



**SUPPORTERS'
CLUB**

SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 | March & April 2024

**LEGENDS EVENING – THURSDAY 2ND MAY 2024!
GET IT IN YOUR DIARY NOW – TICKETS ON SALE SOON!**

Stylish and practical – Get them while you can!

BRSC Member, Georgia, hand knitted these fantastic headbands for BRSC to sell, with all profits going to Bath Rugby Foundation. Initially, Georgia made 40 – quite a few were sold at the BRL game in March 2024 and we sold out at the Gloucester game with Committee Members selling them off their own heads! 15 more were made for the Sale game and again all were sold. Georgia is concentrating on work and exams for the moment but will be back making them soon! Well done Georgia, and thank you.



Matchday Notes: February Update from our Chairman

It seems like an age since we were last at The Rec. and to wet our appetite before the Premiership league restarts, we have a couple of "friendlies" and this weekend we welcome our oldest rivals from Gloucester. It was a little over a year ago that we sat in the stands at Kingsholm watching Bath play a home match against Toulon. It was very surreal looking over the pitch at an empty Shed. Gloucester Rugby pulled out all the stops to get the game played after a waterlogged pitch at The Rec. meant we would have had to forfeit the match. A massive thanks to Gloucester Rugby - the spirit of rugby burns bright in that part of the world.

We also need to acknowledge the great work conducted by the Bath Rugby Foundation, the charitable arm of the club and I would like to share with you the following message from Bath Rugby Foundation's Corporate Fundraiser - David Trick (ex-Bath and England). "We currently operate on circa £800,000 per annum and have set a goal of reaching £1m. This is not a 'vanity target', it's a key milestone. Charities with a turnover of £100,000 to £1m are categorised as medium sized. This band represents the largest 15.5% of UK Charities. (43% of UK Charities have a turnover of less than £10,000). £1m to £10m turnover Charities are defined as large sized. Why do we want to be large? Currently we are in an awkward space, deemed to be too big for smaller grants and too small for larger grants. If we can attain the large size Charity status, we could apply for higher value and longer lasting grants which would help to underpin the vital work we do."

Season tickets will go on sale in the next couple of weeks, many of the other clubs have had theirs on sale for several weeks and in line with the general rise in living costs, most have increased season ticket prices between 15-20%. We can debate ticket prices until the cows come home and the Club is not immune from the ravages of inflation. The demise of 3 clubs and the loss of those competitive games has reduced the benefits of being a Season Ticket Holder. However, let's not forget that the club has lost the revenue from three games and the future of the professional game remains finely balanced. Adjustments and compromise will need to be made by the fans, clubs and players over the next few years.

We are still well placed in the league and BRSC have three coaches travelling, full of supporters, to the Exeter Chiefs game in the next round of the Investec Cup and the next few games will define our season. However, we must commend JVG who is building a mouth-wateringly good squad of players and more importantly has harnessed their potential and performance.

Doug Wrigglesworth – Chairman BRSC

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Bath Rugby secured a bonus point victory over Sale Sharks to maintain their drive for a top four finish in the Premiership.

GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP - ROUND 13

The Rec

TNT SPORTS

Sponsored by **dyson**

SUN 24 MAR - 15:00 - FULL TIME

BATH RUGBY



◀ 42-24



SALE SHARKS

Tries from Matt Gallagher, Tom Dunn, Ollie Lawrence, and two from Joe Cokanasiga, with Finn Russell kicking 17 points, secured the win on a sunny afternoon which had The Rec. faithful in full voice.

From Bath Rugby.



How well do you know Bath Rugby?

Fancy your hand at some Bath Rugby Trivia?

- 1) Who founded Bath Rugby Club (originally known as Bath Football Club) in 1865?
- 2) Forward Herbert Fuller is believed to be the first Bath player to play in an international, making his debut against which country in 1882?
- 3) In what year was the first game played at The Rec?
- 4) Prior to The Rec., identify one location where games were played around Bath – there are 6 from which to choose!
- 5) The first home fixture against European opposition took place in 1907, when Racing Club de Bordelais visited The Rec – but what was the result?

Answers will be in the May 2024 Newsletter.



Welcome to our visitors

We had the opportunity to meet a group of international students from Spain, Germany, Mexico and New Zealand, from Clayesmore School, Blandford. They were of course watching the best Premiership side!

The students all left with a BRSC pin badge.

BRSC 100 Charity Lottery SOLD OUT!

With the proceeds going to Bath Rugby Foundation, this years' winners are in for a treat!

January: Hospitality for two in "The Presidents Lounge" during the 2023-24 season

February: Signed Bath Rugby shirt from the 2022-2023 season

March: Framed and signed Bath Rugby shirt from the 2011-12 season

April: Signed Bath Rugby shirt from the 2023-2024 season

May: A pair of tickets to the BRSC Annual Awards Supper 2024

The BRSC 100 Charity Lottery March 2024 prize draw, drawn at Farleigh House, was won by Fraser Latimer (BRSC Membership Number 7832). Fraser won a framed signed Bath Rugby shirt from the 2011-2012 season. Well done Fraser.

Try of the Month: January 2024

Tom de Glanville was chosen by our Members as the winner of Try of the Month: January 2024, for his try during the Bristol Bears vs Bath Rugby game on 27th January 2024.

BRSC Member Martin Stiles (7752) from Chippenham, won a £25 gift voucher for Castore.
Well done Martin!



Although it has been lovely seeing Bath Rugby's stars on the international stage, with some wonderful performances, it is also lovely have them back home. It has been rather strange to be away from The Rec for so long and I am so pleased to be back as the first signs of spring arrive. Where better to be on a March Sunday? We have had two friendlies in the last two weeks, but the last competitive game I attended was away against Toulouse in the Champions Cup in January. I was lucky enough to be there, and despite the loss, had an incredible time.

Stade Ernest-Wallon is known colloquially as a 'temple' to rugby – and it really was. The atmosphere was electric. Even though we lost, it was an amazing display and let's hope we'll see more European magic for the next round. That is against Exeter in a few weeks, and BRSC has organised three coaches for our members, to help fill up Sandy Park and support our team as they venture into the knock-out stages.

In other BRSC news, we had a very successful and entertaining 'Ask the Ref' evening with Tony Spreadbury, head of match officials at EPCR. Tony's insight as an ex-referee who operates at the very top level of international referees, was insightful and engaging as ever. We are also in the early stages of planning another 'Bath Rugby Legends' event, in aid of Bath Rugby Foundation. Last year, David Trick, Jeremy Guscott, Nigel Redman and John Hall joined us at The Rec for an evening of stories. We discussed Bath Rugby then and now. Planning for another similar evening is underway, and we'll share details as soon as we have them.

Nicola Curtis, BRSC

Members Area

Member story

I'm very lucky to be able to watch Bath Rugby with my father-in-law David, and on Sunday 7th January 2024, I was treated to a win for Bath Rugby against Gloucester Rugby. With the win from Tom de Glanville of the January Try of The Month, it got me thinking about the fantastic flying try that I witnessed from that very same player at the aforementioned match. It was his second try of the game, and what a beauty it was!

I don't get to The Rec. much, having a busy family life and stressful job, so when I do get the opportunity to come to watch the Blue, Black and White play, it is a thrill, a buzz and a heart pounding 80 minutes, that I know we are so lucky to be able to enjoy...

Alistair BRSC Member



Member picture

We had this photograph taken at the Ludo Sports Bar & Kitchen, Bath, on 26th March 2024. My wife Diane and I had this photograph taken with Finn Russell after the 90 minute presentation by Bath Rugby. With my wife being both Scottish and a Season Ticket holder, there was only one person she really wanted a picture with. It was another great evening!

Andy BRSC Member

Share your match day photos and supporter news stories with us and you could be featured in our May Newsletter. Send your photos, messages and Bath Rugby stories to:
news@allez-bath.co.uk

Progress for our away games!

For the first time in many years, BRSC is running 3 full coaches to the Exeter away match – April 6th 2024. This is the first time in many years we have had 3 coaches going to an away game.