**Club Development Programme**

**Application Form – 2017/2018**



**Please email completed applications to:**

[Matthew.holmes@ulsterrugby.com](mailto:Matthew.holmes@ulsterrugby.com)

**Closing date for applications is:**

**Tuesday 26th September at 5.00pm**

**Background and Guidance**

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| **What is the programme about?** |

The Club Development Programme is designed to offer intensive support to 8 clubs which increases their capability and capacity, aids their future development and generally enhances their functioning. The programme will commence in October and run until season end, with the core focus being on the creation and implementation of an effective 3-5 year Club Development Plan and on improving operational structures. After this period, light support will be provided to the clubs during the actioning of their plans.

It is important to note that the Programme is designed to help clubs help themselves, and emphasis will be placed on the club’s ‘***Project Team’*** taking the lead on their engagement with the Club Services Officer (CSO). A number of conditions and milestones will be agreed following acceptance into the programme, and clubs with low level engagement will be deferred to future phases. These will be linked to:

* Achievement of the IRFU Club Excellence Award / Sport NI Clubmark accreditation
* Initiation and completion of the Club Development Planning process, and the production of an effective Action Plan

Although the support offered is likely to extend beyond these areas, clubs which are unable to fully engage are likely to be deferred to future intakes and could be replaced by a club on reserve.

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| **Remit of Club Services Officer (CSO)** |

The information below provides an overview of the areas of support available via the Club Services Officer (CSO). In completing this application to be part of the Programme, clubs should make reference to the areas where they feel they require assistance. This information will then be used during the selection process.

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| **Structures & Strategy** | **Club Development Plans:** Assistance in the creation of Club Development Plans.  **Facility Development:** Assistance around the process for facility development and associated grant applications.  **Clubmark / Club Excellence Award:** Support in completing the Clubmark / Club Excellence Award |
| **Volunteers** | **Club Committee Structures:** Guidance and suggestions around effective Governance and Management Structures  **Volunteer Education:** Education and capacity building modules and resources for volunteers in line with their roles |
| **Other** | **Clubhouse GMS:** Assistance in setting up and maximising the usage of the club’s GMS account to aid all administrative duties.  **Grant Funding:** Assistance in the completion of revenue (programme) grant applications  **CASC / Charitable Status & Gift Aid:** Assistance in competing applications for CASC or Charitable status and accessing additional income available via Gift Aid. |

**Application Form**

*Please complete all sections of this form. Boxes can be extended as necessary.*

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| **Club Information** | |
| Club Name: | Lurgan Rugby Club |
| Contact Name: |  |
| Contact Role: |  |
| Contact Email: |  |
| Contact Phone: |  |

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| **Please describe the club’s current Management Structures:** |
| **Club Management Committee**  Rugby Section Committee  Cricket Section Committee  Finance Committee  Development Committee  Health & Safety Committee  Child Protection Committee  Events Committee  Ground Committee  Bar Committee |

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| **Please describe the current position of the club and the areas in which it would like to improve:** |
| **Upgrading and Extension of Club Facilities**   * Provision of Ladies changing rooms and shower facilities * Enlargement of existing gym including new equipment for strength & conditioning * Provision of ice bath * Provision of medical room * Provision of additional referee’s facilities * Provision of new showers for Senior Rugby * Pitch side Café / bar * New Kitchen Facilities * New covered viewing gallery * Renewal of all of existing M & E (Mechanical & Electrical) * Green Energy provisions * Pitch lighting for 2nd’s pitch and training pitch * Drainage of isolated bits of the grounds   **New Playing Teams**   * Ladies Rugby Team * 3rd XV - Senior Rugby Team * U16’s - Youth Rugby * U18’s – Youth Rugby   **Coaching in Schools (23 number in the local area)**  Several requests have been made for rugby and TAG rugby to be coached in a number of our local schools. We currently do not have the capacity to deliver on this request.  **Community Outreach Programme**  There are currently circa 2,300 youths playing Gaelic Football in the Lurgan Area.  Our aim is to reach out to each of the major Gaelic football clubs (7 number) and to get Game of Two Halves initiatives going between the clubs in the first instance.  These are very much cross community events and will serve to break down barriers through sport and social interaction.  It is the club’s intention to give a free size 4 Gilbert T3000 rugby ball to each of the Gaelic Footballers involved.  We will also be seeking support in rolling out rugby coaching clinics in our local Gaelic Clubs  We currently do not have the capacity to deliver on this request.  **Health & Safety**  Kerbing, drainage, lighting and bituminous surfacing of the existing car park and removal of all asbestos from the existing building.  **Security**  Security Lighting and CCTV to enable passive surveillance of the premises at all times |

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| **Over the past 12 months, what efforts have the club made to improve themselves, and how successful have these efforts been?** |
| **October 2016 - April 2017**  The Club have engaged Consultants and Designers to look at the redevelopment of the Club house and grounds taking into account the current capacity requirements of the Club and the need to future proof it  **May 2017**  The Club held an Evening with Rory Best (400 persons Gala Dinner) and netted £35,700 profit  P7’s Tigers (Lurgan Youth) go to a tournament in Wales and win it returning undefeated and go through the tournament without conceding a try.  **June 2017**  Club drafted Vision 2020 document setting out a 3 year plan for the Club and Jeremy Davidson, current forwards coach for Bordeaux agrees to become an Ambassador for the Club.  **July 2017**  Lurgan Lions win the 1st division of TAG rugby in Ulster and have attracted a number of new members  **August 2017**  Club Finance Committee comes into being  Jacob Stockdale agrees to become Lurgan Tigers Ambassador and to assist in rugby recruitment in the 23 local schools in the area  Senior Recruitment  Over 20 new senior players have currently joined the club this season with a number of high profile Gaelic players due to start training  **September 2017**  Community Outreach programme with Eire Og and St Peters GAC clubs  Over 500 youth players have been involved in these initiatives to date with a number of new players coming to the Club since “discovering” rugby.  Our First XV have won their first 2 matches (both away matches) in Qualifying 3 |

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| **What are the main issues and challenges for the club at this time?** |
| **CCRO**  This job was advertised by Ulster Rugby but no applicants applied for the job. This position needs filled. We estimate that we need someone for 40 hours per week due to the high requests levels for coaching.  **Coaching in the Schools**.  There is a high demand but we do not currently have capacity to satisfy this demand  **Coaching in the local Gaelic Football Clubs.**  There is a high demand but we do not currently have capacity to satisfy this demand  **Community Outreach Programmes**  These are expensive to run and are a significant drain on Club resources  **Ladies Rugby**  We have a number of female players at the Club who already play TAG rugby so that gives us the nucleus of a team with future recruitment being sought through schools and the local Gaelic Football Clubs.  Our existing facilities are unsuitable for both sexes playing sport at the same time as we have no separate changing rooms or shower facilities and those that we have are too small even for our current usage.  **Information Technology**  We currently do not have a Social Media Hub and are currently engaging with professionals to determine the best way forward on this.  **Marketing**  We do not have any inhouse marketing capabilities within the Club and need assistance in attracting new sponsors, members and players. |

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| **In consideration of the types of assistance available via the Club Services Officer (see above), where does the club feel support is needed and why?** |
| See replies and statements in questions answered above |

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| **What is the current financial position of the club and what are its financial needs?** |
| The Club is under good financial Governance and it is aware that the current running costs for the Club is circa £33,000 per annum. We have a single unsecured loan of £74,000.  We own our own lands (15 acres) and the Club house which is conservatively estimated at £2,000,000 at current land and property valuations.  We have our accruals set out for the next 3 years and believe that Sponsorship will be £20,000 per annum, Majors Events will be £45,000 per annum and the senior and youth rugby sections will generate £20,000 per annum in subs and through localised fund raising events.  The Club currently needs £1,350,000 for the redevelopment and extension of the Club House facilities (including car parking, lighting etc).  A further £70,000 per annum is sought in coaching support.  A further £55,000 for Information Technology and Marketing assistance |

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| **Has the club got any specific ambitions for the future (e.g. a new facility, additional teams etc.)?** |
| See replies and statements in questions answered above |

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| **Previous provide information on the club’s ‘Project Team’ (i.e. the key individuals) which will deliver the programme:** |
| Sam Rusk – MBE  Albert Dunlop  Raymond Acheson  CV’s sent by separate email |

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| **Is there any other information the club would like to provide?** |
| **A Game of Two Halves with St Peters GAC**  **Video Links**  **UTV Life interview (Episode 72)**  <http://www.itv.com/utvprogrammes/utv-life>  **Ulster Players interview extracts**  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISBG2LpJHfc>  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3oI3RrcvcY&feature=youtu.be>  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPV5FOoHcQ4&feature=youtu.be>  **Jacob Stockdale – Ulster Players mention**  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pv_DTRJq8aQ&feature=youtu.be>  **Armagh Players & Ulster Players**  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkTkAXTsIkU&feature=youtu.be>  **Tigers v St Peters**  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21R4xbd6Kl8&t=29s> |

**Declaration**

*We have read and understood the programme criteria and certify that the information submitted is accurate to the best of our knowledge.*

**To be completed by club Honorary Secretary:**

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| Name: |  | | |
| Email: |  | | |
| Telephone: |  | | |
| Signature: |  | Date: |  |

\*NB: The engagement of the club in other support services offered by the Branch over the course of the past 12-18 months, as well as their compliance with other Branch requirements (e.g. Club Support Scheme, Safeguarding etc.) may also be taken into consideration as part of the selection process for the programme.

Please return this application form to [Matthew.holmes@ulsterrugby.com](mailto:Matthew.holmes@ulsterrugby.com) by **5.00pm on Tuesday 26th September Complete with Hon. Sec. Signature**.

Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.