



# CBRE

Surrey Rugby  
Youth League Competition Sponsored by CBRE  
Rules for Season 2012/13  
Issue 2

The purpose of the Surrey Youth Leagues is to promote the playing of competitive rugby at Youth levels throughout the county of Surrey. The Surrey Youth Leagues are organised for the benefit of all players and the interests of the players is paramount.

## 1 Administration

- 1.1 The Competition shall be called the Surrey Rugby Youth League, hereafter referred to as The Competition.
- 1.2 The Competition shall be organised by the Surrey Rugby Competitions Sub Committee, hereafter referred to as The Committee.
- 1.3 The Committee shall appoint a Competition Secretary to administer The Competition on a day-to-day basis.
- 1.4 The Committee shall appoint a Sub Committee, (Youth Management Committee), to deal with any disputes which cannot be resolved by the Competition Secretary.
- 1.5 Each club entering The Competition shall appoint one Club Competition Contact with whom the Competition Secretary shall communicate in respect of all matters relating to The Competition.
- 1.6 The Competition shall be played under The Laws of the game of Rugby Football Union and Guidelines for each age group as printed in the R.F.U. Handbook and subject to any variations imposed and approved by the I.R.B. and the R.F.U.
- 1.7 Changes to the Competition rules will be published before the beginning of each season and will be binding on all clubs who enter the competition.

## 2 Entry to the Competition

- 2.1 The Competition shall be open to all Member Clubs of Surrey Rugby.
- 2.2 To participate in The Competition, clubs are required to complete an Entry Form. The Entry Form and a Non Returnable Entry Fee (the amount of which shall be determined by The Committee) must be lodged with The Competition Secretary by the closing date specified by The Committee.
- 2.3 The Committee may refuse entry to Clubs who have had teams disqualified from The Competition in previous seasons or for any other reason, subject to appeal to Surrey RFU Management Committee.

## 3 Format of the Competition

- 3.1 The Competition shall be organised by age group. The Committee shall specify the format for each age group according to the number of teams entered.
- 3.2 The teams entering The Competition shall be organised into leagues, based on:-
  - U13's The Winners of the group stages of the previous seasons Surrey Mini "A" Festival Under 12's competition shall make up Division 1.
  - U13's The Runners up of the group stages of the previous seasons Surrey Mini "A" Festival Under 12's competition shall make up Division 2.

All other sides entering the Under 13's Competition shall then be placed into further Divisions as appropriate.

- The placings shall be decided at a meeting of The Committee as soon as practicable after the closing date for entries.
- U14's - U19's Their previous seasons league position.

- 3.3 At the end of each season 2 teams will be promoted/relegated from each U13's – U19's league as determined by the competition Secretary as appropriate. The competition secretary may promote/relegate additional sides, as appropriate, to retain the balance of the League format.
- 3.4 If a side drops out of the competition they will be deemed to have been relegated and will be included when calculating the sides to be relegated at the end of that season.
- 3.5 The Competition Secretary shall determine the dates upon which the games are to be played, based on the R.F.U.s Structured Season, and shall publish the schedule of matches as soon as practicable after the placings have been decided.
- 3.6 All age groups will be run as "Whole Season" competitions as deemed appropriate by the competition secretary.
- 3.7 Any team wishing to enter the Competition for the first time, in any age group but the Under 13's, will automatically be placed into the lowest suitable Division of that age group as decided by the Competition Secretary.
- 3.8 If a side applies to rejoin the competition after dropping out of the previous seasons competition they will rejoin in the division below that from which they resigned (unless they were already playing in the lowest division when they will rejoin that division).

#### **4 Eligibility of Players**

- 4.1 Before participating in any Competition match, all players (whether as participants or replacements) must, for the current season:
  - be a paid up member of the club they represent;
  - be registered with the R.F.U. Player Registration Scheme for the club they are representing and must hold a Personal Youth Registration ID Number.
- 4.2 Players/Team Managers must hold valid RFU/Surrey Registration Cards (with Photographs) for each player in a match day squad and have them present for inspection by the referee or the opposition Coach/Manager, if required, at every match.
- 4.3 If a Side/Team Manager does not present the squad registration cards when requested
  - The game is to go ahead as normal
  - Non presentation is to be noted on the result card
  - The offending side is to present a copy of their Registration Cards within 1 week of the match to the Competition Secretary by post or email. If the correct Registration is not produced the offending team shall be deducted 6 league points and the game and points awarded to the non offending side with a score of 20-0
- 4.4 U12's to U15's can train and play up one age grade provided that:
  - (a) consent is obtained from the parents, guardians or carers of the player;
  - and
  - (b) in each case an appropriate assessment is carried out.
- 4.5 U16's and U17's can train and play up one age grade (including in the front row of the scrum) or two age grades (but not including in the front row of contested scrums if an U16 player is playing 15 a-side rugby) provided that:
  - (a) consent is obtained from the parents, guardians or carers of the player;
  - (b) the parent, guardian, or carer is informed that it is possible that this dispensation may result in the player playing with and/or against one or more U19's players who are playing down in accordance with RFU Regulation 15.4.3;
  - and
  - (d) an appropriate assessment is carried out and Surrey RFU's written approval is given.
- 4.6 Players from outside the age group must not exceed 50% of the total number of players and substitutes.
- 4.7 If an over-age player is found to have participated in any Competition match, (apart from those detailed in 4.4 & 4.5 above), the offending team shall be disqualified from The Competition.
- 4.8 If an ineligible player, other than over-age, is found to have participated in any Competition match, the offending team shall be deducted 6 league points and the game and points awarded to the non offending side with a score of 20-0.

#### **5 Organisation of Matches**

- 5.1 The home team shall be responsible for all organisational matters relating to matches, including:

- confirmation with appointed referees (at least 48 hours prior to kick-off);
  - payment of referees expenses;
  - confirmation with visiting team (at least seven days before the match);
  - condition of the pitch;
  - change of colours in the event that both teams are similar;
  - supply of the match ball;
  - notification to the Competition Secretary and the Referee in the event of any change to arrangements.
- 5.2 All games are to be played on the prescribed dates, except as follows:
- the pitches are unfit due to bad weather;
  - the match clashes with the RFU U15's or U17's National Clubs Competition;
  - where the two teams mutually agree to an alternative date and/or venue.
- 5.3 In the event that pitches are unfit due to bad weather, the home team must immediately notify the opposition, the Competition Secretary and the Referee. The visiting team must then be offered the option to play at their ground. Where possible at least 24 hours notice should be given to the visiting team. If this option is not suitable to the visiting side the respective team managers must agree new arrangements for the game to be played as soon as possible and must inform the Competition Secretary of the new date. The Competition Secretary may over-rule the agreement if, in his opinion, the proposed date is unsuitable or contrary to the spirit of The Competition.
- 5.4 If a game is postponed because of the weather and no mutually acceptable date can be found for the match to be played then neither side will receive any points.
- 5.5 In the event of a match being postponed due to a clash with the RFU organised National Clubs competition, the involved team must immediately notify the opposition, the Competition Secretary and the Referee. The respective team managers must agree new arrangements for the game to be played as soon as possible and must inform the Competition Secretary of the new date. The Competition Secretary may over-rule the agreement if, in his opinion, the proposed date is unsuitable or contrary to the spirit of The Competition.
- 5.6 If any side loses 3 or more players because of their involvement in a Surrey RFU organised County Match, on the same day as a Surrey Competition game, that side may claim a postponement of their Competition match without loss of points. If no mutually acceptable date can be found for the match to be played then neither side will receive any points.
- 5.7 In the event that both teams mutually agree to alter the date or venue or kick-off time of a league match, they must seek the permission of the Competition Secretary. The Competition Secretary may refuse permission if, in his opinion, the proposed date is unsuitable or contrary to the spirit of The Competition.
- 5.8 If the match is re-organised The Competition Secretary must be informed as to which team requested the postponement (for clarity in case of Rule 5.8)
- 5.9 If no acceptable date can be found, the side that cannot meet the original date will forfeit the game.
- 5.10 If a reorganised game is not played, for whatever reason, the side that requested the original change will forfeit the points.
- 5.11 All games must be played by or on the first weekend in May (Sunday 5th May 2013)
- 5.12 U13's - U17's games shall kick-off at 11:00 and U18's & U19's games shall kick-off at 14:00 unless otherwise informed at least 14 days in advance to the visiting team and the Competition Secretary by the home team.
- 5.13 NB Matches may kick off at any time as long as at least 14 days notice is given.
- 5.14 NB In the event of a change to the published Kick Off time from the Standard Kick Off time, if the home Team does not provide their visitors with sufficient time to enable them to reorganise their travel arrangements, i.e. 14 days, the visitors can request that the match be cancelled and reorganised for a later date acceptable to both sides. If this occurs neither side will be deemed as to have postponed the original fixture.
- NB No game is to start before 11:00 unless both sides agree to an earlier Kick Off.
- 5.15 For all games, both teams are required to complete Competition Result cards upon which:
- all participating players are listed;
  - all participating players RFU Registration No.s are listed;
  - the result is entered; including the Number of tries scored
  - Uncontested Scrums are recorded
  - Referee's signature is obtained
- The cards are to be retained by the teams for future examination if required by the Competition secretary.

A copy of Result card is to be lodged with the Competition Secretary, by post or email, within seven days of the match. If sent by email the copy of the Result card need not show the referee's signature.

5.16 If a correctly completed result card is not received by the Competition Secretary, he shall deduct One point from the offending side. This Point shall be restored if and when a Result Card is received or when he is notified that the game has been postponed.

NB If a Result Card is not received within 4 weeks of the fixture Date, the One point penalty will become permanent.

5.17 Match durations shall be:

- Under-13 - 25 minutes each way
- Under-14 - 25 minutes each way
- Under-15 - 30 minutes each way
- Under-16 - 35 minutes each way
- Under-17 - 35 minutes each way
- Under-18 - 35 minutes each way
- Under-19 - 35 minutes each way

5.18 Under-13 and Under-14 games shall be played with a size 4 ball. All other age groups shall play with a size 5 ball.

5.19 For the purposes of recording a result in The Competition, no team may win by a margin of more than 40 points. If a game reaches a score difference of 40 points, the referee shall suspend the game and call the team managers together. At this point the League match is completed and the Team Managers then agree either to end the game or to continue on a friendly match basis. If they agree to continue this may be in an agreed modified form (e.g. for a reduced time period, with any number of substitutions made), the match is then to be restarted after coaches have had sufficient time to instruct players.

If a result is submitted which shows a margin of victory greater than 40 points, the winning team's score shall be reduced accordingly.

5.20 It is the responsibility of all teams to, where possible, carry an adequate first aid kit and have somebody qualified, present at the match to treat minor injuries.

## 6 Players & Replacements

6.1 All games are to be between two sides of 15 players with up to Seven players nominated as replacements or substitutes. Each side must start the game with a trained front row. If either side does not have enough players to start the game with a trained front row they must concede the match. i.e. The game may not be started with uncontested scrums.

6.2 If a front row player is injured during the game and their team has no trained front row substitute then the game will continue, as before, but with uncontested scrums. In the event of a match going to uncontested scrums that fact must be recorded on the match Result card.

6.3 If one side has less than 15 players the game may go ahead as long as :-

- there are even numbers in each scrum
- each side has trained front rows. (The game may not be started with uncontested scrums.)
- The referee deems it safe to do so.

If these criteria are not met then the game must be conceded.

6.4 Of the (up to) 15 starting players and (up to) 7 replacements, at least 6 must be nominated as cover for front row positions (Tight Head Prop, Hooker & Loose Head Prop), as indicated in the following Table

Number of Players	Number of suitably Trained/Experienced Players
15 ( or Less)	3 Players who can play in the Front Row
16, 17 or 18	4 Players who can play in the Front Row
19, 20 or 21	5 Players who can play in the Front Row
22	6 Players who can play in the Front Row

NB Surrey RFU will investigate all matches where uncontested scrums are required to ensure the correct number of suitably trained Front Row players were available for the match

6.5 Rolling substitutions. A player who has been substituted may replace any player, whether or not that player has been injured.

6.6 All Teams must register their players with the Competition Organisor, prior to any of the club's opening games of the season, as playing for their "A", "B" or "C" teams. A minimum of 15

players must be registered for each team that the club is fielding in the Competition. If no such registration is received it will be assumed that all players are part of the squad that they play for on their first game of the season.

- 6.7 Any side may include up to a total maximum of 2 players who are registered for a higher-level team from that club (eg 2 "A"-registered players may play for the B team, or 2 "B"-registered players may play for the "C" team), provided that:
- No "A"-registered player may play for a "C" team at any time
  - No player from a higher-registered team may play more than 3 matches for a lower-registered team in one season
- 6.8 Any side may include up to 5 players who are registered for a lower-level team from that club (eg 5 "B"-registered players may play for the A team, or 5 "C"-registered players may play for the "B" team), provided that
- No "C"-registered player may play for a "A" team at any time
  - No player from a lower-registered team may play more than 3 matches for a higher-registered team in one season

For the avoidance of doubt, in Clauses 6.7 and 6.8, inclusion in a side is defined to mean all players nominated for that match, including all those who played for any period, and any unused substitutes.

- 6.9 Players can be re-registered as part of an alternative squad at any time up to Jan 1st
- 6.10 Players recovering from Injury (i.e have not played for a minimum of, U13's & U14's 4 weeks & U15's to U19's 6 weeks) can be re-registered at any time.
- 6.11 Under No circumstances can any County or Development programme players play in B (or C) teams. There may be a physical imbalance between these players and most B (or C) team players that represents a major safety issue, quite apart from the inequity of the practice. Offending teams will forfeit the fixture and be docked league points for fielding ineligible players.

## **7 Failure to Fulfil Fixtures**

- 7.1 If a team fails to fulfil a fixture for any reason other than bad weather, unfit pitches, National Clubs Competition Match or Surrey RFU County Game, the non-offending team shall be awarded the game by a score of 20 points to nil and will receive 6 League points. The offending side will be deemed as to have lost the game by nil points to 20 but will not be awarded any league points..
- 7.2 If a team fails to fulfil a fixture for any reason other than bad weather, unfit pitches or National Clubs Competition Match team manager must, in writing and within seven days, notify the Competition Secretary and give the reasons.
- 7.3 If, for any reason, a team is unable to field a side and fails to give more than 24 hours notice to the opposition, that team shall be liable for the referee's expenses.
- 7.4 If, for any reason, a team fails to fulfil more than two of its Competition fixtures, the team shall be, at the discretion of the Competition Organiser, disqualified from The Competition.

## **8 Leagues**

- 8.1 League positions shall be determined on a points basis: Five league points for a win, three league points for a draw and one league point for a loss
- 8.2 A Bonus point will be awarded if a side scores 4 (or more) tries
- 8.3 A Bonus point will be awarded if a side loses by 7 points or less
- 8.4 In the event of tied league points, positions shall be decided on the following basis:
- The winners shall be the side that has the greater match points difference; i.e. the difference between the total number of points scored in all this seasons games minus the total number of points conceded in all this seasons games

If the above does not separate winners and runners up of a league competition, the teams concerned shall be declared joint winners.

If the above does not separate those teams involved with promotion and relegation issues of a league competition, both teams will be promoted / relegated.

- 8.5 If a team withdraws or is disqualified from The Competition, all games already played by that team shall be declared void and league points adjusted accordingly.

## **9 Referees and Touch Judges**

- 9.1 The home team is responsible for supplying a referee for a league fixture.

**For U17's and U18's league matches, this referee will be appointed by the London Society of Rugby Football Referees (LSRFUR).**

All U17's and U18's league fixtures must be submitted to the LSRFUR by the club, prior to the start of the season via Easy Ref. If a match is cancelled it is the home team's responsibility to notify LSRFUR of the cancellation and of the rearrangement details.

**NB1 Referees are not appointed from the Fixtures on the Surrey Website it is the responsibility of each Club to apply to the LSRFUR for their referees via easyref**

Once applied for, Clubs will receive notification for their U17's and/or U18's LSRFUR Referee via easyref, to the appointed Club person by the thursday before the Sunday fixture. Clubs must then confirm the game with the referee, again on the thursday before the Sunday fixture, that the match is going ahead and the venue, team colours etc. It is also the home clubs responsibility to inform the referee if there is any change in the match details.

**NB2** LSRFUR will not appoint referees to matches in the U13's to U16's age groups and therefore the referee must be club appointed

For U13's to U16's league matches the referee will be suitably trained and may be attached to the home club, but not attached to the age group.

**NB3** The details of the referee i.e. name, any connection to the home club and/ or age group must be e-mailed to the away side a minimum of 3 days in advance of the fixture. Any changes from the original information provided to the away team must be communicated by e-mail or telephone as soon as they are known. Any home team not informing the away team of the above should be reported to the Surrey Youth Management Committee.

If a referee cannot be found, the home team must inform the away team at least three full days in advance, and invite them to find a suitably trained referee.

This referee will be a suitably trained referee and may be attached to the away club, but not attached to the age group.

In the event that neither team can find a suitably trained referee as defined above, then any suitably trained referee can be appointed provided that both teams agree in advance.

If no suitably trained referee can be found for a league fixture then the game will be postponed and a report submitted by the home team to the Youth Management Committee via the Competition Secretary.

Failure to comply with these rules will result in the docking of 2 league points from the team deemed responsible and the game and points awarded to the non offending side with a score of 20-0.. (therefore it is advised that adequate records be kept for future reference).

**NB4** Suitably trained is defined as having successfully passed an ELRA (Entry Level Referee Award) Course Stages 1 and 2.

**NB5** The appointed referee will officiate the whole game unless he/ she is injured

**NB6** Any questions/allegations over the performance of a suitably trained referee must be taken up with the Youth Management Committee via the Competition Secretary.

**NB7** Surrey Rugby may at any time appoint a neutral referee to any game if it is considered necessary. Both teams will be notified in advance if this is to happen.

- 9.2 Each team is responsible for providing one touch judge to assist the referee during the game. A touch judge is not an Assistant Referee as defined within the Laws of Rugby Union. The duties of a Touch Judge are purely to indicate when the ball has gone into touch. All other decisions will be made by the referee. The Touch Judge must not interfere with the referee's decision making. Clubs will not provide teams of 3 unless agreed by the opposition and/ or authorized by Surrey Rugby.
- 9.3 Both teams must ensure that all of their replacements wear bibs or other clothing covering their team shirts when the match is being played.
- 9.4 There will be a one and a half metre exclusion zone along each touch line. The only persons allowed inside the zone will be the Touch Judge, Head Coach, First Aider and replacements ready to enter the field of play. All other persons will remain behind the exclusion zone for duration of the match.

## **10 Child Welfare & Photography**

10.1 Because of recent changes in legislation and best practise the RFU has published guidelines on the photography of children. These are set out in 'Policy and procedures for the welfare of young people in Rugby Union'.

All Clubs entering the Competition have been asked to draw to the attention of parents/guardians that in entering their children in the Competition they implicitly agree and accept that:

- Photographic images may be taken of their son/daughter, during the normal course of rugby activity, by accredited photographers and/or other parents/guardians.
- These images may be used in the press or in Club/County/RFU publicity, in line with the RFU guidelines.

10.2 The Surrey Rugby Welfare Officer should be consulted re any Child Welfare issues.

## **11 Disputes**

11.1 Any disputes or matters not already covered by these rules shall be referred to the Youth Management Committee via the Competition Secretary, whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

Derek Mugford  
Competition Secretary  
Revision:  
Issue 1 – Original Issue

File: DM/Rugby/Leagues/Seasons/2012/13/Boys/Syrule1213issue2

Changes between issue 2 and issue 1

- 1.2 Reword of Sub Committee title
- 2.1 Reword
- 2.3 Reword
- 4.4 Reword in line with RFU Regulation 15.3.5
- 4.5 Reword in line with RFU Regulation 15.3.6