***Rules and Format.***

*Game time: 5 minutes*

*Try worth 6 points, unless posts are available then tries are 4 points and conversions are 2.*

*Teams play each other once then final league standings dictates who is into final and 3rd place play off.*

*Teams have 5 tags to try and score, failure to score results in a turnover of the ball to the other team.*

*Once a player is tagged they must stand still and play the ball. Tagging player must hand tags back to player after tagging them.*

*Defending team must retreat back to the referee (minimum 6 metres).*

*Defending team cannot move until dummy half has passed the ball.*

*Ball must only be passed backward and sidewards.*

*Any player that steps in to touch/ over side line with ball results in a turnover.*

*Once a try is scored the ball is restarted in the middle or for fluidity the team that has just scored can hand ball to opposite team and start straight away from try line.*

*Top two teams after all games are completed go to the final and 3rd and fourth play in a 3rd place playoff.*

**Teams.**

***England.***

*Emily*

*Marni*

*Alex*

*George*

*Joshua*

***Scotland.***

*Daniel*

*Leo*

*Josephine*

*Amelia*

*Benjamin*

*Louis*

***Wales.***

*Kate*

*Thomas*

*Euan*

*Ava*

*Lila*

*Elliot*

***Ireland.***

*Tilly*

*Ryan*

*Shay*

*Catherine*

*Hannah*

***Round 1.***

***England 12 vs. 18 Scotland.***

*The first game of the tournament saw England play Scotland. A rivalry that has spanned centuries between the two countries was now going to be settled on the rugby pitch at Longhoughton. Both teams came into the game looking to cement that first win and get themselves off to a good start in the tournament. It was England who struck first with an outstanding solo effort by George weaving through the Scottish defence before finishing in the corner to make it 6 nil to England. This seemed to invigorate Scotland who hit back almost immediately with 3 tries of their own, Captain fantastic Daniel led his team forward scoring two wonderfully worked team tries. Then linking up superbly with Josephine and Amelia he scored his third and sealed his hat-trick for the game. Some brilliant Scottish defence especially from Louis and Benjamin held England at bay all up until the end when a magnificent run from Marni set up Joshua to score a consolation try and make the final score 18-12 to Scotland.*

***Ireland 0 vs. 12 Wales.***

*The score line may have suggested a one sided affair in this game but that was not the case. Both sides threw caution to the wind and attacked from the first whistle. Some superb "body on the line" style of defending held both teams at bay. It looked like it would be a scoreless draw at the final whistle but Ava and Euan had other ideas for Wales. Two wonderful break away tries for both players sealed a win for Wales and condemned Ireland to their first loss of the tournament.*

***Round 2.***

***England 12 vs. 18 Wales.***

*England came into their second game with a point to prove after their earlier defeat to Scotland. Now they could have been forgiven for being a little cautious against a Wales side that had beaten Ireland earlier in the day, but this was not the case. From the first whistle to the last England attacked with directness and a drive that had Wales on the back foot. Some scintillating play down the wing saw Emily and George combine to put Alex over the whitewash and make the score 6 nil to England. Not soon after England and Alex were celebrating again after Wales seemingly went to sleep and allowed Alex to sneak a try right in the corner. All was going well, then the man who would be named player of the tournament, Euan started the Wales revival. Bursting through tackle after tackle, Euan scored two world class tries back to back from out of nowhere and brought the game level 12 a piece. Then with the last play of the game, Lila and Elliot linked up with some wonderful passing and were able to play Kate over the try and score the winning try. Thus breaking England's hearts and all but condemning them to a 3rd place playoff.*

***Scotland 12 vs. 12 Ireland.***

*Scotland came into this game on a high. Winning in their first game meant a win here could potentially put them top of the table, as long as other results went their way. Ireland came into the game wanting to register their first win of the tournament and avenge their loss to Wales earlier in the day. Both teams started the game quite cautiously and it wasn't until half way through the game did both teams start to relax and start to play some free flowing rugby. Some cute passing from Shay and Catherine set up Ryan for his first try of the tournament and put Ireland 6 nil up. Almost immediately Scotland struck back. Leo went on a jinking run through Ireland’s defensive line and just before being stopped, offloaded the ball to Daniel to score in the corner tying the game at 6 all. Some stalwart defence held Scotland at bay but a wonderfully carved out play and pass from Daniel put Louis through the Irish defensive line and made the score 12-6 to Scotland. All seemed lost for Ireland and they looked certain to be heading for a second defeat. Then out of nowhere came their glimmer of hope, a superb pass from Tilly to Hannah allowed Hannah some time and space to go to the line and play Ryan through a hole and score a brilliant and well deserved try, thus tying the game and making the final score 12-12.*

***Round 3.***

***Ireland 6 vs. 6 England.***

*It all came down to this game for Ireland. A win could have sent them through to the final depending on the score line. England, already out of contention for the final, weren't going to roll over and make it easy for Ireland though; national pride was at stake and England came to win. In a war of attrition, down the middle was a place no mere mortal would have ventured as the line speed from both defenses and the tackling was that of legends. Out wide was where success would have to come for both teams and that is where it came. Tilly, Hannah and Catherine combined some weaving runs and some audacious passing to put Tilly over and make the score 6 nil to Ireland. An uncharacteristic error from Ireland though allowed England to capitalise and George did so. Picking the ball up and plonking it over the line to make it 6 all at the final whistle, thus breaking the hearts of the Irish who now could only make the 3rd place playoff.*

***Scotland 6 vs. 12 Wales.***

*In what was a tightly contested game a moment of pure magic is what separated the two teams at the final whistle. Captain Fantastic Daniel had scored for Scotland early on and Kate had replied almost instantly for Wales. However Elliot's solo effort try was the deciding factor and clinched victory for Wales. After some great work by his team mates, Elliot was able to latch on to a pass from Thomas, tip toe down the sideline evading a handful of defenders and white wash to win the game in what was to be the last play of the match.*

*Teams     P     W     D     L     PTS     GD+/-*

*WAL        3      3      0      0      9           +12*

*SCO        3      1      1      1      7             0*

*IRE          3      0      2      1      5           -12*

*ENG        3      0      1      2      4            -6*

***3rd Place Playoff.******(Tries worth double).******England 36 vs 48 Ireland.*** *In the previous encounter both teams defense proved to be too much for either attack and ended the game in a draw. That was not the case this time as both teams attacked with a verve and vigor that had final written all over it and not third place playoff. From the first minute to the last both teams threw everything at each other. I am positive that I even saw a kitchen sink thrown in for good measure. Two tries from Alex and glorious effort from George had seen England take a commanding lead, but alas England’s curse of always being the bridesmaid never the bride came about and Ireland snatched the victory from under their noses. The try scoring machine Ryan scored a hat trick to bring the scores level and then Shay scored the deciding try after some great individual play from the young man, finishing coolly in the corner.*

***Final.
Wales 60 vs 48 Scotland.*** *Wales continued their impressive form into the final running out 60-48 winners over Scotland. Scotland made Wales work for every point and Wales can count themselves lucky; if not for a few dodgy bounces the scoreline could have been oh so different. Captain fantastic Daniel had scored an amazing hat trick for Scotland putting Scotland in the lead 36 nil. Wales struck back though when Thomas latched onto a wonderful pass from Lila to make the score 36-12. Then an astonishing hat trick from Euan put Wales in front 48-36. In the blink of an eye the game had been flipped on its head. Neither team took their foot off the gas pedal and both teams went for the win. End to end attacks saw Ben strike for Scotland and drew the score level at 48 a piece. Then the man of the moment Euan scored the winning try for Wales after a lovely worked move which saw some wonderful handling from Kate and Ava and Euan scoring past a beleaguered Scottish defence winning the game and the Tournament for Wales.*

Dan Gilroy
Head Community Coach

Rockets Community