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Scottish Rugby Clubs & Schools Communications

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Dunbar RFC

In this latest edition of Club Communications, you'll find an update on Scottish Rugby's Return to Rugby routemap, the latest from the Threat Management Group, and details about the Scottish Government's third sector resilience funding.



Return to Rugby update

The Scottish Government today (25 September) reiterated that Scottish Rugby's Return to Rugby routemap for the domestic game continues as planned.

The next Scottish Government review of the Covid-19 restrictions will be announced by government on 1 October. We will keep our clubs updated with any further developments.

For the latest on Scottish Rugby's Return to Rugby routemap, please visit www.scottishrugby.org/clubs-and-schools/return-to-rugby.

Return to Rugby

Threat Management Group

[Sent on behalf of The Threat Management Group](#)

We hope this email finds you well.

This week has seen several significant Government announcements, with both the UK and Scottish Government tightening restrictions to suppress the escalating transmission rate of the coronavirus.

In the last 24 hours in Scotland, there have been 558 new positive cases recorded, which accounts for 9.5% of those newly tested, 89 patients in hospital, and 11 in intensive care. Though the most alarming figure is the **R number** – which could be as high as **1.6** – hence the tightening restrictions.

The First Minister's statement on Tuesday outlined the new rules including additional national household visiting restrictions and a 10pm curfew on pubs and restaurants. Though critical for Scottish Rugby is the Scottish Government's decision to halt pilot events and delay the indicative date for the return of spectators to stadia and outdoor sport, originally pencilled in for 5 October. We have asked the Sports Minister to confirm that this means the Scottish Government will not allow spectators at BT Murrayfield for any of the PRO14 or international matches during October. Though we are continuing to develop our graduated crowd proposals and progress negotiations with the Government and relevant local authorities to ensure we are ready when crowd approval is eventually granted.

For more detailed information on the new restrictions, please see the Scottish Government webpage [here](#).

The UK Government's Chancellor Rishi Sunak also set out plans yesterday to help workers and businesses hit by the new coronavirus restrictions. This announcement included a new job support scheme, which will run for 6 months from 1 November 2020 and replaces the Job Retention Scheme which is due to cease at the end of next month. We are assessing these measures and their impact for rugby as we continue to work extremely hard to navigate our whole organisation and wider rugby community through this pandemic.

Fundamentally, we understand that by acting early and substantially, the Scottish Government can hope to suppress the spread of the virus. Therefore, we would like to again direct you to the public health campaign **FACTS** and reiterate the immense importance of following these essential rules in place.

Face coverings in enclosed spaces

Avoid crowded places

Clean hands and surfaces regularly

Two-metre distancing

Self-isolate and book a test if you have symptoms

Additionally, in our continued effort to support the Scottish Government in containing the virus, we would like to urge you all to download the free **Protect Scotland** app from NHS Scotland's Test and Protect, details can be found by clicking the link [here](#).

The TMG's respective sub-groups have continued to work extremely hard to resume rugby and can report the following updates:

The **Return to Rugby Clubs & Schools** group has been in direct liaison with the Scottish Government who today confirmed that Scottish Rugby's Return to Rugby routemap for the domestic game can continue as planned. The next Scottish Government review of the COVID-19 restrictions will be announced by government on 1 October. **We will keep our clubs updated with any further developments.**

The **Return to Training** group has been reviewing the various operations that took place over the last weekend. Operationally, Edinburgh's trip to Bordeaux went smoothly and the Women's training camp at Oriam was successful. The various work-streams have since met to share insights and learnings in order to further refine and develop our planning processes as we move forward with the return to rugby. Additionally, the Super6 clubs brought their players off furlough this week and the team have been on hand to offer guidance and share protocols with the clubs and help them through this process.

Finally, the **Return to Events** team have continued developing plans for both behind closed doors matches and graduated crowd plans for BT Murrayfield and Scotstoun stadium, and are awaiting further clarification from the Government on potential crowds.

We must learn from last week's internal breach of general social restrictions and Scottish Rugby agreed protocols and remember to act safely and responsibly to avoid any further transgressions. The progression of our graduated crowd plans and any hope of spectators returning to BT Murrayfield relies upon all of us at Scottish Rugby strictly adhering to the guidelines.

We hope to give further updates next week following various meetings with the Government, and until then we urge you all to continue abiding by the rules and remember, **complacency is the enemy of success**.

Wishing you and your families all the best during these difficult times.

Best,

Dominic McKay, Chief Operating Officer and Dr. James Robson, Chief Medical Officer

#AsOne #StaySafeProtectOthersSaveLives

For Covid-19 updates



National Referee Webinar

Join this webinar on Monday 28 September, as our contracted referee Mike Adamson and high-performance referee coach Andrew Macpherson discuss the scrum. Register [here](#)

Club Accident Insurance

Clubs are reminded to return their *Club Accident Insurance Proposal Form* for the new season by **30 September**. The Proposal Form and other related information is available from the Scottish Rugby website [here](#).

If you have any queries on the Proposal Form please contact Graham Ireland (graham.ireland@sru.org.uk).

Scottish Government's Third Sector resilience funding

We're pleased to share news of the latest round of Scottish Government's Third Sector resilience funding.

The Community & Third Sector Recovery Programme aims to support charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations that are supporting people and communities through the shift from lockdown to recovery. As well as providing ongoing crisis support, many will be planning and implementing changes to adapt and thrive in a very different social and economic climate.

The programme is now open and has two strands:

Adapt & Thrive Recovery Fund

The Adapt and Thrive Programme aims to support organisations across the third sector to adapt to the challenges presented by Covid and build back better to thrive in the future. The programme will help organisations start and continue their recovery plans so they can face the challenges presented by Covid, operate sustainably and continue to have a positive impact on people and communities.

Adapt and Thrive consists of tailored, specialist advice that supports organisations to make the necessary changes to operate sustainably post-Covid. Grants and loans are also available as part of the programme. It is delivered in partnership by Firstport, Corra Foundation, SCVO, Just Enterprise, Community Enterprise and Social Investment Scotland.

Grants

Grants of between £5,000-£25,000 will be available.

Loans

0% interest loans from £25,000 to £250,000

5-year term with the first 12 months payment free

No arrangement fee and unsecured

Access more information on this strand through SCVO Portal [here](#).

Communities Recovery Fund

Communities Recovery aims to support the delivery of services in communities that were suspended or reduced because of COVID-19, or the creation of new services that tackle new challenges presented.

The fund offers grants so organisations can reintroduce the delivery of services and supports the adaptation of existing services or the development of new ones to tackle new community needs resulting from, or existing needs exacerbated by COVID-19.

Access more information on this strand through SCVO Portal [here](#).

In some cases, there will be an overlap and organisations may wish to access both Adapt and Thrive and Communities Recovery programmes. For example, an organisation that needs to diversify its income streams to become more sustainable but wants re-open a community service it has been unable to deliver.

In the application form (regardless of the strand chosen), the applicant can request support from both programmes.

The fund closes in March 2021.

Programme link



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