



# **ECCLES RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

Founded 1897

Ground and Clubhouse: Gorton Street, Peel Green, Eccles, Manchester, M30 7LY  
0161 789 2613 | [info@ecclesrfc.org.uk](mailto:info@ecclesrfc.org.uk) | [@EcclesRFC](https://www.ecclesrfc.org.uk) | [www.ecclesrfc.org.uk](http://www.ecclesrfc.org.uk)

## **2020/2021 SEASON AGM RUGBY REPORT**

### **Seniors**

Pre-empting a delay in the rugby season not starting in September, pre-season did not commence in July but at the later date of August with an emphasis not on rugby but being fit for life.

Eccles RFC offered senior members the opportunity to take part in different training sessions Gym, Pilates, Speed & Endurance as well as skill development workshops, ran in complete adherence with Government & RFU Covid-19 Guidance.

September saw the club starting to offer Touch Rugby sessions on a Saturday morning led by James Wright & Rowanne Smalley the sessions ran continuously through the season when permitted with Government guidance and saw attendance of nearly 80 players on many sessions.

In late September with the announcement of no competitive rugby till 2021 the club started to move its senior members into some return to rugby training. Sessions were designed to get players bodies physically ready for a contact version of the game.

Early November saw all activities stopped for another 4-week lockdown.

Early December saw lockdown lift. The club put into place a plan for more physical preparation for contact rugby training and also two playing opportunities in late December where over 70 Senior Male players participated in adapted formats of the game on the 19th and the 26th Of December at Gorton Street.

The end of December 2020 saw another setback for senior rugby with the government moving us back into Tier 4, meaning Adult rugby was suspended once again with mid January looking like a reasonable return date.

President: M. Dutton 07802345380  
Chairman: P. Thorpe 07766 512552  
Hon. Secretary: M. Greenhalgh 07525 434790  
Hon. Treasurer: M. Bateman 07843 756160  
Fixtures Secretary: D. Edmondson 0161 7476697  
Director of Rugby: S. Simpson 07935 403171

Sponsorship Secretary: A. Brunt 07743 825459  
Communications Officer: C. Gaffey 07971 817375  
Safeguarding Officer: H. Thorpe 0161 7902622  
M & J section Chair: P. Fleming 07889 601558  
D of E Award Chair: M. Baines 07850 082122



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March 2021 eventually saw a return to Senior rugby activity and training with friendly fixtures planned against Aldwinians & Bolton for our 1XV & 2XV teams which took place in May- 14 months since the club's last competitive Rugby in March 2020.

## **Club Coach Development**

Eccles RFC Coaching CPD's from late October to late November

- Coaching through Games
- Coaching Youth S&C in a gym environment
- Engaging with your players through lockdown
- Coach roles & responsibilities
- Questions v Instructions

## **One Club Programme**

Whole Club Ecclesathlon Challenge League launched in mid November 2020 with the emphasis on keeping our members not only connected to each other, their club and coaches, but more importantly to support maintaining physical well-being throughout our membership & their families.

Whole Club Ecclesathlon 2 launched early January.

## **Summary**

2020/21 has been an extremely difficult season for all but throughout the pandemic lockdowns, Eccles RFC has continued to support our members offering multiple formats of the game and different types of physical activity opportunities in compliance with published Covid guidance, which I believe has been a huge success.

Sam Simpson  
Eccles RFC Director of Rugby  
July 2021

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