

DC Furies Rookie Packet

Welcome to the DC Furies! We are thrilled that you have chosen to join us this season. This region boasts a strong and vibrant rugby culture, and we are proud to welcome you to our family. Founded in 1978, the Furies are grounded in a forty-plus year, rich history. We strive to bring heart, soul, and integrity to all that we do on and off the pitch and are continually looking for ways to challenge ourselves as athletes and grow the sport of rugby. In this packet you will find a basic overview of the team, which includes logistical, organizational, and cultural information. We look forward to a fun and exciting season and to showing you why each of us is **Proud to be a Fury (PTBAF)**.

Values and Culture

PTBAF has stood for many things over the years. In order to create a strong and sustainable culture, the Furies have worked to identify key values to promote unity, openness, and accountability within our community.

Provide development and growth opportunities to build skills, knowledge, and other rugby-related capacities in the spirit of maintaining an active and competitive club.

Trust and transparency among all team personnel that allows for honest communication between players, coaching staff, and elected officials.

Build player commitment and consistency at practice to ensure fairness and equity in decision making.

Adhere to and respect the necessary structures which keep the team running.

Foster a welcoming and inclusive environment that is respectful of positionality and experience both on and off the pitch.

In addition to working to maintain strong values, we are also dedicated to building a solid team culture. As a part of this, we will have regular and ad-hoc social opportunities, including post-practice socials, post-game socials, rookie night, and an end of season event.

Staying in the Loop

We keep our players, family, and fans engaged through our website, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts:

Website	www.dcfuries.com
Facebook	www.facebook.com/DCFuries
Instagram	@dcfuries
Twitter	@DCFuries
TikTok	@dcfuriesrugby

We also use TeamSnap and Signal for communications:

- **TeamSnap** is a multi-dimensional communication hub. Once invited to join, you will be able to access the website or the app. TeamSnap has a number of features:

- o *Schedule:* You will find a comprehensive schedule for both practices and games. It is required that all players use this platform to update their availability to (1) allow coaches to anticipate numbers at practice so they can adequately prepare for each session and (2) ensure that those who are available to play in games are considered in the selection process.
- o *Roster:* A full roster of players is available to view. You will also find each player's shared contact information, including email.
- o *Messaging:* All of our email communications go out via TeamSnap. High Priority (HP) emails notate updates, particularly game day and practice information or anything that requires a time sensitive action. Low Priority (LP) emails are generally social updates.
- o *Files:* You will find the team playbook and other documents on the platform.
- **Signal** is a messaging app. We have two groups: **PTBAF** and **The Social**. PTBAF is a place for time sensitive updates and communications around practices, games, fundraisers, moves, and other team opportunities and events. The Social is the place to share anything else!

Dues and Fundraising

Rookie dues, available to new players in their first season, are \$70. Vet dues are \$100. There are a number of ways to pay:

- PayPal: using the "family and friends" option, you can send payments to furies.treasurer@gmail.com. Please make sure to use the notes section to include a description of what you are paying for.
- Cash: in a labeled envelope, you can give cash directly to our treasurer.
- Check: you can make checks out to "WWRFC" and give them directly to the treasurer.
- WE DO NOT HAVE A VENMO. DO NOT VENMO DC FURIES.

We recognize that these costs may be prohibitive and encourage players to work with the treasurer to schedule a manageable payment plan. At any time, the treasurer can send you an invoice to let you know your balance or work with you to restructure payment.

Kit and Gear

Your kit, which is included as part of your dues, includes a gray Furies warm-up tee. Additionally, you will need navy blue rugby shorts, lightning bolt or navy socks, cleats, and a mouthguard.

Travel

Each player is responsible for the costs of travel (i.e., hotel rooms, car rentals, gas, and tolls), unless otherwise specified. Where costs are shared, players can coordinate payment. Financial aid, upon request, can be made available and we encourage you to work with the treasurer to coordinate this. For local games, we will use a ride spreadsheet to coordinate carpools.

Fundraising

Fundraising helps keep our team operational and it is also a way to offset some of the cost of dues. You can work with our fundraising coordinator to set up events.

Registering with USA Rugby

Before you can play in any sanctioned match, including matrix matches, you must be registered with USA Rugby. Visit USA Rugby's membership tab or <https://myaccount.rugbyexplorer.com.au/> to get set up. This is a new membership system for 2022, so everyone will need to create new accounts.

If you are new to USA Rugby, you can create a new account. It will require you to fill out personal, club, and insurance information. You will also be required to sign a number of digital waivers as part of the process.

There is a \$50 fee to register with USA Rugby and an additional fee that is paid to the Capital Geographic Union for league costs. Once you submit payment, you will receive a membership confirmation.

You can also use USA Rugby to check out public club rosters in the membership section of the site.

Practice Attendance and Schedule

We work each season to secure contracts with DC Parks and Recreation or with private fields. Field locations and practice times are all viewable through TeamSnap. Any updates to practice locations will be shared via email and/or the Signal group. Also, in the case of inclement weather, captains and coaches will make determinations about alternative practice locations or canceling practices.

We strongly encourage players to attend as many practices as possible. Working together helps build continuity and best prepares us to face our opponents on game day. We recognize, though, that folks have existing commitments. Please use TeamSnap to share your availability. If last minute conflicts arise, please contact the captains directly to let them know.

Game Day Etiquette and Schedule

The Furies have a combination of scheduled matrix matches and friendlies across each season. The match secretary works with other teams to coordinate our calendar. Match times and locations are available on TeamSnap and detailed game day information will be shared over email.

We also solicit Furies to help with field set up for home games, which includes transporting equipment, lining fields, and setting up flags and post pads. Field set up will be coordinated by our operations manager. It is expected that everyone sign up for field set up at least once throughout the season. Do not leave the field until everything has been cleaned up post-match and you have been dismissed by captains/leadership.

Additionally, we set a time for folks to be ready to go (RTG) prior to warm-ups for games. Players should arrive with sufficient time to boot up, get taped, and manage anything else before this time.

Selections

Game day selections will be shared prior to each game via email. Captains and coaches will consider a number of factors to make competitive selections. We encourage players to talk to these individuals if there are any questions around game time and to solicit feedback.

If you will be late, if there are any changes to your availability, or there is an emergency on game day, please reach out to captains as soon as possible.

Ruggerfest

Each spring the Furies host our annual Ruggerfest tournament. We bring together women's teams from across the nation at middle school, high school, college, and club levels. Each Fury is expected to assist with running the tournament on the designated weekend. Our Ruggerfest chairs will send out periodic updates and asks, which occasionally require player responses. More information about the tournament can be found at <https://ruggerfest.org/>.

Contact Information

If you have further questions, we encourage you to reach out to our rookie coordinator or other members of the team's executive board.