

## DORSET & WILTS RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

## **Dorset and Wilts CB Walking Rugby Festival 2023**

The Festival will be held on 18 March at Pewsey Vale RFC, commencing at 10.30 (first game at 11). Pewsey Vale are providing room for 4 pitches, we will provide tea and coffee for players. Catering will be self-funded unfortunately (we have a small budget for the event as a trial) Owing to no kitchen staff available on the day Pewsey Vale are arranging an external catering van to be present.

We intend having 8 teams participating in 2 groups of 4 playing an initial round robin of 3 games each then play a final round of table A playing Table B in final positions. The Festival Final being the winner of each Pool playing each other. Trophies for Winner and Runner up will be awarded. Currently we would be asking some clubs to provide a second team to make up 8. Until we have final numbers of entries we can't say yes or no to that. But second teams would need to be in same pool as first team to prevent the risk of final being between same club.

Games will be played to the Rules defined by the SW group that have more or less been adopted nationally now. The rules show Scrums as optional, note: **no Scrums will be played in this festival**.

We expect each team to provide a referee. That can be a non-playing referee if you wish. Teams will be 10 players and games will be 7 a side (rolling subs) & 7 minutes each way.

Teams must be from Clubs having bone fide Walking Rugby team set up – this should be on GMS by the way. Players must be Bone Fide Walking Rugby (WR) Players. Where possible teams should be declared as mixed ability and Gender – we can't stipulate this as we don't know whether all clubs have Male and female players. While RFU no longer stipulate a minimum age for WR we expect unless in the event of ability most players would be over 40, but will not discriminate as long as the player is a regular WR player.

To comply with (sensible) RFU regulation of medical assistance we are required to have sufficient qualified first aiders at the festival. To make life simpler for all we request that each team should have a qualified first aider as part of the club contingent. Some clubs will have more than 1 but as long as we have at least 4 on site we are covered from a governance PoV.

