

DURHAM COUNTY RFU
CUP COMPETITIONS
for
U13, U14, U15, U16, U17 and U18 GROUPS

Laws and Conditions Applicable to the Competition

1. Eligibility for the competition will comprise of players who are under the relevant age at midnight on 31st August/1st September of the start of the season.
2. Each participating player must be a member of the club for whom he/she has been selected to represent, and therefore:
 - i) Must have played for that club in a XV a side game during the course of the current season;
 - ii) Must not have played for any other club in this competition during the current season;
 - iii) Must have been registered with that club for a period of four weeks prior to the game requiring registration.
3. The Laws and Conditions relating to these games will be as set out in the RFU Handbook.
4. The game shall be played XV a side for 25, 25, 30, 35, 35 and 35 minutes each way for U13, U14, U15, U16, U17 and U18 age groups respectively.
5. The Durham County Referees' Appointments Secretary will be notified of the draw and will, by arrangement with the HOME club, appoint an official to take charge of each game. In the event of the unavailability of officials, please refer to the Junior County Cup Secretary. The Cup Committee will arrange the final.
6. If a clash of colours occurs between the sides, it will be the responsibility of the HOME side to change.
7. The arrangements for the game are to be made by the AWAY club contacting the home club, except the final.
8. Except the final, the HOME club shall have first choice of venue, but any mutual arrangement between the clubs is permitted. In the event of the home club being unable to accommodate the game - this does not include the inability to field a side - the choice of venue shall revert to the away club. In the event of clubs being unable to agree, please refer to the Junior County Cup Secretary.
9. Matches are to be played on or before the specified date, except the final, with kick off by mutual arrangement between the clubs. If clubs cannot agree a date and time, then the game shall be played on the date specified for the draw, with kick off at 11.00am. In event of clubs being unable to agree, please contact the Junior County Cup Secretary.
10. The game will be decided as per the Laws of the Game. For all rounds, except the final, in the event of a draw, the side scoring the greatest number of tries will be declared the winner. In the event of both sides scoring the same number of tries or there being no tries scored, the AWAY side will be declared the winner.
11. Any team winning by a margin of 50 points or more, at any stage through the game, will be declared the winner.
12. It will be the responsibility of the winning club to notify the organising committee of the result.
13. It will be the responsibility of all clubs to ensure that all players are fully insured.
14. When arranging fixtures, no club should invite any player to forego school loyalties and no player should play more than one game of rugby in one day.
15. For every match, each Team Manager must produce registration cards for his side and present the opposing Team Manager with a list of players and replacements. Failure to produce registration cards will result in the game being declared null and void with the non-offending side being declared winners by default.

16. Any disputes with regard registrations must be reported to the Junior County Cup Secretary within 48 hours of the Cup Tie.
17. For all rounds, excluding the final, the HOME club are to make adequate arrangements to keep spectators at a reasonable distance from the playing area (i.e. rope boundary approximately 5m from the touchlines).
18. Replacements are to be used as per the U19 and U15 variations of the game, with no more than seven named replacements. Laws covering front row replacements and blood injuries still apply and U15 variations, according to the RFU Handbook.

Details for Cup Finals

All of the above applies to the cup finals, except for the following variations.

1. The Junior County Cup Committee, contacting the Durham County Referees' Appointments Secretary with details of the game will arrange officials for the final.
2. The date and time of the final will be specified by the Junior County Cup Committee and will be reported to the Main Youth contact at each club.
3. The choice of venue will be neutral to both clubs, with the Junior County Cup Committee making such arrangements.
4. If at the end of normal time the scores are equal, then the cup will be shared between the two clubs, with no extra time played.
5. Registration cards are to be inspected by a Junior County Cup representative, with both teams providing squad lists. All other rules for registration cards apply.
6. The Junior County Cup Committee will declare which team is to be classified as the HOME team for the final, to allow provision for change of strip in case of a clash.
7. The Junior County Cup committee will provide arrangements to keep spectators at a reasonable distance from the playing area.

Any difficulty or dispute relating to the above should be referred to the Junior County Cup Committee and their decision is final.

Notes on Qualification for Durham County Schools and County Clubs XV's

Age limits and eligibility

The age limit for County U16 and U15 teams is 1st September of the current season. Any boy who is a member of any school or club affiliated to the Durham County Rugby Union is eligible to play for these teams.

There will be two teams at each age group.

For County U18 rugby the age limit is 1st September of the current season. As above any boy who is a member of any school or club affiliated to the Durham County Rugby Union is eligible to play for Durham County U18 teams. It is hoped that starting in season 2004-2005 two U18 teams will be run.

(Please note that in line with the Schools Students and Youth Review (April 2004) the division between Schools and Clubs has now disappeared and the Horner definition of a "rugby playing school" as a criterion for selection has also disappeared.)

Restrictions on playing

- (i) Once a player has reached his 19th birthday he becomes ineligible to play in matches between school teams. He may play in Senior rugby for the rest of the season.
- (ii) Players who are not yet 17 may not play against teams containing players over the U19 age limit. When no player is under 17 the restriction does not apply but the U19 Law variations do apply.