

## Fenwick Friars Rugby Football Club Fact Sheet



### What is Rugby?

- Rugby is the 2<sup>rd</sup> most participated sport in the world. It is a unique sport combining contact, speed and finesse. It requires excellent physical fitness and develops skills that translate well to other sports. All sizes can play rugby.
- There are over 40 high school rugby teams competing in Illinois, under the Rugby Illinois rules for competition and eligibility
- Rugby is played extensively in the US at the collegiate level. Some colleges offer scholarships and admissions assistance.
- Rugby 7's is an Olympic sport

### About Fenwick Friars RFC

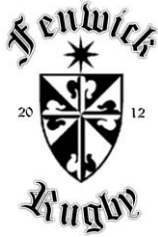
- Club founded in 2012. The inaugural team had 45 players. The 2012 team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in State. The 2013 team had 56 participants and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in State.
- We have introduced rugby to over 200 Fenwick students
- We have toured Ireland 2 times, and are considering another tour in 2021
- Rugby is a club sport at Fenwick. This means that the club is organized, funded and supported solely by volunteers and sponsors.
- No experience required, the only thing you need is a desire to learn and compete. No one will be turned away. Soccer, football, wrestling, hockey, baseball, track and basketball athletes have had great success in rugby.
- We will support Varsity, JV and a Freshman / Sophomore teams (based on turnout)
- Fenwick Rugby players have gone on to be named High School All-Americans, Illinois All State, Illinois Select Side Tornados, and currently compete at colleges such as Michigan, St. John's (MN), Miami of Ohio, Penn State, Dayton, St. Louis, Loyola, Illinois, Marquette, Missouri, Georgetown, Villanova, Providence College, and others.

### Participation Fee

- The participation fee is \$350. This covers the cost of registration with USA Rugby, game fees, officials, playing fields, equipment and uniforms

### Registration

- You can register by going to the Rugby Page on the Fenwick High School website, clicking the Player Registration link and following the instructions, here is the link:  
<https://www.fenwickfriars.com/athletics/teams/rugby-registration-forms/>



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### Refund Policy

- \$100 Non-refundable Rugby Illinois registration and equipment fee
- \$250 through the 1<sup>st</sup> 2 weeks of practice

### Equipment

- **Team Supplied**
  - Game Jersey
  - Game shorts and socks, supplied to each registered player
- **Player Supplied**
  - Mouth guard and cleats
  - Other optional equipment (scrum caps) are available if desired

### Practice / Games

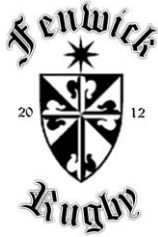
- Practice will start in February. We will typically practice 3 to 4 days per week. Practices are usually at Ridgeland Commons in Oak Park, and Serpico Field in Melrose Park
- The rugby season runs from February through the end of May
  - Games start in March and run through mid – May
  - Games are held on weekday evenings (typically Weds or Friday)
  - There are typically have 5 to 6 league games with playoffs to follow
  - State Championship is held Memorial Day weekend
  - There is generally a varsity and junior varsity match each game day. We will field a separate Freshman / Sophomore team if sufficient interest exists
- Summer 7s rugby if interest exists

### Transportation

- Transportation to and from practices and games is the responsibility of the player. Contact information will be distributed to all club members to facilitate car pools.

### Player Expectations

- Players are expected to attend all practices and games. In cases where players cannot make a practice or game the head coach should be contacted
- Playing time will be set by the coaches. Any player who attends all practice will play in ability-appropriate games.
- Players are expected to abide by the code of conduct expected from all Fenwick athletes. Player discipline will be handled by club coaches and administrators.



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### Volunteerism / Parent Involvement

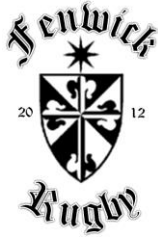
- The Fenwick Friar Rugby Football Club needs parent involvement to have success
- A volunteer sheet will be distributed
  - Recruitment
  - Communications (web site)
  - Publicity
  - Sponsorship
  - Post Game socials
  - Transportation
  - Spirit Wear
  - Field Set Up

### Coaches

- All coaches are USA Rugby certified, and meet Fenwick and Archdiocese of Chicago requirements as coaches and volunteers
  - Background screens
- Our coaches have been involved in playing, coaching and administering rugby at the highest levels in the US
- Current Coaches
  - Bill Mahon – Head Coach
  - Carl Dittmer
  - Paul Kraft
  - George Nottoli

### Club Contacts

- Bill Mahon
  - [fenwickrugby@gmail.com](mailto:fenwickrugby@gmail.com)
  - 708-209-9140 (cell)
- Kerri Mahon
  - [K.mahon@att.net](mailto:K.mahon@att.net)
  - (708) 975-2185



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### Communications

- The club uses several methods to communicate club news and events
  - **Fenwick High School Website Rugby Page**
    - <https://www.fenwickfriars.com/athletics/teams/boys-rugby/>
  - **Fenwick Friars Rugby Football Club Facebook Group** : A private group containing only current active players, parents and administrators; used for internal club communications. Request to join the group and an administrator will allow you in.
    - <http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/235586526512463/>
  - **Fenwick Friars Rugby Football Page** : The public page used to communicate general information about the club. Like the page to follow.
    - <https://www.facebook.com/FenwickFriarRugby>
  - **Fenwick Friars RFC Google Group** – email group. Email information received at registration will be included in this email group. Only current players, parents and administrators will be included.
  - **Text Message Alerts** – Current players and parents can sign up for text message alerts by texting **@ffrfc** to **81010**.
  - **Follow Fenwick Rugby on Twitter, @fenwickrugby**

### Useful Links

- Rugby Illinois
  - [www.rugbyillinois.org](http://www.rugbyillinois.org)
- USA Rugby
  - [www.usarugby.org](http://www.usarugby.org)