Sheffield RUFC Blue Book

Minis & Juniors

#oneclub

Season 2026-2027

M&J Blue Book

We are delighted to welcome you to Sheffield RUFC and introduce or M&J Blue Book. Whether you are a returning player, transferring from another club or trying rugby for the first time you are very welcome.

This M&J Blue Book has been designed to provide information and guidance on becoming part of SRUFC.

The Mini & Junior section of the SRUFC is vital to the future success of our club. Our aim is not only to create great players but to develop players that are happy and confident individuals. Of course, we are very proud and encouraged to see several home grown SRUFC players in the senior teams at Sheffield.

We are ***#one club*** with many teams.

Hopefully, this handbook will provide you and your young person with important information relevant to all things related to Sheffield RUFC.



Age Grade Chairman Welcome

Dear Players, Parents, Coaches, and Supporters,

Welcome back to Abbeydale for the 2026/2027 season!

Whether you are returning for another year in the Sheffield RUFC family or joining us for the very first time, we are absolutely thrilled to have you with us.

As I enter my second year as Age Grade Chairman my aims remain unaltered. I want to ensure that every child, regardless of age, background or ability, enjoys their rugby in a safe, supportive, and fun environment. My focus remains on three core ideas: growth, community, and enjoyment. These will be aligned with the RFU TREDS Core Values. It is also important that we continue to develop as one club .

Rugby has so much to offer—teamwork, resilience, respect, discipline and mental confidence, and I want every young player here to experience that fully and come away having created lifelong friendships.

We are truly grateful for our new Age Grade Sponsors who have committed to support the Mini & Juniors section for the next three seasons. Their support has enabled us to replace our match shirts to replicate the Men's First XV. This visually solidifies the bridge between the youth and senior ranks.

As we start the new season, it's a great opportunity to reflect on the past season and celebrate our achievements as a rugby family. Over the last 12 months our off field highlights include:

- Attracted new sponsors
- Launch of New Kit
- Increasing membership numbers
- Summer & October Gamebreakers Camps
- Launch of new Mini's Midweek Coaching Session
- Whole section End of Season Awards night
- Leicester Tigers Coaching & Matchday Experience
- Launching our Sheffield RUFC Community Foundation to help underprivileged and underrepresented young people access the game

Of course, the above has only been achieved by working together and it's very much a collective effort involving players, parents and our incredible volunteer coaching teams. For the love of the game, our coaches show up every week giving their time and expertise so generously. They are the backbone of everything we do, and I cannot thank you enough. You are valued enormously.

Despite the number of people involved in running the Age Grade teams we are constantly looking for additional volunteers to help. If you feel that you can lend a hand, in any capacity, then please reach out. Equally, if you have suggestions for improvements which you feel may help the club then please do let me know.

I would ask all players, parents and supporters to familiarise themselves with the RFU Code of Conduct and respect the decisions of match officials, and our volunteer coaches. If you witness a serious player welfare concern during a match which goes unnoticed, please inform your coaches who will take appropriate action. As a club we do not tolerate match official abuse of any kind.

We have exciting times ahead and are already looking forward to the half term Gamebreakers Camps. We are also trying to improve our First XV matchday experience for our young people, so look out for our passing and kicking challenges, as well as notifications relating to Guards of Honour at home games.

As we head into the new season our work is not done, we need your help in continuing to recruit and attract new players. We have a collective responsibility to spread the word that Sheffield RUFC is an inclusive, welcoming and supportive club.

Let's make the 2026/2027 season our best one yet, filled with great friendships and plenty of smiles.

Robin

Robin Curtis
Age Grade Chair

Core Values

Rugby's values of Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship (TREDS) are what makes the game special for those who enjoy the environment and culture they create.

Everyone involved in rugby whether as a player, coach, referee, administrator, parent or spectator is expected to uphold the core values of our sport:

Teamwork
Teamwork is essential to our sport. We welcome all new team members and include all because working as a team enriches our lives. We play selflessly: working for the team, not for ourselves alone, both on and off the field.

Respect
Mutual respect forms the basis of our sport. We hold in high esteem our sport, its values and traditions and earn the respect of others in the way we behave.

Enjoyment
Enjoyment is the reason we play and support rugby union. We encourage players to enjoy training and playing.

Discipline
Strong discipline underpins our sport. We ensure that our sport is one of controlled physical endeavour and that we are honest and fair.

Sportsmanship
Sportsmanship is the foundation upon which rugby union is built. We uphold the rugby tradition of camaraderie with teammates and opposition. We win with grace and lose with dignity!

Expectations

CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

WE ALWAYS:

- Treat others with respect and dignity, including all officials, spectators, coaches and players, whether from the club or opposition
- Be magnanimous in victory and gracious in defeat
- Work together to create a positive and welcoming club environment
- Encourage a healthy environment, where skill development, enjoyment and teamwork are promoted
- Take ownership in ensuring that we are up to date with all club rules, policies and procedures, and are in keeping with the values of the club

WE NEVER:

- Tolerate abusive, threatening or intimidating behaviour towards anyone at the club, and instances of this behaviour should be challenged and reported
- Challenge, or encourage others to challenge, the decision of any match official
- Enter the field of play, unless instructed otherwise by match officials
- Use inappropriate language towards people at the club
- Tolerate cheating or manipulation of competition

Expectations

COACH CODE OF CONDUCT

A GOOD COACH ALWAYS:

- Respects the game and everyone involved in it
- Encourages fair play and sportsmanship amongst their players
- Remembers that children are here to have fun and develop, above all else
- Maintains their integrity and discipline at all times and encourages their players to do the same
- Acts as a role model to everyone during match days and encourages all spectators to adhere to the Core Values
- Encourages a healthy environment where enjoyment and teamwork are the priority

AS A GOOD COACH, I WILL NEVER:

- Allow any players to abuse the official or the opposition
- Condone or tolerate spectators who abuse players or the official
- Allow any language from spectators or parents that is not constructive towards the development of the players
- Act in a manner that might intimidate or frighten the players
- Enter the field of play to challenge the referee or the opposition, and will never condone, but report anyone who does so

Expectations

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

A GOOD PLAYER ALWAYS:

- Respects the decision of the officials and coaches
- Treats their team-mates and opposition with respect and dignity
- Encourages fair play and sportsmanship, both on and off the pitch
- Remains disciplined throughout the game, and sets a good example for all players
- Opposes any form of cheating carried out by the opposition or their teammates
- Remember that their and their team-mates' enjoyment and development is more important than the result of the game

AS A GOOD PLAYER, I WILL NEVER:

- Act violently towards any player or official, or engage in violent or offensive language towards them
- Challenge or dispute decisions made by the official or my coaches
- Tolerate foul language from spectators, coaches, players or teammates
- Bully, intimidate or abuse the opposition, or my team-mates

Expectations

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

A GOOD PARENT ALWAYS:

- Puts the enjoyment and development of their child first, before the result of the game
- Offers positive comments, instead of criticism and encourages teamwork and sportsmanship amongst the players and their child
- Remembers that effort is more important than outcome
- Treat the officials and coaches with respect, and remember that their decision is final, and that they are in no position to impact the game
- Maintains their discipline, and acts as a good role model to all players and spectators

AS A GOOD PARENT, I WILL NEVER:

- Criticise, or verbally abuse any of the officials, coaches or players
- Engage in foul or abusive language to my child, or other children, who are playing the game
- Enter the field of play to challenge officials, players or coaches
- Tolerate other parents or spectators engaging in foul or abusive behaviour towards players, officials, coaches or other spectators

Expectations

SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

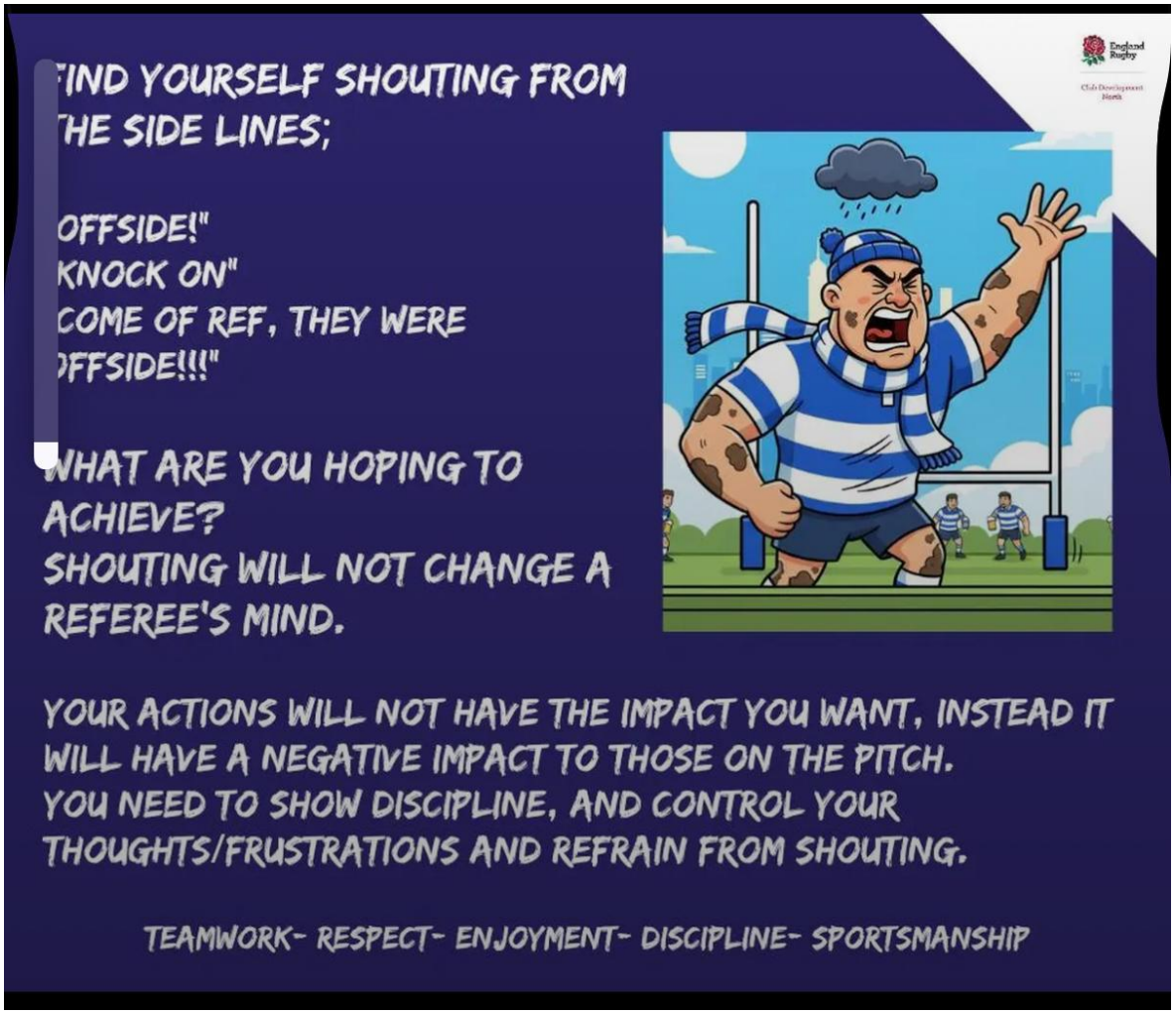
A GOOD SPECTATOR ALWAYS:

- Puts the wellbeing of the players first, and remembers that any comments or feedback they offer should be based on constructive, helpful comments that do not involve criticism of any form
- Respects all players and officials, including the opposition, and remembers that all teams are here to enjoy the game
- Understands that they're not in a position to influence the game, and respects and accepts the decisions of officials and coaches
- Acts as a role model for the players, and does not engage in any abusive or offensive behaviour
- Treats the premises with respect, and obeys any rules or bans regarding smoking, vaping or consuming alcohol on the premises

AS A GOOD SPECTATOR, I WILL NEVER:

- Engage in any abusive, hateful or discriminatory language towards the officials, coaches or players
- Try to enter the field of play, challenge the decision of the officials or coaches, or interfere with the game at any point
- Tolerate abusive behaviour or language from players or coaches
- Forget that players are here to enjoy rugby and develop their skills. Winning is not everything.

Expectations



Codes of Practice & Safety

Age Grade Code of Practice

We are passionate about promoting a positive attitude and behaviour towards the coaching of rugby, so we follow the RFU codes of practice that cover:

- Developing the Whole Player
- Player-centred Approach
- Grouping of Players
- Playing UP or Down
- Combing Age Groups
- Summer Activity, Camps and Tours
- Minimum Standards for Coaches and Referees

You can find all information, including rules and regulations in respect of age grade rugby here: RFU Regulation 15

For more information, the codes of practice can be found of the RFU website here: RFU Codes of Practice

Rugby discipline is very important and is also a core value of the game. We will not tolerate messing about and everyone deserves respect. Coaches will need to teach some important technical points, and we can't have players speaking over the coaches. In these circumstances we will ask players to sit out for a period of time, and speak to parents/ guardians. In extreme cases, we will ask players to leave the session.

Codes of Practice & Safety

Safety

Under new RFU guidance, all parents and players from U13 upwards are now expected to undertake the HEADCASE Concussion Awareness e-learning course available on GMS. This covers what concussion is, modern prevention strategies and best practice concussion management. There is a collective responsibility to ensure the safety of your player – it is not just up to the coaches and first aiders.

- The course can be found here: Headcase Link
- It's compulsory to wear mouthguards
- We strongly encourage players to wear headguards
- With any hard ground, shoulder pads are also a good option

Your coach and first aider will ask you to complete a form at the start of the season regarding any relevant medical conditions or existing injuries that your young person may have. This is to help assist in the event that first aid needs to be administered. The information provided is confidential and only used in accordance with our privacy policy and GDPR.

The club has invested in First Aid training, and each age group has a first aid kit and at least one qualified First Aider.

Club Affiliation and Subs

Parents will need to register or re-register players to Sheffield RUFC via the GMS website (England RFU). No player will be able to play in the first game until this is completed. Team Managers will be happy to help and assist in this process.

When re-registering or transferring players, please use your existing login and do not set up a new profile as your young persons RFU ID will stay with them throughout their entire rugby journey.

SRUFC subs will also need to be paid on the GMS website before the first game - no pay/no play.

The membership fee will be £225 for the whole season.

It is important to note that as soon as you purchase the fees, you are liable to pay the whole amount for the season – even if your son only plays for part of the season – it is not a monthly subscription even if you choose to spread the cost over the season.

The club has to pay fees for all registered players in full so would make a loss if people don't pay the full amount.

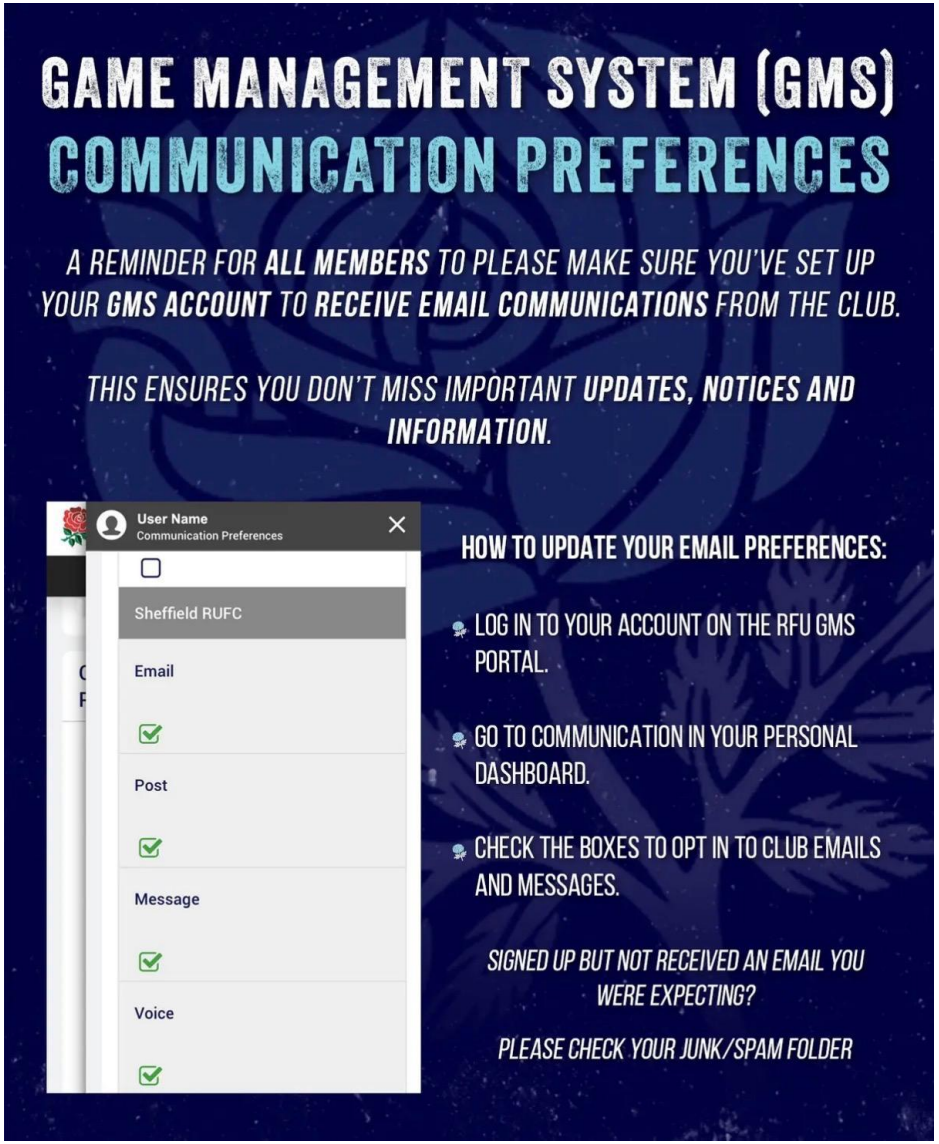
Joining Sheffield RUFC allows players to train and play at the club. Members of the club automatically become members of Abbeydale Sports Club (ASC) which hosts rugby at Abbeydale Park.

Everyone is welcome in The Dale after training and games where the bar is open for food and drink. Food is provided to all players after matches on Sundays. No muddy kit or boots are allowed in the clubhouse. For Health and Safety reasons players are not allowed in The Dale wearing only socks. A change of footwear and clothing is imperative.

In addition, to the membership fee we encourage each team to run their own kitty. Typically, the cost of this is £80 per season.

Sheffield RUFC is an inclusive club and if anybody is suffering from financial hardship and finding it difficult to fund their young persons journey then please do reach out to our Age Grade Chair.

GMS Registration



First Team Fixtures 2026/2027



[Ladies 2026/2027 Fixtures Here]

First Team Match Day Experience

PRE MATCH LUNCHES @ THE DALE

PRE MATCH LUNCHES

Join us for a pre match meal before our home games at a cost of £45 per person for a 3 course lunch and entry to the game. All the dates and details can be found using the below link or via the website

Pre Match Booking Link 2026/2027 Season

MATCH DAY

M&J players are encouraged to watch the senior men's and ladies' teams play. The first team play in National League 1 North. The level of rugby is extremely high being the third tier of English rugby union. Entry to first team matches is FREE for kids. Entry for adults is £15 per person.

GUARDS OF HONOR

We are hoping to provide Guards of Honor for all home games to encourage and welcome the players on to the pitch at Abbeydale. We hope to set dates throughout the season for each age group within the club. In the meantime, if your young person is interested in being part of this please contact your team manager.

Volunteers

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU

BECOME A VOLUNTEER AT SRUFC

We are *#ONECLUB* with many teams which is run by volunteers. We have an amazing team of dedicated volunteers with the Mini & Juniors section who work hard to make sure that our young players have the best experience.

We welcome parents and guardians to the club for all training and playing sessions and value your support.

As a club run by volunteers, we are keen to try and involve parents in the club. If you feel that you are able to help in any capacity, then please get in touch with our M&J Chair using the following email link:

rcurtis@sheffieldrufc.co.uk

If you are interested in coaching or referring, then all training is paid for by the club. However, just as importantly, we also require people with admin, marketing and organisational skills.



Playing Kit & Kitlocker Shop



Each age grade will be provided with a playing shirt thanks to our sponsors for the 2026/2027 season. Shorts and socks are available to purchase on the club shop.

Further training kit may be provided to individual teams depending on their own sponsorship and kitty arrangements.

Sheffield RUFC training kit and leisure wear is available to purchase online from Kitlocker using the following link:

www.kitlocker.com/sheffieldrufc/index.php

Recruitment

We will always encourage and welcome new players to join Sheffield RUFC, particularly those with experience of rugby. A strong squad with plenty of subs is vital for a successful season for each team. It improves training sessions and allows rotation of players and cover for anyone who is away or injured.

We ask that players, parents and supporters continue to promote our club amongst friends, colleagues and within their school environment.

We welcome everyone to Sheffield RUFC, no matter what their experience, athleticism or ability. The club believes that all players should be given equal opportunities irrespective of age, ethnicity, disability, sex, religion or sexual orientation.

Girls can play mixed rugby with boys up to under 12 years. At Sheffield we are very lucky to have a dedicated girl's section known as the Sheffield Swans for girls aged 12-18 years.

Throughout the upcoming season we will be actively recruiting. Please email Robin with any questions, ideas or suggestions relating to recruitment: rcurtis@sheffieldrufc.co.uk

We are beginning to use more Social Media channels to promote the club including Facebook & Instagram linked to our club website to promote the teams, events, and the club. This is to help recruit new players to the sport and provide other information to supporters and the local community.

Please start following **Sheffield RUFC and Sheffield RUFC Mini & Juniors** on Facebook. Please try to **Like and Share** the posts when they come out.

You can also check out Instagram:

Sheffield_rufc_official

sheffield_rufc_colts

The club have recently launched a NEW website so please check that regularly to keep up to date with news and events.

www.sheffieldrufc.co.uk

Sponsorship

We extend our thanks to our sponsors for their continued to support of the club. Where possible please buy their products or use their services.

RCC Furniture

SMC Brownill Vickers

SDP Builders

Direct Computers

Champion Hire

11 Commodities

Fixtures & Training

All this seasons' fixtures and training have been updated on the SPOND App. Clearly these may change due to many different circumstances, or even switch venue last minute due to pitch conditions.

In the event of cancellations, your team manager will aim to let you know by 3pm on the day of mid week training. Match day cancellations will be relayed as early as possible on Sunday Morning, if not before.

We will keep Spond updated as fast as we can to allow parents to plan ahead but also check your team WhatsApp group for any updates or changes.

Sharing transport for away games is encouraged.

Speak to team managers if you aren't registered on SPOND or in your team WhatsApp group.

