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For immediate release

RED AND WHITE (K)NIGHT

With his team perched in the lofty heights of the Super League highly regarded and eloquent Hul Kingston Rovers coach Justin Morgan has the perfect vantage point to assess the state of the sport and especially the brand that has everyone enthralled - 9s and the fast approaching Carnegie Floodlit 9s. The "Great Night" being scheduled for Wednesday August 26.

HKR was one of the first clubs to accept an invitation to the inaugural event in 2008 and Justin was pleased they did " it was a highly entertaining night for players and fans alike.

The competition has all the ingredients to become a major fixture in the sport's calendar."

In addition to his evident coaching talents - displayed so admirably at Toulouse and now HKR - Morgan is an expansionist:

" The game is making great strides in many areas both at club and international level. I believe that 9s is the right vehicle to take rugby league to new audiences in countries worldwide.

It is a fine mix of flamboyant handling and running allied to tough defence."

The Carnegie Floodlit 9s organisers are further adding to the spectacle on the night by introducing RL's Fastest Man Sprint and a 16 teams under 8s display.

The Red and White side of Hull will be represented by England star Peter Fox in the former and well known RL names - Beverley Braves, Cottingham Tigers and Skirlaugh Bulls - in the latter.

Event Director Neal Coupland is keen to add " that the Robins - in selecting players of the pedigree of Paul Cooke and England aspirant Kris Welham in 2008 - provided just the impetus any event needs in its formative stages.

Rovers will again grace the Carnegie Floodlit 9s this year and could be set for a semi-final collision with fierce rivals and 2008 finalists Hull FC."

There is intrigue and fairy tales aplenty this year highlighted admirably with the inclusion of Jamaica and both Northern Rail 9s winners - Blackpool Panthers - and Cheltenham 9s winners - the Royal Navy.

Justin's final thoughts are for the French." with the Carnegie Floodlit 9s set to become more pan-European year on year the participation of French teams will bring gallic flair and style."

Notes for editors:

Carnegie Floodlit Nines

The Carnegie Floodlit 9s will be a one-day rugby league 9s tournament, which will host 12 senior teams including six engage super league clubs. The competition will take place on Wednesday August 26 at Headingley Carnegie Stadium.

History of 9s:

The first recorded event was held in 1883 in Batley and was won by Batley.

In 1888 Kendal Hornets won the Northern Counties 9s Challenge Cup.

Schedule:

4pm Gates Open

4.30 - 6.30 Group Games

6.30 - 6.50 under 8s

6.50 - 8.10 Quarter Finals

8.10 - 8.30 under 8s

8.30 - 9.10 Semi-Finals

9.10 - 9.30 Sprint and Presentation

9.30 - 10.00 - Final and Presentation

RL's Fastest Man Sprint:

Totesport has also compiled odds on all of the confirmed competitors for the race to find 'Rugby League's fastest man'

Current odds are -

Kevin Penny 2/1 Warrington Wolves
Scott Donald 4/1 Leeds Rhinos
Dave Halley 9/2 Bradford Bulls & Wales
Peter Fox 5/1 Hull KR & England
Craig Calvert 6/1 Whitehaven and Cumbria

James Nixon 6/1 Barrow and Cumbria
Roy Calvert 6/1 Duhaney Park Sharks & Jamaica
Luke George 8/1 Wakefield Wildcats
Amos Roberts 12/1 Wigan Warriors
James Ford 12/1 Castleford Tigers

Johnny Leather 12/1 Blackpool Panthers

Kingsman Bulitautin 12/1 British Army
Tangi Ropati tbc Sheffield Eagles & Samoa

Hull FC and Huddersfield Giants - awaiting declaration

The Carnegie 9s draw in full:

Qualifying Group A: Jamaica , Cumbria RL, Leeds Met Carnegie
Qualifying Group B: Army RL, Royal Navy, Blackpool Panthers

4.30 - 4.50 Leeds Met University v Jamaica

4.50 - 5.10 Army v Royal Navy

5.10 - 5.30 Leeds Met. v University v Cumbria

5.30 - 5.50 Army v Blackpool Panthers

5.50 - 6.10 Cumbria v Jamaica

6.10 - 6.30 Blackpool Panthers v Royal Navy

Quarter-Finals

6.50 - 7.10 Hull FC v Group A Winners

7.10 - 7.30 Hull Kingston Rovers v Wakefield Trinity Wildcats

7.30 - 7.50 Huddersfield Giants v Group B Winners

7.50 - 8.10 Leeds Rhinos v Warrington Wolves

Semi - Finals

8.30 - 8.50 Winners of QF 1 v Winners of QF 2

8.50 - 9.10 Winners of QF 3 v Winners of QF 4

Final

9.30 - 9.50 Winners of SF 1 v Winners of SF 2

Please see www.floodlit9s.co.uk for ticket information

For further details please contact Mark Dorey at Leeds Met on 0113 812 3021 or email m.dorey@leedsmet.ac.uk

Leeds Metropolitan University

- Leeds Metropolitan University has 30,000 students and over 300,000 associate students through its partnerships with 24 colleges.
- The University is home to The UK Centre for Coaching Excellence.
- Leeds Met Carnegie is the primary partner of rugby league's Carnegie Challenge Cup.

