

MAIDENHEAD RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

WELCOME PACK



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Thank you for your interest in our rugby club. We have been a part of the Maidenhead community since 1922 and the club has a clear aim to remain a community club that maintains the core values of rugby throughout our 13 age groups, 5 senior teams and 800+ players.

We have a one club philosophy and whether you are a youth member or a senior member, you are fully embraced within all aspects of the club.



We are proud to be a RFU Accredited Club. The Club Accreditation Programme is based upon the six Key Drivers identified as crucial to a strong club:

1. Retaining & Developing Players
2. Recruiting New Players
3. Recruiting & Retaining High Quality Coaches, Volunteers & Referees
4. Effective & Efficient Facilities
5. Effective & Efficient Management and Governance
6. Integration with the Local Community

Our club philosophy is to provide an enjoyable environment within which all our members can enjoy the rugby values, both on and off the pitch that the game we love has to offer.

This handbook sets out all the information you need to know when joining our rugby club - as a player, parent or volunteer. This document acts as a starting point but should not replace speaking to an actual person when you need more information.

All relevant information and contact numbers can be found on the club website maidenheadrfc.com.



OVERVIEW

At Maidenhead, we cater for players of all abilities and interest in the game of rugby.

1st XV – play in London & SE Prem

2nd XV - play in The Raging Bull League Division 2

3rd XV – play in Berks, Bucks & Oxon

4th/Vets play on a Friday night just for fun

Ladies – The Iron Maidens

Maidenhead Colts – play in Oxfordshire, Berks and Bucks league

Maidenhead Mohawks Touch Team

Youth rugby

U6 through to U16 including U12, U14 and U16 girls squads. (Please note that parents/guardians must be present at training at games. If you are unavailable, you need to appoint a guardian and let the Age Group Manager know).

The only essential kit that players need are gum shield and studded boots.

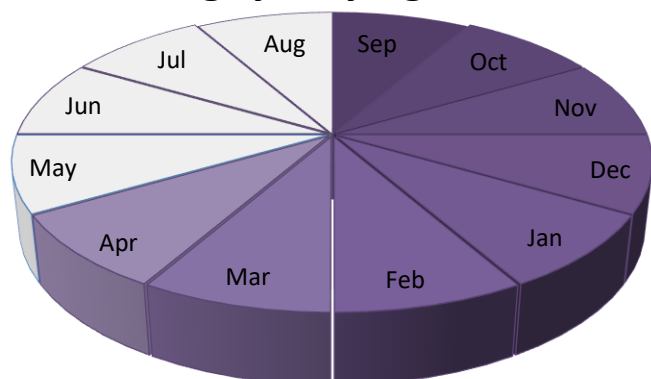
TRAINING AND PLAYING

Seniors training - Tuesday and Thursday evenings (7.30pm – 9.00pm)

Youth training – Mid week evenings (specific to each age group) and Sunday mornings 10.00 – 12.00

Ladies training - Thursday evenings at 7.30pm.

Rugby Playing Season



Key Dates

- 1st weekend in September - Season Kick Off
- End of Sept - Registration deadline
- Season closes – Early April

If you are playing or training on the 3G pitch

PLEASE NOTE: No flat soled shoes at any time on the 3G. This includes all managers, coaches, first aiders, spectators and also all members of the opposition. Please make sure opposition are aware of this prior to any games.

Allowed footwear - Moulded-Studded Boots, Metal-Studded Boots

Banned footwear - Blades, Flat soled shoes (e.g. shoes/trainers), Astro-Turf Boots

COACHING

The more parents and friends that get involved the greater the ratio of coaches to players.

If you are interested in helping out, don't worry if you don't know much about rugby, you will be guided by the more experienced coaches and shown what to do.

In the early days it's all about giving encouragement to the players! If you are interested in developing your skills to become formally recognised as a rugby coach then the club will certainly invest in you.

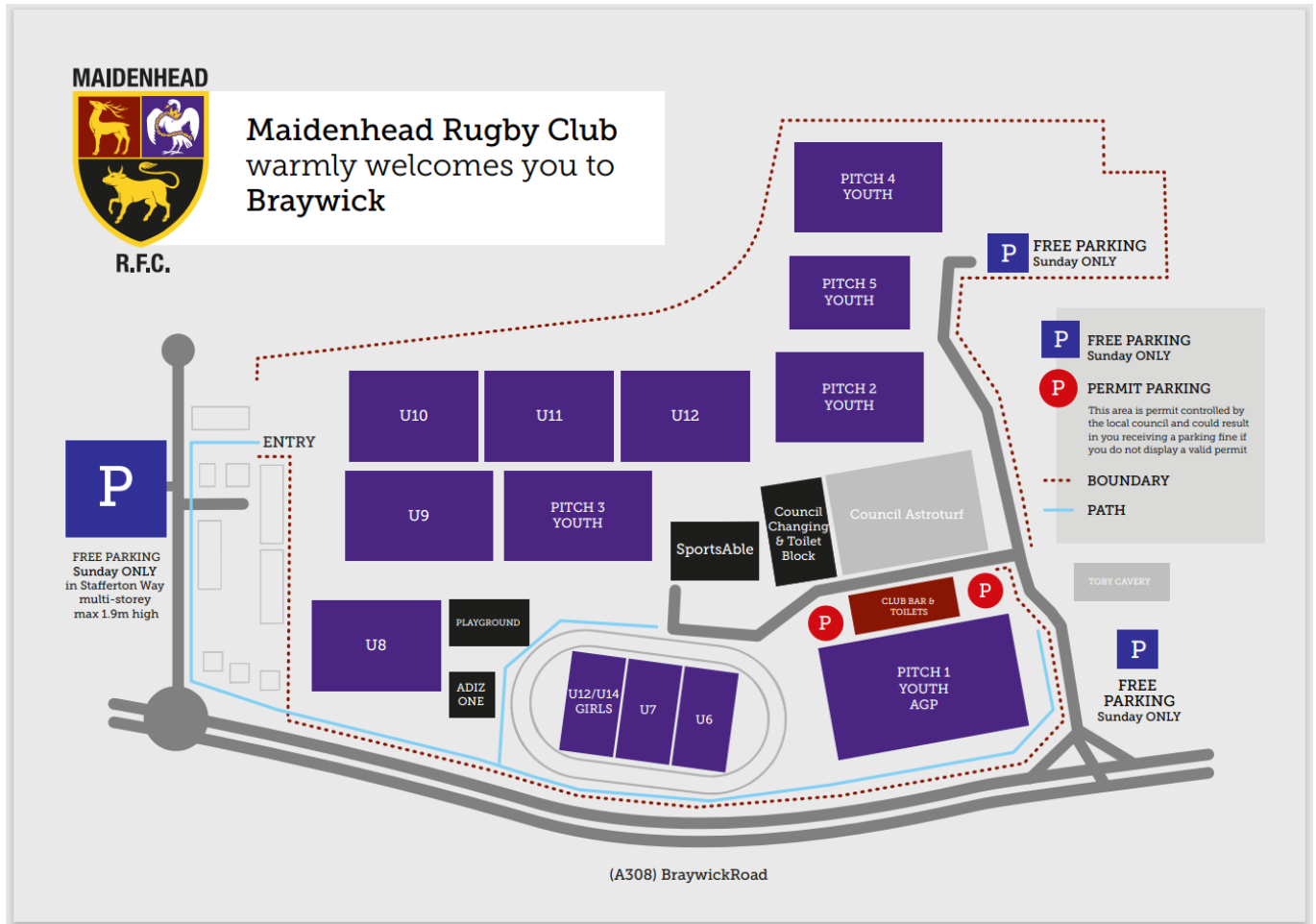
The Youth Section currently boasts 69 Level One coaches, 12 of which have achieved their Level Two qualification, which is standard required to coach a senior side. During the forthcoming season the club expect to add a further 15 Level One and 5 Level Two coaches. All qualifications of this nature are fully funded by the club or through bursary awards.

We are fortunate to have Dave Pepper as our Coaching Coordinator who with his team, manage and run our Coaching Accreditation Programme and supports all age groups with regard to coaching advice and support.

All coaches are welcome to participate in the Coaching Accreditation Programme.



BRAYWICK PARK PITCH LAYOUT



Car Parking: A club parking permit is required for the 2 car parks next to the Rugby Club.

Parking without a permit is likely to receive a parking ticket.

Full Members of MRFC, as per the table in the Membership Options section will receive their parking permit with their membership card following receipt of this year's membership form and subs payment.





MEMBERSHIP

- A. All members must be registered on the RFU Game Management System. Speak to your age group manager for full details
- B. Decide on which membership best suits your situation from the options below
- C. Membership card & car park pass etc will come through via your AGM

Membership Options

Full details of each membership package can be found on the club website

Your Age Group manager will also give you a 'How to pay membership document'

		Voting Rights	Parking Permit	Int'l Tickets	Club Bar Discount	No of Youth Players
Senior Player	£175	Y	Y	Y	Y	0
Family	£175	Y	Y	Y	Y	4
Youth Player	£125	N	N	N	N	1
Vice President	£175	Y	Y	Y	Y	0
Social	£100	Y	Y	N	N	0

THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO KNOW IN THE FUTURE

Opportunities for volunteering

Your children will want you to watch them and to reinforce their confidence, especially early on. Once you feel they have given you permission to do anything else, we would love if you can help out, even if only here and there.

Social Events

The Club organise the odd social evening for parents to get together without muddy offspring, and also will keep you informed of broader MRFC events like the Children's Christmas Party and our festival weekend. We organise outings to several professional matches, and other things that catch our fancy.

Opportunities for sponsorship

With such a rich and diverse membership base and weekly links with other rugby clubs, Maidenhead RFC is always interested in discussing great commercial opportunities available around sponsorship. In order to ensure fairness and a whole club approach to sponsorship these discussions are best done through and with the committee.

If you own or work for a company who might be interested in developing a sponsoring relationship with the club, please contact your age-group manager in the first instance.

S A F E G U A R D I N G / C O D E O F C O N D U C T

The club rightly puts a great deal of emphasis on the safeguarding of the children and takes the matter very seriously. Our Safeguarding Officer works hard right across the club to ensure that everyone knows their responsibilities.

Any breach of the guidelines below will be appropriately challenged as soon as they are highlighted. All breaches will be reported to the committee and the RFU.

TEAMWORK
RESPECT
ENJOYMENT
DISCIPLINE
SPORTSMANSHIP

Coaches (and other volunteers)

Our volunteer coaches are the lifeblood of the club. Without their time, energy and commitment we would not be able to operate such a successful set of age groups and teams. In common with many roles that are responsible for providing a safe place for children they have.

A duty of care - Comprehensive training for all head coaches and managers.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks - All coaches and helpers must complete a DBS check. The process is straight forward. 3 forms of address evidence and proof of personal identity, e.g. utility bills and a passport must be presented to the club child welfare officer. The forms can take a few weeks to be processed so early submission of the forms is necessary to ensure the club, RFU and national regulations are complied with.

Parents

Your child's safety and wellbeing is paramount. It is the Club's policy that either a parent or an assigned guardian is present pitch side at all training, fixtures and tournaments for U6-U12s.

It is up to every parent to arrange 'cover' as required and ensure the coaching team know of any changes.

First Aid

MRFC is committed to provide all age groups with adequately trained first aiders so you will find a number of coaches and parents will be volunteer first-aiders. Any parents that hold a first aid qualification or who would like to be considered for the club's first aid course should make themselves known to the manager and/or head coaches. A first aid kit will be available at every training session.

D I S C I P L I N E

Players, Parents and Volunteers will:

- Show respect for officials and other players
- Encourage in your support
- Be courteous to all
- Applaud good play
- Hold back if you are an un-qualified referee
- Remember victory is only one reason for playing rugby
- Children play for their own enjoyment
- Enjoy yourself and make sure others know you're happy

Sometimes it's easier to say what **NOT** to do:

- Forcing someone to play is counter-productive
- Stay off the pitch
- Do not verbally abuse match officials - remember, they are volunteers
- Do not verbally abuse players or other spectators
- Do not use bad language
- Do not threaten or intimidate
- Do not become involved in physical aggression



GENERAL INFORMATION

Club Opening Times (times subject to change)

Don't forget that this is your club and all facilities are open to all members, not just on Sundays. It is a great place to socialise after training and matches, get to know your age group and also other members of the club.

Saturdays – during the season from 11.00am through to late

Sundays – the club is open for breakfast and food from 9.30am and the bar opens at 11.00am

Monday - closed unless privately booked

Tuesday – 5.00pm till 10.00pm

Wednesday - closed unless privately booked

Thursday – 5.00pm til 10.00pm

Friday – closed unless privately booked during the season:

Closed season – see social media for details

Social media

Keep abreast of what is happening at the club through the club social media accounts:

Facebook – maidsrfc Instagram – maidenheadrfc Twitter – maidsrfc

Club AGM

Don't forget that it is your club and your input is highly valued. When the date is announced, we encourage members to attend the AGM so that you can see how the club is run and be involved in important elections and decision making processes.

Mini's/Youth End of Season awards

These are organised by the Head of Mini's, Head of Juniors and AGMs.

Medals provided by the club for all present players at the awards.

Honours caps awarded to all players that have been continuously present at the club from U6 to U12.

Mini's Christmas Party

There is also a Christmas party at Christmas for all the mini age groups – full details will be made available in the run up to Christmas.

MEMBERSHIPS AND HOW TO PAY THEM

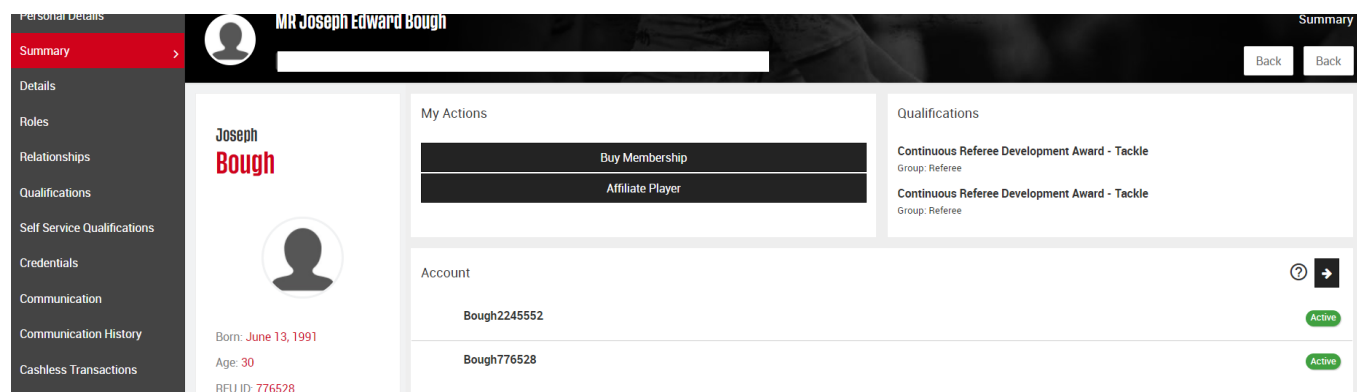
A separate sheet is available to hand out to your parents at the first session so that they have the details in front of them when the access GMS to pay their memberships.

Registering your details

- Log on to GMS - <https://gms.rfu.com/GMS/Account/Login>
- Ensure that you complete all elements of your personal info including clicking on Affiliate Player button if a playing member. This must be done for all children.
- Make sure that all of your kids/partners are linked to you via the relationship tab

Non Family membership process

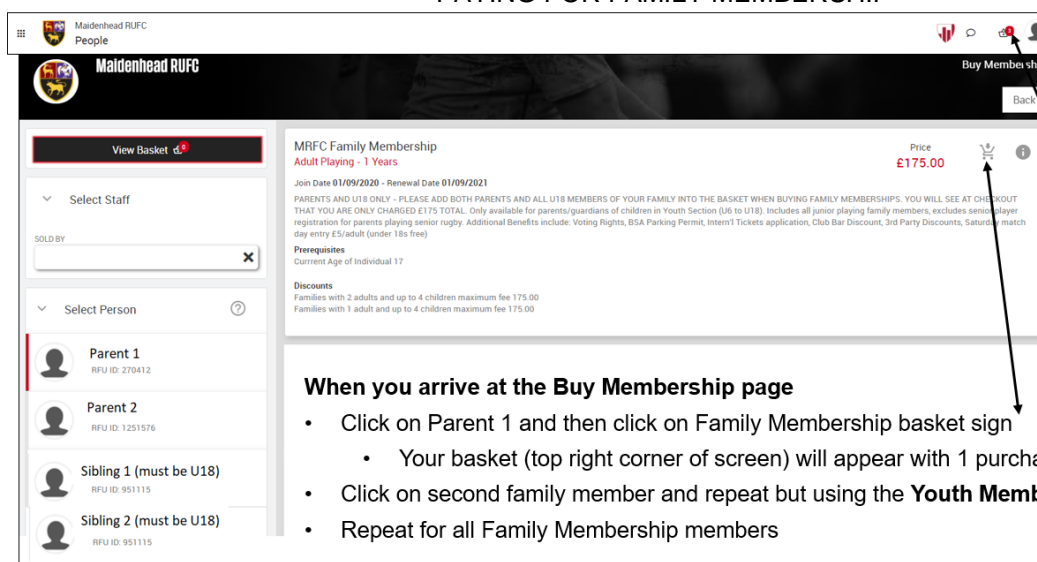
- Click on Buy Membership, once all personal details have been completed



The screenshot shows the 'Personal Details' page for 'MR Joseph Edward Bough'. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Summary, Details, Roles, Relationships, Qualifications, Self Service Qualifications, Credentials, Communication, Communication History, and Cashless Transactions. The main content area includes a profile picture, name, and a 'Buy Membership' button. Below this are sections for 'My Actions' (with 'Buy Membership' and 'Affiliate Player' buttons), 'Qualifications' (listing 'Continuous Referee Development Award - Tackle'), and 'Account' (with two active accounts: Bough2245552 and Bough776528).

Once clicked on Buy Membership, simply click on the membership package you require and follow the instructions.

PAYING FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP



The screenshot shows the 'Buy Membership' page for 'MRFC Family Membership - Adult Playing - 1 Years'. The price is £175.00. The page includes a 'View Basket' button, a 'Select Staff' dropdown, and a 'Select Person' dropdown with options for Parent 1, Parent 2, and two Siblings (must be U18). The 'Prerequisites' section states 'Current Age of Individual 17'. The 'Discounts' section lists 'Families with 2 adults and up to 4 children maximum fee 175.00' and 'Families with 1 adult and up to 4 children maximum fee 175.00'. A red notification icon with the number '1' is visible in the top right corner.

When you arrive at the Buy Membership page

- Click on Parent 1 and then click on Family Membership basket sign
 - Your basket (top right corner of screen) will appear with 1 purchase signalled
- Click on second family member and repeat but using the **Youth Membership** basket sign
- Repeat for all Family Membership members
- Click on the basket button (top right of screen) to review and you will see that the £175 has been divided between the members of your family
- Over 18 members are not covered within Family Memberships. Make sure you complete all personal details including Affiliate Player button

USEFUL WEBSITES/REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

1. [Rugby Football Union](http://www.rfu.com)
2. [Maidenhead Rugby Football Club](http://www.maidenheadrfc.com)
3. [Summary of the Minis game](http://www.brfcjuniors.org/guides/tagguide.pdf)
4. [Rugby Kit](http://www.hawkinsport.co.uk)
5. [RFU Website](http://www.rfu.com)
6. [Aviva Premiership](http://www.premiershiprugby.com)
7. [Rugby Roundup](http://www.rugbyroundup.com)
8. [Coaching Rugby](http://www.coachingrugby.com)
9. [Berkshire RFU](http://www.berksrfu.com)
10. [350+ English Clubs](http://www.canrugby.com)
11. [Berkshire Referees Society](http://www.bsrfur.com)

