



ILLAWARRA AND SOUTH COAST
ILLAWARRA TOYOTA
JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUES



**ILLAWARRA /SOUTH COAST JUNIOR LEAGUE
LEAGUE COMPETITION RULES - 2009**

*These rules are current as at 6th March 2009 and replace all previous versions.
Please destroy any earlier copies.*

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Proud Sponsors of the
Illawarra and South Coast Junior Rugby Leagues

1. Administration

- 1.1. Competitions will be administered by a Management Committee of twelve persons.
- 1.2. Two persons to be appointed by Illawarra Division.
- 1.3. Two persons to be appointed by South Coast Group Seven.
- 1.4. Two persons representing Clubs in Illawarra Division.
- 1.5. Two persons representing Clubs in South Coast Group Seven.
- 1.6. Secretary
- 1.7. Draw Co-Ordinator
- 1.8. Illawarra Division Registrar
- 1.9. South Coast Group Seven Registrar

2. Chairperson

- 2.1. A Chairperson shall be appointed by the Committee.

3. Voting

- 3.1. All members of the Committee will be entitled to vote and the Chairperson will have a Casting vote as well as a Deliberate Vote.
- 3.2. Members of the Management Committee in 1.(2),(3),(4) and (5) may be replaced by a Proxy Member provided the Secretary is advised prior to the meeting.

4. Sub-Committees

- 4.1. The Committee may appoint any sub-committees necessary.
- 4.2. Sub-Committees may include persons from outside the Management Committee.

5. Meetings

- 5.1. Where possible, venues of Management Committee meetings will alternate between South Coast and Illawarra areas.
- 5.2. Minutes of all meetings will be forwarded to all clubs.
- 5.3. The Management Committee may convene general forums. Forums will consist of representatives of all clubs competing in the competition and may make recommendations to the Management Committee.

6. Registration of Players

- 6.1. All players are to be registered with their respective Division/Group in accordance with C.R.L. rules.
- 6.2. Closing date for registrations and transfers is 30th June each year.
- 6.3. All details on registration cards must be fully completed.

7. Playing Day Ground Rules

- 7.1. Registration Cards must be produced when players in their playing gear sign the match sheet at the official signing point prior to competing in the game.
- 7.2. Match Result Forms in duplicate will be supplied by the Management Committee.

- 7.3. It is the responsibility of each team to have the match sheets available at the official signing on point and the home team shall forward the match sheets to the registrar within three (3) days of the game.
- 7.4. Any match sheet not correctly completed or not received within the required time will result in the offending club being fined at the discretion of the Management Committee.

8. Unqualified Players (Amended 2009)

- 8.1. Any team playing an unregistered or unqualified player shall lose the match in which such player participated.
- 8.2. The League Registrar shall notify the offending club of points lost and that club will then have three (3) working days to lodge an objection in writing to the Secretary.
- 8.3. Such objection shall be dealt with by the Management Committee or sub-committee appointed.
- 8.4. Should no objection be received, the competition points shall be automatically credited to the opposing team in accordance with C.R.L. rules.
- 8.5. The Management Committee may impose penalties on the offending team/club by
 - 8.5.1. Fine - amount decided by the Management Committee and/or
 - 8.5.2. Loss of additional competition points and/or
 - 8.5.3. Disqualification from the competition.

9. Players sent from the Field

- 9.1. Any player sent from the field by the referee shall immediately leave the playing area and cannot be replaced. Dismissed players must change out of their playing gear and are not permitted to be inside the fence or roped-off area.
- 9.2. At the conclusion of the match the referee shall complete a report stating the reason for dismissal.
 - 9.2.1. One copy shall be provided to the player.
 - 9.2.2. One copy shall be forwarded to the Judiciary
- 9.3. The home club and the Referees Association shall advise the League of any player sent from the field.
- 9.4. Any player sent from the field is suspended until he appears before the Judiciary Committee.

10. Judiciary Committee

- 10.1. The Judiciary Committee will meet as directed by the League Secretary.
- 10.2. If video / DVD evidence is to be presented the League Secretary must be advised at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the Judiciary Committee meeting,
- 10.3. The Judiciary Committee will, wherever possible, consist of two (2) members from each of the Illawarra and South Coast Group Seven Junior League Judiciary Committees.
- 10.4. A player appearing before the Judiciary Committee may be accompanied by a parent or guardian and must be represented by a club official.

11. Sin Bin (Temporary Suspension)

- 11.1. Players sent to the Sin Bin should be escorted by a team official to an area designated by the home club.
- 11.2. A Player returning to the field from the Sin Bin must advise the nearest touch-judge and enter the field in an onside position.

12. Qualification of Players (Amended 2009)

- 12.1. Where a club has two (2) or more teams playing in the same age division, players may be interchanged until three (3) games prior to the Semi Finals. After that time permission must be obtained from the Qualification Committee to change teams.
- 12.2. Where a club has multiple teams in the same age group, any player who has played six matches in one Division cannot play in a lower Division (ie Division 1 back to either Division 2 or 3 or from Division 2 back to Division 3) without permission from the Qualifications Committee.
- 12.3. No player is permitted to play in a lower division of a higher age group (e.g. U/13 Division 1 to U/14 Division 2) unless he receives permission from the Qualifications Committee.
- 12.4. For the purposes of Play-Offs, Semi Finals, Finals or Grand Finals, a player must have played at least five competition matches at that age group during the current season to be eligible to compete in these matches. Players not so qualified may be granted permission to play after application to the Qualifications Committee.
- 12.5. All applications to the Qualifications Committee shall be in writing via the player's club.

13. Ground Arrangements

- 13.1. Where a ground does not have permanent fencing around the playing arena, the area must be roped off to the satisfaction to the League and Referees.
- 13.2. Each home club must appoint a Ground Manager who shall be responsible for all ground arrangements including control of spectators, who must remain outside the fenced or designated area at all times. The name of the Ground Manager must be displayed at the Ground Canteen.
- 13.3. The Ground Manager is to arrange for the Ground Match Report to be faxed to the Publicity Officers listed on the report.
- 13.4. Only team trainers are permitted on the touchline. All other persons (including Coaches, Managers and Replacement Players etc) are not permitted inside the fenced area of the ground except where the home club or the League has allocated a specific area for the persons mentioned.
- 13.5. Managers may act as Trainer, but are subject to the same rules that exist for Trainers. No Coaching is permitted from inside the fence or designated area.
- 13.6. The Home club shall make arrangements for suitably qualified medical personnel to be in attendance at all games and such person should be clearly identified.
- 13.7. Buckets are not permitted on the field and sponges are banned at all times.

14. Cancellation of Games

- 14.1. Postponement of games in adverse weather conditions is the responsibility of the home club who must
 - 14.1.1. In South Coast Group Seven advise the League Secretary or Registrar, opposing club and referees.
 - 14.1.2. In Illawarra advise the Division Administrator/s.
- 14.2. The League may postpone or cancel games in extreme circumstances where decisions of Local Government Authorities make play impossible. Any such games are to be played as directed by the League. This may be on a spare date available in the competition draw or within fourteen (14) days by mutual agreement of the clubs or as otherwise decided by the Management Committee,

15. Forfeits

- 15.1. Any club forfeiting a game must advise the League Secretary or Registrar, opposing club and referees.
- 15.2. Any team forfeiting three (3) times shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the competition.
- 15.3. Any team forfeiting a fixture will automatically forfeit the two (2) competition points for the game to their opponents.
- 15.4. Where a team forfeits after 9.00am on the day preceding the match their club will be fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00). The club receiving the forfeit will receive seventy percent (70%) of the forfeit fine.
- 15.5. Any forfeit within the four (4) weeks leading up to the Semi Finals may incur a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

16. Playing Times

- 16.1. All games are to be played in two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each way.
- 16.2. Time off for injuries or stoppages in play shall be in the final five (5) minutes of any competition fixture. The referee in the event of a "Serious Injury" or stoppage in play (e.g. where an Ambulance has to be called) may direct time to be taken off at any stage of the game.
- 16.3. In Play-Offs, Semi Finals, Finals or Grand Finals time off will be taken in all games when signalled by the referee.
- 16.4. It is the responsibility of the home club to provide a timekeeper and scorer and opposition clubs have the right to appoint a similar official. The League reserves the right to appoint an official timekeeper. The Decision of the timekeeper/s is Final.

17. Extra Playing Time for Finals **(Amended 2009)**

- (1) If scores are equal at the conclusion of normal time in any Finals Series match, then in such matches, including the Grand Final, a period of extra time shall follow whereby the first scorer of any point or points (field goal, penalty goal or try) will immediately be declared the winner.
 - 17.1.1. If a try is scored in extra time the conversion kick will **NOT** be permitted

- 17.1.2. The commencement of the period of extra time shall be determined by the toss of a coin as described under the Laws of the Game
- 17.1.3. If no point or points have been scored after a period of five (5) minutes, the referee shall cease play and the teams shall immediately change ends
- 17.1.4. The team that did not kick off to commence the initial period of extra time will kick off to commence the second period
- 17.1.5. Play shall then continue on an unlimited time basis until the first point or points have been scored to determine the winner of the match.

18. Team Qualifying Positions for Final Series (Amended 2009)

- 18.1. The following competition points shall be awarded Win 2 points, Bye 2 points; Forfeit received 2 points; Draw 1 point; Loss No points; Forfeit conceded No points.
- 18.2. For the purposes of allocating points for and against, byes and forfeits shall be treated as a 28-8 score line.
 - 18.2.1. The team receiving a bye or forfeit shall have 28 points added to their points for and 8 points added to their points against.
 - 18.2.2. The team conceding a forfeit shall have 8 points added to their points for and 28 points added to their points against
- 18.3. At the conclusion of matches in the Competition rounds as provided for in the Draw, all teams will be ranked in descending order according to the number of competition points accrued during the season, subject only to any other provisions of the these Competition Rules regarding the deduction of competition points.
- 18.4. Positions in the Finals Series will be determined on this basis subject to the number of teams to be included in the Finals Series as determined by the Management Committee.
- 18.5. At the conclusion of matches in the Competition rounds provided for in the Draw, if two (2) or more teams are equal in competition points, rankings will be determined according to the following criteria from the total results of all matches played in the Competition rounds:
 - 18.5.1. Greater positive difference between points scored for and against, then if equal,
 - 18.5.2. Greater percentage of points scored for and against, being determined by:

$$\frac{\text{Points scored for}}{\text{Points scored against}} \times \frac{100}{1}$$
 Then if equal,
 - 18.5.3. most tries scored, then if equal,
 - 18.5.4. most goals kicked, then if equal,
 - 18.5.5. most drop goals kicked, then if equal,
 - 18.5.6. by the toss of a coin

19. Finals Series Format (Amended 2009)

- 19.1. The first four Clubs in competition points shall meet in the semi finals.
- 19.2. The Club standing third in competition points shall play the Club standing fourth in the Minor Semi Final
- 19.3. The Club standing first in competition points shall play the Club standing second in the Major Semi Final
- 19.4. The winner of the Minor Semi Final shall play the loser of the major semi final in the Preliminary Final
- 19.5. The winner of the Major Semi Final shall then play the winner of the Preliminary Final in the Grand Final
- 19.6. If two (2) or more teams are equal on competition points for fourth position teams must play-off as decided by the Management Committee.

20. Allocation of Finals Series Matches (Amended 2009)

- 20.1. The format for the matches to be played in the Finals Series will be as determined by the Management Committee prior to the commencement of the competition.
- 20.2. In all cases Finals Series matches will be played at venues determined by the Management Committee
- 20.3. All Finals Series matches are under the control of the Management Committee and are considered neutral matches.
 - 20.3.1. The Management Committee will issue specific requirements to each Club which qualifies to host Finals Series matches.
 - 20.3.2. If any of the Finals Series Host Club Requirements are not met by the Host Club the Management Committee may impose penalties
- 20.4. All revenue from Finals Series matches shall be retained by the Management Committee.

21. Replacement Players

- 21.1. In all matches unlimited replacements may be used and players may be interchanged at any time

22. Complaints

- 22.1. Any club wishing to complain about any match or incident in any match shall do so in writing to the Secretary within three (3) working days of the match or incident.
- 22.2. Any club wishing to complain about any match or incident in any match shall do so in writing to the Secretary within three (3) working days of the match or incident.
- 22.3. No complaint will be dealt with unless the Club Secretary or Executive member endorses the complaint.
- 22.4. The Management Committee, at its discretion, has the right to extend the three (3) working days period for a complaint to be lodged.
- 22.5. The Management Committee has the right to fine any club lodging a frivolous complaint.
- 22.6. The Management Committee or a Sub Committee appointed by it will deal with all complaints.

- 22.7. Any player or person who has a case to answer arising from a complaint will appear before the Management Committee or a Sub Committee appointed by it.
- 22.8. Matters arising from complaints may also be directed to the Judiciary Committee for determination.

23. General

- 23.1. All clubs are bound by the Constitution or By-Laws of their respective Group or Division unless otherwise stated in these rules.

24. Deferments

- 24.1. All competition games shall be played in accordance with the League competition draw and/or by direction of the Management Committee.
- 24.2. No club is to be given permission for teams to leave the district on any day Management games are listed for play, without the express permission of the Management Committee.
- 24.3. Any club guilty of altering venue or time of game or games as allocated in the competition draw without the approval of the Management Committee may be fined fifty dollars (\$50).
- 24.4. However by mutual agreement clubs may request to defer individual matches on the condition that the competition is not delayed, and shall notify the Competition Secretary in writing (signed by a member of the club executive) no later than 9.00am two days preceding the scheduled game. When requesting to defer matches, clubs must also advise the Competition Secretary of the time and date that the deferred match is to be played. Deferred matches must be played within fourteen (14) days of the original scheduled date.
- 24.5. If mutual agreement cannot be reached, the decision shall be left in the hands of the Management Committee.

25. Transfers

- 25.1. No player may play with two (2) clubs in the one season unless granted permission by the Management Committee.

26. Representative Players

- 26.1. For the purposes of these rules a representative player will be a player selected in the final squads of representative teams that are selected to represent Illawarra Division or South Coast Group Seven.
- 26.2. When a representative player returns to the Junior League (for whatever reason) he must return to the club he was last registered with for the remainder of the season.
- 26.3. When a player is selected in a representative squad it will be necessary for the player to acknowledge the existence of the rules that apply to the transfer and movement of representative players. Once a player accepts representative selection the player also accepts all transfer and other conditions pertaining to it.
- 26.4. Should a player who was registered with a club in Illawarra or South Coast Group Seven Junior Leagues within the previous two (2) season, submit a

clearance from another district to play in the Illawarra South Coast Junior Competition, that player will be automatically attached to the previous club in Illawarra or South Coast Group Seven that he was last registered with.

- 26.5. A player registered with the Development squads as a development player will also be regarded as a representative player for the purposes of these rules.
- 26.6. Players in Development and Representative Squads will remain representative players until they fail to be selected in the squad the following season. (This rule may be adjusted depending on the structure of representative football).
- 26.7. No more than two (2) representative players shall be allowed to transfer from any club to the one club team in the same age group in the same year, unless approved by the Management Committee.

27. Poaching of Players

- 27.1. In the instance where a club official who has allegedly encouraged player(s) to leave their registered club to join another, the official (or officials) will be sighted to appear before the Management Committee.
- 27.2. For the purposes of these rules Coaches, Manager, Trainers and Parents are deemed to be officials.
- 27.3. The Management Committee has the power to deal with any official by way of fine, suspension or other penalties.

28. Clash of Playing Jumpers

- 28.1. In the event of a clash of playing strips, the away team will arrange and wear an alternate set of jumpers
- 28.2. In regular competitions games, the home team will be the team appearing first on the competition draw.
- 28.3. In Play-Offs, Semi Finals and Finals, the home team will be the team finishing higher on the competition ladder.
- 28.4. In Grand Finals, the team winning the Major Semi-Final will be deemed the home team.
- 28.5. When considering a change in colour or design of playing jumpers and shorts, clubs should ensure that the new jumpers and shorts do not clash with another club's playing strip.

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