

# ENGLAND MEN'S LEAGUES SOUTH WEST REGION

#### SEASON 2024-25 - NEWSLETTER 1 - JUNE 2024

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#### **Fixtures**

The fixtures for the new season are now available. 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 14<sup>th</sup> July and applications by BOTH clubs 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 does not plan to 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 and their League Secretary 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 pressure on available weekends only teams in leagues with ten or less teams will be able to nominate free weekends. This should be done via the website.

You should also follow this procedure if you are moving a game from a Saturday to the preceding Friday night.

Under the regulations a match rescheduled for the next available weekend is not open to appeal.

## **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 <a href="https://www.swrugby.co.uk/nlcconfirm">www.swrugby.co.uk/nlcconfirm</a> and follow the instructions there – this must be done by I<sup>st</sup> 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

The finishing touches are being put to changes in the process for Adult Player Registration. Look out for further information direct from Twickenham in the coming weeks.

## **Regulations – 2024-2024**

The regulations for the coming season are being finalised and will be posted on englandrugby.com when they come into effect on  $I^{st}$  July 2024 - a month earlier than usual. 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 Officials**

After many years as League Co-ordinating Secretary, Mike Gee has stood down from his position. His successor is Adrian Siddorn from Gloucestershire. He has inherited Mike's former email address – <a href="mailto:secretary@swrugby.co.uk">secretary@swrugby.co.uk</a> or can be contacted by telephone on 01275 277144. We wish Mike a long and happy retirement and are delighted he has agreed to be on hand to give us the benefit of his long experience should it be required.

We would also like to pay tribute to the work down by two other long serving officials who have stood down. Former Chairman Bert Barber and Brian Flanders, who for many years has looked after reviews from clubs, have both retired as League Secretaries.

Up to date details of all the current League Officials are now on the website.

Increasingly clubs have been calling late into the evening. Please consider if your call is vital and cannot wait until a more sociable hour or be just as easily raised by email.

### **Carried over points deductions**

A number of clubs had points deductions in the latter past of last season carried over to the forthcoming one. These will show on the league tables after the first games are played.

#### **Sponsorship**

The South West is delighted St Austell Brewery is again sponsoring the Leagues across the region. This season the backing has been extended to include our top league – Regional I Tribute South West. As before there will 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.

