

1st XV

The Rugby Club has started this season very positively. The 1st XV were given a rude awakening by Roslyn Park but since then should have/ could have beaten Promotion hopefuls Coventry and managed an away win at Hull Ionians. As an added bonus, nearly the whole team made it back on the bus from Hull on Sunday morning. Things are on the up and Gavin Hogg and his new squad are settling in very well. October will not be easy though with Darlington Mowden Park, Blackheath, Esher and the much awaited derby with Bishops Stortford all on the radar.



Romans

The Romans have had a very positive start to the season with a much more settled squad, great camaraderie and a few good wins under their belts. Led by Grant Forrest and James Steventon, the Romans are in a great league, Zoo South 2 competing at a very high standard week in week out. The Romans will be at home on 7th October to Westcombe Park, kick off 2pm, please come and watch. They also have a run of 4 consecutive home games from the 28th October against Colchester, Canterbury, Ealing and Hertford. Please provide the support to these lads that they deserve.

OA Romans Team Photo 2017-18



Gladiators

The Gladiators are finding their feet and the wins will come. The Gladiators are a very young squad and lost narrowly to both Stevenage and Verulam 2nd XV. Rob Fenton is doing a great job in pulling the squad together and collectively they have a tremendous amount of potential.



Grizzlies

The Grizzlies have started the season with an unbeaten record trouncing Bishops Stortford away in a pre-season friendly, then winning a thriller against Berkhamsted 1st XV 19-17 in the opening League game and then putting a cricket score on a very large Pinner and Grammarians team at home. Tougher challenges to come with Cuffley 2nd team away this weekend.



Colts Transition

It is one of the ambitions of the Club to get as many Colts playing Senior Rugby as soon as possible. There are a number of benefits to this and as far as we can tell no downside. Gavin Hogg has talked to all the Senior Colts about the way they can fit into the Senior Club and there are games available for anyone over 17 every weekend when they do not have matches on the Sunday. Whether this is at 1st XV or Romans level or with the Gladiators or Grizzlies I am sure the future of the Club will be made to feel very welcome. If any Colts want a game please speak to your coach and they will arrange for you to join a Senior squad.



Vets

There are rumours of a Vets squad playing in the monthly Friday night fixtures organised by the RFU to get people back into rugby. There has been a lot of interest and we are targeting the first night to be Friday 14th October. If you would like to play please get in touch with Pat O'Brien. His details are:

Email: oz_ob1@hotmail.com

Mobile: 07980 790365

The fixtures are as follows:



Hertfordshire Friday Night Vets Rugby

HERTS RUGBY

Dates:

- 29th September 2017 at Cheshunt RFC
- 13th October 2017 at Hemel Hempstead RFC
- 3rd November 2017 at Fulleriens RFC
- 1st December 2017 at Cheshunt RFC
- 2nd February 2018 at Hitchin RFC
- 2nd March 2018 at Cheshunt RFC
- 30th March 2018 at Hitchin RFC
- 20th April 2018 at Fulleriens RFC

Format/Rules:

This is a playing opportunity for **YQJUII**. We want the format and the offer to be right for you and your players so the format will be flexible on the night.

- Games to kick off at 8:00 (latest) to be done by 9:30 (latest).
- Round Robin Event on one or two pitches between three or six teams involved on one night. So, two teams will always play and one team will be "resting".
- Thirty minutes per game – each team plays one hour of Rugby on the night.
- For the purposes of this friendly competition a Vet is defined as a player who is or will be thirty five (35) years of age during the current season. Teams are asked to adhere to the spirit of the competition in fielding as many age qualified players as possible at all times. If teams do not have enough Vets then please come along with however many you have.
- If (X) club only has 10 players on the night we will either – merge them with another team so that they can play full 15-a-side games or play half a pitch horizontally and have two games going on. On the night the logistics of the playing offer will be managed by RFU staff so that it is suitable for your players so please stick to the above age rulings as much as possible.

OA Baa Baas vs Combined Forces, Northwood HQ



In addition to the Vets fixtures above we have also arranged a game against the Combined Services from Northwood HQ. This will be a Charity Evening in aid of Help for Heroes. The game will be played on **15th November at Woollams, 730pm kick off**. OA's will be fielding a Baa Baa's side of all different standards and vintages. If you would like to be considered for selection please contact Kim Watson. His contact details are:

Email: kim@kimwatson.com
Mobile: 07973 615687