

Old Albanian Rugby Football Club

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The Woollam Playing Fields 160 Harpenden Road St Albans Herts AL3 6BB
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Herts County Youth Cup & Plate 2009

Organised by Old Albanian RFC

Competition Rules

General

The County Cup part of the competition is for the highest ranked eight teams in each age group. This will be a three-round straight knock-out event with, effectively, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals.

The County Plate part of the competition is for all other clubs and teams, including B and C teams, whether from Clubs with teams in the Cup part or not but up to a maximum of 16 teams. This is intended to be of four rounds, also a straight knock-out competition. If there are 8 teams or less for the Plate in an age group then this will be reduced to three rounds. If more than 16 teams apply in an age-group the Organisers shall determine whether C teams shall be excluded or whether date of receipt of entries shall be used to eliminate the excess teams.

In all matters the decision of the Herts County Youth Cup & Plate Organising Committee will be final and, once made, no further discussion will be entered into

Draw and seeding

Cup ranking: The semi-finalists from the previous year's Cup competition are seeded in this year's Cup competition. The other four teams in the Under 14 to 17 age-groups are the highest ranked four teams from previous season's Herts Middx Leagues, not already qualifying as semi-finalists but these will not be seeded. The **seeded** four teams in the Under 13 age-group are the semi-finalists in the previous season's Shield competition **and the other four teams are the remaining quarter-finalists**.

There will be no seeding for the Plate competition.

The Draw will take place on Sunday **30 November 2008 at 14:00 pm**.

Schedule

The schedule of dates for the 2009 competition are as set out in the table on page 3 of these rules. The default dates are shown as well as the 'windows' within which alternative dates may be arranged. Round 3 matches will only be relevant for Plate age groups with nine or more teams.

*Alternative match dates, if required, should be agreed **between the teams** as soon as possible following publication of the draw results and the dates confirmed by the home team to the Organisers by 20 December 2008 at the latest for Round 1 matches or within 7 days of the previous Round match/es for Rounds 2 or 3. **In the event that teams cannot mutually agree or the Organisers are not notified of re-arranged alternative dates by these dates, the default dates shown on the schedule shall stand unless the Organising Committee decide otherwise.***

The purpose of allowing alternative dates is to enable teams to avoid County or National commitments, school holidays and tours, any of which should be known in advance. It is not to handle missing or injured players. Once agreed the fixture dates are to be adhered to unless cancelled by the referee due to pitch or weather conditions or by approval of the Organisers (e.g. as a result of commitment subsequently arising due to National competition knock-out success). In the event of any disagreement over date/s the decision of the Organising Committee will be final.

A team not fulfilling a fixture will forfeit the game to the opposition on the basis of a 40 - 0 points victory.

Laws

All games will be played under the laws of the game (Under 15's and Under 19 variations) as published by the RFU. Sin bins will be applied **and 'rolling-substitutions' will be allowed** in ALL Matches.

Duration & Ball Size

The Pool games will be played according to the following timings:

U13 & U14: two halves of 25 minutes each, size 4 ball

U15: two halves of 30 minutes each, size 5 ball

U16 & U17: two halves of 35 minutes each, size 5 ball

Once the two halves have been completed, no extra time will be played.

Referees

Each Club entering the competition is required to nominate a person for each age-group taking part who may be called upon by the Organisers to referee one match other than one in which their team is playing.

It is the responsibility of the home team to provide an independent referee **qualified by a recognised rugby body**. In this context, 'independent' means that the referee is not attached to either team's club and is not a current or previous player, VP, parent or elected officer of either club. If an independent qualified referee is not available then the home team must inform the visiting team at least seven full days in advance that:

- they have not been able to provide an independent qualified referee and
- they wish to provide a competent, qualified alternative referee attached to the home team club and acceptable to the visiting team as an alternative or
- they wish the visiting team to provide an independent referee.

At this point the visiting team has the option of

- accepting the attached referee proposed by the home team (if they have done so) or
- providing an independent qualified referee for the whole game or
- asking the Organisers to appoint an independent referee from the pool of names submitted to them.

The Organising Committee will ensure qualified/Society referees are available for the finals and hope also to be able to provide them for the Semi-finals.

Squad sizes and substitutions

In line with the laws of the game, the squad sizes at any given match will be a maximum of 22. **In squads of 16, 17 or 18 members at least 4 must be capable of playing in the front row, in squads of 19 or 20 at least 5 and squads of 21 or 22 at least 6 must be capable of playing in the front row. Front row capability must be indicated on the Squad sheets. The referee will decide the penalty for failure to arrive for a match with the required front row capability.**

The coach for each team will be responsible for managing substitutions and replacements. **See Laws above.**

At the finals, the organising club will be responsible for providing an official who will monitor the replacement of players.

Clubs entering more than one team in an age-group shall submit a squad sheet for each team to the organisers before the start of the Round 1 matches. Subsequent substitutions between teams shall be **notified to, and** agreed by, the organisers beforehand.

Eligibility & Registration

All players **MUST** be registered by the club under the RFU registration scheme; any club can request visibility of registration cards for any player/players from the opposing side during the Round 1-3 matches.

All players must have played at least one game prior to 01/01/2009 for their club.

All players playing in the finals must have played at least one game in the previous rounds of the competition.

For the finals a team sheet must be submitted with all substitutes named at the latest one day prior to the final direct to the organising club, a check of teams will be made on the finals day against registration cards.

Winners

In line with the continuum, no extra time will be played. Therefore, in the event of a draw **in a Round 1 – 3 match**, the following will be used to determine the winner:

- a) The team scoring the most tries,
- b) The team with the most conversions,
- c) The team that scored the last point in the match.

If there is still no winner then a toss of a coin by the referee shall determine the winner.

In **a** final if, after full time, the scores remain equal, the trophy will be shared.

Results

Squad sheets must be completed **in duplicate** and **one copy** exchanged prior to commencement of all matches. Each team must keep a copy of their own squads for presentation if they reach the finals. The result must be recorded on the Home club's sheet and both sheets signed by both teams and Referee.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that these results are submitted within two days of the games taking place in one of the following ways:

Email: peter@buttle.co.uk or by Fax: 01923 850008

The fixtures and results will be available on OA's Junior website www.oajrfc.com

Dates

W/S	Date	Fixtures U13	Win dow	Fixtures U14	Win dow	Fixtures U15	Win dow	Fixtures U16	Win dow	Fixtures U17	Win dow	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17
Published Dates																
S	Sun 04-Jan-09					CUP & PLATE R 1										
W	Sat 10-Jan-09															
S	Sun 11-Jan-09	CUP & PLATE R 1		CUP & PLATE R 1						CUP & PLATE R 1						
W	Sat 17-Jan-09		1		1											
S	Sun 18-Jan-09								1			HML D1-6	HML D1-6		HML D2	HML D1-4
W	Sat 24-Jan-09															
S	Sun 25-Jan-09															
W	Sat 31-Jan-09												HML D6	HML D1-5	HML D1-5	
S	Sun 01-Feb-09							CUP & PLATE R 1								
W	Sat 07-Feb-09															
S	Sun 08-Feb-09	CUP & PLATE R 2		CUP & PLATE R 2		CUP & PLATE R 2									HML D1-5	HML D1-4
W	Sat 14-Feb-09		2		2											
S	Sun 15-Feb-09							CUP & PLATE R 2		CUP & PLATE R 2						
W	Sat 21-Feb-09								2							
S	Sun 22-Feb-09															
W	Sat 28-Feb-09															
S	Sun 01-Mar-09											HML D1-6	HML D1-6			
W	Sat 07-Mar-09															
S	Sun 08-Mar-09	PLATE R 3		PLATE R 3				PLATE R 3						HML D1-5		HML D1-4
W	Sat 14-Mar-09		3		3											
S	Sun 15-Mar-09															
W	Sat 21-Mar-09					PLATE R 3										
S	Sun 22-Mar-09									PLATE R 3		HML D1-6	HML D1-6		HML D1-5	
W	Sat 28-Mar-09															
S	Sun 29-Mar-09												HML D6	HML D1-5		HML D1-4
W	Sat 04-Apr-09															
S	Sun 05-Apr-09															National
W	Sat 11-Apr-09															
S	Sun 12-Apr-09	Easter Sunday		Easter Sunday		Easter Sunday		Easter Sunday		Easter Sunday						
W	Sat 18-Apr-09															
S	Sun 19-Apr-09															National
W	Sat 25-Apr-09															
S	Sun 26-Apr-09	CUP & PLATE Final		CUP & PLATE Final		CUP & PLATE Final		CUP & PLATE Final		CUP & PLATE Final						
W	Sat 02-May-09	Herts 10s (?)		Herts 10s (?)												
S	Sun 03-May-09					Herts 10s (?)		Herts 10s (?)		Herts 10s (?)						National
Key																
	6 days to Saturday	Herts Cup & Plate														
	Term-time Sunday	Herts Middx League														
	School Holiday	Friendly														
		Festival														
		County Dev														
		National														



**Herts County Youth Cup and Plate
Match Squad and Results Sheet**

HOME CLUB _____

AGE GROUP: UNDER ____

*Round 1 2 3 _____ Cup / Plate

AWAY CLUB _____

DATE ___/___/2009 KO ___:___ am/pm

***Home | Away Squad:**

* Circle/delete as applicable

Name	Date of Birth	RFU Number	Front Row?
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			

RESULT Home Team Score _____ Tries _____ Conversions _____

Away Team Score _____ Tries _____ Conversions _____

**Signatures
And Names**

Home Team	
Away Team	
Referee	

Completed sheets to be retained by home club and on request sent to:
Peter Buttle, St Botolphs, Shenleybury, Shenley, Radlett, Herts WD7 9DL