



Spitfire Gold Veterans Competition

Our thanks once again to Shepherd-Neame who have provided Sponsorship to this competition for a 3rd consecutive year, accompanied by a re-branding to promote Spitfire Gold and support Golden Oldies Rugby.

Principles of the competition.

Competition Objectives

1. This year, we welcome seven clubs from Metropolitan Kent into the Tier 1 of the competition.
2. The aim of the Competition is to help sustain Vets rugby in Kent by providing a coherent, meaningful and enjoyable competition for older players.
3. The first principle is that we should strive to conduct ourselves in a gentlemanly, hospitable and sporting manner in our dealings with one another.
4. There is no point in playing rugby unless we are trying to win but participation is also important and all participants should make every effort to get their matches played – and on time.
5. Sunday afternoons are preferred to encourage wider support and boost club bar profits.
6. The competition is divided into two Tiers, to cater for larger and smaller clubs – in the interests of realistic competition.
7. The Pool stages are grouped geographically to avoid excessive travelling
8. There will be a Cup and Plate Final in each Tier to be played on a finals day in the County Town. (For the sake of differentiation, Tier 1 has a Cup and Plate. Tier 2 has a Bowl and Shield)

Competition Rules

The structure is Pools of 4 teams playing 3 games each, followed by Cup and Plate Semi-Finals for the teams finishing 1st and 2nd in Tier 1 and Bowl and Shield Semi-Finals for the teams finishing 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th in Tier 2. (This is because there are 16 teams in Tier 1 this year but still only 8 in Tier 2).

1. Group stages to follow the same rules and points scoring system as the Shepherd Neame Kent Rural Leagues except:
 - No limit on size of squad and number of replacements used
 - No players under 35
 - Maximum of 5 players in 35-39 age group on the field at any time.
 - Front row rules as per Kent Rural except that if a team becomes unable to contest scrums, they lose a player from the field of play. (This is intended to combat "tactical injuries" to front-row players)
2. Knockout stages as above. In the event of a tie after 80 minutes, the away team wins, except in the Finals, when a tied game will be awarded to the team scoring most tries, or if still tied, most converted tries or if still tied, drop-goal shoot-out for 5 players.
3. All games to be played on or before the default date except where weather intervenes. Matches to be re-arranged by agreement of both teams and the organizers.
4. There is no requirement for participants to be paid-up club members of the participating clubs, as we are trying to encourage retired players to turn out 4 or 5 times a season with their old mates. Each club can handle this as they see fit.
5. Home team to provide food and society ref.

Notes to Spitfire Gold Veterans Competition 2016-17.

1. Semi-Finals default date is Sat feb 25th, Finals day is Sunday March 19th.
2. In Tier 1, The winners of each pool will progress to Cup semi-finals, A vs B, C vs D
3. In Tier 1, The Runners-up of each pool will progress to Plate semi-finals, A vs B, C vs D.
4. In Tier 2, The Winners of Pools will play the runners up of the other Tier 2 pool for a place in the Bowl Final
5. In Tier 2, The 3rd placed teams will play the 4th placed teams in the other Tier 2 pool for a place in the Shield final.
6. Semi Final Home draw will go to any team that received only 1 home game in the pool stages. If this applies to both of a pair of semi-finalists, the home-draw will go to the team with most Pool-stage points.
7. Pool stage points will be allocated as per Junior League structure ie 4 points for a win, 3 points for a draw, 1 point for a loss, 0 points for forfeit, 1 bonus point for a losing score within 7 points of winners.
8. Please contact Kent Refs Society asap, to book society referees.

Group A Tier 1

Default Date	Home Team	Away team	Result	Score
Sunday 13th Nov	Canterbury	Thanet		
Sunday 13th Nov	Dover	Ashford		
Sunday 4th Dec	Ashford	Canterbury		
Sunday 4th Dec	Thanet	Dover		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Canterbury	Dover		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Ashford	Thanet		

Group B Tier 1

Default Date	Home Team	Away team	Result	Score
Sunday 13th Nov	Maidstone	Ton Judds		
Sunday 13th Nov	Medway	T Wells		

Sunday 4th Dec	Ton Judds	Medway		
Sunday 4th Dec	T Wells	Maidstone		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Medway	Maidstone		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Ton Judds	T Wells		

Group C Tier 1

<u>Default Date</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>Away team</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Score</u>
Sunday 13th Nov	Beccs	Bromley		
Sunday 13th Nov	Sevenoaks	W'combe Pk		
Sunday 4th Dec	Bromley	Sevenoaks		
Sunday 4th Dec	W'combe Pk	Beccs		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Beccs	Sevenoaks		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Bromley	W'combe Pk		

Group D Tier 1

<u>Default Date</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>Away team</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Score</u>
Sunday 13th Nov	Charlton Pk	Colfes		
Sunday 13th Nov	Elthamians	Sidcup		
Sunday 4th Dec	Colfes	Elthamians		
Sunday 4th Dec	Sidcup	Charlton Pk		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Colfes	Sidcup		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Elthamians	Charlton Pk		

East Kent Tier 2

<u>Default Date</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>Away team</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Score</u>
Sunday 13th Nov	Sheppey	Sittingbourne		
Sunday 13th Nov	Aylesford	TBA		
Sunday 4th Dec	Aylesford	Sittingbourne		
Sunday 4th Dec	TBA	Sheppey		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Sittingbourne	TBA		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Sheppey	Aylesford		

West Kent Tier 2

<u>Default Date</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>Away team</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Score</u>
Sunday 13th Nov	Cranbrook	Vigo		
Sunday 13th Nov	Gravesendians	New Ash Green		
Sunday 4th Dec	Vigo	Gravesendians		
Sunday 4th Dec	Cranbrook	New Ash Green		
Sunday Jan 22nd	Gravesendians	Cranbrook		
Sunday Jan 22nd	New Ash Green	Vigo		