

2019 SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH RUGBY PARENT INFORMATION PACKET







SPRING 2019 SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH RUGBY CLUB

Welcome Southeastern Youth Rugby Parents!

We are very excited to welcome you to the Southeastern Youth Rugby Family. Your child has shown an interest in joining a team coached by the finest youth rugby coaches in Indiana. Southeastern Youth Rugby Club started in 2003 and was aligned with the HSE Royal Rugby Club and S.P.O.R.T.S. Our club has many special traditions that your child will learn quickly.

Rugby is a very unique sport because it allows PLAYERS to make real-time life decisions. The game of rugby includes preparation, training and coaching but the non-stop action puts the strategy and game into the player's hands. No other sport is like rugby – it combines football, soccer, basketball, and wrestling all into one!

Every player is required to register and pay associates fees with Rugby Indiana and the Southeastern Youth Rugby Club. Our schedule consists of some travel, team supplies, and socials which are paid by dues. Parents will only pay dues one time through S.P.O.R.T.S. but will need to register each child on the Rugby Indiana website at www.rugbyindiana.com. We also have our usual \$50 per-player refundable volunteer fee. There are many ways to volunteer for rugby: helping prepare the pitch (field) for a match, player socials, tournament concession stand duty, or the end of year banquet. The Rugby Club has already set up volunteer sign ups through www.signupgenius.com to make it very easy for everyone!

Our home pitch (field) for practices will be on the Frozen Tundra (open field) at the corner of 131st Street and Cumberland Road next to Fishers Junior High School from February to mid-March. Once the Fishers Parks Department opens Brooks School Park located at the corner of 116th and Brooks School Road, we will move practice to this location from mid-March to May. Our home games will be at Cyntheanne Park next to the HSE Junior High School. Practices will be several times per week and determined by coaches. Practices are scheduled to start in late February or early March, but we are investigating possible indoor venues for some late winter practices. If there is a game on Saturday, we will not have practice.

We have many corporate sponsor opportunities available. Southeastern Youth Rugby ("HSE Rugby, Inc.") is a 501c3 tax exempt organization and would greatly appreciate your support. We have included sponsor forms and information in this packet.

Please review the 2019 Schedule and the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to learn more about our club and the sport of rugby.

Thank you again for joining us AND WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

Derrick McFarland – Flag Head Coach Brett Hansen – 5/6 "Red" and "Blue" Coaches Stacey Grove – 7/8 Boys Head Coach Kara Fick – 7/8 Girls Head Coach

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Rugby?

Rugby is the fastest growing youth sport in the United States. Many people are familiar with rugby as a fringe sport, but you may be surprised to learn that it is actually the second most popular sport in the world behind soccer. In fact, in Europe, Australia and South Africa, the teams and players are elevated to a star status that exceeds that of NFL players in the United States! Many teams fill 80,000 seat stadiums for international match play.

The allure of rugby is easy to understand yet hard to explain. Who can't appreciate the toughness required to play a fast-paced, hard- hitting game that is 60 minutes long with no timeouts and only a 5- minute half time! All players play both defense and offense at any given time during a game. Most appealing is the fact that there is a position for everyone who wants to play – large or thin, short or tall. Above all, rugby is a social sport that praises competition but demands good sportsmanship.

Scoring: There are four ways to score points in a rugby game.

- Try When the ball is grounded over an opponent's try line (goal line) in their try zone (end zone), it is worth 5 points. The try counts as a score only if the ball is literally touched down with control in the try zone, which is where American football gets the word "touchdown."
- Conversion After scoring a try, the scoring team gets an attempt to kick the ball over the crossbar and through the posts of the rugby uprights. A conversion is worth 2 points. Again, like American football, a score and a conversion are a combined seven points.
- Penalty If the opposition commits a penalty, a team can choose to kick at the goal. Combining the penalty shot of soccer and the field goal of American football, a penalty kick is worth 3 points.
- Drop Goal During play, a team may drop the ball on the ground and kick it over the goal. This is called a drop goal and is worth 3 points.

Who is on the Rugby Board?

Role	Name	Email	
President	Heather Harley	Heatherharley18@yahoo.com	
Vice President	Brian Sweany	bsweany@comcast.net	
Treasurer	Carrie Lewis	dchdhl@sbcglobal.net	
Secretary	Laura Snidersticker	Heatherharley18@yahoo.com	
At-Large Member	Colleen Hefferen-		
	Peruse		
At-Large Member	Brett Hansen	bretthansen.cdt@gmail.com	
At-Large Member	Allison Shailes		
Concessions Manager	Carrie Lewis	dchdhl@sbcglobal.net	

How do I learn more about Rugby?

Go to www.rugbyindiana.com and click on the tab "What Is Rugby?" You can watch videos and download a great document tool called "Beginners Guide to Rugby".

What are Rugby Socials?

As part of the rugby tradition, the home team hosts the visiting team with a meal, which is filled only with good cheer and camaraderie. This is a great way to meet other parents, ask questions, and make new friends.

What does my child need to play?

Rugby socks, rugby shorts, boots (cleats) mouth guard, <u>desire and effort!</u> (Soccer cleats can double as rugby cleats; however, metal cleats (baseball) and cleats with a cleat on the end of the toe (football) are strictly prohibited.

What are the Southeastern Youth Rugby Club Fees?

When you include the cost of equipment and travel, rugby is one of the cheapest youth sports in Fishers, however we do annually pay sanctioning and administration fees to both Rugby Indiana and S.P.OR.T.S. Southeastern Youth Rugby is committed to keeping fees low through volunteerism. If a parent logs at least three volunteer hours on behalf of his or her child's team, \$50 will be refunded per child at season's end.

Southeastern Youth Rugby is proud to announce a fee reduction for the 2019 season:

All fees have been designed to be easy for parents and to include a custom rugby ball, shorts, socks and mouthguards*. All you have to worry about is cleats!

Age Level	HSE-Fishers Rugby (equipment to player)	Total Cost (includes \$75 Volunteer Fee)
Flag 2/3/4	T-shirt & Shorts	\$180
Co-Ed 5/6 tackle	Shorts, socks, and custom SISU mouthguard	\$250
Girls 7/8 tackle	Shorts, socks, and custom SISU mouthguard	\$250
Boys 7/8 tackle	Jacket, Pants, Practice Jersey, Monogram Backpack, Shorts, socks, and custom SISU mouthguard	\$325

• Family max: Call the S.P.O.R.T.S. office at 317-845-5582 to receive a discount for families with 3 or more players in the same league. There is a \$50 discount for the third player; any family members registered beyond that are free.

Parents/Guardians will need to register on Rugby Indiana before the first practice. This additional fee covers the cost of referees and provides additional insurance protection to your player. The Rugby Indiana fees pay for USA Rugby CIPP fees, supplemental accident health policy, Rugby Administration Staff, Referee Society, grants for low income players and All Star/Select teams. The S.P.O.R.T.S. fees pay for registration, bookkeeping and general field maintenance by the city of Fishers.

With the exception of the concessions manager, every single administrator and coach in Southeastern Youth Rugby is <u>a volunteer</u>. We ask that parents and players show the respect and patience that their commitment demands.

When are the payments due?

The rugby player fees are due by January 31, 2019 to S.P.O.R.T.S.

Early online registration at http://www.hsesports.org/ will open on January 1, 2019 and run until January 31. Parents can still register after January 31 but will pay a \$10 late fee to S.P.O.R.T.S. Final registration is due by March 31, 2019. Also, you have to separately register your child as a member of Rugby Indiana at http://www.rugbyindiana.com/. This is where you'll fill out all the waivers, parent pledges, etc. There is no cost to register at Rugby Indiana, as this is already covered by your player fee. The online registration at Rugby Indiana opens January 2, 2019 and runs through March 31, 2019.

How will I know if practice/game is cancelled due to weather?

The coaches/manager/team mom will email, tweet, or call parents if there is a last minute weather related cancellation. Parents can also check the Town of Fishers Parks Department for closure of Brooks School Park or Cyntheanne Park.

What are my responsibilities as a parent?

You are VERY important! If you are new to rugby – please ask questions.

There are many ways to volunteer for the club. If you are not able to volunteer, please consider making a cash donation or buying lots of Southeastern Youth Rugby Spirit Wear, Car Decals, and Garage Signs to show your support!

What is the concussion protocol?

The governing body of youth sports in Fishers, the Southeastern Program of Recreational Team Sports (S.P.O.R.T.S.), recommends baseline ImPACT testing. There is a special deal through IU Health for \$5.00. Southeastern Youth adheres to the same protocol as other youth leagues, and a player will not be cleared to play until he's medically evaluated and cleared by a doctor.

For more information, go to the (S.P.O.R.T.S.) website at http://www.hsesports.org/page/show/1157644-baseline-impact-testing.

How can I buy spirit wear, car decals, and a garage sign to support my son and the Southeastern Youth Rugby Club?

We will be offering an online store in the New Year. Details to follow soon.

When is the end of season banquet?

The celebratory banquet will be the second week of June 2017. The coaches, administrators, alumni, parents, and players will gather for a recap of the season with slideshow/movie presentation. The Club will need volunteers to help with the banquet so it will be a great opportunity for those final volunteer hours. We will have the banquet at the HSE or FHS cafeteria. To help fund the cost of the banquet meal and awards, there is a small payment for attendance.

How many high school rugby teams are in Indiana?

There are currently twenty-nine (29) high school boys and fourteen (14) high school girls rugby teams in Indiana. There are three divisions for boys (Super League, Division I, Division II) and two divisions for girls (Division I, Division II). Indiana has one of the largest numbers of youth and high school rugby clubs in the USA. In 2011, the Southeastern Rugby Club was split into two high school teams, HSE Rugby and Fishers Rugby. HSE won the Division I state title in 2015, FHS won the Division I state title in 2016, and both schools will compete at the Super League level in 2017. Southeastern Youth Rugby is the only youth rugby club in Indiana that feeds into two high school boy's teams. Note that our high school girls "Hamilton United" team is a combination of HSE High School, Fishers High School, Noblesville, and Carmel and for the 2017 season will not be administered by Southeastern Youth Rugby.

What is our club history?

The HSE Rugby Club was formed in 2003. In 2004 and 2008, HSE Rugby won the Division II State Finals. The HSE-Fishers (Havoc) Girls High School Rugby Club was formed in 2006. The Rugby Club added a Junior High (7th/8th grade) level team in 2007 and a Middle School (5th/6th grade) team in 2011. In 2014, a non-contact Flag team (2nd, 3rd, 4th grade) was added to the Club. In 2014, the Boys High School Junior Varsity Team won the Division I State Championship and the Runner Up was Fishers High School. Also in 2014, Fishers and HSE created a Rugby Mudsock Game that raised over \$5,000 for Riley Children's Hospital. In 2015, HSE defeated Fishers in the Division I state final. The following year, Fishers swept the Division state titles at both the JV and varsity levels.

On May 30, 2016, the Southeastern Youth Rugby 7/8 team secured its first-ever state championship, defeating Penn 66-5 in the state final after defeating archrival Broad Ripple Park 38-22 in the semi-final on May 28. The team finished with a perfect 12-0 record, which was also a first. With Fishers High School securing both the Junior Varsity and Varsity state championships, it was only the second time in the history of USA Rugby that one city could claim "The Rugby Triple Crown": reigning state rugby champions at the junior high, JV, and varsity levels.

Who are the teams in each High School division?

HSE Royals and Fishers Tigers were in Division I from 2008-2016 before moving up to Super League for the 2017 season. The new Super League is split into a North and South Conference. The North teams are Penn, Bishop Dwenger, Culver, and Carroll. The South teams are Royal Irish, Brownsburg, Fishers, HSE, and St. Xavier of Louisville (pending Rugby Indiana approval).

Division I has been split into four conferences: North, Hoosier, MidSouth and DeepSouth. The North teams are Angola, Homestead, Warsaw, Leo, and Marian. The Hoosier teams are Lafayette Legacy, Westfield, Zionsville, and Carmel. The MidSouth teams are Pike, Noblesville, Avon, and North Central. The DeepSouth teams are Arsenal Tech, Franklin Township, Bloomington/Columbus, and Trinity of Louisville (pending Rugby Indiana approval).

Division II is a developmental league comprising Elkhart Central, Bremen, and Wawasee. Clubs in Division II are required to compete for two provisional non-playoff five-game seasons, but may be eligible for the Division I playoffs if approved by a majority vote of Rugby Indiana commissioners.

What happens after the season? Are there opportunities to play in All-Stars or travels to other states?

Yes! During the semi-state and state tournaments, staff and coaches from the Rugby Indiana organization will provide try-out and other important information. Players and coaches from Southeastern Youth Rugby, Fishers High School Rugby Club, and HSE Royals Rugby have played/coached in the tournaments in Elkhart, Indiana and various all-star tournaments in Pittsburgh, Chicago, and Denver.

Are there colleges that offer club rugby in Indiana?

Yes! <u>Sixteen</u> colleges and universities in the state of Indiana offer club programs:

- Anderson University
- Ball State University
- Bethel College
- DePauw University
- Grace College
- Indiana State University
- Indiana University
- Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne
- Indiana Wesleyan University
- Purdue University
- Saint Joseph's University
- St. Mary's College
- University of Indianapolis
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Southern Indiana
- Wabash College

There is also a D1A Rugby Union for certain colleges and universities based on higher ability and skill. Division IA is an elite collegiate rugby competition sanctioned and administered by USA rugby. The conference-based league features 37 elite men's college rugby teams competing in six conferences: Allied Rugby, Big Ten, California, East, Mid-South, West, and one independent team. The regular season sees all teams in the conference play one another, with the two top seeds qualifying for the playoffs. Playoffs are single elimination and the two unbeaten teams advance to the Division IA finals.

Are there rugby scholarships available to my player?

Yes! Notre Dame is the most famous university in Indiana that offers full ride scholarships for rugby. There are twenty-seven (27) colleges and universities in the United States who offer rugby scholarships. A complete list can be found here: http://usarugby.org/scholarships. There are over 400 state colleges and universities that do not offer specific rugby scholarship, however, the rugby program will help find financial support in other ways to incentive players to play rugby. In recent years, there have been several rugby players from Fishers, Indiana and Central Indiana who have been awarded over \$300,000 in college scholarships. Some of these High School players have represented the USA in international rugby matches at no cost to the players and their families.

Is there a men's or women's level rugby club that my child and I could go watch games?

Yes! Two men's clubs, the Indianapolis Impalas Rugby Club and the Carmel-based White River Rugby Club, compete locally. The Indianapolis Hoydens is the women's premier club. Our 7/8 head coach, Stacey Grove, currently plays for White River. There is also a ton of rugby you can watch from the comfort of your couch! FloRUGBY is a dedicated channel that plays domestic and international rugby matches. You can also tune into ESPN and NBC for rugby matches.

Who are the Southeastern Youth Rugby Coaches?

Derek McFarland - Head Coach 2-4 Grade Co-Ed Flag

Hometown: Indianapolis, Indiana Profession: Transportation

Playing Experiences

Playing Experience:

Coaching Experience: Football and basketball coaching experience

Goals for the Season: Every player gets a score. Everyone has fun and do their best. The kids learn the

fundamentals of rugby; specifically, passing and spacing.

Brett Hansen, Head Coach 5/6 Grade, "Red" Team Coach

Hometown: Army Brat...Lived in Indiana since 1987 so I am a Hoosier.

Profession: Dental Technician at Hunter Dental Laboratory

Playing Experience: 1989-1992 Lawrence Central HS. Won the first two rugby state championships in Indiana

Coaching Experience: This will be my third year coaching the 2-4 grade flag rugby program.

Goals for the Season: Focus on rugby core principals, with an emphasis on safety during contact. Tackling & field awareness. The importance of teamwork and respect on and off the pitch. Instilling my passion for the sport into avant places.

into every player!

Christian Lawhead, Associate Head Coach 5/6 Grade, "Blue" Team Coach

Hometown: Indianapolis, Indiana

Profession: Sales Manager for Medical/Surgical Sales

Playing Experience: High school rugby, Indiana University Rugby Mudsharks, Professional rugby in Castlebar,

Ireland.

Coaching Experience: I have coached many sports such as soccer, football, basketball, wrestling and rugby.

Chris' wife, Courtney, is the current President of HSE Royals Rugby Club.

Goals for the Season: 1) Fun and Fundamentals 2) Compete for 5/6 State Championship Title

Stacey Grove, Head Coach 7/8 Grade Boys

Hometown: Ocala, FL

Profession: Director, ATI Logistics

Playing Experience: 2014-Current White River RFC, Carmel, IN

Coaching Experience: 2nd Year Southeastern Youth Rugby Head Coach, 1st year Indiana All Star Assistant Coach; 2003-2004 Assistant Wrestling Coach, Forest High School Ocala, FL; Certified Level 100 USA Rugby Coach, Certified Level 200 USA Rugby Coach, C3 Certified Rugby Referee; 2016 Indiana 7/8th Grade State

Champions

Goals for the Season: Our goals for the season are simple: We expect the best effort from each member of our team during all phases of the season. We will only worry about the effort and dedication to improvement, rather than uncontrollable and results. Whether we are on the practice pitch or on the battlefield, we will give all we have to repeat our state championship season from last year.

Kara Fick, Head Coach 7/8 Girls

Hometown: Elkhart, Indiana

Profession: Senior Engagement Partner, Finish Line **Playing Experience:** 2006-2007 Penn High School

Coaching Experience: New Coach

Goals for the Season: We want to win and have a fantastic time!

Susan Werbe, Head Coach 7/8 Girls

Hometown: Shelbyville, Indiana

Profession: Program Director, the MENTOR Network, Health and Human Services

Playing Experience: Indiana University, Midwest Thunderbirds All Stars, USA All American

Coaching Experience: Arsenal Tech High School Girls and Boys Rugby 2015-2017

Goals for the Season: We want to win and teach the girls the lifetime friendships of rugby

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

The Southeastern Youth Rugby Club is pleased to report that the future of rugby in southeastern Hamilton County is bright. *Very* bright.

Rugby is a unique sport because it allows players to make real-time decisions. The game of rugby includes preparation, training and coaching, but the non-stop action puts the strategy and game into the player's hands. No other sport is like rugby – it combines football, soccer, basketball, and wrestling all into one!

We are very excited that the city of Fishers is represented by not one, but two state-ranked high school rugby clubs, the Fishers Tigers and the Hamilton Southeastern Royals. The Southeastern Youth Rugby Club is the only youth team in the country that feeds two high schools. We are very proud that our youth and high school teams have competed consistently at the State Championship level over the past few years. With Hamilton Southeastern High School winning the Division 1 state title in 2015 and Fishers High School winning the Division 1 title the following year. In fact, not only did Fishers High School secure both the Junior Varsity and Varsity state championships in 2016, the Youth 7/8 program also brought home a state championship. It was only the second time in the history of USA Rugby that one city could claim reigning state rugby champions at the junior high, JV, and varsity levels. The Youth Rugby Triple Crown!

According to a December 2014 Bloomberg News Report, rugby experienced the biggest five-year gains of *any* sport in America—an increase of 81% in participation! Youth rugby participation grew 30.5% from 2008 to 2013—the biggest growth rate among team sports for players ages 6-12. With a TV viewership of **4.2 billion**, the 2015 Rugby World Cup trailed only the Soccer World Cup as the largest sporting event in the world. By comparison, the 2015 Super Bowl was the most watched in NFL history...with an average Nielsen viewership of 114.4 million.

The Southeastern Rugby Club has experienced growth in both the number of participants in the league and in the quality of our facilities. *We are the fourth-largest rugby youth league in America* and host games and tournaments at Cyntheanne Park, one of the most beautiful and largest rugby pitches (five fields) in the Midwest.

The Club is excited to present the opportunities for corporate sponsorship for the upcoming 2017 rugby season. The dollars raised through sponsorship help fund not only our teams with equipment and uniforms, but also provide scholarships for those in need of financial assistance, making sure that everyone has the opportunity to share the enjoyment of playing the game.

Note that Southeastern Youth Rugby is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit. If you're looking to donate, and/or your employer offers corporate matching, make sure to take advantage before the tax year ends!

Our sponsorship program provides different levels of contribution opportunities, allowing each corporate partner to choose the level that works best for them. With home and away games against the likes of Carmel, Noblesville, Zionsville, Brownsburg and Broad Ripple, your company's brand will be exposed to an affluent cross-section of central Indiana parents.

We are pleased to announce that the sponsorship levels are improved this year and include the following:

PLATINUM LEVEL - \$2,500.00

- SPONSORSHIP OF TWO (2) TEAMS
- LOGO OR NAME ON JERSEYS
- AUTOGRAPHED RUGBY BALL FROM ALL YOUTH PLAYERS & COACHES
- SPONSOR RECOGNITION PLAQUE AT THE END OF THE SEASON
- PROMINENT & LARGE
 LISTING ON OUR
 WEBSITE, E-MAIL
 DISTRIBUTION BANNERS,
 PLAYER T-SHIRTS, AND
 TEAM BANNERS.



GOLD LEVEL - \$1,300.00

- SPONSORSHIP OF ONE (1) TEAM
- LOGO OR NAME ON JERSEYS
- AUTOGRAPHED RUGBY BALL FROM ALL YOUTH PLAYERS & COACHES
- SPONSOR RECOGNITION PLAQUE AT THE END OF THE SEASON
- MEDIUM SIZE LISTING ON OUR WEBSITE, E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION BANNERS, PLAYER T-SHIRTS, AND TEAM BANNERS.

SILVER LEVEL - \$500.00

- AUTOGRAPHED RUGBY BALL FROM ALL YOUTH PLAYERS & COACHES
- SPONSOR RECOGNITION PLAQUE AT THE END OF THE SEASON
- MEDIUM SIZE LISTING ON OUR
 WEBSITE, E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION
 BANNERS, PLAYER T-SHIRTS, AND
 TEAM BANNERS.
- ON AN ANNUAL FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS, ONE SILVER-LEVEL SPONSOR WILL HAVE THE OPTION TO BE THE FLAG TEAM'S JERSEY SPONSOR.
- ANY PARENT WHO BRINGS IN A
 BRONZE LEVEL SPONSOR WILL HAVE
 HIS OR HER CHILD'S REGSISTRATION
 FEE WAIVED!

BRONZE LEVEL - \$250.00

- AUTOGRAPHED RUGBY BALL FROM ALL YOUTH PLAYERS & COACHES
- SMALL SIZE LISTING ON OUR WEBSITE, E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION BANNERS, PLAYER T-SHIRTS, AND TEAM BANNERS.



There is also a "max corporate option" for an additional donation above and beyond one of the standard sponsorship levels, in which all jerseys, literature and team names would be re-branded under the title sponsor's name. It is our hope that each corporation or small business can find a sponsorship level for which they are comfortable. We ask that you take the time and effort to fill out the registration form that follows and mail with a check to the address in the center area of the form. Your consideration in our sponsorship program is greatly appreciated, not only by this board, but also by the youth of our community. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you for your support!

HEATHER HARLEY, PRESIDENT SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH RUGBY SEYouthRugby@gmail.com

PLEASE SUBMIT ONLY THE FORM ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE WITH YOUR SPONSORSHIP PAYMENT

SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH RUGBY 2019 TEAM CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

SELECT SPONS	DRSHIP LEVEL	.:		
\$2,500 \$1,300 \$500 \$250	GOLD			
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PLEASE MAKE C WITH THIS FORM RUGBY, C/O S.P.	I TO: HEATHEI	R HARLEY, S	COUTHEAS	TERN YOUTH
COMPANY NAME: ADDRESS: CITY: PHONE: CONTACT NAME:		STATE:	ZIP:	
PHONE:CONTACT NAME: EMAIL ADDRESS: WEBSITE:				
IS THERE A PAR	TICULAR PLAY	ER YOU WIS	SH TO SPOI	NSOR?
YES NO IF YES, PLAYER'S	NAME:			