

**Barrie Jaguars Minor Rugby Program**

**AGE GROUPS REGISTRATION FEE (2022) BIRTH YEARS PRACTICE NIGHTS**

Under 6 $300 (Flag/non-contact) 2016 and 2017 TUES & THURS 6pm

Under 8 $300 (Flag/non-contact) 2014 and 2015 TUES & THURS 6pm

Under 10 $300 (Flag/non-contact) 2012 and 2013 TUES & THURS 6pm

Under 12 $340 (Contact) 2010 and 2011 TUES & THURS 6pm

Under 14 $400 (Contact) 2008 and 2009 MON & WEDS 6pm

Under 16 $400 (Contact) 2006 and 2007 MON & WEDS 6pm

Under 18 $400 (Contact) 2004 and 2005 MON & WEDS 6pm

All practices take place at the Barrie Community Sports Complex on Nursery Road near Midhurst.

**HOUSE LEAGUE FLAG RUGBY FOR AGES U6 TO U12**

Our base offering for these age groups is our local informal house league play which is co-ed for age groups u6 to u12. House league runs from the beginning of May until the end of June every year. The U6, U8 and U10 flag rugby players and the u12 contact rugby teams attend various rugby festivals in the province which take place on Saturday or Sunday mornings where they play games against other clubs in the province. Barrie hosts one of these festivals every year in late June. Festivals continue into July and August when we move to one practice a week for these age groups.

No prior experience is needed. Kids who have never played before are not at a significant disadvantage and catch up fairly quickly. Our coaches are qualified, dedicated and focused on ensuring each child has a positive rugby experience.

**CONTACT/(TACKLED) RUGBY FOR U12**

For the most part the U12 teams attend the same festivals as the u6 to u12 players. There is occasionally a u12 only tournament but we try to keep our teams together at the same location.

**WHAT DO THE FEES COVER?**

* Approximately $35 paid to Rugby Ontario membership and player insurance
* Approximately $45 paid to Rugby Canada membership and player insurance
* Remainder of fees:
  + Players kit: Jaguars jersey, house league shirt, shorts, socks
  + Every registrant receives flags as part of their fee
  + Field rental and associated costs (City of Barrie)
  + Team equipment: pinnies, pylons, bags, etc
  + Referees for house league play and festivals
  + Nominal fee for use of online registration tool

**PRACTICE AND PLAYING TIMES FOR U6 to U12**

* Tuesday and Thursdays, 6:00pm – 7.15pm (1.25 hours per practice)
* The U6, U8, U10 and U12 all practice at Barrie Sports Complex in the same location. This is logistical nirvana for a family with multiple siblings.
* The Barrie Sports Complex is located close to Midhurst
* Each session is divided into approximately 45 minutes of skill development and 45 minutes of house league play

The setting for our practices is a huge attraction for parents. Beautiful fields surrounded by forest. Parents pull up their deck chairs and just sit and relax in the evening sunshine while their kids get a healthy dose of outdoor exercise.

**FESTIVAL FORMATS FOR U6 to U12**

U6, U8 and U10 flag teams and u12 contact teams compete in rugby ‘festivals’ throughout the summer on select weekends. Unlike typical sport tournaments, rugby festivals:

* Have 3 games maximum; no playoffs or championship games on top of this
* Take place on a Saturday or Sunday morning (typically 8am – 9am start; 12pm – 1pm finish)
* 8 on 8 format
* Games are 30 minutes in length (15 minute halves, 5 minute halftime)

Participation in the festivals is not mandatory for the players as summer can be a busy time. We do however encourage the kids take part in as many festivals as possible as the live game situations really improves their experience and rugby skills they are learning during the week.

A list of festivals the club is attending will be posted on the club website or emailed to all parents prior to the season starting. Festivals are held on weekends between the beginning of June and the end of July, we may have the odd festival in August if players are keen to go.

We ask that the parents/guardians email or call their coach before Tuesday’s practice with their availability for that weekend’s festival so that the coach can set his or her roster accordingly. If enough players are attending then we will enter multiple teams to ensure lots of playing time for each player.

U6, U8, U10 & U12’s generally attend the same festivals as this promotes a greater sense of club friendship building and for parents of children belonging to 2 or more teams to be with their children on the festival day.

Carpooling/shared travelling is usually arranged at Thursday’s practice. We do not need to stay overnight as these are only half day festivals.

**U14 to U18 CONTACT RUGBY**

We have separate teams for Boys and Girls at these age groups. All teams practice Monday and Wednesday night between 6pm and 7.30pm at the Barrie Community Sports Complex near Midhurst. Games take place against other clubs in the GTA area on Sunday mornings for the u14s, Saturdays for the U16 and Saturdays/Wednesdays for the u18s. Practices for the u14s start at the beginning of May with their first games scheduled for the end of May. We appreciate hockey tryouts are scheduled for a large portion of May so we work round that. U16 and U18 teams start practice and games in early June when the high school rugby season is completed.

**OUR COACHES**

An email contact for each age grade head coach is available on the relevant page off our website. If this is not updated our Coaches will reach out to you by email directly before the season starts.

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT ANY OF THE COACHES DIRECTLY IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, WHATEVER THE MAGNITUDE. THEY ARE THERE TO HELP AND PROVIDE INFORMATION.

**MY CHILD ALREADY DOES BASEBALL/SOCCER/LACROSSE AND ONE NIGHT CONFLICTS.**

If you want to give rugby a go and your child can only make one night of practice a week because there is a conflict with another sport that is absolutely fine. It will not be to their detriment. If you put them in rugby and they really enjoy the game then next year they will want to come both nights and make that decision themselves. Any kid under 14 should be encouraged to try a range of sports and not specialise in one or be limited to a few. All of our coaches and most of our parents have their children in multiple sports to expose them to the various options available. Variety is healthy for the kids and promotes physical literacy that helps them in most activities.

**MY CHILD HAS NEVER PLAYED RUGBY. ARE THEY TOO OLD TO START THE GAME?**

Unfortunately, we live in a world where children are made to feel if they don’t specialise in a particular sport early on then they won’t be able to compete at other sports. The highly technical nature of hockey which dominates the youth sports landscape exacerbates this thought process. The average kid in Canada first plays rugby at age 14 so that is the entry point for most participants in the game. Technically, rugby is a far simpler game to learn and is defined as a late specialisation sport. Being able to run is the core skill which of course kids don’t have to learn. If your child likes to run they will learn and adapt quickly.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

* Inclement weather policy: The City of Barrie makes the decision as to whether the fields are playable on each day when weather is poor; parents can call this hotline **705.739-4215** to find out if the rugby practice is cancelled or not.
* No practice or game will occur if active lightening is present, practice will be stopped early if this happens during practice
* Parents can also check ***www. barrierugby.com*** or contact their coach
* You should probably buy your child a light pair of cleats (soccer cleats are fine). They don’t have to use them but they do help with grip when changing direction at speed.
* As part of the registration fee they will be provided with house league shirt and shorts which they will need to wear every Thursday;
* The registration fee also includes a set of flags and a belt for the U6 to U10 players. Please write your childs name on this.
* Make sure your child brings cold water to practice, we run **alot** so they need it.

**HOW DO I REGISTER?**

Please follow this link <https://www.barrierugby.com/> to our homepage we you can click on the link to register

**QUESTIONS**

Any questions please feel free to email [diddy\_davies@hotmail.com](mailto:diddy_davies@hotmail.com) or call Andrew Davies on 705 984 9745