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NATIONAL LEAGUE 1

BISHOP'S STORTFORD RFC V DARLINGTON MOWDEN PARK RFC

1st September 2018

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

MICK COLEMAN

As, your new President, it falls upon me to wish a very warm welcome to everyone attending today's match against Darlington Mowden Park. You may be a 'first timer' here, a regular, or a Darlington official or supporter who has made the long drive south, I hope you all have a great day out at Silver Leys. We are, as always, extremely pleased to see many of our sponsors here, especially today's match sponsors Tees, and man of the match sponsor Sam Prior of Bit Solutions.

As for me, well it was a great honour to be asked to take on the role of Club President, and indeed, I was quite excited by the prospect initially. However, as the week has progressed, I am now just honoured, with the excitement part long gone! Still, with a bit of luck, I'll grow into the role and I'll certainly give it my best shot.

Apart from an obvious change of seeing me up here with the mic, and not Perry, the other big change that the alert amongst you will have noticed, is that Anna Smith, our brilliant lunch organiser for the last few years, has unfortunately decided to call it a day, so step forward the Walkers – Rob and Anne. I'm not saying you need it, but good luck to you both! However, all is not lost, you will still be seeing Anna balancing on a chair, instructing the deliberately stupid among you on how to fill in the 'guess the score' ticket!

We're certainly beginning the new season straight in at the deep end, with a particularly tough opener against last year's runners up,

Darlington, who must be right up there as one of the favourites for promotion this season. They have made no secret of their ambitions to play championship rugby, and we wish them luck in trying to achieve that goal – just not today! Last season's fixtures proved to be very competitive with a 22-22 draw at Silver Leys and a high scoring loss 41-35 away, so let's hope we can change that with a home win today. Having watched our last pre-season warm up match against Bedford last Friday evening, I, for one, was very encouraged by the level of our performance. Sure, we lost heavily, which wasn't unexpected, but the excellent tries we scored, our defensive commitment and organisation, and the performance of our youngsters will stand us in good stead, for not only today's opener, but also the rest of the season. It's so pleasing to see that the conveyor belt of talented, young Stortford players is still operating at great efficiency, with the likes of Charlie Kingham back from uni, and choosing to continue his rugby career at his home club, and George Keen, Tom Walker and Piers Martin all impressing, along with a host of others all involved with squad training and Blues warm up games, against Coventry, and a strong Hertford side. Try and take a few minutes to watch the Blues this afternoon as they take on Wimbledon, and hopefully see some of our future stars in action. It just remains for me to wish everyone a great afternoon of rugby and, of course, a couple of Stortford wins!

Mick Coleman



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DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

ANDY LONG

It seems like only a blink of an eye ago that we were preparing for our final game of the 2017-18 season against Caldy and here we are about to embark on our second season in National One.

They often say the second season is always the toughest and I'm sure we will find new hurdles to jump and the summer has brought mixed emotions. With the squad remaining mostly unchanged this has allowed us to focus more on detail as opposed to revisiting the big picture. However injuries have struck us as they did last season with both Steve Ball, Baxter Wilson and Sam Coleman requiring operations. Opportunities though now present themselves for others to shine.

We have made a few changes to the coaching group with Danny Johnston taking on the role of Head of Blues rugby, his role, supported by Transition coaches Rob Faiers and Ash Boyle will develop a group of players capable of stepping up into National One rugby.

It was great to see in our pre season fixture against Hertford twelve of the starting team had come through our Colts in recent seasons and the other three were from Colchester, Braintree and Felsted. It's really rewarding to see local talent coming through.

Darlington are worthy title contenders with their record in National One extremely consistent with Danny and his team having developed an exciting brand of rugby in the North East. We learnt a huge amount from our fixtures last season, both of which were tightly contested.

I'd like to say a huge thank you in advance for all the support I know you will give the team this season. Your backing be it at home or away always lifts the team.

Enjoy the game

Onwards and Upwards

Longy





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REPORT ROUND-UP

Welcome back..... the first match of the season
So we're back; how was your summer?

Whilst you've been away, the Trading Subsidiary team have been busy getting prepared for the next fifteen Saturdays of this coming season following another very successful season both on and off the pitch.

The bar had another successful trading year despite the bad winter weather hitting a number of weekends. Sian has brought a few new members into the team this season so you have some new names to learn.

The shop had a record year last season. Sales increased despite the aforementioned weather problems at the start of 2018 causing several weeks of slow activity. We also experienced quality control problems with certain suppliers. For 2018-19, VX3 have come on board as our kit supplier and we are very pleased with the new lines we have available in the shop – please pop in and see Bob who will be delighted to show you what we have on offer this season.

Julie North has continued her excellent work with our sponsors to whom we are immensely grateful. Without their support, we would be unable to achieve all that we do.

The performance of the 1st XV squad under Andy Long's leadership with a top half of the table finish last season exceeded some people's expectation. Their success continues to increase interest in the club from the local community and we would like to welcome everyone today whether you are a frequent visitor or this is your first afternoon at Silver Leys.

Our Match Day lunches have continued to be a tremendous success. The fixture list for last season presented many challenges with the majority of our homes fixtures being in the first half of the season. The result of this was that all the post-Christmas lunches sold out within a few weeks of the start of the season. We have a similar fixture split this season so don't miss the opportunity to attend the early lunches of the season.

Anna Smith worked tirelessly over the last few years and stepped down from her role at the end of last season. Rob and Anne Walker have taken over lunch bookings, Paul Richardson has taken over the organisation of the "Duty Dogs" and Anna has kindly agreed to remain a part of our team and run the "Guess the Score" competition. Julie North continues to take the corporate bookings. As an additional bonus for our lunches, we have now had confirmation that the marquee will be permitted to remain up throughout the season which will markedly increase our capacity for all of the lunches.

Finally, whilst it is important that we continue to support our 1st XV squad in order to maximise the income that their success generates, we are also committed to maintaining our "#OneClub" ethos of which we remain rightly proud. The profit that the Trading Subsidiary generates benefits every section of our club and it is great to see once again some of our Minis here on their Match Day Experience to support the 1st XV this afternoon generously sponsored by Russell Property.

We hope you enjoy the day and look forward to seeing you for the remainder of the season.

Al Jones
Chairman, BSRFC Trading Ltd.



THE PLAYERS

BSRFC 1'S XV 2017/18



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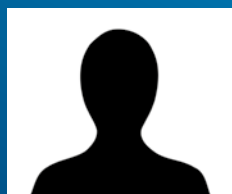
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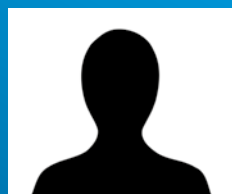
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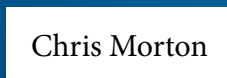
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BLUES



Following testing transition into national 1, it would be fair to say that the Blues took a heavy toll in the club's success last season. With players being drawn from the squad to cover injuries in the first XV, it was inevitable that results would not match the success of the previous season in zoo 1.

However, the fantastic achievements of last year's colts guided by the superb coaching team led by Andre Beukes has left the bishop's Stortford 1XV and Blues squad in an extremely positive position, with talent across all positions emerging already capable of making an impact in the adult ranks. This added into the talented pool of players retained from last season, can only lead to positive progress in the new season.

This year we see a new look coaching team for the Blues with Danny Johnston and Ash Boyle joining Stortford legend Rob Faiers in driving Bishop's Stortford Blues to a new level of performance in the 2018-19 season.

When asked about the new season Rob was quick to highlight the optimism in the group.

'Within this squad it is clear to see that there is an excellent balance between players with 1st XV experience working with our young and exciting Colts. This is sure to bring about an thrilling and effective brand of rugby!'

[Rob Faiers says](#)

"I am really happy to be working with two great looking and exciting coaches like Ash and Dan. It gives us the flexibility to focus on our own specific strengths and deliver the same brand of Rugby as the 1st XV.

The Blues kick off this season against Wimbledon at home, and we looking forward to an almighty Stortford support to get us kick started and on our way.



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They have three Senior Men's XV's and Darlington Mowden Park Sharks play in the Tyrrells Premier 15's, the Women's Premiership. In addition they have two further senior women's teams & a successful Mini & Youth section including Girls rugby.

They were promoted to National One at the end of the 2013-14 season when they beat Ampthill in the promotion playoff

Last season they achieved their highest ever league finish when

they finished deserved runners up to champions Coventry. This season they will no doubt be looking to go one better! Our matches last season against them resulted in a 22 all draw here at Silver Leys in November but a defeat 41-35 in a highly entertaining game marking our first ever visit to the Northern Echo Arena in March.

Last Saturday they beat Watsonians RFC 26-20 at home in their final warm up match





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RESULTS GRID, TABLE & FIXTURES

NATIONAL LEAGUE 1

FIXTURE SCHEDULE & RESULTS GRID 2018-19

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Ampt		29.09	8.12	16.02	2.02	6.10	22.12	20.10	24.11	15.09	1.09	9.03	12.01	30.03	3.11	13.04	
Bckth	19.01		20.10	30.03	16.02	2.02	8.12	9.03	22.09	27.04	24.11	8.90	5.01	6.10	13.04	3.11	
Bir M	6.04	9.02		5.01	27.04	15.12	17.11	8.90	6.10	23.03	2.03	19.01	1.12	2.02	22.09	27.10	
BSRFC	27.10	1.12	15.09		17.11	2.03	26.01	23.03	1.09	13.10	29.09	13.04	9.02	22.12	8.12	12.01	
Caldy	13.10	27.10	1.09	9.03		9.02	12.01	3.11	8.12	29.09	15.09	30.03	26.01	13.04	24.11	22.12	
Camb	26.01	13.10	13.04	3.11	20.10		15.09	16.02	30.03	12.01	22.12	24.11	29.09	8.12	9.03	1.09	
Chin	8.90	6.04	9.03	6.10	22.09	5.01		19.01	16.02	15.12	30.03	20.10	27.04	3.11	2.02	24.11	
Cind	9.02	17.11	22.12	24.11	2.03	27.10	29.09		13.04	26.01	12.01	8.12	13.10	1.09	30.03	15.09	
DMP	23.03	12.01	26.01	27.04	6.04	1.12	27.10	15.12		2.03	9.02	5.01	17.11	29.09	8.9.18	13.10	
Esher	5.01	1.09	24.11	2.02	19.01	22.09	13.04	6.10	3.11		8.12	16.02	8.90	9.03	20.10	30.03	
L'boro	27.04	23.03	3.11	19.01	5.01	8.90	1.12	22.09	20.10	6.04		2.02	15.12	16.02	6.10	9.03	
OE's	17.11	22.12	29.09	15.12	1.12	23.03	9.02	6.04	15.09	27.10	13.10		2.03	12.01	27.04	26.01	
Plym A	22.09	15.09	30.03	20.10	6.10	19.01	1.09	2.02	9.03	22.12	13.04	3.11		24.11	16.02	8.12	
Ross Pk	1.12	26.01	13.10	8.90	15.12	6.04	2.03	27.04	19.01	17.11	27.10	22.09	23.03		5.01	9.02	
Roth	2.03	15.12	12.01	6.04	23.03	17.11	13.10	1.12	22.12	9.02	26.01	1.09	27.10	15.09		29.09	
Sale	15.12	2.03	16.02	22.09	8.09	27.04	23.03	5.01	2.02	1.12	17.11	6.10	6.04	20.10	19.01		
ROUNDS 1 to 15																ROUNDS 16-30	

Season 2018/2019 NATIONAL 1

1st September Fixtures

Home Team		Away Team	Kick Off
Esher	Vs	Blackheath	15:00
Plymouth Albion	Vs	Chinnor	15:00
Amphill	Vs	Loughborough Students	15:00
Cambridge	Vs	Sale	15:00
Cinderford	Vs	Rosslyn Park	15:00
Rotherham Titans	Vs	Old Elthamians	15:00
Bishop's Stortford	Vs	Darlington Mowden Park	15:00

National League 1 - 2017/18 Final Table

Team	PI	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
Coventry	30	14	0	1	13	0	2	27	0	3	1213	495	718	134
Darlington Mowden Park	30	14	0	1	9	1	5	23	1	6	838	637	201	115
Plymouth Albion	30	13	1	1	7	1	7	20	2	8	844	549	295	108
Amphill	30	12	1	2	7	3	5	19	4	7	797	540	257	106
Blackheath	30	12	1	2	5	1	9	17	2	11	764	636	128	88
Old Elthamians	30	9	0	6	6	1	8	15	1	14	714	709	5	81
Birmingham Moseley	30	7	2	6	7	0	8	14	2	14	680	770	-90	79
Bishop's Stortford	30	8	1	6	7	0	8	15	1	14	750	713	37	78
Esher	30	8	1	6	3	1	11	11	2	17	774	827	-53	74
Cambridge	30	7	0	8	7	0	8	14	0	16	613	600	13	72
Caldy	30	9	0	6	3	0	12	12	0	18	726	743	-17	68
Rosslyn Park	30	8	1	6	2	1	12	10	2	18	766	863	-97	66
Loughborough Students	30	6	1	8	4	2	9	10	3	17	756	894	-138	62
Hull Ionians	30	8	1	6	2	0	13	10	1	19	685	941	-256	59
Old Albanians	30	6	1	8	3	0	12	9	1	20	620	941	-321	54
Fylde	30	2	0	13	1	0	14	3	0	27	405	1087	-682	20

THE TEAMS



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BLUE AND WHITE

1	Seb Brownhill
2	Declan Caulfield
3	Sean Edwards
4	Jon George
5	Matt Tomlinson
6	James Apperley
7	Rory Banks
8	Charlie Kingham
9	Alex Patton
10	George Cullen
11	Rob Duff
12	George Keen
13	Sam Winter - C
14	Jimmy Rea
15	Tom Walker

REPLACEMENTS

16	Sam James
17	Louis Castiglione
18	Oli Jones
19	Tom Coleman
20	Chris Smith

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Lead Physio Kathy Hills | **Assistant Physio** Adam Mufti | **Assistant Physio** Tom Phillips
Defence Coach Marcus Cattell | **Attack and Backs Coach** Tom Coleman | **Blues Head Coach** Danny Johnston
Backs Transition Coach Ash Boyle | **Forwards Transition Coach** Rob Faiers
Head of Strength and Conditioning Ben Sheath | **Assistant strength and conditioning coach** - Adam Vine

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DARLINGTON MOWDEN PARK RFC

BLUE AND WHITE

	Alfie Barron	1
	Jordan Poole	2
	Ralph Appleby	3
	Jake Brady	4
	Tailiti Vaioleti	5
	Joe Duffy	6
	George Stokes	7
	Joe Craggs	8
	Bruno Bravo	9
	Warren Seals	10
	Shaun McCartney	11
	Garry Law	12
	Ben Frankland	13
	Josh Hall	14
	Christian Geogiou	15
<div>MOM Sponsors</div> <div>BIT Solutions</div>	REPLACEMENTS	
	Ignas Darkintis	16
	Tristan Grant	17
	Ben Pawlett	18
	Jordi Hopp	19
	Callum Mackenzie	20



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MATCH REPORT

Bedford Blues 48 Bishop's Stortford 1st XV 10

A really gutsy performance by Stortford against heavy physical odds in this final pre-season friendly, with Bedford clearly determined to bounce back with their strongest team from a heavy defeat last week to Saracens.

Up against a massive Bedford pack, Stortford struggled for possession throughout the first half but showed massive commitment and no lack of skill in a battling defensive performance. The defence was breached after 6 minutes, when a pinpoint crosskick by flyhalf, Will Hooley found his right winger, who merely had to catch and flop over for an unconverted try. Within three minutes, though the visitors levelled the scores with an incisive backs move, as George Cullen made a half break to feed Sam Winter, who charged forward and gave Rob Duff just enough room to barge over through his opposite number's tackle to score out wide. That was pretty much it as far as possession for the visitors was concerned for the rest of the half. They struggled to win the ball even on their own ball at both lineout and scrum and conceded a string of penalties at the latter. Two such as successive Stortford put-ins took Bedford into the opposition 22 and a quick tap saw their no. 8 over for a converted try near to the posts after 19 minutes. A yellow card to Dec Caulfield after 28 minutes for cumulative front row offences didn't help and. Further tries to Bedford duly followed on 33 and 40 minutes, the latter going to a promising debutant, named Ben Foden! The conversion of the second score took the halftime score line to 31-5.

Halftime substitutions seemed to work out in Stortford's favour, with a couple of Bedford giants being replaced, resulting in a much more even spread of possession for the second period. The visitors started strongly but were unlucky to lose Johnny Neville very early on to a potentially serious head injury. Our best wishes go to Johnny for a speedy recovery. Despite then running through many phases of 15-man rugby, Stortford found the home defence was also very strong. Eventually, a couple of crucial handling errors produced a turnover in midfield and a great line run by the home fullback saw him burst through the first line of defence and score a great individual try after 12 minutes. Eight minutes later the home backs again showed their class with an excellent grubber kick by a centre leading to a try in the corner to Tom Hitchcock - one of Stortford's Colts last season, who appeared for our Blues the previous night against Hertford! Five minutes later, it was Tom Walker's turn to register a well-deserved try for last season's Colts, when he took a perfectly-timed pass from Jimmy Rea to round off a period of sustained pressure, which even Bedford's well-organised defence could not counter. The home side had the final word, when James Lennon (on as a second half replacement for Lee Dickson), who appeared a number of times for Stortford last season on loan from Bedford's Academy, showed his pace to round off some sharp passing by his threequarters to score an unconverted try out wide.



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

SAM WINTER

Having been at the club since I was 9, it was a genuine honour to be asked to Captain the side last year. When I was warming the bench for the under 10's B team, with a set of twiglet legs and bright ginger hair, I'm not sure many people would have said I'd have gone on to Captain the 1st XV. However, I stuck at it and slowly made my way through the age groups and started to grow a bit, as most humans do.

Fast forward to 2010, I made my debut away at old foes Dorking. There was an injury crisis so I got called to come back from Uni for the match. We got panned by 40 points, I slipped over allowing them to canter in for their 1st try and dropped the ball probably 5 times. Safe to say I didn't play again all season. A year later, I returned home from Loughborough about 2 stone heavier, having not played in my 3rd year so I could scrape a 2-1 and gorge on pizza every evening.

My first full season for Stortford was probably my most enjoyable season ever. We finished 3rd in Nat 3 and went on a 17-game unbeaten run. I got myself into the team at full-back and only really spoke when I was spoken to. With TC and MMc at the helm, the next year we went on to win National 3 playing some great rugby.

Then came National 2. With the help of some handy antipodean imports, a couple of lucky findings, a core group of talented home-grown players, and some great coaches, in the four years we were in the league we finished 4th, 2nd, 3rd and 1st. We transitioned across this period from what was very much an amateur team to what is now semi-professional. We could not do this without the amazing pool of sponsors that so generously support the team and the wider club. Shout out to my player sponsor, Pestell's Estates.

Our first year in National 1 was always going to be a challenge. But we believe in our ability as a team and we continued to surprise people, getting to Christmas with some notable notches under our belt and a fairly lofty position in the league. We learnt why National 1 is so tough after Christmas, with weather and injuries causing us issues. We built up a run of losses, which was tough for the club and for me personally, having not captained a rugby team before, let alone a team that was used to winning. I learnt a lot during this time and we will all be better for it. We finished the season well with a few wins and secured 8th place - we'll take that.

So, to this season. I'm massively excited. We've had a cracking pre-season and the lads are in good shape. I think we are as far along as I can remember us being at this stage of the season, in terms of our collective understanding of how we want to play the game. It should be another challenging but hugely enjoyable season and we're all chomping at the bit to get going now. I'd also just like to mention our new team values that have been set by the players themselves. They are Discipline, Positivity and Ownership. Please do hold us to these throughout the season.

To the supporters, thank you for the amazing support we get. It genuinely makes a massive difference and is a huge part of why the club has done so well in recent years. Look forward to hearing the cheers, the chants and the drums later today.

So finally, that leaves me to welcome you to the Bishop's Stortford 1st XV 2018/19 season. I can't promise promotion to the Championship just yet, but I can guarantee we'll entertain!





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Working in conjunction with the 1stXV coaching team, CS provides funding for various expenditure beyond the financial resources of the main club.

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.

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



THE OVAL CLUB



The Oval Club is an autonomous body operating entirely independently of the Rugby club's financial or administrative operations.

It was founded in 1998 by a group of members and has a mission statement of 'To contribute towards promoting the highest possible standard of rugby throughout Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club'

Each of its current membership of 74 contribute £20 per month via Standing order. Two thirds of all contributions are set aside for the rugby club with the remainder allocated to the members to fund social occasions.

Since it was established the Oval Club has contributed in excess of £150,000 towards the cost of club projects such as;

- Drainage & floodlights to back pitches
- Refurbishment of showers
- Replacement goal posts
- Junior tours, Coaching courses & equipment

& most recently;

- Protective fencing around rear pitches
- The Floodlights on Pitch One.

The member's social side comprises each season of

- A home match lunch which this season will be the game on the 13th April vs Old Elthamians
- An away match coach trip & lunch which this season will be the game on the 3rd November at Cambridge
- & an annual forum dinner incorporating a partially funded golf day.

Anyone wishing to join is invited to contact our Secretary John Robinson via jbr@talktalk.net



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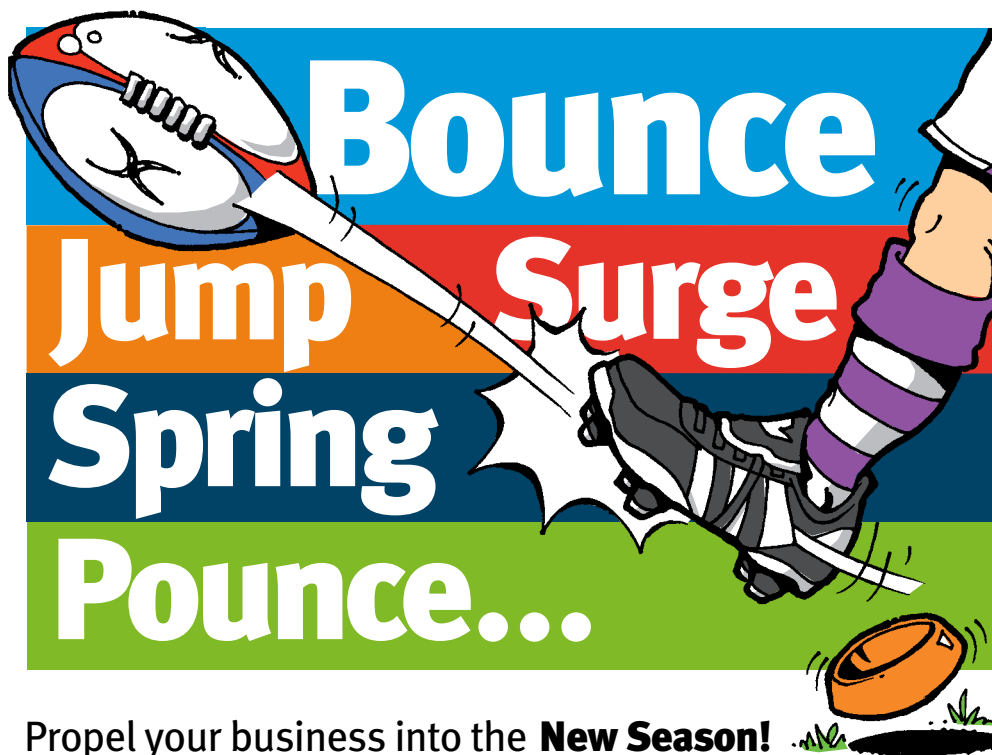
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BSRFC Ladies XV

This forthcoming season looks to be a promising one for the continued development of female rugby at BSRFC.

Our Ladies' Team, having finished third in their first competitive league last season, are entering a new league alongside teams including Biggleswade, Fullarians and Esher, as well St. Neots, Deeping and Welwyn – teams the Ladies faced last season.

Despite several long-term injuries from key players, the Team is hopeful that this season will be just as successful as the last.

Training didn't stop over the summer; and whilst there was no contact or game play, our Ladies have been working hard to build and increase strength, fitness and skill levels in preparation for their first game against St. Neots on Sunday 9th September (home). Our Girls' Teams continue to go from strength-to-strength; since starting the U13, U15 and U18 teams late last year, the club has been heavily promoting to local schools. Numbers are increasing every week, with more girls realising how much fun rugby is and everything it has to offer.

This year, the main aim for the Girls' Teams is to fill each team, enter festivals and let the girls get some game experience. The coaches have already planned a number of events to support

this, and are very excited to get the ball rolling and develop the teams even further.

This year, our Girls and Ladies have been very kindly sponsored by three local businesses. All three companies are keen supporters of the club – you may be able to spot their banners around the 1st XV pitch, or even see them at some of the 1st XV home matches, which they often attend.

Charterhouse Voice and Data has continued its support of our Ladies Team, and has even extended this to the Girls Teams.

This year recruitment company, HR Go, and local law firm, Nockolds Solicitors, join Charterhouse in its sponsorship. From all of the Girls and Ladies in the Teams, we would like to thank each company for its support this season.

BSRFC Girls and Ladies Train every Tuesday. Girls (U13 – U15) from 6.15pm to 7.15pm, and Ladies (17+) from 7.15pm to 9pm.

Each of our Teams welcome girls and women of every shape, size and fitness level. If you, or anyone you know, would like to join, contact them on one of their social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) or email bsrfladies@gmail.com.



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FLOODLIGHTS

Regular visitors here to Silver Leys will know that once the clocks go back in October watching (or perhaps more correctly -seeing) isn't easy! Despite us kicking off the games at an increasingly early time it is not uncommon for us to all be peering into the descending gloom, trying desperately to decipher what's going on. Well we're thrilled to report that problem is no more!

As you will see, during the summer we were able to install 200 lux floodlights costing £53,000 covering pitch one. The majority of the cost came via a grant of £30,000 from the RFU, to whom we are very grateful, as indeed we are a lady club supporter and our own Oval Club for their significant contributions.

We are one of many clubs across England benefiting from investment through the RFU Legacy fund which was established following the 2015 RWC, with our project recognised as providing a significant enhancement of our facilities enabling us to achieve continued growth in club rugby participation and membership in the area.

Our RFU Area Facilities Manager Jason Bowers said 'The new facilities will improve the quality of the rugby experience for everyone using the site and provide more playing opportunities, especially for local people in the 14-24 age-group. It will be particularly fitting now that BSRFC is playing in National 1, the 3rd tier rugby in England'

'This investment will also support the club's financial sustainability and will create a lasting

rugby union legacy for rugby in the community. The 200 Lux floodlights will help the club raise its profile and encourage more players, volunteers and spectators to share the special values that distinguish the sport.'

Local MP Mark Prisk who supported our application said 'This investment by the RFU is excellent news. The Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club has an enthusiastic group of hard-working volunteers and this funding will enable them to do even more for young people in the community in the future'

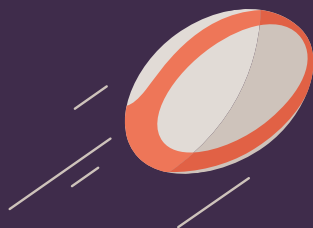
Our Chairman, Colin Tilley, said: 'We are delighted that our project has won approval following its original identification by Hertfordshire RFU. We will now have some of the best facilities in the area that are available to local people from Bishop's Stortford and surrounding area. England 2015 inspired a new wave of people of all ages to become involved in rugby and this RFU investment will help our club to be even better equipped to welcome the newcomers.'

The floodlit facility will of course be made available to all of our teams, although clearly the most obvious impact of the new lights will be that we can now kick off all our 1st XV home league matches at 3pm. Our hope is that not only will this make watching the match easier, but the whole experience of coming to our games will be improved as we will no longer have to rush lunches or people out of the bar in order to make the start.



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PHOTOGRAPHY



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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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- You receive notices and newsletters
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£ 75.00

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