



# UK ARMED FORCES RFC Vs NORTH OF ENGLAND SELECT XV

in support of



## MILITARY VS CANCER

**Saturday 22nd June 2024**  
**Kingston Park, Newcastle**  
**Gates open at 12:00**

Join us at the largest semi-professional rugby event to take place in the North of England in 2024, when the UK Armed Forces RFC take on North of England's Select XV's.

In Association with



**ESH**  
CONSTRUCTION



## THE EVENT

### We are back for a second year!

This year North of England's elite Men's and Women's XV's go head-to-head against UK Armed Forces Rugby teams – made up of the best players from the Royal Navy, British Army and the Royal Air Force – at Kingston Park, our region's premier rugby venue.

We have an action-packed day planned; with military displays, merchandise, food and drink concessions and a range of ticket options,

sponsorship and corporate packages to accommodate all budgets.

Whether you are joining us to start your Armed Forces Day celebrations early, support for our Force's community, enjoy top class rugby or support the Military vs Cancer charity you are guaranteed a great day out.

## MILITARY VS CANCER

**Military vs Cancer (MvC) is a regional charity which supports Military personnel, past and present, and their immediate families through the traumatic effects of cancer.**

We provide funding for nursing care, treatment travel costs including hotel stays for family members, home adaptations, respite breaks, memory making trips and special experience for those with a terminal diagnosis.

MvC's regional peer group, made up of serving personnel and veterans actively support serving forces members and their families in our region.

Our regional events, particularly the Armed Forces Day Rugby event, are sizeable gatherings that unite the military, industry, and the public and help raise awareness of our charity. At last year's event, five families sought assistance from our team.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to David Bathgate of Military vs Cancer, Steven Colwell, President, Durham University RFC, Newcastle Falcons RFC and the Esh Construction team for making the event possible.

## VENUE

**Kingston Park Stadium**  
Brunton Road, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne  
NE13 8AF

 [VIEW STADIUM MAP](#)



## TICKETING

Adult.....£10  
Child (u16).....£5  
Car Parking Space.....£10

 [BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

Veteran (ID card required).....Free  
Military Personnel.....Free

 [BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

## MERCHANDISE

Purchase your MvC and Armed Forces merchandise before the event by visiting <https://www.militaryvscancer.com/shop/>, or visit our concession stalls on the day.



## EVENT ITINERARY

11:30	Hospitality Opens
12:00	Gates Open
12:00 - 13:00	Happy Hour
12:15	Military Salute
12:47	Army Crown Address (3 mins)
13:00	National Anthem UKAF Women's XV vs North of England Women's XV (U12 Girls Game at Half Time)
15:05	Royal Air Force Crown Address (3 mins)
15:10	Chinook Fly Past
15:15	National Anthem UKAF Men's XV vs North of England Men's XV (Men's Community Junior Rugby at Half Time)
17:00 - 18:00	Happy Hour
17:42	Royal Navy Crowd Address (3 mins)
17:45	Marching Band
19:30	Close



## MEN'S GAME

### North of England XV Coaching Team



**SIMON CULLEY**  
Head Coach

Si is a highly experienced coach. He earned MSc's in Sports Coaching from Brunel University and Durham University. As a World Rugby Educator, he holds both England Rugby and New Zealand Rugby Performance Coaching Award (L4)!

Si coached SW England Students, and North U20. Working in the County structure, he won three county championship plates and vases with Northumberland, Dorset and Wiltshire.

Si leads the BUCS Super Rugby programme at Durham University and was instrumental in their 2021-22 success, winning back-to-back BSR titles. He has also been lead coach at DMP Sharks, and coached Durham University to their first Women's National League title. Last year, he led the North of England to victory over UK Armed Forces.



**ROB VICKERS**  
Forwards Set Piece Coach

The Yorkshire-born hooker made his Newcastle Falcons first team debut during the 2006-07 season, having come through the club's academy while a student at Durham University. The former Harrogate man has represented England at University level, as well as featuring for local club Tynedale.

The 2009-10 season saw Vickers score three tries in his 30 appearances, earning him the Falcons' Player of the Season award. His stellar form was also enough to see him named in the English Saxons squad, as they won the 2010 Churchill Cup. Rob retired from professional Rugby in 2018 after playing over 250 Premiership games for Newcastle. A real local legend!



**MATT BEBBINGTON**  
Backs Coach

Widnes-born Matt Bebbington grew up watching Widnes RLFC from the terraces in the late 1980s. He started his coaching journey as 1st XV Head Coach at Wilmslow High School, leading the team to two Daily Mail/Natwest Semi Finals in 2011 and 2015 and winning multiple County Cups.

In 2013 Matt was Head Coach at Stockport Rugby Club and oversaw promotion to National 2 North in the 2013-14 season. He went on to coach at Sedgley Park in National 2 North, guiding the team to then club records in league points, try bonus points and tries scored in a season.

He led Sandbach RUFC's 1st XV to their highest league finishes and the club's first Cheshire Cup win in 2022. From 2016-19 Matt was attack and backs' coach for the undefeated North U20s side and is currently part of the Cheshire 1st XV's coaching team.



**BEN WOODS**  
Forwards Coach

Woodsy started his professional career at Newcastle Falcons in 2003 but suffered a badly broken leg at the end of his first season and was side-lined for 18 months. On his return to the game, he quickly made his mark on the Falcons first team and earned a call up to play for the England Saxons in the 2006 Churchill Cup.

Ben left the Falcons and moved to Leicester Tigers in 2008 along with Toby Flood - making his mark and playing in 23 games for them in his first season, culminating in a try scoring appearance in the 2009 Heineken Cup Final. The following year he was a part of the Leicester team which retained the Premiership.

Ben retired from professional rugby in 2012 due to a wrist injury after making 134 Premiership appearances for Newcastle Falcons and Leicester Tigers.



**JACK MOORHOUSE**  
Referee

Jack Moorhouse is in only his 2nd full season refereeing having retired after a distinguished National League career. Throughout his career he enjoyed spells with Cheshire, Macclesfield, RGC 1404 before finishing his playing days at Sale FC in 2022 after almost 100 first XV appearances.

Last season Jack was operating at Level 5, quickly progressing through the ranks as an RFU Panel referee. He has been active at both National League 2 and National League 1 this season. Jack is clearly enjoying his new role within the game and is said by today's fourth official (the legendary) Mr John Pearson, to hold an "enviable rapport with players." We look forward to welcoming Jack to the big stage today.

## WOMEN'S GAME

### North of England XV Coaching Team



**TAMARA TAYLOR**  
Head Coach

Tamara Taylor is a legend of the Women's game. Capped 115 times for England, she has represented the national team in four World Cups (2006, 2010, 2014 and 2017) and numerous Six Nations tournaments since debuting in 2005. An illustrious career saw her lift the Rugby World Cup in 2014. In 2017, she was awarded the RPA Player of the year award while playing at DMP Sharks.

Known locally through her dedicated service to DMP Sharks and as an RFU community coach, she is highly regarded throughout the North East by players, clubs and coaches. Since hanging her boots up as a player, Tam has become the Head Coach for the Sweden Women's team, while continuing to work for RFU as a coach developer.



**FIONA DAVISON**  
Backs Coach

Fi Davidson started playing at four years old for London Scottish RFC, and came up through the development ranks of England Academies to England u20s.

She received her first international cap for England in Italy, at the European Championships in 2012, also winning caps for England Sevens. Sadly Fi had to retire at only 26 year old due to injury.

She is now working as a personal trainer and Strength and conditioning coach, while juggling the demands of a young family. Recently Fi has been assisting Tamara Taylor with Sweden Women's National squad, focusing on S&C and skill coaching.



**STEVEN COLWELL**  
Director of Rugby

Steven is a local lad, playing for many years at Bishop Auckland, Barnard Castle and representing Durham County. An experienced coach, he has amassed over 550 1st XV games in charge at Bishop Auckland, having also coached Durham University, and managed England Counties U20, North U20, England Students and North Senior XV.

Steven is President of Durham University Rugby and leads Rugby events for Military vs Cancer. Bringing the Women's game to Kingston Park this year has been an addition he is particularly excited about as he is increasingly dedicated to the promotion of opportunities for Women in sport.

A busy rugby season comes to an end tomorrow when Steven leaves for Broadstreet, Coventry – where he will manage North U20's against South West England.



**FRANCESCA HARDING**  
Team Manager

Francesca Harding has been involved in women and girls rugby in County Durham for more than a decade. Initially working with clubs at grassroots level, she has supported them in establishing women's and girls' teams. In more recent times, she has moved into the roles of secretary for Durham County's women's and girls' team, as well as becoming lead for the England Rugby Developing Player Programme and county under 18 side.

As a qualified coach, Francesca has covered all ages from u8 level through to senior women and is a ladies chair in two North East clubs. Her three sons are avid rugby players, and she is the director of her own business, Centre Barks, a K9 Stay and play dog daycare service.



**NIKKI O'DONNELL**  
Referee

Nikki O'Donnell, a captain, and clinical training officer in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps is one of the most experienced and highly regarded female referees in the country. After hanging up her boots on her playing career at DMP Sharks due to injury, Nikki soon made her way back to the field as a referee. A member of Durham referees Society, she has accelerated through the ranks of officiating and on to the National and International stage.

Now, as a Women's Premier League referee, Nikki is no stranger to high profile games. She officiated in her first international match as an assistant referee, during the Women's Six Nations 2013 and has since gone on to referee in numerous international matches including the Women's Rugby World Cup in 2022.





## PREMIER CLUB HOSPITALITY

Step into a realm of unparalleled luxury and VIP treatment at our hospitality suite, where every moment is crafted to elevate your experience to new heights. Indulge in the epitome of culinary refinement with a two course carvery, meticulously prepared and served in the Premier Club with the upmost care.

At half-time, immerse yourself within our private bar facility, where every drink is poured with precision and every moment is savoured in comfort and style.

Beyond the confines of the suite, revel in the privilege of direct access to seating outside, allowing you to soak in the electric matchday atmosphere while enjoying the premium comforts

of our Premier Club. To streamline your experience even further, consider the option of adding a car parking pass, ensuring effortless arrival and departure.

Gather with friends, colleagues, or fellow enthusiasts at a table of 10, where camaraderie and excitement abound. Whether you find yourself on a shared table or not, rest assured there are no reserved seats outside, allowing your party to remain together throughout the day.

Experience hospitality redefined at our suite, where every detail is tailored to immerse you in a world of luxury, convenience, and unforgettable moments.

## EXECUTIVE BOX HOSPITALITY

Step into a realm of unparalleled luxury and VIP treatment at our exclusive hospitality boxes, where every moment is crafted to elevate your experience. Indulge in an exquisite plated lunch, meticulously prepared and served in the Executive Box with the upmost care and attention to detail.

At half-time, immerse yourself in our exclusive private bar facility, where every drink is poured with precision and every moment is savoured in comfort and style.

Beyond the confines of the box, revel in the privilege of direct access to private seating outside, allowing you to soak in

the electric atmosphere of the stadium while still enjoying the premium comforts of our Executive Box. To streamline your experience even further, consider the option of adding a car parking pass, ensuring effortless arrival and departure on match day. Gather with friends, colleagues, or fellow enthusiasts, where camaraderie and excitement abound.

Experience hospitality redefined in one of our exclusive boxes, where every detail is tailored to immerse you in a world of luxury, convenience, and unforgettable moments.


## ASSOCIATE SPONSOR

£1,100 (14 Available)

- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- Table of 10 in Premier Club Hospitality with carvery included

**CONTACT US ABOUT ASSOCIATE SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES OR TO BOOK A CORPORATE BOX**

 [MVCRugby@esh.uk.com](mailto:MVCRugby@esh.uk.com)

 07912 498 122



# MEN'S GAME SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## Men's Main Jersey Sponsor - £9,000

- North of England Men's Main Logo Placement
- Signed Men's shirt and shorts
- Men's Team Pitch presentation
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 24 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Men's Shorts Rear Sponsor - £5,000

- North of England Men's Rear Logo Placement
- Signed Men's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 16 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Men's Jersey Bottom Back Sponsor - £3,000

- North of England Men's Shoulder Logo Placement
- Signed Men's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 12 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Men's Jersey Top Back Sponsor - £3,000

- North of England Men's Shoulder Logo Placement
- Signed Men's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 12 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Men's Jersey Shoulder Sponsor - £3,000

- North of England Men's Shoulder Logo Placement
- (1 sponsor, logo duplicated left and right shoulder)
- Signed Men's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 12 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Men's Shorts Front Sponsor - £2,000

- North of England Men's Front Logo Placement
- (1 sponsor, logo duplicated left and right thigh)
- Signed Men's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 10 x seats in Premier Club, carvery plated lunch included

# WOMEN'S GAME SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## Women's Main Jersey Sponsor - £9,000

- North of England Women's Main Logo Placement
- Signed Women's shirt and shorts
- Women's Team Pitch presentation
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 24 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Women's Shorts Rear Sponsor - £5,000

- North of England Women's Rear Logo Placement
- Signed Women's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 16 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Women's Jersey Bottom Back Sponsor - £3,000

- North of England Women's Shoulder Logo Placement
- Signed Women's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 12 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Women's Jersey Top Back Sponsor - £3,000

- North of England Women's Shoulder Logo Placement
- Signed Women's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 12 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Women's Jersey Shoulder Sponsor - £3,000

- North of England Women's Shoulder Logo Placement
- (1 sponsor, logo duplicated left and right shoulder)
- Signed Women's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 12 seat Executive Box with plated lunch included

## Women's Shorts Front Sponsor - £2,000

- North of England Women's Front Logo Placement
- (1 sponsor, logo duplicated left and right thigh)
- Signed Women's shirt and shorts
- Pitch side LED Hording Brand Placement
- Digital Programme Editorial or Advertorial Page
- Associated communications before, during and after the event
- 10 x seats in Premier Club, carvery plated lunch included

Front



Back



## CONTACT US ABOUT THE MEN'S & WOMEN'S GAME SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES...

 [MVCRugby@esh.uk.com](mailto:MVCRugby@esh.uk.com)

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