

CHESHIRE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

NEWS LETTER

Individual Members' Secretary:

Dave Wright, Tynron Cottage, West Road, Noctorum, Birkenhead L43 9UH.

Telephone: 051-652 0402 (home); 0244 325123 (business)

Dear Member,

SEASON 1990/91

At the commencement of what promises to be a momentous season at County, National and International level, our President, Walter Gott, at the start of his second year of office, extends his thanks and those of his Committee and the players, for your loyal and generous support throughout the years and to the many new members who have recently joined us, a warm welcome.

Before I go further, a tribute must be paid to Dennis Diamond who died suddenly at the start of last season. Rugby Football in general has suffered a great loss by his untimely death but no section more so than Cheshire to whom he devoted so much of his valuable time as past Individual Members Chairman and Cheshire's representative on the RFU Committee and Vice-President of the County. In his playing days, Dennis learned his rugby at Rydal School and later played for Birkenhead Park, Cambridge University, Rosslyn Park, Chester and Cheshire.

As usual I enclose the Annual Report for Season 1989/90 which covers all aspects of our game in the County, together with your membership card for 1990/91.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Owing to increased overheads, particularly on the printing of the membership cards, it has been necessary to increase the annual subscription to £6.00. It is over five years since the subscription was last increased from £3.00 to £5.00 so this still represents excellent value for money, as it admits free of charge to all County games and to the Finals of the Cheshire Cup and Plate, together with the opportunity to apply for International Match tickets.

INTERNATIONAL TICKETS – URGENT – APPLY AT ONCE.

Harry Middlebrook, our Assistant Treasurer has kindly taken over the arduous task of handling all applications for International tickets. England will play four games at Twickenham this season, against the Barbarians, Argentina, Scotland and France. A detailed record is now kept of the allocation of all tickets, so if you were unlucky last season, it is hoped to give you priority this

season, so all members will have a fair share of the tickets available. I must stress you must stick meticulously to the instructions on the application form, if they are not complied with, your application will be prejudiced. Further, if your subscription is not fully paid by the time tickets are allocated, it will not be possible for you to receive your tickets.

SEND YOUR APPLICATION TO:

**N. H. MIDDLEBROOK, 27 CLARENDON ROAD, SALE, M33 2OU
before 30th September, 1990, who will deal with all enquiries about
International tickets – cheques payable to Cheshire R.F.U. please.**

REPRESENTATIVE RUGBY WITHIN THE COUNTY

The last season under the old "Northern" format proved a great disappointment to the Senior County Side, losing all their games. The organisation put into the running of the team by the Chairman Bob Lowe and his selectors and Dave Buttery, the Coach was second to none and the team morale and pride in wearing the Cheshire jersey was very high. It is anticipated that the side will be stronger this season and with the new fixtures against Durham, East Midlands and Leicestershire, coupled with the playing of Divisional games on the same day, hopes are high for successful results. The Junior County Sides had very satisfactory results, full details of which are in the annual report, but the most successful was the Schools XV which had their best season ever, the Under 18 Team Group winning all their eight matches and the Under 16 Group won six, drew one and lost one.

Toshiba have now finished sponsoring the County Championship and we thank them for their past support. This season ADT Security Systems, who also sponsor the London Marathon, have kindly offered their support for the County and Divisional Championships to the tune of £500,000 over the next three years.

CHESHIRE CUP

The National Giro Bank Cheshire Cup was again a noticeable success on the field, the winners being Winnington Park who beat Lymm 10 - 6 and now go into the Pilkington Cup draw. Port Sunlight won the Giro Bank Cheshire Plate by defeating Old Anselmians 11 - 9. A long and happy association with the National Giro Bank comes to an end this season and we would like to thank the Bank, Dennis Hindle and Steve Lyon for their unstinting support over the years.

This season the Cup and Plate Competitions will be sponsored by Tetley Walker and will be known as the Tetley Bitter Cheshire Cup Competition with a sponsorship of £5,000 per annum for the next three years.

COURAGE LEAGUES

The Courage Leagues go from strength to strength with six Cheshire Clubs being promoted at the end of the season, Sandbach, Ashton-on-Mersey, Old Saliars, Hoylake, Vagabonds (Isle of Man), Wallasey. Chester and Old Parkonians were relegated.

From the start of this season, every player has to be registered with the League and will have his own registration certificate which will be held by his Club and handed over to him if he wishes to play elsewhere. If an unregistered player turns out in a League Game, the offending club could forfeit the league points.

NEWS FROM H.Q.

Shortly after Dennis Diamond's death, his old friend and confidant, past President, George Cox, past Chairman of the Northern Division, was elected Cheshire Representative on the R.F.U. Committee. We were lucky to have a man of George's experience to take on this onerous responsibility and he will serve on the Amateur Status and Senior Club Committees. Following successful representations to Twickenham on our behalf by our new representative, the R.F.U. have agreed to subsidise the two Isle of Man League Teams, Douglas and Vagabonds, to the extent of £1,500 per annum to help pay the travelling costs of the clubs visiting the Island to play League games.

This has helped alleviate a major problem, for not only was there a possibility of the Isle of Man Clubs not being able to continue playing Rugby within the Cheshire jurisdiction, the cost of taking the team and officials to the Isle of Man can cost over £1,000 a time.

A new National Cup will be introduced next season known as the Provincial Insurance Cup which will provide an opportunity for junior clubs to play at Twickenham. Over 500 clubs are eligible to enter with places being allocated to those clubs occupying the lowest places in their leagues. Participation is completely voluntary and Cheshire have been allocated 16 places. These places have been taken up by clubs in North West Division West 2 and West 3 and North West Division East 2 and East 3, together with one club from the bottom of West 1. Sponsorship money will be awarded on an increasing scale to all clubs who are successful in round one, e.g. second round losers will receive £150. The finalists will receive £1,000 and the final will be played at Twickenham on 6th April, 1991.

The construction of the new north stand is well ahead of schedule and it is anticipated that it will be fully completed in time for the Varsity match on 11th December, 1990.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Chris Hughes has been appointed our full time Youth Development Officer and he is most willing to make himself available to all clubs, schools, etc. in order to promote our game, for further details see the annual report.

A large part of the money to set up the Youth Development Officers scheme comes from the Wavell Wakefield Trust and the R.F.U. We wish Chris well in his new appointment which commenced on 1st January, 1990.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dai Adams our hard-working Honorary Secretary has been elected as President of the Liverpool and District Referee's Society and your President Walter Gott is now the Honorary Treasurer of the Northern Division. Nish Lenton of Hoylake and Harry Middlebrook of Old Salians have been elected Vice-Presidents of the County.

TIES, UMBRELLAS AND SWEATERS

I still have a good stock of ties, umbrellas and sweaters available direct from me. Ties are £5.00, sweaters in botany wool are £22.00 and umbrellas are £15.00

If there is anything I can do to assist you during the next twelve months please do not hesitate to contact me and if you wish to enrol any new members they are most welcome as always.

Yours sincerely,

DAVE WRIGHT,
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS' SECRETARY/CHAIRMAN

INTERNATIONAL MATCH TICKETS – 1990/91

NAME (block capitals please)

ADDRESS

I enclose my cheque for £..... and **STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE** for each International Match for 1990/91 season and require the following tickets:-

CHARGES	PRICE £	16 Feb., 1991	16 March, 1991
		England v. Scotland	England v. France
Lower & Upper Stand	£20.50		
Lower & Upper Stand, Wings	£16.50		
North Stand	£14.50		
East Open Stand, Centre	£14.50		
East Open Stand, Wings	£9.50		
Centre Ringside	£9.50		
Wing Ringside	£7.50		
West Enclosure	£7.50		
Ground	£5.50		
TOTAL			

Please indicate: (1) If alternative tickets will be acceptable – YES/NO

(2) Will single tickets be acceptable – YES/NO

(3) Match preference – SCOTLAND/FRANCE

N.B. – There is a 50p non-returnable booking fee included in the above price.

REMEMBER – Applications must be accompanied by STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPES FOR EACH GAME and be received in time. **NO ENVELOPE – NO TICKET.**

Application in by 30th September, 1990 to: N. H. Middlebrook, 27 Clarendon Rd., Sale M33 2DU.

R.F.U. Requirement

Please Return unwanted tickets to N. H. Middlebrook, do not sell on to others.

Owing to the early application to H.Q. for tickets prior to the start of the season, your committee have ordered a limited amount of tickets for the matches listed below, which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

ENGLAND v. BARBARIANS – 29th SEPTEMBER, 1990

Lower & Upper Stand	£20.50	
Lower & Upper Stand, Wings	£16.50	
North/South Stand	£14.50	
East Open Centre	£14.50	
East Open Wings	£9.50	
Centre Ringside	£9.50	
Wing Ringside	£7.50	
West Enclosure	£7.50	
Ground	£5.50	
TOTAL		

ENGLAND v. ARGENTINA – 3rd NOVEMBER, 1990

Lower & Upper Stand	£16.50	
Lower & Upper Stand, Wings	£12.50	
North Stand	£12.50	
South Stand Upper	£12.50	
South Stand Lower	£10.50	
South Enclosure (Schools)	£7.50	
East Open Stand	£10.50	
East Open Stand, Wings	£7.50	
West Enclosure	£5.50	
TOTAL		