



## Combination Cup Competition Rules 2019

1. The Committee has in their possession the Lockie Cup, Roy Ellis Trophy, RNEC Cup and Pedrick Cup to present to winners of the Cup Competitions, with the Eddie Jones Plate, Martin Towers Plate, Ron Johns Memorial Cup and Presidents Plate presented to the runners up of those competitions respectively.
2. Entries for the cup competitions shall be based on seedings according to the RFU levels (8 and below). Seedings for the forthcoming season will be published in advanced of the cup draw. Clubs will be permitted to enter a cup higher than their allocated seeding at the discretion of the Executive committee.
3. The cup steward will decide on the dates that games will be played, **where possible**.
4. Clubs may only enter a 3rd team if they can show they regularly field a 2nd team, similarly they may only enter a 4th team if they regularly field a 3rd team.
5. Whatever fifteen a club enters under the provisions of 2, 3 & 4 above, all players on the day of the cup match must be genuine selections for that side. Players are not eligible to play for another side if they have already played in any of the Combination cups for another Combination Club that season.
  - For the Lockie and RNEC cups players must be RFU registered with that club.
  - For the Ellis cup players must not be registered with another club
6. In the event of a dispute, written notice of the complaint from an official of the aggrieved club must be received by the Hon. Cup Steward, within seven days of the match. The Executive Committee will then inspect the players playing record for the season up to the date of the match in question. Member clubs will be responsible for making this available on demand.
7. The Executive may act to discipline any club that has broken competition rules even if no complaint is received. The club in question must be invited to attend the meeting to present their case.
8. Any club fielding an ineligible player under the provisions stated above or that break any other cup rules may be excluded from further participation in any of the cup competitions. In the event that both teams field ineligible players or break any other cup rules, the Executive shall decide on what action to take.

9. A player that receives two yellow cards in a game will take no further part in that game. A player that receives a red card will take no further part in that game, further, depending on the referees report, a player that receives a red card may be excluded from taking any further part in the competition.
10. Only clubs affiliated to the Combination may enter teams in the competitions. An entry fee is payable by each team at a rate set annually by the executive committee. All clubs entering teams in the competition do so on the condition that they will play all the other clubs entering the competition on the dates set by the Cup Steward.
11. Combination Cup competitions must be controlled by a referee appointed by Plymouth Rugby Referees` Society. Note: This could be a referee from another society but appointed by the PRRS. It is not acceptable to appoint your own referee.
12. The Hon. Cup Steward **must be included in any alternative arrangements regarding fixtures** and the Referees Appointments Secretary must be informed immediately of any postponed match and the date of the rearranged fixture will be arranged by the cup steward.
- 13 In the event of a match being abandoned, the Executive will decide whether the result should stand or if the match should be replayed.  
If a match is abandoned for safety reasons or weather conditions it shall be re-arranged unless more than 60 minutes have been played, in which case the score at the moment of abandonment shall stand and be deemed to be the final score.
  - Games should last 80 minutes. In the event where the losing team wants to forfeit during the game, both captains and the referee must be in agreeance. The winning team cannot decide to stop the game and claim victory at any point. This will be deemed as a forfeit on their part
14. Clubs winning competitions will leave the trophies with the Executive on the evening of the match but may borrow them for presentation evenings, after which they should be returned to the Executive in good condition. The Combination will carry out engraving as necessary during the closed season. The Hon. Treasurer will insure the trophies annually at their current value.
15. If at any time the Combination should be disbanded, the cups and other trophies held by the Combination shall be forwarded to the Devon Rugby Union on the understanding that they shall be used to encourage rugby football in the Plymouth area. On the revival of the Plymouth and District Rugby Combination, they shall be returned to that body.
16. The closing date for entry to the Lockie and Ellis Cup shall be the Annual General Meeting of the Combination for the previous season.  
The draw for the cup competition for the following season shall be made at the Annual General Meeting of the Combination.
17. All cup matches are to be played on the dates set by the cup steward (**where possible**)

In the event of a team withdrawing from a confirmed fixture a walkover may be awarded to the opposing team unless in the opinion of the Executive there are extraordinary circumstances.

18. Both clubs will be responsible for the completion of team cards (One card per match). This must include the names of all eligible players and nominated replacements, the match result and the signature of the Referee, the card must be forwarded to Hon Cup Steward by Email or photo text applications, for example WhatsApp, on the day of the match.
19. In all games teams are allowed up to 4 replacements with 9 interchanges. Should a team be unable to field a front row replacement and the scrums go to being uncontested, the team unable to field the replacement front row shall have to drop a further player.
20. To be qualified to play in the semi-final or final, a player must have played in at least four matches for that club that season, unless the Executive is satisfied that there is a compelling reason for not being able to do so.
21. The finals will be played on a date and at a venue to be decided by the Executive.
22. The first round losers of the Lockie Cup shall automatically be entered into the first round of a plate competition and shall play for the RNEC Cup.
23. The first round losers of the Ellis Cup shall automatically be entered into the first round of a plate competition and shall play for the Pedrick Cup.
24. Clubs receiving a first round bye in either the Lockie or Ellis Cup will ~~not~~ be eligible to be entered into either of the plate competitions if they lose their first game in that competition. Clubs that get byes/walkovers to further rounds will only be able to enter the plate as losers if the structure of the plate competition allows it. Clubs that do not fulfil a cup fixture in the preliminary or 1st round of the main competition (Lockie/Ellis), other than a bye, will not be allowed to enter the relevant plate (RNEC/Pedrick) competition.
25. In the preliminary rounds, up to and including the semi-finals, 40 minutes each way will be played. If at the final whistle the scores be level, the team that has scored the most tries in that game will go forward to the next round. If this does not produce a winner, then the team, which has scored the most goals from tries, shall go forward to the next round. If this does not produce a winner, then the away side will go forward to the next round.
26. In the final, 40 minutes each way will be played. If at the final whistle the scores be level and the tries and the goals from tries be equal (even zero tries each) then 10 minutes each way of extra time will be played. If at the end of extra time there is no decision, then the captains will draw to see who will hold the cup or trophy for the first six months.
27. The Executives decision on all Cup matters is final. Clubs will be notified in writing of the decision where time permits and no further communication or

contact with the Executive (on that matter) either as a group or individually will be permitted thereafter.

28. The Executive shall deal in matters concerning individual clubs only with the clubs appointed representative to the Combination or with the Chairman or Secretary of the club in question being present.
29. Clubs which, in the view of the Executive Committee, have brought into disrepute the Combination will be required via written notification, to send their Chairman, Secretary and one other to a meeting with the Executive at an agreed date and venue to consider their clubs position within the Combination and may, by a simple majority of the Executive Committee, be sanctioned in one of the following ways:
  - A). In the case of a match involving a Combination Cup fixture the award of the game to the opposing team and possible exclusion from any cup competitions for that season.
  - B). The expulsion of the team involved from the relevant competition for the following season.
  - C). The expulsion of the whole club from all Combination competitions for the following season.

Amended, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 (Plymouth Rugby Combination Exec)