

MISTLEY RUFC ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

When we defeated Sudbury Tigers by 66-14 in Eastern Counties Division 2 South back on the 29th Feb 2020 many of us had no indication that this would be the last league game we would play prior to lockdown. Since then no matches have been played and the only activity that has taken place is fitness training subject to Covid and RFU Guidelines. Having then wiped out the 20/21 season we are forever hopeful we can resume contact rugby at the start of the 21/22 season this September.

The 1st XV have been promoted to Eastern Counties Division One South for the new season which will be challenging. As well as the 2nd XV known as the Marauders in Eastern Counties Division 3 South, our main ambition is to grow our youth teams from Age 5 upwards. This includes Girls and Ladies side.

The one plus side of lockdown has enabled us to work on the new Clubhouse and Stage One will hopefully be finished by Sept. We have done this thanks very much to the help of the labour skills from our Members and their generous donations. We have **not** borrowed any monies but the lack of rugby and events has restricted our fundraising abilities. When we begin Stage 2 of our Clubhouse project hopefully by the end of this year we will actively seek out funding from local businesses and grants. We are preparing a prospectus documentation in this respect.

The most important factor is that we are very much a Community sport and we are there to actively encourage children and young players to take part. We have over 100 adults and 200 children as Members. We are a Village side and are very proud of our status and standing within the grassroots rugby community. Our new Clubhouse will be paramount to our continuing success and in providing changing room and refreshments facilities.

We also wish to continue to work closely with the local community and Parish Council and this can be seen by the tidying up of the woodlands/brambles by the end of the pitches. We are grateful to Mark Towler our President in this respect and we are there to provide whatever help we can.

William Meston

Immediate Past President