

**DERBYSHIRE R.F.U. KO  
COMPETITION RULES  
2009/10**

- 1.0 The Derbyshire R.F.U. Knock-Out Competition (The Competition) shall comprise four competitions
- 1.1
- The 1<sup>st</sup> XV Cup
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> XV Shield
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV Cup
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV Presidents Trophy
  - The Vets Shield
- 2.0 Clubs with automatic entry into the R.F.U. Senior Knock-Out Cup shall be excluded from The Competition.
- 3.0 All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Union Football
- 4.0 Entrants into each competition shall be determined as follows:
- 4.1 **The 1<sup>st</sup> XV Cup**
- (a) The previous season's Cup Winners
- (b) The previous season's 1<sup>st</sup> XV Shield winner
- (c) The highest placed Clubs, who may wish to participate, within the League structure for the season in which the Cup is being played, [excluding those qualifying by virtue of (a) or (b) above] necessary to bring the number of participants to eight.
- 4.2 **The 1<sup>st</sup> XV Shield**
- The remaining Clubs, who may wish to participate, within Derbyshire R.F.U. for the season in which the Cup is being played.
- 4.3 **The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV Cup**
- (a) The previous season's Cup Winners
- (b) The previous season's 2<sup>nd</sup> XV Presidents Trophy winner
- (c) The highest placed Clubs, who may wish to participate, within the League structure for the season in which the Cup is being played, [excluding those qualifying by virtue of (a) or (b) above] necessary to bring the number of participants to eight.
- 4.4 **The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV Presidents Trophy**
- The remaining Clubs, who may wish to participate, within Derbyshire RFU for the season in which the Cup is being played.
- The Vets Shield
- 4.5 All Clubs who may wish to participate, within Derbyshire R.F.U. for the season in which the Cup is being played.
- 5.0 Only those Clubs that have paid the Derbyshire R.F.U. Annual Subscriptions for the previous season shall be permitted to play in any competition.

- 6.0 **Entry Fee**
- There will be no entry fee; all clubs entering the competitions must be members of the Derbyshire R.F.U.
- 6.1 Clubs who do NOT wish to enter into The Competition are asked to advise the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee Secretary by any of the methods laid out in Rule 20 by Friday 31st. May 2009
- 7.0 No Club shall be permitted to enter the competition if they have not fulfilled a Derbyshire R.F.U. cup fixture in the previous season. They will be eligible to re enter the competition for following season
- 8.0 **Player Availability**
- 8.1 A player may only play for one Club in any one season in The Competition. Players may not play in The Competition if they hold effective registration [as defined by The English Clubs Championship Rules] for any Club other than the Club that they intend to represent in The Competition. All players must be bona-fide members of the Club they represent in The Competition.
- If a player has played for the clubs 1<sup>st</sup> XV in the competition he is not allowed to play for the clubs 2<sup>nd</sup> XV in the same season's competition.
- If a player has played for the clubs 1<sup>st</sup> XV in the competition he is still eligible to play for the clubs Vets in the same season's competition and vice versa.
- If a player has played for the clubs 2<sup>nd</sup> XV in the competition he is still eligible to play for the clubs Vets in the same season's competition and vice versa.
- To be eligible to play in the Vets competition, a player must be 35 years of age or over on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009. If a vets side is short of front row players, to enable them to fulfil a fixture, up to 2 underage front row players may be used in the Vets competition subject to the agreement of the opposition
- 8.2 Clubs are asked to forward to the Competitions Secretary by e-mail or by post to the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Secretary, list of their playing squad for each match within 72 hours of the fixture.
- The Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee at any point may refer to the lists of playing squads during The Competition, or after if any investigations need to take place. These investigations do NOT need to be instigated by a club. If a club does not supply its list of players within 72 hours of the fixture being played they may be disqualified from The Competition.
- 8.3 Breaches of 8.1 or 8.2 will result in disqualification of the offending club from The Competition and may incur suspension from further season's competitions
- 9.0 The 1<sup>st</sup> XV Shield and 2<sup>nd</sup> XV Presidents Trophy competition shall include a Preliminary Round as necessary to provide sixteen Clubs in the First Round of the competitions
- 10.0 All matches shall all be played before or on the designated dates
- 11.0 All Finals will be played at the date agreed by the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee

- 12.0 Each round of each competition up to and including the semi-finals shall be the subject of a separate draw. No less than three members of the Competitions Committee shall make all draws.
- 13.0 **Determining the Result**
- 13.1 If a match is a draw after the completion of 40 minutes of play each way, then extra time of 10 minutes each way shall be played with a 1 minute interval
- 13.2 If the scores are then still level, the team that has scored the most tries shall be the winner
- 13.3 If this does not produce a result, then the team that has scored the most goals from tries shall be the winner
- 13.4 In all but the final, if none of the above produce a winner, the visiting side (as defined by the initial draw) shall go forward to the next round
- 13.5 In the final, in the event of rules 13.1 to 13.3 failing to produce a winner, the trophy shall be shared, and where appropriate, a coin will be tossed to decide which side is proposed for competitions in the following season
- 13.6 If any fixture is unable to be played through to a conclusion for any reason (e.g. weather, serious injury, etc.) the Derbyshire RFU Competitions Committee will determine whether the score at the time of the stoppage will stand or the fixture will be replayed
- 14.0 NLDRFU Referees Society is responsible for the appointment of referees to all matches.
- In addition, at the request of the Competitions Committee, the NLD RFU RS has the authority to appoint “teams of three” to any match with the two touch judges having full authority in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- If the NLDRFU Referees Society cannot provide a referee, a suitably qualified club referee can officiate with the agreement of the opposition
- 15.0 In the event of a clash of colours, the Home team shall be responsible for changing its colours.
- 16.0 In the event of a clash of colours in any Final, the team holding the higher place in the RFU League structure, at that time, shall be responsible for changing its colours. Where neither club is in the RFU League structure, the team travelling the shorter distance to the Final venue from its home ground shall be responsible for changing its colours.
- 17.0 **Replacements.**
- In all rounds of the competitions other than the finals not more than four replacements or substitutes are permitted and in the finals seven replacements or substitutes are permitted.

- 17.1 In the interest of safety each team playing in each match in the competitions must have at least five players in their nominated match squad, all at least eighteen years old, who are suitably trained and experienced to be capable of playing in the front row to ensure on the first or second occasions (whether due to injury or consequent to a player(s) being temporarily suspended or ordered off) that a front row player is required to be replaced, the team can continue to safely play with contested scrums.
- 17.2 If in any match on the first or second occasion any front row player requires to be replaced and his team cannot provide a suitably trained and experienced replacement player at least eighteen years old to play in such a position in the front row to enable the teams to continue to safely play with contested scrums the referee having made enquiry of and confirmed of this fact the Captain (or such other person nominated by the club as the manager or person responsible for the team), the match shall continue with uncontested scrums, and subject to Regulation 17.5 below the final result will stand.
- 17.3 Subject only to the proviso contained in Regulation 17.4 below if in any match in a competition on the third or subsequent occasion any front row player requires to be replaced and his team cannot provide a suitably trained and experienced replacement player to enable the teams to continue to safely play with contested scrums the referee having made enquiry of and confirmed of this fact the Captain (or such other person nominated by the club as the manager or person responsible for the team), the match will continue with uncontested scrums and subject to Regulation 17.5 below the final score will stand.
- 17.4 Where a player or players is/are temporarily suspended from the field of play (which includes a blood injury) which creates a third or subsequent occasion that a front row player needs to be replaced and his team cannot provide a replacement or other player aged eighteen years of age or older suitably trained and experienced to enable the team to safely play with contested scrums the referee having made enquiry of and confirmed of this fact the Captain (or such other person nominated by the club as the manager or person responsible for the team) of the side affected the match shall continue with uncontested scrums (but such uncontested scrums shall only continue for the duration of the temporary suspension). The match result will not be deemed to be invalidated by reason of part of it being played with uncontested scrums.

17.5 The Derbyshire RFU Competitions Committee will review the circumstances in every case where a match in a competition is completed with uncontested scrums. In matches where uncontested scrums are called, the Derbyshire RFU Competitions Committee shall have the final decision on the result of the match and all such decisions shall be binding on all participants. It is the responsibility of both clubs to contact the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee in such a situation advising of:

- When during game uncontested scrums were called
- The reasons for uncontested scrums being called
- The points score at that time
- The referee's name and phone number
- The final outcome of the match

This information must be forwarded to the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Secretary within 24 hours of the game being played.

The Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee will let the clubs know of their decision within 48 hours of the information being received.

18.0 All matches, unless agreed by the Derbyshire RFU Competitions Committee, shall be resolved before or on the specified date. In the event of a mutually acceptable "early" date not being agreed the match shall be played on the specified date. It is the responsibility of each club to provide a side and replacements to fulfil the fixtures by the allotted date for the round they are playing in. If clubs cannot mutually agree a date the match will be played on a date determined by the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee, failure to fulfil the fixture on that date will result in elimination from the competition of one or both clubs.

In the event of a dispute between clubs the Derbyshire R.F.U. President and two other Committee members shall form an Appeals Committee to adjudicate. Members will be chosen to reflect County representatives other than those of the clubs in dispute plus another representative from the committee independent of any league of those of the clubs in dispute. The Appeals Committee will receive background information from the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Secretary and will accept written submissions from the clubs involved via the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Secretary. The Appeals Committee may consult additional members of the Competition Committee in arriving at their decision.

The decision of the Appeals Committee is binding and there is no right of appeal.

18.1 In the event of the Home team pitch being unplayable; it shall be the Home team's responsibility to find alternative playing facilities; if necessary, by the use of the Away team's facilities. The following order of priorities shall apply

(a) Home ground / Alternative Home ground / Away ground / Alternative Away ground

18.2 In the event that, despite the clearly demonstrated efforts of both teams, the match cannot be played, the Away team (as defined by the initial draw) shall go forward to the next round

- 19.0 The Home team is responsible for ensuring the proper marking of its pitch, and for making proper provision for ensuring that all spectators, replacements and officials [with the exception of touch judges] are kept at a reasonable distance from the field of play
- 20.0 **Match Result**
- 20.1 It will be the winning team's responsibility to communicate the match outcome to the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee Secretary
- 20.2 The outcome of a match [who won and by what score, OR, where a match was postponed and for what reason] must be passed through to the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee Secretary within 24 hours of the fixture, and can be communicated as such:
- a) By email
  - b) By telephone
- 21.0 All other matters, not specifically referred to herein, shall be the subject of decision by the Derbyshire R.F.U. Competitions Committee, and all such decisions shall be binding on all participants