

Notes for U16 Team Managers and Coaches 2017-18



From the HRFU Competitions Coordinator

First of all, a warm welcome to the 2017-18 season and thanks to all for volunteering to manage and coach your squads. We are all here to provide an enjoyable experience for the lads through competitive rugby fixtures in addition to the friendlies which you organise yourselves.

My apologies to all for the late release of the fixtures.

First task – would one person from each squad contact me asap with an email address of the nominated recipient of information from me. I would assume this is the Team Manager or Head Coach who will also complete and return the match cards following each fixture played.

Please download the Match Card from <http://www.hampshirerugby.co.uk/competitions/youth.html> , complete and email it to me after each match played. Whilst we show understanding for occasional lateness, failing to submit completed match cards will result in competition points being deducted.

Competition Format Change

In response to feedback from several squads about having too many league fixtures, and bearing in mind the number of fixtures which go unplayed towards the end of the season, County have decided to change the format of the U16 competition. It is hoped that all squads will find this more exciting and maintain interest right through to May.

The squads in each mini league will play each other only once, this will determine the ranking positions which lead into the second phase. The multi-tiered, play-off format will decide the respective winners of the Cup, Plate, Bowl, Vase and Shield.

Home advantage in the play offs:-

1. is awarded to the squad with the higher league ranking unless
2. those two squads have already played that fixture in which case the venue is reversed.
3. Any friendlies played between the two squads during the current season are not considered.
4. In case of pitch congestion, the two squad managers may mutually agree an alternative venue.

With regard to dates, HRFU's hands are tied by the RFU's Structured Season. It is however possible to avoid finals falling in Easter if clubs mutually agree to use the contingency weekend of 18 February. For those squads not involved in the Cup or Plate there is also the 14 January slot available to them. Please let me know if fixture dates change from the published schedule.

Please ensure that at least one person within your squad has read and understood RFU Regulation 15 and HRFU Regulation 43. Ideally have a hard copy available for review at each match and don't assume that the referee is fully conversant with these regulations. Answers to 90% of queries received by the County Competitions Coordinators can be found within these Regulations. Frustratingly, many matches are needlessly postponed because the Regulations are not followed correctly. However, if anything within the regs is unclear we will be pleased to help.

Have an enjoyable season.

Cheers

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