



WOMENS SENIOR CUP COMPETITION 2017/18

1. Description

The Competition shall be called 'The Women's Senior Cup' and will include all New Premier 15s 2nd XV teams playing in the 2nd team League and 14 club sides from Championship 1 North and Championship South

Objectives:

- To improve and develop the players within the 2nd XV league and allow them competition
- To give all teams in Championship North and South the opportunity to develop the standard of players within these clubs and work towards the minimum standards of the New Women's Competition
- To meet the demand from clubs of competitive rugby during international windows.

The Competitions will be organised by the RFU Rugby Events & Competitions Department and will be governed and played in accordance with RFU Regulation 16 (Adult Women Competitions) and as set out in this document.

2. Eligibility of players

All players must be Effectively Registered with their Club she is representing on the Rugby Football Union GMS database

No player can play for more than one team or club in any Cup Competitions during any one season.

- A player cannot play in the Senior Cup if she has played more than:
- 4 Premier 15's 1st XV matches by the 9th October
- 6 or more Premier 15's 1st XV by the 13th November or
- 8 or more Premier 15's 1st XV matches by the 11th December or
- 10 or more Premier 15's 1st XV matches by the 19th February
- 12 or more Premier 15's 1st XV matches by the 12th February

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3. The Competition Format and Draws

3.1 The Competition will be played in two stages, the pool stage and the knock-out stage.

- The pool stage, Clubs will be drawn into four pools of 6 clubs
- Each Club will play each other in their pool, the four pool winners will qualify for the knock out stage and play for the cup

3.2 The pool positions will be decided by reference to the following criteria:

3.2.1 Clubs will be ranked based upon the number of Competition Points secured in each pool.

3.2.2 If two or more Clubs in the same pool end the pool stage equal on Competition Points, then the order in which they have finished will be determined by:

- i. the greater number of matches won by the Club and
- ii. if the number of matches won is equal, the Club with the greater total number of tries scored and
- iii. if the total number of tries scored is equal, the Club with the greater points difference (points scored for, less points scored against) and
- iv. if the points difference is equal, the Club with the fewer number of red cards and
- v. if the number of red cards is the same, the Organising Committee shall toss a coin.

3.3 The knock-out stage:

- Divided into two semi-final Matches and a final Match.
- The semi-final Matches will be knock-out, each played over one Match and will be drawn by the RFU

Cup

semi-final 1 Winner of Pool v Winner of Pool
semi-final 2 Winner of Pool v Winner of Pool

3.4 The winners of the Cup semi-final Matches will proceed to the Cup final, The Cup final will be played at a Neutral Venue alongside the other RFU Women's Cup Finals

3.5 In the event that the scores are level at full-time in either semi-final or the final the winner of that shall be determined by reference to the following:

- i. There shall be a 5 minute break. After this break the teams will change ends and there will be 7 minutes each way extra time (with 1 minute of half-time) and the winner will be determined by the match result at the end of the extra time.

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- ii. If the scores are tied after extra time, then the club that has scored the most tries in that Match (including extra time) shall be the winner of the match.

- iii. If the clubs have scored the same number of tries in the match (including extra time), then the winner of the match will be determined by a place-kick competition conducted as set out in Appendix One to these regulations

4. Dates of Rounds

Round 1 – 15th October 2017
Round 2 – 19th November 2017
Round 3 – 17th December 2017
Round 4 – 7th January 2018
Round 5 – 25th February 2018

The semi-finals shall be on weekend of 18th March 2018 and the final on 21st or 22nd April 2018

- 4.1 All matches must be played on the Sunday designated unless such other date is specified by the Organising Committee or agreed by the teams and RFU Rugby Events & Competitions Department.

If a match is abandoned when 60 minutes or more have been played, the result will stand, if a Match is abandoned for any other reason, the result of the match will be reviewed and determined by the Organising Committee. See Regulation 13.6.7b

If a Club fails to fulfil a Match, the matter shall be referred to the Organising Committee, which shall decide, in its absolute discretion, what the consequences of such failure shall be.

5. Referees

- 5.1 Each Match shall be played in accordance with the World Rugby Laws of the Game
- 5.2 The match officials shall be appointed by the RFU Referees Society/Federation.

6. Match Squads

- 6.1 In all matches in the Competition up to seven (7) replacements and substitutes are permitted in accordance with Law 3 and the World Rugby regulations.

7. Notification of Results

In the Pool Rounds and Semi Final the Home Club shall be responsible for reporting the result to the result line on 01676 478080 or text 07797800102 by 6pm on the day of the match and the match result card (or other communication) must be sent in 5 days after the match has been played.

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Appendix One

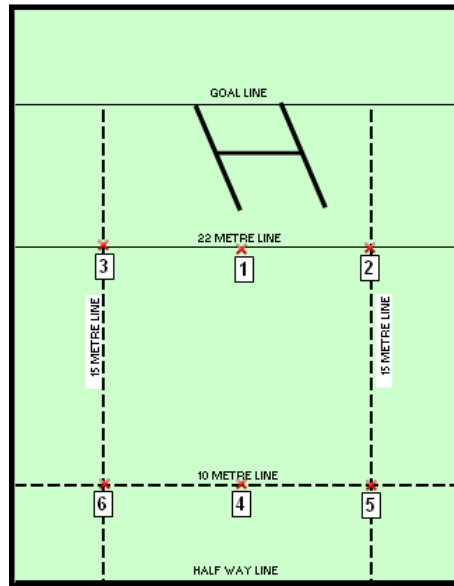
Place Kick Competition

If at the end of a Knock-Out Match, after extra-time has been played, the scores remain equal and the number of tries scored in the Match is equal, then the referee will conduct a place-kick competition to determine the winner of the Match, according to the following procedures:

- All players and the Match officials will remain on the playing area. The Referee will call the captains of the two teams at the end of the match and will conduct two coin tosses. The first toss of the coin will determine which team selects the end of the playing area at which all place kicks will be taken; the second toss of the coin will determine which team kicks first or second.
 - The Match officials and the six nominated players (3 from each side) will assemble on the halfway line.
 - Team A and Team B will each nominate 3 kickers from the players on the pitch at the end of extra time to participate in the place kick competition.
 - Each kicker will be allocated a number i.e. Kicker 1, Kicker 2 or Kicker 3. This designation cannot change.
 - If during the place kick competition any of the 3 kickers becomes injured he will be replaced by a player who was on the pitch at the end of extra time.
 - The first phase of the competition will consist of 3 kicks from 3 positions as outlined in the diagram below.
 - Each kicker will take kicks in the following order:-
 - All kickers from team A and team B will alternate and take a kick from position **1**.
 - If the scores are level
 - Kicker 1 from team A and Kicker 1 from team B will each take a kick from position **2**.
 - If the scores are still level
 - Kicker 2 from team A and Kicker 2 from team B will each take a kick from position **3**.
 - If the scores are still level
 - Kicker 3 from team A and Kicker 3 from team B will each take a kick from position **4**.
- If the teams are level at the end of this competition there will be a '*sudden death competition*'. All kicks will take place from position **4** and kicks will be taken in the following order:-
 - First to kick will be Kicker 1 from each team
 - Second to kick will be Kicker 2 from each team

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- Third to kick will be Kicker 3 from each team
- Kicks will continue in this order until a point is reached where each team has taken the same number of sudden death kicks but one team has scored one more than the other team. When this point is reached the team that has scored more successful kicks will be declared the winner.



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