

Stay up to date on the latest community news –

@DKRFC

**Do you have a DK Community
Story to share?**

[Click here to Share](#)



or



- ☐ [Club Governance and Finances](#)
- ☐ [Compliance and Risk Assessment.](#)
- ☐ [Padel Court Proposal](#)
- ☐ [Car Park Drainage](#)
- ☐ [Club Shop](#)
- ☐ [Senior Men's Teams](#)
- ☐ [Vixens \(Contributed by Gemma\)](#)
- ☐ [Colts \(Contributed by Ed\)](#)
- ☐ [M&J Section](#)
- ☐ [Boxing Day](#)
- ☐ [Club Events](#)
- ☐ [Note from our Chairman](#)

Club Governance and Finances.

I'm very pleased to welcome Jane Sommerville to the board of directors of DKRFC Trading Ltd. Jane is part of our



Jane Sommerville

running section and has extensive managerial experience in operating successful enterprises. Jane is working closely with the Treasurer on future financial planning, analysis and budgeting. Welcome Jane and thank you!

As we continue to stabilise the club's finances, great progress has been made by the Treasurer in bringing the accounts up to date and clearing our oldest debts. We are aware that the new year is a challenging trading period for the club. Functions are generally quieter, and we inevitably lose matches to the bad weather. This impacts the club's income, but we are making our best efforts to ensure the club is in the best possible financial position for what lies ahead. A special thanks to our admin Nicki Moore for all her hard work in assisting Ed and Jane.

Compliance and Risk Assessment.

A great deal of time and effort has been spent on implementing or updating procedures. These are necessary to protect all and form the backbone of the club's health and safety legal framework. Many thanks to Adele Joyce for her tireless work in putting all these mandatory procedures in place.

As part of our ongoing risk assessment policy updates, we have instructed JLA Fire Safety and Security to attend and complete a Fire Risk Assessment, to ensure the necessary fire safety measures are in place going into 2026. As always, everyone's safety is our highest priority.



Car Park Drainage,

As we are all aware, the car park flooding is an ongoing problem. We have had the drains cleared several times already. A site survey concluded that with three of the drains, the outflow pipe had collapsed within a couple of metres of the drain. We are currently costing the works involved with excavating each channel and replacing the damaged pipes. We also plan to install a silt trap along the edge of the gravel car park. Many thanks to our good friends at Midland Drainage Services and Sam for all their help.



Padel Court Proposal

The Padel Courts continue through the planning application stages. One major difference in our approach to the project, has been to bring the construction and ownership of the courts in-house. Rather than partner with a third-party company who would pay the club a flat ground rent, we will own and operate the courts ourselves. This will allow the club to maximise the revenue the courts will generate. This new revenue stream will provide much needed finance to help us to provide support to our first team squad, and carry out both ongoing maintenance works and our continued improvements to club infrastructure. The RFU are actively encouraging clubs to look at Padel as a partner sport and we are excited to bring the project to fruition. The proposed new club bar and cafe will not be progressed further.



[BACK TO MENU](#)

Club Shop

If you have been in the club shop recently, especially on a busy Sunday morning, you will have seen a new face behind the till. Our very own Sarah Graham has joined Brian and Mandy behind the counter and is helping with the running of **the** shop. When she isn't channelling her inner Mrs Slocombe, Sarah can be found managing the admin for our ever-popular micros. Thank you Sarah.



[BACK TO MENU](#)

Senior Men's Teams

Our 1st XV squad continue to face a challenging season. All players involved have been putting a huge amount of effort into performances, and much credit should be given to them for going above and beyond so many times already this season. The DK spirit and DK dog have been on display in every match. The coaching staff have been doing an excellent job with a smaller player pool this season, and much credit should go their way too.

Directors have been meeting with the DoR and coaches with a view to strengthening the squad and we have expressed our support and pledged resources to the cause. Retention and recruitment are our priority as we continue our campaign this season, and also into next season.

Our Development squad continue to support the first XV, and it is encouraging to see players getting a chance of first team rugby and acquitting themselves well.

The team have posted some impressive scores in the league this season and currently sit comfortably in mid table.

Our Wasps are enjoying a very strong campaign this season, having lost only 1 match, and are a close 2nd to the league leaders. Regular match day squads approaching 30 players are very encouraging, and were it not for some positional shortages, we would already be fielding a 4th team this season.

[BACK TO MENU](#)

Vixens (Contributed by Gemma)

The Vixens have enjoyed an impressive start to the season, building strong momentum both on and off the field. Their hard work has already paid off with a successful run in the Community Cup, where they have progressed through to the fourth round, showcasing determination, teamwork, and growing confidence with every match. In league play, the team currently sits in a commendable 3rd place on the table, reflecting their consistency and competitive spirit in each performance. This positive standing, highlights the collective progress the squad has made so far. Training sessions have also played a key role in their success, with excellent attendance and every player fully committing to pushing themselves and their teammates. The strong turnout and maximum effort at training demonstrate the group's shared ambition and drive to keep improving.



[BACK TO MENU](#)

Colts (Contributed by Ed)

The Colts season has been on paper quite a tough one so far. The scores in a lot of the games have not shown a fair reflection on how the group have performed in games. We are trying as a coaching group to prepare them for senior rugby, and this has included bringing a more structured play style into place. This has come with its own difficulties, but we hope by the end of the season the whole group will fully understand this style, which will set the older colts in good stead for senior rugby and our younger ones will have a head start on this season. The most important thing to me is we have a really good group of young men who are a real credit to the club.

[BACK TO MENU](#)

M&J Section

Our vibrant M&Js continue to be hugely popular. Sunday mornings are a very busy time at DK and it's great to see so many young players involved with the game. I'd like to thank all the children who take part, their parents for getting up and venturing out into the cold, and our army of volunteers who work so hard to make it all happen. Thank you all, we couldn't do it without you.

Boxing Day

[BACK TO MENU](#)

Don't forget our annual boxing day fixture. This year we travel to Stourbridge for an 11am kick off. Back at DK afterwards, the party will be in full swing and chef Ollie will be providing his excellent food for us.

Club Events

We are lining up some excellent events at DK over the coming months. Stand by for some exciting news about our next after dinner speakers.

Prior to that we have our Port cheese and Carols evening with The Gentleman's Songsters choir on 19th December. Please come along and feel free to bring your own cheese and crackers.

Our New Years Eve tickets are selling fast. This year, we are selling tickets online, which has proved very successful. Future club events will also be ticketed online. Get your New Years Eve tickets now before they sell out!

Next on the calendar after New Year, is our exciting Superbowl party night on 8th February. Tickets are available online through the club website.



[BACK TO MENU](#)

Finally, a personal thank you from me. To everyone who has supported, volunteered, and played at DK so far this season, a huge thank you. You are all a part of what makes our rugby family so special.

Have a very merry Christmas, (I hope you all get plenty of DK merchandise in your stockings) and a peaceful, happy New Year.

Richard Taylor
Chairman

