

Monday 13th May 2015

Nottingham Rugby Academy 2015-16 Information update for clubs and coaches

Nottingham Rugby Academy will be re-launched in July 2015 with a screening event to identify the new intake of players we would like to invite into the Academy. This will target young players aged 16-20 and aims to link closely with NLD at U16, U18 and U20 level to ensure players in our CB and surrounding areas have access into a high quality academy with Nottingham Rugby.

The Academy aims to support the development of players at U18 and U20 age groups with training on a weekly basis throughout the year focusing on individual player development and skill acquisition. At the end of each season a small group of "transition" players **may** be invited to attend summer training with the professional squad to further their development. These will be selected by the Academy Staff and Senior Coaches.

Training will be scheduled to take place on a Tuesday evening at The Bay with The Academy focusing on Strength and Conditioning and also skills development on the same night. It is a key aim of The Academy that players will train with their home clubs on a Thursday or other appropriate times and also play throughout the season for their home club. Nottingham Academy aims to play 6-8 fixtures at U18 level throughout the season and 6 - 8 fixtures at U20 level against other local Academies. Whilst we appreciate there may be a few clashes, we aim to spread these throughout the season to limit the impact to clubs and will also be integrating with approximately twenty students from Nottingham Trent University. We will also continue to develop our links with the Premiership clubs to ensure that there is an avenue for the very elite to progress higher if and where appropriate.

We acknowledge that only a very small percentage of players will make the jump into the professional game and although this is one of our aims, we are very clear that we want to support the development of players within NLD and surrounding areas and support your players in their desire to be the best they can be and hope this will support clubs to improve standards locally.

We have a selection day in July where will screen players and identify those we initially want to invite into the academy, whilst we will also have a group of "scouts" keeping their eyes on players throughout NLD with an open selection policy being adopted where players will move in and out of The Academy at appropriate points. **All clubs, schools, colleges and Universities are invited to send HIGH QUALITY players who should be high level performers probably playing at NLD level or equivalent or above.**



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We have also advertised for skills coaches and Team Managers with the closing date of 22nd May which will aim to support the development of these individuals as part of the Nottingham Rugby Team. We also want to open opportunities for local coaches to watch academy and senior coaching sessions to help in their development.

If you would like to nominate players currently in U16, U17, U18 or U19 levels during the season just gone (2014-15) then please contact Matt Everard via academy@nottinghamrugby.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Steve Smith
General Manager

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