

Uncontested Scrums Directive 2022

Divisions applied to:

- U13 Boys, U14 Boys, U16 Boys, U18 Boys,
- U14 Girls, U16 Girls, U18 Girls and Women's

In order to assist coaches, managers & referees the TDRU is putting in place measures to ensure that contested scrums are encouraged, and an appropriate timeline is put in place for teams to prepare before punitive measures are taken. If they are taken, they are simple and easy to apply by the match official, opposing teams and competition managers.

Teams and Clubs will have until the 31st of May to train suitable front rowers to be able to contest scrums in matches from Under 13s to Under 18s in Boys and all Female Divisions.

Following this date, the below information from the TDRU competition rules (6.2) will be adopted.

Note: this will have no effect on the replacement players in these selected Junior and Female Divisions.

There must be sufficient players to play in the front row to ensure that on the first occasion that a replacement hooker is required, and on the first occasion that a replacement prop forward is required, the team can continue to play safely with contested scrums.

Should a team not be able to meet this obligation for any reason during a game, or should a team not have three suitably trained front row players to commence a game with contested scrums, then the team concerned must play with one player fewer than would otherwise be allowed.

If, subsequently, a qualified front rower becomes available so that scrums can be contested then that player will be allowed onto the field and the team may return to the appropriate complement of players.

If neither team has suitably trained front row players to start a game with contested scrums, the above arrangements do not apply to the game, even if qualified front rowers subsequently become available.