



Chairman's Update - February 2021

Hi everyone,

The committee met last week shortly after the Prime Ministerial announcement about the roadmap to recovery and the timescales for potentially coming out of lockdown. While we are still waiting for further guidance and clarification of exactly what this means for Woking RFC, it did give the committee something more positive to discuss.

Throughout lockdown the committee has continued to meet. I am personally grateful for the specialist contributions of some of the committee regarding the development of the tools we use to manage club matters and communications. This is something that we will continue to look at as we look to improve the way we operate. Hopefully, some of these are becoming visible to the wider club in terms of some of the communications you have been seeing over the last year.

We received a report from our President, and from our Safeguarding Officer, which led to a useful discussion on considerations as we come out of lockdown to keep ourselves, friends, and family safe.

The committee then discussed the latest with the 'Your Fund Surrey' community funding scheme and our attempts to secure funding for the development of our own ground and clubhouse. An update on this will follow by separate email.

There was good progress to report on lockdown activities – it has been great to see so many people out running for the 'Give a ruck' challenge, and many are showing a great improvement. The 6 Nations championship has provided a good setting for some fantasy leagues and watch parties albeit over Zoom – we will continue to try and host more events over the rest of the competition. Everyone associated with the club is welcome to get involved.



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Last week's announcement did give some hope there may be some rugby, in some form, at some point. Obviously, we need to have more detail on the exact rules, but the committee is committed to doing what we can when we can to get back on the pitch, in accordance with the restrictions and our own risk assessments, with an emphasis on just enjoying playing rugby and getting to throw a ball around again.

Despite the lack of actual rugby, time marches on still, and so we also turned our attention to end of season. While we do not expect that we will be able to do many of the traditional highlights such as tour or the dinner-dance and awards, we will keep these under review and see what might be possible. We will need to hold an AGM in some form to keep the club governance on an even keel, and while it might be possible to hold some form of actual meeting by May, our planning assumption is that it will probably be done remotely. As arrangements are confirmed we will publish details of how this will work. We will of course hold the committee elections – please do consider if you might be prepared to step up and help run your club, and feel free to contact me or any of the current committee to see what is involved and how you could help out.

As always, if there is anything in this note, or to do with the club that you want to discuss, please get in touch.

Regards,

Jon Hursthouse

Chairman, Woking RFC