

Rugby Section Report

The 20/21 season was lost to Covid 19 restrictions.

The section however thought it important for players mental and physical health to keep training going when possible.

Our sections trained according to the restrictions throughout what would have been the season.

The men trained Tuesday and Thursdays with 30 typically attending and we attracted a number of new players, our women had typically 20 attending on Wednesdays and Sundays.

The Junior boys used Hughenden throughout the season to train as did our girls.

The mins trained on a Sunday and increased numbers attending substantially.

In April 21 we even started early morning sessions which were well received and a great success. Unfortunately we had to move these to Victorian Park as a resident complained of noise created by another group using the Hughenden facilities at the same time.

The committee worked hard during the lockdown, applying for a number of grants.

£17k raised was raised to upgrade the training pitch.

£6.0k was raised from the SRU hardship fund which was passed to the Trust and as were the ticket fees of £875 from our former players from what have been a pre match lunch.

In short the section assisted the Trust with £23.87k worth of funds in addition to our ongoing monthly contribution on memberships.

We have also applied for and received £9.5k in funding for an initiative to (re) introduce rugby to Hillhead, Clevedon, Notre Dame and Hyndland schools. This initiative is in addition to our partnership with Jordanhill school where we run 5 secondary age group boys teams.

The section have been disappointed in a number of aspects.

The continued lack of facilities: While members understood the requirements to close the facilities and follow the government guidelines on restrictions the undue in reopening the changing rooms, showers and function room disappoint.

The Café delay in re opening, its continued restricted hours operation and the Sports Bar still being closed is also very disappointing. There is increasing concern and am sad to say disquiet growing in the section's membership. This is of course exacerbated with the increased prices being charged in the café, it is not a long walk, either east or west, to find considerably cheaper.

On prices the section hope to see progress soon on the re assessment of membership rates and trust these will reflect the conclusions from bench marking membership rates reflecting services and facilities available at other rugby clubs across the country.

We would like to thank three committee members for their hard work and dedication to the section over the years. Ken Grierson who has stood after many years of running the mini section, Dougie Grove our mens Vice President over the last 6 years and Emma McFarlane

who has led, coached grown our rascals (p3 and under) section over the last 5 years, although Emma is continuing to coach the p4 age group.