

March Newsletter

Thank you to Emma Rosewarne

As you may already be aware, the delivery of Player Welfare has transitioned from the Rugby Football League to Rugby League Cares. As the architect of the RFL's Player Welfare Strategy this also means that, Emma's role has changed and unfortunately means she will no longer be directly involved in Safeguarding matters.

Emma has been fundamental to establishing and driving forward safeguarding policies and procedures in Rugby League over a significant period of time. Her passion and commitment for doing what is right to protect children and young people has meant that the RFL has consistently met CPSU standards and is recognised as a leading national governing body for safeguarding.

I am sure you will all join us in thanking Emma for her endless work in this area.

Moving forward, the Safeguarding Case Management Group (SCMG) will have Alan Darfi (Head of Legal) to oversee, Robert Hicks (Head of Competition, Strategy & Governance) as lead, Julie Turton (Medical & Welfare Manager) and Colette Eden (Safeguarding Manager).

The 2019 Annual Safeguarding Conference



Over 100 attendees from across the Rugby League world turned out at Warrington's Halliwell Jones Stadium on Sunday at the Annual Safeguarding Conference.

In front of representatives from across Cumbria, Yorkshire, the Midlands and the North West, Rugby Football League President Andy Burnham opened the conference with a welcome address which paid tribute to the game's 'unsung heroes' - Club Welfare Officers.

Colin Bland, CEO of Sporting Chance, also spoke passionately about the effects of abuse on individuals and delegates, as Andy Burnham and RFL Vice-President Pat Crawshaw presented Listening Club Certificates to 12 clubs.

Robert Hicks gave a Case Review for 2018 and Kelly Barrett updated on 'Enjoy the Game' and First Aid.

The afternoon was all about CWOs working together to look at our resources, website and networking ideas.

Scenarios

Delegates were asked to assess the usefulness of the new scenarios – they were received positively and will form part of the Time to Listen course.

Survey Monkey Questionnaire

The findings from the questionnaire were presented and we would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete it. It was interesting to note that several people said they had never received a newsletter – even though it is sent to the same email address as the questionnaire! Please check your spam folder in case it goes in there (if someone has forwarded this to you or you are reading it on the website). Please also note that it is sent from Rugby League and not Colette Eden. One of the issues raised in the survey monkey was networking and this was discussed in the later sessions.

Website

Groups were asked to look at the website and make suggestions for improvement. The majority opinion was that there should be a resource section with all resources listed alphabetically, but that the resources should also remain in the section they currently sit in. So, you can go to a documents section for something, or you can still access it from the CWO section.

CWO Booklet

Groups suggested the content for a booklet for new CWOs and some volunteered to contribute to it.

Networking

Delegates were asked how they would like to communicate with each other, and Facebook clearly won. We now need volunteers to set this up and be administrators for it. Please email safeguarding@rfl.uk.com if you wish to volunteer!

Newsletter

All CWOs are welcome to suggest topics for the newsletter – all ideas would be greatly received. There was a suggestion (also on the questionnaire) of asking other CWOs questions – if you would like to do this, please send in your question to safeguarding@rfl.uk.com

Listening Club - Presentation by Salford City Roosters

Before we asked clubs to pledge to the Listening Club, Salford City Roosters gave an excellent presentation on their listening sessions. The findings from SCR were shared with the conference - some really interesting stuff and some great feedback from their young people too. It is good to see that the club acted on the 'simple' changes that make a difference to the experience of young people within their rugby league environment. It was

also nice to hear that they knew who to go to – ‘the lady in the kitchen’ but I think we will stick to CWO as an official title!

We would like to thank Alfrieda and Andy for their honesty in saying it felt like another thing they had to do! They also said how enjoyable it was and how useful – they are very happy to continue with the Listening Club.



Pledge to be a

Listening Club



Several CWOs gave a pledge to be a Listening Club and you will find their photos on the Child and Player Welfare section of our website soon.

LIFESAVER

Please share this new feature which is now on the RFL website with all your first aiders and anyone else at your club.

http://www.rugby-league.com/the_rfl/child_player_welfare/first_aid_and_concussion

What is LifeSaver?

An estimated 60,000 people each year in the UK have an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and, sadly, less than 10% of those people will survive. Yet, if a bystander is able to start CPR they could double a person's chances of survival.

Would you know what to do?

Lifesaver is a live-action movie that you play like a game. It shows you how to save someone's life in four action-packed scenarios - including a brand new teen-focused scenario.

It throws you into the heart of the action as you make crucial decisions and learn essential life-saving skills.

LifeSaver focuses on those CPR skills most likely to save a life:

- Recognizing cardiac arrest
- Calling for help
- Starting chest compressions
- Giving rescue breaths if able to do so
- Using an AED (automated external defibrillator) if one is available

How it works

Lifesaver is a crisis simulator that fuses interactivity and live-action film to teach CPR in a new way on a computer, smartphone or tablet.

For example, when "Jake" collapses from a heart attack, you are questioned about what to do at each step - with a clock running to represent the need to respond quickly to prevent brain damage or death.

When it comes time to administer CPR, you're prompted to swipe your tablet or phone up and down in the air in the speed of the chest compressions.

You can see and hear the patient's chest moving and the effort needed to do the compressions as the app tells you if you're going too fast or too slow.

Tackle Bags

As the season starts, can you please remind your coaches that adults should not be holding tackle bags for children. The coach should demonstrate with another adult and children should practice against another child – never an adult. This will protect the child from possible injury and the coach from any inappropriate accusations or misinterpretation.

Social Media

As you conduct your induction with new teams and parents, it is an ideal time to remind them about inappropriate posts on social media. Please emphasise Respect and Enjoy the Game and the club sanctions for showing the club in a poor light. Parents should never post negative comments about any player, coach, opposition club or the league. Parents and young people should be reminded that their first port of call for concerns should be to the Coach in the first instance or the Club Welfare Officer. If parents feel that their issues are being addressed, they may not resort to inappropriate (and often unfair) criticism on social media.

DBS Verification

We have received several requests for people to become verifiers and we cannot take on more verifiers unless there is a geographical need. Many requests are for 'group' sessions which is a worry that volunteers may be working with children without a DBS. When you have a new volunteer, you should get them to complete a DBS as soon as possible. They can look at the verifier list and organise themselves to arrange a meeting with the verifier. Clubs do not exist in isolation and your volunteers will be attending other clubs where there may be a verifier. As a CWO you will manage the process, but volunteers can take responsibility for the application and verification.

Rugby League World Cup 2021

And finally, please take the time to read the grants opportunity below. Remember that part of the criteria is listening to children!



CreatedBy RLWC2021 Capital Grants Programme accepting applications

Is your club looking for funding to improve your club facilities or obtain new kit and equipment? If the answer is yes, then please read on!

In just under three years the RLWC2021 will be hosted here in England and in order to inspire communities and leave a lasting legacy, a record £10million of government funding will be delivered by the Rugby Football League in partnership with Sport England. Clubs like yours are at the heart of rugby league communities and the RFL are keen to see this funding reach those communities through clubs that can contribute to inspire the next generation of rugby league players, officials and volunteers. We are keen to receive requests for projects that will improve existing or build new facilities that will create Welcoming Environments, attract More Players to our sport and activity that will engage the wider community.

The funding programme is called CreatedBy RLWC2021 Capital Grants Programme and is currently accepting applications for large-scale requests above £15,000 or small-scale requests up to £15,000. Below are some ideas of the sorts of items your club can apply for:

Large-Scale Requests over £15,000

- New or existing playing field provision
- New or existing club house facilities
- Multi-sport or multi-activity environments
- New or improved sports lighting
- New or existing Artificial Grass Pitches

Small-Scale Requests up to £15,000

- Branded team kit & equipment (supplied by CreatedBy RLWC2021)

- Branded training equipment (supplied by CreatedBy RLWC2021)
- Grounds & maintenance equipment
- Goalposts & post protectors
- Small improvements or repairs to existing facilities

Whilst the funding programme is open for now just under 3 years prior to the RLWC2021 starting in October 2021, the RFL would like clubs to grasp this amazing opportunity for the grassroots game of rugby league that the RLWC2021 presents.

Partnership Funding

Unfortunately, we can't fund every project, but we would like to fund as many as we can and create the greatest legacy from RLWC2021.

We hope to stretch the £10million funding as far as possible so we can do more for the game.

Contributions towards the overall project costs will therefore be required and can include:

- Applications to alternative funding organisations – [click link for list](#)
- Fundraising at your organisation – [click link for ideas](#)
- Local partners or community groups to assist in funding
- Business people and organisation members

Applicants will be expected to secure other funds or finance first. Getting local partners and people in the community to support financially is vital, but also brings other benefits such as their skills, knowledge and enthusiasm. If partnership funding can't be secured, we will not rule you out.

Full details of the programme, including criteria, guidelines and FAQs are available via our dedicated website www.RLWC2021.com/facilities

Clubs are also advised to read the following documents carefully prior to applying:

- ▶ Programme Prospectus
- ▶ Frequently Asked Questions
- ▶ Large Scale Requests Guidance
- ▶ Small Scale Requests Guidance

If anybody from the club wants to find out more or have any questions about the funding programme, then don't hesitate to contact the Community Investment & Funding Team via its dedicated email capitalgrants@rlwc2021.com

Thank you for your assistance as we try to make the biggest possible impact this funding can have on the grassroots game of rugby league and leave a long-lasting legacy for the sport.

Community Investment & Funding Team

CreatedBy RLWC2021 Capital Grants Programme

#CreatedBy #InspirationALL

www.rlwc2021.com/facilities

Safeguarding Contacts

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