



September 2021

During September things continued to return to some sort of normality and our RDOs were able to start planning to return to work. It was announced that the schools would reopen in October so plans could be made.

Also in September the charity heard from a young Welsh rugby player called Ieuan Archer who was moving to Rwanda. He was interested in volunteering for the charity and supporting our team of RDOs.

Needless to say we were delighted!

He was able to take a bag of donated kit out with him.

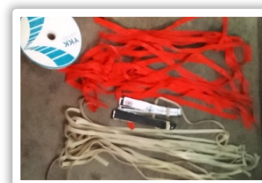
Ieuan arrived in Rwanda just in time to attend a preliminary meeting with Kamanda, our Programme Manager, and Laurien and Joseph who are our most experienced RDOs. They held a "Back to Work" meeting with Ieuan to plan the full team meeting which would take place at the end of September.



At the end of September all of the RDOs attended a team meeting to plan the return to coaching in schools which would start in mid October.

The RDOs have not been able to deliver proper coaching since March 2020 so this means that the vast majority of the children they are going to work with going forward will not have played rugby at all.

The RDOs worked together and produced a scheme of work. During the meeting nine sessions were planned to cover the skills that need to be developed for Tag rugby. This scheme of work will be trialled in schools, revised and then used as our official RDO training manual.



Assinapold, RDO for Burera District, is more than just a coach! He kept himself busy in September making tags and tag belts using the Velcro and webbing straps that had been donated by Ribbons Ltd, Treorchy and Velcro manufacturer A&N Trimmings. For the tags he cut up an old banner that he was given – great re-use of a plastic waste material! He was able to try them out when he started back in schools in October.



October 2021

The schools opened for the new academic year on October 11th and our RDOs started visiting schools to arrange coaching sessions. We are encouraging schools to allow our RDOs to fit in with the timetable for the school and to deliver PE lessons to several classes during one visit. This will mean we will be using our time more efficiently, will be working with more children and will limit the time and cost of travelling between schools.

Jean de Dieu - RDO for Gasabo district



At Gisoze school the children gave Jean de Dieu a very enthusiastic welcome and hundreds of children enjoyed training over two days. So many children wanted to join in so Jean has invited some of them to join his Saturday kids' club.



Donatien - RDO for Huye district

Donatien has recently moved to Huye district and will be re-introducing rugby there after Claude left in 2019. He has started working with the university team UR Grizzlies as well as starting to coach in some schools.



Jean de Dieu - RDO for Nyamagabe district

Jean de Dieu has been re introducing rugby to the schools in his district. At GS Acepr the children were very excited to be allowed to play with the ball. The rain didn't stop them (spot the umbrellas!!)



Emmanuel – RDO for Kamonyi district

In Kamonyi district Emmanuel has been introducing tag rugby to his primary schools using the new FoRR branded tags.



Focus on an RDO: David – Rusizi district

As Donatien has moved to Huye district we needed a new RDO in Rusizi. We are delighted to welcome David to the team. Donatien had been an RDO in Rusizi since September 2016 and he introduced rugby to David.

David is now 18 years old and started playing rugby in his second year of secondary school.

David says, “The reason why I like rugby is because it carries people together and makes them happy in that beautiful family of rugby. I am very excited to start a job coaching rugby.”

David plays rugby for Resilience Rusizi and will be their main coach with remote help from Donatien.

Donatien spent a full week with David introducing him to the schools and training him to deliver the coaching plan.



Children from ECPS primary



David at Nyamagana primary



Donatien hands over to David



Frederic - RDO for Nyamasheke district

Frederic has started back with his schools on the edge of the Nyungwe rainforest – what a view! The children were very excited to play rugby and there were a lot of interested onlookers.



Laurien - RDO for Muhanga district



The children from GS Gitarama were very excited to meet Laurien and play rugby during their school sports lesson.

Joseph - RDO for Ruhango district



At GS Indangabirezi Joseph put the students through some physical fitness training.



EP Gitisi Catholic were the first children in Ruhango to try out the new branded tag belts.

Kamanda – Programme Manager and RDO for Kigali.



Kamanda delivered coaching sessions at Gikondo for the boys' and girls' teams.



Ieuan Archer – volunteer coach and supporter of FoRR



Ieuan has been busy working and supporting the RDOs and also visiting some schools in Kigali and Rwamagana to carry out some fun coaching sessions with the children.



#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>

<https://friendsofrwandanrugby.com>

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