



**Minety RFC, The Playing Fields, Minety, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9QU**

## **Cancellation of, or Concession, of a Rugby Match by Minety RFC**

### **Statements of Intent.**

Minety RFC aligns itself with all RFU and Dorset and Wiltshire league and cup requirements regarding the fulfilment of arranged fixtures with other clubs.

Minety RFC has agreed that if a Minety team has insufficient numbers it should always approach the opposition for a friendly match with the priority that all players who wish to play for Minety should be given the chance so to do.

In the event of playing conditions being deemed unsuitable (on the advice of a local referee after a pitch inspection and subsequent conversation with the League Secretary (see details at end of document), the Minety RFC captain and the groundsman) for a rugby match, Minety RFC will inform all relevant parties and endeavour to find a valid alternative location before resorting to cancelling / postponing / conceding a match.

### **Plan of Action**

In a situation where a captain of a Minety team due to play a league or cup match finds themselves without sufficient numbers, or finds available pitches unplayable, by 10.30am on the match day at the latest they shall:

1. Contact the Dorset and Wilts League Secretary to discuss the nature of matter
2. Inform the Club Fixture Secretary
3. Contact the opposition captain (or ask the Fixture Secretary to do so) and inform them that the club had insufficient players to fulfil the fixture but offer a "friendly" match subject to sufficient numbers being available from both sides to make such a match viable or, in the event of unsuitable playing conditions, inform them of the advice of the local referee and the possibility of playing the match at an alternative location.
4. Contact the referee (or ask the Fixture Secretary to contact the referee) to inform them that the match has been cancelled / conceded or has been re-arranged as a friendly fixture, in which case the referee may well want to withdraw and alternative plans could be made. In the event of a cancellation because of pitch conditions the referee should be informed of any alternative arrangements agreed between the two clubs involved.
5. Inform the Press Officer and, if the post is held by another person, the officer in charge of the web site and social media outlets.
6. Inform the captain(s) of other relevant Minety teams as to the cancellation / concession so that players could be transferred where required.
7. In the event of a home fixture being cancelled, contact: a). The MPFA (about opening up the clubhouse); b). the Groundsman (to prevent unnecessary work on the pitch); and c). the Caterer (to prevent waste of time and valuable resources).



## Rationale

Minety RFC's decision to fall in line with league / cup requirements regarding early decisions about cancellations / concessions comes from a desire to give all players the chance to play a meaningful game of rugby whilst respecting the need to inform the opposition, externally appointed officials and the league in good time to prevent valuable time being wasted.

Minety RFC appreciates that the self-imposed 10.30am deadline allows little time for those no longer involved in a match to make alternative arrangements but is aware of the following:

Where possible Minety RFC will inform the necessary groups / individuals (outlined in the Plan of Action above) as soon as possible when a fixture cannot be fulfilled either as an official match or as a friendly.

However, weather conditions and the fitness of players to play after injury mean that often decisions on matches cannot be made until the morning of the match.

There are players every week who are injured and tend to make decisions on their fitness on a Friday in order to give themselves the best possible chance of making the game. By establishing an earlier deadline, both Minety RFC and the opposition lose a day's worth of injury recovery which can make a substantial difference at times.

## Contacts

League Secretary Division 1 North: John Constable 01929 551468 Mobile: 07970 500357 Email: [dw1n@swrugby.co.uk](mailto:dw1n@swrugby.co.uk)

League Secretary Division 3 North: C Drake Mobile: 07967 808515 Email: [dw3n@swrugby.co.uk](mailto:dw3n@swrugby.co.uk)

1st XV Captain: Ben Scott – Email: [bencharlesscott@gmail.com](mailto:bencharlesscott@gmail.com)

2nd XV Captain: Steve Wilson. 07753191564 Email: [sjw166@gmail.com](mailto:sjw166@gmail.com)

Chairman: Andrew Grayson - Email: [andrew.grayson@live.co.uk](mailto:andrew.grayson@live.co.uk)

Fixture Secretary: Kieran Tillotson – Email: [tillotsonkieran@gmail.com](mailto:tillotsonkieran@gmail.com) Mobile 07384 671869

Press Officer: Del Murray – Email: [dellammrfc@gmail.com](mailto:dellammrfc@gmail.com)

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+ Opposition Captain / Fixture Secretary

Referee

Ref: Cancellation Concession of games 2020 2021