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Scottish Rugby Clubs & Schools Communications

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Dunbar RFC

In this latest edition of Club Communications, there are details on tomorrow's announcement on a Roadmap for Return to Rugby for Clubs and Schools, the latest from the COVID-19 Threat Management Group, and news of an impact report from the My Name's Doddie Foundation.



Return to Clubs and Schools Rugby – Roadmap update

Scottish Rugby will share its Return to Club & Schools Rugby Roadmap tomorrow morning – Friday 3 July.

The Roadmap will outline the steps our sport can take to begin resumption of training and playing in conjunction with the Scottish Government's own phased easing of lockdown restrictions.

The approach being taken has the support of Scottish Government and this has been sought to ensure clarity can be provided for clubs in the months ahead.

Sheila Begbie and key members of the Rugby Development department will be hosting a webinar for club members tomorrow at 3pm. This will be an opportunity for the Roadmap to be talked through in more detail and for any questions to be raised.

The link for the webinar is: <https://tinyurl.com/ycwuo4vr>

For additional questions please use the Rugby Development email address: Rugbydevelopmentadmin@sru.org.uk

Webinar registration

Threat Management Group update

Sent on behalf of Dom McKay, Chief Operating Officer and Dr James Robson, CMO

Dear Club Members,

We hope you and your families are all keeping well.

It has been another productive week as we move closer towards our goal of re-starting rugby.

The Threat Management Group continue to meet regularly, however with the work of the sub-groups constantly increasing as plans gain momentum, we have reduced our wider group meetings to twice a week.

Although we are optimistic we are moving in the right direction, it is crucial we continue cautiously. As a sports governing body we have a responsibility to reinforce Government public health messaging and maintain alignment with the Scottish Government. Therefore, it is essential we continue with our measured and informed approach, which though may be gradual has proven effective.

Please find below our weekly update from the Threat Management Group.

This week the number of positive cases and deaths in Scotland have continued on a downward trajectory, however it is essential we avoid complacency given the still apparent threat of the virus in society.

The Return to Clubs & Schools Rugby group have continued to liaise with the Government to secure further clarification on various recent announcements affecting grassroots rugby. With Government approval secured yesterday, Sheila and her team will share the season re-start roadmap with you tomorrow. This will be communicated via Club Comms followed by a webinar to outline the plans in more detail to member clubs.

The Return to Events group has also made significant progress in their work this week. Following Ms Fiona Hyslop's agreement to consider our proposal to use BT Murrayfield as a test venue last Thursday, the team have been developing a robust plan to welcome spectators back into BT Murrayfield on Saturday 22 August for the PRO14 1872 Glasgow v Edinburgh match. We are confident we can deliver this event to an excellent standard and ensure the safety of our players, employees and spectators, and we look forward to presenting the final plan to Government for approval next week.

Throughout this pandemic we have built an excellent working relationship with the Scottish Government and have since been in almost daily dialogue with government representatives. Yesterday we met with Andy Sinclair, Head of Active Scotland, and his deputy David Hamilton, along with Claire Harness, Tavish Scott, Dr James Robson and Sheila Begbie. It was a productive meeting which resulted in a number of positive outcomes for Scottish Rugby:

Community Rugby – The Government approved our communication to Clubs that the 2020/21 domestic season will not begin in August and have allowed us to share our season re-start roadmap with Clubs. As previously mentioned, this will be communicated to Clubs tomorrow.

Physical Distancing Measures – The FM has announced today a sectoral approach to reducing the current 2m distance requirement. Going forward individual sectors will need to demonstrate what public health mitigations would be used to justify a reduction from 2m. Therefore, we plan include the case for 1m+ physical distancing in our submission to the Government next week advocating BT Murrayfield as a test venue. A reduction in physical distancing could potentially allow us to welcome more spectators into the stadium and help drive the business' financial recovery.

BTM as a Test Venue – We are to submit our operational proposal for the 1872 match on 22

August next week, with a clear understanding that the date may change depending on government assessment at the time. The success of this event would demonstrate our capabilities to the Government proving we can safely and responsibly host events and hence potentially open up further opportunities down the line.

All the above demonstrate the positive progress we are making and continue to make, and with further meetings with the Government and event industries across Scotland scheduled for next week, we hope to see further advancements in the near future. Nevertheless, we are at a critical point and must remain on high alert whilst the virus still poses a threat.

Again, thank you all for your continued patience and support of Scottish Rugby. We hope to provide further detailed updates next week, and until then, wishing you all the best.

Dom McKay, Chief Operating Officer, and Dr James Robson, CMO.

#AsOne #StaySafeProtectOthersSaveLives

For Covid-19 updates



Player Payment Regulation

Scottish Rugby's updated Player Payment Regulation is now in force. The changes to the Regulation include clubs below the Premiership no longer being able to pay players from the start of the 2020/21 season.

Scottish Rugby's Player Payment Regulation is available from our website [here](#).

Consultations

Scottish Rugby regularly consults on a range of regulatory topics. There are currently four open consultations, including in relation to our Anti-Doping policy..

To see all of our Open Consultations, and to provide your views, please click [here](#).

My Name'5 Doddie Foundation: Impact Report

My Name'5 Doddie Foundation is an official charity partner of Scottish Rugby and has published its Impact Report. This is a chance for you to read about how your continued support has allowed the Foundation to invest in MND research and help patients and families living with this devastating disease.

The report covers the Foundation's finances and activities up to its second anniversary in November 2019 and illustrates how it is working towards finding meaningful treatments and a cure for MND.

Further activity is planned in the coming days to also mark Doddie's 50th birthday this Saturday 4 July.

You can read how supporters are continuing to come up with novel and imaginative ways to generate funds and how the Foundation is investing in medical research and raising the profile of MND.

Jill Douglas, CEO of My Name's Doddie Foundation, said: "The rugby community has been incredibly supportive of Doddie and the Foundation and we are delighted to share our Impact Report with the Scottish rugby family and thank you all for your continued and much valued support."

Report in full here



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