

Leicestershire Merit Table Rules & Regulations

Season 2015 - 2016

1. The competition is to be known as the Leicestershire Merit Tables. The competition shall be open to all 1st XV's of clubs who hold membership to the Leicestershire Rugby Union who are not competing in the RFU National and Midlands Leagues and for 2nd XV's of those clubs.
2. For season the 2015/16 three Merit Tables shall be ran incorporating home and away fixtures against each team in their respective table.
3. It is the responsibility of individual clubs fixtures secretary's to agree fixture dates prior to the 1st August 2015 in line with the RFU's structured season for 12 team leagues.
4. Any team that fails to honour a fixture shall be deducted 5 points. The non offending side shall be awarded a 0 – 0 win
5. Players taking part must be members of the club they are representing. A player may not play for two different clubs within the same season.
6. Should a player seek to represent a different club during the same season written notification should be given to the players previous club and a copy of correspondence be sent to the competitions committee to confirm all parties are in agreement and no debts are left unsettled.
7. Clubs who fail to meet the above regulation may be subject to a 5 point deduction at the discretion of the competitions committee.
8. A team winning a game shall be awarded 3 points, each team playing in a drawn game shall be awarded 2 points and the losing side shall be awarded 1 point for honouring the fixture.
9. In the case of equality of league points won, the team with the highest points total shall be deemed the higher finisher. Should they still remain tied then points against shall be taken into account followed by the aggregate score recorded over the teams previous meetings.
10. In the above event any walkover results shall be removed from the totals for both sides.
11. The Home team is responsible for changing colours should a clash occur.

12. The home team is responsible for reporting the result to the league secretary either by phone, e-mail or text message no later than 9pm on the day of the game. Failure to do so shall result in a five point deduction and shall be recorded as a forfeited game.

13. The competitions committee shall deal with any issues or problems that should arise. Should they find themselves unable to find a solution then matters shall be passed to the Leicestershire Management Committee to deal with.

14. Teams may use up to 5 substitutes in any one game, 8 rolling subs will apply to all games.

15. Each side should ensure they have at least 4 competent front row players amongst their 20 man squad. Failure to start the game with these players shall be deemed as a forfeited game. In the event of injury to two or more front row players in the squad the game may continue uncontested until completed. The match referee shall be informed should a side be unable to continue with competitive scrums.

(i) In the case of Merit C a club must start with a competent front front row. Should the referee feel it is unsafe to do so the game may continue with uncontested scrums.

(ii) In the case of Merit C - should one team have more than three front row players available they are requested to loan enough players to the opposition in order to begin the game with three competent front row players.

16. Kick off times shall be agreed by both clubs at least 48 hours prior to the proposed match day.

17. Should a team forfeit 3 games during the course of the season they shall be removed from the tables, they are however encouraged to complete the playing program as friendly matches.

18. Entry to the Leicestershire Merit Tables is conditional on compliance with these regulations. The competitions committee reserve the right to remove clubs from the tables should they feel they are bringing the spirit of the game into question. (ex. Repeated poor on field discipline, playing non club members, forfeiting fixtures at less than 72 hours notice).