



*October 2019*

Our RDOs continued to keep very busy visiting schools and there were several tournaments organised before the end of October when the schools prepare to break up for the end of the academic year.

In Nyamasheke, Frederic organised a tag tournament with primary schools and a 7s tournament with secondary schools. Nyamasheke is one of our new districts with Frederic only being in the job since the end of May 2019 so we were delighted that he has managed to build on what was started by our volunteer coaches in May and has added new schools and run another tournament.

Six schools took part with 60 children (mixed boys and girls) The winning team was EP St Catherine. The captain of the side was a girl and she looks very happy to receive her trophy from Donatien, RDO for Rusizi district who was helping out on the day.



*October 2019*

Frederic organised Nyamasheke's first 7s tournament and 3 schools EAV Ntendezi, GS St Nicolas and GS Makoko took part. Congratulations to GS St Nicolas who won. Thanks to Caerleon RFC and Trebanos RFC for the team shirts.



*October 2019*

Frederic has started a girls' team at St Joseph's secondary school and really wanted them to have a match so we arranged for them to travel to Rusizi district for a friendly against ES Bugarama. It was a great experience for the St Joseph's girls and we hope it will encourage more secondary schools' pupils to join rugby. Thanks to Donatien for helping to organise the match and Kevin, the teacher from ES Bugarama for helping out on the day.





*October 2019*

Assinapold, our RDO in Burera, organised his first tournament since becoming a FoRR RDO. Despite heavy rain for almost the whole day there was an excellent turn out with 6 schools participating and many supporters from the local community coming along to watch. Loud music added to the party atmosphere! Kiribata Primary won the tournament. Our programme manager and president of the Rugby federation, Kamanda went along to help out as did the Chief Administrator of the federation, Livingstone. They both commented on the fantastic job that Assinapold is doing to involve the whole community.



*October 2019*

Jean de Dieu Hakizimana, RDO in Gasabo district, Kigali organised a tag tournament for 6 schools. 78 boys and 42 girls took part. The winning school was GS Kacyiro 2 who beat another team from their own school in an exciting final ending 25-20. Thanks to Kamanda for helping out.



*October/November 2019*

To help the Silverbacks prepare for their match against Ivory Coast we organised a tour of coaches and players for 9 days. We were delighted to have such expert experience from all over the world – France, S Africa and the UK. It was a great week with the Silverbacks receiving intense training almost every day and culminating in a friendly match at the Amahoro Stadium. ‘Inshutizurwanda’ (Friends of Rwanda) shirts were sponsored by Beddow Partnership – big thanks to them. As well as working with the Silverbacks we spent a morning at the Meg Foundation with the children who then came to the stadium to watch the match. Please see our Special Edition 2 Newsletter for a detailed account of the trip.



The trip allowed us to carry 30 bags of donated equipment including 9 tackle bags. These will be shared out between the clubs in Rwanda. Here Donatien is pictured receiving some for Resilience Rusizi RFC







Samuel from Alfa Rugby club received a set of shirts donated by Swansea U15 schools. Assinapold was given a full set of kit from Risca RFC for the Burera Tigers. Bryncoch kit and St Julians' HSOB kit was given to children at MEG foundation and the Silverbacks trained in Newport and Clifton kit. Thanks to all our donors – more pictures to follow.



The Silverbacks travelled to Ivory Coast in November. The 'Elephants,' as the Ivory coast team is nicknamed, proved to be too strong for the Rwandan team and the final score was 63-3. There were positives to take from the game with the team working hard in defence and despite a punishing scoreline they never gave up. Two of our RDOs, Jean de Dieu and Donatien were once again selected to play for the Silverbacks. Many congratulations to them.

*December 2019*

Kamanda ran a tournament for 10 teams in Kigali during the holidays. 48 boys and 29 girls took part in 2 tag tournaments won by Sharks girls and MEG Foundation boys. A 7 aside tournament for 36 boys also took place with the Sharks winning 25-15.



Donatien and Kamanda were happy to receive copies of the Rugby Journal.

*December 2019*

This is our final quarterly newsletter for 2019. It has been a great year. The trustees met for the AGM and there are lots of exciting plans moving forward. We are currently planning a double tour in May with an anticipated 40+ volunteers and as a result of a grant from the Bill McLaren Foundation we will be training 200 primary school teachers to deliver rugby in their schools in remote areas where we have no RDOs. We were also delighted to be shortlisted for the Rhino Grassroots Rugby Award.



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