

Paviors Junior Boys – Under 13s to Under 16s

End of Season Report

Summary

It has been another successful season for the Paviors Junior Section overall, although not without its challenges. As is often the case, the season has been impacted at times by the weather and also by floodlight issues, but we have greatly appreciated everyone's flexibility in working with alternative arrangements. The new portable lights have also been a very welcome addition.

It has been fantastic to see so many players enjoying their rugby, developing their skills and growing in confidence throughout the season.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the dedication of our coaches, team managers and volunteers. Their hard work, commitment and support throughout the year have been invaluable as always, and we extend our thanks to everyone involved in developing rugby at Paviors and helping to create a strong future for the club.

A huge well done also goes to all our players. Their enthusiasm, effort and willingness to learn have been a pleasure to see, and they should be proud of everything they have achieved this season. We hope to see that same spirit continue next year.

Teams

U13s – have been on a learning curve during their first season in Juniors and their first foray into the NLD Junior Cup Competition. Although the results haven't always gone their way, they are building steadily and continue to recruit as they move up to playing 15 a side. Following some coaching changes towards the end of the season, they would welcome additional support. If you are able to help in any capacity, please consider getting involved.

U14s – started the season with strong numbers but the team was effectively starting afresh after losing some key players over the summer while also welcoming a number of new recruits, resulting in some mixed abilities. Despite further changes during the season, the squad has come together well, with morale remaining high throughout. They were put in a very tough NLD group, but the team played well and certainly gave some of the opposition a significant challenge. Nominations have been made for 8 players to go for the selection process for Leicester Tigers Developing Player Programme (DPP) in the coming season.

U15s – have had a very strong season, topping their NLD Junior Cup table and reaching the semi-final stage of the competition. The squad has continued to grow, with a number of new players joining and helping to strengthen the group where needed. There have been some challenges along the way, including a couple of long-term injuries, but the team has continued to develop well throughout the season. As with all age groups, balancing developing players alongside more experienced players can be difficult at times, but the group has worked hard to keep progressing together. It has also been an excellent year for player progression, with five players now involved in the Leicester Tigers Academy, which is a fantastic achievement for both the players and the coaches.

U16s – very sadly folded in January, despite the very best efforts of everyone involved in the team. A small number of player departures unfortunately led to further losses, leaving the squad unable to

continue. Every possible option was explored, including combining with other clubs, but no sustainable solution could be found. However, Andy Carey and others have kept in close contact with the 7 remaining players who went to Mellish once the team folded, and we are delighted that all of those players are intending to return to Paviers for the new season to join Academy – we can't wait to welcome them back!

Training / Coaching

Pre-season training resumes w/c 29/6/26 on the age groups usual evenings. The new U13s already started mid-week training in March in the space vacated by the U16s and are looking forward to their move into Juniors.

James "Rusty" Wright has distributed a Coaching Handbook and Player Pathway to all coaches, in an effort to guide coaches on which courses they should take at each age level and the minimum skill requirements the club wants each age group coaching team to meet. This would help to ensure training aligns with our player pathway, and ultimately complements the Paviers way of playing at senior level. Further work to embed this will be ongoing.

Fixtures

All teams have a pretty full fixtures list already arranged for next season. These need inputting onto GMS to link with the website.

First Aid

All teams have qualified first aiders although a number require refresher courses soon. All teams are reporting first aid incidents via the RFU's recommended PROactive reporting application.

Planning for next season

We intend to hold a managers and coaches meeting for the new season to discuss topics such as:

- Coaches, Players and Parents Conduct
- Fixtures
- Rugby Safe, including use of PROactive reporting
- Registration/Membership
- Training requirements
- Safeguarding
- Coaching/Player pathway
- Opportunity for coaches to share lessons learnt

Conclusion

Another successful season with all teams enjoying their rugby, demonstrated by continued attendance and players introducing new friends to join.

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