



Chairman's Update - May/June2021

Hi everyone,

Welcome to what will be my last newsletter to you all. As usual, I'll start with a quick overview of the most recent committee meeting. The meeting took place before the most recent announcement concerning Covid restrictions, and a good discussion was had as to contingency plans if restrictions were still in place. It turns out to have been time well spent. Subsequently, the details for the 2021 Woking RFC AGM are:

Saturday 26th June

Byfleet Recreation Ground

Start 5pm

The decision to hold it at the Rec is to make sure we can have a Covid compliant AGM. These meetings are important and help keep the club running so that we can all enjoy the playing and social side of rugby – running a rugby club does not happen by accident and relies on the hard work of volunteers on committee, and the more people contribute, the easier it is for everyone!

If you think you can contribute to improve the club, please get involved, and even if not, the AGM is your chance to support those putting themselves forward to help, so please do.

We discussed our plans to finish off the season, continuing with training on Tuesdays, concluding with a 10s tournament under Covid compliant rules, also on the 26th June before the AGM. That will see us through to next pre-season, which will depend on the announcement of the 21/22 league fixtures. As always, the most up to date details will be on our social media, so please keep an eye out.



We then considered player recruitment and retention over the summer to get ready as best we can for next year. Pretty much everyone should have been contacted recently by one of the committee members to check in and see how you are all getting on, and see if we could entice you back on to the pitch! If not – it probably means we have out of date phone numbers for you, so please update these if you can. It was great to speak to so many people, especially after the last year or so when social contact has been so constrained, and re-establish contact with the Woking RFC community.

The pandemic has changed things in many ways for all of us, and personally, some of those effects have influenced decisions in ways that simply were not conceivable this time last year. One of the consequences is that it is highly likely that my family and I will move away from the Woking Borough at some point in the next few months.

Therefore, I will not be standing for re-election as Chair of Woking RFC. It has been a privilege and a challenge filling this role, given the unprecedented circumstances of the last year as they affected contact sports like rugby.

I am incredibly grateful to the committee, players, and supporters of the club for getting us through the pandemic, keeping the club alive and putting in place plans to build the club in the future. The next chair, and committee, whoever they may be, have my very best wishes for the future, and hopefully I will still get invited to tour!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jon Naresthorse'.

Chairman, Woking RFC