



## **DURHAM COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION**

### **Durham County Rugby Squad selection rules**

These rules apply to all Durham County age groups and are designed to ensure selection for County Teams is a fair and transparent process.

#### **1. Eligibility**

- 1.1. Players must meet the geographic rules as agreed by the CB.
- 1.2. Players must be nominated by an affiliated School or Club
- 1.3. If a player has trialed for another County but has failed to be selected they are not eligible to be nominated for Durham County in the year they trial for the other County. They can however be nominated for the next years trial.

#### **2. Nomination Process**

- 2.1. Nominations for County trials will only be accepted if they are on official County Nomination forms, emails and phone calls are not acceptable alternatives.

A Coach or Teacher may request an alternate method if they are having problems with the forms. In these cases the form must be completed before the player is allowed to trial. The Team manager can agree to accept the nomination.

- 2.2. The Nomination forms must be fully completed with the requested data and returned before the deadline date.

Late nominations will not normally be accepted but if there are exceptional circumstances the Team Manager at his discretion can agree to accept the late nominations but no nominations will be accepted on the day of a trial, as the Team Manager needs numbers, playing positions to organise a quality trial.

- 2.3. A Club or School can nominate a maximum of 5 players. If the Coach feels there are further players warranting a trial then he must contact the Team Manager and discuss the situation.

The Team Manager can at his discretion allow more than 5 players to be nominated but this will be an exceptional situation.

- 2.4. Players who are in the SoR, Falcons Academy or have played a "year up" will not be required to attend a first trial as they will have attended several trials in the playing year.



2.5. If players who have not been nominated turn up on the day they will not be allowed to trial, it is the Coach, Teachers responsibility to ensure correct process is followed and it will be their responsibility if a player is turned away from a trial.

### **3. Selection Process**

3.1. If a player is injured or unavailable for the 1<sup>st</sup> trial they will need to explain the reason to the Team Manager and at his discretion they can be put forward to the next trial.

3.1.1. If a player misses all the trials he cannot be considered for the training squad.  
There are no exceptions to this rule.

3.1.2. If a player is genuinely unavailable for the final trial and was a strong candidate from earlier trials he can be invite to attend the squad training session. At the session he will be assessed and may be added to the squad.

3.2. Up to U16's age group, a maximum of three Coaches/Coach Coordinators from the group will be invited to the selection meeting to observe the process. They will not be allowed to take part in any discussion or influence the selection process.

3.3. At the final trial the selectors will pick a training squad this will be the final selection and all players selected will remain with the squad throughout the rest of the programme. Selection for this training squad is not a guarantee of a place in the team.

The Head Coach cannot make this decision on his own it has to be a collective coaching team agreement.

If the player is not considered worth progressing to the training squad they will be informed at the end of the session.

### **4. Feedback from selection**

4.1. After the selection meeting the Team Manager will complete a sheet naming the selected players, this will be placed on the Durham County Web Site. Players can access this site to see if they are successful in progressing to the next stage.

4.2. Due to numbers of players at trails it is not possible to provide feedback to players who are unsuccessful. Parents can request feedback but due to numbers involved in trials it may not always be possible to provide individual feedback.