Dear Member,

We would like to thank you for your membership of Stirling County RFC and very much hope you will continue your support for the club. At the AGM last September, nine new Directors joined the Board, with the aim of helping the club realize its huge potential. There were some significant challenges to address. The club had joined the semi-professional Super Series, which coincided with the Covid pandemic. That made it difficult to build a fan base and sponsorship income. The club facilities were also badly in need of investment. The kitchen did not meet health and safety standards, which meant that we had limited options for match food and events. There was regular flooding through the tunnel and the pitches have not had the required investment.

We hope that members are starting to see a difference. We are working to embed professional management of the club, with the aim of being the best rugby club in Scotland. We have a new team working in the Club Office. Tim du Pon leads the team as General Manager, supported by Daryl Thomas and Svitlana Yandola. They will shortly be joined by Jack McIlroy-Reid who has been appointed as General Manager for the Stirling Wolves and Korie Winters who will be supporting Jack for six months, as he recovers from a significant injury. Jack was previously Commercial and Media manager at Glasgow Warriors and Head of Communication and Membership at University of Strathclyde Sports.

A new kitchen has been fitted and the Parker Suite has been refurbished, with funding from the Landfill Trust. The outside bar now has a permanent license and serves burgers as well as drinks on match days. The Bean Tin has been opened by former player, Adam Sinclair and has lifted the look of the club as well as providing a quality service for customers. Importantly, a very significant improvement to all the pitches is currently underway, with 400 tons of sand being spread across them.

On the field, the Women's 1st team have won the Scottish Premiership for the first time in the club's history, playing some great rugby. Many members will also have seen a resurgent Wolves team playing exciting rugby and giving themselves a shot at the Sprint Final this weekend. It has been great to see big crowds at Bridgehaugh and we hope to keep building on that. In youth rugby, the Girls U18 squad were crowned Scottish Champions and there has been success through the age groups for girls and boys. Much of the credit goes to our volunteer coaches, who are the backbone of the club.

We are trying to build our revenue streams so that we can continue to invest in the club facilities and to develop youth rugby. We need to make rugby accessible to more children in the schools around Stirling – and that requires resource. Our aim is to make the Wolves a profit generating business that helps grow our youth development program.

Memberships are an important part of our income. We have looked at our memberships compared to the other Super Series clubs and in light of inflation in the last year. Nobody likes to put charges up – but we have to balance the books and we think the renewal prices shown below, represent good value for money. We believe we will remain better value than other Super Series clubs.

We would like to get as many members as possible to pay by standing order – to spread your costs and to keep a steady flow of income into the club. Please contact Svitlana at the Club Office to arrange your standing order (FMC@stirlingcounty-rfc.co.uk) and please encourage friends and family to join. We would politely ask that you update your membership before 1 June 2023.

## Benefits of membership include:

- Coaching
- Gym (playing members)
- Player development pathways
- Competitive fixtures
- Referees
- Pitches
- Club house and changing facilities
- Welfare support (eg SAMH, child protection)
- Medical support
- Discounted bar prices
- Discounted access to facility hire
- Access to membership events
- International match tickets
- Free entry to matches

## The costs for 2023-24 are:

Member class	Annual	Monthly	Member class	Annual	Monthly
Adult	£ 192	£16	Family Groups*		
			1 adult + 1 child	£ 300	£ 25
Student	£ 150	£ 12.50	1 adult + 2 children	£ 420	£ 35
			1 adult +3 or more children	£ 540	£ 45
Midi	£ 180	£ 15	2 adults + 1 child	£ 480	£ 40
			2 adults + 2 children	£ 600	£ 50
Mini (P4-P7)	£ 126	£ 10.50			
Micro (P1 to P3)	£ 60	£ 5	2 adults +3 or more children	£ 720	£ 60

Current Membership cards can be used until new cards are issued.

If you are an existing Member, you should update your Bank Standing Order by 1st June 2023. If this is completed by 1 June, there will be no back payment required for April and May.

Any new standing orders or current standing orders updated after the 1st of June will need full back payment, made by contacting the team in the club office.

## FMC@stirlingcounty-rfc.co.uk

New application forms can be found on the website. For applications, please only complete areas that require updating (please include you name on the form). All application forms should be sent to the above email address for processing.

Membership forms can be accessed here:

Membership - Stirling County RFC (stirlingcounty-rfc.co.uk)

We will be holding three meetings for members in June, to talk to you about future plans for the club and to hear about your priorities. Dates will be confirmed shortly. You will also have received a link to the club survey, which is designed to build our understanding of your vision for the future. We very much want to strengthen the feeling that we are one club, where people get full value for their membership by feeling part of the County family at Bridgehaugh.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

**SCRFC Charity Board Directors** 

Stirling County Rugby Football Club (known as Stirling County R.F.C.) is a Scottish Charity, SC049362, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulatory (OSCR)