



**English Clubs Championship  
London & S. E. Division**

**EXPLANATORY NOTICE No. 3  
Current Version Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

**PROTOCOL for establishing "NEXT AVAILABLE WEEKEND" in  
REGULATION**

Where a game is cancelled or abandoned in accordance with Regulation, the League Secretary may order it to be replayed in which case it will be scheduled for the "Next available weekend" as defined in Regulation.

A re-arranged game may be played BEFORE the original scheduled date. This mainly happens when a cup draw is made which will undoubtedly cause a postponement in the future and where there is an available weekend in between making the draw and actually playing the tie.

In virtually every case there is no doubt whatsoever when the "Next available weekend" falls and the following rules will be used by the London Competitions Committee and the League Secretaries in establishing the re-arrangement.

1. The "Next available weekend" means the next weekend where neither club is involved in a competition organised by the RFU.
2. As soon as it becomes apparent that a game cannot be played on the scheduled date it will be re-arranged for the "Next available weekend" in one of two ways.
  - where the availability of one or both teams cannot be guaranteed but remains a possibility the match will be scheduled as "PROVISIONAL"
  - where the availability of both teams is certain the match will be scheduled as "CONFIRMED"
3. Where two or more matches involving the same teams become available for confirmation on the same "Next available weekend" then precedence will be given to the longest outstanding game.
4. Once established as "CONFIRMED" a re-arrangement will not be changed except as defined in 5 below.
5. The Committee reserves the right, [subject to appeal](#), to alter the protocol
  - If it becomes apparent that an adjustment to the schedule will result in the programme of rescheduled matches being completed rather earlier than otherwise expected OR
  - where, towards the end of a season, it is appropriate to prioritise matches which may have a bearing on promotion, relegation and play-off places in order to avoid an extension to the season.

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