

CLUB HANDBOOK

July 2023

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CHAIRPERSON WELCOME

The board and I welcome players, families, and supporters to the Whitehouse.

New Plymouth Old Boys' Rugby Club is committed to offering all our players a positive rugby experience, on and off the field. We are supported by skilled and dedicated coaches, managers, and officials.

We are a family-oriented club offering many social opportunities throughout the season for members and supporters of the club.

We look forward to hosting you at the Whitehouse and warmly invite your family and supporters to join us in the clubroom to enjoy our hospitality.

Kind regards, Sonia Cloke
Chairperson

HISTORY OF NEW PLYMOUTH OLD BOYS' RUGBY CLUB

New Plymouth High School Old Boys' Rugby Club was founded in 1919 with headquarters at Vogeltown Park, New Plymouth.

We have a proud tradition of over 100 years of service and commitment to the sporting and social culture of New Plymouth.

Our successes come from the passion, commitment and dedication of club officials, coaches, managers, players, and the community. We are fortunate to have a supportive base of volunteers and honorary members and a large following of loyal supporters and sponsors.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Position	Name
President	Keith Mawson
Chairperson	Sonia Cloke
Club Captain	Peter Darney
Sponsorship Coordinators	Keith Mawson, Matt Harold, Nicola Loft
Facilities Manager	John Mitchell
Treasurer and Finance	Liam McBride
Social Media and Marketing	Aaron Boslem
Secretary	Yvette Preston
Funding and Gear	Lyal French-Wright
Junior Coordinator	Blake Morgan
Rugby Manager	Justin Looney
Event Coordinators	Natasha Hintz (assisted by non committee members, Natalie Looney, Alene Morris and Kerryn Purcell)

For phone number and email addresses for the committee, please refer to our website www.npobrugby.co.nz

OUR JUNIOR CLUB

JUNIOR CLUB POSITIONS

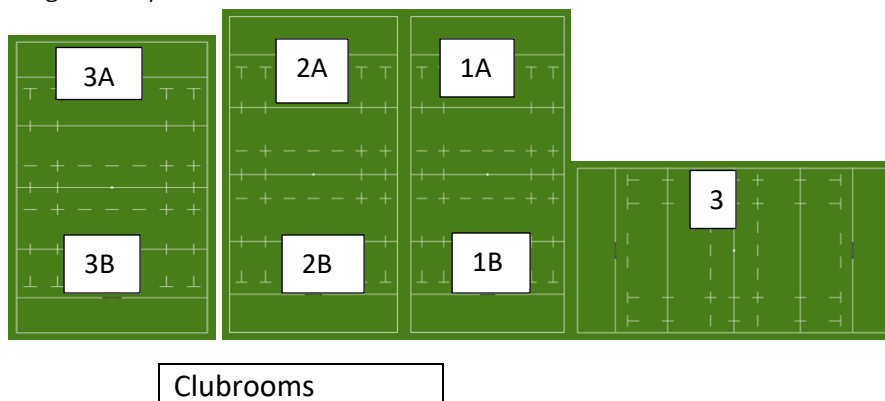
Junior Coordinators	Blake Morgan
Junior committee:	Justin Looney Blake Morgan Jeremy Spice Ben Evans

In 2024 changes are being made to Junior Ruby:

- Grade names will align with new grade ages - U6s will be Ferdie 1, U7s Ferdie 2, U8s Ferdie 3 etc.
- Ferdie 1 and Ferdie 2 grades will be rippa for the whole season.
- Tackle clinics will be provided to all teams, players and coaches before they play tackle in Ferdie 3.
- Ferdie 3 will be 7 aside on a quarter field with no scrums or lineouts.
- Girls can continue to play down a year in mixed competition.
- There are no safety weights for 2024.

FIELD LAYOUT FOR JUNIOR MATCHES

Field allocations are put on the whiteboard and placed in the clubroom window (facing the car park) on game day.



UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE JUNIOR CLUB

Juniors are required to play in black shorts and a club t-shirt.

New players to the club are supplied free of charge:

- Mouthguard
- Socks
- Club t-shirt

These items are funded from sponsorship or grants – we ask that you look after them.

You may purchase additional club uniform, including club shorts, and merchandise from Kingsway www.thelockerroom.co.nz

The club is responsible for supplying and maintaining any equipment. We ask that items are returned to the correct storage areas after the game, including balls.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The club has a child protection policy which can be found on our website www.npobrugby.co.nz

INTERESTED IN COACHING OR MANAGING AT JUNIOR CLUB LEVEL?

If you are interested in a coaching or manager role within the junior grades, please contact Blake Morgan blakem@lbl.co.nz

All coaches must either complete a Small Blacks or Rugby Smart course:

- Small Blacks – all junior grades (U6-U13)
- Rugby Smart – secondary school and seniors

JUNIOR CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

NPOB Rugby Club uses sporty.co.nz for online registration of its coaches, players and administrators – please use the following link to register your child to play for the club [New Plymouth HSOB Rugby Football & Sports Club \(Jnr\) - Tab 1 \(sporty.co.nz\)](#)

The junior subscription is \$50 for the 2024 season. The subscription is required to be paid before the first game is played – if your budget does not allow for this, please discuss a payment arrangement with the team coach.

Subscriptions can be paid by cash or online banking. For online banking the account number is 15-3942-0005095-00 – to assist us to identify your payment, please provide the following information:

Particulars – enter the child(s) surname.

Code – enter name or Initials if more than one child.

Reference – enter the grade/s they are playing in eg. Ferdie9, Ferdie8 etc.

GRADES

From 2024, the New Zealand Rugby Union will use the year group at school to determine the grade a junior will play in:

<i>2024 grade</i>	<i>School year group</i>	<i>Previously called</i>
Ferdie 1	Year 1 rippa	U6
Ferdie 2	Year 2 rippa	U7
Ferdie 3	Year 3	U8
Ferdie 4	Year 4	U9
Ferdie 5	Year 5	U10
Ferdie 6	Year 6	U11
Ferdie 7	Year 7	U12
Ferdie 8	Year 8	U13

OUR SENIOR CLUB

SENIOR CLUB POSITIONS

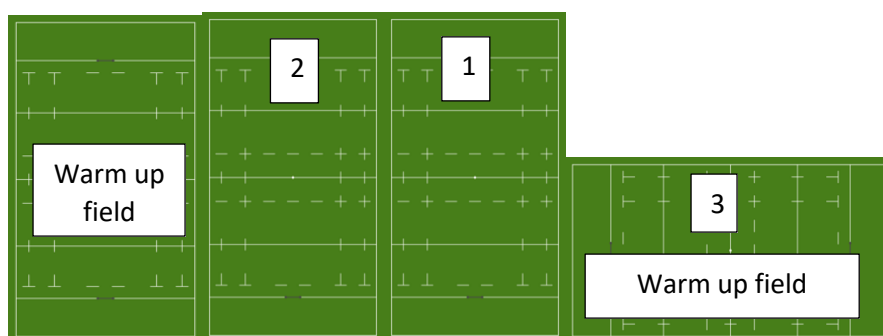
BCD Premiers	Coaches: Andy Slater, Daniel Waite, Hamish Mitchell, Justin Looney Manager: Steve Roylance
ALSCO Division 1	Coaches: Phil Guard Managers: Thomas Landrigan, Chris Harold
Pepper Construction Colts	Coaches: Jeremy Burton, Dean Stewart Manager: Shane Douglas
Spark Metal Fabrication Under 85 kg	Coaches: Caleb Mawson, Daniel Waite Managers: Thomas Landrigan, Aaron Boslem, Toby Burkett, Matthew Harold
Technical Analyst	Billy Preston
Physiotherapist	Nathan Coombes

SENIOR CLUB TEAMS AND TRAINING

Training times are Tuesdays and Thursday starting at 6 pm and normally finish around 7.15 pm. The under 85kg will start training near the end of July 2024 and will train from 6 – 7 pm.

New Plymouth Old Boys' Rugby Club is extremely keen to see a women's rugby team take the field. If you would be interested in playing, coaching, or managing a women's' team, please email npob@xtra.co.nz

FIELD LAYOUT FOR SENIOR MATCHES



UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE SENIOR CLUB

Players are supplied free of charge:

- Mouthguard
- Shorts
- Dress shirt
- Rugby jersey (to be returned at the end of the season)

These items are funded from sponsorship or grants – we ask that you look after them.

Senior club players are to ensure their shorts and jerseys go into the laundry bags after play on match days. These uniform items are not to be taken home.

The club is responsible for supplying and maintaining any equipment. We ask that items are returned to the correct storage areas after the game, including balls.

INTERESTED IN COACHING OR MANAGING AT SENIOR CLUB LEVEL?

If you are interested in a coaching or manager role with the senior grades, please contact Peter Darney pdarney@vanburwray.co.nz

All coaches must either complete a Small Blacks or Rugby Smart course:

- Small Blacks – all junior grades (U6-U13)
- Rugby Smart – secondary school and seniors

SENIOR CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in playing senior rugby for the club, NPOB Rugby Club uses sporty.co.nz for online registration of its coaches, players and administrators – please use the following link to register to play for the senior club [New Plymouth HSOB Rugby Football & Sports Club \(Snr\) - Senior Rugby Rego \(sporty.co.nz\)](#)

For the 2024 season, the subscription for Premiers and Division 1 is \$120 and for Colts \$80. The subscription is required to be paid before the first game is played – if your budget does not allow for this, please discuss a payment arrangement with the team coach.

Subscriptions are paid by online banking as follows:

Bank account number - 15-3942-0005095-00

Particulars – enter your surname

Code – enter your name or Initials

Reference – enter the team you are playing for e.g. prems

SPONSORS

We are indebted to all our sponsors for their commitment and support to the club. We encourage our members, families, and supporters to use our sponsors as the first port of call when looking to engage firms with their products or expertise. A full list of sponsors is available on our website www.npobrugby.co.nz

If you are interested in sponsoring or would like to learn more about our sponsorship options, we welcome your enquiry. Please email Keith Mawson keith@egmontseafoods.co.nz

OUR GROUNDS

LOCATION

Our clubhouse and home grounds are located at Vogeltown Park, 199 Carrington Street, New Plymouth.

ACCESS

Vehicle and pedestrian access to the park is from Carrington Street. There is additional pedestrian access from Plympton and Torbay Street and through the Truby King Dell off Brooklands Road which is also known as Struan Walkway.

PARKING

There is limited parking at the grounds and restricted space for turning/maneuvering. For all training and home games, players and their supporters are encouraged to park on Carrington Street to allow club officials, referees, catering and support staff to have easy access to the Whitehouse.

FIELDS

Diagrams of the field layout are outlined in the junior and senior club sections of this handbook.

After periods of heavy or persistent rain, there may be times that trainings or matches are moved to another location to conserve the condition of the turf.

The players are to ensure the fields are kept tidy, with all strapping tape removed at the end of the game. No glass bottles, glasses etc. are to be used or taken outside of the clubroom.

GROUND HIRE

During the rugby season, the club uses the grounds for training on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and for matches on some Friday nights, and Saturday where we have home games. Where we are not using the grounds other sports codes are welcome to utilise the fields. For enquiries about using the grounds, please contact npob@xtra.co.nz

THE WHITEHOUSE

The Whitehouse has been refurbished in the last few years and we ask that users of the venue treat it with respect. Placing rubbish in bins, returning plates, cutlery and glassware to the kitchen or bar would be appreciated.

There are change rooms, showers and toilets provided in the change area for the use of players and referees.

There are guest toilets located in the main part of the clubhouse.

BAR AND KITCHEN

The bar and kitchen are operated by ABC Catering who also hold the liquor licence. All alcohol must be purchased through the bar unless prior arrangements have been agreed to between the board and ABC Catering. ABC Catering is operated by Ant Bates.

During the season the club is open for meals on a Thursday night – players, supporters and families are all more than welcome to come for a meal and a drink. The Club has a coffee cart located adjacent to the fields for all home games. Please support our caterers where you can.

We expect all bar and kitchen staff to be treated with courtesy.

VENUE HIRE

The Whitehouse is available for public hire for a variety of functions other than 21st birthdays.

Should you wish to hire the clubroom, further information about the charges and how to book are available through our website www.npobrugby.co.nz

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- The club defibrillator is located on the outside of the clubroom, closest to the entrance driveway
- No glass is to be taken outside of the clubroom
- The bar staff will call a taxi for you at your request
- No pets or animals are permitted inside the clubroom

GAME DAY

Traditionally the junior club plays on a Saturday morning and the senior club in the afternoon. With the recent acquisition of lights this provides opportunities to play in the evening which we will look to implement with the consent of the opposition teams as it fits within the season.

The parents of the junior teams are responsible for cleaning/tidying the Whitehouse after the junior matches. There is a cleaning rota in place for the senior teams. Please ensure if you are on cleaning duty that you give it your best – we know this is not anyone's fun activity, but many hands make light work.

The Club Captain and Junior Convenor are available for all matchday enquiries and assistance.

LIVE STREAMING

If you are unable to come to the grounds to watch a match, all senior games are live streamed on YouTube. Please keep an eye on our facebook page for streaming channels prior to game day.

TECHNICAL ANALYST

A Technical Analyst works with the senior teams and videos and/or drones the senior matches played on our home grounds. For senior players looking to improve their skills who require access to match recordings or information on how to cut clips please contact Billy Preston bill@phoenix-shipping.co.nz

REFEREES

Referees for the senior matches are supplied by the Taranaki Rugby Referees Association (TRRA).

For junior matches a TRRA referee, or a person who has completed the Small Blacks Course or Associate Referee Course can be used.

For further information please visit the TRRA website www.taranakirefs.co.nz

Without referees our teams would not be able to play. Please treat them with courtesy and respect.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

There are junior and senior handbooks available on the TRFU website which provide a wealth of technical information [Taranaki Rugby - 2023 TRFU Handbook](#)

FRIENDS OF OLD BOYS

Friends of Old Boys is our supporters club which provides a range of benefits. Included in the season membership of \$100 is:

- Club emails
- Complimentary access to home games
- 10% off beverages at home games
- Supporters gift (this changes each season)
- Invitations to club events and functions, including end of season senior club prize giving.

If you wish to join or renew your membership please visit our website [Friends of Old Boys | NPOB Rugby Club](#)

VOLUNTEERS

“Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless” – Sherry Anderson.

There are no employees or paid positions within the club. We have a supportive base of volunteers who freely give their time and energy to ensure the smooth running of the club.

If you think you can assist, we welcome your enquiry – please email npob@xtra.co.nz

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Because it is an honour and a privilege to be a Life Member of our club, the number of living life members is restricted. In accordance with the club's constitution, nominations must be made by current board members.

To be considered for life membership the person must have:

- (a) Rendered special service to the club to further its' objectives
- (b) Worked in a voluntary (unpaid) role
- (c) Provided special service to the club for a minimum of 10 years
- (d) Provided outstanding service in at least one of the following categories and have also contributed to at least one other category:
 - Playing
 - Coaching and management
 - Administration
 - General contribution i.e. fund raising, other general volunteer duties.

Any nomination will be looked at in conjunction with current life members to ensure the nomination is considered fairly and consistently. The nomination must be thoroughly researched and presented, if there is insufficient evidence of service to the club, the nomination will be declined.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflicts of interest are to be referred to the Board.

It is especially important that any personal relationships between club officials (board members, coaches, managers) and players are disclosed so that protections for all parties can be put in place.

FEEDBACK

Constructive feedback is always welcome – if you are unsure of the correct person to provide feedback to, please email npob@xtra.co.nz

CODES OF CONDUCT

FOR EVERYONE

- Respect the 'Game of Rugby'
- Respect the referee, your team, the opposition and coaches at all times
- Applaud all good play whether it is your team or the opposition
- Abuse, in any form, of players, coaches, referees or other attendees will not be accepted
- There is to be no 'poaching' of officials or players

FOR PLAYERS

- Play for enjoyment and being part of the rugby family. Remember that the goals of the game are to have fun, improve your skills and feel good
- Respect the 'Game of Rugby' and play within the laws of the game
- You are responsible for your opponents' safety. Tackle hard, fairly and legally, do not play to hurt your opponent
- Respect your opponent. Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not 'bully', 'trash talk' or take advantage of any player
- Your captain is the only person who should ask the referee any questions during the match
- Accept the referee's decision, always. Do not argue with an official. If you disagree with a decision, inform your captain, coach or manager during a break or after the game
- Play with control. Do not lose your temper.
- Use appropriate language with players, coaches, officials and spectators. Verbal abuse of any kind, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent, is not acceptable.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good play whether by your team or the opposition
- At the end of the match, thank your opponents and the referee
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- Rugby is a team sport - cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents.
- Always do your best and be committed to the game and your team.
- As part of the team, it is important you attend training regularly, listen to your coach and help your team
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants, regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- If you receive a card during a match, remember it was your decision that led to that card, and you alone have let your team down

FOR COACHES

- Remember that players participate for enjoyment and winning is only part of the fun
- Lead by example – you are your players’ role model
- Your players are a reflection of you, whether they play fairly or behave badly - it is important that you instil the core values of rugby in the players
- Never ridicule or yell at players for make a mistake or not winning
- Be reasonable in demands on players’ time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of the game, and teach players to do the same
- Teach your players that the laws of the game are mutual agreements which no one should evade or break
- Ensure that the time players spend with the coach is a positive experience. All players deserve equal attention and opportunities
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are to the age and ability of all players
- Display control and professionalism to all involved including opponents, referees, coaches, administrators, parents and spectators. Encourage players to do the same.
- Always demonstrate respect for the opposition as well as for the judgement of the officials and opposing coaches
- If you require clarification from the referee, save questions for after the match has completed
- Improve players through good coaching - frequent matches and long training sessions do not guarantee success
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players and follow medical advice when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, irrespective of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Remember that as a coach of an ‘age-grade team’ you are acting ‘in loco parentis’ and that you have a duty of care to all your players

FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS OR OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS

- Remember, people play rugby for their enjoyment, not only yours.
- Encourage your child to always play by the Laws of the Game
- Teach young children that honest endeavour is as important as winning, so that the result of each game is accepted without disappointment
- Help young people to work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship
- Set a good example by applauding good play on both sides
- Never ridicule, humiliate, or shout at young players for making a mistake or losing a match
- Do not place emphasis on winning at all costs
- Do not force an unwilling child to participate in the playing of rugby. If the child is to play, he/she will do so in good time through your encouragement
- Support all efforts to remove ALL verbal & physical abuse from rugby
- As a spectator, do not use profane language or harass referees, coaches or players
- Do not publicly question the referee's judgment and never their honesty
- Always let your coach know if your child has an injury - there is no youth sport or match, worth a lifetime of impairment
- Recognize the value and importance of volunteer administrators, referees and coaches
- Take the time to learn about rugby, qualities of the Game of Rugby and uphold these values
- Understand the value of team sport and its importance

FOR SPECTATORS

- Remember that although young people play organised rugby, they are not 'miniature professional players'
- Be on your best behaviour and lead by example. Do not use profane language or harass referees, players, or coaches
- Applaud good play by the visiting team as well as your own
- Show respect for your team's opponents, without them there would not be a match
- Stay in appropriate spectator zones and never stray into the technical zones or onto the pitch
- Condemn the use of violence in all forms at every opportunity
- Verbal abuse of players or referees cannot be accepted in any shape or form
- Players or referees are not fair targets for ignorant behaviour
- Encourage young players to play by the Laws of the Game
- Spectators can contribute to the enjoyment of the event, and all involved
- Be proud of your team and the Game of Rugby