



April 2, 2015

Dear **U13 Rugby** Candidates and Parents,

Welcome to the 2015 **U13 Rugby** Program. This letter outlines the philosophy, expectations and logistical details of the spring season for the **U13 Rugby Team**.

Philosophy

Upper Canada College Preparatory School believes in encouraging a love of sport through the development of athletic character and skills. The athletic program values and develops sportsmanship through respect, compassion, integrity and discipline, as well as developing teamwork and a team commitment. Students will learn a strong work ethic through commitment to team ideals and perseverance to team goals. The school facilitates the growth of its students by encouraging students, coaches, and families involvement in athletic education, leading to an increased sense of athletic purpose and self-confidence.

Coaches and players will work together to live up to the values and commitments in our philosophy.

Tryouts

Players will be selected not just on the basis of ability, but also on attitude, their listening skills, their willingness to learn and try new things and their overall contribution to the team. For these reasons, we will focus on each candidate's:

- Demonstrated skill;
- Ability to listen and follow direction;
- Willingness to work with others;
- Work ethic;
- Punctuality and uniform.

It is always a difficult experience not to be included on a team roster. Parents can help their son learn from the experience by praising his best effort, and encouraging him to understand the reasons why he was not kept. By improving in these areas, it is not uncommon for these same players to challenge incumbents next year.

The team selections will be emailed to boys with the opportunity to book a meeting with the coach. It is our intention to take at least 22 players for this year's teams. Players who are not selected for the team are encouraged to report to tryouts for the other team. **Final team selection will be made on or before Monday, April 13, 2015, at the latest.**

Team Commitments

A strong commitment is needed for a player to be a member of any school representative team. We understand that many boys have outside commitments. We have discussed the Prep policy regarding absences from games with your son and we will outline it again here. We expect each player on the team to participate in every scheduled game. **A player may miss only one game date (as each game date includes several games) due to an outside commitment, but he must notify his coach at least one week in advance of the game date. No player may miss the CISAA championship tournament for any reason other than illness.**

CISAA championship tournament date: Saturday, May 23, all day at Upper Canada College.

The costs associated with each team are typically around \$150.00 or less depending on the amount of travel. This includes a nominal uniform rental fee, bus travel to away games and a team photo. Teams that travel for overnight trips will incur additional charges that will be outlined in a team trip letter prior to the trip.

On Bluenet, in the Athletics Calendar, is a copy of the season. It is possible that this schedule may change as the season progresses due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. Any change will be announced to your son as soon as possible, updated on the website and a new hardcopy of the schedule will be sent home.

The best way to access information about our team and schedule is through the UCC website. Click on this [link](#) to access the U13 Rugby schedule, click on this [link](#) (**must be completed by April 7**) to fill in our online form to confirm your son's commitment. It is possible that this schedule may change as the season progresses due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. Any change will be announced to your son as soon as possible and updated on the website.

A voice mailbox has been set up to aid in communication. Call 416-488-1125, press 1, then:

- Ext. 4004 – this line is for travel information. If a team is late returning from a match we will leave a message stating when we will arrive.

Uniform

The team uniform includes:

- Team jersey (loaned to players for the season for a nominal charge)
- School athletic shorts
- White athletic socks
- Soccer or Rugby cleats
- Mouthguard
- UCC track suit (worn properly)
- Water bottle (mandatory)

Students who do not wear their full uniform will be ineligible to play that day, but will be expected to travel with the team.

Sincerely,

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