



1st February 2012

Dear Players / Parents,

So far this year we have been having a super season and all the players should be very proud of what they have achieved. We are thrilled with the effort that you have all put in and every single player is developing as we go along. At this stage in youth rugby it's player development that is most important.

As the team is going so well we have entered a formal league and have 7 games lined up over the next two months (see dates overleaf). The teams that we will be playing against have all decided that they have strong enough teams to complete on a more formal basis. There are also several teams who have not joined the leagues and will continue to play challenge games.

Between now and the end of the season we are aiming to fulfil our 7 league games and arrange for an additional 3 challenge (non-league) games. That would make for a total of 10 games in all.

Currently we have a squad of 33 players, which is absolutely fantastic. The challenge we now have is ensuring that everyone gets appropriate game time to develop as players and we also need to ensure that the team itself develops.

We believe that we need to approach the league in a different manner when it comes to team selection.

Unfortunately we cannot continue to make 10 - 15 substitutions during every game as the laws on substitution do not permit this. What we are proposing is the following:

If we have 7 league games and 3 challenge games (weather permitting) it should be possible to ensure that all players will play at least 2 full games and be involved in at least 3 other games as a substitute - which is 5 games in total. We believe that the more developed players will be getting in the region of 7 games.

We will continue to balance our selection based on individual player development. It's important that every player understands that they will be involved and that no matter where you are in your development;

- * You will start at least 2 games
- * You will come on as a sub during some games
- * You will not be involved in some games

We will pick a panel of 21 players for each game and make three changes in the forwards and three changes in the back during every game. We will advise the 21 nominated players on the Wednesday before the game.

We would encourage the players who may not be involved to come to the games as well, we will be doing training drills during the games!

We would also like to encourage players to come and talk to both of us about their own development as a player. Together we can discuss and identify areas of a players development on which we can focus and work to strengthen.

As a final word to each player - every season since we started there are players who make huge strides year on year and surprise us both. Your hard work, dedication and commitment has paid off and will continue to reward you.

Keep training, keep having fun and each one of you has the potential to be the captain of the team.

Yours in sport.

Tom O Leary

Howard Grice



South Munster U13 2011 / 2012 League – Section 2

4 th February 2012	away vs Midleton
11 th February 2012	home vs Old Christians
18 th February 2012	free
25 th February 2012	home vs Clonakilty
3 rd March 2012	away vs Cobh Pirates
10 th March 2012	home vs Kinsale
17 th March 2012	free
24 th March 2012	away vs Dunmanway
31 st March 2012	home vs Dolphin

- Where possible we will attempt to arrange friendly, non-league games on free weekends.
- Confirmation of games, meeting times and start times will be confirmed by text on the Friday before each game.
- To keep costs down we do not use buses for away games. If any player requires a lift to an away fixture please advise Howard on 087 4193601.
- Parents and family members are welcome to support our players at all games.
- Training will continue on Wednesday nights; 6.30 till 8.00pm.

Thanks for your support.