***Gosforth Rfc Mini Junior Section - Welcome Information ***

Welcome to Gosforth RFC, a rugby club which was formed in 1877. When rugby Union went professional in 1995 Newcastle Gosforth RFC was bought by John Hall and amateur rugby was told it could no longer run alongside professionals at Kingston Park. Effectively the club split in two with Newcastle Falcons being the professional side and Gosforth Rfc being reborn to continue the clubs strong amateur ethos and traditions, still playing in green & white hoops. The club is trying to rebuild its Mini Junior Section and welcomes you to a warm friendly club which follows the great traditions of rugby union. We look forward to you playing a part in our present and our future.

***Suggested Kit for Under 6 – 8’s*** ***Suggested Kit for Under 9 - 16’s***

\* Water bottle \* Gum Shield

\* Weather appropriate clothing \* Shin Pads

\* Under Armour (thermals) \* Skull Cap

\* Rugby boots \* Body Armour

\* Under Armour (thermals)

\* Rugby boots with aluminium studs

\* Weather appropriate clothing

\* Water bottle

We are planning to run teams from under 6’s to under 16’s this season and have qualified coaches who are all DBS (previously CRB) checked. Any queries regarding this please speak to your age group coach or one of Safeguarding officers. We have a file on the touchline that has copies of DBS and coaching certificates for anyone who would like to have a look.

Funds are always difficult to raise, so we cannot provide rugby shirts for all, so the club policy is that players provide their own shirts up to under 13’s. Please feel free to discuss this or any problems with our coaches, who will be happy to help anyway they can. Also the club shop will run on sunday mornings

We have started a collection of old rugby boots so we can do a boot exchange. This is where boots that are too small can be handed in and given to players in need of boots .So we would encourage anyone that has any old boots they no longer need to hand them in and we will see if we can find them a home.

**Our coaches are CRB checked and we follow the RFU’s policy on Child Welfare**

Remember “The welfare of all young people is paramount.”

***Northumberland RFU Fair Play Code***

***Players should***:

•Remember skill development, fun and enjoyment are the most important parts of playing rugby

•Work equally hard for yourself and your team

•Recognise good play by ALL players on your team and by your opponents

•Players should respect the coaches & volunteers from your club & opponents club

•Not use bad language

•Respect all team mates not matter what their ability

•Always support your team, whether you are on the pitch or not.

•Play to the laws and spirit of the game – accept without question, all the referee’s decisions

•Always give 3 cheers at the end of the game and shake hands with your opponents.

***Parents should***:

•Remember that young people play rugby for their own enjoyment not that of their parents

•Encourage young people to play – do not force them

•Focus on young players’ efforts rather than winning or losing

•Provide positive feedback both in training and during a game

•Support the club in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from the game

•Always show appreciation of good play by ALL young players both from your own club and the opposition

•Respect decisions made by the match officials and encourage young players to do likewise

***Spectators should***:

•Embrace the ethos of **FUN, ENJOYMENT and SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

•Act as positive role models to all young players

•Respect match officials’ decisions

**•NEVER VERBALLY ABUSE YOUNG PLAYERS, MATCH OFFICIALS, FELLOW SPECTATORS OR COACHES**

•Condemn bad language, rude behaviour and violence

•Encourage ALL youngsters, never ridicule any individual player

Head Coach - Steven Coombs Tel: 0798 5474278

Coach – Steven Hoggins Tel: 0797 6700639

Safe Guarding Officer – Lorna Wilson Tel: 0792 7416159

Training and match days is on Sunday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30am. Boys and Girls welcome. All who train will play on match days.

The most important aspect is that the children have fun and learn the great game of Rugby Union

We all represent Gosforth RFC whether it be player, coach, volunteer, parent or spectator.

Thanks & here is to a great season.

**Forth to the Field.**