

Jersey Rugby Academy,
Jersey Rugby Football Club
Rue des Landes
St Peter
Jersey
JE3 7BG



learning the spirit of rugby

Joining the coaching cadre at JRFC Academy.



The [Jersey Rugby Football Club Academy](#) section was formed in 1989 and now counts some 450 boys and girls aged 6 to 17 enjoying rugby at least once a week. The Academy adopted the mantra *learning the spirit of rugby* a number of years ago and this philosophy guides everything on and off the pitch at this, the only rugby club for youth in Jersey.

The players are supported by a cadre of 65 coaches and 11 managers. Ben Harvey, the JRFC Head-Coach manages the coaches and looks after their continuous development with local Rugby Development Officer (RDO), David McCormack assisting with much of the organisation.

The Academy recently signed a five-year sponsorship deal with local company, [Dominion](#) and it has a dedicated sponsor, [Ashburton](#) for professional coaching and development. Ashburton's annual contribution to the Academy pays a part of Ben Harvey's salary and helps to cover the costs of some of the professional training of the coaches.

Each season, Ben and Academy Chairman, Kevin Lemasney interview potential coaches and take into account their rugby and life experience before placing them in suitable age groups under the guidance of an experienced Lead Coach. Each [CRB checked] coach attends a Rugby Ready course during the first two months at the Club and are then enrolled on the first available RFU Level 1 course, usually in October each year.

Coaches are regularly offered opportunities to attend courses in First Aid, Safeguarding and Refereeing in addition to the many specialised modules that Ben has developed since taking up his post in August 2008. Ben has also developed a coaching manual for the Academy coaches. Emphasising the progression that players should be making from entry levels to colts, the manual has become indispensable to all coaches. It is also a very valuable resource for parents as it clearly explains the clubs selection process and other aspects of the game that parents sometimes find difficult to understand.

Being a small island provides the club with certain logistical obstacles to overcome but the CPD programme is now well defined and coaches are encouraged to take their development seriously. The selection process, followed by swift integration into the coaching cadre and the early opportunity to take Rugby Ready and the Level 1 certificate means that the Academy is more than well catered for in terms of suitably qualified coaches. Of the 65 coaches currently practicing at the Club 52 are already at Level 1, a remarkable achievement for an Island Club.

If you are interested in becoming an Academy coach or interested in any aspect of the CPD programme come and have a chat with any of us.

Yours in Rugby,

<p>Ben Harvey Head Coach Sponsored by Ashburton 07797 766595 benharvey74@talktalk.net</p>	<p>David McCormack Rugby Development Officer and Club Coaching Co-Ordinator Sponsored by FirstRand 07829955123 D.Mccormack@gov.je</p>	<p>Kevin Lemasney Academy Chairman 07797 783457 Kevinlemasney@jerseymail.co.uk</p>
---	---	---