



1. Western Regional League

1.1. Definition

- 1.1.a. The Western Regional League is a mid-tier competition in the national league korfball structure in England administered by the England Korfball Association (EKA).
- 1.1.b. The EKA Area Associations of Oxfordshire (OKA) and South West (SWKA) and the National Association of Wales (WKA) shall be the Constituent Associations for the Western Regional League.
- 1.1.c. One Constituent Association shall be the host Association. This will change annually as specified in Appendix A.
- 1.1.d. Local League, as used in these rules, shall be the League of each Constituent Association from which teams are able to gain promotion to the Western Regional League.
- 1.1.e. Any club that is a member of a Constituent Association shall be allowed to participate in the Western Regional League, subject to these Rules. Only clubs from Constituent Associations shall be permitted to participate in the Western Regional League.
- 1.1.f. The official colour of the WRL shall be Blue Violet and specified as Hexadecimal Value #AC2FEE and RGB 172,471238.

2. Short Form

- 2.1.a. The Western Regional League shall be shortened to WRL.

3. Administration

3.1. Alterations

- 3.1.a. Alterations to the Rules specified in the main text of this document shall be by agreement between the Constituent Associations.
- 3.1.b. Alterations to the Appendices shall be by agreement between the WRL Committee.

3.2. WRL Committee

- 3.2.a. The WRL shall be managed by a committee comprised of one designated representative from each Constituent Association.
- 3.2.b. No individual shall be the designated representative for more than one Constituent Association.
- 3.2.c. The WRL Committee shall manage the WRL according to these Rules.
- 3.2.d. The WRL Committee shall have the power to adjudicate on any matter not clearly defined within these Rules.
- 3.2.e. All decisions made by the WRL Committee shall be binding subject to appeal as defined under clause 10.3.

3.3. WRL Coordinator

- 3.3.a. The WRL Committee shall appoint a WRL Coordinator, as specified in Appendix A.
- 3.3.b. The Coordinator shall create a set of fixtures.
- 3.3.c. The Coordinator shall maintain fixtures and results using the EKA specified process.
- 3.3.d. The Coordinator shall maintain disciplinary records using the EKA specified process.

3.4. Finances

- 3.4.a. The WRL Committee shall arrange for the receipt and payment of monies as required to manage the WRL and the recording thereof.
- 3.4.b. The WRL Committee shall maintain records of financial transactions and present them annually and on request by a Constituent Association.



- 3.4.c. All monies, including fines levied under these rules, shall be paid to the WRL Committee within 30 days of their being requested
- 3.4.d. Clubs that fail to pay monies, including fines, by the date requested may be subject to an additional fee as specified in Appendix B.
- 3.4.e. Such funds as are raised by the WRL in respect of fines and other activities shall ordinarily be used for development within the Constituent Associations. The WRL Committee shall have responsibility for decisions on such expenditure.

3.5. Trophies

- 3.5.a. The WRL Trophy and any other trophy awarded by the WRL shall remain the property of the WRL unless otherwise stated.
- 3.5.b. Clubs are responsible for trophies while in their charge or the charge of their members. The cost of any damage or replacement shall be the responsibility of the club in charge.
- 3.5.c. WRL shall be responsible for engraving the trophies.

4. Structure

4.1. Entry

- 4.1.a. The WRL shall consist of nine teams unless varied in accordance with Appendix E.
- 4.1.b. Clubs shall confirm the entry of their team(s) by the date specified in Appendix A.
- 4.1.c. No more than two teams from any one club shall participate in the WRL.
- 4.1.d. Clubs shall pay their entry fees, as specified in Appendix A, by the date specified in Appendix A.
- 4.1.e. Clubs must meet the requirements set out in Appendix C.
- 4.1.f. Constituent Associations shall confirm clubs meet the requirements set out in Appendix C by the date specified in Appendix A.
- 4.1.g. Teams shall play each other in two fixtures, one at home and one away, unless varied in accordance with Appendix E.
- 4.1.h. Clubs shall arrange their home fixtures by the date specified in Appendix A.
- 4.1.i. To enable assignment of referees, clubs may be asked to alter the dates and times of fixtures by either the WRL Coordinator or the Constituent Association allocating the referee and such request may not be refused by either team, without good reason.

4.2. Ranking

- 4.2.a. Ranking positions in the WRL shall be determined by points awarded as follows :
- 2 points awarded for a win;
 - 1 point for a draw; and
 - 0 points for a loss.
- 4.2.b. Forfeited games shall be recorded with a scoreline of 10-0 against the offending side.
- 4.2.c. League positions shall be decided by using the following criteria until a distinction is reached:
- The most number of points gained.
 - The largest goal difference.
 - The most number of goals scored.
 - The fewest number of matches forfeited.



4.2.d. In the event that two or more teams are tied after 4.2.c, a new table shall be drawn up consisting only of the games between the teams still level, using the criteria above, the order of which shall determine positions in the main table.

4.2.e. If the teams tied under 4.2.d are still tied, in the event that a promotion or relegation issue is to be decided there shall be a playoff, including Golden Goal and Penalty Shootout as specified in Appendix G, between the teams concerned; otherwise the teams shall be deemed to hold the same position.

4.3. Promotion and Relegation

4.3.a. The team finishing in first place shall be the WRL Champions.

4.3.b. Promotion from the WRL is to the England Korfball League (EKL) and according to the regulations laid down by the EKA.

4.3.c. The team finishing in last place shall be relegated from the WRL. They shall return to the Local League of their Constituent Association according to the rules of that Local League.

4.4. Playoffs

4.4.a. The team finishing in second to last place shall enter a playoff with the nominated teams from each of the Local Leagues.

4.4.b. Each Constituent Association that governs a Local League is entitled to nominate a team to enter the WRL Playoffs. This shall normally be the Local League champions as determined by the Local League competition rules. The team that is relegated from the WRL may not participate in the Playoffs.

4.4.c. The WRL Playoffs shall be on a date set by the WRL Committee and shall take place after the conclusion of the EKL season including any playoffs for entry to the EKL Premier League.

4.4.d. The order of play shall be determined by the WRL Coordinator as soon as practical once participants in the Playoffs, as detailed in Appendix A, are finalised.

4.4.e. The referees, shot-clock operators and other officials shall be appointed to playoff fixtures by the WRL Coordinator.

4.4.f. Any alterations to the fixture conditions for the WRL Playoffs from those specified in clause 6 shall be specified in Appendix F.

4.4.g. Participation in the WRL Playoffs shall be subject to the requirements specified in Appendix C.

Costs, including venue hire and referee fees, for the Playoffs shall be divided equally between the teams taking part.

4.5. Extraordinary Circumstances

4.5.a. The WRL Committee may approve changes to the criteria for the WRL Structure and Promotion and Relegation to take account of circumstances that occur. Any such changes shall be specified in Appendix E.

5. Player Eligibility and Registration

5.1. Registration

5.1.a. To participate in the WRL, players shall be registered with the club and in accordance with the EKA Rules and Constitution, at least 48 hours before the date of their first fixture.

5.1.b. Once registered, a player shall not play for any other club in the WRL in the current season until the EKA or WKA has approved their transfer or registration.

5.1.c. Any transfer shall be made in accordance with the EKA Rules and Constitution and the WKA Rules and Constitution.



- 5.1.d. Players under the age of eighteen on the day of a fixture shall not play in a WRL fixture unless they are over the age of fourteen and have played in at least six Local League fixtures and the club has completed the relevant paperwork regarding safeguarding young people. Evidence of the six fixtures played shall be provided to the WRL Coordinator.

5.2. Eligibility

- 5.2.a. Unless stated otherwise, clauses 5.2.a to 5.2.i shall only apply to teams playing fixtures in the WRL or higher competitions. Clauses 5.2.a to 5.2.i do not apply to competitions below the WRL.
- 5.2.b. No player shall start in more than one fixture in one league weekend, unless it is for the same team playing in WRL.
- 5.2.c. No player who starts in a higher team fixture shall be a substitute for a lower team in the same league weekend.
- 5.2.d. No player who starts in a lower team fixture shall be a substitute for a higher team in the first twenty minutes of the higher team fixture in the same league weekend. In the case of injury to a starting player, an early substitution of a player who started a lower team fixture shall be permissible.
- 5.2.e. At the start of the season, a club shall name at least eight players, four female and four male, for each of its teams above its lowest team entered into the WRL or higher competition. Where a club has one team in the WRL or higher competitions, they are not required to name players.
- 5.2.f. Where a club is required to name players under 5.2.e, they shall maintain at least four female and four male players in the team.
- 5.2.g. The club shall be permitted to transfer players between named teams. There shall be a maximum of eight such transfers into each team, including those forced under clause 5.2.h. The WRL Committee shall monitor such transfers and may permit further transfers if deemed necessary and proper.
- 5.2.h. If a player named under clause 5.2.e does not start for the named team for three consecutive fixtures, they shall be removed from the named team and must be replaced with another player. The replacement player must have started in at least one of the previous three fixtures for that named team.
- 5.2.i. No player named in a team under 5.2.e shall play for a lower team where the lower team plays in the WRL or higher competition.
- 5.2.j. Where a club plays a player in a WRL fixture who is not registered or otherwise eligible to play, the club may be deducted points and fined as specified in Appendix B and the fixture may be forfeited.

5.3. Playoffs

- 5.3.a. A player shall be eligible to play in a playoff fixture if they have been a registered member of the club since the date specified in Appendix A.
- 5.3.b. A player shall not be eligible to play in a playoff fixture if they have started fixtures for higher teams in more than 50% of the preceding five league weekends where a higher team has played.
- 5.3.c. The names of players in the squad for the Playoffs shall be registered to the team in Fixtures Live and shall be submitted to the WRL Coordinator at least 14 days before the date of the Playoffs to enable their eligibility to be confirmed.

6. Fixture Conditions

6.1. Playing Rules



6.1.a. All fixtures shall be played according to the Rules of Korfball as laid down by the International Korfball Federation. As permitted in the Rules of Korfball, competition rules apply as specified in Appendix D.

6.2. Hall Standards

6.2.a. In accordance with EKA Policy on Venue Standards, WRL fixtures should be on a pitch no smaller than 36 x 18m and in the ratio 2:1. Where Clubs have no local venue available to meet this condition at reasonable cost, they may play on a smaller pitch of no less than 30m x 15m subject to approval from the WRL Coordinator.

6.2.b. The home team shall ensure the pitch is marked correctly, including all lines and a measured penalty spot and free pass circle.

6.2.c. The away team's zone must be marked and post positioned first as a matter of courtesy to the away team.

6.2.d. As required in the IKF Playing Rules, the home team shall provide two benches which shall be placed near one of the side-lines and, if possible, at least 2 m from the field of play. They should be placed one on each side of the middle line and at least two metres apart.

6.2.e. The home team shall provide and control a scoreboard.

6.2.f. The home team shall provide and control a shot clock. The shot clock shall be controlled by a qualified operator.

6.2.g. The home team shall provide equipment to allow the court to be dried and an individual to do so in the event it is required.

6.3. Fixture Times

6.3.a. Hall bookings must be for at least 1 hour 30 minutes and preferably for 2 hours.

6.3.b. Teams shall have a period of at least ten minutes immediately prior to the fixture start with access to one zone. The pitch must be marked and post positioned prior to this period commencing, wherever possible, to minimise interruptions.

6.4. Arrangements

6.4.a. A Provisional fixture list shall be prepared and released by the WRL Coordinator. This shall state the nominal date for each fixture.

6.4.b. Following review by clubs, the WRL Coordinator shall publish the Final fixture list.

6.4.c. The home team is responsible for venue costs.

6.4.d. The nominal date for a fixture shall be the Sunday.

6.4.e. Fixtures shall normally be arranged for the Saturday or Sunday of the weekend of the nominal date. Clubs may arrange fixtures for a date three days either side (from the preceding Thursday to the following Wednesday) of the nominal date with agreement from the other team.

6.4.f. When arranging the time for a fixture, the home team shall take into consideration the travel requirements of the away team. Teams should not be required to start their journey before 9am nor arrive home after 9pm, unless agreement is reached between both teams and the WRL Coordinator.

6.4.g. When arranging the location and time for a fixture, clubs shall take into consideration other fixtures the opposing team have scheduled for the same weekend. This is to allow teams to play two away fixtures in a weekend, or other arrangements as occur.

6.4.h. Except for exceptional circumstances, the date for a fixture shall not be changed once the Final fixture list has been published.

6.4.i. The time and venue for a fixture shall not be altered once the Final fixture list has been published, unless agreement is reached between both teams and the WRL Coordinator.

6.5. Incomplete and Forfeited Matches



- 6.5.a. In the event that a fixture cannot be completed according to clause 6.4 , the fixture may be awarded to the non-offending team if one of the teams is at fault. If neither team is at fault, the fixture shall be postponed.
- 6.5.b. In the event that a team forfeits a fixture, they shall pay any reasonable losses incurred by the non-offending team and a fine may be imposed as specified in Appendix B.
- 6.5.c. In the event that a team fails to complete three or more fixtures in the season, they will forfeit their right to compete in the WRL in the following season. A club with a team in such a situation shall have the right to an appeal according to clause 10.3

6.6. Fixture Reporting

- 6.6.a. In accordance with EKA policy, clubs shall complete fixture details on the relevant fixtures system within 1 week of the conclusion of a fixture. Fixture details include the list of starting players, the list of substitutions made, the time of substitutions made, the list of scorers and goals scored, the name of the Most Valuable Player, and the name of the shot clock operator.
- 6.6.b. Clubs failing to comply with clause 6.6.a may have points deducted from the offending team and be fined as specified in Appendix B.
- 6.6.c. At the end of each fixture, each team shall select one player from the opposition team as their Most Valuable Player (MVP). The captain shall inform the opposition team of the selection.

6.7. Playing Kit

- 6.7.a. Teams shall register their colours with the WRL. This shall be done prior to the start of the WRL season.
- 6.7.b. All players shall wear matching kit, including tops and bottoms, with numbered shirts and each captain shall wear an armband or tape.
- 6.7.c. In the event of two teams playing in similar strip the away team shall wear a change strip.
- 6.7.d. Any team not playing in their registered colours shall inform their opponents, the referee and the WRL Coordinator at least 7 days prior to the fixture.

6.8. Fielding Teams

- 6.8.a. A higher team, playing in the WRL or higher competition shall take priority over any lower team in any competition. Teams failing to fulfil a fixture, where a lower team does fulfil a fixture may be fined as specified in Appendix B.
- 6.8.b. No team may intentionally play short. Teams failing to field a full team may be deducted points and fined, as specified in Appendix B.

7. Postponements

7.1. International Commitment

- 7.1.a. Any club with two or more players involved in an international fixture or fixture series approved by their national association as officially selected players, officially appointed referees, coaches or officials, on the same weekend as a scheduled WRL fixture shall be entitled to apply to have their team's fixture postponed.
- 7.1.b. An application for postponement under clause 7.1.a shall be made as soon as it is known that such players are known to be involved and no later than 14 days before the event concerned.

7.2. Rearrangement

- 7.2.a. If a fixture is postponed, the home team shall rearrange the date, time and venue for the match within 7 days of the date of the postponement decision. The date, time and venue for the rearranged fixture shall be with agreement of the away team and the WRL Coordinator.



8. Withdrawal

8.1. During the Season

- 8.1.a. In the event of a team withdrawing from the WRL, all fees paid, or due to be paid, by that team shall be forfeited.
- 8.1.b. If less than 75% of the team's scheduled fixtures have been completed at the time of withdrawal, all results of fixtures played shall be declared void and shall be deleted from the records. If 75% or more of the scheduled fixtures have been completed, then the remaining fixtures shall be forfeited to the opponents.

8.2. Prior to the Playoffs

- 8.2.a. If a team accepts a place in the WRL Playoffs and withdraws before the event, then their Constituent Association may nominate a replacement.
- 8.2.b. If a replacement is not found, the team shall pay their share of any fees or costs of competing in the playoffs that could not be recouped by WRL.

8.3. Prior to the Season

- 8.3.a. In the event of a team that has confirmed its entry to the WRL withdraws from the WRL prior to the start of the following season, and a replacement cannot be found, they shall be liable to pay the league fees for the season as though they had not withdrawn.

9. Referees

9.1. Appointment

- 9.1.a. Referees shall be appointed by the appropriate body from the Constituent Association of the home team.
- 9.1.b. Referees shall normally be qualified at Regional level or higher. Where a Regional level or higher referee is not available, a suitably experienced and capable referee should be appointed.
- 9.1.c. Referee appointments shall be confirmed with the WRL Coordinator prior to each fixture. This shall normally be done no later than 14 days prior to the fixture.
- 9.1.d. Referee appointments shall be confirmed with the home and away teams prior to each fixture. This shall normally be done no later than 7 days prior to the fixture.

9.2. Fixture reporting

- 9.2.a. The referee shall contact the WRL Coordinator immediately, and no later than 24 hours, after the conclusion of a fixture with the result, relevant details of any substitutions made, details of any cards issued, and other relevant details of the fixture.

9.3. Fees

- 9.3.a. As specified in Appendix A the Constituent Association responsible for the appointment of a referee shall ensure payment of any fees and expenses due to the referee are paid according to the regulations of that association.

9.4. Requirements

- 9.4.a. The referee shall make themselves available for at least fifteen minutes prior to the start and at least ten minutes after the end of a fixture.
- 9.4.b. The referee shall check and approve the position of posts, lines and shot clock equipment.

9.5. Non-Appearance

- 9.5.a. In the event of the non-appearance of a referee, a substitute should be found. If a substitute cannot be found, the match shall be postponed. In this case, hall costs, that cannot be recouped, shall be covered by the Association of the home team.



10. Discipline, Protests and Appeals

10.1. Misconduct

10.1.a. In all cases where the referee either:

- (a) sends from the playing area a player, coach, substitute or other person attached to the team (red card);
- or (b) formally warns a player, coach, substitute or other person attached to the team (yellow card);
- or (c) formally warns the captain as to his team's behaviour;
- or (d) is aware of misconduct by spectators.

then, in addition to the fixture report under clause 9.2.a, the referee shall submit a full report of the incident to the WRL Coordinator and the EKA Disciplinary Coordinator where it shall be dealt with using the EKA Disciplinary Regulations. The referee shall confirm the code specifying the offence.

10.2. Protests

10.2.a. Where a team intends to protest about any condition of a fixture, the captain shall inform the referee at the earliest opportunity and before the referee has left the fixture.

10.2.b. Where a team has made a protest, the referee shall include the fact in their fixture report as specified under clause 9.2.a and provide additional details as soon as practical.

10.2.c. Where a team has made a protest, the club shall inform the WRL Coordinator in writing within 48 hours of the fixture.

10.2.d. Where a protest is made against the conditions of the playing venue, the equipment or the starting time, it shall be brought to the attention of the referee before the fixture or as soon as it becomes apparent. Failure to do so shall void the right to protest.

10.3. Appeal Process

10.3.a. Any appeal against a decision made by the WRL Coordinator or WRL Committee shall be made within 7 days of the notification of the original decision.

10.3.b. Any such appeal will be heard within 14 days of the appeal being made.

10.3.c. An appeal against a decision by the WRL Committee shall be heard and decided by three club Chairs, one from each Constituent Association.

10.3.d. The decision of the three club Chairs shall be final.



Appendix A. Information

As specified in clause 1.1.c, one Constituent Association shall be the host Association. For the WRL 2015-2016 season the host Association will be the OKA, then the SWKA, then the WKA and continuing to rotate in that order.

As specified in clause 3.3.a, the WRL Committee shall appoint a WRL Coordinator. This shall normally be by rotation with the Coordinator being appointed from that season's host Association. For 2015-16, the WRL Coordinator will be from the OKA, then from the SWKA, then from the WKA and continuing to rotate in that order.

The final fixtures of a season will be arranged by the host Association.

The playoff will be hosted by the following season's host Association. For the WRL 2015-2016 season, the playoffs will be hosted by the SWKA, then by the WKA, then by the OKA and continuing to rotate in that order.

As agreed by the Constituent Associations, the SWKA shall maintain the financial records of the WRL.

Referees for WRL fixtures are entitled to a fee and expenses as determined by the relevant Association. It is recommended that this fee is set at £20.

Start of the WRL 2017-2018 Season	14 th October 2017
Final fixtures of the WRL 2017-2018 Season	21 st April 2018
EKL Promotion Play Offs	TBC
WRL Play Offs	28 th April 2018
Deadline for confirmation of entry for 2017-2018 Season	1 st July 2017
To be eligible to play in the Playoffs a player must have been a registered club member since	31 st January 2018
Deadline for confirmation of Constituent Association clubs to nominate entries to the WRL Playoffs.	28 th February 2018
Deadline for Constituent Associations to confirm clubs meet the requirements in Appendix C	31 st March 2018
Release of Provisional Fixture List	7 th August 2017
Release of Final Fixture List	27 th August 2017
Deadline for confirmation of home fixtures	10 th September 2017
Deadline for payment of entry for 2017-2018 Season	10th September 2017
Entry Fee for 2017-2018 Season	£30



Appendix B. Fines

Clause	Fine	1 st and subsequent infringements	Additional fine for 2 nd and subsequent infringements
5.2.j	Fielding an ineligible player	1 point deduction per player	£50
6.5.b	Forfeiting a fixture	10-0 win recorded to the opposition as determined in 4.2.b. Payment of opposition's fees as specified in 6.5.b	£100 minus any fees due to be paid under 6.5.b
6.6.b	Failure to update Fixtures Live	1 point deduction	£50
6.8.a	Higher team failing to fulfil a fixture	£100	n/a
6.8.b	Failure to field a full team	1 point deduction	£25
3.4.d	Additional fee for non-payment of monies within as specified under 3.4.c	£25	n/a



Appendix C. Requirements for Participation in the WRL

In addition to any requirements specified by the EKA for clubs participating in the EKL Premier Division and EKL Promotion Divisions, the following requirements shall be met by clubs participating in the WRL or higher competitions:

- a) Have at least 20 active players registered in Fixtures Live or League Republic and
- b) Maintain at least one other independent senior team competing in a Local League. It is understood that this requires a club to be capable of fielding at least 16 different starting players, on any one league weekend.
- c) The ability to use a venue as specified in clause 6.2.a.
- d) Active engagement in referee and coaching development, as required by and endorsed by the Constituent Association.

Appendix D. Playing Rules

- 1) In regard of Rule 1.7 of the IKF Playing Rules, concerning height of shot clock apparatus, the top of the shot clock shall be placed no higher than 2m above the ground.
- 2) In regard of Rule 2.1c of the IKF Playing Rules, referring to substitution of players, Scenario A which specifies that a substituted player may return applies in the WRL.
- 3) In regard of Rule 2.1c of the IKF Playing Rules concerning injury, the following applies in the WRL:
 - a. In the case of injury, a period of 1 minute, starting when the medical attendant or other person attending to the injured player reaches the player, is allowed for the assessment and/or treatment of the injured player. An injured player leaving the field and being replaced by another player will be treated as a standard substitution.
 - b. An injured player may leave the field of play for up to 3 minutes and then return. During that time the player may be replaced by another player of the same sex. This is treated as one substitution, not two.
- 4) In regard of Rule 2.2b of the IKF Playing Rules, referring to the coach, the coach is allowed to leave his place on the bench temporarily, for a short period of time, in order to give instructions to his team's players. This must be done from the same side of the field as his team's bench whilst remaining outside the field of play.
- 5) In regard of Rule 2.2b of the IKF Playing Rules, referring to the assistant coach, teams are permitted to use an assistant coach in the WRL.
- 6) In regard of Rule 3.1 of the IKF Playing Rules, referring to duration and time-out, the following applies in the WRL:
 - i. WRL fixtures are of 30 minute halves with a 5 minute half time:
 - ii. 2 timeouts per team are allowed.
- 7) In regard of Rule 3.3 of the IKF Playing Rules, referring to line up at the start of a fixture, the home team shall decide into which korf they will shoot in the first half and shall arrange their players into attack and defence zones before the away team lays out.
- 8) In regard of Rule 3.5 of the IKF Playing Rules, referring to the throw off, the home team shall throw off at the start of the fixture.

Appendix E. Extraordinary Circumstances



Following completion of the WRL League season and prior to the WRL Playoffs, and in normal circumstances, there are two spaces in the WRL that shall be awarded to the teams finishing in the top two places in the WRL Playoffs.

In the event that a team is promoted from the WRL to the EKL Premier Division, an additional space shall be available.

In the event that two teams from the WRL are promoted to the EKL Premier Divisions, two additional spaces shall be available.

In the event that a team is relegated from the EKL Premier Division to the WRL, one fewer space shall be available.

In the event that two teams are relegated from the EKL Premier Division to the WRL, two fewer spaces shall be available.

In the event that there are three places available in the WRL, the team finishing third in the WRL Playoffs shall play in the WRL for the following season.

In the event that there are four places available in the WRL, the team finishing second to last in the WRL shall remain in the WRL for the following season and the team finishing last in the WRL enters the WRL Playoffs. The team finishing third in the WRL Playoffs shall play in the WRL in the following season.

In the event that there is one place available in the WRL, only the team finishing in first place in the WRL Playoffs shall play in the WRL for the following season.

In the event that there are no places available in the WRL, the league shall be expanded by one team for the following season and only the team finishing in first place in the WRL Playoffs shall play in the WRL for the following season. At the end of the following season, the league is reduced by one team.

Appendix F. Fixture Conditions for Playoffs 2017-2018

- 1) The Constituent Association hosting the Playoffs shall ensure the pitch is marked correctly, including all lines and a measured penalty spot and free pass circle.
- 2) WRL Playoff fixtures are of twenty minute halves with a five minute half time.
- 3) WRL Playoff fixtures are played with Golden Goal if the scores are level at the end of normal time.
- 4) Ranking positions in the WRL Playoffs shall be determined by points awarded as follows :
3 points awarded for a win in normal time;
2 points awarded for a win after Golden Goal;
1 point for a loss after Golden Goal; and
0 points for a loss.
- 5) 2 timeouts per team are allowed.
- 6) Teams shall have an uninterrupted period of at least ten minutes immediately prior to the fixture start with access to one zone. The pitch must be marked and post positioned prior to this period commencing.
- 7) The Constituent Association hosting the Playoffs shall provide and control a scoreboard.
- 8) The Constituent Association hosting the Playoffs shall provide and control a shot clock.
- 9) Teams shall present their starting divisions to the referee prior to the fixture starting.



- 10) The home team for each Playoff fixture shall be decided by a coin toss and they shall have choice of ends and first attack at the start of the fixture.
- 11) If required, any period of Golden Goal shall be played according to the rules defined in Appendix G.
- 12) If approved by the WRL Committee, assistant referees may be used in the Playoffs.

Appendix G. Golden Goal and Penalty Shootout

If the aggregate scores are level at the end of normal time then golden goal extra time will be played. This shall operate as follows:

Golden Goal

- 1) After a break of three minutes the teams line up as they were for the end of the match, but including any substitutions that have been made during the break between normal time and extra time.
- 2) A toss shall be made and the winners shall start the extra time period with a throw off from the centre of the field and shall be referred to below as the home team.
- 3) If the home team scores in their first attack (i.e. with the away team not having had a possibility to attack) then the away team shall have an opportunity to attack and score. The away team's attack is deemed to be over when a player from the home team, standing in the home team's attack zone has possession of the ball. In this case the requirement that both teams have had an opportunity to attack has been met with the home team declared the winners. If the home team does not score with their first attack then the first team to score is the winner.
- 4) If the home team scores during their first attack and this is matched by the away team scoring in their first attack following the home team's score, then the game continues with the teams changing ends and the home team restarting the match. The provisions set out in 3 above apply and the game will continue in the same way until a winner is achieved or the allocated time (ten minutes) elapses.

However, if at the end of the extra time period the away team is attacking, with each team having scored in their first attack after every re-start, then the away team must be allowed to complete their attack (see 3) before the extra time period is deemed over.

Penalty Shootout

- 5) If after the extra time period there is no winning score then penalties will be taken as set out below.

To decide a game by penalties the 8 players who were taking part in the match at the end of the extra time period shall take a penalty alternately, with the starting team decided by a toss. The team scoring the most goals will be declared the winner. Should the scores still be level after these players have taken a penalty, then 'sudden death' shall apply with penalties taken by the same members of the teams who took the first series and in the same order until each team has taken the same number of penalties and one team has scored more than the other. If a winner has been determined before the series of penalties has been completed then the remaining penalties need not be taken.