



**ENGLISH CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP  
SOUTH WEST LEAGUES  
SEASON 2018-2019 – NEWSLETTER 3 – DECEMBER 2018**

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**Man off rule**

Clubs should remember that, under the laws of the game, if a referee calls for uncontested scrums because of the lack of front row players due to injury or a yellow card the offending team **MUST** continue with 14 players. Full details are contained in appendix 2 to Regulation 13. For more details you can also look under Front Row Replacement under the Guidance tab on the SW Website.

**Declining promotion**

If any club wishes to apply to decline promotion should they finish in a promotion position at the end of the season, they must put their reasons in writing to Admin Office by the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. A club may only decline promotion for one season.

**Electronic Match Cards**

For those clubs at levels 5 to 8 the completion rate of electronic match cards has improved slowly as the season has progressed. A number of suggestions for enhancements have been submitted to the software developers for considerations.

When clubs are entering their teams before the game they should ensure they do not submit the card as approved. This should only be done after the game when the score **AND** the number of tries (even if that is nil) has been entered.

If a game is postponed or a walkover there is no need to complete the card but you **MUST** notify the results service by 3.30pm. You can telephone 01822 678007 or text the information to 07797 800102. Please use the correct number – you cannot phone the text number or send a text to the phone number.

From 1<sup>st</sup> January where the score is not received by 5.30pm on a Saturday or the electronic card by midnight at the end of Monday, the home team will be fined £25.

**Easter 2019**

A reminder – every Saturday from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2019 until the end of the season is an available weekend when it comes to re-arranging postponed games and that includes Easter Saturday (20<sup>th</sup> April 2019). If you play in a league of 12 teams or less you are entitled to request one free weekend during the season. This can be applied for on the SW Website. You must give eight weeks' notice but you cannot apply for a weekend where you already have a game nor the playoff weekend. If granted a re-arranged game will not be placed on your unavailable weekend.