



**ENGLISH CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP
SOUTH WEST LEAGUES
SEASON 2022-23 – NEWSLETTER 1 – JUNE 2022**
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Fixtures

After months of discussions and consultations regarding the Future Competition Structure, the fixtures for the coming season are finally here. We welcome the teams who have “moved” to the South West and we wish all those taking part every success.

If you want a complete set of fixtures for the South West they can be downloaded from the SW website or you can download just a single league. (Just go to the latest news page.) As in past years clubs may mutually agree to move fixtures. The deadline is the 22nd July and applications should be made via the SW website. Confirmation they have been agreed will appear on the RFU website in due course.

In the structured season, available on the SW Website, you will notice there are some red “break” weeks. These are weekends when the competition will not place any re-arranged games. However if two clubs mutually agree to play on those weekends it will be permitted. Both clubs will need to inform the admin office at least 72 hours beforehand to ensure the change can be made. **All other weekends during the season are deemed to be available – so do not wait until you have a game postponed before nominating an unavailable weekend.** With the changes in the format of the season there are fewer reserve weeks so henceforth only teams in leagues with ten or less teams will be able to nominate free weekends. This should be done via the website.

Confirmation of Nominated League Contacts

Each year we ask clubs to confirm or update their nominated league contact (NLC). Now the new league make ups are confirmed we can start the process for next season. Please go to www.swrugby.co.uk/nlcconfirm and follow the instructions there – this must be done by 1st August and applies to all clubs even if you have updated your details in the last few weeks prior to the publication of this newsletter.

Registrations

Clubs are able to register players for next season now. Please remember all players need to complete and sign a paper form before you either process it on line or submit it to the Admin Office. The only players which cannot be registered yet are those on a Student or Services pass. These apply on a seasonal basis and cannot be processed before the 1st August 2022.

As part of the competition re-organisation the 100 player limit for adult player registrations per club will be removed from 1st August. Therefore you should register all your players before the start of the season.

SW Website

We will continue to provide updates via the website (www.swrugby.co.uk) and Twitter. We will also continue to issue newsletters as appropriate. If you have any queries you are welcome to contact your league secretary or the Admin Office, but please check the website first to see if the answer you require is there.

Regulations – 2022-2023

The regulations for the coming season are being finalised and will be posted on englandrugby.com when they come into effect on 1st August 2021. For clubs playing in the SW Deregulated Leagues, your regulations will be posted on the SW website once they have been approved by the RFU.

League Secretaries

There have been some changes to League Secretaries. Up to date details are on the website. Our thanks go to David Stevens, Clive Drake and Steve Mead who have retired after years of service to the Leagues. We also remember Mike Thomas who sadly died in January.

Carried over points deductions

For those teams with a points deduction for failing to fulfil a fixture after the Transfer Deadline in February 2022, the South West Committee has decided that teams at the former Level 7 & below will have the deduction shown in the 2021/22 tables. For teams in the former Levels 5 & 6 those points will be carried over, but suspended, in 2022/23. In practice should a team fail to fulfil a fixture on 2022/23, those points carried over will be deducted in addition to the normal sanction.

Sponsorship

The SW is delighted St Austell Brewery is again sponsoring the Leagues across the division. As before there will be a Team of the Month award for each of the eight constituent bodies. The successful team will win a tray of Tribute Bitter. Please do all you can to promote the sponsorship on websites and match programmes please.

