



Leicestershire Colts League 2019/20

Firstly, thank you for playing a hugely important part in not only keeping rugby in Leicestershire thriving, but more especially in this instance, officiating in the key stages of the development of many young men who will hopefully soon become our clubs senior players of the future! This will be the second season of the newly structured Colts league with a record 11 teams entering, and it promises to be the biggest and best yet.

Below are a few key points that we hope will help you understand the league, how we want it to work, and the vital part you play in this:

We wanted to mimic the “professional” game with the teams having the possibility of a “bonus point” win. However, tying that bonus point to score differentials, tries scored or anything similar risks encouraging big mismatches, which are known to be a big reason of player drop out! Our bonus point is therefore awarded on TREDs, our games core values of Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship. After the game, as referee, we would ask you to drop us a quick email with the team/s you want to award a bonus point to. The sorts of things we would ask your decision be based on are Player, Coach and Supporter behaviour towards each other and to you as Referee. In addition, how well did the coaches “manage” the game and any potential mis-matches (any points difference of 30+ would in most circumstances appear excessive and we would be wondering if the game could have been managed better by coaches? Could they mix players, change their positions etc? – incidentally, this would surely challenge their own players far more and offer better learning than just putting 50 points on an opposition!) Remember, if both teams act perfectly in a close, well managed contest, we are more than happy for you to award both teams a bonus point. Also, please be assured you are under absolutely no obligation to announce bonus point decisions to teams or coaches on the day....simply let us know and we will add these to their league scores. Please email colts@leicestershirerugbyunion.co.uk by the end of the weekend with your bonus point/s award.

If there are any reasons a team does not meet your expectations and is not awarded a bonus point, it is helpful to us if you can just let us know this in a few words in your email. That way, rather than any potential poor behaviour being repeated, we can address it with the team if required.

The league will run over 11 weekends, culminating in a “play-off” style finish where all teams will get the chance to play appropriate knock out games. The league is totally separate to the County Cup, which will run under its own rules. The above bonus point system is not in place for the County Cup.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact one of us. Many thanks and all the best for the season.

Wayne Wrighten
LRU competitions Secretary
competitions@leicestershirerugbyunion.co.uk
07879 015059

Tim Westwood
England Rugby Community Rugby Coach
timwestwood@rfu.com
07710 379658