

KENT COUNTY RFU (KCRFU): PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES (2000 edition)

It is 20 years since the County's Rules were last reviewed. Since then, there have been many changes, particularly to corporate governance and culture, from which the KCRFU is not immune. There have also been changes to legislation that are applicable to how the KCRFU is run, and which should properly be reflected in the Rules.

Proposed Amendments

The Executive Committee therefore proposes a number of amendments to the Rules (2000 edition). These are summarised as follows:

- To reflect the repeal of the Industrial & Provident Societies Act 1965, and its replacement with the Cooperative & Communities Benefits Act 2014.
- To consolidate into one document those Rules that appear in the County's Annual Handbook, but do not appear in the Rules document itself, such as:
 - Playing colours; and
 - Awards (blazer badge, ties, etc.) in recognition of service to the County (playing and non-playing).
- To remove the requirement that the individual nominated and elected to the position of President must be a Member or Officer of the current Committee. Such a requirement can and has presented practical difficulties, both in identifying candidates and their willingness to stand when approached to do so. The County is fortunate to have many individuals who have given meritorious service to the game, and while they may not have held an official position within the KCRFU, the role of President provides a fitting recognition of their service to rugby in Kent.
- Extending membership of the KCRFU not only to incorporated clubs, but also to unincorporated associations, and charitable / CASC entities.
- Placing a duty on the Executive Committee to ensure that the KCRFU:
 - complies with all applicable laws and regulations; and
 - has appropriate controls (e.g. financial) and risk management procedures in place.
- Placing a duty on all individuals elected or appointed to the Executive Committee (and sub-committees) of the County to act with honesty and probity and in the best interests of the Game; and not to undertake any activities that would cause, or be perceived to cause, reputational risk to the County.
- To act in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.
- To update the address of the County's Registered Office.
- To set out the KCRFU's obligations and responsibilities under GDPR.

The proposed amendments are shown as tracked changes to the 2000 edition of the Rules, appended to this cover note.

Approval

The Executive Committee is grateful to Robert Horner for reviewing the proposed amendments, and now submits them to the membership for its approval.

Nigel Fray
Executive Committee - Succession and Governance
[date 2020]