO GOT TOGETHER TO FIND A WAY OF RAISING FUNDS FOR THE CLUB WHICH COULD BE USED TO FUND FACILITIES AND PROJECTS WHICH WOULD ENHANCE THE PLAYING SIDE OF THE CLUB. WITH THAT IN MIND THE STATED MISSION STATEMENT OF THE OVAL CLUB IS:

‘TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS PROMOTING THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE STANDARD OF RUGBY THROUGHOUT BISHOPS STORTFORD RUGBY CLUB’

The Oval Club operates as an autonomous body and is entirely independent of the Rugby Club's financial and administrative operations. No member of the Oval Club Committee can be a member of the official Rugby Club management. The Oval Club does not seek to influence decisions of the Rugby Club.

Of the contributions received into The Oval Club's Fund two thirds of each contribution is set aside for the Rugby Club and one third is allocated to the Members to fund social occasions.

Since its establishment the Oval Club has raised over £225,000 and to date £138,000 has been allocated in support of funding requests from the Rugby Club for many projects including:

- Floodlighting the back field pitches,
- Improvement of the playing surfaces, including the purchase of a Verti-drainer,
- Supporting Youth and Mini through, tours, kit and additional playing facilities,
- Replacement of goal posts,
- Playing equipment and travel costs for all teams,
- Purchase of physiotherapy equipment,
- Refurbishing the changing rooms' showers,
- The drainage of the floodlit pitch,
- Junior coaching courses, and
- Pitch repair and maintenance.

At present on the Member's side social functions held each year include:

A Home Match Lunch and Drinks
An away match Coach Trip and Lunch and Drinks
An Annual Forum Dinner and Drinks
incorporating a partially financed Golf day

The current membership is 74 which is deemed by the Committee as an appropriate and manageable number however this is not set in stone and new members are always welcome. If anyone would like to join please contact one of the Committee Members listed below.

The Oval Club has played an important part in providing much needed funds for the Rugby Club to enable playing facilities and standards to be improved and it will continue to do so with the help of its members.

Members of the present Oval Club Committee are:

Robbie Kerr	Chairman
John Robinson	Secretary
John Power	Treasurer
Mark Caulfield	
Mike Howatson	

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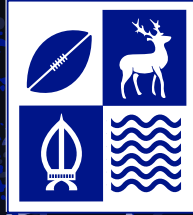
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OPENING TIMES:

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For further information please see the club website: www.bsrfc.co.uk
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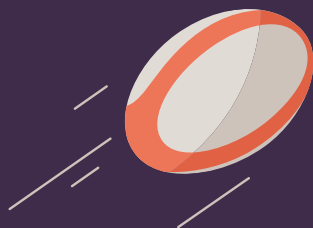
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BISHOP'S STORTFORD RFC MATCH DAY EXPERIENCE

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH THE 1ST XV



As part of the Clubs ethos 'to be a strong and successful rugby club united from Senior to Mini's, trusted and valued by our community' the BSRFC Director of Rugby, Andy Long, Club Captain Sam Winter, & the rest of the 1st XV Squad provide an insight for our "Mini & Junior" Members into what goes on behind the scenes as the Players prepare for a National League

1 Match. The day kicks off with a Q&A in the 1st XV Changing Room, followed by Training, Games & Warm up Sessions with the Coaches and Players. They then form the "Players Tunnel" alongside the "Blazers" to welcome both the opposition and the 1st XV onto the pitch before the game. Their experience culminates with Post Match Photos alongside the Players.



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