

**Illawarra Coal**  
**JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE**  
**AGE COMPETITION BY-LAWS**

Registered 1995

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**AGE COMPETITION BY-LAWS**  
**Current to 6 February 2012**

A notice of motion to change a by-law must be passed by a three fifths (3/5) majority at any meeting of the Competition Committee. Subject to prior notice of twenty one (21) days to the District Administrator who will circulate the notice of motion to change a By-Law to all voting bodies at least fourteen (14) days prior to the next Competition Committee meeting.

**1. CONSTITUENT CLUBS**

- 1.1. Each Club shall hold its Annual Meeting no later than the third week in January of each year, and shall there at, elect or appoint its representatives to the Competition Committee of the League. Each constituent club must provide the District Administrator with a list of names, addresses and telephone numbers of elected officials and delegates within ten (10) days of their meeting.
- 1.2. Before playing a game it is the responsibility of the constituent Club, to ensure that all players are financial registered members of their clubs. The Registration sheet of the CRL must be supplied to the League Registrar.
- 1.3. Failure to comply with this by-law may result in the loss of competition points in which the player participated and the player may be suspended from playing for a period not exceeding one calendar year. Points for such game may be awarded to the non-offending team. A club may also be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200). Or an amount set by the Board of Management
- 1.4. Any club not represented at any Competition or special meeting of the League may be fined fifty dollars (\$50) for every non-attendance, unless an acceptable reason for non-attendance is provided at the next meeting.
- 1.5. Any club not fulfilling duties as described by the League may be subject to disciplinary action as administered by the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc.
- 1.6. Alternate representative/s of each Constituent Club shall exercise all the rights and privileges of the member of the Competition Committee when acting in the place of an absent member or in the place of any person who has ceased to be a member of the Competition Committee.
- 1.7. Any Constituent Club may at any time recall its representative on the Competition Committee to elect another in their place. Any change must be notified to the District Administrator.
- 1.8. An annual affiliation fee of fifty dollars (\$50) per club and a nomination fee of ten dollars (\$10) per team shall be payable to the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc.

- 1.9. All fines, affiliation fees and ground rentals shall be paid before the League's Annual General Meeting. All clubs must be affiliated prior to the Annual Meeting. Nomination fees shall be paid with the nomination of teams.

## **2. COMPETITION**

- 2.1. The Board of Management shall be responsible for the correct administering of the League competition draw and a Competition Committee shall administer it on their behalf.
- 2.2. Details of the competition draw shall be available at all meetings of the Competition Committee or Board of Management Meeting.
- 2.3. The Registrar shall submit a report of the point scores as required by the League at each meeting of the Competition Committee and/or Board Meeting.

## **3. COMPETITION COMMITTEE**

The Competition Committee shall consist of:

- 3.1. Chairman, two Board Representatives (one of whom shall be chairman), two nominees from each Constituent Club and two representatives of the Referees Association. The Chairman shall be that person as nominated by the Board of Management. In the absence of that person not being present at any meeting the Competition Committee shall elect a chairman for that meeting.
- 3.2. Three fifths (3/5) of the Competition Committee members shall form a quorum at any Competition Committee Meeting.
- 3.3. In the event of a quorum not being present thirty (30) minutes after the time fixed, the meeting shall lapse.
- 3.4. A Club Representative must be in attendance to vote at a meeting of the General Committee - there is to be NO PROXY VOTING.
- 3.5. The Competition Committee shall meet at least monthly during the playing season and on a bi-monthly basis during the non-playing season.
- 3.6. The Board may at any time call a meeting of the Competition Committee and upon this request the District Administrator shall notify the members of the Competition Committee indicating the nature of the business there at.
- 3.7. Any dissent from the Chairman's ruling shall be put without further discussion apart from the mover of such dissent, who shall be allowed five (5) minutes to state his reason for such dissent.
- 3.8. Except where otherwise provided in the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc Constitution or these By-Laws, questions at any meeting of the Competition Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes and in every case of any equality of votes, Chairman as the case may be, shall decide the matter. This is the only voting powers he has.

- 3.9. Any fine incurred by any club shall be paid within fourteen days (14) of receipt of an invoice from the league, or said Club's voting powers will be revoked until such fines are paid.
- 3.10. Any motion passed at a Competition Committee Meeting shall take effect immediately.
- 3.11. The District Administrator is empowered to make functional decisions of urgency where such decisions are required prior to a regular Competition Committee Meeting.
- 3.12. Minutes shall be kept at all Competition Committee Meetings and be presented at the next Competition Committee Meeting, where they shall be dealt with as per the agenda.

#### **4. TRANSFER COMMITTEE**

- 4.1. The Transfer Committee shall consist of the Competition Committee or a committee as delegated to deal with such matters.

#### **5. TRANSFERS**

- 5.1. The Qualifications Committee (or the League Registrar) must approve all transfers.
- 5.2. Application for transfer by all players must have an endorsement by their parent or guardian.
- 5.3. The Junior League will not process transfers prior to 1 February each year. Clubs need not respond to transfer application or other club requests prior to that date.
- 5.4. All transfers cease on 30 June each year unless directed otherwise by the Board of Management. Players 'sitting out the season' or moving to another district for one season will gain no advantage with these transfer rules.
- 5.5. A player's transfer will be considered completed when the following conditions are in place:
  - 5.5.1. The approved transfer application has been completed to the satisfaction of the District Administrator.
  - 5.5.2. The Qualifications Committee (or the League Registrar) has approved the transfer.
  - 5.5.3. A player will be officially attached to his new club from the date the transfer application was approved by the Qualifications Committee (or the League Registrar). *Any movement by the player to another club prior to being cleared will not be permitted.*
  - 5.5.4. The Qualifications Committee will meet as required to consider transfers.

- 5.5.5. Only applications that are in accordance with the rules will be considered. Correct forms and procedures must be used.
- 5.5.6. Following Qualifications Committee meetings, players and club officials should make enquiries to the Junior League office to ascertain the result of various applications.
- 5.6. Any appeal must be in writing and delivered to the Junior League office.
  - 5.6.1. The District Administrator will notify the time and date for appeal.
  - 5.6.2. The player (s) will not be able to play or train until the appeal has been heard and determined.
- 5.7. There is a transfer administration fee, as set annually by the Board of Management, payable by the player(s) and debited against the club the player(s) transfer to.
- 5.8. If any club becomes aware that players from one of the club teams have refrained from registering because of encouragement from another club or official to transfer and further, because of that situation there is a real possibility that the club will be unable to nominate or field a team in that age group the club may, if it has the evidence to support a complaint, contact the District Administrator and report the facts. The matter shall be investigated by the Board of Management and appropriate action taken.
- 5.9. Any club official who has allegedly encouraged a player(s) to leave their registered club to join another, the official or officials will be cited to appear before a Management Committee. Coaches, Managers etc. including parents in this instance will be deemed officials and appropriate action will be taken with the possibility of a fine, suspension or other penalties.
- 5.10. If any club official unreasonably delays processing a transfer, the matter should be reported to the District Administrator for attention and appropriate action.

## **6. DEFAULTERS**

- 6.1. A Club may refuse a transfer if a player is financially encumbered to that club or has not returned property owned by the club provided the Club has informed the player (and their parent/guardian) in writing, they must return the gear/items.
- 6.2. For monetary reimbursement an invoice must be sent to the player's parent or guardian prior to 31 October of the current year.
- 6.3. Any outstanding monies owed by players to the Club must also be minuted in Club records and a copy sent to the District Administrator prior to 31 October of the current year.
- 6.4. The Country Rugby League of NSW insurance component of any outstanding monies is NOT grounds for denial of a clearance.

**7. NSWRL JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS**

- 7.1. Players returning to a CRL affiliated competition at the completion of the NSWRL District Junior Representative competitions shall be cleared back to the Club with which they played the previous year.

**8. CRL JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS**

Transfer of CRL Junior Representative Players is to be read in conjunction with the rules of the Illawarra South Coast Junior League (Merged Competition). Current rules are as follows.

- 8.1. A representative player will be a player selected in the final squads of representative teams that are selected to represent Illawarra Division, South Coast Group Seven or compete in the NSWRL Junior Representative Competition
- 8.2. For the purposes of these rules representative players will include all players that have represented the Illawarra Division, South Coast Group Seven or competed in NSWRL Junior Representative Competition in the current year and/or either of the two previous calendar years.
- 8.3. 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.
- 8.4. 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.
- 8.5. 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.
- 8.6. A player registered with Divisional development squads as a development player in this district will also be regarded as a representative player for the purpose of these rules.
- 8.7. Only one (1) representative player shall be allowed to transfer to any club team in the same age group that has less than four (4) representative players, unless approved by the Management Committee. No representative player shall be allowed to transfer to any club team in the same age group that already has four (4) or more representative players, unless approved by the Management Committee.



## **9. REPRESENTATIVE RUGBY LEAGUE**

Representative Rugby League shall be played in age groups as determined by the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc. No representative fixtures shall be played without the permission of the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc.

- 9.1. Representative coaches, managers selectors and associated representative staff shall be appointed by the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc Board of Management and be forwarded for ratification by the Illawarra District Rugby League Club Ltd.
- 9.2. All representative players must be registered with an affiliated club and insured against injury and will be covered under the compulsory Insurance scheme of the CRL.
- 9.3. To be eligible to apply for the position of a Representative Team Coach, the applicant must have attained the relevant Australian Rugby League Coaching Certificate and be currently accredited.
- 9.4. To be eligible to apply for the positions of Representative Team Coach, Representative Team Manager, Representative Team Selector; the applicants cannot be related to, or kin of, any eligible player in that respective age group.

## **10. LEAGUE REGISTRAR**

- 10.1. The League Registrar shall be responsible for the correct registering of players, and shall, within seven (7) days of receiving documentary proof of age, issue a Certificate of Registration to the Club concerned as outlined in these By-Laws. Showing full details of the said player to the club by which the player is registered. The certificate is to be signed on behalf of the League by the League Registrar.
- 10.2. The League Registrar shall keep proper books of Registration of players, and in addition to any special duties imposed upon him by the Competition Committee and/or the Board, shall be responsible for the checking of team sheets and the keeping of point scores as required by the League.

## **11. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

- 11.1. All players in the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc Age Competition shall be registered with the League Registrar of the competition before taking part in a competition fixture. All players must be registered by the 30 June in any year of competition. The registration shall be accompanied by documentary proof of date of birth, such as Birth Certificate or Passport. All such documentation not in the English language must have a certified translation attached. Where such documentation is not available, the matter shall be decided by the Competition Committee.
- 11.2. It is the responsibility of affiliated clubs to ensure players qualify for the age group within which they are competing. (ie the age the player turns during that year). The NSWRL and CRL defines the birth date for qualification being midnight 31 December.

## **12. COMPETITION RULES**

- 12.1. The League shall adopt the laws of the game as played by the New South Wales Rugby Football League and all the amendments and alterations made by it from time to time.
- 12.2. All competition games shall be played in accordance with the League competition draw and/or by any direction of the Competition Committee and dates will not be taken into account.
- 12.3. No club is to be given permission for teams to leave the district on any day Age League competition games are listed for play, without the express permission of the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc.
- 12.4. Any club guilty of altering venue or time of game or games as allocated in the Age League competition draw without the approval of the District Administrator may be fined fifty dollars (\$50).
- 12.5. However by mutual agreement clubs may defer individual matches on the condition that the competition is not delayed, and shall notify the District Administrator no later than ten (10) days before the programmed date and time of that game. When deferring matches, clubs must also advise the District Administrator of the time and date that the deferred match is to be played.
- 12.6. If mutual agreement cannot be reached, the decision shall be left in the hands of the Age Competition Committee.
- 12.7. Only accredited personnel are permitted to enter the playing field. All on-field personnel are to wear the appropriate shirt and must wear suitable footwear (shoes/football boots) when on the field at all times.

## **13. TEAM NOMINATIONS**

- 13.1. Clubs shall nominate the number of teams they wish to enter into relevant age divisions.
- 13.2. In the case where a Club chooses to enter more than one team per age group, teams will be graded in accordance of their ability. A Grading Committee shall be appointed prior to the first competition match and shall consist of four (4) elected members of the Competition Committee.
- 13.3. The competition will be based on a home and away format as much as practical. Teams may be required to train at their local district club venue or school.
- 13.4. Clubs having unenclosed grounds shall have them roped off to the satisfaction of the Referee before the competition game or games are played thereon. Ropes should be of a suitable material and highly visible.

All spectators, including coaches and managers, shall remain off the grounds as enclosed or outside the roped area, as the case may be while teams are playing.

- 13.5. Coaching by a touch judge and/or referee including coaches and managers, when acting as such, is not permitted.
- 13.6. Qualified First Aid personnel are the responsibility of the home club and must be present at all venues at which games are being played. Breaches may incur a penalty of twenty dollars (\$20) per match.
- 13.7. No club shall participate in any fixtures on representative, semi final, final or grand final days. Functions will not be held at any time when an official fixture is being held.
- 13.8. Any club playing an unqualified player shall lose the match/es in which such player took part and may incur a penalty as set down by the Competition Committee as per rule 1.1.3
- 13.9. All clubs shall participate in approved apparel of the CRL and the Illawarra Division, which display the logo of the CRL as well as any major sponsor of the League as directed by the Board of Management.
- 13.10. No player shall play with two clubs in competition matches conducted by the league in any one season except where special permission is granted by the competition committee or the player's team has withdrawn from the competition. In which case the:
  - 13.10.1. Clubs shall advise in writing the reason for withdrawing.
  - 13.10.2. Include a list of registered players involved, together with player's cards.
  - 13.10.3. Attach an application for transfer form, signed by each player and endorsed by the Club Secretary.
- 13.11. Where a club has a team in a player's rightful age, such players must firstly fulfil their obligations to that age before playing up an age.
- 13.12. While playing down an age is not permitted, permission may be granted for a player to play up an age for that season if the situation warrants. Such permission can only be given when a club submits an application stating reason to the Grading Committee for consideration.
- 13.13. Any player or players who have played six (6) or more competition matches in a higher competition shall require regrading by the Age Competition Committee prior to participating in any Aged Competition.
- 13.14. Any player or players can play, subject to Rules 13.10; 13.11 and 13.12 Rugby League in as many games as desired over their age group, in equal or higher standing (ie A Grade to A grade), in competitions conducted by the Age Competition, and still be qualified to play in their respective age group.
- 13.15. No player is eligible to play in a higher age group in a lower competition (eg : 13A to 14B) unless approved by the Board of Management.

13.16. The following competition points shall be awarded:

Win	2 points
Forfeit received	2 points
Draw	1 point
Loss	0 points
Forfeit conceded	0 points

13.17. For the purpose of allocating points for and against, a bye and forfeit shall be treated as a 28-8 score line ie: the team receiving a bye or forfeit shall have 28 points added to points for and 8 points added to their points against.

13.18. The team conceding a forfeit shall have 8 points added to their points for and 28 points added to their points against.

13.19. Any team forfeiting three (3) competition games may be withdrawn from the competition. Players registered with a team that is withdrawn from the competition, will be allocated to other clubs by a sub-committee of the Competition Committee.

13.20. No competition games shall be played on the day of the Illawarra Schools' Carnival.

#### **14. DURATION OF GAMES**

14.1. Each club will appoint a timekeeper who will satisfy themselves that games are played in equal divisions.

14.2. Home club will appoint a Ground Manager who will be responsible for the progression of games at their ground. All teams will be responsible to see that team sheets are filled in correctly and that results are forwarded to the League Registrar and/or their nominee.

14.3. The Competition Committee reserves the right at all times to appoint an official timekeeper, but the Club concerned shall have the right to appoint check timekeepers.

14.4. The duration of competition matches will be:

Under 10 years	20 minutes each way
Under 11 years	20 minutes each way
Under 12 years	20 minutes each way
Under 13 years	30 minutes each way
Under 14 years	30 minutes each way
Under 15 years	30 minutes each way
Under 16 years	30 minutes each way
All higher grades	35 minutes each way

- 14.5. Under 6, 7, 8 and 9 years, who do not play competition matches, shall play in accordance with the rules as set by the Australian Rugby League. Matches should be played in three equal periods for Under 6, 7, and 8 years, and two equal periods for Under 9 years.
- 14.6. An official from each club competing in the match must sit at the Officials Table to fully and correctly complete the Match Book, including names of players, registration numbers, full and half-time scores, team and Club signatures, in addition to monitoring the timing of the game.
- 14.7. A team be allowed a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes, without prior notification, before a forfeit can be claimed. The fifteen (15) minutes to start from the scheduled starting time. It is the responsibility of both the referee and clubs to ensure matches proceed on time, if unforeseen circumstances delay kick off times, common courtesy should be extended to all parties to ensure good relations.
- 14.8. In the event of a match starting later than the appointed time and a following match has to start at an appointed time the late starting match shall be played in two equal halves.

## **15. TEAM SHEETS**

- 15.1. The Team Managers shall furnish and return the team sheet within three (3) days to the League Registrar showing the results of the match, the names and registration numbers of the participating players and bearing the signature of the referee. Such sheet shall indicate scorers of tries and goals for each team as well as other requirements, such as full time scores etc. All players in the Mod (Under 10 to Under 12 years) and International age groups must sign the player's sheet prior to taking part in the game.
- 15.2. The Manager, or Acting Manager, of each team participating in competitions conducted by the Age Competition Committee must enter on the players' sheet the players' registration certificate number before the game commences.
- 15.3. Team Managers at all games may check all registrations in the presence of both teams. Teams are to be ready fifteen (15) minutes prior to the advertised starting times. Once the team sheet is signed by both team managers, the said team sheets are binding by the rules of the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc.
- 15.4. The Ground Managers at semi finals, finals and grand finals shall check all registration certificates in the presence of both teams. The teams are to be ready for inspection by the Ground Managers thirty (30) minutes prior to the advertised starting time.
- 15.5. The club/s responsible who fails to furnish returns Rule 15.1 to the League Registrar may be fined.

- 15.6. Any constituent club not forwarding results of competition games and scorers to the League Registrar by the time nominated below each Saturday may be fined ten dollars (\$10) for each missing result. (Games played Friday and Saturday by Saturday 5.00pm and all other games by 5.00pm on the day played).

**16. DISMISSED PLAYERS**

- 16.1. Any player in the Under 6 to Under 12 years age groups, dismissed from the field of play for the first time shall be disciplined by his Club, and the District Administrator shall be notified of the action taken by the Club, before the player takes part in a future game.
- 16.2. In the event of the player being dismissed from the field on more than one occasion during the season, the said player shall appear before the Judiciary Committee of the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc, and should be accompanied by an Official of his Club.
- 16.3. The venue and time of such hearing shall be determined by the Judiciary Committee and usually be held on Thursday evenings at a venue to be announced.
- 16.4. Any player from the Under 13 years or any higher grade, dismissed from the field of play, shall appear before the Judiciary Committee of the Merged Competition, and shall not take part in any game before such hearing.

**17. FINALS (Semi Finals, Finals and Grand Finals)**

- 17.1. In the grades of premiership competition a series of matches shall be played. In all matches competition points shall be awarded as Rule 13.16.
- 17.2. 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 these Competition Rules regarding the deduction of competition points.
- 17.3. Positions in the Final Series will be determined on this basis subject to the number of teams to be included in the Final Series as determined by the Management Committee.
- 17.4. At the conclusion of matches in the competition rounds as 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 :
- 17.5. Greater positive difference between points scored for and against, then if equal
- 17.6. Greater percentage of points scored for and against, being determined by points scored for multiplied by 100, divided by points scored against

- 17.7. then if equal, most tries scored  
then if equal, most goals kicked  
then if equal, most drop goals kicked  
then if equal, by the toss of a coin
- 17.8. This shall apply to clubs qualifying for inclusion in semi finals, otherwise points for and against shall decide the position of clubs equal in competition points, the first four (4) clubs in competition points shall meet in semi finals.
- 17.9. The Competition Committee reserves the right to renew and alter team standings of the final series placings where teams have been relocated through regrading mid-season.
- 17.10. All players must play at least five (5) games in that particular age group to qualify for any semi finals, finals or grand finals. Where a player has not qualified because of injury or illness the player shall be considered to have qualified, where medical evidence is supplied to the Age Competition Committee and is accepted.
- 17.11. In the Under 10 years to Under 12 years age groups, all qualified players in teams involved in semi finals, finals and grand finals must be given the opportunity to play in each of their team's matches in accordance with Mod rules. In end of season games, if through injuries, a team requires replacement players, these replacement players will be selected by the Age Competition Committee, from a nominated list of players supplied by that particular Club.
- 17.12. The Club standing third in competition points shall play the Club standing fourth in the first semi final and the club standing first shall play the club standing second in the second semi final. The winner of the first semi final shall play the loser of the second semi final in the preliminary final. The winner of the second semi final shall play the winner of the preliminary final in the grand final.
- 17.13. If scores are equal at the conclusion of normal time in any Final 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.
- 17.14. If a try is scored in extra time the conversion kick will NOT be permitted.
- 17.15. 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.
- 17.16. 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.
- 17.17. The team that did not kick off to commence the initial period of extra time will kick off to commence the second period.

- 17.18. Play shall then continue on an unlimited basis until the first point or points have been scored to determine the winner of the match.
- 17.19. Time off for injuries shall be allowed in semi finals, finals and grand finals.

## **18. TROPHIES**

- 18.1. The Board of Management shall have the power to regulate and control trophies played for within the area. The rules of all trophies shall be approved by the Board of Management, and no trophy shall be introduced into play without the sanction of the Board of Management. The Board of Management may restrict play for such trophies to its area and may debar clubs playing for trophies controlled by other Leagues.
- 18.2. A Club Championship trophy shall be awarded in the Age Competition to a Club as follows:
- Two (2) points shall be awarded for a win, a bye, or forfeit; one (1) point for a draw; nil (0) points for a loss in any competition rounds. The total number of points each week shall be divided by the number of games scheduled to play. The club with the highest tally at the end of the competition proper will be declared the Club Champions.
- 18.3. All trophies are to be returned to the District Administrator on or before the July meeting of the Competition Committee.

## **19. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE**

- 19.1. There shall be a Judiciary consisting of no less than (3) three members.
- 19.2. The Judicial Committee shall hear and determine any charge lodged by a Referee in a game conducted by the League, or any charge laid by the District Administrator of the League in respect of misconduct against a player or official for breaches of the International Laws of Rugby League.
- 19.3. The Board of Management shall prior to the first Competition Committee meeting in each year, appoint a Judicial Committee and the Board of Management will then appoint a Chairman.
- 19.4. The Board of Management shall have power at any time to appoint a replacement for any member of the Judicial Committee who during the term of their office for whatever reason in the opinion of the Board of Management is unable to carry out their duties on the Judicial Committee.
- 19.5. The Judicial Committee shall have such powers as are accorded to it by the Rules and Regulations made hereunder.

At the direction of the Board of Management.

As the Judiciary may from time to time determine.



19.6. The proceedings of the Judiciary shall be as stipulated in the Rules and Regulations made hereunder.

**20. MISCONDUCT BY PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS**

- 20.1. A referee who has been appointed by the League or a Committee of the League to a match, shall, without delay, report to the League any instance or instances of misconduct during the progress of that match which led to the dismissal of a player or players from the playing area shall be suspended until the report has been determined by the Judicial Committee.
- 20.2. A referee or touch judge who has been appointed to a match by the League may report any instance of misconduct by a player or players irrespective of whether such misconduct occurred before, during or after such match, and whether it shall have led to the player or players being ordered from the playing area or not.
- 20.3. Any report received by the League pursuant to the preceding rule shall be referred to the District Administrator who may, after due enquires, determine whether the player or players concerned should be called on to appear before the judiciary committee to show cause why they should not be disqualified, suspended, fined or otherwise dealt with.
- 20.4. Where the League receives a complaint from a member of the League or a Club concerning the conduct of a player registered with the League in the course of or immediately subsequent to a match in which the player registered with the League takes part, and such conduct has not been the subject to a report to the League by the referee in charge of the match pursuant to Rules 20.1 and 20.2, the District Administrator may call on the player concerned to appear before the Judiciary Committee to answer a charge that the conduct complained of constitutes conduct contrary to the policy or prejudicial interests, welfare or image of the League or the game. A complaint under this rule must be lodged in writing at the registered office of the League not later than 5.00pm on the third business day following the date of the match in which or after which the conduct complained of is alleged to have occurred.
- 20.5. The District Administrator may at any time call on a player registered with the League to appear before the Judicial Committee to answer a charge, that conduct, which he shall specify in such charge, by that player in the course of or immediately subsequent to a match in which the player took part constitutes conduct contrary to the policy or prejudicial to the interest, welfare or image of the League or game.

- 20.6. Any Club, player, official or patron breaching the rules of misconduct, will be automatically removed from the venue at which the game is played. Parties concerned may be called to appear before the Board of Management or Judicial Committee to answer a charge, that conduct which shall be specified in such charge, by that Club, player, official or patron in the course of or immediately subsequent to a match constitutes conduct contrary to the policy or prejudicial to the interest welfare or image of the League or the game.
- 20.7. Players and Officials inside the rope or fenced area of the field are under the jurisdiction of the Referee and are therefore governed by the Code of Conduct according to the International Laws of the Game. Conduct considered to be detrimental in relation to a match will be dealt with by the Judicial Committee.
- 20.8. Affiliated bodies/clubs and players shall not publicly criticise or discuss matter detrimental to the name of Rugby League. Conduct considered to be detrimental to the League will be viewed and dealt with by the Board of Management as it deems fit.

## **21. SEND OFFS**

- 21.1. A player who has been dismissed from the field or reported to the League by a Referee or Touch Judge pursuant to these Rules shall be suspended until the report has been determined by the Judicial Committee, but may be permitted by the League to continue to play until he has been notified by the League to attend a meeting of that Committee. Home club secretaries must notify the District Administrator following the completion of matches where player/s have been sent from the field. The time and venue of such hearing shall be decided by the Judicial Committee and usually be held on Thursday evenings at a venue to be announced.
- 21.2. No member of the League, Clubs or Referees shall comment publicly on any matter, which is or is likely to be subject to an official inquiry.
- 21.3. A Referee or Official shall without delay, give a written report, setting out the substance of the charge and name, number and club of the player.
- 21.4. Three copies of the charge/s are to be made and circulated to the League, the player's club and the other to be retained by the Referee or Officials.
- 21.5. The District Administrator shall notify the parties involved and Judicial Committee of the Judiciary time and place.
- 21.6. The Referee or Official signing the charge, and the player charged may be called before the Judicial Committee, and any witness they so desire if the Judicial Committee agrees.
- 21.7. Should a player charged not attend the judicial hearing at the time and place directed, the Judicial Committee shall have the power to hear and determine any charge in the player's absence or adjourn such hearing.

- 21.8. Should a Referee or Official signing the charge not attend or submit in writing a detailed report of charges the Judiciary shall have the power to hear and determine any charge in the Referee or Officials absence or adjourn such hearing.
- 21.9. The Judicial Committee:  
May at its absolute discretion admit or reject any evidence given or tendered at the hearing of any charge.
- May at its absolute discretion adopt and pursue any procedure, which it considers appropriate and proper in the hearing adjudication and determination of such charge.
- Notwithstanding a non compliance with any one or more of the conditions specified in the Rules herein the Judicial Committee may in its absolute discretion dispense with the compliance of such conditions and proceed to determine any charge provided that such dispensation does not prejudice any player or other person called before the Judicial Committee.
- The Judicial Committee will not be made aware of a player's previous record until the finding of the charge has been made and prior to sentencing.
- 21.10. In determining any charge, the Judicial Committee has the power to:
- 21.10.1. Dismiss the charge.
  - 21.10.2. To find a charge not proven.
  - 21.10.3. To find a charge proven and reprimand any player.
  - 21.10.4. To find a charge proven and suspend for any period any player.
  - 21.10.5. To find a charge proven and impose on any player a fine.
  - 21.10.6. To find a charge proven and impose upon a player a suspension for any period of suspension upon that player undertaking to be of good behaviour for any period specified by the Judicial Committee.
- 21.11. A player who has had a suspension in accordance with paragraph 21.10.4 hereof shall be deemed not to be of good behaviour if found guilty by the Judiciary of a further charge during the period of such suspension.
- 21.12. Find a charge not proven but if of the opinion (following the hearing of the particular charge) that a player has committed any breach of the Rules of Rugby League applicable to the League deal with such other breach in accordance with the provision set out herein as if such breach were the charge being determined and to this effect may amend, alter or substitute any charge in place of the charge.

21.13. There shall only be a right of appeal from any decision of the Judicial Committee on the provision of new evidence, which could not have reasonably been known of at the time of the original hearing.

## **22. SIN BINS**

22.1. A player sent to the sin bin shall immediately proceed to the designated area where he will stay for the length of the sentence.

22.2. The time for which the player has been sent to the sin bin shall only commence once the player has left the playing field and the referee signals the restart of play. The referee shall be guided by the time keeper, if one is employed, otherwise he/ she themselves will determine the end of the suspension

22.3. The official match timer shall keep the time in relation to the offence and shall inform the player when the time has elapsed.

22.4. A player can only re-enter the playing field after reporting to the touch judge or referee who shall clear the player to re-enter the field. The player who is sent to the sin bin may not be replaced

## **23. APPEALS AND PROTESTS (amended 21/11/11)**

23.1. The Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc (the League) Appeals Board shall be appointed when needed and consist of a minimum of three and maximum of five members, none of whom shall be members of the original hearing.

23.2. The duties of the Appeals Board shall be to hear appeals against decisions of the Illawarra Division sub-committees on the provision of new evidence that could not have been reasonably known at the time of the original hearing.

23.3. A person or a constituent body (affiliate club) may appeal to the League Appeals Board.

23.4. A constituent body (affiliated club) may appeal to the Illawarra District Rugby League Ltd (Illawarra Steelers) against a resolution of the Board of Management, which is determined under the constitution (clause 7.3)

23.5. An appeal fee of \$400 shall be lodged with the Rugby League Administrator either in person, e-mail or by post within three (3) days of the decision and may at the absolute discretion of the Appeal Board be retained in the general fund of the Division or refunded in whole or in part in the event that the appeal is upheld in whole or in part.

23.6. An appeal to the Appeals Board shall not operate as a stay of proceedings against the sentence of the Board of Management or League sub-committees.

23.7. An appeal to the Appeal Board shall be a new hearing and the decision of the Appeal Board shall be final and binding on all parties

**24. REFEREES' COACHING PANEL**

24.1. The Referees' Coaching Panel shall be that body as elected by the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc.

25. The role of the Coaching Panel will be to coach, evaluate, train and appoint referees from mini league to open age (first grade)

**26. REFEREES FEES**

26.1. Cost of referee's fees, if applicable will be determined by the Board of Management prior to the 1 December for the forth-coming season after consultations with the Referees Association and the Competition Committee.

26.2. And is as follows for the season 2012 (Amended 7 February 2011)

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Referee</b>	<b>Touch Judge</b>
U16	\$35.00	\$21.00
U15	\$33.00	\$20.00
U14	\$30.00	\$15.00
U13	\$27.00	\$14.00
Mod U/12	\$20.00	
Mod U/9, 10, 11	\$19.00	
Mini	\$15.00	

**27. GENERAL RULES**

27.1. Any active player, official or referee, desiring to write newspaper articles or do radio or television commentaries relevant to League must first receive approval from the Board of Management.

27.2. No club without the sanction of the Divisional League may introduce club sponsorships that conflict in any way with league sponsors.

27.3. The home club shall receive all monies raised at home games and shall be responsible for all expenses incurred for that game i.e. ground rentals, referees fees, etc.

**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 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. Clubs are required to register their playing colours and designs with the League and supply a colour photograph of the front and back of their full

playing strip (jumper, shorts and socks). Before changing any part of their playing strip, clubs must submit their new design to the League who will ensure they do not clash with teams already in the competition.

## 29. RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### 29.1. *Blood Bin* – (Refer to the NSWRL / CRL Policies on Blood Borne Disease)

If a skin wound occurs, the player must cease participation in match until bleeding has stopped and the wound is both cleaned with aseptic and covered.

29.1.1. If a skin lesion is noticed the player must immediately have it cleaned with antiseptic and covered.

29.1.2. Should the player not take the remedial action outlined, referees are empowered to order the player from the field of play to receive the required treatment. Any player, who refuses to obey a referee's instruction to leave the field of play for treatment, may be charged with misconduct and dealt with under these rules.

### 29.2. *Concussion and Memory Loss*

The following guidelines are to be adopted for the management of concussion:

29.2.1. For mild concussion: no loss of consciousness, but mild disorientation - the player is taken from the field for ten minutes. The player can only re-enter the game after the full ten minutes, if he has been assessed by a "Qualified Person" or equivalent, as being safely able to continue the game.

29.2.2. For concussion resulting in any memory loss or if a player is knocked unconscious for up to three minutes the player is to be taken from the field and takes no further part in the game. He is not to play for seven days and is to have a medical clearance before he plays again.

29.2.3. For concussion resulting in any memory loss or if a player is knocked unconscious for more than three minutes the player is immediately to be taken to hospital. He is not to play for fourteen days and is to have an appropriate medical clearance before he plays again.

29.2.4. If a player is knocked unconscious twice he is not to play for the rest of the season or until authorised by a medical practitioner providing a certificate of permission

### 29.3. *Electrical Storm Safety Guidelines*

The Illawarra District Rugby League Football Club and the Illawarra Division have adopted the following Policy regarding "Lightning at Venues" throughout the District that includes a designated "Weather Watcher" with authority to stop or postpone and restart matches, a specific chain of command once lightning is identified, and designated safe area.

29.3.1. When lightning threatens, the "**Weather Watcher**" is responsible for recognising the danger and activating the lightning protection plan. This policy shall include signalling the referee to stop the game. The "**Weather Watcher**" is recommended to be a senior official within the club, eg. Secretary.

29.3.2. Criteria for the suspension and resumption of play

**"The 30 / 30 rule is recommended, where a Flash to Bang count is recorded."**

This policy is based on the fact that lightning travels faster than sound, and given that sound travels at a speed of about one kilometre every three seconds, the time that elapses between the flash of lightning and clap of thunder can be divided by three to give a measure of how far away the storm is in kilometres.

A "safe" distance is approximately 10 kilometres.

This means that as the "Flash to Bang" count approaches 30 seconds, all people at risk should be seeking or already in a safe haven.

**Part Two**, is that once the threat has passed the 30 / 30 rule provides the criteria for the resumption of play, ie waiting 30 minutes allows the thunderstorm to be about 20 km away.

29.3.3. It is important to emphasise that "blue skies and lack of rain fall" are not adequate reason to resume play early.

29.3.4. Dissemination of information / Crowd Strategies

It is important that all players, officials and spectators are warned of the potential dangers of lightning and how to minimise their risk of lightning-related injuries. Two short bursts of the full time siren / bell shall activate this policy.

Reading lightning safety messages over the public address system and placing of safety notices on the Clubs message board are also recommended.

### **30. INTERPRETATION OF RULES AND BY-LAWS**

Any questions as to the interpretation of the rules and by-laws shall be determined by the Board of Management of the Divisional League whose decision shall be binding on all Life Members, Affiliated bodies and delegates. Any such determination shall not be varied except after notice of motion given accordance with the Constitution and these by-laws.