



STRENGTH IN UNION

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## Lancashire County Rugby Union Leagues

Incorporating The COmbination Leagues



### Regulations 2020/21

Version 1 – 31/05/18, Version 2 - 02/07/19, Version 3 – 01/05/20. Version 4 – 01/04/21

#### Regulation

1 The League will be known as “Lancashire County Rugby Union Leagues” or short form use “ADM Leagues” and “The Combination Leagues” or short form use “Combi-Leagues”.

2 The League will be managed by the League Management Committee (LMC) who will elect the following posts every 2 years. Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Competition Secretary, Premier Division League Secretary, Championship Division League Secretary, 1st Division League Secretary & Combination League Secretary. It is permissible that a Representative(s) nominated from the Lancashire County RFU Executive Committee may also attend meetings. Nominations for LMC Members should come from Clubs affiliated to Lancashire County RFU. Additionally, one representative from each of the local Match Officials Societies may also attend meetings in a non-voting capacity.

3 Entry to the League will be by written application and subject to League Management Committee (LMC) approval and proof of resignation from a clubs current competition.

4 All games to be played in accordance with the Laws of the game as laid down by the Rugby Football Union (RFU) as the governing body of all Rugby Union in England.

5 Each Team in the League will play each other on a Home and Away basis.

5.1 Any Team failing to fulfil an away Fixture prior to hosting the opposition at Home must give up their Home Advantage to the non-offending Team in the subsequent fixture. If the offending Team has already played their Home Fixture they will be subject to the result of that game being awarded to the non-offending Team with all Leagues points due (see 7.1). If that resulted in a loss, then the score of that game will be also recorded as the result of the game for non-fulfilment of the Away fixture.

5.2 T-A-B Option, to ensure all League games are played other than those affected by weather conditions/natural disasters, Clubs may invoke a T-A-B option and “Take A Break” from the schedule league game on a specified date. This caters for Clubs with in-season Weddings, Tours, etc.

5.3 The T-A-B Option MUST be invoked a minimum of SIX weeks prior to the fixture, ideally the sooner the better. The relevant League Secretary on receiving an invocation of Rule 5.2 within the relevant time period will find a suitable date for the game to be rescheduled and will inform both Clubs.

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5.4 Clubs in Premier, Championship and 1st Division will be given ONE opportunity to use Rule 5.2 from September to April. Teams in the Combination Leagues will have TWO opportunities to use Rule 5.2, ONE Pre-Christmas and ONE Post-Christmas.

6. There will be 3 Senior 1st XV Leagues, LCRUL Premier Division, LCRUL Championship and LCRUL 1st Division. There will also be two Combination Leagues – Combi-1 and Combi-2

6.1 The principles of Promotion and Relegation are as follows: -

Winner of the Premier Division will be awarded the LCRUL Premier Winners Trophy and any prize(s) money due to be agreed by the League Management Committee (LMC). The Team in 2nd Place in the Premier Division will be awarded the Premier Runners-Up Trophy and any prize(s) money due to be agreed by the LMC.

The Teams placed last and next last in the Premier Division will be relegated to the LCRUL Championship Division for the following season.

The Team placed 1st in LCRUL Championship Division will be awarded the Championship Division Winners Trophy and be promoted to the Premier Division for the following season. The Team placed 2nd in the LCRUL Championship Division will be awarded the Championship Division Runners-up Trophy and be promoted to the Premier Division.

The Teams placed last and next last in the Championship Division will be relegated to the LCRUL 1st Division for the following season.

The Team placed 1st in LCRUL 1st Division will be awarded the 1st Division Winners Trophy and be promoted to the Championship Division for the following season. The Team placed 2nd in the LCRUL 1st Division will be awarded the 1st Division Runners-up Trophy and be promoted to the Championship Division. There is no relegation from the 1st Division.

The Team finishing last in Combi-1 will be relegated to Combi-2 the following season, the Team finishing top of Combi-2 will be promoted the following season.

7. Competition Regulations as per the current RFU Club Competitions Playing Regulations with the following specific additional competition amendments.

7.1 League. The Winners of a League game in each Division will receive 4 League Points. Teams that Draw a League game will receive 2 League Points each. There will be 1 Bonus Points awarded for a loss by 7 or less points. A try bonus point will be awarded for any team scoring 4 or more tries in a game.

7.2 Each Match Day Squad may consist of 20 players of which at least 4 must be capable of playing Front Row. THIS DOES NOT MEAN YOU HAVE TO HAVE 20. So long as a Team has at least 4 Front Row capable players then a Match Day squad can be any number up to 20. **In the Combi-Leagues there are no restrictions on Squad size, however ALL players must play in the game at some point, everyone participates.**

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7.3 Any Team starting with less than 15 players must inform the Referee and the opposition who will be entitled to play with **one more player** and then include any additional players as replacements. i.e Team A has 13 players, Team B may start with 14 and have SIX replacements to a maximum of 20 players.

7.4 All Players must be registered on the RFU Game Management System. However players new to the squad and currently not registered may play so long as the relevant League Secretary has been informed at least 2 hours prior to kick off of the Players Name & Date of Birth and their TBR (To be registered) Number. The Club then has 7 Days to register the player on GMS. Failure to register a player within the 7 day time period will result in the loss of 1 League Point on each occasion.

7.5 Electronic Match Cards will be used via RFU GMS. Each Club should enter their Team List from the Registered Players List. Each Club will have a maximum of 2 TBR Players to select as per point 7.4. TBR 1 & TBR 2. In the event of needing more than 2 TBRs on one Match Card the League Secretary will intervene to adjust the card accordingly.

7.5(a) Club Contacts/Captains must contact the relevant Leagues Secretary no later than **30 minutes after the end of the match** confirming the score, number of tries scored by both sides and their vote for the opposition Man of the Match. GMS e-Match Cards **MUST** be submitted **no later than 5.30pm** on the day of the game. Repeated failures to provide the GMS e-Match Card on time could lead to a points deduction.

Teams competing in the **Combi-League** need only confirm the result/tries scored with the League Secretary.

7.6 Cups. The LCRU League Cups shall be played as follows:-

Top 18 League Cup

The Top 18 Clubs seeded by the LMC will enter the draw. 4 Clubs will be drawn to play 2 Eliminator ties with the Winners going in to the 1<sup>st</sup> Round draw.

Round 1 - 16 Teams, Round 2 - 8 Teams, Sem-Finals - 4 Teams, Final - 2 Teams

Same rules apply as per League, max squad size 20 etc.

In the event of a draw, the Team scoring most Tries will go thru – if equal the Team scoring most successful conversions of Tries scored will go thru – if still equal the Away side will go thru. There are no replays or extra-time except in the Final.

The venue for the final will be chosen by the LMC.

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### Lower 18 League Shield

The Lower 18 Clubs seeded by the LMC will enter the draw. 4 Clubs will be drawn to play 2 Eliminator ties with the Winners going in to the 1<sup>st</sup> Round draw.

Round 1 - 16 Teams, Round 2 - 8 Teams, Sem-Finals - 4 Teams, Final - 2 Teams

Same rules apply as per League, max squad size 20 etc.

In the event of a draw, the Team scoring most Tries will go thru – if equal the Team scoring most successful conversions of Tries scored will go thru – if still equal the Away side will go thru. There are no replays or extra-time except in the Final.

The venue for the final will be chosen by the LMC.

7.7 In the event of a draw in the Final, 2 x 10 minute periods of Extra Time will be played. If the scores remain tied then a Penalty kicking competition of 5 Kicks each from the 22 metre line will take place.

### 8. Player Registration

8.1 Player Registration will be as per current RFU GMS League Guidelines.  
**Not in use in the Combi-Leagues.**

8.2 All Clubs will use the RFU GMS Electronic Match Card system.  
**Not in use in the Combi-Leagues.**

### 9. Disputes

9.1 Any disputes with reference to the League or Cup will be for the first instance be put to the LMC to deal with.

9.2 Any dispute which may lead to disciplinary action will be passed to the relevant Disciplinary Department at CB or National Level.

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