

CWPAN RGC / RGC CUP



RGC 12-16s Cup Competitions Rules and Regulations

1: Principal Rules and Laws

1.1 The competition shall be known as 'The RGC Cup'.

1.2 The format and all playing aspects of 'The RGC Cup' ("Competition") shall be overseen and governed by the WRU North Wales Community Department.

1.3 The competition shall be played under the WRU Player Pathway directives and World Rugby Laws of the Game and in accordance with the WRU Code of Conduct relating to the game of rugby.

1.4 All teams will play around robin against clubs close to their geographic area to determine if they will enter the Cup, Plate or the Bowl Competition. This will ensure that all teams entered in the competition play at least four matches in the round robin and a knockout fixture. To host a Bowl competition there has to be a minimum of 16 teams in the competition.

1.5 To enter the competition every team need to agree to the following

- To supply a Level 1 Referee for Group stages games and quarter final fixtures.
- To have one Coach/Parent/Team Manager Attend a Pitchside Behaviour CPD.
- To agree to the WRU Fair Game Policy.
- Every 12-14s coach has to be a minimum of Level 1 qualified to be allowed pitchside in the competition.
- Every 15-16s Team has to have at least one Level 2 qualified coach.

2: The Teams

2.1 The Cup is open to teams within the Under 12,13,14,15 & 16's.

2.2 All teams wishing to take part in the competition must notify the organisers by the 21st of July 2025.

2.3 Clubs will be required to submit a Squad List before their 1st fixture in the competition. A team sheet will be required for every round of the competition.

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2.4 Clubs who enter the competition and withdraw without a notable or supported reason, should note that this may impact negatively on future requests for that Club to take further part in The RGC Cup Competition. Once notification has been received, the team will be deemed to have entered the competition and to have accepted the terms and conditions of entry.

3: Registration & Playing Squads

3.1 No player may represent a Club in the competition unless he or she is a registered playing member of that Club and registered with the WRU. No 'permits' are granted at Junior Rugby level.

3.2 Each team entering The RGC Cup competition must take the field of play in a set of clearly numbered or lettered shirts. Blanks or shirts displaying names only are judged to be unsatisfactory for the competition.

3.3 The number of players eligible to play for a team are limited to the WRU Registered number of players for that team for The RGC Cup competition plus qualified players who play 'up' in line with the Pathway directives.

3.4 All players must be registered correctly with their respective clubs, and club officials must be satisfied that all registrations are justifiable and up to date prior to any game taking place.

3.5 If a player transfers Clubs during the season/competition but has already played for a team within the RGC Cup competition, he is 'cup tied' for that season and cannot play for another club in the competition.

3.6 Evidence that a Team or a Player has breached this ruling will result in the offending team being removed from the competition and the result being overturned if the offending team won.

3.7 In cases where there is a colour clash the home side are requested to change playing kit unless otherwise agreed with the opposition. Should there be a colour clash at the Final stage the club named first in the tie is deemed as the Home side, therefore the above comes into play.

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4: Matches

4.1 All fixtures and information relating to the competition will be sent by email to every team's representative along with the WRU RGC Community Social media accounts @RGCCymuned. Therefore, all clubs who wish to enter the competition must be able to view those channels on a regular basis.

4.2 Each round of fixtures will be drawn by the WRU RGC Community team alongside RGC Senior squad players following completion of the previous round.

4.3 Each round of fixtures will be given a strict date. Clubs are requested to make every effort to play on this date.

4.4 It is up to the 'home' team to decide upon time and location for the fixture, although teams should make reasonable efforts to accommodate the wishes of the 'away' team. Matches are normally played on Sundays but if clubs want to play and organise a suitable midweek fixture the WRU Community team would support this. If a dispute arises over the date etc. of the fixture the teams should refer to The WRU Community team and their decision will be final.

4.5 No refreshments, hire costs of transport or fuel allowance will be reimbursed by the WRU.

4.6 Should a tie be postponed due to inclement weather or the home side's pitch being unplayable then the tie can be switched to the opposition pitch, if both sides agree.

4.7 Early communication of this decision is advisable to ensure that players are not dropped off at the ground and left by the parents. The team who travel will now have the advantage of the 'Away' side should the game finish in a draw (see below).

4.8 If for any reason a team wishes to opt out of the competition at any time they need to send their request in writing to The WRU Community Team. Additionally, they must inform their opponents immediately. Forfeiting games is not acceptable and may result in a team or club being omitted from the competition the following season.

4.9 In the event of a game being unable to go ahead due to clashes with school trips, tours or tournaments etc. then notification must be given to The WRU Community team and their opponents at the earliest opportunity.

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4.10 The RGC Cup supports the WRU Player Development and Player Pathway Structure.

Whilst “The RGC Cup” is a competition, it is mandatory that clubs will provide equal playing opportunities to each member of the squad as per the WRU Fair Game Time Initiative.

4.11 In the event of a 50-point margin opening between two sides the referee is to stop the game immediately (in line with WRU Pathways guidance). The result will then be the final score before the game is stopped.

4.12 A maximum of 4 qualified adults are permitted pitch side during the games and are to stay within the technical area, other than the Physio/First Aider. They should wear coloured bibs to identify themselves, different colours to the other team and different again for the Physio/First Aider. This is for all games within the competition, not just the finals. The use of crowd barriers is fully supported by The WRU Community group and should be used to provide a safe exclusion zone for the teams on both sides.

5: The Competition

5.1 The RGC Cup is a one day league round robin festival to determine which competition every club enters and then becomes a knock-out competition with the team scoring the most points in the tie deemed the winner. Points are scored in line with WRU Pathways directions (Tries, Conversions, Penalties and Drop-Goals). If at the end of the game the teams are level on match points, then the following criteria will be used in the following order to determine the winner:

- i. Most tries scored.
- ii. If still level: The Away side, go through.

5.2 No extra time is to be played.

5.3 In the case of the Cup Semi-Final or Final being drawn, then the team scoring the highest number of tries will be declared the winners. If both teams are equal on try count, then the team which scored the first try will be declared the winners.

5.4 The WRU Community team will adjudicate on any disputes and their decision will be final.

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6: Actions Prior to Kick Off

6.1 Team Managers must be able to show on any mobile device their team registrations, should they be asked by the opposing side. Failure to disclose and comply, if brought to the attention of The WRU Community team may lead to the non-complying team to be ejected from the competition with their opponents advancing by default.

6.2 The WRU requires that both teams shall field the same number of players. If a team cannot start with the required numbers, then the opposition must match the starting line- up of players in accordance with the Pathway rules. However, if a team cannot start a 15 a side game with a minimum of 13 players then the game is forfeited without question.

6.3 In the event of a yellow card at any of the competing age groups a period of 5 minutes suspension will apply. If a further yellow card is received by the same player, regardless of reason, will make a RED card. The player is then removed from the pitch for the games entirety and is unavailable for any further group games should this be the case.

6.4 In the event of a sending off or suspension, the non-offending team does not have to remove a player from the field or be disadvantaged in any way.

6.6 All players who are sent off will be reported by the referee to the WRU Rugby Disciplinary Committee.

6.7 An accumulation of cards, disciplinary issues or poor codes of conduct reports may result in the offending Junior Section being withdrawn from the competition across all participating age groups.

7: Scrums

7.1 Passive scrums are permitted from the start of the game and the score will stand. However, notification of the possibility of passive scrums must be disclosed to the opposition prior to the fixture. If a side cannot field a front row this is NOT a viable reason to cancel the game. Scrums will then become exclusively non-contested and

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there will be no striking on the opposition ball. All other pathway directives will apply and World Rugby Laws will apply.

8: Match Officials & Referees

8.1 The Referee for matches during the round robin and Quarter Final stages will be appointed by every participating club. The Referee will be independent of both Clubs.

8.2 If there are problems experienced with arranging a Referee please contact The WRU Community Group.

8.3 Each of the competing teams must allocate a linesman to assist the Referee if required. They must act impartially. The Referee may choose to dismiss the services of one or both linesmen if they see fit or may choose to start the match without the services of linesmen. This is entirely the decision of the referee and must not be influenced by either team.

8.4 Referees at the Semi-Final and Final stages will be totally neutral and appointed by the WRU Community Team.

8.5 All relevant disciplinary issues will be reported to the Welsh Rugby Union Disciplinary Panel. Issues concerning The RGC Cup specifically will be reported to The WRU Community Team.

8.6 Results from games must be reported to Dafydd Roberts (dafydd.roberts@wru.wales) 48hrs of the tie's conclusion. Any dispute appertaining to the game result should be referred to The WRU Community team within 72hrs, where their decision will be final.

9: The Final

9.1 The Competition Finals for all age groups will take place on the Bank Holiday weekend in May 2026 (Friday the 1st-Monday the 4th). This will include the Cup, Plate and Bowl Finals for U12,13,14's,U15's and U16's. The match referees will be neutral and appointed by the WRU community team.

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10: Important Dates

10.1 Teams should take note of the following dates for the 2025/26 competition. The U16s dates take into account the RAG and Dewar Shield dates when players will be unavailable for clubs.

Group Stages

Under 12s (Male and Female) (19/10/25)

Under 13s (05/10/25)

Under 14s (Male and Female) (28/09/25)

Under 15s (21/09/25)

Under 16s (Male and Female) (12/10/25)

Quarter Finals

Under 12s (Male and Female) (01/02/26)

Under 13s (22/02/26)

Under 14s (Male and Female) (01/02/26)

Under 15 (22/02/26)

Under 16s (Male and Female) (01/03/26)

Semi Finals

Under 12s (Male and Female) (08/03/26)

Under 13s (22/03/26)

Under 14s (Male and Female) (15/03/26)

Under 15s (29/03/26)

Under 16s (Male and Female) (12/04/26)

Finals Weekend - Friday May 1st - Monday May 4th.

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Name of Club;

Age Group;

Team manager Name;

Team Manager Signature (Must be with ballpoint pen)

Return to;

Dafydd.Roberts@wru.wales