



# In Touch

IPSWICH RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

## Welcome!

Welcome to the seventh issue of In Touch the newsletter from Ipswich Rugby Club. In this edition we feature a profile of one of our First XV players, Jonathan Fell, an explanation of rules governing tackles from our resident referee “blind as a bat” and below an interview with Mark Greetham.



Last week I was pleased to meet with club Honorary Secretary Mark Greetham. Mark has been involved with the club for a number of years in one capacity or another. The role of Honorary Secretary includes ensuring that the club complies with RFU policy, and that it is fully insured. The role is very similar to that of company secretary. This is now Mark's third year in the job.

Mark learnt to play rugby at Ipswich School and joined the club 35 years ago at the age of 17, when he joined the 2nds. Mark played in various roles as 3/4, centre, wing and full back but had to give up 15 years ago when he had a back operation to remove two discs. Mark's son James used to play rugby for the juniors alongside Mark Broughton and Robbie Kalbraier.

Mark became involved with the administration of the club 30 years ago and over the years has held most of the committee positions except President and Finance Director. His motivation to become involved with the running of the club is to give something back to the game of rugby.

When asked about his hopes for the club, Mark would love to see the day when the first team squad includes 20 players who have come through from the youth and juniors section. Another wish is for the club to move to a purpose built facility where we could generate more income from the club house which would be used to grow the club and underwrite the youth and juniors section. Although the club owns the land at Humber Doucy Lane we are unable to extend the club house due to planning restrictions.

Outside of rugby Mark enjoys playing golf and is currently doing up his new home with his wife Lisa. After 25 years working in the City, Mark now works in London for the Guinness family.

### Retraction

In Touch would like to retract the statement in the interview with Richard Young that referred to Mark as Richard's godfather. This is not true and Mark does not wish to be associated with Mr. Young in such a personal capacity, in fact Mark would like to emphasise that they do not share any DNA!!!

Kate Hughes



### Minis at home to Shelford

22nd November

Ipswich U9's show tremendous spirit against visitors Shelford.

# First XV news

## Match Report 28th November 2009

Enfield Ignations 18 Ipswich 5 by David Broughton

**Frustration and disbelief was the order of the day in a game where the match official refused to allow the ball carrier to go into contact and set-up any form of ruck.**

Of even more concern was the allowance of the opposition to get away with many above shoulder high and straight arm tackles.

Ipswich competed well in the first half. Running up hill against the strong breeze, Ipswich received the ball and ran out of their own 22 metre area. However within 3 minutes of play Ipswich were penalised for setting up a ruck and clearing the opposition out, although clearly acceptable in the laws of the game, but not so in the referee's eyes. Enfield kicker made good use of the strong wind to put the home side ahead. (3-0).

Again Ipswich received the ball and were comfortable running against the much larger Enfield forwards, making good ground and retaining the ball well, but yet again the match official refused to allow players to be cleared from the ruck and again penalised the Ipswich forwards just inside their own half. Enfield kicked for touch but failed, allowing fullback Potkins to run out of the 22 before passing to the forwards to continue the moment. A ruck was formed and despite the ball being in the ruck, an Enfield flank forward went into the side, picked up the ball and charged across the try line. The referee positioned on the opposite side of the ruck could not see anything wrong and awarded the try which went unconverted. (8-0).

In the first 10 minutes of the second half Ipswich were camped on the Enfield try line, having four attempts to maul the ball over the line and on each occasion the referee penalised Enfield for pulling down the maul or being offside. In most games this deliberate infringement would have been rewarded with a penalty try, and Ipswich having the upper hand in this conflict was definitely playing for

this but unfortunately it didn't happen. Eventually Ipswich made the error of knocking on and Enfield cleared their line.

Enfield then managed to secure a lineout inside the Ipswich 22 which was mauled over the tryline for the heavy forwards to touch down and increase their lead. The try was converted for the extra 2 points. (15-0).

Again from the restart Ipswich pushed forward looking for the break after playing the much better structured rugby, however this seemed to be one of those days when whatever they tried it was never going to be enough to be rewarded with points. Frustration was starting to tell with some retribution following more unsavoury tackles, and again the penalty went against Ipswich allowing the home side to increase the lead with a 25 metre kick. (18-0).

On the stroke of fulltime Ipswich managed to secure the ball deep inside the Enfield 22, the ball was popped up to Joseland on the charge for 5 metres out to crash over the line for a consolation try. Sam Corston failed to convert. (18-5).

## Interview with Jonathan Fell



Jonathan Fell aka Jono has been playing for Ipswich First XV for four months. Originally from New Zealand Jono has recently moved into the

area, and hopes to gain more experience playing for Ipswich Rugby Club.

Back home Jono played for the provincial rugby team Bay of Plenty. He first started playing rugby 17 years ago, aged five, for his school. He likes playing rugby because it is a contact sport, although over the years he has experienced injuries such a broken arm and dislocated shoulder.

Jono enjoys playing for Ipswich because the First XV team is made up of a good group of guys, and he now feels that the team is beginning to gel. On his return to New Zealand Jono hopes that he will continue playing for a local team.

## Next First XV Match

5th December **Saffron Walden**,  
Humber Doucy Lane 2.15pm kick-off.

## League Table - London 2 North East

	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	Pts
Thurrock	9	8	0	1	339	86	253	16
Braintree	9	7	0	2	185	154	31	14
Romford & Gidea Park	9	6	1	2	194	186	8	13
Saffron Walden	9	6	0	3	203	214	-11	12
Sudbury	9	5	1	3	224	139	85	11
Colchester	9	5	0	4	260	165	95	10
Enfield Ignations	9	4	0	5	124	193	-69	8
Norwich	9	3	1	5	174	153	21	7
Harlow	9	3	0	6	141	180	-39	6
<b>Ipswich</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>-104</b>	<b>5</b>
Chelmsford	9	2	0	7	152	186	-34	4
Mersea Island	9	1	0	8	81	317	-236	2

# Youth & Juniors news

## Under 12's

Ipswich U12's have continued to develop, playing ever improving rugby and benefitting from a strong squad that provides cover across a number of positions.



They have made a solid start to a season that has seen them win 3 and draw 2 local team games and also produce a won 2 drawn 2 record in the only festival they have entered at Bury St Edmunds.

This year there has been a strong emphasis on building a solid defence. This has been assisted through the players developing physically and a greater overall awareness of their defensive responsibilities. To date this has proved to be extremely effective, with the first team playing nine competitive games, scoring 17 tries and conceding only a single try against Cambridge.

The backs continue to develop effective partnerships and have worked tirelessly to perfect their passing, straightening their runs, distributing quick ball, concentrating on taking the high ball and knowing when to run and when to use positional kicking.

Forwards don't always get the credit they deserve, but this year, the U12's pack has provided the foundation for the team's success. They have continually dominated the scrum, more than often winning scrums against the head and generally overpowered the opposition's forward line. On the odd occasion when the opposition has kicked from a restart into touch the whole team will shout in unison "scrum" rather than choose a re kick. These are exciting times for the U12's and the squad looks well equipped to make strong challenges at the local festivals.

Source: Mike Thompson

## Minis at home to Shelford 22 November 2009

On one of the busiest Sundays of the season so far at Humber Doucy Lane, we welcomed Shelford to our minis section. Below are some of the highlights and scores from the day and some fabulous photos showing action from the U9's.

Although one of our longer trips of the season, Shelford are a side that bring competitive rugby and a good spirit with them and we look forward to the return match in Cambridgeshire on 20th December. Match day reports from U10's will be featured in the next issue of In Touch.

### Under 7's

**It was a fantastic day for the under 7's who played well to win all their matches.**

The final scores of the games were:

- 1st game - Ipswich 7 - 5 Shelford
- 2nd game - Ipswich 5 - 3 Shelford
- 3rd game - Ipswich 8 - 7 Shelford
- 4th game - Ipswich 8 - 6 Shelford

The 4th game was the friendly game which the Under 6's played in - their first go at a 'proper' match. By the looks of things they all really enjoyed it and are really looking forward to playing competitively!

A huge well done and congratulations to Jake Gray for being voted Under 7's Player of the Week - well done Jake, you did your team proud!

### Under 9's

Against a tough tackling Shelford squad on Sunday 22nd, the "A" team won their games 2-1 and 9-0, while the "B" team drew 2-2 in both games.

Source: Stella Day

### Under 8's

Shelford are definitely a strong team and gave the Under 8's some good competitive matches. We were delighted to win two of our matches! The development of the players, encouraging them to pass more and hold their defensive line, is beginning to lead to better results and tries scored from across the team. More supportive play and a focus on tagging in defensive play also led to the ball being turned over on more than one occasion.

We're starting to see the players get more physical (mostly within the rules!) and this provided a challenge both for players and the referees. The feedback from Shelford was highly complimentary about our teams and our parents as they were made to feel really welcome and thoroughly enjoyed their morning with us. We look forward to playing them again on 20th December!



# Ref's Corner

The next area that I thought we could have a look at is the area of the tackle. It is an area of the game where games can be won and lost, because to get it wrong can cause penalties against you. However, possession can be won or penalties can go in your favour if you get it right. It's a dynamic area of play and players that know the laws can use them to their advantage. Coaches who know the laws can coach players better to be able to take advantage of this area of play. So over the next few issues I will be outlining the laws on tackles.

## Law 14

### Ball on the Ground - No Tackle

**Definition:** This situation occurs when the ball is available on the ground and a player goes to ground to gather the ball, except immediately after a scrum or ruck. It also occurs when a player is on the ground in possession of the ball and has not been tackled.

The Game is to be played by players who are on their feet. A player must not make the ball unplayable by falling down. Unplayable means that the ball is not immediately available to either team so that play may continue.

A player who makes the ball unplayable, or who obstructs the opposing team by falling down, is negating the purpose and Spirit of the Game and must be penalised. A player who is not tackled, but who goes to ground while holding the ball, or a player who goes to ground and gathers the ball, must act immediately.

### 14.1 Player on the ground

The player must immediately do one of three things:

- Get up with the ball, or
- Pass the ball, or
- Release the ball.

A player who passes or releases the ball must also get up or move away from it at once. Advantage is played only if it happens immediately.

**Penalty:** Penalty Kick

### 14.2 What the player must not do

(a) Lying on or around the ball. A player must not lie on, over, or near the ball to prevent opponents getting possession of it.  
**Penalty:** Penalty Kick

(b) Falling over the player on the ground with the ball. A player must not intentionally fall on or over a player with the ball who is lying on the ground.  
**Penalty:** Penalty Kick

(c) Falling over players lying on the ground near the ball. A player must not intentionally fall on or over players lying on the ground with the ball between them or near them.  
**Penalty:** Penalty Kick

(d) A player on the ground. A player on the ground must not tackle an opponent or attempt to tackle an opponent.  
**Penalty:** Penalty Kick

So you now know when there is not a tackle and what you must do to keep the game going or the player will be penalised. Next week I will answer the question 'what is a tackle?'.

# News & Events

## Pre-Match Lunch All welcome!

If you would like to attend the pre-match lunch on Saturday 5th December before Ipswich's match against Saffron Walden please contact the club on **01473 724072** or email [club@ipswich-rugby.co.uk](mailto:club@ipswich-rugby.co.uk)

## Christmas Sale

Just to let you know that the club shop is selling a few surplus items at a reduced price for Christmas. Stock is limited, so once it's gone, it's gone!

## Our sponsors

**Tiger.co.uk**  
Motor insurance comparison



Tiger.co.uk is a unique insurance comparison service that allows customers to shop around for quotes either online or over the phone.

We work with over 90 insurance brands and can help compare prices for car, bike, commercial vehicle or home insurance quotes.

The website is easy to use with a simple 2 page quote form. For those customers who would prefer to speak to someone, or who cannot obtain a quote online, we have a friendly UK based call centre ready to transfer shoppers directly through to our partners. All completely free of charge.

To get a quote visit us at **Tiger.co.uk**. To discuss business or marketing opportunities please contact us on **0845 073 1173**.



[www.ipswichrugby.com](http://www.ipswichrugby.com)

**Contact:** If you have any questions or comments regarding the content of this newsletter or wish to contribute please contact Kate Hughes on 07740 554418 or email: [kate.a.hughes@btconnect.com](mailto:kate.a.hughes@btconnect.com)

Ipswich Rugby Football Club Humber Doucy Lane Ipswich Suffolk IP4 3PZ T: 01473 724072 F: 01473 710439 E: [club@ipswich-rugby.co.uk](mailto:club@ipswich-rugby.co.uk)