



RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION **WOMEN**

RFUW DIVISIONAL COMPETITION 2011/12 SEASON

(A) Name

The Competition shall be called the RFUW Divisional Championship which shall be between the 4 divisions below made up of the 28 Constituent Bodies that have been invited to take part in the CB Championship

- (i) NORTH: Cheshire, Cumbria, Durham, Lancashire, Northumberland and Yorkshire;
- (ii) MIDLANDS: East Midlands, North Midlands, Leicestershire, Notts Lincs & Derby, Staffordshire and Warwickshire;
- (iii) LONDON & SOUTH-EAST: Eastern Counties, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey and Sussex.
- (iv) SOUTH & SOUTH-WEST: Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset & Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Somerset.

(B) Definitions

Except where the context otherwise requires or permits, the words and expressions listed in the Schedule of Definitions shall bear the meanings given to them therein.

(C) Format of the Divisional Competitions

Senior

1. Players will be nominated from the CB Competition to trial to represent their Division, for those CB's that do not take part in the CB Championship, players will be nominated to trial by their club coaches.
2. The format shall be:
 - (i) One Trials day
 - (ii) Two Squad Training Session
 - (iii) Three matches
 - (iv) Summer Training Weekends

At the end of the Divisional Programme, players will be selected to attend Super 4's.

3. All matches shall be played in accordance with Full IRB Laws and Regulations,



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4. The RFUW's Competition's Officer will complete the draw for the fixtures for the Divisional Championship.

U18 Age Grade

5. Players will be nominated from the CB Championship to trial to represent their Division.
6. The format shall be:
 - (i) One Trials Day
 - (ii) Two Squad Training Sessions
 - (iii) Three matches.
 - (iv) Summer Training Weekends
7. All matches shall be played in accordance with IRB U19 Laws and RFUW U18 Regulations and Variations
8. The RFUW's Competition's Officer will complete the draw for the fixtures for the Divisional Championship.

U15 Age Grade

9. Players will be nominated from the CB Championship to trial to represent their Division.
10. The format shall be:
 - (i) One Trials Day
 - (ii) Two Squad Training Sessions
 - (iii) One Match and One Tournament.
 - (iv) Summer Training Weekends
11. The RFUW's U15 Matches shall be played in accordance to the RFU U14 variations but with the following difference: U15's girls matches will be 13 a side
12. The RFUW's Competition's Officer will complete the draw for the fixtures for the Divisional Championship.
13. Senior, U18 and U15. Where a player has not been selected for the Division for which she is eligible the Competition's Officer or Divisional Talent Development Officer may allow her to play for another Division for which she is not qualified if it is in the interests of the player's development.



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(D) Competition Dates

All Dates will be preset by the RFUW and available on the RFUW yearly calendar

(E) Eligibility of players

All players will follow the CB Rules and Regulations
Those players that play Super 4's will be eligible for the Divisional programme

(F) Squad Selection

All squad selections must be sent to the RFUW Competition Officer

(G) Replacements

1. Replacements and substitutes are permitted in accordance with iRB Law 3 and Regulations as well as the RFUW Rule and Regulations relating thereto.
2. The number of replacements and substitutes shall not be more than seven, with five players in the match squad being able to play front row.

Front Row

1. In the interest of safety each team must have at least five players in their nominated match squad, 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 play safely with contested scrums.
2. Subject to (E)3 below if on any occasion **other** than a temporary blood injury uncontested scrums are ordered by the Referee having made enquiry of and having confirmed with the captain of the team (or such other person nominated by the Division as the manager or other person responsible for the team) there is no suitably trained and experienced front row replacement in accordance with (E)1 & (E)2 above due to injury, temporary exclusion (i.e. following a yellow card) or permanent exclusion (i.e. following a sending off), the team concerned shall not be entitled to replace the player whose departure caused the uncontested scrums. On return to the field of play of a front row player who has been temporarily excluded the Match shall continue with contested scrums provided that it is safe to do so. Subject to (E)5 below the result of the match shall stand.
3. Subject to (E)4 below where due to a temporary blood injury in a Match uncontested scrums are ordered by the Referee having made enquiry of and having confirmed with the captain of the team (or such other person nominated by the Division as the manager or other person responsible for the team) there being no suitably trained and experienced front row replacement in accordance with (E)1 & (E)2 above the team concerned shall be entitled to



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replace the player whose departure caused the uncontested scrums. In the event that the temporarily injured player has not returned to the field of play within fifteen (15) minutes so that the match can be safely played with contested scrums the referee must declare that scrums will be uncontested for the remainder of the match. Subject to (E)5 below the result of the match shall stand.

4. In the event that in any Match to which these regulations apply the game is being played with uncontested scrums pursuant to regulation (E)3 and/or (E)4 above two players from one team having been removed from the pitch and a third occasion occurs where due to injury, permanent or temporary exclusion or temporary removal for a blood injury of or to a front row forward from that team the result will stand subject to (E)5 below.
5. If a Match is completed with or contains uncontested scrums, the Division that was responsible for causing uncontested scrums must upon the request of the Competition's Committee provide to it such information as it may require including if requested a medical report identifying the injuries sustained by its front row players if the CB Doctor / Physio or other qualified person had attended the Match. The Competition's Committee may take such action it deems appropriate (including altering the result or ordering a replay of the Match) in respect of any suspected, alleged or actual breach of this Regulation (E) as it shall decide and shall notify all Divisions. Any Division may appeal against the decision of the Competition's Committee.

(H) Grounds

1. The RFUW is responsible for arranging a suitable venue to host the games and training
2. The RFUW is responsible for providing a suitable qualified referee and officials.

(I) Unplayed Matches

1. If conditions prevent any match being played or a match is abandoned because of such conditions before full time, the Referee shall indicate on the Match Result Sheet the score at the time and reason for abandonment and the number of minutes played. The Competition's Committee shall determine whether the match is to be played or replayed or whether any score shall decide the result and its decision shall be final and binding. Each Division must submit in writing to the RFUW Competitions Officer, within 48 hours of the end of the match, any representations they wish the Committee to consider in making its decision.
2. The referee's decision as to the necessity for abandonment and the number of minutes played at the moment of abandonment shall be final

(J) Kits



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1. In the event of a Division having clashing or similar colours; a toss of a coin shall deem which Division is responsible for changing its colours subject to the satisfaction of the appointed Referee or his/her nominee.

(K) Notification of Match Results

1. In all matches both teams shall complete and sign the Match Result Sheet provided by the RFUW. The home team shall ring the result in to the results line and update the match report from on line and forward the match report form to the Competitions Officer.