

GBWR

Wheelchair Rugby 5s

Launch Event

10th Dec 2017



Wheelchair Rugby 5s has arrived...

The wait is finally over, after a series of informative pilots and wide ranging discussions across those involved in the sport, Wheelchair Rugby 5s is ready to launch.

Clubs, teams and players have been training hard in anticipation for this exciting new game and it seems only fitting that we launch Wheelchair Rugby 5s at the birthplace of Paralympic sport... Stoke Mandeville stadium.

The new version of the game aims to increase inclusivity for those with physical impairments and will also enable those within existing structures to play all year long as following the launch we shall look for Wheelchair Rugby 5s to run as a summer season.

I'm sure you can all imagine this is a hugely exciting time for us at GBWR as we have led the way in this International agenda and we look forward to future developments. We also recognise that like many sporting ventures this is an evolution and as the game grows we can expect to see changes along the way. But for the time being welcome Wheelchair Rugby 5s!

Classification

There will be a classification system in place for the launch event. This has been designed with players in mind, to maximise participation as much as possible while keeping all levels of disability competitive within the new game format.

There will **NOT** be classifiers at the event or involved in the initial classification process for the launch of Wheelchair Rugby 5s. Instead it will be down to club coaches to assess their players against the following criteria below.

- 0.5 point player = current 0.5-1.5 IWRF classified players
- 1.0 point player = current 2.0-3.5 IWRF classified players
- 1.5 point player = current 4.0 GBWR classified players and players with an impairment in one upper limb (above the elbow)
- 2.0-point player = impairment in both lower limbs.
- 2.5-point player = impairment in one upper limb (below the elbow disability)
- 3.0-point player = impairment in one lower limb, or other impairments that makes the athlete unable to stand or walk unassisted.

Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby Limited

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Registered Office: Rugby House, Twickenham Stadium, 200 Whitton Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 7BA

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Teams will be permitted a maximum of 10 points on court.

It will be the responsibility of the coaches of the participants involved to assess and classify each of their team's players. The assessment should be completed and a team roster sent to Adam Simmons, outlining your player's name and classification, no later than two weeks prior to the date of the competition.

Coaches and players are reminded that this is a **friendly** competition; adherence to fair play and sportsmanship should be at the forefront of every individual's mind when conducting their assessments.

There will be a number of players taking part as individuals rather than with a team, those players will be allocated a team to join either before or at the tournament. It is likely that **all teams** competing will have players allocated to them on the day. Therefore, bibs will be provided in the event a team does not have enough club playing tops.

For players who are joining other teams on the day, please send me a description of your disability and GBWR will allocate you a classification.

Current Super Series classified players, please bring your classification cards with you on the day. All other players please bring a passport style photo.

Rule Changes

The following rule changes are applicable for Wheelchair Rugby 5s:

- Teams will consist of five players on court and maximum squad of 12. All players, coaches and team staff **MUST** be registered as GBWR members.
- A team can field a maximum of 10 points on court at any one time. Points are allocated using the above classification system designed for Wheelchair Rugby 5s.
- Wheelchair Rugby 5s will be played over two periods of 12 minutes. 2 minute break at halftime.
- The games clock will continue running for the entire period of the game except during the final minute of each half.
- No player timeouts but coaches get 1, 30 sec timeout per half; these can only be called on a stoppage in play.
- The referee can stop the clock for long periods of inaction, such as for an injury.
- Contact before the whistle is allowed.
- No 0.5 reduction for athletes over 45 or for female athletes.

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Otherwise all rules will be the same as for the Paralympic version of the game, which can be found on the GBWR and IWRF websites. If anyone wishes to read a copy of these documents please use the links below.

IWRF web page: http://www.iwrf.com/?page=rules_and_documents&cat=474

GBWR Tournament Rules: <http://gbwr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/GBWR-Tournament-Rules-v002-September-2015.pdf>

Safeguarding

It is a requirement that all teams participating within any GBWR competition adhere to the GBWR Safeguarding policy. We would also like to remind all team Club Welfare Officers and coaches that they need to have attended mandatory safeguarding training.

GBWR's Safeguarding policy can be found on our website at below link.
<http://gbwr.org.uk/home/about-us/about-gbwr/governance/safeguarding/>

Schedule

Wheelchair Rugby 5s Launch Event

Pool A	Pool B
Maulers	Bristol
Northampton	Woodbridge
Sharks/Brighton	Dorset

		Court 1				Court 2		
9:00	gs1	Maulers	V	Sharks/Brighton	gs2	Bristol	V	Woodbridge
10:00	Gs3	Maulers	V	Northampton	Gs4	Woodbridge	V	Dorset
11:00	Gs5	Northampton	V	Sharks/Brighton	Gs6	Dorset	V	Bristol
12:30	Gs7	1 st Pool 1	V	2 nd Pool 2	Gs8	2 nd Pool 1	V	1 st Pool 2
13:30	Gs9	3 rd Pool 1	V	3 rd Pool 2	G10	Loser gs 7	V	Loser gs 8
14:30	Gs11	Winner gs 7	V	Winner gs 8				

Schedule maybe subject to change

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