

RVC Women's Rugby

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The RVC WRFC currently fields one team, though regularly has trains with 20-30 girls. We play in the ULU Women's Rugby Premier League and the ULU Women's Challenge Cup. We have remained in the highest level ULU league for the past several years, not being knocked off the winning position for at least the past 4 years.

The RVC WRFC has consistently placed first in the ULU Women's Rugby Premier League in the past, and has made it through the knock-out stages and into the final of the Challenge Cup repeatedly as well. We have enjoyed Challenge Cup wins in 2004, 2005, and 2006 narrowly missing the win in 2007 after playing for 120 minutes trying to resolve a tied score. In 2008 we have just passed through the opening rounds of the cup and will be playing in the semi final with our eye on playing in the final yet again in March. This season we are also on point to win the league; only losing one game throughout the season we are headed for a strong win, currently holding the top spot tied on wins and losses with one other team but 129 points ahead with only one league match left to play.

Our fundraising has involved several parties held both in teammate's homes and in pubs. Most recently we held an Ann Summer's party in the Buttery and a cocktail party at a player's home. These events combined raised nearly £350. We will spend this money on our annual tour to Kinsale, Ireland where we compete in the largest international 7s tournament in Europe. There we enter two 7s teams that play in a round-robin format over three days ultimately leading to a final exhibition match on the main pitch. Playing against some of the best non-professional women's 7s teams in Europe, we are proud to have made it through to the semi final twice and even to the final once in 2006.

In the past we have been sponsored by Hill's though have struggled to find sponsors since. We are currently entering a large letter-writing campaign to attempt to find a sponsor. We have about £1,000 currently in the rugby account. Much of this money has been raised with the annual £30 player subs. Most of this money will be used to fund tour and replace kit (including new training and match balls as well as restocking the medical kit). We will also use some money to repay petrol money to the players who have driven the team to and from matches in the past year.

The main item on our wish list is a scrum machine, a vital piece of equipment that we would use for strength and conditioning as well as to teach players to correctly push and drive in the scrums, rucks, and mauls. These are quite expensive, running from £1500-5000. We have been searching for a used machine but as of yet have not had any luck. We would also really like to be able to afford some professional coaching; being able to hire in a coach to help us regularly would significantly improve our game and would potentially help us to gain the confidence to join a BUSA league, which is ultimately one of our largest goals.