



THE WRU NATIONAL YOUTH PLATE RULES 2016/2017

1. Description

The Competition shall be called the "WRU National Youth Plate".

2. Form

The Competition shall be played on a knockout principle over 5 rounds.

3. Eligibility to participate

i. Clubs

To participate in the competition Clubs must be affiliated to one of the District Youth Rugby Unions.

ii. Players

To be eligible to play in the competition a player must:

- a. Be at least 16 years old but under 19 years old on 31st August 2016, that is born on or after 1st September 1997 and
- b. Be registered by his Club with the WRU as a youth player or
- c. Have been granted a permit to play.

Up to 2 players from a Regional Academy may play on permit in a Cup tie provided that the player has joined the Academy directly from the club requesting a permit. Players registered with Clubs will not be permitted to play on permit in this competition.

- d. A player who transfers from one Club to another shall be eligible to play for his new Club in the competition provided that:
 - The transfer and registration form is received by the WRU before the match kick off time.
 - The transfer and registration form is received by the WRU no later than midnight on 31st January 2017.
 - The player has not played for his previous Club in the Competition. A player that has played for one Club in the WRU National Youth Cup, the WRU National Youth Plate or the WRU National Youth Bowl Competitions will not be eligible to play for another Club in a later round of this Competition.

4. Entry Conditions

Clubs participating in the competition shall agree to abide by:-

- a. The rules of the Competition contained herein



- b. The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Welsh Rugby Union Ltd and the regulations and resolutions of the Board of the Welsh Rugby Union Ltd.
- c. The Bye laws, resolutions and regulations relating to the game of World Rugby.
- d. The laws of the game (World Rugby Under 19 Laws will apply to this Competition).

5. Responsibility for organisation

The WRU will be responsible for organising the Competition. Arrangements for matches in the First Round to the Third Round will be the responsibility of the Home Club. The WRU will be responsible for the match arrangements for the Semi Final and Final matches.

6. Match Officials

The WRU will appoint the referees to matches in the competition

7. Duration of Play

70 minutes each match (35 minutes each half) plus any time permitted for delays (Laws of the Game 5.4).

At half time an interval of not more than 10 minutes is allowed.

No extra time shall be played in matches in which scores are equal at full time. In such cases the winning Club shall be decided by application of rule 8 (description of winners).

8. Description of winners

Winners of the match in each tie shall be:-

- a. The Club that has scored the greater number of points at the end of a match or;
- b. In the event of an equal number of points being scored by each Club at the end of the match the winning Club be declared in the following priority:
 - i. The Club that has scored the greater number of tries
 - ii. The Club that has scored the greater number of goals
 - iii. If the result is still a tie then the Club playing away from home shall be declared the winner.

In the case of the Semi Finals if the match remains a tie after applying clauses (i) and (ii) above the match will be replayed. In the case of the Final the trophy shall be shared.

9. Venues

Matches shall be played in grounds chosen by the first drawn Clubs in the first, second and third Rounds of the Competition. These Clubs shall be the home Clubs. However, if the Home Club in a match cannot arrange for the match to be played on a ground of its choice on the given date for a round in the Competition, the WRU will determine where the match should be played.



The Semi Final and Final matches shall be played at "neutral" venues chosen by the WRU.

10. **Draw**

The dates for the draw for the Rounds of the Competition will be the responsibility of the WRU, each draw should be held publically. The draw for round 1 will be carried out in a way that will localise ties and reduce travel for participating teams if at all possible.

The rounds of the competition will be played on

Round 1	-	22 nd October 2016
Round 2	-	3 rd December 2016
Round 3	-	4 th March 2017
Semi Finals	-	25 th March 2017
Final	-	8 th April 2017 but TBC

11. **Postponed or Abandoned Matches**

(i) Postponed matches

Matches in the competition shall be played on the designated dates unless postponed because of ground or weather conditions. Postponed matches shall be rearranged and played within 10 days of the designated date.

(ii) Abandoned matches

All matches shall be played to full time. The Referee is to be the sole judge of the time played. If a match is abandoned before full time it shall be replayed. Abandoned matches shall be re-arranged and played within 10 days of the designated date.

12. **Uncontested Scrummages**

If a Club elects to play with uncontested scrummages that Club will not forfeit the match. Matches in the Competition may start with a Club electing to play with uncontested scrummages provided that the team electing to play with uncontested scrummages gives notice to its opponent's at least 18 hours before the due kick off time.

13. **Notification of Results**

The Home Club shall advise the WRU of the result of a match played by telephone, fax or email by 10.00 am on the day after next following a match. In the case of a Saturday fixture this will be by 10.00 am on the Monday morning following the fixture.

Both Clubs shall complete the match result and team sheet and post it to the WRU no later than 3 days after a match has been played.

14. **Disqualification**

If a Club plays an ineligible player in a match in the Competition it shall be disqualified from the Competition.



In such cases the Club that has lost a match to the Club that has played an ineligible player shall proceed to the next round of the competition instead of the disqualified Club.

15. **Protests and Disputes**

Protests or disputes arising out of the competition or the Rules relating thereto must be made in writing to the WRU and accompanied by a fee of £100.00 which may or may not be refunded.

Protests or disputes arising out of the competition will be considered by the WRU's Regulatory Committee or a Sub Committee thereof. When cases of an urgent nature occur the Chairman of the Regulatory Committee, in consultation with the WRU Community Rugby Operations Manager, shall have absolute discretion to deal with these cases whether provided herein or not.

Decisions made by the Regulatory Committee Chairman and the WRU Rugby Operations Manager in such cases shall be binding.

16. **Finance**

The WRU shall make a contribution towards the cost of the Away Club travelling to play matches in the first, second and third rounds of the competition. The level of contribution to be made by the WRU to Clubs may vary from season to season and shall be advised to the participating Clubs before the commencement of the Competition each season.

The WRU shall meet the costs incurred in staging the Semi Final and Final matches, including a contribution to the costs incurred by the Clubs that travel to play in these matches.