



# COMMUNITY RUGBY LEAGUE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

## UPDATES FOR THE 2022 SEASON

The following policies have been updated for the 2022 season.

### **MINOR UPDATES (UPDATES TO LANGUAGE OR READABILITY ONLY)**

Policy 2.20 Playing a Player Above their Natural Age Group (Playing Up)  
Policy 2.25 Racial, Religious and Sexual Vilification Reporting Process  
Policy 4.35 Unauthorised Person Inside the Spectator Fence (Playing Area)

### **MAJOR UPDATES (UPDATES TO CONTENT OF POLICY OR NEW POLICY ADDED)**

#### Policy 1.8 Playing with More Than One Club

- » 'Once a player is registered and plays one (1) competition match' amended to 'Once a player is registered and plays three (3) competition matches'
- » Players can now play three matches for a Club before they are restricted from transferring to another Club

#### Policy 2.5 Club Constitutions and By-Laws

- » Recommendation to use the Department of Fair-Trading Constitution changed to recommendation to use the Model Community Rugby League Club Constitution

#### Policy 2.7 Financial Bonds

- » **NEW POLICY**
- » Details requirements for Clubs or Teams that are placed on financial bonds as the result of a Judicial or Code of Conduct hearing

#### Policy 2.11 Mandatory Reporting

- » Addition of requirement of Clubs to report any match abandoned due to foul play or any melee at their grounds
- » Addition of failure to report penalties

### Policy 2.16 Monarch Blues Tag Competition Rule Modifications

- » Mercy Rule stipulation removed

#### **Mercy Rule**

The Mercy Rule does not apply in Monarch Blues Tag competitions.

- » Mercy Rule now applies to Monarch Blues Tag Competitions as per Policy 4.22 Mercy Rule

### Policy 2.20 Playing a Player Above Their Natural Age Group (Playing Up)

- » Addition of heading PLAYERS PLAYING TWO YEARS ABOVE THEIR NATURAL AGE GROUP WHERE CLUBS HAVE MISSING AGE GROUPS
- » Details on rules for players playing up an age group where a Club has, as an example, only U10 then U12 and the process for approval for players to play up in that instance
- » Letter supporting applications to play up two years can now be approved by a Senior Club Coach (SCC), NRL GDO or an appropriate NSWRL appointed representative
- » Players in dual age competitions are no longer required to complete the Playing in a Higher Age Group Consent Form if their natural age group is included in the dual age competition (i.e. where competitions offered are Under 14 and then Under 16, with no Under 15 Competition available, players turning 15 in the calendar year will no longer be required to complete the consent form to participate in Under 16)

### Policy 2.23 Player Transfer Policy – Community Rugby League

- » Rule 6(d) removed
  - d) Where a player that was previously registered to a Division 1 team (this includes competitions with only one Division) at any time with the previous 18 months, and the Club which the player intends Registering to qualified for the Division 1 Grand Final, but the player intends to solely participate with the same Clubs Division 2 side in the coming season (player will be deemed unqualified if they participate in the Division 1 side at any time during the season).
- » Div 1 players are no longer allowed to transfer to a Club that played in a Div 1 GF to play in a lower division

### Policy 2.25 Racial, Religious and Sexual Vilification Reporting Process

- » Timeframe for player reporting changed to 10.00am on the Monday following the incident

### Policy 3.7 Suspended Player Guidelines

- » Update to rules for players wishing to serve their Community Rugby League suspension in a NSWRL Junior Representative competition

A player can only seek to serve their suspension in a competition in which their suspension equates to a maximum of 80% of the season proper rounds, i.e. if a player is seeking to serve their suspension in the Andrew Johns Cup the suspension can only be four (4) games (of the total five (5) rounds available) or less and the player must play in the next available round game for the suspension to be deemed as served.

Approval is required from the players relevant Zone Manager, as well as Major Competitions, for a suspended player to be able to participate in, and serve their suspension, in any Junior Representative competition.

### Policy 3.15 Player Points Index System (PPIS)

- » **NEW POLICY**
- » PPIS applicable to Open Age competitions

### Policy 4.8 Coach / Sports Trainer / Team Manager

- » Change to name of Policy (from Coach / Sports Trainer at Each Game)
- » Addition of TEAM MANAGERS heading with registration and age requirements
- » Under SPORTS TRAINER heading addition of notes to behavioral requirements of Sports Trainers on game day

### Policy 4.15 Ground Managers

- » Addition of age requirement – ‘The Ground Manager should be a person of maturity (18 years or older)
- » Addition that Ground Managers must be wearing an appropriate NSWRL Ground Manager vest and only vested Ground Managers can enter the field of play

### Policy 4.22 Mercy Rule

- » Mercy Rule has been updated to a 60 point differential in all age groups
- » Coaches and Referee may continue play if all agree that it is deemed safe
- » If games proceed, no further scores will be recorded

### Policy 4.27 Playing an Unregistered Player

- » **NEW POLICY**
- » Details requirements for players to be registered before they take the field in any competition and the ability for Leagues to impose penalties for non-compliance

### Policy 4.34 Touch Judges

- » **NEW POLICY**
- » Recommendations for appointment of touch judges in specific age competitions
- » Detail of responsibilities for unofficial touch judges on game day

### Policy 5.4 Tough Love in League Policy – Curbing Violence in our Game

- » Change of points penalties associated to charges throughout the policy from ‘3 competition points’ to ‘the number of competition points that constitutes a win (2 or 3 competitions points)’

- » Removal of Team and Club Judiciary and Code of Conduct Demerit Point System / Demerit Points / Team Penalties Index / Club Penalties / Team Penalties
- » Addition of Rule 16 – Leagues must apply to NSWRL if they do not wish TLIL to apply to Open Age Competitions.

### Policy 7.1 Judiciary Code of Procedure

#### Section 2 – Judiciary Counsel

- » All mentions of Judiciary Counsel now have an addition of (where available)
- » Addition of Rule 2.5 which reads ‘Proceedings cannot be deemed null and void at the failure of the League to provide a Judicial Counsel.

#### Offences Points Index (Appendix 2)

- » New charge added ‘Unnecessary / Heavy Contact’ for application in Tag competitions with points penalties of 200/400/600/1200 as per appropriate grading

#### Clean Record Discount – Explanation of Headings (Appendix 2)

- » Clean Record Discount (2 years) of 25% and Clean Record Discount (7 years) of 50% outlined and clearly explained
- » Clean Record Discount (5 years) of 50% increased to 7 years
- » To qualify for both discounts timeframes to apply from international age groups only (13 and above)

### Policy 8.1 Appeals Committee Code of Procedure

#### Judiciary and Code of Conduct Counsel

- » All mentions of Judiciary and Code of Conduct Counsel now have an addition of (where available)