

Lincolnshire Rugby Football Union Competition Rules 2017 – 2018

The rules of the competitions are as follows and shall be made available at every game.

1. **The names of the competitions are:**

- Lincolnshire RFU Senior Cup
- Lincolnshire RFU Intermediate Cup
- Lincolnshire RFU Under 17's Junior Cup

2. **The Structure:**

The Structure and format of each competition shall be circulated to all Clubs with an invitation to participate.

3. **Player Eligibility:**

- 3.1 Players in all the competitions must be bona fide members of the club for which they appear.
- 3.2 No player may play for more than one club in the competitions in any one season.

4. **The Draws**

- 4.1 The draws will be made each year in accordance with the directions of the Committee.
- 4.2 All rounds will be the subject of a separate draw
- 4.3 Fixture Secretaries will be informed by e-mail
- 4.4 Draws will be publicised on the NLD websites

5. **Conditions of Play:**

- 5.1 Each game to be played under the current Laws of the Game.
- 5.2 Clubs may, if they mutually agree, play the fixture under floodlights either home away or a neutral venue.
- 5.3 In the event of a game being played as a Midlands League/County Cup Double header League rules No of replacements and interchanges apply until 80 have been played.
- 5.4 All games should start at an agreed time and any delay may be reported by the non-offending club to the Committee and may lead to the disqualification of the offending club.
- 5.5 The matches must be played on or before the specified dates, unless the Lincolnshire RFU Competitions Committee agrees an alternative date. However as a general principle All games should be played at the first available opportunity and not put off to a potential future date.
- 5.6 If a fixture is not fulfilled by the designated date the non-offending club will go forward to the next round.
- 5.7 The **Lincolnshire RFU Competitions Committee**, whose decision shall be final and binding on both clubs, will resolve any dispute.

5.8 Where there is a potential clash of commitments game precedence shall be as follows:

- (1) RFU Cup, (2) RFU League, (3) NLD Cup, (4) Lincolnshire RFU Cup, (5) Merit League (6) friendlies.

6. Ground Availability

6.1 In the event of the home team pitch being unplayable it shall be the Home Team's responsibility to find alternative playing facilities, and if ultimately necessary, by the use of the away team's facilities.

The following order of ground priorities shall apply:

- • Home Ground
- • Alternative home ground
- • Away ground
- • Alternative Away ground

6.2 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.

7. Result

7.1 If a match is a draw at the completion of the game, then the team scoring the most tries goes through to the next round.

7.2 If this does not produce a result then extra time of 15 minutes each way shall be played with a 1-minute interval.

7.3 If the scores are still equal on the completion of extra time then the team that has scored most tries will be the winner.

7.4 If that does not produce a winner then the AWAY side shall be the winner. If in the final the scores are still tied then penalty kicks are to be taken in front of the posts starting from the 22 Mt Line and each kick to be taken 5 yards further back until one kick is missed A Maximum of 5 Kicks If this still does not produce a winner then the trophy shall be shared and held by each participating club for six months

8. Replacements:

8.1 In the preliminary Quarter Finals and Semi Finals of the competitions teams may name and use up to 5 replacements as rolling replacements or substitutes as follows:-

Senior Cup - 5 named replacements – a maximum 10 player interchanges

Intermediate Cup - 5 Named Replacements – A Maximum of 12 Interchanges

Under 17's Junior Cup - 7 Named Replacements Unlimited Rolling Replacements

FINALS DAY ONLY

The Senior Cup and Intermediate cup 7 Named Replacements with a maximum of 14 Interchanges, The Under 17's Junior cup does not alter from previous rounds.

8.2 In the event of extra time having to be played each team shall be permitted a maximum of 2 further player interchanges during the extra time period of play.

8.3 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 of age, who are suitably trained and experienced to be capable of playing in the front row to ensure that 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.

8.4 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 of least eighteen years of age 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 this fact with 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 the final result will stand, subject to final confirmation by the Lincolnshire RFU Competitions Committee .

8.5 In any match in a competition on the third or subsequent occasion that any front row player requires to be replaced and his team cannot provide a suitably trained and experienced replacement player of at least eighteen years of age to enable the teams to continue to safely play with contested scrums the referee having made enquiry of and confirmed this fact with 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 the final score will stand, subject to final confirmation by the Lincolnshire RFU Competitions Committee .

8.6 Where a player is or players 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 suitably trained and experienced replacement of at least eighteen years of age to enable the team to safely play with contested scrums the referee having made enquiry of and confirmed this fact with 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.

8.7 The 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 Lincolnshire 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 Lincolnshire RFU Competitions Committee in such a situation advising :

1. a) When during game uncontested scrums were called
2. b) The reasons for uncontested scrums being called
3. c) The score at that time
4. d) The referee's name and phone number
5. e) The final outcome of the match

This information must be forwarded to the Competitions Secretary within 24 hours of the game being played. The Competitions Committee will let the clubs know of their decision within 48 hours of receiving information.

9. Shirts and Clash of Colours:

All players within a team shall wear a different numbered shirt enabling the player's individual identification. In the event of teams having identical or similar colours, the home team will be responsible for changing colours.

10. General

10.1 The Lincolnshire RFU Competitions Committee consists of the President, Secretary and the Competitions Committee Secretary.

10.2 The Lincolnshire RFU Competitions Committee has power to deal with any matters not covered by these rules or their interpretation. Their decision is final and all entries are accepted subject to this and upon the distinct understanding that there shall be no right of appeal whatsoever.

10.3 The County Committee, on the recommendation of the Lincolnshire RFU Competitions Committee, shall have the power to disqualify any Club wilfully playing an ineligible player in any competition or otherwise contravening the spirit of these rules.

10.4 The Home Club is responsible for informing the NLD Referees Society of the date, venues and time of kick off of matches.

10.5 Each Club Secretary will be provided with copies of these rules before the end of September. The Competitions Committee Secretary has copies of the Rules available on request at any reasonable time.

10.6 Finals shall be played on the date and at the venues decided by the Competitions Committee and the gate receipts shall be for the benefit of the Lincolnshire RFU unless otherwise directed by them.

10.7 Clubs failing to fulfil fixtures may at the discretion of the Competitions Committee be barred from entering competitions in the following season.

10.8 The Competitions Committee must be copied in to any and all email correspondence between clubs regarding fixture arrangements. This will provide an email trail as evidence in the case of determining dispute resolution.

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