

Woking Rugby



SEPTEMBER 2021

# CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE



## PLENTY OF POSITIVES HEADING INTO THE NEW SEASON

**This weekend 18/09/21**

**RACAL DECCA VS  
WOKING 2S  
KICK OFF 3PM**

On the eve of the new season and just a few months into my tenure as Chairman all seems under control with plenty of positives to reflect on, from summer training, committee meeting actions and the club hosting its first ever rugby festival earlier this month.

Training had been a concern for the committee for a while and the focus was to engage, encourage and for players to attend training. Those concerns seem to have been allayed with numbers way more than we dared hoped for over the last 5 weeks. We've also picked up several new faces who are completely new to the world of rugby but have certainly given a good account of themselves during preseason by embracing the game with relish and buying into the ethos of the club.

To say Woking Rugby festival was a success would be an understatement. On the day, the success built and built from the performance of the players who put on a great display of tenacity and just sheer bloody-minded belligerence which was reflected in the score line for all three games with the opposition only managing three scores against us in each game. An achievement given the context of where we are as club and the last few seasons performance on the park.

The current committees' efforts have also been a significant factor in that the success and achievements to date. Decent training balls, finally!!! Regular communications and high calibre advertising/marketing on our website and other social media platforms such as "What's Uppy".

Finally, I must mention, the committee has already achieved one of my goals which was to conduct the meeting within an hour. Masterfully driven by our new Vice-Chairman, hooraaa!

The one thing that stands out for me is the significant time and effort put in by our new Vice Chairman, Jason "Big Bird". I know that he has worked doggedly behind the scenes for the club in organising the fixtures this coming season, the pitches which were in fantastic condition, the best I've ever seen them and of course Woking's first ever Rugby Festival.

I'm sure I'm well within my rights to publicly thank him not only as the chief architect of that success but also on behalf of the club and the players who were very happy with the outcome from that day, and I have no doubt were feeling it on the Sunday judging by the way some of them were walking to the changing rooms after final whistle.



Finally, we head into this weekend with what should have been our first league game of the season against Surrey University at the Rec. Unfortunately, they have called off meaning the only fixture this weekend is our 2nd team away at Racial Decca, kick off 3pm.

Following, a strong first half performance at Merton last weekend I sense from the players that we are on the right path and can realistically think about returning to winning games and make losing games by a cricket score a distant memory.

Whilst it can be said that it is character-building stuff, I've had more than my fair share of those experiences over the years, I am hopeful that those who pull on the red and black shirt this weekend will give a good account of themselves and represent the club with pride.

See you Saturday.

*Andy*

**Andy Jones**  
**Chairman Woking RFC**