



Annual Report 2010-11 season

Introduction

What a great season we have had at the Academy!

The Academy continues to grow and our players are getting better and better. We have enjoyed great rugby on the pitches and the spirit of rugby on and off the pitches remains as strong as ever. Last summer the JRFC Limited Company invested in two new pitches and I don't know how we would have managed without them. The new Pavilion and the Lord Jersey Stand were also hugely important additions to the club.

Membership

The season saw the Academy membership grow to a record number. We now have over 525 registered players and the ongoing challenge facing us is to ensure that each player has the opportunity to reach his or her potential and play competitive games during the season. During the season we visited schools in the community and this helped attract new players from schools that have not traditionally been feeder schools to the Academy.

Fixtures & Results

This season was less problematic with travel arrangements but we still had cause to use our new insurance cover. Each squad travelled off Island a number of times during the season and details of these trips can be found in the manager's reports.

We also welcomed visiting teams from England and France, especially in April when we had lots of touring sides. We hope to see even more visitors next season.

Hampshire League

Our U14, 15 and 16 squads performed well in the Hampshire League and our U15s have been promoted to the top division next season.

Hampshire Selection

As in previous years many Academy players were selected to represent the Island at County level. This year a total of 16 players (15 boys and one girl) were selected and our congratulations go to each of them. Luke Heulin went one step further and played at regional level. Marcus Cochrane and David McCormack put together a great sub-committee to look after this important group of players and we were very fortunate in attracting some additional funds to help with the considerable travel costs for these parents and their families.

Ronez Initiative and Siam Cup

With the Ronez Channel Islands Initiative entering its fourth year a new format was proposed and executed. Due to RFU guidelines all players under the age of 18 were prevented from playing competitive rugby after May 1st. We therefore took the decision to hold a Junior Siam in April and Ronez sponsored the event. The sponsorship allowed Guernsey to travel with a greatly increased contingent and we played 16 games in total. Jersey took the honours in 14 with one draw and one Guernsey win.

Coaching & Professional Development

Ben Harvey completed his third season at the Club in style. The successes of the senior side are well documented but Ben has also led a very strong and dedicated team of Academy coaches during the year. This year Ben was again ably assisted by Jersey RDO, David McCormack. David organised a first class programme of RFU sponsored courses and I am pleased to say that our coaching cadre is now extremely well qualified.

In September Ben launched an Elite Player Development programme and he, Henno Venter and a number of the 1st XV players provided specialised training to players aged 13 to 17 at Les Ormes each Monday evening.



Annual Report 2010-11 season

Financial results

Jane Baines has once again managed our finances in a very professional way throughout the season and we finished the season in a very strong financial position. To have a reserve such as we now have is encouraging and to look to the new season with our sponsors Dominion, Ashburton and Ronez is not just a huge relief to the Committee but a testament to how well the Academy is performing.

Community

This season we worked closely with the management of Mont a l'Abbe School. We raised £5,000 for equipment for the school during our Siam Cup Draw and we hope to do some joint training sessions with the older children next season.

Next season we would like to give something back to the local community, in particular those less fortunate than us, and we will be exploring various possibilities over the summer period.

During the season we also worked closely with Andy Le Marrec and the probation Services and once again we are indebted to Andy for all his help.

Progress against our 2010-11 Action Plan objectives.

In June 2010 the Committee presented the Action Plan for the season ahead. We outlined various objectives and I am pleased to report that we made excellent progress on these objectives.

Key Objective	Result
<p>1. Spirit of Rugby Above all else we want our members to enjoy the game of rugby in a safe, friendly and professional environment.</p>	<p>Our players enjoyed their rugby in a safe and friendly environment and we attracted many new players to the Club. We have noticed that more and more Academy players and their parents are coming to First team games and becoming a part of the club.</p>
<p>2. Organisation A full Committee will be elected at the AGM in June and they will have a full squad of lead coaches, managers, support coaches and other volunteers in place when the season begins in September.</p>	<p>Each of the 10 squads had a Lead Coach, a Manager and an appropriate amount of coaches and volunteer helpers throughout the season. The Committee was bolstered during the year but we are always willing to accept new offers of help.</p>
<p>3. Coaching The Professional Coach, Ben Harvey, will ensure that the agreed coaching continuum will be followed throughout the season.</p>	<p>Each age group worked to the agreed continuum and even though the new rules being trialed in Hampshire presented some challenges we applied them consistently and will now provide feedback to the powers that be in Hampshire.</p>
<p>This September we will launch our EPDP to all players from U13 to U17 inclusive. Specialist sessions will be held each</p>	<p>Henno and Ben launched the programme as planned and it has proved to be a huge success. Players received specialist coaching on their area of the game and attendance was very high at all sessions.</p>



Annual Report 2010-11 season

Monday evening at the new indoor pitches at Les Ormes Sports Centre.

4. Coach development

Working with CCC, David McCormack, Ben will also ensure that the cadre of coaching staff at the Academy continue to develop and that coaches are given every opportunity to develop their coaching skills and coach the appropriate age groups.

All coaches had the opportunity to develop their coaching skills with courses such as RugbyReady, Level 1, Refereeing, Safeguarding and advanced refereeing courses organised by David McCormack.

5. Hampshire Leagues

The Academy will enter three squads (U14, U15 & U16) into the Hampshire League.

Our U14s finished sixth out of seven, the U15s second out of seven – thus being promoted to the top division and our U16s fifth out of seven.

6. Hampshire County Selection

The Academy will work closely with RDO David McCormack in the selection and management of players to represent the Island at county level with Hampshire.

Players were selected to represent Jersey at county level at U15, U16 and U18 level. Marcus and David organised everything in a very professional way and this team is now providing a fantastic service to the Island. A special mention should be made here to the Strasser Foundation, David Jenner and a mystery donor who between them have contributed £7,500 to help with travel costs.

7. Channel Islands Initiative & other links

The Academy will continue to work closely with the Guernsey RFC Academy and RDO to foster relationships between the Islands.

During the season we worked very closely with Guernsey and help a hugely successful Junior Siam Cup in April.

In 2010-2011 we hope to develop closer links with the eight rugby clubs in La Manche, Normandy. Talks have already taken place with Club officials and we have played some great rugby at several age group levels with the Granville Club. We will also continue our relationship with St Malo RFC

Talks continued but we didn't make it across to France this season. St Malo RFC did send over two squads to play us and hopefully next season will see more fixtures with clubs in Normandy and Brittany.



Annual Report 2010-11 season

and Dinan RFC.

8. Siam Cup & other festivals

In 2011 Jersey will host the Siam Cup and we would hope for success in all age groups.

To help squads prepare for fixtures a House Series will be held in September each year.

This years Siam Cup had a definite festival feel to it and we played 16 games against Guernsey. Jersey won 14, drew one and lost one.

The House Competition was launched in September. Most squads played the games as planned but there were some teething problems with the overall concept. Next season Nigel Metcalfe will make the competition a little simpler and we look forward to some very good mornings of rugby on Pitch 1.

9. Financial

The Academy depends on the generous support of its sponsors to help with travel costs. The Committee will continue to work closely with the Academy's sponsors to make travel affordable for all players and their families.

The Committee will also negotiate with the RFU and the Hampshire County Clubs for a more equitable arrangement regarding home fixtures.

Continue to contribute to a reserve fund.

Our sponsors Dominion, Ashburton and Ronez have been fantastic once again and we simply could not have travelled as we did without their help.

This remains one of our greatest challenges but we will continue to knock on doors in Hampshire and try to get more Clubs to travel to us for league fixtures.

Our Reserve Fund continues to grow and we will now look to break even budgets and preserve some funds in case we should lose a sponsor.

10. Community project

During the coming season we at the Academy would like to contribute something to the wider community in Jersey. The Committee is exploring various possibilities and will present some suggestions when the season gets under way in September.

This season we organised a special draw around the Junior Siam Cup and we raised £5,000 for special sensory equipment for Mont a l'Abbe school. We also hope to do some joint training sessions with some of the older children.



Annual Report 2010-11 season

And in closing on behalf of everybody I would like to thank the following people for their support during the 2010-11 season, we couldn't have done it without them:

The Committee,

Nigel Metcalfe, Vicki Perchard, Julie Laffoley, Jane Baines, Claire Lowe Adrian Colston- Weeks, Ben Harvey, David McCormack, Sam Watts, David Voisin, Tim Mitchell, Alan Williamson, Marcus Cochrane and Steve Kearns, for their continued support and dedication

The Lead Coaches,

Andy Cotton, Roger Nightengale, James Strong, Paul Griffin, Phil Dennett, Mark Maguire, Dave Clark, Scott Spencer, Pat Dean, Guy Hinks and Nathan Hannay for guiding their charges through the season

The Managers:

Mike King, Michelle Clark, Iain Quenault, Nicky Le Bihan, Lisa Clarke, Brian Middlemiss, Mark Temple, Claire Lowe, Gail Boakye-Yiadom and Alan Williamson for the support they provided to their squads and the help and advice they gave to parents

The Assistant Coaches,

1 – 61 for being there week in and week out in all conditions

Bill Dempsey and the JRFC Executive Committee,

for their help and support

Mike Engelmann and the JRFC Limited Company,

for their ongoing support for the Academy and their help in satisfying our appetite for even more resources

Nicky Griffin, Shirley Le Bourgois, Nicky and the team in the Bar and the Kitchen for looking after everybody so well over the season

Myles Landick, the Grounds man, for striving to provide us with playable pitches

The Probation Services for the continued support every Sunday

Jane and Julia in the Club Shop

Our sponsors:

DOMINION, The Sports Advisory Council, Ashburton and Ronez (and those who gave financial donations but prefer to remain anonymous) for their important financial and moral support

Lord Jersey, Will Villiards:

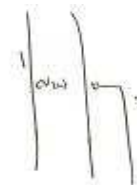
for his ongoing commitment to rugby on the Island and for his generous donation to the Academy

Jersey Bowl & St Peters Garden Centre, for the use of their car parks

Ron Felton and the team at the JEP for their generous coverage of the Academy over the season

All the parents of our members, for their support throughout they season.

And of course to our players who are what it is all about and who make it all worthwhile.



Kevin Lemasney
Academy Chairman

**THIS IS
RUGBY.**

Teamwork Respect Enjoyment Discipline Sportsmanship