

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	POS
26th Sep	Stow on Wold (a)	34-26	2 nd
3rd Oct	Dudley K (h)		
10th Oct	Silhillians (a)		
17th Oct			
24th Oct	Hereford (h)		
31st Oct	Worcester (a)		
7th Nov	Ludlow (a)		
14th Nov			
21st Nov	Luctonians II (h)		
28th Nov	Malvern (a)		
5th Dec	Shipston (h)		
12th Dec	Drybrook (a)		
19th Dec	Stow on Wold (h)		
26th Dec			
2nd Jan			
9th Jan	Drybrook (h)		
16th Jan	Dudley K (a)		
23rd Jan			
30th Jan			
6th Feb	Hereford (a)		
13th Feb	Worcester (h)		
20th Feb	Ludlow (h)		
27th Feb			
6th Mar	Luctonians II (a)		
13th Mar	Malvern (h)		
20th Mar			
27th Mar			
3rd April	Shipston (a)		
10th April	Silhillians (h)		

P1, W1, L0, D0, 34 pts for, 26 pts agst

KENILWORTH V DUDLEY KINGSWINFORD	
SATURDAY 3 RD OCTOBER 2026	
KENILWORTH: W	
DUDLEY KINGSWINFORD: W	
KENILWORTH TEAM	
1	Ted Bromwich (C)
2	Lewis Hall
3	Sam Wright
4	Conor Doyle
5	Dan Wildey
6	Matt Gibson
7	Max Brain
8	Ed Sharpe
9	Robbie Holden
10	Finn Barnacle
11	Finn Yallop
12	Danny Green
13	Tommy Hunter
14	Charlie Wollaston
15	Mark O'Connor
16	Fin Nicholas
17	Joe Stockbridge
18	Ollie Ebenezer
REFEREE Jamie Hanson, Warwickshire Society	

FOOD AT KENILWORTH RUGBY CLUB
Match Day food is available in the form of filled rolls, pies, soup & roll or a more substantial meal, as served to the players. Ask behind the bar.
During the week, it is Burger Wednesday or Thank Cod it's Friday.



It is with great pleasure that we welcome Dudley Kingswinford as our first visitors for this new season of league rugby. We go back a long way and have had many a decent tussle in the past. In fact, the RFU site records that in our past 12 league games the spoils have been shared. I recall in 19/20 when we were both in level 6 and we both achieved 100+ points (with Kenilworth defeating Dudley K twice). Dudley K were promoted and they remained in level 5, finally achieving promotion to National League level for the 23/24 season only to return the year after. Last season Dudley K appear to have had a torrid time in level 5, similar to ours in 24/25, and were relegated to this league.

Our last games were in our ill fated 24/25 season when we conceded our away game then lost the return 7-66, our try scorer being Ed Hannam. Last week Dudley K opened their season with a 22-14 home win over Hereford. The Dudley K DoR is Rob Chivers with Tom Huggins, Adam Blackford and Stefan Shillingford as coaches.

PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE - BUILDING KINSHIP

I was lucky enough to grow up with parents, siblings, heroes and role models who shaped the person I am today. I did some sensible things and many stupid things and often didn't get things right, which thankfully did not go out on any social media platforms. I always had people in my life who would look out for me and keep me on the right path, if I needed reassurance and comfort, I got it, if I needed a thick ear, I got one.

Sport and more importantly team sports were always at the heart of what I did, it quite simply, made my heart sing. As youngsters, within that sporting environment, we all knew we were all part of something bigger than ourselves, everyone bought into it and if you didn't, you

quickly learned. This especially applied in the groups I played rugby with; it was my salvation and I always felt at home. At today's Former Players and President's pre match lunch there are fellas I have known since I was sixteen, I played rugby with them and we had a great time. Some of my best times were on the team buses just chatting, singing, stopping at local hosteleries, chewing the fat and building kinship. Basically, we looked after each other on and off the field and had the very best of laughs. Since that time the world has changed, (it has probably gone mad) modern life is busier, more expensive and more demanding. Mercifully, most of the things mentioned above are still going on in all sections of our club. I witness this week in and week out throughout my mingling and networking, it undoubtedly gives everyone a feeling of belonging. Culture is very important; sport can still set the standards and provide the support required for a fulfilling life. The big rocks that still apply today are:

Standards and accountability; sport provides discipline, structure and organisation, something young people and adults need more than ever today.

Role models and mentors; surrounding yourself with people who will celebrate your highs, support your lows and be honest when you need to hear it, is only beneficial.

Friends and family; I will be forever grateful for their support, their listening ear and advice. Look after your family, make as many friends as possible and always look after each other.

Our club has a huge role to play within the community in providing a safe haven for many youngsters and adults, whilst embracing the wonderful game of rugby in all its different forms.

Rich (RB) Bennett, President, Kenilworth R.F.C.



WELCOME FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

Welcome to Kenilworth Rugby Club for what promises to be an exciting first home league game of the season against Dudley Kingswinford.

It is certainly early in the campaign to be talking about a top-of-the-table clash, but with DK currently sitting 1st and ourselves in 2nd, today represents a fantastic challenge for both sides. DK have just come down into our league and will provide a strong test, but one we are really looking forward to.

We recruited well during the summer, bringing a number of players into the squad to add strength, competition and experience. We have also retained the vast majority of last season's group, with only Bobby Thompson retiring and Finn Nichol heading off to university, although Finn will hopefully be able to return and play for us when he can. Having another year together as a squad puts us in a strong position to challenge towards the top of the table.

Off the field, we have also been working hard to make matchdays more vibrant. Rich has joined us as our Matchday DJ, adding to the atmosphere around the club, while our M&Js matchday activities are fully booked, which is fantastic to see.

Our community coaching programme is also going from strength to strength, with school activity flying across the local area.

We are looking forward to the battle today. Enjoy the rugby, enjoy the atmosphere and, most importantly, enjoy your day at Kenilworth Rugby Club!

Cheers, **Matt**.

TODAY'S LUNCH

Today's lunch is the first of our Former Players (and President's) lunches and we welcome all of our Former Players for what is always a good day. You come to us on the back of a successful season last year, culminating in the holy grail – a Warwickshire Cup win! There is also good news to report on our ground move, now scheduled for Aug 28 and no doubt someone will talk about it today.



Three fine former players

OUR 2026/27 PROGRAMME

This is the first outing of our new programme and we trust you will enjoy it and find it informative. We thank Emmersons and Rapport for their support and our vast array of advertisers. As well as the usual advertisers we welcome Humanity Warwick, HarperCrewe, Gadd Marketing, Shock Doctor, Meriden Hospital, MB Distribution, Hanson Lee, RejectMyCar and Fitness Worx.

REGIONAL 2 MIDLANDS WEST

Following our strong finish to last season we retained our place (without the need for a playoff!) in level 6, Regional 2 Mids west. We finished 8th. Moseley Oak were promoted as league champions and we lost both Stratford and Old Halesonians to relegation. They have been replaced by Drybrook and Dudley Kingswinford (both relegated from Regional 1 Midlands) and Worcester (promoted after 22 wins from 22 games in Counties 1 Mids West). One sad piece to report is that Edwardians, who finished in 6th spot last season, have decided to exit the league with their 1st XV now taking the place of their 2nd XV in Counties 4, all in an attempt to rebuild and reset. They will not be replaced in our league which is now a 11 team league. We wish them well.

CLOSE SEASON ARRIVALS

DoR Matt has been busy over the summer and the club are delighted to welcome the following to our squad:

Sam Wright - prop and scrum & physicality coach. Joins from Syston RFC.

Andy McKenzie – 2nd row who rejoins us after a spell away at Harbury.

Connor Doyle - back row from Edwardians RFC

Ed Sharpe - back row from Nottingham

Tom Aldwinckle - scrum half from Loughborough Students

Danny Green - utility back from Paviers RFC

Dan Retter - winger rejoins after a spell away

Finn Yallop - winger/centre rejoins after spell at University

Lucas White - winger and ex colt returns

Ethan Carrick - winger rejoins after a spell away

George Hopkins - hooker/back row - comes through from the colts

Cameron Carr - utility back from Loughborough Uni

Ollie Ebenezer - fly half/centre from Edwardians RFC

Toby Jackson - fly half from Loughborough Students

Callum Davies - winger re-joins us after a spell away

We must not forget **Lewis Hall** who has now recovered from injury and has resumed his player/coach role.

Sam Peppitt has rejoined National League 1 side Birmingham Moseley and we watch with interest if he is involved in their 1st XV. He has since been loaned to Bournville. Also at Birmingham Moseley is our ex-colt Ardal Yallop who is turning in some tremendous performances at No8. Finn Nicol has now gone to Cardiff Met to study Sports Management but hopefully he will be available now and again.

LAST FEW WEEKS

It has been an extended pre-season which started for us on 15th August with a decent win at Nuneaton Old Eds. We then entertained Peterborough, then Burton at the Cowpatch and came off second best both times. Burton looked a decent squad and will do well in the league above us. We then took on Syston two weeks ago on the main pitch. Syston were in National League last season but have been relegated back to the league above us. In a highly entertaining game we won 34-31 with a last minute penalty from Mark O'Connor. Our 2nd XV also played against Nuneaton Old Eds and two weeks ago they lost 22-24 to Syston 2's. Unlike the 1st XV they turned down a very kickable penalty in the final minute to win the game. The 2nd XV are under the guidance of Gaz Renowden and Chris Valentini and had a good mix of young and old with six of our Twickenham winning squad (Messrs Renowden, Bahey, Jones, Stevens, Thompson and Hannam).

Our Colts had a run out when Peterborough came to town but they were short in numbers. Unfortunately this looks like it will be a problem in the coming season and our colts management team are in discussion with Claverdon, and others, about merging resources.

Last week the delayed season finally started and we travelled to Stow (who finished in second spot last season) and came up with a very good win, 34-26. We went behind early on but fought back to lead 19-7 at half-time. Stow came back big time after the break and led 19-26. We finished the game very strongly with a penalty and two converted tries to give our big band of travelling supporters on Dickies bus a nice trip back. Our try scorers were Ted Bromwich, Charlie Wollaston, Luke Bagnall, Max Brain and Matt Gibson.

After two pre-season wins our Women's 1st XV started with a league defeat at home to Shelford, 26-34. The 2nd XV also lost at Tamworth, 15-22.

Our Colts played their first game last week against Broadstreet, losing 29-39.

MEN 1st XV - NEXT FEW WEEKS

Next week (10th) our Men are away at Silhillians and the following week (17th) they should have played at Edwardians, this now being a free weekend. The next home fixture is on 24th when Hereford are the visitors. There is our annual M&J lunch before this game.

SGM INFO ON GROUND MOVE

At the SGM on the 21st Sept the following was announced/agreed:

- The (revised) clubhouse and main pitches will now be on the west side of the railway, with direct access off Warwick Rd- see pages 20&21.
- A revised cost, delivery and business plan was presented.
- Target date for completion was given as August 2028.
- Approval was given to sign the Heads of Terms with HarperCrewe and move to contract.

TONIGHT'S LOTTERY NOS

5

A night in November with ex player, and now International referee, Karl Dickson – at the Almanack

6

Six of our 2nd XV squad who played v Syston were in our Twickenham winning squad.

11

We are now in an eleven-team league following the sad withdrawal of Edwardians.

24

Our next home game in October and it is preceded by the very popular M&J Lunch

28

We are now looking at Aug 2028 for our move and first game at our new ground.

43

Our Women's Assistant Coach, Caity Mattinson, has played for Scotland 43 times!

UP AND COMING EVENTS AT KRFC

11th Oct	Women 2nd XV v Rugby Lionesses, 2pm
18th Oct	Women 1st XV v Bury St Edmonds, 2pm
18th Oct	Women 2nd XV v Silhillians Ladies, 2pm
24th Oct	Men 1st XV v Hereford, 2.15pm
24th Oct	M&J's pre-match lunch
24th Oct	Colts v Old Laurentian, 2.15
26 - 28th Oct	October ½ term Summer Camps
31st Oct	Men 2nd XV v Broadstreet 3's
5th Nov	An Evening with Karl Dickson, Almanack
7th Nov	Women 1st XV v Cheltenham Tigers, 2pm
8th Nov	Women 2nd XV v Old Leamingtonians Ladies
21st Nov	Men 1st XV v Luctonians II