

# Sports Tours Festival Regulations, Rules and Information

The festival will be played in accordance with The Rugby Football Union Regulations 21/22:

Structure		Dimensions		Game Play					Kicking		Festival Info	
Age	Format	Max Pitch Size (M)	Scoring Zone (M)	Scrum	Scrum Contest	Lineout	Ruck	Maul	From Hand	At Goal	Max Minutes E/W	Total Playing Time
U7	4-a-side	20 x 12	5 x 12	No	N/A	N/A - Free Pass	N/A	N/A	No	No	10	50
U8	6-a-side	45 x 22	5 x 25	No	N/A	N/A - Free Pass	N/A	N/A	No	No	10	50
U9	7-a-side	60 x 30	5 x 30	No	N/A	N/A - Free Pass	No	No	No	No	15	60
U10	8-a-side	60 x 35	5 x 35	3	Uncontested	N/A - Free Pass	1 Supporting Player	1 Supporting Player	No	No	15	60
U11	9-a-side	60 x 43	5 x 43	3	Strike, no push	N/A - Free Pass	2 Supporting Player	2 Supporting Player	Yes (No Fly Hack)	No	20	70
U12	12-a-side	60 x 43	5 x 43	5	Strike, no push	N/A - Free Pass	Yes	Yes	Yes (No Fly Hack)	No	20	70
U13	13-a-side	90 x 60	6 x 60	6	Strike, no push	N/A - Free Pass	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	25	80
U14	15-a-side	100 x 70	6 x 70	8	No.8 Pickup and run	Uncontested	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	25	80
U15	15-a-side	100 x 70	6 x 70	8	Fully contested	Uncontested – lift permitted	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	30	90

## Sports Tours Rugby Festivals

All age groups will be played in accordance with the RFU age grade regulations. Sports Tours continue to fully support the RFU in their efforts to promote participation and fair play through their core values. The RFU Core Values include; Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship.

We would like to encourage all teams to be mindful of these values whilst participating in our festivals.

### Under 7 to 11

Mini Rugby will be non-competitive and no scores will be recorded or displayed at the festival to encourage fair play and enjoyment.

### Under 12 to 15

Competitive rugby will be played at all our events throughout the UK where league tables and results will be displayed.

These age groups will play a round-robin league with no knockout or finals stages.

## Scoring (for U12 to U15 teams)

U12 – U15: A try is worth 5 points – no conversions.

### General

- Match balls to be provided by team shown on schedule as “home team”.
- The “home team” kicks off/free pass to start, no toss of a coin required. The away team will select the end.
- Tag: Teams must provide their own belts and tags.
- Teams must bring an alternative kit or set of bibs to be worn in the event of a colour clash or have a change of kit.
- Tams must have a manager or team coach in charge

### Referees

#### Under 7 to Under 8:

If in the event there is no referee available, a volunteer referee from each side will be required to referee one half each, unless it is agreed by each side that one coach will referee the whole match.

#### **Under 9 to 15:**

It is our intention to provide referees for all games; however, if this is not possible, the "home team" shown on the fixture schedule will provide the referee / coach to officiate the game. If the home team does not have someone to officiate, then the away team should provide a referee. If no referee is available, the game will become void and no points will be awarded.

#### **Proof of Age**

All players should be registered with the RFU Registration database. The Manager/Coach must have available the original/photocopy of photo ID. The ID will be inspected in the event of a query.

#### **Forfeiting Games**

Teams must complete all scheduled fixtures as per the tournament schedule. Any team withdrawing from a fixture will be subject to a 3 point penalty in their respective league standings.

#### **Prior to Match**

All teams must be ready to start the game five minutes prior to their scheduled kick off. If teams are not ready to start a scheduled game then the points can be given to the opposition at the discretion of the tournament committee.

#### **Number of Players Per team, Substitutions & Players**

There is no official maximum squad size, although coaches must ensure that each player receives equal playing time.

Rolling substitutions are permitted throughout the game and a player substituted can return to the game. A player is only permitted to play for one team throughout the duration of the tournament. If a team were to borrow a player who is registered to another team, then the team must forfeit the points for that game. Both teams must always start the game with an equal amount of players.

#### **Insurance**

We recommend that all teams should take out insurance provided by either the RFU or Sports Tours Ltd. Please refer to our booking conditions for further information.

#### **Conversions & Penalty Kicks**

There will be no tries or penalty kicks in any age group. The objective being this allows maximum playing time.

#### **Tag Playing Rules**

- Players must clearly display tags on both hips at all times.
- Players must pass the ball backwards – no kicking at any time.
- No contact, handing off or 'guarding' tags.
- Aim to keep 2 hands on the ball at all times.
- When the ball carrier is tagged the ball must be passed to a team mate within 3 seconds.
- Once tagged the ball carrier must attempt to stop as soon as possible.
- A free pass is used to start the game after an infringement and to restart the game by the non-scoring team after a try.
- A free pass will be awarded for a 'knock on', forward pass or if the ball goes out of play.

#### **Tagging**

A tackle is made by removing one of the attackers' tags and shouting 'tag' while raising it in the air. The defender must hand the tag back to the attacker after the pass before rejoining the game. The attacker cannot rejoin the game until both tags are in place. **NO TAGS ON THE FLOOR AT ANY TIME.**

#### **Conditions of Pitches**

If a referee deems any pitch to be unplayable, the referee is to report this immediately to the tournament committee who will decide on how to proceed next.

#### **Code of conduct Players:**

- Abide by the rules of the tournament and decisions made by the officials and referees.
- Play fairly and demonstrate good sportsmanship both on and off the pitch.
- Play by the laws of the game.
- Do not argue with the referee.
- Play fairly and demonstrate good sportsmanship both on and off the pitch.

#### **Coaches and Parents**

- Act as a positive role model to all young players.
- Be familiar with, and abide by, the RFU child protection guidance in relation to verbal and emotional abuse.
- Remember children play sport for their enjoyment not yours.
- Acknowledge good individual and team performance from all youngsters irrespective of which team they play for.
- Respect match official's decisions – Remember, they provide an opportunity for youngsters to play and enjoy rugby.
- Never verbally abuse players, match officials, fellow spectators or coaches.
- Acknowledge effort and good performance rather than the "win at all costs" ethic.
- Verbally encourage all youngsters in a positive way. If you do want to shout make sure it is 'for', not 'at', the players.
- Condemn bad language, rude behaviour and violence.

#### **Sin Bins/Discipline**

All coaches, parents and players must be made aware of the tournament code of conduct and are subject to eviction from the tournament should the code be breached, this will be decided at the discretion of the tournament committee.

#### **Under 7 to 12:**

Regulation 15 states there is to be no sin bins or yellow cards. If a player warrants a sending off the referee is to bring the player and the respective coach together explain the reason for the sending off and the player is to play no further part in the Festival.

#### **Under 13 to 15:**

Yellow cards with Sin Bins and Red Cards are allowed. Should a player receive one yellow card, the player will be sent to the sin bin for three minutes.

Should a player receive a red card or 3 yellow cards within the tournament their actions will be noted and reported to their respective county committee.

#### **Festival Committee**

The management committee will have the power to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the Festival and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters

affecting the Festival, including any not provided for by the Rules. In the event of a dispute, only the team manager / coach of the team can make the complaint and the management committee shall adjudicate in all cases of dispute, protest or complaint.