

Calne RFC Newsletter



TOUR MEETING

The first tour planning meeting will be held after training on the 6th of November 2004, in the skittle alley of the clubhouse.

All potential tourists are welcome to join us. Topics such as itinerary, budget, fundraising, transportation, tour apparel and themes need to be discussed. The meeting will start at 8.30 or as soon as that evening's training session ends.

There is an 'initial interest form' on the notice board, please add your name when you next pass it!

SHIRTS (update)

The club has agreed to purchase 5 plain red shirts to supplement the shortage discovered by Matt. Since the deficiency was reported, one shirt has kindly been returned.

We are still appealing to anyone who has purchased an old blue shirt off the club to donate it back, for the 2nd team cause.

KIT

The club is now well stocked with club ties and socks. Socks are £5 per pair and ties are £7.50 each. There is no excuse for not wearing club apparel and non-compliant members will be fined!

Players, if not already suitably kitted, should buy a pair of white shorts as soon as possible. Again, players will be fined for non-compliance.

Since the club has been doing well on the pitch and media interest has grown, we are attracting interest from potential sponsors. However, one such sponsor was unimpressed with our 'assortment' of shorts, which included black, blue, grey as well as white!

FLOODLIGHTS

The floodlight saga should soon be coming to an end. Club Secretary Peter Brummell has made contact with a local electrical engineer and

arranged an investigation of the problem as well as a quotation for the work required, on Tuesday the 19th. However, the result of this investigation was that the lights have been declared unsafe. Repairs should start during the next two weeks. John and Alan are planning alternative activities during this time. So please report to training as normal, along with a pair of trainers as well as your boots.

RFU GRAND DRAW

Following the success of the new RFU initiative to help clubs with their fund raising, we hope to continue and improve on our efforts last year.

Last year a number of individuals helped to raise £300 through their ticket sales. In particular, Jason Dolman made an outstanding contribution. This year, however, we would like to see a more concerted effort from all our players and members. Please look out for the tickets soon to be distributed and don't be shy to ask for more!

END OF SEASON TOUR

Gentlemen, now is the time to start planning the end of season trip to Weymouth! Thanks to Johnny Hope-Smith, both the 1XV and the 2XV teams have fixtures on Saturday the 30th of April against their Weymouth counterparts.

For this 'tour' to become a reality it is crucial that a small number of players, and maybe a VP or two, become involved in the organisation of transport, accommodation and fundraising.

If you think you can spare half an hour a week to pick up a phone to ring a few bus companies or B&B's and collect a few prices, or if you have an idea for a fundraising event, then speak to Matt who is assembling the tour committee. This event is dependant on volunteers, so please do your bit.

WEBSITE

Don't forget to check regularly for updates.
www.calnerfc.co.uk

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A FEW WORDS FROM JOHN CROZIER

We have made a fairly good start to this season's campaign. We currently sit fifth in the table having lost won, drawn one and won two league games. There appears to be a split league with the stronger sides residing in positions five to one. We MUST ensure we finish in four or above to establish our credibility as a serious side within our current division. Unfortunately, we were knocked out of the Vase competition last weekend. So I will use the old cliché "We can concentrate on the league now", it is true.

A true reflection on the improved attitude and commitment of the players is that I have been unable to pick the same Man of the Match two games in a row.

The most pleasing aspects for the coaching staff are the numbers of people who have been attending training. The application of the players during training and the matches themselves. Most importantly there has been the massive improvement in our discipline as a unit. We are much more focused because we are concentrating on what we should be doing during the game and not losing control because of outside influences, including the referee.

I can only commend those players that have played so far for their effort, tenacity and commitment to team playing. I make mention of this specifically as we have not named the same side twice due to injuries, pre-planned absences and, unfortunately, shopping day trips!

It will take time for the teams to adopt the new regime of 'you train you play' and for all concerned to realise that that does not guarantee you a place. Yes, if you train and you are the best person training for that position you will play, if however someone else is also training, that in the selection committee opinion is playing better, then that person will be selected based on that form. It is hoped that all that this will breed the right sort of competition for places. It will also take time for us to adapt to the new games plans discussed during training. We will

improve the execution of these plans with experience.

The most displeasing aspect for all concerned with the club is the lack of contact by those letting us down at the last minute. In this day and age when we can communicate so freely there is no excuse for not contacting someone, even the Rec. Club itself 01249 812206, to tell us you cannot come along. Also ALL players need to check with the club if they have been selected to play in a side for that Saturday. It is not the job of the Captains to call individuals, the equation is simple, for each player to call the club is one call, for the Captain it can be as many as twenty!!

Lastly a bit of great news, the current team management set up of, Alan, Owen, Pat, Matt and myself, along with team captains Andrew and Paul, will soon be joined by Bob Martin as Fitness Coach and 1st Team Manager.

Bob is a long time player, Vice President and stalwart of the club. I know this will give a real boost to the players and the management staff as a whole. Having a coach and manager of Bob's obvious playing quality and man management skills will be a real asset to Calne RFC. I have agreed with Bob that when we have second team fixtures, he must concentrate his efforts there. The teams, and all involved with Calne RFC, will only benefit from the strength in depth Bob can help engender from the second fifteen. Also with Bob soon to join us this will enable Matt to return his full attention to his own recovery from injury and his role as Club Development Officer.

I would personally thank Matt for all his input help and assistance from before the season started to date.

Puchtie,
John.