



July 2019.

It was a very exciting month as our team grew from 6 to 10 RDOs as we welcomed four new members to the team. Jean de Dieu IBARINDE who is working in Nyamagabe District, Jean de Dieu HAKIZIMANA who is in Gasabo in Kigali, Assinapold NZIMENYA in Burere and our very first female RDO, Ernestine who works in Musanze. Sadly for us, Ernestine didn't take up her post for very long as she was offered a job working with an NGO as a counsellor. We are very sorry to lose her but wish her all the best in her new role. She will continue to play rugby and promote the sport and help us out when she can.

We are also delighted that we have strengthened our partnership with the Rwandan Rugby Federation who are helping to fund these four new RDOs.

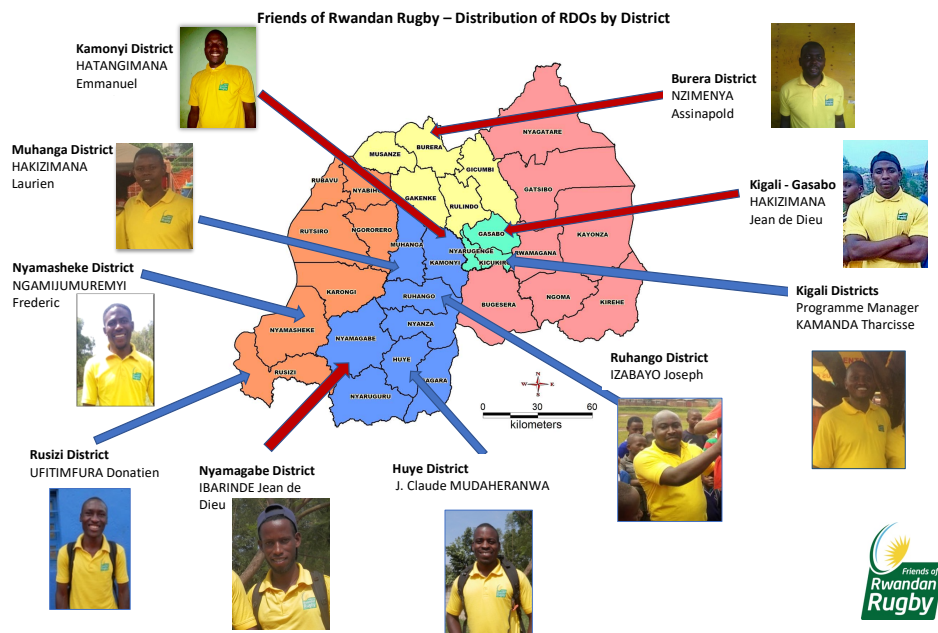


July 2019

Jean Claude, our RDO in Huye, organised a tag rugby tournament at the end of July for his district. Eight teams took part from 7 schools plus a team made up from the Street children's programme (photo). Jean Claude started working with the street children a few months ago so it was great to see them taking part in the competition. Congratulations to the winning team from Ikibondo Primary in a very close final game against Tumba primary school with the score at 6-5.

August 2019

With Ernestine moving onto a new career, we had a vacancy for an RDO and are happy to welcome Emmanuel to FoRR. He works in the district of Kamonyi and has been working with schools and clubs as a volunteer. Emmanuel plays for the Kamonyi Pumas. He attended the tour in May in Nyamasheke so we knew he would make a good new RDO.





Kamanda, our Programme Manager, organised a tournament in August for schools in Kigali. 9 teams took part. The winners of the girls' tournament was a team from the MEG foundation (Kinamba project) and the Sharks Junior team won the boys' tournament. Good to see donated kit from St Julian's HSOB, Whitehead Steelers and Oakdale RFC being put to great use.



Joseph, RDO for Ruhango ran a 7s tournament involving 80 players from 8 secondary schools. Lycee de Ruhango won the tournament playing in kit from Deri RFC. Pictured here also is APARUDI playing in Gwernyfed RFC shirts.



September 2019

September was such a busy month the newsletter has gone onto a third page!



Laurien organised a 7s tournament in Muhanga district. 80 boys from 8 secondary schools took part. GS Shogwe beat St Dominic in the final. Well done to Laurien and thanks to Joseph for going along and helping out. Laurien does a great job to save on our use of plastic bottles. Good to see this player using one of our plastic cups rather than creating more plastic waste.

ES Bugarama
Winners of both
tournaments –
Rusizi District

Donatien was very keen to involve his girls' teams in a 7s tournament and so he ran a tournament for both boys' and girls' teams in Rusizi District. Fred and Kamanda joined him and it was a great success. Nine schools had boys' teams and four schools had girls' teams. 90 boys and 40 girls took part.

In previous years TTC Mururu girls have proved difficult to beat but this year ES Bugarama won both the boys' and the girls' competitions.



ES Bugarama teams in kits from
RTB RFC and Oakdale RFC



TTC Mururu teams in kits from
Caldicot RFC and Caerleon RFC

Ever wonder what happened to that kit you donated

Rumney & Tumble RFC



Pontypool Utd v New Tredegar



St Julians HSOB

Gwent Dragons



It would be great if all of the teams could have their own sets of shirts for their teams. Please get in touch if you have any old kit lying around.



As well as teaching rugby in schools, our RDOs also work in the community with club sides. In Rusizi district Donatien is doing a great job with 32 senior players in Rusizi Resilience RFC, 45 players in the junior section and 80 under 7s playing mini rugby.




Friends of Rwandan Rugby
Rugby Development Officer of the Month

Congratulations!

Nzimenya Assinapold
Burera District

For exceptional work in the month of August delivering 67 coaching sessions to primary and secondary children engaging with over 500 boys and girls!

Superb, keep up the good work!



Congratulations to Assinapold – what a fantastic month!

As the charity is growing we have to keep on top of fundraising. Glyn, the chair of trustees, organised a Djembe drumming fun day at the Greyhound Inn near Usk. It was a free event but people were very kind donating money and buying the homemade jam and Brownies that were for sale. We raised an impressive £240.

Thank you to Kelly at the Greyhound Inn for hosting us and for continuing to support us as their charity of the year. Big thanks also to Upbeat Music and Arts for lending us 32 drums.



We usually only plan one organised trip to Rwanda but when we heard the exciting news that the Rwandan Silverbacks are to be in the very first qualifying match for the 2023 World cup we were keen to support the team. So we are arranging a special trip of coaches and players to work with them and to help them prepare. This will be from October 29 – November 7th. Look out for the next newsletter to find out how the trip went and also the match which will take place against the Ivory Coast on Nov 23rd. ITV has also promised to run a feature about the Silverbacks' preparation to be aired during the Bronze final of this year's RWC, so look out for us on the TV!



We were delighted to be approached by the authors of Rugby Journal who wished to feature Rwandan Rugby in their special global edition of the publication. They interviewed Kamanda and Donatien as well as Emma and Deena – the founders of the charity and Glyn and Mary who are current trustees. The article is currently only available in print but will be published online later this year. Great coverage for the charity.



#1for1for1 - £1 pays for 1 child to have regular rugby coaching for 1 year. Help us reach more children by donating at <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/friendsofrwandanrugby>

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