

Berkshire RFU Annual General Meeting 2025

Competitions & Senior Rugby Report

Yet another season has flown by. This year the RFU in their wisdom extended the county season into June! They also overlapped the Men's and U20's championships by a couple of weeks. Add to that the Papa Johns Finals for the Men were on the first weekend of the County Championship - meaning preparation time was severely affected + then throw a bank holiday weekend into the equation.

U20s

First year in a longtime that the club players outnumbered the Uni players. We had great numbers and commitment throughout the season, winning all of our warmup games. Our championship group became a straight shoot out between us and Dorset & Wilts, when Buckinghamshire didn't enter and Oxon pulled out days before we were due to play. We beat D&W @ Salisbury in a closely fought game. Our next game in the South West division final saw us lose to Devon in a close fought affair.

5 players went on to represent the South west. Plus one who played his first senior international game for the Philippines.

My thanks to Seb, his coaching team and Jay Dunbar-Newman for their commitment again this year

Men

As already alluded to - another difficult year, not aided by RFU scheduling of conflicting events. Despite Papa John's cup taking 95% of our squad we managed to raise a competitive side. Results didn't go our way - losing all 3 games by one score. In total we used 42 players!

My thanks to all our coaches, managers and players for persevering through the championship.

Women

Under the leadership of new head coach, Ben Radford, the ladies commitment to training pre-championship was a huge factor in the success they had in the championship. In our group we won 2 games and lost one - and that by 1 score. We did qualify for the Division 2 semi-final where we went down in a closely fought game away to Devon in June!

Many thanks to Ben, his coaches and Ian Sutherland for his endless paperwork!

Many thanks to our physio teams for keeping players in one piece and on the pitch. Also to Billy at Maidenhead for hosting our home games so excellently.

Honda Volunteers

Our Honda Volunteer event was well attended by those volunteers that were deservedly rewarded by the RFU for all their efforts. Thank you Ian, Joe and Kate for making the day run smoothly.

Walking Rugby continues to grow - providing clubs with another membership option and source of volunteers. Special thanks to Reading RFC for promoting walking rugby.

Berkshire Brigands Mixed ability

Again continues to grow thorough the efforts of the Stonehouse family. The players never fail to put a smile on your face with their enthusiasm. Anyone interested in getting involved please contact the Stonehouse's or myself.

Danny Pratt