



Rockford Ravens Rugby Football Club

March, 2008 Newsletter

Important upcoming dates:

March 29— 1st Home game at Blackhawk Park

June 14—Whorefest 2008

June 21—USA vs. TBD at Bridgeview, IL

Team Notes

The schedule is just loaded with home games. Even the road games/tournaments are within an hours drive. No excuse not to get out to training to have an opportunity to play come Saturday. The lingering winter is having an impact on training but we need to get the numbers out. Neil Casson is coaching the team again this season. • Chris Moore is providing coaching and guidance to the Rochelle HS Dead Rabbits; the U19 rugby side is in its first year and has had turnouts of around 15 players so far. Any help you wish to offer will be greatly appreciated. • The 2007 awards were given out at the annual banquet. MVP was J. Hanley, most valuable back was Daniel Davies, most valuable forward was Chris Moore, and rookie of the year was Chris Yerk. No other awards were given. The banquet was very well attended, and had great door prizes. • The finals for the Barclay's Churchill Cup will be at Toyota Park in Bridgeview, IL on June 21st. There will be three internationals that day: USA, Canada, Argentina A, Scotland A, England A, and Ireland A. For those of you who trekked to Toyota Park last year to watch USA dissappoint against Munster, this offers another chance to watch top notch rugby a short drive away. More on this event later.

2008 Dues

The club is a not for profit club and the need to collect dues is ever present. As a reminder, here is the current dues schedule: Senior men's dues are \$85 per season. First time players are \$40 for the first season. Old boys and social dues are \$50 per year. As a reminder of what dues go for: Midwest dues and CARFU both collect several hundred dollars per year, parties cost \$300 to \$400 each, field lining is \$100 per game, team CIPP, game balls, referee fees, and numerous incidentals make rugby and expensive sport. Lets get your dues into the club and team treasurer (and CARFU and Midwest treasurer, too), Tim Harn.

2008 Ireland Tour

The tour is pretty close to set. We will travel over the Thanksgiving week and be in Ireland for 10-11 days. We will fly into Shannon and have matches set for Killarney and Cashel (we played Cashel in 1995). Another match is still in the works. Unfortunately, largely as result of professional rugby, we have a harder time being billeted by players and will be staying in hotels and hostels. Cost right now is going to run around \$1300 and include all transportation, lodging, and kit. Incidentals, like beer, are extra. \$100 gets you signed up. Contact Dick at Lindstrom Travel. Mark Lancaster and Curt White are already signed up.

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	Captain	J. Hanley	773-771-7616	email: jwhanley3@yahoo.com
	Roster changes	Dave Carter	815-316-8352	email: dave@rockriverservice.com
	Match info	Kaare Jacobsen	815-505-7536	email: kaare.jacobsen@epa.state.il.us

Durand Ruggerfest—March 30

This is the 10th anniversary of Rockford's High School program when the Durand Bulldogs played Middleton HS. The tournament will be held from 12 Noon until 5pm on the 30th of March. This will be 5 team round robin event. Middleton HS, Madison East & West, Jr. Ravens, Sycamore, Rochelle. The games will be held behind the high school on the left side of Rt.70 in Durand (can't miss it on your left as you drive into Durand). A social will follow at the American Legion Hall in Durand. We can use volunteers as touch judges and at the social.

U-19 Schedules

All games start around 5:30pm.

April 2	Mid-Valley @ Sycamore	Rockford @ Elgin
April 9	Elgin @ Sycamore	Mid-Valley @ Rockford
April 16	Sycamore @ Rockford	
April 23	Sycamore @ Elgin	Mid-Valley @ Rockford
April 30	Rockford @ Sycamore	
May 7	Elgin @ Rockford	Sycamore @ Mid-Valley
May 14	1st round of playoffs—TBD	
May 21	2nd round of playoffs	
May 26	State Championship	

Men's Schedule

All games start at 1pm unless otherwise indicated. A Freeport match is still in the works and yet to be determined. The game time for the Chicago Riot game may be later than 1pm. Home games are at Blackhawk Park.

March 29	Dubuque	Home
April 5	Champaign County	Home
April 12	NIU Men	Home
	NIU Women vs. Will County	
April 19	Tournament of Champions	DeKalb
April 26	Oconomowoc	Home
May 3	UIC	Home
May 10	Benny Kenyon Tourney	Aurora, IL
May 17	Chicago Riot (Game Time TBD)	Home
May 24	Depaul	Home

Whorefest 2008

Gates open Friday, June 13th, 2008 at 5pm
Games begin Saturday morning, June 14th

Games are harlot format 10's. Coed teams are drawn from signed up individuals. Early sign up is Friday night before 9pm. Total number of players is limited to the first 150. The games begin promptly at 9am Saturday morning and last until 8pm. Camping is free and encouraged for Friday and Saturday night. Food, water, and soda is available from 10am to 7pm on Saturday. No beer or alcohol is provided so bring your own. Bring your own food and camping equipment, if camping. Toilets are available. It is recommended that you monitor the website for current information

Vasa Park
6600 42nd Street
Rockford, Illinois

More information ?

See Rockford Ravens website at:
www.w3pipe.com/ravensrffc