



SARACENS

Club Partnership Programme 2004/5

CLUBS UPDATE

3rd September 2004

***** TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE LONDON DOUBLE HEADER – tickets will be on sale on the day from either Gate A or from the Twickenham ticket office at Rugby House any time after 10.30am.*****

NEWS FROM THE TRAINING GROUND

‘Mick the Kick’

Head Coach Rod Kafer added to his backroom staff this week with Mick Byrne joining Saracens as kicking coach.

Australian Byrne is the current Scottish RFU kicking coach and will work with Saracens when the national team are not in training camp or on international duty.

Brought up in Sydney, Byrne played union and league in school before switching to Australian Rules Football where he enjoyed a 15-year career with Melbourne, Hawthorn and Sydney. He then switched back to union to take up a coaching role with the state and then the Wallabies - also working with the ACT Brumbies from 1998-2000.

"It was while I was working with the Brumbies that I met Rod Kafer," Byrne explained. "I caught up with him again earlier this year when Saracens were playing at Glasgow in the European Challenge Cup and it went from there. I'm delighted to be a part of his coaching team and am looking forward to working with the squad.

"I'm not here to change the kicking style of the players, it's more about refining their technique and educating them in terms of the processes needed for a successful kick - both from the tee and out of hand. It used to be just the back three who concentrated on their kicking, but the way the game is going, it's not just the full back or the winger who needs to kick anymore - it's the entire backline.

"I'm very excited about the move to Saracens. They have an impressive set up and a good blend of youth and experience in the team. It's an exciting time to be involved with the club."

CLUB PARTNERSHIP NEWS

With the season kicking off for real on the 4th September Saracens are finalising some of the details for the Clubs involved in the Partnership Programme.

Be Part of the Squad – Great New opportunities from Saracens

This year we are offering a special ticketing offer to our partner clubs which will help them raise money for your own club through CashBack, allow you to sit in other areas of the stadium other than the South Stand and attend more Saracens games.

The first offer is for discounted season tickets, with Cashback going to your club. Tickets will guarantee your seat for the whole season and show your true colour for 2004-5 – BLACK! Season tickets start from just £120 for adults and £30 for concessions (U16s, Students and OAPs). With a Saracens Season Ticket if you miss any of the games you can exchange your ticket for another game later in the season to bring a friend and still get your money's worth.

If you are unable to attend every game, this season we are launching our **BRAND NEW 'Six Pack' offer** exclusive to partner clubs. This offer entitles you to pick SIX games which you would like to attend over the season, and order all of them at the same time for a discounted price. Why not pick the same four games that your club is targeting plus two big games that you can't bear to miss? These tickets are available in all stands and as with the STs, if you miss one of the games you pick, Saracens can exchange the ticket for another match.

For more details speak to the Saracens co-ordinator at your club for more details, alternatively call **Clare on 01923 204606**.

Remember for every Six Pack or Season Ticket bought by a member of your club, Saracens will pay Cashback to the club to spend on new equipment or even new Easter's tour.

Player Adoption Scheme

Most recently we have allocated our professional players to each Partner Club, and it will be these players who will come out and make visits over the season. To see who has been allocated to your club see below:

Barnet	Raphael Ibanez	&	Aston Croall
Bishop's Stortford	Iain Fullerton	&	Ben Skirving
Cheshunt	Kev Sorrell	&	Dave Seymour
Chess Valley	Kris Chesney	&	
Dunstablians	Kevin Yates	&	Ben Russell (jnr)
Fullerians	Richard Haughton	&	Donald Barrell
Harlow	Hugh Vyvyan	&	Ben Wikens
Harpenden	Ben Johnston	&	Moses Raulini
Harrow	Matt Cairns	&	
Hemel Hempstead	Thomas Castaignede	&	Nick Lloyd
Hertford	Dan Scarborough	&	Aaron Liffchak
Letchworth	Tane Randell	&	Paul Bailey
Old Albanians	Alex Sanderson	&	Joe Bedford
Royston	Nicky Little	&	Dan Harris
Saracens	Richard Hill	&	Ben Broster

South Woodham Ferrers RFC	Morgan Williams	&	1PV
Stevenage	Glen Jackson	&	Ben Russell (snr)
Stockwood Park	Robbie Kydd	&	Stuart Philpott
Tabard	Mark Bartholomeusz	&	
Tring	Kyran Bracken	&	Andy Kyriacou
Watford	Kobus Visagie	&	Craig Wilson

www.saracens.com - Updated

In addition to this we've also updated the community pages on the website to show more information about your club. This will hopefully allow newcomers to rugby to easily find out how they can get involved at our local clubs. To check out the new look information click on the following link: <http://www.saracens.com/community/clubs.php>

FORTHCOMING MATCHES

NEXT MATCH:

The Build up the London Double Header

Head Coach Rod Kafer has selected his first side of the season for the London Double Header making two changes to the team he fielded against Bedford last weekend.

By naming his starting line up he hands out six debut caps with **Dan Scarbrough**, **Kevin Yates**, **Iain Fullarton**, and captain **Hugh Vyvyan** all pulling on the black jersey for Saracens for the first time in the Zurich Premiership with **Matt Cairns** and **Mark Bartholomeusz** debuting in their second stint at the club.

The two changes in the side, which faces Double Champions Wasps on Saturday, sees Richard Hill make way for youngster David Seymour and speedster Richard Haughton return to the starting line up after over a month on the sidelines. Hill, who has only played a limited amount of rugby this summer, starts on the bench due to match fitness with the young Academy summer signing Seymour starting in his place while Haughton has over come a pre-season injury to start ahead of Paul Bailey on the wing.

On the bench Raphael Ibanez has returned to full fitness and Morgan Williams takes the place of Mosese Rauluni. Nick Lloyd, who joined from Rotherham in the summer, could increase Saracens' debut tally to seven if he enters the fray from bench.

There will be several head-to-heads to watch out for none bigger than Vyvyan v Dallaglio and Bracken v Dawson that will probably be worth the entrance fee alone.

"We've opted to start Richard (Hill) on the bench for a couple of reasons," explained Kafer, "firstly following the EPS agreement and secondly as he has only got 60 minutes of rugby under his belt due to the Quins cancellation last week. We're going to start with David (Seymour) who has impressed during pre-season.

"Richard Haughton is the only other change from the team last weekend and he came through as a second half replacement last week without a reaction to the injury that has seen him sidelined for a month.

"I think the London Double Header is a great way to start the season, it's certainly helped to focus the players as everyone has wanted to be in the team. It's a great opportunity for the players to play at Twickenham and I know they're all looking forward to it.

"To enjoy the day fully we have to make improvements in our defence and we have been working hard

all week to achieve that goal. I was fairly happy with our second half performance last week but Saturday's game will be a real guide of where we currently stand."

For more details check out www.saracens.com

NEXT HOME GAME (at Vicarage Road):

Saracens v Worcester

This will be your first chance to see the Men in Black in their first home game at Vicarage Road Stadium, and your first chance to see the Premiership's 'New Boys' in action LIVE!

If you have training at your club next Sunday morning – why not come along afterwards to see the match? Tickets are available through Saracens Juniors RFC and Chess Valley RFC who have targeted this match. Alternatively you can ring up the ticket office on 01923 475222 or buy through www.saracens.com.

PLAYER NEWS

Saracens lock Alex Codling has decided to take a break from the game after spending the last season battling injuries that have restricted the England International to 15 appearances for the club since his move from Harlequins in 2003.

When he did make it onto the field he made a huge impact and his experience in the lineout will be greatly missed. But after injuries restricted his ability to take part in full training during pre-season, Alex has had a chance to take stock and after talking to the club has taken the decision to hang up his boots and take some time out. Although his departure could be described as retirement he hasn't ruled out a return to competitive rugby at some stage