



Middlesex Under 12 Championships – FAQs

Q - The draw shows 4 teams at the venue – does everyone play each other?

A - Where there are 4 clubs there will still be only 2 matches so you miss one team who you may be meeting at a later venue.

Q - My club is hosting – how many pitches do I need?

A - For 4 team meetings ideally you will have access to one adult rugby pitch so that you can run two U12 matches side by side.

A - For 3 team meeting only one U12 pitch (60mx43m) is required.

Q - Is there a set time for the matches to be played?

There is a 10am kick off for the first match set in the Championship Rules.

4 team meeting with 2 pitches				Note
Time	Pitch	Teams	Ref	The second kick-off time may be brought forward provided all teams get the minimum 30 minutes recovery time between games.
10:00	1	Av B	D	
10:00	2	C vD	A	
11:15	1	Av C	B	
11:15	2	B vD	C	
4 team meeting with 1 pitches				Note
Time	Pitch	Teams	Ref	The delay between the second and third match must allow Team C 30 minutes recovery time. This was put in for the players' welfare and should not be overridden by those just wanting to finish earlier.
10:00	1	Av B	D	
10:35	1	C v D	A	
11:40	1	A v C	B	
12:15	1	B v D	C	
3 team meeting with 1 pitches				Note
Time	Pitch	Teams	Ref	The timings allow for the 30 minute recovery time. In the case of a match finish delayed through injury the 30 minute minimum recovery time should still be applied.
10:00	1	A v B	C	
11:05	1	A v C	B	
12:10	1	B v C	A	

Q - What are the maximum squad sizes?

A – At U12 there are 12 players on the pitch. The RFU no longer sets a maximum squad size for U12s in Age Grade Rugby. Middlesex expects you to balance bringing enough players to compete for the hour of match play your squad will be involved in against the need to give each player a decent amount of game time. Most squads in 2017-18 year hovered around 15-17 players per team.

Q - What do we do if we are unable to host on the particular day?

A – The teams listed for a particular round can talk to each other and agree a different host. The order of matches and who plays who has to remain the same. So if A can't host and the matches end up at D's ground the original A will still play B and C and miss out playing D.

Q – What happens ahead of the day?

A - The host clubs use the contacts provided to ensure instructions are sent to the visiting clubs. Instructions should include the location, parking instructions, details of who to ask for on the day and what time you are expecting teams to turn up, whether or not you are providing food afterwards and if there is a changing room provided.

Q – What happens on the day?

A - The host club gathers and agrees the scores before sending them in to the U12s organizer (richardwhite09@gmail.com) later that day.

In reality most clubs tweet the scores as they happen to [@MiddxU12League](https://twitter.com/MiddxU12League) as they happen.

Q - What happens post match?

A - Traditionally the host clubs have put on food for the visiting teams and supporters.

With the transition to Youth rugby many clubs take the opportunity to introduce their boys (it is boys only now under Age Grade Rules) to getting changed after a game, short post-match speeches etc.

Q – Are there any mistakes in the Country Framework document issued by Middlesex?

A – The Framework document is based on the original (pre Age Grade Rugby) set of Rules.

The eagle-eyed amongst you may have spotted the requirement to provide a pitch with posts and that the losing bonus point is awarded for a team within seven points or less. Please ignore both those comments – the losing bonus point is awarded for a team being within one try of the winner.

Q – Why is a bonus point awarded for scoring 3 tries in a match?

A – Your U12s are only playing 30 minute games.

Middlesex used a 4 try count for a bonus point in the earlier years but only a few teams achieved this. The 3 try count was settled on in the 2013-14 season and everyone to date has agreed to carry it forward at the annual U12s meeting.

Q – What happens to our Herts & Middlesex ranking if our squad changes after U12?

A – The Middlesex Under 12 Festival / Championships (née League) is used as an useful indicator for your placing in the Herts and Middlesex Youth Leagues. If your team gains or loses a load of players at the end of this season you can always ask them to bear that in mind. As with this event the League organizers only want your players to be exposed to a level of rugby that is competitive and safe.