

# RUGBY GROUNDSMEN CONNECTED FAQ

## WHAT IS IT?

Rugby Groundsmen Connected (RGC) is an easy access, two-way communication network between the RFU and rugby union groundsmen. It is the main communication channel for the RFU to provide information and advice to groundsmen and also has special offers and exclusive benefits for members. Everything the RFU does related to pitch maintenance will now come under the banner of Rugby Groundsmen Connected.



## WHO IS IT FOR?

RGC is for anybody that has any involvement in the upkeep of rugby pitches, from complete novices to Premiership groundsmen.

## HOW DO YOU SIGN UP?

Anyone can register to join RGC at no cost. Registration is by email to [groundsmenconnected@rfu.com](mailto:groundsmenconnected@rfu.com). Once signed up they will receive regular communications with advice, information and the opportunity to ask questions.

## WHAT ARE THE MAIN BENEFITS OF SIGNING UP?

- A direct communication channel with Keith Kent and other industry partners
- A club visit and pitch review by Keith Kent
- Support from our new Volunteer Pitch Advisors (VPAs) (*see below*)
- Special Prices on the Keith Kent Equipment Package
- Free access to local and regional RFU pitch maintenance events and workshops
- Access to discount offers from industry partners eg Rigby Taylor, Harrod UK
- Access to RFU Pitch Improvement Partnership maintenance contractors (*see below*)
- RFU/RFF funding for pitch improvement projects will only be available to clubs who have a groundsman registered with RGC



## WHAT ARE VOLUNTEER PITCH ADVISORS?

Volunteer Pitch Advisors support local rugby clubs by visiting them, meeting with their groundsman and committee members, providing them with advice about how they can improve their rugby pitch in general or in respect of a specific issue they have encountered. They will compile a short report on their visit which will be issued to and verified by Keith Kent before being sent on to the club.



## WHAT ARE PITCH IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIPS?

RGC is developing partnerships with high quality pitch maintenance contractors across the country. These 'Pitch improvement Partnerships' will work with RGC members to provide high quality aeration solutions and other pitch maintenance services at competitive rates.