RUGBY SAFE

A Guide to Providing First Aid & Immediate Care Provision in the Community Game

2016-17 SEASON

englandrugby.com
# Introduction

Clubs have a responsibility towards the health and safety of those people who use the club facilities. During rugby activities, in common with all sports, players, officials or spectators may suffer injury or sudden illness. While the arrangements for spectators and officials are likely to be the same as for any other sport, because rugby is a full contact sport, the arrangements for players will need to reflect this. It is the club’s or organiser’s responsibility to ensure that arrangements are in place so that participants receive appropriate immediate attention if they are injured or taken ill, until the emergency services arrive.

While there is a general requirement, it should be recognised that there is variation in the level of care that would be considered appropriate and this will depend on the individual circumstances at the club or venue. It will also depend on what is reasonably practicable for the club or organiser to provide; it is not reasonably practicable to expect a Level 11 club to provide the same level of care as that provided in the Premiership.

In order to provide a safe environment in which the game can be enjoyed by all, clubs should encourage members, coaches and volunteers o hold a current, appropriate and recognised first aid qualification so that they can respond to basic first aid situations with confidence.

This document provides information on all aspects of first aid and will be of interest to rugby administrators, club administrators, players, parents, volunteers, first aiders and health care professionals involved in rugby, specifically those playing at level 3 and below, as well as in CB representative sides. Premiership and Championship clubs have their own set of minimum criteria in relation to medical matters.

Clubs which have employees (including any paid players as they are ‘deployed’ or ‘employed’ by the club) may fall under the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 (SI 1981 No 317). These require employers to provide suitable first-aid equipment, facilities and personnel to enable immediate assistance to be given to employees if they are injured or become ill at work. Detailed information at: [http://www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/index.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/index.htm)

Schools, Universities and Further Education Colleges have their own regulations on first aid provision, which will inform their risk assessment and thus their level of provision.
Responsibilities of Club Management

Clubs and other bodies who organise activities such as rugby and other sports, have the following responsibilities with respect to safety and first aid:

- Complete and record a risk assessment to determine the appropriate level of first aid provision.
- Ensure that providers and appointed first aiders are appropriately trained and undertake recertification in accordance with their qualification.
- Ensure that the procedures for the recording and reporting of incidents are followed.
- Ensure that suitable first aid facilities and equipment are available.
- Ensure that there is adequate cover to allow for absences.

Risk Assessment

During any activity, the number and type of first aid personnel and facilities should be based on a risk assessment. This process is no different from other risk assessments carried out for Health and Safety purposes.

Guidance and templates can be found at: http://www.englandrugby.com/governance/legal-and-admin/risk-assessments/

In assessing the need, the club/organiser should consider the following:

- Playing and non-playing hazards and risks.
- The club’s history of injuries and accidents, including any relevant research (See Annex A).
- The number of people involved (players and spectators).
- The needs of players at away matches.
- The nature (adult/child) and distribution of the players (size of site or more than one site).
- The remoteness of the site from emergency medical services.
- Use of shared facilities and first aid resources.
- Holiday and other absences of first aid trained personnel.
- Additional requirements for special groups i.e. children, disabled players.

Once the risk assessment is complete and the level of first aid cover has been decided, additional risk management measures should be considered:

- Emergency procedures should be developed and readily available (for further guidance on emergency procedures visit www.englandrugby.com/firstaid).
- Emergency services contact details must be readily available;
- Ambulance access to the pitch/training ground must be maintained at all times.
- Establish contacts with the local NHS Ambulance Trust and Hospital Emergency Department. Maintain a good level of communication with them on the clubs activities, especially festivals.
- Appropriate first aid facilities and equipment based on their risk assessment and level of training of personnel.
- Regular training of personnel in assisting first aiders should be carried out.
- First aid equipment must be appropriately, stored, maintained, and cleaned.

There is an understandable emphasis regarding safety on the pitch but a significant number of injuries occur away from the field of play. To help clubs manage the hazards and risks around the clubhouse and club facilities, RFU and its insurance brokers, Perkins Slade, has created a series of online risk assessments. These will guide you through the process of assessing the risks and hazards at your club and record both the steps you are taking to manage your risks and the recommended actions that could help to improve safety.
Recommended Levels of Provision

The level of care that it is reasonable and practicable to provide will depend on the individual circumstances of the club or event organiser.

Clubs which have the resources, and where it is reasonable to do so, should consider engaging the services of health care professionals and providing appropriate equipment and facilities.

The recommended minimum levels of provision are provided at Annex B, however the actual level of provision will depend on each individual club’s risk assessment. Teams should usually provide their own cover, even when playing away fixtures. The following situations may occur, however:

- Where it is appropriate for a single provider to cover the home and away teams, it will usually be the home team that is responsible for providing first aid although this must be agreed in advance to avoid confusion, as the visiting team has a shared responsibility to ensure provision.

RFU Regulations

RFU Regulation 9 states that:

a. there is an appropriate level of immediate care and/or first aid cover, and equipment provided for that rugby activity. These should be determined by a risk assessment and further guidance on the minimum requirement at each type of rugby activity is given in:
   www.englandrugby.com/governance/game-support/medical-and-first-aid/

b. there is access to a telephone to ensure that the emergency services can be contacted immediately when needed; and

c. there is clear vehicular access for an ambulance or other emergency vehicle.

Clubs should ensure they are aware of and adhere to regulations. The full list of RFU regulations can be found at:
www.englandrugby.com/governance/regulations

Insurance

It is very unlikely that any action would be taken against a first aider who was using the first aid training they have received. The RFU Insurance provides liability cover for clubs at level 3 and below in respect of first aiders carrying out their duties for the club. Premiership and Championship clubs should check their insurance policies and satisfy themselves they have adequate cover.

All clubs/organisers should check that any healthcare professionals, who are engaged to provide services, have their own indemnity insurance in place. Clubs/organisers who engage such personnel, or deploy volunteers in this capacity, may have a vicarious liability for their actions. Such liability is covered under the insurance for clubs at Level 3 and below, but Premiership and Championship clubs should again ensure that their insurance cover is appropriate.

Further information regarding the insurance arranged for RFU Level 3 clubs and below can be found at:
www.englandrugbyinsurance.co.uk
First Aid & Immediate Care Roles & Training

Clubs should also be aware that there are different levels of training required in order to provide first aid and immediate care cover.

Emergency or Sports First Aider

The Emergency or Sports First Aider is the entry level first aid qualification and is a Level 3 qualification on the National Qualifications Framework. This course takes a minimum of 6 hours training and a certificate will be issued by a recognised awarding body. The course content must be appropriate for the activities to be covered. They are trained to:

- Take charge when someone is injured or ill, including calling an ambulance if required;
- Provide emergency first aid to injured or ill persons until more expert help arrives;
- Look after the first aid equipment, e.g. restocking the first aid box.

They should not attempt to give first aid for which they have not been trained.

Every squad/team should have a nominated Emergency or Sports First Aider to provide help to any injured or ill player until more expert help arrives. This training is suitable for any member of the team management, coaching staff, match official or player. Where possible the RFU recommends having a specifically appointed First Aider(s). Having a number of individuals trained to this level will ensure that this basic level of cover is available at all matches and training sessions.

In HSE Regulations, the Appointed Person role remains subject to Health & Safety at Work (H&SAW) Act. This means that appointed persons may undertake basic first aid training, provided they are both trained and competent to do so. This training is not subject to Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 (SI 1982 No 917) and will need to refer to these for minimum first aid requirements. Guidance is available at www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/

Except for those clubs who have employees and are therefore subject to Health & Safety at Work (H&SAW) Act, and there are a range of courses, training organisations and individual trainers. The HSE regulations do however provide a benchmark, and a club First Aider should undergo training to the same level as First Aid at Work (FAW), which is a three day course.

Based on the individual risk assessment clubs may consider it appropriate to have a smaller number of club officials and/or volunteers trained to this level. Alternatively they may decide to engage the services of trained first aids from outside the club. When using external providers, it is the club’s responsibility to check that the individuals are appropriately trained and experienced.

In HSE Regulations, the Appointed Person role remains subject to Health & Safety at Work (H&SAW) Act. This means that appointed persons may undertake basic first aid training, provided they are both trained and competent to do so. This training is not subject to Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 (SI 1982 No 917) and will need to refer to these for minimum first aid requirements. Guidance is available at www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/

First Aid Training

Emergency First Aid (EFARU) / Sports First Aider - Level 2

The Emergency First Aid in Rugby Union (EFARU) course has been developed by the RFU to meet the needs of players. It is a fully recognised Emergency First Aid at Work (EFARU) course with extra rugby-specific elements designed for coaches, match officials and volunteers who are designated as a first aider and are responsible for providing pitch-side cover at both training and matches.

The EFARU sits on the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) and is awarded by 1st4sport Qualifications. The course provides learners with a nationally recognised qualification that is transferrable to the workplace; other sports or can be credited towards a larger qualification.

Similar to many other First Aid qualifications the EFARU qualification is valid for 3 years.

For more information on booking a course go to www.englandrugby.com/rugbysafe/education

To book place on a pre-arranged course to the online booking system at www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/ courses/search

The EFARU is the recommended minimum level of training for any appointed First Aider covering rugby activity.

If selecting an alternative course, clubs should ensure that it meets their needs. Issues to consider:

- Courses of this level should take a minimum of 6 hours training and acknowledged with a certificate from the recognised awarding body.
- Any courses should have a quality assurance process (shown by an accreditation mark from a body such as Ofqual) and a refresher training programme.
- The course should cover both common rugby injuries (such as concussion) and rare but serious injuries (such as spinal injury) in sufficient detail.
- What experience and qualifications does the trainer have? E.g. medical background, years of tutor experience, knowledge of rugby.
- How many people will be in the training session? Suggested maximum: 16 per trainer.
- What insurance does the trainer have? E.g. personal liability cover.
- What resources are provided for out of course learning? E.g. training manual.

Club / School First Aider

A First Aider holds a current First Aid certificate issued by a recognised awarding body i.e. Ofqual approved training organisation, HSE First Aid at Work approved training organisation, Red Cross or St John Ambulance.

A First Aider may be any of the following:

- Lay volunteer
- Allied Health Professional e.g. Sports Therapist, Sports Massage Therapist
- Health Care Professional e.g. Physiotherapist

See Annex C for role descriptions.

Clubs which have employees may actually fall under the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 (SI 1982 No 917) and will need to refer to these for minimum first aid requirements. Guidance is available at www.hse.gov.uk/firstaid/

Examples of suitable courses:

- HSE First Aid at Work
- St John Ambulance Activity First Aid course
- Red Cross Standard Certificate in First Aid course.

Holders of an HSE First Aid at Work certificate must undergo re-certification every 3 years and it is strongly advised that they undertake refresher training on an annual basis.

Club / School First Aider - Level 3

The RFU doesn’t currently organise courses that are the equivalent to the 3 day First Aid at Work course however there are a number of other courses that will cover the appropriate content.

Examples of suitable courses:

- HSE First Aid at Work
- St John Ambulance Activity First Aid course
- Red Cross Standard Certificate in First Aid course.

Holders of an HSE First Aid at Work certificate must undergo re-certification every 3 years and it is strongly advised that they undertake refresher training on an annual basis.

Clubs/School First Aid - Level 1

The RFU doesn’t currently organise courses that are the equivalent to the 3 day First Aid at Work course however there are a number of other courses that will cover the appropriate content.

Examples of suitable courses:

- HSE First Aid at Work
- St John Ambulance Activity First Aid course
- Red Cross Standard Certificate in First Aid course.

Holders of an HSE First Aid at Work certificate must undergo re-certification every 3 years and it is strongly advised that they undertake refresher training on an annual basis.

Clubs/School First Aid - Level 2

The RFU doesn’t currently organise courses that are the equivalent to the 3 day First Aid at Work course however there are a number of other courses that will cover the appropriate content.

Examples of suitable courses:

- HSE First Aid at Work
- St John Ambulance Activity First Aid course
- Red Cross Standard Certificate in First Aid course.

Holders of an HSE First Aid at Work certificate must undergo re-certification every 3 years and it is strongly advised that they undertake refresher training on an annual basis.

Clubs/School First Aid - Level 3

The RFU doesn’t currently organise courses that are the equivalent to the 3 day First Aid at Work course however there are a number of other courses that will cover the appropriate content.

Examples of suitable courses:

- HSE First Aid at Work
- St John Ambulance Activity First Aid course
- Red Cross Standard Certificate in First Aid course.

Holders of an HSE First Aid at Work certificate must undergo re-certification every 3 years and it is strongly advised that they undertake refresher training on an annual basis.

Clubs/School First Aid - Level 1

The RFU doesn’t currently organise courses that are the equivalent to the 3 day First Aid at Work course however there are a number of other courses that will cover the appropriate content.

Examples of suitable courses:

- HSE First Aid at Work
- St John Ambulance Activity First Aid course
- Red Cross Standard Certificate in First Aid course.

Holders of an HSE First Aid at Work certificate must undergo re-certification every 3 years and it is strongly advised that they undertake refresher training on an annual basis.

Clubs/School First Aid - Level 2

The RFU doesn’t currently organise courses that are the equivalent to the 3 day First Aid at Work course however there are a number of other courses that will cover the appropriate content.

Examples of suitable courses:

- HSE First Aid at Work
- St John Ambulance Activity First Aid course
- Red Cross Standard Certificate in First Aid course.

Holders of an HSE First Aid at Work certificate must undergo re-certification every 3 years and it is strongly advised that they undertake refresher training on an annual basis.
Immediate Care Practitioners

There are a number of different therapists and Health Care Professionals (HCP) involved in sport, see annex C for examples of role descriptors and requirements.

Clubs should ensure that the individual therapist/HCP has the relevant qualifications, experience and insurance for the role. There should be a formal agreement which covers roles and responsibilities.

These individuals will have their own insurance arrangements as a requirement of their regulating body. Below the elite level of sport, such insurance will usually be provided at no additional cost to them, as long as they have the appropriate training and experience.

Therapists/HCPs should be able to provide evidence of registration with or membership of their relevant regulatory body or society to help clubs in this process.

Immediate Care Training

Care Professionals involved in the game and the Level 3 (two days) is recommended for those working in the Championship and Premiership.

For more information go to: http://www.englandrugby.com/governance/game-support/medical-and-first-aid/icis/

Course dates can be found on the booking system at: http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/courses/search

Other immediate care approved courses approved include:
- Rugby Football League Course
- Jockey Club Course
- Resuscitation and Emergency Medicine On-field Course (REMO)
- AREA Course (Football Association)
- Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Course
- BASICS Immediate Care Course
- Advanced Trauma Life Support Course (orientated towards hospital based care)

Immediate Care Facilities

The assessment of first aid provision should inform what first aid equipment is required. The minimum level of first aid equipment is recommended as suitably stocked first aid box for the club house and first aid bags for pitch-side trained personnel. A suggested contents list for a basic pitch side first aid bag is available from the RFU website www.englandrugby.com/rugbysafe.

First aid equipment should only be provided appropriate to the level of training of the first aider or immediate care provider.

It is important to be aware that many items, particularly sterile ones, are marked with expiry dates. They should be replaced by the dates given and expired items disposed of safely. In cases where sterile items have no dates, it would be advisable to check with the manufacturers to find out how long they can be kept. For non-sterile items without dates, it is a matter of judgement, based on whether they are fit for purpose.

The RFU are working with the Community Heartbeat Trust to provide guidance and support on the purchasing, governance and maintenance of Automated External Defibrillators (AED). More information can be found on the RFU website www.englandrugby.com/rugbysafe or by visiting the Community Heartbeat Trust dedicated webpages www.communityheartbeat.org.uk/rugby-clubs-schools

First Aid Equipment

Wherever possible, the room should be reserved specifically for providing first aid and your designated person (first aider or appointed person) should be given responsibility for the room. It should be easily accessible to stretchers and be clearly signposted and identified.
First Aid Signs

All First Aid at Work first aid boxes must have a white cross on a green background. Similarly, first aid rooms should be easily identifiable by white lettering or a white cross on a green background. The signs should be placed where they can be seen and easily identified.

Record Keeping

It is good practice to provide your First Aiders with a book in which to record incidents that required their attendance. The information kept can help you identify injury and accident trends and possible areas for improvement in the control of health and safety risks. It can also be used for reference in future risk assessments. This record book is not the same as the statutory accident book required under the H&SAW Regulations, though the two can be combined.

Useful information to record will include:
- Date, time and place of incident;
- Name and job of the injured or ill person;
- Details of the injury/illness and what first aid was given;
- What happened to the person immediately afterwards (for example went home, went back to work, went to hospital);
- Name and signature of the first aider or person dealing with the incident.

It is usual for the first aider or appointed person to be responsible for the book. However, clubs retain overall responsibility for ensuring that records are maintained.

If there is any suggestion that the injury is not an accident, records should be kept in case a claim is ever brought against the club or a coach or referee. In most cases records should be kept for three years, but if the injury is to a child they should be kept for 15 years.

Reporting of Injuries

Certain clubs with employees will be subject to the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 1995. For those there is a legal requirement to report accidents and ill health at work. Information on this is given by the HSE.

The RFU’s injury reporting requirements are detailed on the RFU website www.englandrugby.com/rugbysafe/injury-reporting and in the RFU Handbook. RFU Reportable Injury Events are defined as:
- An injury which results in the player being admitted to a hospital (this does not include those that attend an Accident or Emergency Department and are allowed home from there).
- Deaths which occur during or within 6 hours of a game finishing.

Clubs and schools are also required to report injuries in which artificial grass pitches or equipment such as sports goggles are involved.

Reportable Injury Event Protocol – In the event of a serious injury occurring, which fulfils one of the above definitions, after providing immediate first aid and arranging transport by ambulance to hospital, the following protocol is to be followed:
1. A club or school representative must phone the Sports Injuries Administrator Helpline 0800 298 0102, as soon as the seriousness of the player’s condition is confirmed and certainly within 48 hours of the game or training session.
2. Please have a pen and paper ready, and the details of the incident to provide. Out of working hours there will be a recorded message that provides contact details of the Injured Player Welfare Officer (IPWO). However, the IPWO will only respond out of hours in the event of a potentially catastrophic injury or fatality. You will be asked to complete and return a Reportable Injury Event report form, which can be downloaded or printed off from www.englandrugby.com/rugbysafe.
3. The club/school must notify their insurers.
   The RFU insurer is: Perkins Slade
   Tel: 0121 698 8043
   Email: rfuclaims@perkins-slade.com
4. Record witness statements. Where a potential insurance or personal injury claim may arise, clubs and schools are advised to retain on file witness statements. These statements must confine themselves to the facts and not include opinion or hearsay, or apportion or infer blame. They must be signed and dated by the person making them.

Details of this protocol, the necessary forms and additional information are available at www.englandrugby.com/rugbysafe/injury-reporting.

If you have any queries, you can also contact either the Sports Injuries Administrator or the Injured Player Welfare Officer as follows:

Sports Injuries Administrator (SIA):
   Rugby House, Twickenham Stadium, 200 Whitton Road, Twickenham, TW2 7BA
   Tel: 0800 298 0102
   Email: sportsinjuriesadmin@therfu.com

RFU IPF – Injured Player Welfare Officer:
   Dean Holder
   Tel: 07894 489 716
   email: deanholder@rfu.com
Summary

Clubs and organisers of rugby activities are responsible for providing an appropriate level of care to the players, members and spectators using their facilities. There is considerable variation in level of care that would be considered appropriate and this will depend on the individual circumstances at the club or venue. It will also depend on what is reasonably practicable for the club or organiser to provide. An individual risk based approach is therefore the most appropriate to take, in determining the requirement. Additional information and guidance can be obtained from the RFU Player Welfare Team, email rugbySAFE@rfu.com

Information to Support Risk Assessments

Information from RFU and JIP research is available to help inform risk assessments. Various reports and articles can be accessed at http://www.englandrugby.com/my-rugby/players/player-health.

1. **Risk by Age** – The chart below demonstrates why U16-U18 is a focus area and why the minimum levels have been adjusted as a result of research.

2. **Number of Practitioners** – This is based on the following:
   a. **Management of severe/catastrophic injuries.** Suspected, severe and catastrophic injuries require a minimum of two practitioners to provide adequate care i.e. first to stabilise the neck and the second to assess and manage other injuries. The minimum levels below provide a minimum of 2 trained practitioners at every game, with opposition medical staff providing mutual support in such circumstances. If a practitioner is required to accompany a player to hospital, this enables cover to be continued to be provided.
   b. **Frequency of injuries.** The CRISP data shows that an average of 5 injuries per game required on-field assessment and/or attention. To ensure safe assessments and on-going off-field management of this number of injuries per game requires each team to have its own practitioner.
   c. **Avoidance of conflict.** There have been examples of coaches/players refusing to accept the opinion/advice of opposition practitioners, with accusations of bias. Individual team provision avoids such situations arising.

![Injury Incidence](image-url)
## Recommended Minimum Levels of Immediate Care and/or First Aid Cover for Rugby Union Matches and Training

Below are the recommended MINIMUM levels of cover and the actual provision MUST be based on a formal RISK ASSESSMENT, especially for festivals.

### Adult Men

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level &amp; XVs</th>
<th>Immediate Care Practitioner</th>
<th>First Aid Trained Therapist/HCP</th>
<th>Club/School First Aider</th>
<th>Emergency First Aid (EFARU) / Sports First Aider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 3 &amp; 4 (1st XV)</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5 - 7 (1st XV)</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 8 &amp; below</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd and Lower XVs (see note 3 below)</td>
<td>See note 3 below</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FE and HE establishments outside club leagues</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7s/10s Tournament/Festival (see note 5 below)</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touch/Tag</td>
<td>1 per pitch</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Adult Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Match</th>
<th>Immediate Care Practitioner</th>
<th>First Aid Trained Therapist/HCP</th>
<th>Club/School First Aider</th>
<th>Emergency First Aid (EFARU) / Sports First Aider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premiership/Championship/Divisions</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leagues, 2nd and Lower XVs</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FE and HE establishments outside club leagues</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7s/10s Tournament/Festival (see notes 6 &amp; 7)</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touch/Tag</td>
<td>1 per pitch</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Age Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Match</th>
<th>Immediate Care Practitioner</th>
<th>First Aid Trained Therapist/HCP</th>
<th>Club/School First Aider</th>
<th>Emergency First Aid (EFARU) / Sports First Aider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Club/FE College/School U18</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club/School U14 - U16</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club/School U17 - U19</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7s/10s Tournament/Festival (see note)</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tag/Touch</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Tournament/Festival</td>
<td>1 per venue</td>
<td>1 per team</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Notes:

1. Where matches or training are on more than one site then each site will require the appropriate level of cover.
2. Where the guidelines indicate that a Club/School First Aider may cover more than one pitch, Emergency First Aiders provide pitch side cover, with the Club/School First Aider available and easily contactable by radio or mobile telephone.
3. Clubs 2nd XVs to adopt minimum criteria of 2 League Levels below their 1st XV. Clubs 3rd & subsequent XVs adopt one level lower respectively.
4. Schools, FE Colleges and Universities have their own regulations provided by local/national Government, which they must comply with if it is of a higher level.
5. Additional standards may be applicable to some schools, this should inform their risk assessment and thus their level of provision.
6. Tournaments and festivals should have a dedicated First Aid Room or Tent.
7. Where “1 per venue” is listed, this role is in an overseeing capacity (i.e. covering the whole event) and should not be attached to a specific team.
Allied Health Professional and Health Care Professional Descriptors

Allied Health Professionals:

Sports Therapist - He/she should be registered as a full member with the Society of Sports Therapists, and have appropriate experience and training in first aid or immediate care. First Aid training is mandatory in Sports Therapy degree programmes recognised by the Society. For more information visit: www.society-of-sports-therapists.org

Sports Massage Therapist - He/she should be registered as a full member with the Sports Massage Association at Level 3 or 4 membership, and have appropriate experience and training in first aid or immediate care. For more information visit: www.sportsmassageassociation.org

Sports Rehabilitators - He/she should be registered as a full member with BASRaT (British Association of Sports (pending BASRaT’s application for inclusion of members on Health Professions Council) and have appropriate experience and training in first aid or immediate care. For more information visit: www.basrat.org

Health Care Professionals:

Paramedic - He/she should be registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) as a State Registered Paramedic, and have appropriate experience in providing cover for rugby or other contact sports. If working outside the NHS they will require their own indemnity insurance. Registration status can be checked at www.hpc-uk.org/

Nurse - He/she should be registered with the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC), and have appropriate experience and training in immediate care. A nurses registration status can be checked at www.nmc-uk.org

Physiotherapist - He/she should be registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) as a Physiotherapist, and have appropriate experience and training in immediate care. Registration status can be checked at www.hpc-uk.org.

More information on physiotherapists is available at: www.csp.org.uk

Doctor - He/she should be registered with the General Medical Council (GMC), and have appropriate experience and training in immediate care. A doctors registration status can be checked at www.gmc-uk.org

Osteopath - He/she should be registered with the General Osteopathy Council as an Osteopath, and have appropriate experience and training in immediate care.

For more information visit: www.osteopathy.org.uk

Chiropractor - He/she should be registered with the General Chiropractic Council (GCC) as a Chiropractor, and have appropriate experience and training in immediate care.

For more information visit: www.gcc-uk.org

Notes:

1. RFU Immediate Care in Sport (ICIS) Level 2 – equivalent Faculty of Pre-hospital Care courses accredited courses are also acceptable as long as the content is appropriate for rugby.
2. NQF Level 3 First Aid – many courses are available and are usually conducted over 2 or 3 days. Schools, FE Colleges and Universities usually provide these courses for their staff.
3. RFU NQF Emergency First Aid in Rugby Union (Level 2) – equivalent courses are acceptable as long as the content is appropriate for rugby. They are usually a minimum of 6 hours and involve competency assessments.

The table below shows the type of practitioner and the qualification required to fulfil the requirement in the table above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification Required</th>
<th>Types of Practitioner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Care Practitioner</td>
<td>Doctor, Sports Therapist, Osteopath, State Registered Paramedic, Physiotherapist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFU Immediate Care in Sport Level 2 or equivalent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Aid Therapist / Health Care Professional NQF Level 3 First Aid</td>
<td>As above Immediate Care Practitioner plus Sports Massage Therapist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club/ School First Aider NQF Level 3 First Aid (e.g. First Aid at Work or equivalent)</td>
<td>As First Aid Therapist / Health Care Professional plus St John Ambulance / Red Cross First Aider, Coach / Referee / Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency First Aider (EFARU) / Sports First Aider NQF Level 2 First Aid (e.g. RFU Emergency First Aid in Rugby Union or equivalent)</td>
<td>As Club/ School First Aider</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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