All Staffordshire County Youth Competition games are to be played in accordance with the current RFU Regulation 15 relating to age grade rugby and must also take into account the Age Grade Codes of Practice.

**Completion of Fixtures**– the competition schedule is fixed and fixtures should be played on the scheduled date, except where the fixture is re-scheduled by mutual agreement and the competition coordinator is advised by email. In the event a re-scheduled fixture is not completed by the Sunday before the next round in the case of the knockout competition or by the last reserve date in the league competition the team that requested the re-schedule shall forfeit the game. In case of dispute the decision by the Mini & Youth Committee will be final.

**Determination of a Winner** - in any knockout phase of a competition the team that advances to the next stage of the competition will be on the basis of:

* Points Scored
* Tries Scored
* Conversions Scored

If the above does not clearly identify the team to progress to the next round, the ‘away’ team should progress.

NB/ Staffordshire Competitions Committee is of the opinion that, at Colts level, a kicking competition puts unreasonable pressure on young players; and this has been adopted by the Mini and Youth Committee

**Player Transfers** – if a player decides to move clubs during the season, registration forms must be completed and notification received by the former club, prior to a player being available for selection in a county fixture.

**Officials** – it is the responsibility of the home team to organise a match referee. If possible, it is always best to have a neutral referee, who is a member of the Staffordshire Rugby Union Society of Referees (SRUSR). In order to ensure the game can be safely and effectively managed, clubs are advised to ensure that, if in-house referees are appointed, they are members of the SRUSR but should also ensure they are not a coach of the team or parent of a player in the team.

In the event that an in-house referee who is a member of the SRUSR is not available, then you have the choice of the opposition being asked if they have a referee who could do the game or each team provides a referee for half of the game. The home referee does the first half, the away referee does the second half

**U14 to U15 Knockout Competitions** -Competition draw for the preliminary / first round of games will be on an un-seeded basis, losers of Round 1 / Round 2 games (where one of the teams has had a bye in the Round 1) will enter the ‘Plate’ Competition whilst the winners will commence the ‘Cup’ competition. Each team is promised 2 games in the Competition.

Each round’s matches will be drawn from the winners of the previous round or in the case of the first round of the Plate competition from the losers of the preliminary / first rounds of the competition.

**Half Game Rule** - All players who are in the squad to play on the Cup/League Match Day, must play at least half a game. If a team is found not to do this then they will be excluded from the competition.