

# **RULES OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE LEAGUES**

## **SEASON 2009 - 2010**

1. The competition is to be known as the Leicestershire Leagues. Membership is open to all Clubs in membership of the Leicestershire Rugby Union, and for Second XV sides of those Clubs. Provision will be made for teams lower than Second XV level, and for the First XV of Clubs not in the RFU League structure to be offered the opportunity to participate.
2. For Season 2009/10 five Divisions will operate, and each team must play all other teams in its League both home and away. In addition a Conference League will operate covering two further Divisions
3. The LRU Competitions Committee will set all fixtures.
4. Any team that fails to honour an agreed fixture will be deducted two points and the match awarded to the non offending side with a 0-0 score line. If a fixture is cancelled due to weather conditions, the game will be rescheduled for the next First XV League Saturday when both teams are not involved in a Leicestershire League game.
5. Players taking part must be Bona Fide members of the Club they are representing. No registration rules apply.
6. A team winning a League game will be awarded Three Points, and each team playing in a drawn game will be awarded Two Points, and the losing team One Point. In the case of equality of points won, positions in the League shall be determined by the difference of points scored for in relation to those scored against.
7. In the event that two or more teams finish on the same points then the Committee will take into consideration the effect of any 0 - 0 results awarded under rule 4 and remove the corresponding match result from the record of the other team(s) for the purpose of calculating the points difference.
8. The home team is responsible for phoning the result of a game to the League Secretary immediately after the game but not later than 12.00 noon on Sunday. If a Club fails to report the score on time on more than three occasions the Organising Committee may deduct 1 League point. The relevant phone number will be advised separately.
9. A Leicestershire Leagues Management Committee formed from the Clubs in membership will arbitrate on any issues or problems that may arise.
10. Each team in any match may use two replacements. However, by mutual agreement between the two teams on the day of a fixture, more than two replacements may be used. If passive scrums are necessary during the game the score at the end of the game will be deemed to be the result.
11. If a team is unable to field a recognised front row, and in order to ensure that a fixture is completed, the game will take place using passive scrums.
12. If it is found that a team has started more than three games in the season without a recognised front row, the Competitions Committee may deduct a minimum of 12 points from that team.
13. At the end of each Season promotion and demotion will apply, with the top two Clubs in each League being promoted to the higher Division. The bottom two Clubs in each League will be demoted. A Team winning promotion will not have the option to decline. Where two Leagues feed a higher League, the winners of the feeder leagues will meet in a play-off to determine which team is promoted. The venue for this game will be determined by home advantage being given to the team with the most League points, or, if equal, the most match points scored.

14. If a Club is represented in the Leagues by more than one team, and the higher placed team are demoted into the League of the Lower team then the lower team will also be demoted. If the lower team wins their League and they are then due to play in the League of the higher team then promotion will not apply and the next placed team will take their place.
  
15. If for any reason a Club who field two teams in the Leagues are not able to raise two full teams, the higher level must take precedence. Rule 4 will then apply to the lower level team.