



Team Leicestershire

General Rules & Formats

(To be used in conjunction with sport-specific handbooks)

2021/22



LEICESTER-SHIRE
& RUTLAND **SPORT**
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & WELLBEING

Welcome

Welcome to the 2021/22 Team Leicestershire Season. All key information and general rules are included within this document. For sport-specific information, rules, formats and age groups please refer to the handbook relevant to that sport.

The rules and formats within this document have been made with the best interests of the athlete at heart. It is up to schools to promote the best values of sport to their students and share in the vision that Team Leicestershire and its members uphold.

Team Leicestershire Vision

Team Leicestershire sits within the EXCEL strand of the LRS Children & Young People delivery plan:

"Providing opportunities for young people who aspire towards further progression & success in sport & physical activity; either as an individual or as part of a team, through competition structures, talent pathways & performance programmes."

Be the best you can be!

Covid-19 Amendment

Following the Coronavirus outbreak, the 2021-22 academic year may continue to be a different and challenging period as we transition back towards "normality". With this in mind, it is important that we at LRS as well as SSPANs, SCHOOLS and SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS recognise and understand that flexibility and adaptability may well be imperative to the delivery of the Competition Calendar. Therefore, the dates and formats stated in this year's TL handbook documents are an 'ideal scenario' and may be subject to change at both local and County level.

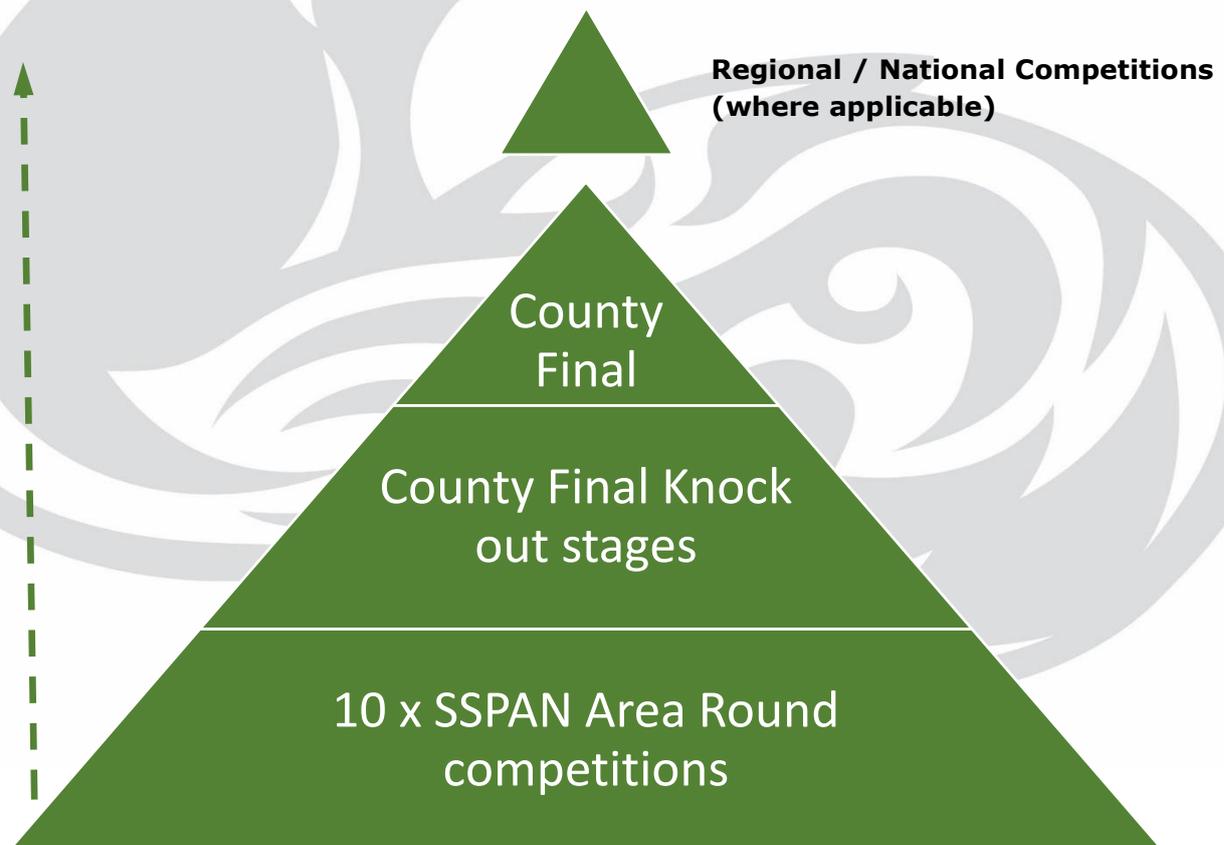
It is important that opportunities for young people to compete are provided and so in order to do this, we may have to utilise that flexibility and adaptability with the support of schools and delivery partners involved. Any required changes (*if and when the need arises*) will be communicated as clearly and as early as possible to allow for any necessary amendments by all parties involved.

We thank you for your support in this matter should any unforeseen circumstances arise or amendments be required.

Team Leicestershire Competition Structure

School teams will compete in local fixtures, central venue leagues or tournaments to determine local winners within their SSPAN Area. These sides will progress to represent their area at the knock-out stages of the County Finals alongside representatives from 9 other local areas. The knock-out stages of each competition will be randomly drawn by Leicestershire and Rutland Sport in draws that will be streamed on social media channels. Winners of County Finals will not only be recognised as County Champions, but in some sports (where applicable) will progress to represent the County at Regional Finals as Team Leicestershire athletes.

Please Note: While it is hoped that the 2021-22 will see a return to similar formats utilised in previous seasons, both local SSPAN and County KO Stages may be forced to differ if the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on schools and subsequently school sport leaves any long-term issues that necessitate any amendments. Obviously, we will do everything in our power to avoid this and run competitions as "normally" as possible.



Website / Virtual Together App

The Team Leicestershire programme is centrally managed through the website & our new Virtual Together app (*powered by Playwaze*)

<https://www.teamleicestershire.org>

<https://www.playwaze.com>

Schools are responsible for uploading their own results and monitoring & evaluation data to the Virtual Together app, which will result in the smooth running of each competition. Initial team & competition entry is done via the web platform, then all competitions, fixtures and result input are subsequently available via the Virtual Together mobile app.

The transition to the Team Leicestershire mobile app will hopefully make elements such as M&E & result upload quicker and easier for staff involved as well as allowing young people and parents to follow their teams' fortunes throughout the competitions.

All user guides can be found on the Team Leicestershire website:

<https://www.teamleicestershire.org/ssa/level-3-school-games>

General Team Leicestershire Rules/Formats

Deadlines



All deadlines will be made available in the school sport calendar at the start of the academic year. These deadlines are final. It is each school's responsibility to ensure they are aware of these deadlines and adhere to them.



The progression of teams from the local rounds to County Finals will be based on the league/pool standings on the Team Leicestershire website/app. If results are incomplete at the time of the deadlines stated, teams will be selected on an 'as it stands basis', and no concessions will be made. It is the responsibility of both schools and SGOs to ensure these are up-to-date by the agreed deadlines.

 **Knock-out stage fixtures must be played in adherence to the deadlines set out in the respective sports' Team Leicestershire Handbook.**

 **The draw will state clearly the Home and Away teams in each round / fixture. This can only be reversed if BOTH teams are in full agreement.**

- ***The HOME team is responsible for covering the cost of any facility hire and officials. (ALL TL KO Rounds should have impartial officials in place.)***
- ***The AWAY team is responsible for any travel costs they incur getting to the venue.***
- ***In line with the above statement RE: Home and Away team allocation. Any change to financial costs and the responsibility thereof can only be amended with the agreement of BOTH TEAMS.***

- **Both competing teams must provide at least 2 dates on which they can play the fixture.**
- **If either team is unable to provide at least 2 dates and the fixture cannot be played as a result, then that team will forfeit their place in the competition.**
- **If a date cannot be agreed following the above procedure, then an alternative means of identifying a winner must be used i.e. a coin toss.**

 **It is imperative that Team Managers upload all results and other necessary information onto the Team Leicestershire app as soon as possible after a fixture is played. This will ensure the smooth running of the competition by reducing the demand on your time in arranging fixtures.**

Qualified Referees/Officials

 **The refereeing/umpiring of the various knock out fixtures must be conducted by impartial officials and adhere to the rules set out in each individual sports' handbook.**

 **As previously stated, the cost of officials will be covered by the HOME team, as the Away team will incur transport costs.**

 **Qualified Referees and Officials will be provided for each Team Leicestershire Final by the relevant Association.**

'Playing up'

-  **Players may not compete in more than one year group or competition in any sport.**
-  **For example: If a player is played up one year group or in the situation that has arisen previously when a school elects to play a girl in a boy's competition, they may not play in their actual year or gender group in addition to this.**
-  **Players may only 'play up' into another year group or participate in a mixed gender team when this is permitted by the rules of the sport's governing body (*E.g: The FA, ECB, etc.*).**

Competition Formats & Rules

Local Area Rounds

- **The format of Local Area Rounds is chosen at the discretion of the SGO. Formats are flexible to ensure that local competitions are appropriate and can be completed on time.**
- **The rules of Local Area Rounds however will be the same as those set out in the individual Handbooks, unless alterations are agreed between the Association and SGO.**

Knock Out Stages

- **The format of the Knock-Out Stages of competitions are set out in the sport-specific Team Leicestershire Handbook.**
- **The format stated by LRS must be adhered to for all Knock-Out fixtures. (*As previously stated, for 2021-22, this may differ to the format used in previous years if the need arises.*)**
- **The relevant Association maintains overall say on the rules and formats of a competition. Decisions made by the Association are final and binding.**

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)

-  **All schools MUST upload M&E to the Playwaze site / Team Leicestershire community prior to entering a competition. Failure to upload this M&E will result in a school not taking part in a competition, unless there is good reason for this, with prior agreement with Team Leicestershire.**
-  **Aligned with the above, each school must enter this M&E per team, so that there is an identifiable team for each competition they enter.**
-  **Team Leicestershire will provide guides on this process.**
-  **Team Leicestershire will share valuable M&E data with schools towards the end of the academic year so that schools can evidence the impact of extracurricular competition.**

Resolutions procedure

Any dispute regarding player eligibility, rules, format, score or otherwise needs to be raised and if possible, resolved at the time of the fixture between school staff.

If the dispute cannot be resolved immediately, then a full report of the incident needs to be submitted to LRS on behalf of Team Leicestershire. Both teams/schools involved must submit a report to ensure both sides are considered.

The relevant Association for that sport will decide on the appropriate action to resolve the dispute. The Associations' decision is final.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this document, please do not hesitate to contact:

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