



**ENGLAND MEN'S LEAGUES
SOUTH WEST REGION
SEASON 2024-25 – NEWSLETTER 3 – DECEMBER 2024**
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Re-arranged Fixtures

In the wake of Storm Darragh last Saturday, 114 fixtures across the South West were postponed. All were re-scheduled by 7.00pm that night and are available on www.swrugby.co.uk

Player Registration

A big thank you to all those clubs who have got to grips with the new player registration system. The introduction of a different system always creates problems, but nearly all Clubs are now in compliance. Help is available for those few that are still having issues you can find a wealth of information and video guides here - <https://help.rfu.com/support/solutions>. There is also a link there to the helpdesk who can assist if you are still having difficulties. You can also contact the Admin Office who can assist with some enquiries. Please be reminded that you can only select players onto your EMC that are RFU/Club registered. There should be no gaps in your line-up unless of course you start the match short of players. League Secretaries have been tasked to investigate incomplete EMC's in case of un-registered players being selected.

Walkovers

A reminder that if your game is a walkover the home club, irrespective of which team cried off, should notify the Results Office no later than 3.30pm on Saturday as well as your League Secretary. It is vital that the Results Office is informed to avoid additional extra work chasing a result. Please do not automatically expect your League Secretary to pass on the details. Also remember you must not try to record the walkover via the Electronic Match Card. A walkover is worth five points. Please note this is recorded in the league tables as a straight five points – not four and a bonus point.

End of Season Promotion and Relegation

A reminder that information regarding Promotion & Relegation was included in the Pre-Season Briefing Document that was sent to all Clubs. To re-cap, the winners of the 18 Counties One Leagues across the country are promoted to Regional 2 along with eight runners up. These are decided by looking at the best playing records of the runners up in those 18 leagues with adjustments made to favour first teams over lower XV's. With the game being set up on a regional basis it is often the case that clubs being relegated are not spread equally across the areas with more teams going down one particular "leg" of the pyramid. This can lead to additional relegations further down. The situation changes each week and there will be no certainty until the final games have been played. However, there will now be a bi-weekly projection of the situation published on the South West website as a guide.

RFU Regulation 6 allows teams to decline promotion provided that they have a solid case for doing so. They may only decline for one season and must inform their League Secretary by no later than 1st January 2025.