

Nottinghamshire Rugby Football Union
County Cup Competition Rules
2009/2010

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

1. The name of the competitions are:

Nottinghamshire RFU Senior Knockout Cup
Nottinghamshire RFU Junior Knockout Cup
Nottinghamshire RFU Ron Rossin Shield
The Nottinghamshire RFU Vase

2. Eligibility:

- a. The Senior Cup Competition. The eight highest placed Nottinghamshire teams within the League Structure at the end of season 08/09.
- b. Junior Cup Competition. The remaining Nottinghamshire clubs are eligible for The Junior Cup Competition.
- c. The Ron Rossin Shield is open to the eight highest placed Nottinghamshire club second teams within the League Structure/ Security Plus Pennants at the end of season 08/09 (teams consisting of bona fide club second (or lower) team players). No player may have been included in the club First XV League or Cup squad more than twice in the previous 6(six) club First XV League or Cup fixtures.
- d. The remaining Nottinghamshire club second teams are eligible for The Nottinghamshire Vase Competition. The same conditions as for the Ron Rossin Shield (in para.2 c. above) will apply.
- e. No player may play for more than one club in the competitions in any one season.
- f. Players in all competitions must be bona fide members of the club.
- g. Clubs are asked to forward to the Competitions Secretary by e-mail to Wardencheck@aol.com or by post to P. Elliott, Nottinghamshire RFU Competitions Secretary, Charnwood House, Farnsfield, Notts. NG22 8EA list of their playing squad for each match within 72 hours of the fixture. The Nottinghamshire RFU 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.

3. Entrance Fee:

- a. An entrance fee (if any) will be determined annually by the Nottinghamshire RFU Committee and should be paid to the Committee prior to first round matches being played by each club wishing to enter. For season 2009-10 there will be no fees.

4. The Draw:

- a. The draw will be made each year in accordance with the directions of the Committee.
- b. Each round will be the subject of a separate draw.
- c. Notification of draw: Where possible each club Fixture Secretary (or a person the club may designate) will be informed by email (at the address published in the current Three Counties Handbook)

5. Gates:

A gate may be taken at any round, the proceeds to be divided equally between the two clubs after deducting Referee's expenses and any reasonable match expenses.

6. Conditions of Play:

- a. Each game to be played under the current Laws of the Game.
- b. Where these rules do not apply the Current RFU Senior Vase Cup Competition Rules apply.
- c. Clubs can, if they mutually agree, play the fixture under lights.
- d. 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.
- e. The matches must be played on or before the specified dates, unless the Nottinghamshire RFU Competitions Committee agrees an alternative date. If a fixture is not fulfilled by the designated date the non-offending club will go forward to the next round. The Nottinghamshire RFU Competitions Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding on both clubs, will resolve any dispute.
- f. Game precedence: First teams – RFU Cup, RFU League, NLD Cup, Notts. RFU Cup, club games.
Second Teams: Notts. RFU Competitions, Pennant games, club games.
- g. Ground: In the event of the home team pitch being unplayable it is 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: Home Ground / Alternative home ground / Away ground / Alternative Away ground.
- h. 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 a reasonable distance from the field of play.
- i. If a match is a draw at the completion of the game, extra time of 10 minutes each way should be played with a 1-minute interval. If the scores are still equal then the team that has scored most tries will be the winner. If this does not produce a result then the team that has scored the most goals from tries is the winner. In all but the final, if none of the above produces a winner, the visiting side goes forward to the next round. In the final, in the event of the procedure failing to produce a winner, the trophy will be shared.

7. Replacements:

- a. 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.

- b. 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.
- c. 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 7f below the final result will stand.
- d. Subject only to the proviso contained in Regulation 7e 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 7f below the final score will stand.
- e. 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.
- f. 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 NRFU 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 NRFU 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 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.

8. Shirts and Clash of Colours:

All players shall wear a numbered shirt and in the event of Clubs sharing similar or clashing colours, the home team will be responsible for changing colours.

9. General :

- a. The Nottinghamshire RFU Competitions Committee has power to deal with any matters not covered by these rules or their interpretation. The Nottinghamshire RFU Competitions Committee consists of the President, Secretary and the Nottinghamshire RFU Competitions Committee Secretary. Their decision is final and all entries are accepted subject to this and upon the distinct understanding that there shall be no appeal to a Court of Law.
- b. The County Committee have the power to disqualify any Club wilfully playing an ineligible player in any competition or otherwise contravening the spirit of these rules.
- c. The Home Club is responsible for informing the NLD Referees' Society of the date of the game, venues and time of kick off.
- d. The Rules: 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.
- e. The Finals shall be played on dates and venues decided by the Competitions Committee and the gate shall be for the benefit of the NRFU.