

## **THE SOMERSET R.F.U. JUNIOR KNOCK-OUT CUP COMPETITIONS – REGULATIONS**

### **DEFINITIONS:**

Committee	means the County Union's Competitions Sub-Committee
Competitions Administrator	means the person to whom the Committee delegate the administration of a Competition
County Union	means the Somerset County Rugby Football Union Limited
Home Club	means the first named club to be drawn in respect of a fixture or as otherwise determined by the Committee
RFU	means the Rugby Football Union
Society	means the Somerset County Rugby Football Union Referees Society Limited
World Rugby	means the world governing body of the game which at the date of the adoption of these Rules is the International Rugby Board of which the Union is a member.
World Rugby Regulations	means the Resolutions and Regulations relating to the game promulgated by World Rugby from time to time

### **DESCRIPTION & FORM:**

- 1.1 All matches shall be played under the World Rugby Laws of the Game (as appropriate to the Age Grade) and the Regulations of the World Rugby and the RFU in so far as the same are not varied by or inconsistent with these Regulations. Where there is any such variation or inconsistency then these Regulations shall prevail.
- 1.2 All matches in each Competition shall be played on Sundays determined by the Committee. Clubs may mutually agree to play a match (other than the final) prior to any fixed date and on any other day of the week.
- 1.3 Any club refusing to play a match on the date determined by the Committee shall not be eligible to enter a Competition or to continue participation as the case may be.
- 1.4 Matches shall be played on the ground of the club drawn first in each round except for the finals which shall be played on neutral grounds to be determined by the Committee.
- 1.5 A Home club is responsible for the correct and clear marking of its pitch and must make proper provision to ensure (that with the exception of touch judges, fourth official, Registered Medical Practitioner or other suitably medically qualified person and one water carrier from each team) all spectators, coaches replacements and others are kept a proper distance from the field of play.

### **ORGANISING COMMITTEE:**

- 2.1 The Competitions shall be organized and administered by the Committee.
- 2.1 The Committee shall have the power to delegate any of its duties, powers or obligations under these Regulations to a Competition Administrator.
- 2.2 Decisions of the Committee or the Competitions Administrator shall be final and binding.

### **ELIGIBILITY OF CLUBS & PLAYERS:**

- 3.1 All clubs in membership of the County Union shall be eligible to enter a team in any Competition but must signify to the Competition Administrator their wish to do so no later than "The date specified on the entry form"
- 3.2 The Committee shall have the power to exclude any team from any Competition at any time.
- 3.3 Players shall be eligible to play in any Competition provided that they are under the relevant age at midnight on 31st August.
- 3.4 Players must be properly registered under the Rugby Union's Youth Registration Scheme (as administered by the County Union) or hold Effective Registration (as the case may be) with the team/club for which they play.
- 3.5 Only player registered with the RFU Game Management System (GMS) prior to any first-round match will be eligible, any team fielding a player with a GMS effective date after the first round will be removed from the competition.

- 3.6 Prior to any match in any Competition all players' Registration Lists shall be mutually inspected by the coach (es)/team manager(s) of each team and unjustifiable failure to produce such cards for inspection will lead to expulsion from the Competition.

Note: The home club should, when confirming kick-off times and other arrangements, remind the away team of the need to produce their players' registration lists on the day of the match.

- 3.7 Clubs shall not be represented by a player who has played for another club in any Competition in the same season.

- 3.8 A maximum of seven replacements are allowed in any match.

**MATCH OFFICIALS:**

- 4.1 The Society shall appoint a referee plus two touch judges for the finals.

- 4.2 Apart from the final the home team is responsible for appointing a referee. Should the Society (or any other rugby Society) be unable to provide a referee then the home team club can supply a referee (who shall hold an RFU refereeing qualification) as long as they advise the away team prior to the commencement of the match.

**DETERMINATION OF MATCH RESULTS:**

- 5.1 If the scores in a match (other than a final) are level at the end of normal playing time the following shall apply: -

- 5.1.1 The team that scored the more/most tries shall be the winner but if this does not produce a result,

- 5.1.2 The team that scored the more/most goals from tries shall be the winner.

- 5.1.3 If 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 does not produce a result then the away side progresses to the next round.

- 5.2 If the scores in a final are level at the end of normal playing time and neither 5.1.1 or 5.1.2 produces a result then the Competition trophy shall be shared. Which club shall hold the trophy for the first six months and which the second six months shall be decided by the toss of a coin. The winner of the "coin toss" shall have the option to decide for which six-month period the trophy will be held.

**NOTIFICATION OF MATCH RESULTS:**

- 6.1 Results of all matches in any Competition (save for the finals) shall be notified to the Competitions Administrator within 48 hours of the end of the match.

**CLASH OF COLOURS:**

- 7.1 In the event of clubs having similar or clashing colours the home club shall be responsible for changing its colours subject to the satisfaction of the match referee.

- 7.2 The shirts of teams shall be numbered in accordance with World Rugby requirements to ensure the correct identification of all players and replacements during a match.

**KICK-OFFS AND DELAYED ARRIVALS:**

- 8.2 Matches (except the finals) shall start at a time notified by the home club to their opponents (not less than 3 days prior to the date prescribed for the playing of the match) but it shall not be later than 2.30pm unless the opponents agree otherwise. A kick-off time may be determined by the Committee if, upon appeal by an opponent club, the Committee deem the time specified by the home club to be unreasonable. Any delay in kicking-off from the agreed or pre-determined time may be reported by the non-offending club and the Committee may impose any sanction it sees fit, which may, for the avoidance of doubt, mean the expulsion from the Competition of the offending club.

**DISPUTES:**

- 9.1 Any matter in dispute between participating clubs shall be notified to the Competitions Administrator as soon as it becomes apparent or, if occurring during a match, within 24 hours of the end thereof. Written confirmation of a complaint or dispute must reach the Competitions Administrator within 72 hours after the initial notification and shall set out fully the nature of the complaint or dispute. The Committee shall have full power to determine any such matter (using any procedure in its absolute discretion it considers appropriate) and it may decline to investigate any such matter if it considers doing so to be in the best interest of the Competition generally or the game of Rugby Football.

**POSTPONED AND ABANDONED MATCHES:**

- 10.1 If weather conditions (which includes bad light) prevent a match from being played or a match is abandoned because of such conditions with less than two thirds of the proper playing time having been played it shall be played or re-played before the date of the next round on a day and at a time agreed between the clubs or failing agreement as determined by the Committee. If there is no agreement within 48 hours of the match which was not played or was abandoned or if the date and time agreed is not acceptable to the Committee, then the date and time of kick-off shall be determined by the Committee.
- 10.2 If ground or weather conditions prevent a match being played at the grounds of either Club, (or neutral venue) then the Divisional Organiser or RFU Rugby Events & Competitions Department will advise that the match will be played on the relevant weather date. If the match cannot be played on the weather date then the Divisional Organiser or RFU Rugby Events & Competitions Department will select the team to progress at random. In the event of this occurring the home or away team in the subsequent round will also be selected at random.
- 10.3 If a match is abandoned for any reason other than weather conditions then, irrespective of the number of minutes played the result of that match shall be determined by the Committee who may order the match to be replayed in which case the match will take place at a venue and a time determined by it.

**REMINDERS:**

- 11.1 Trophies must be returned to the Competitions Administrator no later than 1st April.
- 11.2 Clubs must ensure that all teams are insured in accordance with RFU Guidelines.
- 11.3 Subject to confirmation the Finals will be held on "The date specified on the entry form, Venue TBA"