



RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

RFU REGULATION CHANGES 2008/09

Following the approval of the Rugby Landscape Task Group's recommendations by the RFU Council a new competitive structure will come into effect at the start of the 2009/10 Season. As a result of the creation of this new structure the RFU has made a number of consequential changes to the Game Regulations relating to Promotion & Relegation and Level Transfer. These regulation changes take immediate effect.

The revised regulations are attached and for ease of reference the table below summarises the methodology which will enable the existing competition structure to change and become the new structure in 2009/10 (see new structure diagram overleaf). Current RFU Regulations permit the RFU Council to make these changes during the Season.

2008-09	PROMOTION AND RELEGATION END OF SEASON 2008-09		2009-10
Premiership (Level 1)	▼	The bottom placed club will be relegated	Premiership (Level 1)
National One (Level 2)	▲	The top Club will be promoted.	Championship (Level 2)
	▼	The bottom FIVE clubs will be relegated*	
National Two (Level 3)	▲	The Top club will be promoted	National One (Level 3)
	▼	The bottom FOUR clubs will be relegated.	
National Three North & South (Level 4)	▲	The top club in each league will be promoted. There will be <u>No Play-Off</u> at end of the season	National Two North & South (Level 4)
	▼	The bottom TWO clubs in each league will be relegated.	
Divisional Leagues One (Level 5)	▲	The four league winners and the two play-off winners will be promoted.	National Leagues Three (Level 5)
	▼	TWO of the four x 12 th placed (bottom) clubs will be relegated. The Two with the 'Best Playing Record' will be reprieved and the remaining TWO will be relegated.	
Divisional Leagues Two (Level 6)	▲	The EIGHT league winners and the FOUR play-off winners will be promoted.	Divisional Leagues One (Level 6)
	▼	There will be NO RELEGATION	
Divisional Leagues Three (Level 7)	▲	SIXTEEN league winners will be promoted. The Play-offs and any additional promotions will be determined and advised by each Divisional Organising Committee.	Divisional Leagues Two (Level 7)
	▼	Relegation will be determined and advised by each Divisional Organising Committee.	
Level 8 and below	▲	To be determined and advised by the local Divisional/CB Organising Committees	Level 8 and below
	▼		

* = *Subject to final acceptance by the clubs invited to join the Championship*