



Eligibility for Varsity Matches

A resident bona fide student member of the University is eligible to compete in a Varsity Match, subject to the stipulations that he or she is:

- a) A matriculated and fully registered member of both a College and of the University for the current year according to both College and University academic registrar; and
- b) Registered for, and actively studying for, a recognised degree, diploma or certificate of the University; ¹ where matriculation for all members of the course is compulsory; and
- c) In residence for at least the 8 weeks of the Full Term in which the Varsity match falls, fulfilling residence requirements for his or her degree, diploma or certificate course and also general University undergraduate or postgraduate residence requirements ²; and
- d) Not already the holder of 8 Blues, having previously competed in 8 Blues status Varsity Matches in any one sport;

And either

- e) Is an undergraduate, thus reading for a first degree, in which case his or her eligibility continues until 30 September in the year in which he or she completes his or her undergraduate course; or
- f)
 - i) is already the holder of a degree from a recognised University and is therefore reading for a second degree, or for a diploma, certificate or higher degree of the University, in which case his or her eligibility is limited to 4 postgraduate Varsity appearances. These 4 years need not be consecutive.
 - ii) The eligibility of such a graduate student is limited until his or her results are published in Reporter (Cambridge) or the Examination Schools (Oxford). However should extra work be required after a viva to complete academic requirements, then Varsity eligibility is extended until these requirements have been met but shall not extend beyond the academic year in which the original viva takes place.

¹ In all cases players must have been registered for an eligible course for the entirety of the term in which the Varsity Match falls and matriculation must occur before the Varsity Match. If an individual changes course during this term, his or her study must run continuously.

² It has been agreed by the Clubs that their respective University's residence limit should normally apply to all postgraduates (both full- and part-time). These are 25 miles from the city centre for Oxford and 10 miles from the city centre for Cambridge. On occasion, full-time students undertaking particular degrees (e.g. Medicine or Veterinary Medicine) will undertake placements during Varsity term and are exempt from these requirements.

Further Notes

1. It is permissible for players to appear on occasion for another team during the Varsity term subject to the prior agreement of both clubs. Before playing for another team, each individual must also attain permission from his or her Captain. This option is intended to support individuals on a Professional Rugby Development Pathway or selected to represent at International level. The expectation of both clubs is that those deemed to be on a Professional Rugby Development Pathway will normally be undergraduate students and/or those entering elite rugby for the first time. In order to participate meaningfully in the Varsity term, and to be eligible for the Varsity Match, both clubs would expect such individuals to be available for at least 50% of the University fixtures during the Varsity term (approximately four fixtures within an 8 week period).
2. For all other non-Blues status Oxford vs. Cambridge matches e.g. second team competitions, the current BUCS eligibility criteria shall apply. This allows any current student on an accredited course of study within the University, irrespective of matriculation or number of years of previous participation, the right to play.
3. The academic register or equivalent must have the student status shown as 'active' for the year in which the Varsity Match falls, notwithstanding all other eligibility requirements.
4. 'In residence' (see c) above) means that the student actually lives and sleeps at their stated address during the relevant period. The address registered with their club will normally be their registered University address. If it is not, or a student changes residency during the term, even on a temporary basis, or a student has any questions about whether their arrangements meet the eligibility criteria, they must notify their club official immediately, as well as informing the University authorities.
5. If a student does not comply with these eligibility requirements then they disqualify themselves from being selected. If, having played, it is subsequently found they have not complied they would lose their Blue and, if on the winning side, the match result could be reversed. This would be for the Blues Committee of the offending team to oversee.

It has been agreed between the two Clubs that any player wishing to be considered for selection for the men's or women's Varsity Match must provide their Club with a signed undertaking to confirm that they meet the eligibility requirements and also to confirm their residency address. The Clubs will register this information by Friday of first week of the Varsity Match Full Term and exchange lists of eligible players on Friday of second week. (The relevant dates for 2019 are 11 October and 18 October).

To register their eligibility players should return a hard copy of this document, with the undertaking below completed and signed, to Tim Stevens (OURFC) or Scott Annett (CURUFC) by Friday 4 October 2019.



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