



Team Leicestershire

General Rules & Formats

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

2020/21



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

Welcome

Welcome to the 2020/21 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.

Team Leicestershire Vision

Team Leicestershire aims to ensure that every young person in every school has the opportunity to compete in a variety of school sports/competitions at an appropriate level

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.

Covid-19 Amendment

Following the Coronavirus outbreak, the 2020-21 academic year will no doubt be a very different and challenging period. With this in mind, it is important that LRS, SSPANS, SCHOOLS and SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS recognise and understand that flexibility and adaptability will 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.

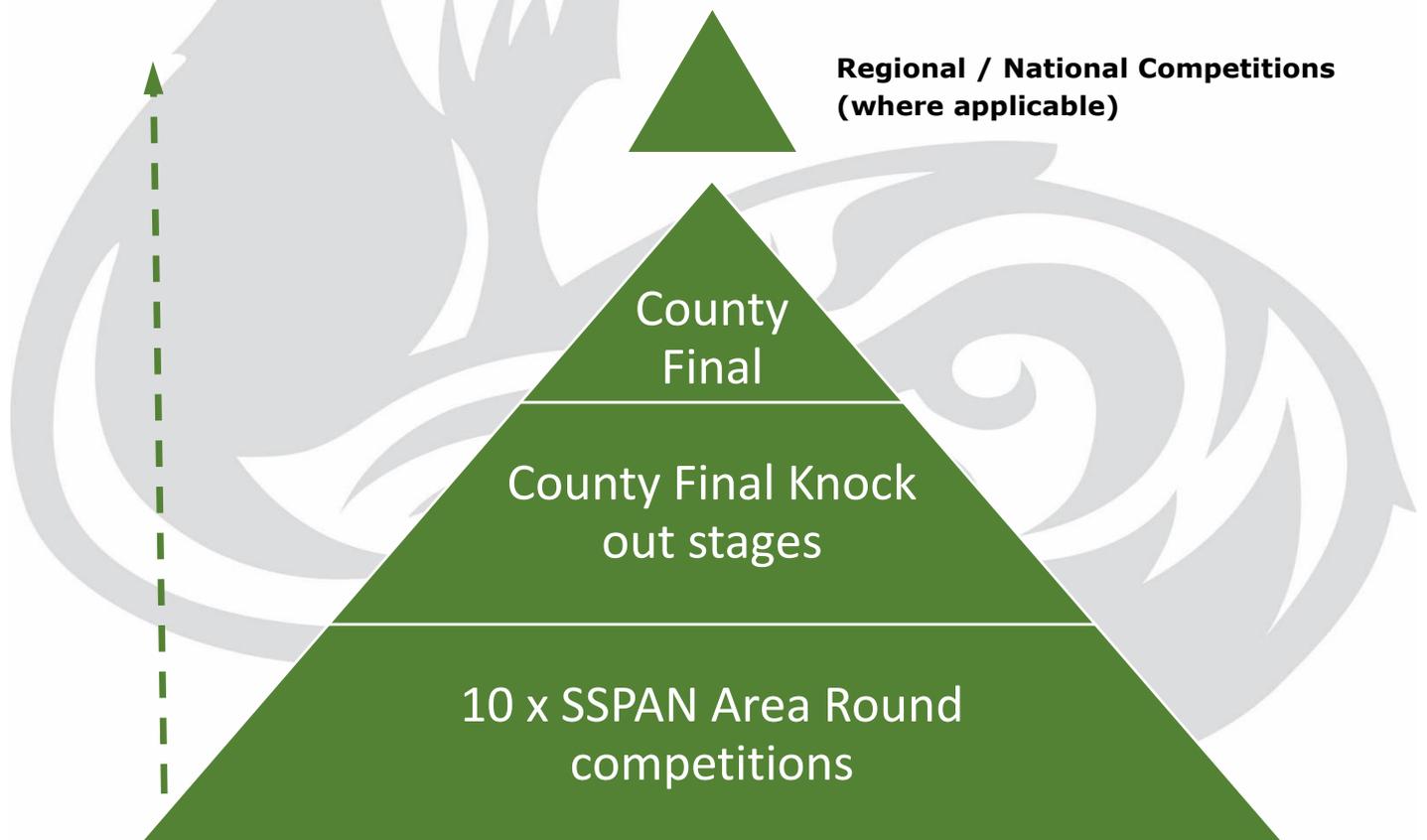
It is important that opportunities for young people to compete are provided and so in order to do this, we may have to utilise that flexibility and adaptability with the support of schools and delivery partners involved. Any required changes (*if and when the need arises*) will be communicated as clearly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

We thank you for your support in this matter during these unprecedented times.

Team Leicestershire Competition Structure

School teams will compete in local fixtures, central venue leagues or tournaments to determine a local winner within their SSPAN Partnership Area. This side 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: For 2020-21, County KO Stages may differ to previous years due to amendments in format necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on schools and subsequently school sport.



Website

The Team Leicestershire programme is centrally managed through the website. All competitions, fixtures, deadlines and information will be available online at

<https://www.lrsactiveschools.org/team-leicestershire/>

Schools are responsible for uploading their own results and monitoring & evaluation data (squad lists) to the site, which will result in the smooth running of each competition.

We are currently working with technology development company, PlayWaze, to implement a Team Leicestershire mobile app which will hopefully make elements such as M&E & result upload easier for staff involved. It is our hope that this will be in place for 2020-21 & we will keep you updated as and when this is ready to roll out.

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. 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 and on the website.

- The draw will state clearly the Home and Away teams in each round / fixture. *This can only be reversed if the HOME team are in full agreement.*
- 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 necessary, (*and agreed by the Home team*) to ensure that the fixture can be played, the draw can be reversed and the Away team would host.
- 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 Fixtures website as soon as possible after a fixture is played. This will ensure the smooth running of the league by reducing the demand on your time in arranging fixtures. (*As mentioned previously, mobile app details TBC.*)

Qualified Referees/Officials

-  The refereeing/umpiring of the various knock out fixtures must adhere to the rules set out in each individual sports' handbook.
-  Where officials are required, the cost 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 boys 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 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 2020-21, this may differ to the format used in previous years.)*
- 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 site prior to entering a competition. Failure to upload this M&E will result in a school not taking place 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.

 This can be achieved via SIMS, or a manual process.

 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.

 *Once again, information about the NEW TL Mobile App will be shared by LRS as soon as it is available to utilise.*

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:

Liam Drake

Sports Development Officer

Leicester-Shire and Rutland Sport

l.drake@lrsport.org / 01509 564865 / 07394 567814

