

### Club Background

Downingtown Rugby Football Club was founded in 1996 by DMS teacher Mike Drill. Mike played rugby in college and introduced the sport to his new students. He found that students were attracted to the team-oriented environment, sportsmanship focus and excitement of play. Today DRFC competes at several youth levels with similar club and single school teams in leagues divisions managed and sanctioned by Rugby PA and USA Rugby. From its inception the club has been coached and managed by an evolving, all-volunteer group of parents, former players and rugby enthusiasts. Players come from DASD, but participation from Great Valley, Twin Valley & Coatesville school districts is encouraged. We welcome students from any school that does not already have an existing rugby program.

### Team/Player Composition/Competition

The teams consist of:

U19 High School Girls – Grades 8-12	U19 High School Boys – Grades 10-12
U13 Coed Youth – Grades 5-7	U15 Junior Boys – Grades 8-9

HS Girls – PA Division 1 & EGRL      HS Boys – PA Division 2      Club teams (not single school)

Occasionally our teams partner with other local clubs to ensure sufficient player pool.

### General Training, Practice and Locations

January/May – Spring 15s Season: Practices weekdays; Fellowship Turf, 241 Fellowship Rd / Sunday matches  
 June/July – Summer Rookie Rugby Flag program: Practice weekdays / Sunday tournaments  
 August/October – Fall 7s Season: Practice-weekdays; Hickory Park, 351 Park Rd / Sunday tournaments  
 All teams practice/match/event schedules and communication will be managed through TeamSnap.

### Fees/Costs

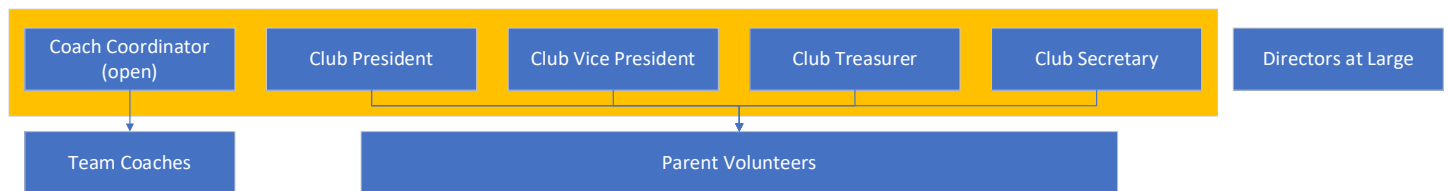
- Club Registration – \$325-HS players; \$225-Juniors; \$125-Youth – covers Fall & Spring seasons <https://downingtownrugby.teamsnapsites.com/registration-information/>
- Rugby Pennsylvania - \$170-HS players; \$85-Juniors & Youth – registration and athletic waivers CIPP provides insurance coverage and USA Rugby membership required for all competitions <https://www.rugbypa.org/registration-player>

Players are required to provide cleats, mouth guard, rugby shorts (Teams currently wear BLUE or WHITE) Rugby Shorts can be found here: <https://www.steamrollerrugby.com/downingtown-rugby/>  
 The club provides socks for players to keep. The jerseys are provided by the club on match day, but are not kept by players. Unlike many other sports, rugby jerseys are numbered based on the player’s position.

### Club Sponsors

Kildare’s Irish Pub; Interim Healthcare; East Branch Brewing; Razor Technologies; EPL Tours; JaguarLandRoverWC

### Club Structure



### Parent Volunteer Roles & Responsibilities



**Team Parents** - Coordinate volunteers supporting the team on match days. Also assist coach with communication to team.

Primary function is to prepare SignupGenius on Mon/Tues before match day.

SignupGenius is used to identify volunteers for each of the following primary needs:

- Collect team jersey's post-match, take home, wash and return to next match (one family)
- Collect team water bottles and jugs, take home, wash and return full to next match (one family)
- Bring team support gear; canopy, tarps, table for food, orange slices/fruit/snacks/Gatorade; in sufficient quantities for the whole team (several families)
- Set-up & run video camera for filming of match (used by coaches for instruction and recruiting) (one family member)
- Take photos of match and team to share will club and on social media (one or more families)
- For HOME matches: organize field set-up activities (ropes, goal post pads, flags etc.) (multiple families)

Secondary, as needed, functions are as follows:

- For HOME matches
  - Organize a post-match social with enough food for ALL players on BOTH DRFC and visiting teams, A and B-side. Examples [Cut-up hoagies/hotdogs/burgers/individual sandwiches + fruit/granola bar/snack + drink + optional: brownies/cookies] (multiple families)
- For AWAY matches
  - Coordinate with team coach for away match transportation plans; meeting location & carpool/ride share planning
  - Coordinate overnight lodging for travel tournaments and matches (this is uncommon)

**Fundraising Coordinator** – Provide support to club through fundraising activities for designated club needs  
 Assemble a committee to organize and promote fund raising opportunities to meet financial goals  
 All options for activity, event or program considered: Beef N Beer; Bingo; Popcorn Sales;  
 Engage external organizations for sponsorship potential as part of fund raising effort

**Social Media/Website Coordinator** – Manage and post to Facebook, Instagram, TeamSnap, webpage accounts  
 Regular posting to social media sites and sharing of upcoming events, matches and activities  
 Updating club website with current new, events and announcements

**Field manager** – Coordinates field identification, availability, and readiness for club practices and matches.

Primary point of contact between club and field owners for reservation management:

- Upper Uwchlan Township Parks & Rec., DASD, USTC, Academy Sports Complex, etc.)

Ensures fields are prepared for HOME matches; painting lines, flags, spectators areas

**Marketing coordinator**

Advertising and club promotion planning. Develop flyers and informational materials for:

Publications; Community Courier, Daily Local, Downingtown Neighbors

Community and DASD school bulletin boards & events calendars

Other area/regional community interest sharing forums (websites, newsletters, etc.)

**Additional Roles**

Match day support: Photographers, Match secretary

Special events planner/coordinator – Beef n Beer; End of Season Picnic

International Travel Coordinator – based on team traveling – upcoming: (Scotland HS U19G-2024)