

**ARMY RUGBY UNION PLAYING DEPARTMENTS FIXTURE POLICY - 2021 - 2023**

Reference:

1. JSP 660 – Direction on Team & Individual Sport. (Team Planning Numbers)
2. 2020DIN10-001– Overseas Sports Tours.
3. 2020DIN10-001- Overseas Sports Tours.
4. 2020DIN10-016 – Army Sports Lottery - Instruction.
5. The Army Rugby Union is a category 1 (risk to life) sport within the Army Sport Control Board (ASCB) who give clear guidance to Army Sports on the process and guidelines in Ref A – D on how to deliver their sports in line with Government; National Governing Body and Army direction. As a direct consequence of the COVID 19 pandemic the ARU will not receive any generated income from Inter Services (IS) games and very limited sponsorship money for approximately 24 months. The next Army v Navy match to be played at Twickenham is scheduled for Sat 30 Apr 22.
6. The ASCB define the ARU fifteen-a-side season as a period between September and April annually with some cross over between the ARU and Army Rugby League (ARL). It is accepted that the annual Army v Navy match will often occur on the first May BH.
7. The ARU ‘*structured season’* that aligns to that of the Chair’s ‘hierarchal pyramid of priority – Annex C’ and is based on 28 weeks (as highlighted above), allowing for Christmas and Easter stand downs. The breakdown of weeks allocated to level of games are:
	1. Community – 8 fixtures;
	2. Corps – 7-8 fixtures. This includes a Corps Festival, five/six Corps league play on dates and a Corps finals day; and
	3. Representative:
		1. Men, Women and Masters – 11 fixtures. This includes (if required, a ‘trial match’) a 5-10 day pre IS training camp and both IS fixtures;
		2. U23 – 8 fixtures. This includes (a ‘trial match’) 5 warm up and both IS fixtures. U23 IS fixtures take priority over Community on Wednesdays; and
		3. 7s (Apr – Sep annually) – 7 fixtures. This includes (if funded) an OSV.
8. Representative teams should aim to play 30% of their allocated fixtures in Aldershot. Away fixtures should be co-ordinated between DoR’s to allow games to be played across the four Nations’etc subject to financial viability. Men’s and Women’s matches should where possible be aligned so that both Teams can play in the same location on the same day.
9. The following table details the ARU playing departments maximum fixtures (at public expense) and eligibility to tour:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ser | Team | Fixtures[[1]](#footnote-1)[[2]](#footnote-2) | Budget[[3]](#footnote-3) (£K) | Training Camp[[4]](#footnote-4) | ARU Funded Tour [[5]](#footnote-5) | Accn[[6]](#footnote-6) | Days in camp per Fixture(not including Inter Service) | Remarks |
| 1 | Community | 9 | £70k |  |  |  |  | This includes if required a Community festival day, 6 league days a semi and finals day.  |
| 2 | Corps | 7 |  |  |  | 3 | This includes a Corps Festival, five Corps league play on dates and a finals day. |
| 3 | Men’s XV | 11 | £65k | Yes | Yes | Mil | 4 | Trg Camp held in military establishment at nil cost for mil accn. Tour as approved by ARU Board. Every 4 years. |
| 4 | Women’s XV | 11 | £65k | Yes | Yes | Mil | 4 | Trg Camp held in military establishment at nil cost for mil accn. Tour as approved by ARU Board. Every 4 years.  |
| 5 | Academy (U23) | 8 | £20k | Yes | Yes | Mil | 3 | Trg Camp held in military establishment at nil cost for mil accn. Combined tour approved by the Board with ‘A’ XV every four years to Europe as an ARU Development squad.  |
| 6 | Army 7s | 7 | £40k | Yes | Yes | Mil | 3 | Trg Camp held in military establishment at nil cost utilising mil accn. Accn at UK based 7s events to ordinarily be in military accn unless there are no local units able to host. 1 Overseas Festival annually as approved by the ARU Board.  |
| 7 | Dev XV’s | 4 | £7.5K | No | Yes | Mil | 3 | Each Dev Team received £7.5K Combined tour with Academy every four years as a development squad. Europe. |
| 8 | Masters XV | 8 | £20k | Yes | World Masters Games | Mil | 3 | Trg Camp held in military establishment at nil cost utilising mil accn. Tour every four years. Next WMG in 2022 in Japan (£30K). |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Totals |  |  | £295K+ |  |  |  |  | + £20K Rugby Dev and £15K ARURS |

Additional note: All clothing is to be purchased through the approved supplier. All clothing is to following current ARU brands available annually and universal to all teams. Orders via the ARU Office.

Annex:

A. Strengthening Financial Management Capability in the Army Rugby Union Planning Assumptions.

B. The Army Rugby Union Clothing and Equipment Care Policy.

C. Hierarchal Pyramid of Priority. V3.

1. Fixtures – This includes any ‘Team Trials’, a 10 day training camp and IS games granted to travel at Public Expense (POT 16) and authorised by HQ ASCB. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Transport at Public Expense. All central POT 16 requests (coaches) must be submitted by TMs 14 days in advance to COO or DoF for authorisation by HQ ASCB. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. This includes all funding for Inter Services; hotels if relevant, Clothing & Equipment etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Training camps for the 21/22 & 22/23 season will be based in UK. TM’s are to note the direction provided in the ASL Request for Funding section on the Lottery Website. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Invitations to compete against overseas international teams should be considered by the MB on an individual basis. A business case, including full costings, should be submitted sufficiently in advance to allow the FSC to make a recommendation to the Board. Earliest ARU Tour authorisation will be Sep 22. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Accommodation for all teams should be SLAM or equivalent (single rooms). Hotels are only to be used / booked via the ARU DoF on the production of a non-availability certificate issued by the relevant Garrison accn booking cell at least 30 days prior to date accn required. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)