

RUGBY UNION TEAM MANAGER 2015













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Support & System Requirements

Minimum System Requirements

Processor: 1 GHz Memory: 512 MB Hard Drive Space: 4 GB

Graphics: 2D or 3D Accelerator

Screen Resolution: 1024 x 768 or 1024 x 600 24-bit colour Display

Input Devices: Mouse & Keyboard

Sound: DirectX 9 Compatible Sound Device Operating System: Windows 8 / 7 / Vista / XP

DirectX: DirectX 9 or better

Support

Website:

www.alternativesoftware.com

Email:

help@alternativesoftware.com

NOTE: E-mail is for technical issues only.

Please note that online support is available in English only.

Mail:

Alternative Software Customer Support

PO Box 109 Castleford WF10 4TA

Contact a customer support representative on:

Phone: +44(0)1977 555 222 Fax: +44(0)1977 555 111

Between the hours of 10:00am and 4:00pm

Monday - Friday except holidays.

Video or Video Card Issues

Rugby Union Team Manager 2015 requires that your video card support running in 1024x768 screen resolution and 24-bit or above colour depth.

Also, it is a good idea to make sure you have the latest drivers for all of your hardware, including your video card. These drivers can usually be found at the manufacturer's website but there are several websites on the Internet where you can download drivers for free.

In full screen mode, problems can occur whilst running this game with 2 monitors. This game is best run on a single monitor.

Errors occurring during use

User account control or running the program on a limited user account can cause problems. If you see an error box appear whilst using the program, right click on the program shortcut and select Run as administrator or alternatively turn off user account control.

Errors during installation

If you have errors running the installation. Disable your anti-virus software and try again. Some anti-virus software has a sandbox type of feature which may wrongly exclude the program from running correctly.

Sound Cards

Some audio drivers may disable the audio device if no speakers or headphones are plugged into the front socket of your computer. Please refer to the manufacturer's instructions on how to setup your drivers for the correct configuration.

Editor

The Editor allows for changes to elements of the game, including competition, club, manager and player names, player attributes and player qualities. In the Editor, left double click to access the dialog box from which values can be edited. There are 4 slots available to save edited games in. Once a game is saved in a slot, it will be available to load in game. Please note, licensed team names and player names cannot be edited, however you are free to edit the attributes of every licensed player.



Getting Started

Installation

Double left click the installer package either on the drive (if downloaded) or on the cd. The installer automatically installs to [Program Files] or [Program Files x86]\Steam\steamapps\common\Rugby Union Team Manager 2015

Load/Save game

There are 9 load slots in total. The first 4 slots are for general save/load game use. The next slot is used for the auto save feature. The game automatically saves just before entering into a match. The final 4 slots represent games saved in the editor and can be loaded like any other saved game.



Settings

Under the Options button, there are several settings options. The selected options for these settings are saved automatically and take effect when the game is started up.

Increment

Determines how many days to process with a single click of the Advance button.

Screen Guides

Determines whether screen guides should be displayed. Screen guides are explanations of the current screen and what it is used for.

Music

Determines whether to play music.

Sound FX

Determines whether to play sound fx.

Voices

Determines whether to play the voices which introduce competitions and clubs.

User Interface

General User Interface



General User Interface Components:

Title Bar

- A) Difficulty and current season
- B) Navigation buttons: back & forward, cycle left & cycle right
- C) Advance button advances game date by 1-7 days (increment amount optional)
- D) Name of currently selected game object & name of associated game object
- E) Title Bar buttons with various selections
- F) Backing and balance display
- G) Calendar

Side Window

- H) Side Selection Window displays main screen options for currently selected game object
- 1) Side Action Window displays available actions for currently selected game object

Main Area

- J) Some main area layouts have drag and drop options
- K) Some main area window frames have buttons, lists and check boxes
- L) Left clicking main area titles sorts the display
- M) Main area entries can be highlighted with a left single click and selected with a left double click
- N) Some main area entries have buttons and lists associated with them

Footer Bar

- O) Club Meeting Buttons
- P) Running Text in the Footer Bar displays recent match results and information
- Q) Button to navigate to messages inbox
- R) Button to navigate to RUTM World Overview



Match User Interface Components:

Title Bar

- A) Set-Piece button for displaying scrum and line-out balance
- B) Current match time and score
- C) Viewing mode button for switching between 2D and 3D

Side Window

- D) Player number, name and energy display, can be selected to show more player information
- E) Auto manage options
- F) Feat buttons

Main Area

- G) Match option buttons
- H) Ad-lib attack move queue, moves are performed in this order
- I) Current ad-lib move being performed
- J) Ad-lib defence options

Team Calls Bar

K) Team calls options and buttons

Penalty Options

L) Penalty option buttons, goal, scrum, line-out or tap

Footer Bar

M) Ad-lib attack move options and buttons, left click to select, right click to display move

Controls and Advancing



All controls are with the mouse, except for in match where the 'p' key can be used to pause the match.

To advance in the game, left click the Advance button once to navigate to the Advance screen, then left click the Advance button a 2nd time to begin processing the days. The number of days processed together can be set under the Options button in the Increment section.

Screen Guides

Screen Guides are explanations of the current screen and what it is used for. They are meant for beginners and can be switched off under the Options button in the Screen Guides section.

Objectives

The objective of RUTM2015 is to remain employed by a rugby club for 15 seasons. During this time, managers will be sacked if their board backing falls to 0% or if their bank balance becomes over £2M overdrawn, which sends the club into administration. If a manager is sacked the game is over.

Tutorial

There is a basic tutorial available which displays various tasks in the game. Left click a task to display the step-by-step explanation of how to carry out the task. Once a task has been completed, a green tick will be displayed next to it.



Navigate the competitions and clubs in the left selection window. Once a club is selected, the club's name will be shown in the left action window. To choose this club highlight the club's name, then choose a difficulty mode from the option list which appears.

Board Expectations

Every domestic club has an executive board who have expectations of the club's seasonal development & achievements. There are 8 areas in which the manager is expected to achieve set criteria. The expectation criteria vary between clubs, with more successful clubs having higher expectations from their executive board.

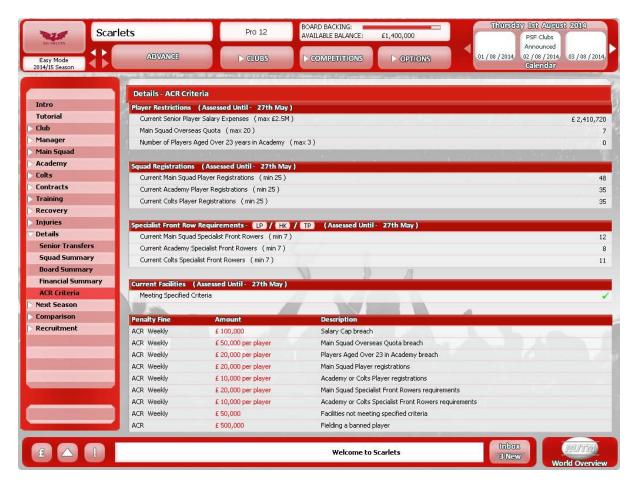
The executive board also has reactions to events such as match outcomes, the state of the club's bank balance and disciplinary warnings & fines from the governing bodies. This has an impact on the backing the current manager has from the executive board, and if the backing falls to 0% the manager will be replaced.



Governing Body Criteria

The ACR, France, EFU & NZARSAR impose restrictions on clubs in order to protect them from the risk of bankruptcy, ensure fair competition for the acquisition of talented players, promote the development of the sport at a domestic grassroots level & increase and maintain the quality of ground facilities.

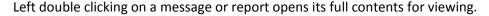
The governing bodies issue daily warnings of regulation breaches, and weekly disciplinary action in the form of fines. The club's executive board will not take governing body warnings & fines lightly and will lose patience with managers who do not respond to them diligently.



Email Messages & Training Reports

Messages are received on a daily basis and are a manager's main source of information. The subject of messages ranges from ACR / France / EFU / NZARSAR warnings & fines to dream team, representative & international job offers. Incoming messages should be checked by Managers daily.

Reports are received on a weekly basis and contain information on all players' training development. Reports displayed in black text contain information about player attribute improvements and reports displayed in red text contain information about player attribute reductions.





Job Offers

Job offers are made at set times throughout the season, in preparation for upcoming competitions. Throughout the season a manager will be offered the chance to manage a nations club, a dream team club, and an international / representative club. Domestic club job offers are made by interested clubs at the end of the season with the transition being made for the next season.



Senior Player

Senior Players form the Main Squad & Academy and ultimately decide the success of any Club by their performances on match day.

Senior Player composition:

- Personal Details
- Contract
- Qualities
- Condition
- Information
- Club Statistics
- Experience / Youth Ratio
- Back Orientated Attributes
- Kicking Technique Attributes
- Forward Orientated Attributes
- Responds Best To: Encouragement or Criticism



Attributes

Each senior player has 19 attribute values. These are divided into 8 forward orientated, 8 back orientated, and 3 kicking technique attributes. Attribute values change over time with training.

Calibre

Each senior player is of a certain calibre, which shows the overall quality of the player. The calibre range is as follows: amateur, semi-pro, professional, national, international, world class.

Qualities

Each senior may exhibit a quality as well as being a star within their calibre bracket. These qualities include: star player, enigmatic, inspirational, intimidating, and resolute.

Colts Players

Developing colts players is the key to future success for any national or professional calibre club.

Potential/Progress

A colt's player has a potential & progress value & a potential calibre value. Through training & participating in matches during the season, potential will be developed into progress.

Promoting to Senior Squad

Colts players can be offered a senior contract at any time, from the colts contracts section, at which point they will join the academy / main squad and a combination of their primary position and current progress will determine their attribute & calibre values. Any undeveloped potential will go to waste. Any colts player whose contract expires will leave the club to pursue a rugby league career.



Team Selection

Players can be selected in a position by either dragging and dropping the appropriate positional button from the Drag & Drop Bar at the top of the main area, or left clicking the Main Area button and selecting the position from the list.

Also there are 5 auto select options available in the side action window. Auto select Options :

Best Individuals

Selects the best 23 players, then arranges their positional formation.

Best Positional

Selects the best specialist player for each position.

Best Exp./Yth.

Selects the best blend of experience & youth.

Best Form

Selects the most in-form 23 players, then arranges their positional formation

Best Rotation

Selects the 23 players with the least appearances, then arranges their positional formation (prevents players leaving the Club due to low Morale).



Academy

(National calibre leagues only)

The club's academy exists to support the main squad. Player's can be reassigned to and from the main squad and academy, however they must remain registered with the new squad for at least 21 days and there is a registration fee.

Some clubs will not have enough registered players to participate in the academy competitions. There is a 2 week window for manager's to purchase new additions to their Academy Squads, please note that a minimum of 25 players are needed for an Academy Squad to be eligible to play regularly throughout the season.

Fringe players in the main squad who are not being selected to play in matches on a regular basis may lose morale, and this will eventually lead to them requesting a transfer from the club. Reassigning a player to the academy will provide more opportunity to participate in matches and increase their morale, and prevent them from placing themselves on the transfer list.

Also reassigning higher quality players from the main squad to the academy increases the financial income generated by the academy, without reducing the financial income generated by the main squad.

Colts

(National & professional calibre leagues only)

The club's colts exists to develop colts players throughout the season. Senior contracts can be offered to colts players at any time.

The attributes of a newly promoted colts player depend on how far they have progressed in the colts. It may be a good strategy to leave players in the colts for as long as possible to allow potential to be developed into progress.

The contract of a colts player cannot be extended and they will leave the club if it expires before they are offered a senior contract.

Colts players can be released from the club at any time without financial cost.

A recruitment drive can be carried out once per calendar month to replenish the colts back up to 35 players.

Injuries/Suspensions/Int. & Rep. Duty

Throughout the season players may become available due to injury, suspension or international /



representative duty. This is displayed as an icon in the Inf field on the player selection screen.

Attrition

Senior players accumulate wear & tear through match collisions & impacts and this is represented by an attrition build up. Although this is not an injury as such, it does require a certain time span for recovery and the value to drop. Attrition falls between matches at a rate determined by the player's recuperation rate, however the recovery rate can be increased by assigning a physio to players between matches. If Players enter the next match whilst still having attrition from previous matches, they will have reduced match energy and run a higher risk of sustaining an injury.

Staff

There are six types of staff which can be employed to carry out a range of tasks at the club:

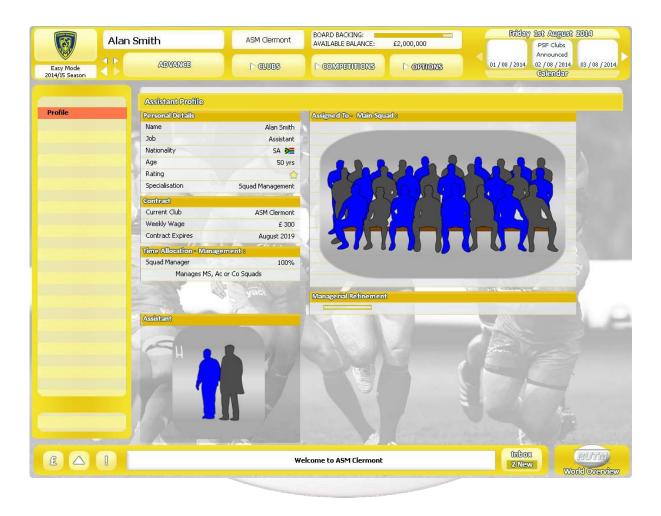
Agent

Agents represent the club during staff & player contract negotiations. The higher rated the agent is, the lower the agreement % has to reach for the deal to be made. If no agent is employed, 100% agreement must be reached.



Assistant

Assistants can be assigned to the main squad, the academy or the colts and will manage the squad without the requirement for decisions from the manager.



Assistant Assignment

In the Assistants section drag and drop the 'A' button from an assistant onto a squad image to assign that assistant to that squad.



Coach

Coaches have an essential role at the club in training players during the time between matches. All coaches have a specialisation which dictates which player attributes they will influence if assigned to a player. Also coaches have a positional expertise position and can re-train the primary & secondary positions of players. However the original position of the player dictates which positions they can be re-trained to.



Coach Assignment

Players must train to either maintain their current attribute values or improve them. If players do not train their attribute values will drop and this will impact on their match performance. Clubs can hire up to 12 coaches at any given time, with any combination of specialisation, positional expertise & rating. Coaches can be assigned to players in 3 ways:

- Assign train to player's attributes
- This assigns the specified coach to train the attributes of the selected player.
- Drag & drop the 'A' button from next to the coach's name onto the name of the selected player.
- Assign to re-train player's primary position

This assigns the specified coach to re-train the primary position of the player to the coach's positional expertise position. Only certain positional changes can be made, depending on the player's original primary position. Drag & drop the 'P' button from next to the coach's name onto the name of the selected player.

- Assign to re-train player's secondary position

This assigns the specified coach to re-train the secondary position of the player to the coach's positional expertise position. Drag & drop the 'S' button from next to the coach's name onto the name of the selected player.



There are also Assign To Whole Squad options for the highlighted coach in the main area window frame. This assigns the coach to train attributes for the whole squad.

Senior player coaches can only be assigned to players in the main squad & academy and colts player coaches can only be assigned to Players in the Colts.

There is an Auto Assign option in the side action window. If this set then all training will be managed automatically, and all assignments will give priority to the main squad. Player's positions will never be re-trained automatically.

To unassign, either: highlight the coach and right click the player's name (for unassign attributes), right click the R-Pm positional symbol (for unassign prim pos) or right click the R-Sc positional symbol (for unassign Sec Pos), or highlight the player and right click the coach's name.

Doctor

Doctors have an essential role at the Club in treating injuries and reducing the time required for injuries to heal.



Doctor Assignment

Players can pick up injuries in matches and training. Players will heal naturally over time, but the rate of healing can be increased by assigning a doctor.

To assign a doctor to a player, drag & drop the 'I' from next to the doctor's name onto the name of the selected Player. There are also Assign **to All Injured in** Squad options for the highlighted doctor in the main area window frame, for each squad.

There is an Auto Assign option in the side action window. If this set then all assignments will be managed automatically, and priority will be given to the main squad.

To unassign, either highlight the doctor and right click the player's name or highlight the player and right click the doctor's name.



Physio

Physios have an essential role at the club in improving the condition (lowering attrition) of players in the time between matches.

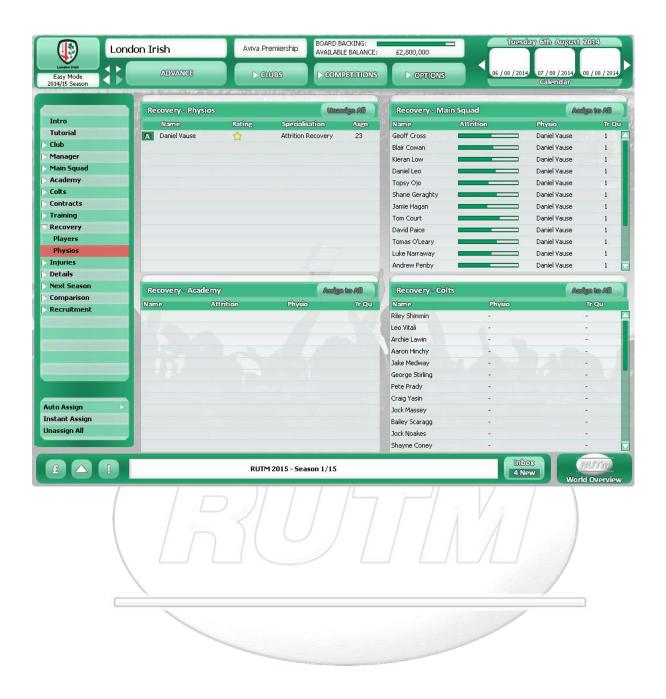


Physio Assignment

To assign a physio to a player, drag & drop the 'A' from next to the physio's name onto the name of the selected player. There are also Assign To All options for the highlighted physio in the main area window frame, for each squad.

There is an Auto Assign option in the side action window. If this set then all assignments will be managed automatically, and priority will be given to the main squad.

To unassign, either highlight the physio and right click the player's name or highlight the player and right click the physio's name.



Scout

A Scout can be hired and utilised by the Club in 3 ways:

- Reports on opposition line-up
- Increase the quality of recruitment drives
- Finds club buyers for transfer listed Players



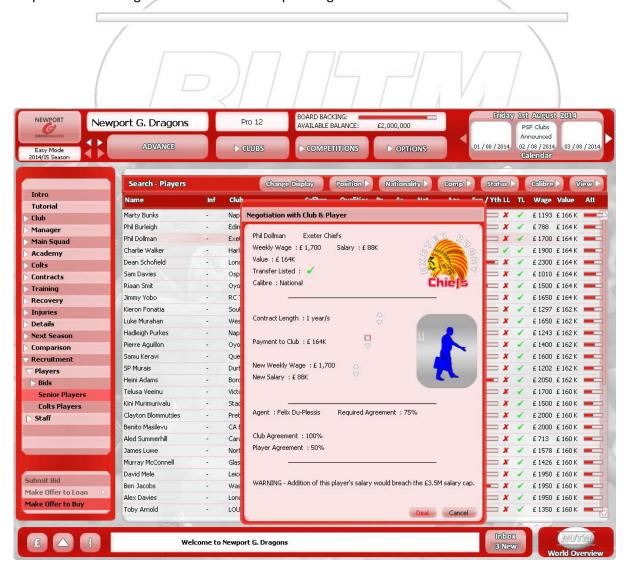
Contract Negotiation

All players & staff at the club have contracts which run to the end of an agreed season. If the season of the contracted expiry year ends, the player or member of staff will leave the club. Offers can be made to extend contracts throughout the season, however players with low morale will decline contract extension offers.

Players can be placed on the transfer or loan list at any time. All loans are contracted to run to the end of the current season, and the player will return to their original club when the season ends (or if the contract is terminated prematurely).

Player & staff contracts can be terminated, however a contract buy-out payment must be made.

To negotiate player and staff contracts, increase and decrease the relevant variables appropriately, until the required agreement % is reached. If the club has an agent employed the agent image will be present in the negotiation box and the required agreement will be reduced.



Recruitment Drives

National and professional calibre clubs (who have colts) can carry out a recruitment drive from the Colts Contract screen once per calendar month. The recruitment drive replenishes the squad back to 35. The quality of the players recruited depends on whether the club has a scout employed, and the star rating of the scout. If a scout is employed the scout image will be present on the confirmation dialog box.



Team Tactics

Tactical settings apply to the Main Squad.

Captaincy

Any Quality exhibited by the designated Captain has a small chance of resonating to other Players in the team for the current phase of play, if he is currently fielded.

Off The Ball Incident Policy

The Off the ball incident policy determines how players will react when an off the ball incident breaks out. 1 in all in will give players a psychological advantage in match, but may lead to disciplinary action against those involved.

Pivotal Player Settings

This setting determines how likely the scrum half and fly half are to override the current move and attack the line themselves.

Attack Style

There are 2 styles of attack:

Structured Attack

The pitch is divided into zones. Each zone can be set to conservative, balanced or expansive. This setting will determine the style of play for that zone.

Ad-lib Attack

Moves are selected in match, play by play. Moves can be queued and performed in sequence.

Defence Style

There are 2 styles of defence:

Structured Defence

The pitch is divided into zones. Each zone can be set to either conserve, drift, aligned or blitz. This setting will determine the style of defence for that zone.

Ad-lib Defence

The defence setting is set in match as the play unfolds.

Conserve - Concede territory but conserve energy.

Drift - Hold territory whilst defending overlap.

Aligned - Align Defenders with Attackers.

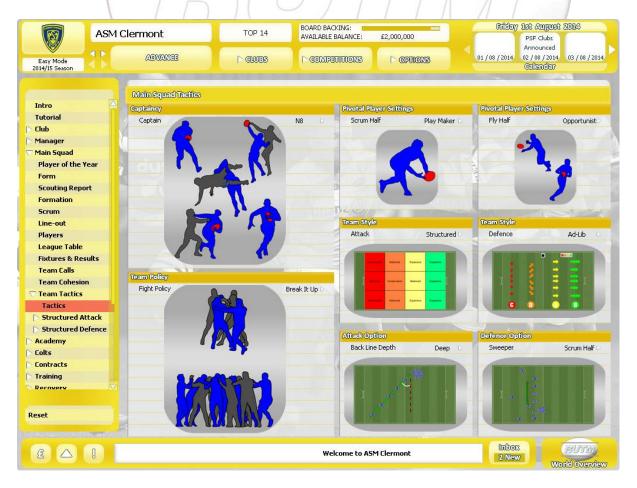
Blitz - Gain territory but expend energy.

Back Line Depth

This setting determines how deep the backline position themselves for certain moves.

Sweeper

This setting determines whether a sweeper is utilised in defence. A sweeper is usually the scrum half and defends just behind the defensive line sweeping sideways to follow play.



Team Calls

Team calls are tactical options that give the team an advantage for a limited amount of time. The number of team calls available depends on the quality of the tactical briefing facility, and can be selected from:

Mad Dog - Group Tackles & Big Hits

Playmaker Shutdown - Move Up Fast on Pivotal Positions

Engineroom Overdrive - Fwds Increased Effectiveness

Champagne Rugby - All Intermediate & Advanced Moves Available

Set-Piece Turnover - Turnover Opposition Scrums & Line-outs

Defensive Rally - No Missed Tackles & Energy Boost

Opposition Call Respond - Cancel Opposition Team Call

Team Cohesion

Advanced & Intermediate Moves require a certain level of inter-cohesion between Players in key positions. This is represented by Team Cohesion. Every time a Player is involved in a match with another team mate their shared cohesion value increases, but reduces over time if they do not play in the same team together.

Different Moves require varying levels of cohesion between relevant positions before they can be performed. If all Players in the starting line-up are selected to play in their Primary Position, all cohesion values receive a +20% bonus.

Once a Player leaves the Main Squad for any reason other than Representative / International duty, all their Team Cohesion is lost.



Facilities

Stadium (1 - 5 star) - Increases Club Income by 15% per star

Gym (1 - 5 star) - Increases Max gain in Fwd Orientated attributes by 1 per star

Training Paddock (1 - 5 star) - Increases Max gain in Back Orientated attributes by 1 per star

Kicking Enclosure (1 - 5 star) - Increases Max gain in Kicking Technique attributes by 1 per star

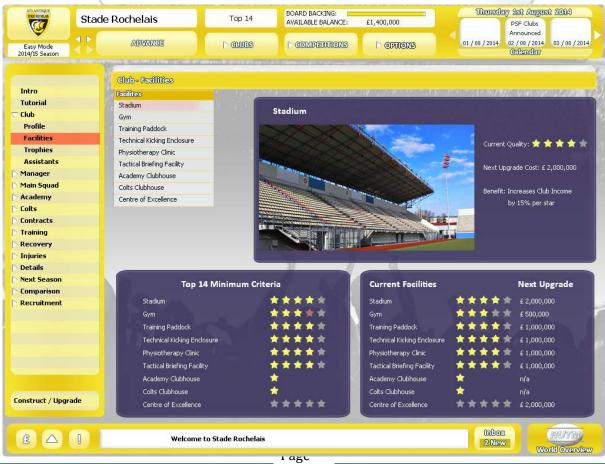
Physiotherapy Clinic (1 - 5 star) - Reduces the time taken for injuries to heal by 10% per star

Tactical Briefing Facility (1 - 5 star) - Increases number of Team Calls available by 1 per star

Academy Clubhouse - Requirement for National Calibre Competitions

Colts Clubhouse - Requirement for National & Professional Calibre Competitions

Centre of Excellence (0 - 5 star) - Increases the number of World Class Players the Club can support by 1 per star



Club Meetings.

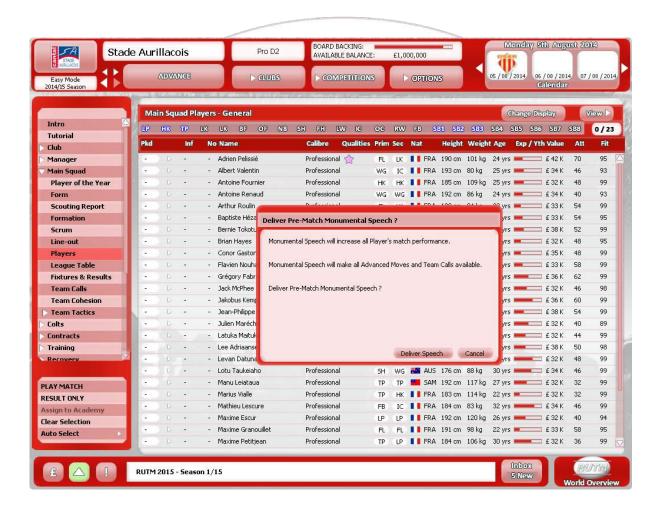
There are 3 types of Club Meeting, each can be called once in a Manager's career:

Contracts Meeting - Persuades all Players to take wage cuts below the Salary Cap

Team Meeting - Delivers a Monumental Speech to Players on Match day boosting their performance

Board Meeting - Increases the current Executive Board Backing

Club Meeting buttons flash green when they are available



Promotion/Relegation

Every domestic league is part of a promotion and relegation structure. Promotion and relegation takes place at the end of the season.

Unlicensed competitions are included to form promotion gradients, so that lower league clubs have the infrastructure available to gain promotion to those leagues at the pinnacle of the sport. These unlicensed leagues are generic, and, although may loosely resemble real life leagues, are fictionally created in the interests of providing a more comprehensive gaming experience.



Feats

Before every match there is a pre-match head-to-head analysis. This analysis determines which team is awarded each feat. Each team may use any awarded feat once in the match.

- Fwds vs Fwds (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) Most Aggressive Fwds awarded Disruption feat. The disruption feature could cause an off the ball incident.

- Backs vs Backs (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15)

Fastest Backs awarded Clean Heels feat.

The Clean Heels feat enables the ball carrier of a line break to maintain their maximum velocity for the remainder of the phase.

- Kickers vs Kickers (10, 12) Best Kickers awarded Sure Shot feat.



The Sure Shot feat guarantees the accuracy of a penalty/conversion kick at goal.

Match

Matches can be played out in 2D or 3D, or alternatively just the result can be generated.

Team Talks

Select styles of pre-match & half-time team talks :

Passionate - Encourage

All players who respond best to encouragement receive a positive all round playing bonus All players who respond best to criticism receive a negative all round playing bonus

Passionate - Criticise

All players who respond best to criticism receive a positive playing bonus All players who respond best to encouragement receive a negative playing bonus

Balanced

Team remains balanced

Technical - Attack

All players receive a positive attacking playing bonus All players receive a negative defensive playing bonus

Technical - Defence

All players receive a positive defensive playing bonus All players receive a negative attacking playing bonus

Off The Ball Incidents

Off the ball incidents during matches are not condoned by the ACR / France / EFU / NZARSAR, but due to the physicality of the sport off the ball incidents do break out and can even influence the balance of a match, especially at the lower Calibre levels.

Auto Manage

Either make decisions manually or select an Auto Manage option:

- Subs only
- Subs & Tactics

Interchanges



Up to 8 interchanges can be made at any time during the match. Once a player has been substituted off they may not return, unless under exceptional circumstances and they are a front rower.

Hints & Tips

- The club will start with a selection of coaches to cover all player attributes in training, but make use of the allowed limit of 12 coaches and hire high quality staff.
- Fitness is the most important attribute so ensure players selected to play have high values.
- Make developing colts players a priority and do not promote to the senior squads until they have reached their full potential.
- If a colts player with very high potential fully progresses in the colts, the club may have developed a new world class Player.
- Senior players will retire from the sport in their mid to late 30s and leave the club.
- Sign colts players with high potential in positions where your senior squads are weak, or hire colts coaches with the required positional expertise and re-train colts player's primary / secondary

positions.

- Ensure player's attrition levels fall back to 0 between matches, even if it means hiring an extra physio to assign to older players who will have lower recuperation rates.
- Be aware that introducing a new key positional player into the line-up will disrupt team cohesion.
- Make the most of the 3 player loan limit to bolster your squad.
- Once you loan out a player they will no longer be included in the ACR / France / EFU / NZARSAR player restriction assessments for your club.
- A good match strategy is to select forward moves to increase the attacking platform value, then later in the phase count run wider backs moves to create gaps in the defensive line.
- Advanced & intermediate moves have a greater chance of breaching the defensive line than basic moves and forward moves build the attacking platform at a faster rate than backs moves.
- The higher the attacking platform the greater the chance of creating a gap in the opposition defensive line.
- Players selected to play out of their primary & secondary positions will perform significantly poorer than they would in their primary or secondary positions.
- Players selected to play in their secondary Position will perform only slightly poorer than they would in their primary position.
- If you can sign players of a higher calibre than your current league they will have a large impact.

Credits

Made by:

Rich Beanland Simon Corbett Roger Hulley Richie Palmer Josh Pollard Alex Thomas

