



**England
Rugby**

County Championships

**WOMEN'S COUNTY
CHAMPIONSHIPS
FIXTURES**

2016-17

INTRODUCTION

Thank you to everyone who took part in last season's County Championship competition, especially all the players and volunteers who made it such a great success. The feedback from the pilot has been positive, with some useful lessons for the coming season.

I am pleased to announce that the regional plate competition will be expanded in 2016/17 to a national competition, this is following your feedback and the number of counties who expressed a wish to take part in a national competition.

It is the committee's intention to continue to look at the competition structures and how best to meet its objective in Season 2017/18. We will continue to strive to provide the most appropriate playing opportunities for the players.

Attached are the fixtures for next season, you will notice there has been some movement between the plate and cup. Where possible the committee has mirrored when the women's and men's teams have their home fixtures so counties have the opportunity to hold double headers. If there is disagreement between the two participating counties on when the game can be played the women's fixture should be held on the Sunday of the specified weekend.

In the following weeks we will be sending out information confirming the regulations and the financial support package available to each county together with advice on effective delivery of County matches.

To help with trials and selection, eligibility for the county remains the same as last year. If anyone has any questions about eligibility, please contact Richard Tamplin (020 8831 6761).

Thank you again and good luck for the coming season.

Helen Duggan
Chair
Women's County Championship sub-committee

Richard Tamplin
RFU Competitions
Women's CC Lead

Appendix 1 Women's County Cup

	Pool 1	Pool 2	Pool 3	Pool 4
1	Cumbria	North Midlands	Sussex	Devon
2	Durham	NLD	Kent	Gloucestershire
3	Lancashire	Staffordshire	East Midlands	Berkshire
4	Northumberland	Yorkshire	Middlesex	Surrey

Fixtures

	30th April 2017	8th May 2017	14th May 2017
Pool 1	Northumberland v Durham	Lancashire v Northumberland	Durham v Lancashire
Pool 1	Cumbria v Lancashire	Durham v Cumbria	Cumbria v Northumberland
Pool 2	Yorkshire v NLD	Yorkshire v North Midlands	Staffordshire v Yorkshire
Pool 2	North Midlands v Staffordshire	NLD v Staffordshire	NLD v North Midlands
Pool 3	Kent v Sussex	East Midlands v Sussex	Kent v East Midlands
Pool 3	Middlesex v East Midlands	Middlesex v Kent	Sussex v Middlesex
Pool 4	Gloucester v Devon	Devon v Surrey	Berkshire v Devon
Pool 4	Surrey v Berkshire	Berkshire v Gloucester	Gloucestershire v Surrey

	21st May 2017	Host Venue
Semi Final 1	Winner Pool 1 v Winner Pool 2	Winner Pool 1
Semi Final 2	Winner Pool 3 v Winner Pool 4	Winner Pool 4

	28th May 2017	Host Venue
Final	Winner Semi Final 1 v Winner Semi Finals 2	TBC

All matches are currently set on a Sunday as per the Women's calendar but we are happy if both Counties are in agreement for the game to be played anytime over the weekend.

Appendix 2 Women's Plate

	Pool 1	Pool 2
1	Somerset	Eastern Counties
2	Buckinghamshire	Warwickshire
3	Hertfordshire	Oxfordshire
4	Hampshire	Leicestershire
5	Essex	Cheshire

Fixtures

Pool 1	Pool 2
23rd April 2017	23rd April 2017
Somerset v Buckinghamshire	Eastern Counties v Warwickshire
Hertfordshire v Bye	Oxfordshire v Bye
Hampshire v Essex	Leicestershire v Cheshire
30th April 2017	30th April 2017
Hertfordshire v Somerset	Oxfordshire v Eastern Counties
Buckinghamshire v Hampshire	Warwickshire v Leicestershire
Essex v Bye	Cheshire v Bye
7th May 2017	7th May 2017
Hampshire v Somerset	Leicestershire v Eastern Counties
Essex v Hertfordshire	Cheshire v Oxfordshire
Buckinghamshire v Bye	Warwickshire v Bye
14th May 2017	14th May 2017
Somerset v Essex	Eastern Counties v Cheshire
Buckinghamshire v Hertfordshire	Warwickshire v Oxfordshire
Hampshire v Bye	Leicestershire v Bye
21st May 2017	21st May 2017
Hertfordshire v Hampshire	Oxfordshire v Leicestershire
Essex v Buckinghamshire	Cheshire v Warwickshire
Somerset v Bye	Eastern Counties v Bye

Winner of Pool 1 v Winner of Pool 2 to play in the Plate Final on the 28th May 2017

All matches are currently set on a Sunday as per the Women's calendar but we are happy if both Counties are in agreement for the game to be played anytime over the weekend.