



Guidance To Clubs On Change Of Club Name, Referee Society Name Or Team Name

If a voting member club of the RFU wishes to change its club name, referee society name or the name of its First XV, it must ensure that it complies with the following:

Change of Club Name/Referee Society Name

In accordance with Regulation 3.7.1-3.7.10, a club or referee society may only change its name with the prior written consent of the RFU. Such requests must be made on the Club Change of Name Request Form. Once received this application will be placed before the RFU Governance Standing Committee.

A club or referee society should ensure ahead of their application that:

1. the change of name has approval of the club or referee societies constituent body;
2. the proposed name is not confusing, offensive or liable to bring the game into disrepute;
3. they have conducted due diligence in relation to whether the chosen name breaches any trademarks or, where necessary, approval has been given to use a name. Any approval by the RFU should not be seen as confirmation that a club is otherwise legally entitled to use a name.

Change of Team Name

In accordance with Regulation 3.7.11-3.7.18, club may only change its First XV name with the prior written consent of the RFU. Such requests must be made on the Team Change of Name Request Form. Once received this application will be placed before the RFU Governance Standing Committee.

A club should ensure ahead of their application that:

1. the change of name has approval of the club's constituent body or, in the case of a Premiership Team, Premiership Rugby Limited;
2. the proposed name is not likely to cause confusion, prejudice or embarrassment to the RFU;
3. they have conducted due diligence in relation to whether the chosen name breaches any trademarks or, where necessary, approval has been given to use a name. Any approval by the RFU should not be seen as confirmation that a club is otherwise legally entitled to use a name.