Age Grade Rugby launches in September 2016. RFU staff must play our part in championing the rollout and modelling best practice. Some of what we have delivered previously will need adjusting. If our RFU activities don't align with the changes, we can't expect everyone else's to. This means that we must.......

## PLAY TO THE REGULATIONS

REGULATION

- Observe the start and end dates of the season 3/9/16 to 1/5/17
- Only organise approved out-of-season rugby (Reg 15.6 & 15.8)
- Obtain the right permissions for activities from the CB/CSU
- Meet the rules on playing up and down ages (Reg 15.3, 4 & 5)
- Mixed rugby finishes at U11



## **PLAY TO THE COMPETITIVE MENU**

- Festivals only until U12 don't base progress solely on results, use our <u>values</u>
- Waterfall tournaments at U12-13 every team plays same number of matches
- Knockouts from U14 and Leagues from U15
- Observe the age group menu for representative rugby at sub-county/district and county level

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If in doubt, please get in touch

## PLAY TO THE PLAYING CALENDAR

- Only organise competitive opportunities in the blue weeks for schools and orange weeks for clubs (in Girls rugby & Boys U12-16 rugby) at all levels (incl All Schools, Central Venue Comps, etc)
- Observe the Boys U17-18 calendar and CB/DPP dates

## PLAY TO THE RULES

- Keep <u>player safety</u> front and centre
- The rules of play are the maximum point/ to which an age group can play – use flexibility but don't go beyond them
- Lineout progression is from U14-16



