

Memo 13/11

TO: Presidents, Secretaries
FROM: Rugby Manager
DATE: 19 April 2011
SUBJECT: Changes to the 2011 SA Rugby Competition Rules

NOTICE TO ALL CLUBS OF COMPETITION RULE CHANGES

This document briefly summarises the key changes to the Competition Rules, Policies and Procedures that affect all SA Rugby Clubs. Other procedural and rule changes have also been made and you should read the new Competition Rules, Policies and Procedures to familiarise yourself with those changes. It is every Club's responsibility to familiarise its Officials, Players and participants with these Competition Rules, Policies and Procedures, and to abide by them at all times.

SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR CHANGES

Representative Teams (Rule 13) – All Clubs must still make their Players available for selection to the State representative team. Each Player selected to the State team is considered an ambassador of the Union, must comply with all Rules and codes of conduct, and must adhere to the Union's values. Selection to the State team in no way creates an employer/employee relationship between the Union and the Player.

Match Day Rules and Procedures (Rules 14 – 18) – Some rules governing match day procedures were removed from the Competition Rules and placed in the SA Rugby Match Day Procedures ROP 4 document in order to consolidate all match day requirements into one document. ROP 4 contains all of the match day requirements, and specifically the Home Club responsibilities. Please reacquaint yourselves with these requirements before the beginning of the season.

Breaches of Player Discipline (Rules 19 – 26) – A more detailed section on Code of Conduct issues was created to provide clarity with respect to Code of Conduct requirements, violations, notification of violations, Code of Conduct Committee formation and the procedure for handling any alleged violations. The procedure for any issues arising under this heading is explained in detail in the SA Rugby Code of Conduct Committee Policy ROPol 6. Furthermore, a more detailed appeals process was outlined for both Judicial Committee and Code of Conduct Committee decisions.

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Subsequent Suspensions (Rule 22.10) – A Player who receives a fourth (and any subsequent) temporary suspension in one season will be referred to the Judicial Committee for determination of the issue, rather than being automatically suspended upon receiving the fourth temporary suspension. The Player cannot play in any Matches until cleared by the Judicial Committee.

Police Check (Rule 42.2) – The minor addition here is that the Club President, Secretary, and Registrar are authorised as individuals capable of signing the police check form required on behalf of the Union but they do not have any further authority to represent or act for, or on behalf of, the Union.

Carl Jones
Rugby Manager