

JUNIOR SECTION BLANDFORD RFC CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2007



Welcome to the BRFC Junior Section Christmas Newsletter. We are now approaching the festive season where thoughts turn to celebrating with our families. Our last training day before Christmas will be on **Sunday 16 December**. There are strong rumours that the children will receive a visit during the morning from Santa, who will distribute a small present to each child. We will be returning to training on **Sunday 6 January 2008** after what I am sure will have been an enjoyable break not only for all of our players and their families but the coaches and admin staff. No doubt the children will be keen to run off all those chocolates and other goodies they have consumed over the holidays.

When we return to training we will have entered the period of the year when the weather can be somewhat unpredictable. **The club policy is that training will take place, even in the rain.** The coaches will decide if training is not to occur if we receive warnings of severe weather but unless you receive a telephone call from your age group coach training will take place. On match days again unless you hear from your coach you should either turn up at our home ground or the away venue for your child's age group. When our opponents are either travelling from a long distance or we have to travel and the weather is bad then coaches in consultation with the other club will decide if the fixture is to proceed. This now brings me onto wet weather clothing for players. Please ensure that your child has plenty of layers on over the winter period, this should include at least two sweat/rugby shirts or at the very minimum a T shirt type layer under a rugby shirt. Additional layers on the legs are also recommended. Many of our older players wear cycling type shorts under their normal shorts and on really wet or cold days top up this layer with a pair of track suit bottoms. A waterproof coat is essential as is a change of clothing for afterwards. The changing rooms located at the school are always open so children can change into their dry clothing before leaving to go home. The only request to those using the changing rooms is that they do not wear their boots into the changing rooms as if these rooms are left dirty then we will receive the cleaning bill from the school.

Now enough of talking about the English weather lets move on to more interesting things. We will again be entering the Dorchester festival which is on 16 March for the children in the U7 to U12 age groups. This is a well organised Tournament run by Dorchester RFC. Coaches of the age groups involved will discuss this event with you to confirm availability of players closer to the event.

Looking even further ahead to the summer holiday period when you will be looking for a variety of events to keep your children occupied. Blandford have been successful in our application to Socious Sports and this company will be holding a Summer Rugby Camp on our grounds with coaches from a number of southern hemisphere countries who are qualified at international level. Details of this popular event are already being advertised on their web site together with details of how to bid for a place. For further information about this event which is an excellent week for any child interested in rugby please visit the Socious website at www.socioussport.co.uk. Or you may be interesting in hosting a coach; full details are on the website.

We still require parents to check that we have the correct details listed for your child there is a Player Data Folder containing your child's details which can be found at the Tuck Shop. Please review and sign the appropriate data sheet making any alterations. We are only human and transcribing the information from written to electronic can result in the occasional error. Remember there are certain changes which will require you to submit a new registration form via the club to the RFU. If you are unsure if you need to do this speak to Joy and she will advise you.

Most parents have completed and returned the Medical Information/Photo Permission forms. If you have not completed your forms please complete and return them to either myself or Joy.

Now a plea for additional help, BRFC Junior Section is looking for parents or even young adults to become involved in a number of fields within the section. We have had a tremendous response with our player numbers following the recruitment campaign run during last years closed season: now we need the extra help. Volunteers do not have to take up the role of coach but if they feel that this is an area where they would like to become involved then please speak to me. There are also many other tasks including Team Manager, Tuck Shop assistants or even just helping set up the equipment before training or clearing it away afterwards. These small tasks help the section to run smoothly and relieve the pressure on those already involved.

This now brings me to the end of this newsletter so all that is left is to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from myself and all the coaching and administrative staff.

Helen Oliver

Chairperson BRFC Junior Section