



**England
Rugby**

County Championships

**SENIOR COUNTY
CHAMPIONSHIP
FIXTURES**

2016-17

Dear Colleague,

I am delighted to enclose the fixtures for the 2017 Senior County Championships.

The new competition structure below comes as a result of the County Rugby Review which took place in 2015.

The new competition format is as follows:

- 28 counties have been seeded using the results from the previous 3 seasons.
- 3 tiers of competition – 12 in tier 1, 8 in tier 2, and 8 in tier 3
- All tiers will play a minimum of three matches and a maximum of four. This will produce three finals, all to be played at Twickenham.
- Promotion and relegation to take place every 2 seasons. The points accumulated from 1 season will roll onto the following season.

Tier 1

The top tier will be divided into 2 groups of 6, North and South. Each group is then split into 2 pools of 3, playing all 3 teams in the opposite pool. Each team will have two home matches one season, and one the following season. The top county in the North will play the top county in the South in the Final.

Tiers 2 & 3

Tiers 2 and 3 will be divided into 2 pools of 4 counties in each tier. The top 2 counties in each tier will play in a final.

In the following weeks we will be sending out information confirming the regulations and the financial support package available to each county.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

Victor

TIER 1

Round 1 **6th May**

Round 2 **13th May**

Round 3 **20th May**

Final
28th May

NORTH

Lancashire
Yorkshire
East Midlands

Cheshire
Eastern Counties
Northumberland

Lancashire **V** Northumberland

Yorkshire **V** Cheshire

Eastern Counties **V** East Midlands

Eastern Counties **V** Lancashire

Northumberland **V** Yorkshire

Cheshire **V** East Midlands

Cheshire **V** Lancashire

Yorkshire **V** Eastern Counties

East Midlands **V** Northumberland

North Winner

V

South Winner

SOUTH

Cornwall
Gloucestershire
Kent

Hertfordshire
Surrey
Devon

Surrey **V** Cornwall

Gloucestershire **V** Devon

Kent **V** Hertfordshire

Devon **V** Cornwall

Hertfordshire **V** Gloucestershire

Surrey **V** Kent

Cornwall **V** Hertfordshire

Gloucestershire **V** Surrey

Devon **V** Kent

TIER 2	Round 1 6th May	Round 2 13th May	Round 3 20th May	Final 28 th May
POOL 1 Durham Cumbria Staffordshire Leicestershire	Durham V Cumbria Leicestershire V Staffordshire	Staffordshire V Durham Cumbria V Leicestershire	Leicestershire V Durham Staffordshire V Cumbria	<p style="text-align: center;">Pool 1 Winner</p> <p style="text-align: center;">V</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pool 2 Winner</p>
POOL 2 Warwickshire North Midlands Somerset Hampshire	Somerset V Warwickshire North Midlands V Hampshire	Warwickshire V North Midlands Hampshire V Somerset	Hampshire V Warwickshire North Midlands V Somerset	

Tier 3

Round 1 6th May

Round 2 13th May

Round 3 20th May

Final 28th May

POOL 1
NLD
Buckinghamshire
Essex
Oxfordshire

Buckinghamshire **v** Oxfordshire
NLD **v** Essex

Buckinghamshire **v** NLD
Oxfordshire **v** Essex

Essex **v** Buckinghamshire
Oxfordshire **v** NLD

Pool 1 Winner
v
Pool 2 Winner

POOL 2
Sussex
Dorset & Wilts
Berkshire
Middlesex

Middlesex **v** Berkshire
Sussex **v** Dorset & Wilts

Middlesex **v** Dorset & Wilts
Berkshire **v** Sussex

Dorset & Wilts **v** Berkshire
Sussex **v** Middlesex