

PONTYPOOL DISTRICT RUGBY UNION UPDATE -19/03/20

Dear Secretary,

The Pontypool District Rugby Union Executive Committee have by an 80% majority decision decided to cancel the Ivor Jones Cup and Reg Buttress Shield competitions for the 2019-20 season. This decision has not been made lightly and is due to the Corona virus pandemic which has currently stopped all rugby in Wales until at least the end of March and probably longer. Bearing in mind that there are two 1st round matches still to be played we feel that the time constraints in getting the games played are not conducive to clubs getting their WRU league fixtures (which will take priority) played or indeed getting the semi finals and finals played. It must also be remembered that under the current situation of self isolation for over 70s that the majority of committee members on the District as well as clubs who will be running the games will not be available. We also feel that it is only fair to let clubs know exactly where they stand when it comes to having to reorganise fixtures when, or even if, the season restarts, or is extended into the Summer. Obviously the WRU will have to make another decision on resuming, play, or not, by the end of this month, after which I will be consulting with the GNP committee reps from Gwent and Newport Districts with regard to the continuation and final results of the GNP League. The District Committee send their best wishes to clubs under this unprecedented situation since the last war and trust that struggling clubs will survive through to season 2020-21. I will send out information on the annual AGM in May/June as under the present restrictions there may not be an AGM this year. If anyone has any questions or feels they should give a clubs view on this statement then please do so.

Yours in Rugby, Eddie Williams, (Pontypool District Secretary)