

# Hampshire RFU – Season Kick-Off Newsletter

A warm welcome to all our clubs, volunteers and players for the new 2025–26 season, under our refreshed **structure and leadership!** The new Board is excited to support and grow rugby across Hampshire and the Channel Islands, together with you.

You can find out more about your new Board and officers here: 👉 [Meet the Team](#)

We've lined up essential reminders and links so you can take action right now - everything you need for the 2025-2026 season can be found at [www.hampshirerfu.com](http://www.hampshirerfu.com)



**Hampshire**  
Rugby Football Union

# Key Reminders For This Season

## GMS Golden Roles & Player Registration

Please update your clubs 'Golden Roles' on GMS and remember to register your players (adult and youth).



 RFU GMS

**RFU GMS**

Rugby Football Union

## Report Concussions Promptly

All head injuries must be reported, adult or youth, via the online form to keep our players safe.

 Hampshire RFU

**Report a concussion**

This is vital so that players' injuries can be recorded...

## Nominate for the Conker Spirit of Rugby Award

Celebrate your clubs amazing volunteers! Monthly nominations open from 5 September.

 Hampshire RFU

**Celebration & Awards**

Hampshire RFU is proud to announce the launch of The...

## Playing Out Of Age Grade

Don't forget to follow the processes for approval for playing out of age group and 17 year olds playing adult rugby.


 Hampshire RFU

**Playing out of Age Grade**

15.6.1 Subject to 15.7, players can play and train in adult contact rugby when they reach their...

## Coaching Courses

A wide range of Hampshire RFU and RFU courses are available alongside wider support and ideas.


 Hampshire RFU

**Coaching in Hampshire**

You can find more details about these requirements via your Club Coaching Coordinator.

## Discipline

Don't forget to report any red cards and refer to the support available from Hampshire RFU Discipline committee.


 Hampshire RFU

**Discipline**

My role is to oversee rugby discipline at Senior level and t...

## Events and Festivals

Find out what is happening across Hampshire, from meetings to festivals. Bookable and updated weekly.

 Hampshire RFU

**Events**

## Fixtures, Competitions & Rules

Check competition draws, fixtures, and standings for adult, youth, and schools rugby.


 Hampshire RFU

**Fixtures & Competitions**

Hampshire RFU fixtures and competitions are hosted on th...

## Financial Statements

Clubs are required to upload their financial statements annually by 30th November using the link below.


 Hampshire RFU

**Financial Compliance**

Hampshire RFU as the constituent body, has an...

## U18 Girls and U18 Boys Nominations

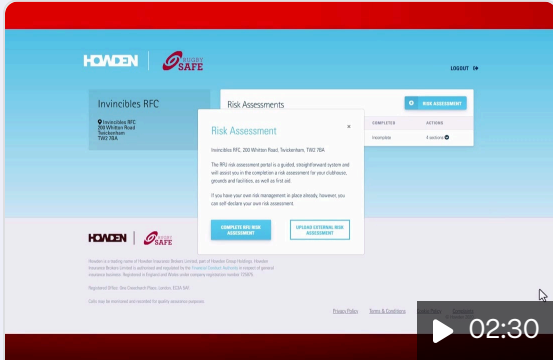
Nominations for the county U18 Girls and U18 Boys programmes are now open. Parents are asked to complete the form below to nominate their child after discussion with their club coach / teacher.


 Hampshire RFU

**Representative Playing No...**

## Rugby Safe

A reminder to please complete the Rugby Safe Howdens Risk Assessment by the **end of September**. The following video provides a step-by-step guide on how to access the risk assessment tool via GMS.



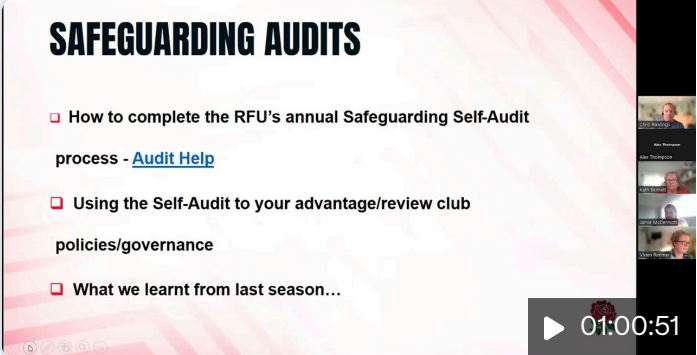
 YouTube


**GMS Howden Risk Asses...**

This video shows how an individual can now access the...

## Safeguarding Audit

A reminder to complete the GMS Safeguarding Audit by the **24th October**. The following video provides a step-by-step guide on how to access the GMS Safeguarding Audit.



 YouTube

**Effective Safeguarding Preparing Your Club for the Season Ahe...**

This webinar equips clubs with essential tools to ensure effective safeguarding processes are in place for the upcoming season in 2024. Th...

# Refereeing – Updated Protocols



Hampshire RFU and HRR are committed to supporting the growth and development of **Young Match Officials (YMOs)** across our clubs.



Hampshire RFU



## Young Match Officials

Hampshire RFU and HRR are committed to supporting the growth and development of Young Match Official...



## Important Notice

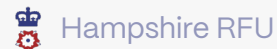
Updated refereeing protocols are in place for the 2025 season, covering match reporting, discipline, and game management. Please make sure your teams, captains, and club officials are briefed.

👉 [Updated protocols](#)



# Share Your Club News & Vacancies

We want to help you spread the word! Send us your **club news and volunteering/job vacancies** for promotion across our channels.



## Add News Form

If you have a development, achievement, or initiative that reflects the governance, delivery, or growth of rugby in Hampshire, we encourage...



## Send Us A Vacancy

**Increase your club's visibility and engagement by sharing your stories with the wider Hampshire rugby community.**



# Looking Ahead

## Youth Forum – 10th September

The first Youth Forum of the year will cover competitions, representative rugby updates, Young Match Officials and much more! Book your place below.



Hampshire RFU



### Youth Forum – Hampshire RFU

Topics to include: Competitions 2025, YMO's, new season updates plus more!

## Clubs Meeting & AFGM – 10th November

Join us for a **Clubs Meeting & AFGM on 10th November** where we'll share our new vision and mission alongside our plans for 2025-2026 whilst also gathering your input on the future direction of Hampshire rugby. Book your place below.



Hampshire RFU



### Clubs Meeting & AFGM – Hampshire RFU

Find out more about the new Vision / Mission and plans plus our AFGM.

# RugbyFests - celebrating the RWC



RugbyFest is a nationwide celebration of rugby taking place the weekend after the Women's Rugby World Cup in England. It's a great chance for clubs to celebrate the game, welcome new faces, and kick off the season with taster sessions, family fun days, or mini festivals. Find out more about how to be involved [here](#).



 Hampshire RFU



## Launch your season with RugbyFest

RugbyFest is a nationwide celebration of rugby, taking place from Friday 3 to Monday 6 October 2025. It follow...

# In Summary: Your Action Checklist

Task	Link
Nominate volunteers for Conker Spirit of rugby monthly awards	<a href="#"><u>Conker Spirit nomination form</u></a>
Report concussions safely	<a href="#"><u>Report a concussion</u></a>
Book coaching CPD, e-learning, and webinars	<a href="#"><u>Coaching &amp; CPD opportunities</u></a>
Check fixtures, competition and rules	<a href="#"><u>Fixtures &amp; Competitions</u></a>
Update GMS (Golden Roll & player registration)	<a href="#"><u>GMS Portal</u></a>
Review updated referee protocols	<a href="#"><u>Refereeing in Hampshire</u></a>
Share news & vacancies	<a href="#"><u>Submit news</u></a> & <a href="#"><u>Vacancies</u></a>
Stay up to date with events	<a href="#"><u>Events calendar</u></a>
Report a red card	<a href="#"><u>Report a red card</u></a>
Safeguarding	<a href="#"><u>Playing out of Age Grade</u></a>
Financial Statements upload	<a href="#"><u>Financial Compliance</u></a>
U18 Girls & U18 Boys Nominations	<a href="#"><u>Representative Playing Nominations</u></a>

Use this handy reference to ensure your club completes all necessary actions for the 2025-26 season.

# Here's to an outstanding season ahead!

With the **new Board, new structure, and renewed ambition**, let's grow the game, celebrate our volunteers, and keep every player safe.

**Together we can make this the best season yet for Hampshire rugby!**

**The Hampshire RFU Board**

