RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

WOMENS CONSTITUENT BODY COMPETITION 2012-13 SEASON

(A) Name

The Competitions shall be called Womens CB Championship

(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 CB Competitions

Senior

1. All CBs will be invited to enter a Senior team into the Womens CB Competition,

2. The format shall be:

   (i) One Development day / Squad selection

   (ii) Two matches with each CB ideally playing a home and away fixture within their division

   (iii) Each CB will be invited to a Festival within their Division

At the end of the CB Programme, players will be nominated to attend their Divisional Trials for the forth coming Divisional programme.

3. All matches shall be played to full IRB laws and played with a size 5 ball.

4. The RFU Competitions Executive will complete the draw for the fixtures for the CB Championship.

5. All selected squads must be sent in to the RFU Competitions Executive before any matches are to be played

U18 Age Grade

6. All CBs will be invited to enter an U18 team into the Womens CB Competition,

7. The format shall be:

   (i) One Development day / Squad selection

   (ii) Two matches with each CB ideally playing a home and away fixture within their division

(iii) Each CB will be invited to a Festival within their Division

At the end of the CB Programme, players will be nominated to attend their Divisional Trials for the forth coming Divisional programme.

8. All matches shall be played in accordance with IRB U19 Laws and Womens U18 Regulations and Variations and played with a size 5 ball.

9. The RFU Competitions Executive will complete the draw for the fixtures for the CB Championship.

10. All selected squads must be sent in to the RFU Competitions Executive before any matches are to be played

11. Matches must be brought to an end if the point's difference is more than 40 points, unless both teams are in agreement to continue. If the game continues the result will be recorded at the 40 point difference.

U15 Age Grade

12. All CBs will be invited to enter an U15 team into the Womens CB Competition,

13. The format shall be:

    (i) One Development day / Squad selection

    (ii) Two matches with each CB ideally playing a home and away fixture within their division

    (iii) Each CB will be invited to a Festival within their Division

At the end of the CB Programme, players will be nominated to attend their Divisional Trials for the forth coming Divisional programme.

14. The Womens U15 Matches shall be played in accordance with the RFU U14 variations but with the following difference: U15's girls matches will be 13 a side and played with a size 4 ball.

15. The RFU Competitions Executive will complete the draw for the fixtures for the CB Championship.

16. All selected squads must be sent in to the RFU Competitions Executive before any matches are to be played

17. Matches must be brought to an end if the points difference is more than 40 points, unless both teams are in agreement to continue. If the game continues the result will be recorded at the 40 point difference.

(D) Competition Dates

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

(E) Squad Selection

All squad selections must be sent to the RFU Competition Executive.

(F) Eligibility of Players & Teams

All players must be eligible to play for England

A player is eligible to play for England if:

(i) she was born in England; or

(ii) one or more parents or grandparents was born in England; or

(iii) She has completed thirty-six consecutive months of residence in England immediately preceding the time of playing.

Senior Competition

1. A Player may only play in the CB Senior Competitions for a CB in which:

   (i) she was born; or

   (ii) she has completed not less than 6 months residence within the CB concerned in the preceding 12 months. For the purposes of these Regulations, the place of Residence for a full time bona fide student whilst attending a recognised educational establishment is either her permanent home address or her (for the time being) student accommodation address; or

   (iii) she has played for a CB in a previous CB Competition and has qualified to play for that CB under the Regulations then in effect. Any such player shall remain eligible to play for that CB until such time as she qualifies for and plays for another CB in any of the Competitions.

   (iv) She plays and is registered to an RFU affiliated club / FE or University within the CB

2. In the CB Programme a Player must be Effectively Registered as an Adult player with an RFU affiliated club or university.

3. No Player or named replacement may represent more than one CB in a Season.

4 : A Player may only play in the CB U18 and U15 Competitions for a CB in which she meets one of the following criteria

(a) she attends a school situated in that CB;

(b) She resides in that CB;

(c) She was born in that CB; or

(d) She is a member of a Club affiliated to that CB.

(i) Membership of a CB School of Rugby or an Academy does not entitle a player to play for that CB if she does not satisfy one of the previous four criteria.

(ii) Where a player is qualified for more than one CB she may have trials and play for a second if unsuccessful for the first CB. This process is done by the CB coaches to the Divisional Talent Development Officer, who will then liaise with the Competitions Executive.

(iii) Where a player has not been selected for the CB for which she is eligible the Competition's Executive or Divisional Talent Development Officer may allow her to play for another CB for which she is not qualified if it is in the interests of the player's development.

(iv) A player may play for a CB at one age level and then a different CB at an older age level provided, however, that player satisfies one of the four criteria in Regulation 4.1 above.

(v) Where a player has represented one CB at 15 age Group or above, and moves to a School or Club in a different CB, that player may either play for his new CB or continue to play for the original CB if she wishes to for the rest of the relevant season.

(G) Replacements

A Replacements and substitutes are permitted in accordance with IRB Law 3 and Regulations as well as the Womens Rule and Regulations relating thereto.

B 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 (F)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 CB as the manager or other person responsible for the team) there is no suitably trained and experienced front row replacement in accordance with (F)1 & (F)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 (F)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 CB as the manager or other person responsible for the team) there being no suitably trained and experienced front row replacement in accordance with (F)1 & (F)2 above the team concerned shall be entitled to replace the player whose departure caused the uncontested scrums. In the event that the temporarily injured player has not returned to the field of player 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 ()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 (F)3 and/or (F)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 (F)5 below.

5. If a Match is completed with or contains uncontested scrums, the CB that was responsible for causing uncontested scrums must upon the request of the Competitions 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 (F) as it shall decide and shall notify all CB's. Any CB may appeal against the decision of the Competition's Committee.

(H) Grounds

1. The home CB is responsible for arranging a suitable venue within its CB and communicating the venue to the RFU Competitions Executive and their opposition.

2. The home CB is responsible for providing a suitable qualified referee and officials.

3. Participating CB's must for a match ensure that team replacements and coaches are behind any perimeter or pitch side fencing or other barriers during all periods of play in the match.

4. A decision as to the fitness of the ground for playing a match must be made as early as realistically possible having regard to the travel and other commitments of the visiting CB. If a CB wishes to cancel a match because of ground conditions on the day before the match is scheduled to be played the CB must contact the RFU Competitions Executive. When a late decision (i.e. a decision made or to be made within three hours of the scheduled kick-off time) as to the fitness of a ground for the playing of a match is necessary, it shall be made by the respective captains of the CB's involved, but if the captains are not able to agree, the decision as to the fitness of the ground shall be made by the appointed Referee. The RFU Competition's Executive must be contacted

N.B The referee is only required to give an opinion as to whether or not a ground is fit to be played upon. If the referee has given his decision and a team declines to play on a ground the referee has declared fit that shall be the decision of the team concerned and not that of the referee.

(H) 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 CB must submit in writing to the RFU Competitions Executive 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

(I) Kits

1. In the event of CB's having clashing or similar colours; the home team shall be responsible for changing its colours subject to the satisfaction of the appointed Referee or his/her nominee.

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(J) Notification of Match Results

1. In all matches both teams shall complete and sign the Match Result Sheet provided by the Competitions Executive. The home team will be responsible for returning the completed match form and telephoning the result to 07779231970 by 7pm on the day of the fixture