

WRU Inter District Competitions Rules 2008/2009

1. Description

There will be two Competitions, a Cup and a Plate.

The Cup Competition is called the "Wynne Lloyd Memorial Cup" and the Plate Competition will be called the "WRU Inter District Youth Plate."

2. Form

The 11 District Youth Rugby Unions participating will be divided into 4 Groups of teams. Gogledd Cymru DYRU will not play in the competitions.

Those Groups will comprise: -

- Group 1 - Gwent , Taff Rhondda, Cardiff
- Group 2 - Caerphilly, Heart of Wales and Bridgend
- Group 3 - Afan Nedd and West Carmarthenshire
- Group 4 - East Carmarthenshire, Swansea and Pembrokeshire

In Group 3 Afan Nedd and West Carmarthenshire will play each other home and away.

In the Groups 1, 2, and 4 each District will play 2 matches, one home and one away fixture. The winners of the four Groups will progress to the Semi Finals of the Cup Competition and the teams that win the Semi Final matches will progress to the Final of the Cup Competition.

A draw will be held to determine the Districts that will play each other at the Semi Final stage of the Cup Competition, the first drawn team in each semi final tie will play at home. The Final match in the Cup competition will be played at a neutral venue determined by the WRU.

After the Group matches have been played the teams, other than the winners of the Groups, will play in a Plate Competition.

A draw will be made to determine which Districts will play each other in the Quarter Finals of the Plate Competition, and for the subsequent Semi Final stage of the Plate competition. In the Quarter and Semi Finals the first drawn team will play at home. The Final of the Plate Competition will be played at a neutral venue determined by the WRU.

3. Group Placings

The Winner of a match will be the team that has scored the greater number of points at the end of the match.

In the Groups points will be awarded as follows: -

- 4 points for a win
- 2 points for a draw
- 1 bonus point for a team that scores 4 or more tries
- 1 bonus point for a team that loses by 7 points or less

The Winner of the Group will be the team with the highest number of Group points. If two or more teams finish with the same number of Group points their placings will be determined by the number of tries scored. If the number of tries scored are equal the team with the most points scored will be the higher or highest placed team. If the number of points scored are equal then the team with the greater difference between the number of tires scored for the number of tries scored against will be the higher or highest placed team.

4. **Declaration of Winners in the Semi Final and Final Matches**

In the event of a tie at full time in the Semi Finals and Final matches in Cup and Plate Competitions the winner will be determined by:

- a. the team that has scored the most tires in the match
- b. the winning team in a place kick competition, involving one kicker from both teams taking kicks at goal in turn, until one misses.

No extra time will be played in these matches.

5. **Player Eligibility**

To be eligible to play in the Competitions a player must be:-

- a. Registered to play Youth rugby for a Club in the District for which he plays.
- b. Under 18 years old on the 1st January in the season of the Competition

6. **Responsibility for Organisation**

The Competitions will be organised and administered by the Welsh Rugby Union.

The WRU will appoint a Competition Secretary and he will be responsible for the day to day administration of the Competitions.

7. **Protests and Disputes**

Issues of disputes or protests will be referred to the WRU's Regulatory Committee. That Committee's decision in such cases will be final.

Protests and disputes arising from the Competitions must be made in writing to the Competition Secretary, each protest or dispute must be accompanied by a fee of £100 and be made within 10 days of the fixture that forms the subject of the protest or dispute.

8. **General Rules**

a. **Fixtures**

- i. All fixtures in the Competitions should be played on the date given and all districts must complete their programme of fixtures.
- ii. In the event of a fixture in the Competitions not being played on the given date because of ground, weather conditions, or any other reason or abandonment that postponement or abandonment must be reported

to the Competition Secretary within 3 days of the original date of the fixture.

- iii. When the Competition Secretary received a report he will enquire into the reasons for the postponement or abandonment. If he deems that a District was at fault for failing to fulfil a scheduled fixture he will refer the matter to the Regulatory Committee. If the Regulatory Committee decides that one District was at fault for failing to fulfil a fixture in the Competitions it may impose sanctions as hereinafter appear.
- iv. Postponed or abandoned matches must be rearranged within 7 days of the original date. Notice of a rearranged fixture must be given to the Competition Secretary. He will ensure that the rearranged date does not coincide with any other pre-arranged fixture and that the new date is not in a week designated as a week in which the fixtures in the National Schools League are played.

b. Duration of Play

Each match will be of 70 minutes, that is 35 minutes each half. At half time an interval of no more than 10 minutes will be allowed.

In the event of a draw at full time there will be no extra time played in the Semi Final and Final of the Competitions the winning District will be determined as set out in paragraph 4 above.

The Referee is to be the sole judge of the amount of time played in a match.

c. Match Result

The Secretary of the District that plays at home must convey the result of a fixture in the Competitions to the Competition Secretary within 24 hours of the end of the match.

d. Penalties and Sanctions

The Regulatory Committee shall in cases where it finds a District to be in default of the Rules herein apply sanctions upon a District: -

- i. the deduction of points gained in a Pool fixture
- ii. the imposition of a fine or
- iii. expulsion from the Competitions.