

Devizes RFC Walking Rugby Report May 2026

Introduction

Walking rugby as an activity where people can meet up for some gentle exercise, rehabilitation and yes, skills improvement as passing and off-loads are a key requirement, in addition to decision and play making. We have a core group of around 12 players who train and play every Friday at 7pm all year round, we have looked at alternative times, but this seems to suit players very well. The numbers do drift up and down, and this tends to be completely weather dependent. Most are paying a social membership to the club, with some VP's and players joining in. We are fully inclusive and welcoming and tend to enjoy a beer after training.

We have trained referees and first aiders.

Activities

We played in three festivals last year and this year this will be at least 5.

These are as follows;

Salisbury – 18th April

Gosport – 9th May

Hornets – 16th May

Dorset & Wilts – 30th May

Kingswood – 11th July

These are extremely social events, and we encourage more players to join us for them.

In the Autumn we organised a mini-league against local clubs and this proved very popular, we will again plan to do this and probably run it in the Spring as well.

For 4 weeks throughout the winter, we played indoors at Devizes Leisure Centre, and this proved to be very successful. We have agreed a price to book this again for a longer period in Winter 26/27. This is self-funded by the players.

On the 30th May we are hosting the Dorset and Wilts County Walking Rugby Festival, and we look for support from the club members to help us with this. We particularly need support in the marketing and social media activities for the event. This will be a great day to showcase DRFC to the other walking rugby teams.

Needs

- We need to do far more social media promotion and marketing of our walking rugby group, as we need to attract more players. We will look at promoting through local fitness groups and at the Leisure Centre.
- There is a distinct hesitancy of ex-players to come and try walking rugby, let alone join us regularly. We need to look into how we can change this as other clubs have a far higher representation by ex-players in their teams, what are we doing wrong?
- We need a kit upgrade, we have had quotes from LS4 Teamwear but they have not come back to us with the suggested changes and re-quote.