



STAFF'S U17S

2026

MON 30TH MARCH
INITIAL ASSESMENT
BURTON RFC

DETAIL
PROGRAMME OVERVIEW
KEY DATES
NOMINATION



Subject: Staffordshire U17s Rugby Trial Nomination – Monday 30th March

Dear Team Managers, Coaches and Teachers,

You are invited to nominate suitable players to attend the upcoming Staffordshire U17s Rugby Trials, beginning with an initial assessment on Monday 30th March at Burton Rugby Football Club.

Eligibility Criteria

Players must meet at least one of the following:

- Previously involved in the Developing Player Programme (DPP)
- Released from a Premiership Academy pathway (e.g. Leicester Tigers or similar)
- Not previously involved in a Junior Academy or DPP, but demonstrate:
 - Above-average skill level or game understanding
 - Physical attributes indicating potential for county-level performance

Additional requirements:

- Born between 1st September 2008 and 31st August 2009
- Currently in Year 12
- Playing in the U17 age group

We welcome nominations from club and college coaches, school staff, and team managers. However, please carefully consider each player's realistic chance of progression. Trials often receive over 90 nominations, and not all players will advance.

Programme Overview

The process begins with selection for the Staffordshire U17 squad, with approximately 32 players chosen to compete against:

- Cheshire
- NLD (Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire & Derbyshire)
- North Midlands

Following the U17 season, players may progress into the U18 County programme, including Midlands selection fixtures before Christmas. This pathway can lead to:

- Midlands U18 selection
- England Counties U18 consideration
- Participation at Premiership Academy Finals Day (Feb/March)

Programme Objectives

At U18 level, the programme aims to:

- Win all three Midlands Super Sunday fixtures
- Have at least three players selected for Midlands representation
- Successfully transition players into U20 and Senior County squads

The coaching team will select the strongest possible squad, with approximately 35 players confirmed by the first training session on Monday 4th May.



Initial Trial Details

Date: Monday 30th March

Venue: Burton Rugby Football Club

Address: Battlestead Croft, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire, DE15 9LF

Arrival & Session Times:

- Backs
 - Arrival: 6:15pm
 - Session: 7:00pm – 7:45pm
- Forwards
 - Arrival: 6:45pm
 - Session: 7:50pm onwards

The session will finish at approximately 9:00pm.

Key Dates

- 30th March – Initial Assessment
- 13th April – Inter-Staffordshire Development Game
- 4th May – Training & Selection
- 11th May – Training & Selection
- 18th May – Training & Selection
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Confirmed Fixtures

- 8th May – vs Cheshire
- 15th May – vs NLD
- 20th May – vs Leicestershire
- 24th May – vs North Midlands

All selected players are expected to attend all sessions and fixtures. Any unavailability must be communicated to the Team Manager as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in removal from the programme.

Communication & Availability

Please contact the Team Manager at stephen.eastwood3@outlook.com with any queries or availability updates.

If a nominated player is injured or unable to attend, they must notify the Team Manager promptly. Selection decisions may be affected if players cannot be assessed during the trial process. Unavailable players will be considered on a case-by-case basis, depending on squad depth in their position.

Thank you for your support in identifying players capable of performing at county level. We look forward to welcoming those nominated to the trial.

Trial Nomination Form

CLICK HERE >



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SCAN**

