

COMPETITION RULES OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RUGBY UNION 2009

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PREAMBLE

These are the rules governing Competitions (**Rules**) conducted by the South Australian Rugby Union Limited (**Union**) and are issued by authority of the Board of Directors of the Union (**Board**).

The Rules apply to all Players and Officials of all Clubs affiliated with the Union and the SARURA.

All Matches conducted by the Union will be played in accordance with these Rules.

These Rules supersede all previous competition rules of the Union and should be read in conjunction with the Laws of Rugby Football and the Constitution of the Union.

INTERPRETATION

In these Rules:

Adelaide Metropolitan Area means any location within 30 kilometres of the Adelaide GPO;

Australian Rugby Union and **ARU** means the Australian Rugby Union Limited (ACN 002 898 544) of North Sydney New South Wales 2060;

Board means the Board of Directors of the Union;

Business Day means a day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, bank holiday or public holiday in South Australia;

Club means any club, rugby union or other body which has been accepted by the Union as an affiliated club;

Club Registrar means the person at each Club who is responsible for registering Players;

Code of Conduct means the code of conduct for all Participants as issued by the ARU and adopted by the Union from time to time;

Constitution means the constitution of the Union;

Competition means each series of Matches conducted by the Union during any Season designated by the Union and notified to the Clubs in terms of Grade, age level and number of Teams from each Club competing in that Competition;

Finals Series means the series of Matches conducted by the Union in accordance with Rule 29 after completion of a Minor Round;

Financially Indebted means if any sum of money remains unpaid after the date on which payment was due to be made;

Grade means the Teams designated by the Union as a Grade for the purpose of participating in and conducting the Competition;

Home Club means the Club designated by the Union to be the Home Club for any particular Match;

Judicial Committee means the committee established by the Union in accordance with Rule 25.1.

Junior and Youth Rugby Committee (JYRC) means the committee appointed by the Board responsible for advising on matters concerning the running of rugby by the Union for Junior and Youth Players;

Junior and Youth Competition means the Competition and Matches run by the Union in any Season for Junior and Youth Players;

Junior and Youth Player means a Player who is under the age of 18 years at the date prescribed by Rule 35.2 in the year of the current Season;

Last Round means the Round played immediately before the commencement of the Finals Series;

Laws of Rugby Football means the laws issued by the ARU and the International Rugby Board from time to time as adopted by the Union;

Match means any Match of rugby football conducted by the Union;

Match Manager means a person designated by the Home Club as specified in RULE 14.

Match Report Card means cards that are to be completed by the match manager prior to and on the completion of each match;

Minimum Number of Qualifying Matches means the number of Matches calculated in accordance with Rule 33.2;

Minor Round means the series of Matches conducted by the Union in any Season other than the Finals Series and comprised of at least two Matches conducted between each Team in each Competition;

MyRugbyAdmin means the computer database established by the ARU and used by the Union to record the details of Players;

Official means any person, other than a Player, who is involved with a Team participating in a Competition and includes coaches, managers, trainers, strappers and ball boys;

Participant means a Player, a referee, touch judge or other match official, selector, coach, trainer, manager or other team official and an individual involved in the organisation, administration or promotion of rugby football including a director, officer or employee of a Club;

Perimeter Area means a space around the field of play for a Match of at least five (5) metres (wherever practicable);

Player means a person Registered to play in a Competition and, except to the extent otherwise specified in these Rules, includes Junior and Youth Players;

Playing Enclosure means the playing area and the Perimeter Area;

Referee means the person nominated by the Selection Committee and appointed by the Union to officiate a Match;

Registration means the process by which a person becomes registered by the Union;

Registration Form means the form issued by the ARU and adopted by the Union (or as otherwise prescribed by the Union) for the registration of Players in each Season;

Round means each set of consecutive Matches, starting from the commencement of a Season, in which each Team in each Grade from each Club plays each other Team from the equivalent Grade in each other Club once or as otherwise may be determined by the Union from time to time;

Run on Player means a Player who participates in a Match as one of the Players who start the Match on the field and not as a substitution Player for that Match;

Season means all the Matches in all Rounds in all Competitions conducted by the Union over the periods designated by the Union in any calendar year;

Selection Committee means the Referees Selection Committee, as appointed by the South Australian Rugby Union Referees Association Incorporated (Registration Number SA A12575) (**SARURA**);

Senior Competition means the Competition and Matches run by the Union for Players over the age of 18 years as at 1 January in any given Season;

SmartRugby means the program of accreditation and training of that name conducted by the ARU;

Spectator means any person present at a Match but who is not a Participant;

State Commitments means a Player's obligation to play for any South Australian State representative team selected by the Union at any time;

Team means any group of Player's designated each week by a Club to play in a particular Grade in the Competition;

Touch Judge means a person who has been approved and accredited by the Union as a touch judge;

Trainer means a suitably trained person who is present at a Match for the purpose of attending to the first aid medical needs of the Players participating in that Match;

Transfer of Registration Form means the form issued by the ARU and adopted by the Union (or as otherwise prescribed by the Union) for the transfer of the Registration of Players between Clubs in each Season;

Union means the South Australian Rugby Union Limited (ACN 091 684 409) and includes any person or sub-committee to whom the Board has delegated any of the responsibilities of the Union under these Rules;

The singular includes the plural and vice versa, and a gender includes other genders;

Another grammatical form of a defined word or expression has a corresponding meaning;

A reference to time is to Adelaide, Australia time;

The meaning of general words is not limited by specific examples introduced by 'including', 'for example' or similar expressions; and

If a day on or by which an obligation must be performed or an event must occur is not a Business Day, the obligation must be performed or the event must occur on or by the next Business Day.

ROLE OF THE UNION

RULE 1. Powers of the Union

- Rule 1.1** Subject to Rule 2 the Union has the power to make new Rules and to add to, delete, amend or otherwise vary the Rules at any time and in the manner and to the extent the Union may determine subject to the notification requirements under Rule 1.2.
- Rule 1.2** Changes made by the Union under this Rule 1 must be notified to each Club, in writing, within fourteen (14) days of the change.
- Rule 1.3** These Rules will be reviewed Annually by the Union and a copy of these Rules shall be sent to each Club by 31st March each year.
- Rule 1.4** At any time the Board may, by written notice, delegate (or revoke a previous delegation) any of the responsibilities allocated to the Union under these Rules.

RULE 2. Constitution and the Laws of Rugby Football

- Rule 2.1** These Rules must be read in conjunction with the Constitution and if there is any inconsistency between these Rules and the Constitution then the Constitution will prevail.
- Rule 2.2** These Rules must be read in conjunction with the Laws of Rugby Football and if there is any inconsistency between these Rules and the Laws of Rugby Football then these Rules will prevail.

RULE 3. Communication with the Union

- Rule 3.1** A notice, request, consent, approval or communication to the Union under these Rules (**Notice**) must be:
- (a) in writing, in English and signed by a person duly authorised by the sender; and
 - (b) delivered either:
 - (i) by hand to the Union's offices located at Memorial Drive Complex War Memorial Drive, North Adelaide SA 5006; or
 - (ii) by prepaid post to PO Box 43, North Adelaide SA 5006; or
 - (iii) by facsimile to 08 8232 7102,as varied by any notification given by the Union.
- Rule 3.2** A Notice takes effect when taken to be received and is taken to be received:
- (a) if hand delivered, on delivery;
 - (b) if sent by prepaid post, on the second Business Day after the date of posting (or on the seventh Business Day after the date of posting if posted to or from a place outside Australia); or

(c) if sent by facsimile, when the Union's facsimile system generates a message confirming successful transmission of the entire Notice unless, within eight hours on the Business Day after the transmission, the Union informs the sender that it has not received the entire Notice, but if the delivery, receipt or transmission is not on a Business Day or is after 5.00pm on a Business Day, the Notice is taken to be received at 9.00am on the next Business Day.

Rule 3.3

In all cases the onus will be on the Club, Player or their authorised representative to prove that the notice was received by the Union.

Rule 3.4

A notice to a Club required to be given under these Rules must be given by the Union in accordance with the Constitution.

CONDUCT OF COMPETITION

RULE 4. Method of conducting Competitions

Rule 4.1

The Union:

- (a) will determine the number, structure and timing of Competitions and Matches to be conducted in a particular Season; and
- (b) may cancel, postpone or otherwise vary the number, structure and timing of any Competition or any Matches.

Rule 4.2

By 31 October of each year Clubs must give Notice to the Union advising the Union of their Club's preliminary intentions relative to the number of Teams to be entered in the next Season's Competitions and this information will be used by the Union as the basis for planning the next Season.

Rule 4.3

The details of Competitions planned for any year will be advised to all Clubs by the 20th of January in any year.

Rule 4.4

Clubs must give Notice to the Union confirming the number of Teams which that Club will enter in the forthcoming Season by the 15th of February of that year.

Rule 4.5

The Union has the right to allocate the Teams nominated by the Clubs to such Competitions and such Grades as the Union decides for any particular Season.

Rule 4.6

Season playing schedules will be advised to Clubs by the Union by the 1st of March in the year of the relevant Season.

Rule 4.7

For any Competition designated as incorporating a Minor Round and Finals Series each Team will be scheduled to play at least two Matches against each other Team in that Competition before the Finals Series begins.

RULE 5. Ranking Teams in Minor Round

Rule 5.1

At the conclusion of each Match, points will be awarded by the Union as follows:

- (a) five (5) points (with a deemed score of twenty (20) points to zero (0)) to a Team whose opponent has forfeited the Match;
- (b) four (4) points to the winning Team;
- (c) two (2) points to each Team in a Match in which the scores are equal at the end of extra time;
- (d) one (1) point to a Team which loses the Match by seven (7) points or less;
- (e) one (1) point to any Team which scores at least four (4) tries in the Match.

Rule 5.2

The Union may determine that further points may be awarded for defined situations provided that the circumstances under which those points will be allocated are advised by Notice to all Clubs.

Rule 5.3 The relative positions of Teams in the Minor Round for each Competition will be determined by the number of total points awarded to each Team.

Rule 5.4 If:

- (a) two or more Teams in any Grade have the same number of points at the end of the Minor Round, the Team with the greater difference between points scored for and against will be allotted the higher position; or
- (b) the difference in points for and against a Team are also equal then the Team with the highest total of points for will be allotted the higher position; or
- (c) the difference in points for and against a Team and the total number of points for each Team are equal then the relative positions of each Team will be determined by reference to the number of disciplinary offences committed by each Team during the Minor Round with the team recording the least number of disciplinary offences in the Minor Round being allotted the higher position; or
- (d) if none of the criteria under Rule 5.4(a) to Rule 5.4(c) can be met to determine the respective positions of two Teams their relative positions will be determined by the drawing of lots by the Union with the first drawn team being allotted the higher position.

RULE 6. **Withdrawal from Competition**

Rule 6.1 A Club may give Notice to the Union that it wishes to withdraw a Team from a Competition only after that team has conceded either:

- (a) two (2) successive forfeits; or
- (b) three (3) forfeits in total;

during any one Season and the Union may, in its absolute discretion, either grant or refuse that request for withdrawal.

Rule 6.2 Any Notice to withdraw a Team under Rule 6.1 must first be given with respect to the lowest Grade Team of the Club.

Rule 6.3 Despite any withdrawal of a Team under Rule 6.1 the Club will still incur any financial liability which would otherwise have been levied by the Union with respect to that Team had it continued to participate in the relevant Competition.

Rule 6.4 If a Club withdraws Teams from one or more Competitions, the Match Points ("for" and "against") in all Matches played by such a Team and all Competition Points for that Team will be forfeited by the Club and will not be attributed to the Club for any purpose.

Rule 6.5 For the purpose of interpreting this RULE 6 each Team in each Grade in each Competition in which a Club participates will be regarded as a separate Team.

RULE 7. **Club championship**

Rule 7.1 There may be a club championship, which will be determined in such a manner as may from time to time be determined by the Union.

CONDUCT OF MATCHES

RULE 8. Laws of the Match

Rule 8.1 Matches must be played in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Football and the rulings on the Laws of Rugby Football as recognised by the ARU and as adopted and interpreted by the Union from time to time.

RULE 9. Allotment of grounds

Rule 9.1 Matches will be played on such grounds as may be directed by the Union.

Rule 9.2 The ground designated for any particular Match may be changed only if both participating Clubs and the appointed Referee agree no later than 48 hours before the scheduled time for the commencement of that Match and the Union is given Notice of that change 24 hours before the time for the commencement of that Match.

Rule 9.3 The fitness of the ground for the purposes of the Match designated to be played upon it may be decided on the field by the Referee and if a ground is designated as unfit:

- (a) Notice of the decision of the Referee will be provided to the Union by each Club who was to participate in that Match within 24 hours of the decision of the Referee; and
- (b) the Match will be declared a draw.

RULE 10. Forfeits

Rule 10.1 Each Match which is forfeited by a Club will be regarded as having been won by the opposing Team scheduled to play the relevant Match and which, but for the forfeit, would have been played.

Rule 10.2 Five (5) Minor Round points, with a deemed score of twenty (20) points to zero (0) shall be awarded to a Team whose opponent has forfeited the Match.

Rule 10.3 Any Club intending to forfeit a Match must,:

- (a) advise the opposing Club and the Secretary of the SARURA of its intention to forfeit the Match by 7.30 pm on the Thursday immediately prior to the day set for the relevant Match; and
- (b) give notice in writing of its intention to the Union and the Registrar of SARURA, by noon on the Friday prior to the day set for the relevant Match or incur a \$100 fine.

Rule 10.4 If a Club does not comply with Rule 10.3 by the due time the Club must pay a fine in an amount and within the time determined by the Union.

Rule 10.5 If a Club forfeits any Match, then that Team and all lower Grade Teams of that Club shall be deemed to have forfeited their Match in that same Weekend, unless otherwise decided by the Union.

Rule 10.6 Where a Club has a significant number of Players who have State Commitments and as a result of those State Commitments the Club believes that it may be required to forfeit a Match the Club may make written application to the Union requesting a determination that the Club be granted an exemption from the application of this RULE 10 and the Union will determine whether or not an exemption will be granted.

Rule 10.7

If an exemption is granted under Rule 10.6 the Match the subject of the exemption will not be forfeit and points will be allocated to each Team and Club who was to participate in that Match in such a manner as the Union may determine at that time.

PLAYERS

RULE 11. Registration of players

- Rule 11.1** Only persons registered in accordance with this RULE 11 will be eligible to take part in any Match in any Competition including any Finals Series conducted by the Union.
- Rule 11.2** Clubs must:
- (a) register all persons who will play in any Team for that Club during the Season using the prescribed Registration Form distributed by the ARU each year;
 - (b) ensure that each completed Registration Form is entered on the MyRugbyAdmin no later than 12 noon on the Wednesday following the first Match in which a person plays;
 - (c) ensure that the particulars contained in the Registration Form and entered on the MyRugbyAdmin are correct in every respect;
 - (d) ensure that every Registration Form is verified and signed by the Club Registrar;
 - (e) ensure that the signed Registration Form is kept by the Club for a minimum of three years after the end of the Season for which that Registration is valid;
 - (f) ensure that the Club Registrar keeps an up to date list of all Players registered by the Club and make that list available for inspection at any time by the Union;
 - (g) ensure Captains exchange Team-Sheets prior to coin toss by the Referee;
 - (h) if and when required by the Union forward to the Union:
 - (i) a list of all Players' names and addresses and photo identification for each Player ; and
 - (ii) originals or copies of Registration Forms requested by the Union.
- Rule 11.3** If any particulars contained in the Registration Form and entered on the MyRugbyAdmin are subsequently discovered to be incorrect by the Union, then the person named in that Registration Form will, at the absolute discretion of the Union, be deemed to be unregistered and will be ineligible to play in any Match until such time as the Union is satisfied that a correct Registration Form has been completed and entered on the MyRugbyAdmin.
- Rule 11.4** Any person who is already registered on MyRugbyAdmin from a previous Season must complete a new Registration Form for each subsequent Season.
- Rule 11.5** Any person who is under the age of 18 years of age at the time of registration must have a parent or legal guardian countersign their Registration Form.
- Rule 11.6** Clubs must ensure that each Registration Form for a person under the age of 18 years is countersigned by a parent or legal guardian before the Club complies with Rule 11.2(b) in respect of that Registration Form.

RULE 12. Player transfers

- Rule 12.1** Any Player wishing to transfer to another Club must:
- (a) complete the prescribed Registration Form and Transfer of Registration Form declaring their financial status with the Club with which they are currently registered;
 - (b) ensure that the Transfer of Registration Form is signed, within seven days of the date on which that form is completed by the Player, by the Secretary of the Club with which the Player is currently registered; and
 - (c) submit both forms to the Union for approval before the player may register with or play a Match for another Club and before any details are entered on MyRugbyAdmin.
- Rule 12.2** No Player who is financially indebted to a Club or to the Union will be eligible to transfer their Registration to another Club.
- Rule 12.3** Applications for transfer between or to a Club during a Season, will not be considered or approved by the Union after July 15 in any Season.
- Rule 12.4** Any person seeking Registration as a Player under these Rules who is registered with any rugby union club, other than a Club covered by these Rules, must satisfy all rulings promulgated by the ARU in relation to transfer of players before being eligible for Registration or to play in any Match under these Rules.
- Rule 12.5** Any person who is
- (a) not resident in South Australia; and
 - (b) is visiting South Australia temporarily; and
 - (c) wishes to play for a Club in South Australia; and
 - (d) has clearance in writing from their current club to play in South Australia;
- may submit a Registration Form to the Union for approval to play in South Australia and that form must be approved in writing by the Union before the person participates in any Match conducted under these Rules.
- Rule 12.6** No Player may be registered with more than one Club in any Season.

RULE 13. Representative teams

- Rule 13.1** All Clubs must make their Players available for selection in any State representative team selected by the Union.
- Rule 13.2** All Players must make themselves available for selection in any State representative team selected by the Union.
- Rule 13.3** Subject to receiving dispensation under Rule 13.4 any Player who does not make themselves available to play for the State will :
- (a) not be eligible to play in any Finals Series; and
 - (b) will not be eligible to play in any Match conducted by the Union in the Season in which that Player does not make themselves available.

Rule 13.4 If a Player is unavailable for selection in any State representative team selected by the Union the Player and their Club may apply in writing to the Union for dispensation from the requirements and consequences of Rule 13.3 by :

- (a) setting out the reasons why the Player is unable to play for the State; and
- (b) providing such further documents or submissions as the Union may require.

Rule 13.5 The Union will have the ability to grant or refuse the dispensation in its absolute discretion.

Rule 13.6 All Players selected in a State Team Squad, under the auspices of the Union (including but not limited to the Black Falcons), will be ineligible to represent their Club in any Match, within five days before or after any Match played by a State representative team selected from that State Team Squad unless specifically notified to the contrary, in writing, by the Union.

Rule 13.7 Any Player who receives any material benefit by way of clothing, playing equipment, meals, travel subsidies and the like from the Union will be deemed to be contracted to play for the Union, and will be liable to such further rules and conditions governing their conduct as may be set down from time to time by the Union.

MATCH DAY RULES AND PROCEDURES

RULE 14. Ground arrangements for Matches

Rule 14.1 Each Club must appoint a Match Manager for each Match that the Club is designated as the Home Club and ensure that the identity of each such Match Manager is known to each Referee prior to the commencement of each such Match.

Rule 14.2 The Home Club, under the direction of the Match Manager, must:

- (a) ensure that the Ground is marked correctly in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Football;
- (b) set up the Ground correctly in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Football including in relation to field markings, flags and corner posts;
- (c) provide facilities for the accurate and legible display of scores during the Matches and must ensure that the scoreboard is constantly maintained to reflect the then current score during each such Match;
- (d) provide for each Match, three (3) match balls all of which comply with the specifications and requirements set down in the Laws of Rugby Football;
- (e) provide First Aid facilities and equipment to the extent required to comply with any Player safety directives issued from time to time by the ARU and notified to the Club by the Union;
- (f) provide a clearly visible barrier around the Playing Enclosure;
- (g) provide a separate designated area outside the Playing Enclosure for any reserve Players from each Team and for the management of each Team;
- (h) ensure at least one Trainer is present at the commencement of the Match;
- (i) ensure that:
 - (i) at least one Touch Judge is present at and acts in that capacity at all times during each Match conducted for Players aged 12 years and over; and
 - (ii) each Touch Judge is clearly identifiable and distinguishable from the Players and other Officials in a uniform that does not conflict with the uniform of the Team's playing;
- (j) ensure that the Match Manager completes and provides to the Referee a Match Report Card for each Match;
- (k) ensure that:
 - (i) during each Match appropriate behaviour is maintained by all Spectators and Participants (other than the Players engaged in the current Match for whom the Referee is responsible for monitoring behaviour) in consultation with the Team management for the opposing Team;

- (ii) during each Match (to the extent required for time to time) the Match Manager makes a written record of any behaviour by any Spectator or Participant (other than the Players engaged in the current Match) which is considered by the Match Manager to:
 - (A) constitute an actual or potential breach of the Code of Conduct; or
 - (B) be illegal, anti-social or contrary to the best interests of the Union, **(Conduct Report)**; and
- (iii) within 24 hours of the conclusion of the relevant Match any Conduct Report produced by the Match Manager is delivered to the Union.

Rule 14.3 Failure by the Home Club to meet any of the requirements set out under Rule 14.2 will result in:

- (a) a fine of \$100 payable to the Union by the Home Club; and
- (b) the loss of competition points to the extent determined by the Union; and
- (c) the imposition of any other fine or penalty which the Judicial Committee may impose after consideration of an application by the Union for such an additional penalty.

Rule 14.4 If, in the opinion of the attending Referee, the grounds and/or facilities do not comply with the requirements of Rule 14.2 the Union may, after proper investigation, deem the Match forfeited by the Home Club.

Rule 14.5 During any Finals Series the Union will assume the responsibilities of the Match Manager for each Match.

RULE 15. Footballs

Rule 15.1 Extra footballs will be brought into play only at the direction of the Referee. The Match Ball or any extra football which is then currently in play for the time being is not an extra ball within the meaning of this Rule 15.1 and when it goes into touch it may be brought into play again without waiting for any directions from the Referee.

Rule 15.2 The Union reserves the right to issue sponsored footballs for use in any Match as directed by the Union.

Rule 15.3 During the Finals Series the Union will provide footballs for use in Finals Matches.

Rule 15.4 The Referee will inspect the footballs provided for the Match by the Home Club (or those provided by the Union if a Finals Match), and will have the sole decision as to which footballs will be used in the Match. If the Home Club cannot provide a suitable approved football the Referee may then allow the use of any other suitable approved football from any other source.

Rule 15.5 If, in the opinion of the attending Referee, no suitable approved football can be supplied from any source for the Match the Home Club will be deemed to have forfeited the Match.

RULE 16. Time of Commencing Matches

Rule 16.1 Matches will commence at the time directed by the Union.

Rule 16.2 The commencement time for Matches may be changed only if

- (a) both participating Clubs and the appointed Referee agree; and

- (b) the initiating Club communicates the change to the Union; and
- (c) any new commencement time for a Match must be no later than 48 hours before or after the scheduled time for the Match set by the Union.

Rule 16.3 A minimum of eleven (11) players from each team are required for a match to commence.

Rule 16.4 Any Team which has not taken the field within fifteen (15) minutes of the time specified by the Union for the commencement of that Match will, subject to any agreement reached under Rule 16.2, forfeit the Match and a fine of \$100 will be imposed (of which \$50 will be paid to the SARURA).

RULE 17. Duration of Matches

Rule 17.1 Premier Grade Matches must be played in two halves of 40 minutes, plus injury time and all other Grade Matches must be played in two halves of 35 minutes without injury time.

Rule 17.2 The Match duration shall be subject to the requirements of the Union's Hot Weather Policy.

Rule 17.3 Where the playing time of a Match has been interrupted for any reason, the remaining playing time must be calculated by the Referee so as not to delay subsequent Matches played on that Ground on the same day.

Rule 17.4 Matches will have an interval of not more than ten minutes between halves.

Rule 17.5 The Union may, in its absolute discretion, direct that any Match be played in halves of less than the stipulated duration.

Rule 17.6 The Union may establish other conditions for the duration of Matches as deemed appropriate from time to time.

RULE 18. Appointment of Referee and Touch Judges

Rule 18.1 Referees will be appointed for all Matches by the SARURA Selection Committee.

Rule 18.2 The SARURA will notify the Union of the names of all Referees appointed to officiate in all Matches conducted by the Union in any Finals Series.

Rule 18.3 If a Referee appointed under this RULE 18 does not attend at the Match for which they have been appointed within fifteen minutes of the time set down by the Union for the Match to commence a substitute Referee may be appointed in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Football.

Rule 18.4 If a Referee is not appointed under Rule 18.1 a Referee must be appointed in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Union.

Rule 18.5 If a Referee is unable to continue to act in the capacity of Referee during any Match through illness or injury a substitute Referee must be appointed for the remainder of the Match in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Football and the Match will then proceed.

Rule 18.6 No Match will proceed without a Referee.

Rule 18.7 In the event of proven misconduct of an appointed Referee during a Match the Union will have the power to annul the results of a Match and direct that it be replayed by the respective Teams.

Rule 18.8 Where possible, touch judges will be appointed by SARURA and where touch judges are not so appointed, the two Clubs participating in any Match must appoint one touch judge each.

Rule 18.9 For all Matches in the Junior and Youth Competition in age grades from Under 12/13 and above, Referees will be appointed by the SARURA Selection Committee.

Rule 18.10 For all Matches the Junior and Youth Competition in age grades below and not including Under 12/13 the Referee must:

- (a) have successfully completed an ARU approved foundation referees course and must be SmartRugby accredited; and
- (b) be provided and appointed by the Club designated by the Union as the home Club.

RULE 19. Trainers

Rule 19.1 For each Match:

- (a) it is the responsibility of the Home Club to ensure that at least one Trainer is present at the commencement of the Match;
- (b) the Home Club may satisfy its obligation under Rule 19.1(a) where the visiting club provides the Trainer.

Rule 19.2 Where only one Trainer is present at a Match that Trainer must be available to attend to any Player from either Team who is injured while participating in the Match.

Rule 19.3 Before the Match commences the Referee must ensure that the requirements of this RULE 19 are satisfied and that the names of the Trainers are recorded on both Clubs' team sheets.

Rule 19.4 If the Referee is unable to identify a Trainer as present the Match will be deemed to have been forfeited by the Home Club.

Rule 19.5 Where a Match is forfeited under this RULE 19 the Clubs who were to be involved in that Match must lodge team sheets as if the Match had been played and any Player recorded in the run-on side for the Team will be ineligible to play in any Match in a lower Grade Match scheduled to be played during the same weekend.

Rule 19.6 In Matches played in any Finals Series the Union will assume the obligations of the Home Club under this RULE 19.

RULE 20. Player uniforms

Rule 20.1 Players must not take the field unless properly attired in a football uniform approved by the Union and which complies with the Laws of the Game. The uniform will consist of:

- (a) a jersey (with sleeves) in the Club's registered colours,
- (b) appropriate football shorts,
- (c) football socks in appropriate colours corresponding to the Club's registered colours,
- (d) compliant boots or shoes.

Rule 20.2 Sponsor's logos may be displayed on the uniform in accordance with any regulation promulgated by the Union.

- Rule 20.3** Every Player taking the field must have attached to the back of his/her jersey a number allocated by his/her Club and of such a size and colour as will ensure it being readily discernible at a reasonable distance from the play. The Player's name must correspond with this number on the team sheet.
- Rule 20.4** No two (2) Players in the same Team may wear similar distinguishing numbers.
- Rule 20.5** If a Player's jersey has to be replaced during a Match, due either to blood saturation or being torn or damaged, and a numbered jersey is not available, an un-numbered jersey may be worn.
- Rule 20.6** It is the duty of the Referee to report any infraction of this RULE 20 on the team sheet, and the Union may, at its discretion, discipline any Club which fails to comply with this RULE 20. Disciplinary action may involve a fine and/or any other action deemed appropriate.

RULE 21. Replacements

- Rule 21.1** Players may be replaced due to illness or injury at any time during any Match as permitted by the Laws of Rugby Union Football.
- Rule 21.2** Once an injured player has left the field (permanently replaced) they can not for any reason return to that Match or any subsequent Match played on that day.
- Rule 21.3** Once a Player has left the field uninjured (substituted) the Player may not return to that Match unless the Player is replacing a Player with a bleeding or open wound or for an injured front row Player where no other suitably trained front row replacement is available.
- Rule 21.4** In the case of a Player sent off the field the Player may not be replaced except under any circumstances covered by the Laws of Rugby Union Football. Should such a Player refuse to comply with the directions of the Referee the Match will be immediately awarded to the opposing Team.
- Rule 21.5** A replacement/substitute Player or a Player returning from the blood bin, may not take to the field of play until the football is dead and the Referee signals permission. The Player must report to the touch judge before taking to the field of play.

RULE 22. Uncontested Scrums

- Rule 22.1** For the purposes of these Rules an Uncontested Scrum shall be a Scrum in which :
- (a) the Team feeding the scrum shall win the ball;
 - (b) there shall be no impact at the engagement of the scrum;
 - (c) neither Team may engage in any forward or backward movement from the point indicated by the Referee;
 - (d) neither Team may apply any forward pressure on or move backward from the opposing scrum;
 - (e) the ball shall be cleared from the base of the scrum as soon as it is available to the Team who has the feed into the scrum; and
 - (f) if either Team does not comply with the requirements of this Rule 22.1 or the reasonable directions of the Referee then the Referee may award a penalty against the offending Team and a free kick will be granted to the non-offending Team.

Rule 22.2

In the case of Teams playing in the Premier Grade or the Reserve Grade:

- (a) A Game shall not start with Uncontested Scrums;
- (b) If at the time designated for the start of a Game neither Team can field a suitably trained front row, then the Game will be recorded as a draw with both teams deemed to have scoring no points during the Game;
- (c) If at the time designated for the start of a Game one Team only is unable field a suitably trained front row then that Team will be deemed to have forfeited the Game and RULE 10 will apply;
- (d) If during a Game a Team is unable to field a suitably trained front row either due to injury or some other event then:
 - (i) if the Team which is unable to field a suitably trained front row commits an error which results in a scrum, the opposing Team will have the choice of either a free kick or an Uncontested Scrum;
 - (ii) if the Opposing Team commits an error which results in a scrum, an Uncontested Scrum will take place;
- (e) If during a Game both Teams are unable to field a suitably trained front row either due to injury or some other event then, if either team commits an error which results in a scrum, the Referee will call an Uncontested Scrum.

Rule 22.3

In the case of Teams playing in any grade other than the Premier Grade or the Reserve Grade:

- (a) A Game can start with Uncontested Scrums;
- (b) If at the time designated for the start of a Game or during the Game a Team is unable to field a suitably trained front row either due to injury or some other event then:
 - (i) if the Team which is unable to field a suitably trained front row commits an error which results in a scrum, the Opposing Team will have the choice of either a free kick or an Uncontested Scrum;
 - (ii) if the Opposing Team commits an error which results in a scrum, an uncontested scrum will take place;
- (c) If at the time designated for the start of a Game or during a Game neither Team is able to field a suitably trained front row either due to injury or some other event then, if either Team commits an error which results in a scrum, the Referee will call an Uncontested Scrum.

RULE 23.

Concussion

Rule 23.1

Before any injured player is removed from the field of play, s/he must first be assessed for spinal injury and managed accordingly.

Rule 23.2

Notwithstanding Rule 23.1 a Player showing any signs or symptoms of concussion must be removed from the field of play and referred for medical attention.

Rule 23.3

Where loss of consciousness is for a period of more than four (4) minutes, the Player must be removed from the Match for immediate assessment.

Rule 23.4 An adequate supply of fluid must be made available to Players during a Match, so that appropriate levels of hydration are maintained.

Rule 23.5 Players who have suffered definite cerebral concussion and loss of consciousness must not participate in any Match or training session for at least three (3) weeks and then only after being cleared by a proper neurological medical examination.

BREACHES IN CODE OF CONDUCT & PLAYER DISCIPLINE

RULE 24. Code of conduct

Rule 24.1 All Participants in Matches conducted under these Rules will observe the provisions of the ARU's Code of Conduct.

Rule 24.2 Any breach of the Code of Conduct may be brought to the attention of the Union by any person by application of the citing procedures covered in RULE 26.

RULE 25. Players ordered off the field

Rule 25.1 The Union will establish a Judicial Committee which will investigate, decide and deal with all Referee reports, citing reports or similar matters in connection with on-field and off-field behaviour of Participants during any Match.

Rule 25.2 If a Player is sent off the field of play by a Referee during a Match by the showing of a red card, the following will occur

- (a) The Referee must:
 - (i) upon request of the person designated as captain of the Team whose Player has been ordered off the field, at the time of the incident or at the conclusion of the Match, state the charge or charges for which the Player was sent off the field; and
 - (ii) advise the Union verbally by noon on the first Business Day following the day of the Match, and report in writing on the form approved by the Union by noon on the day before the day set by the Union for the hearing of the Judicial Committee called to consider the alleged conduct of the relevant Player the name or names of any Player sent off the field of play for any reason or any misconduct; and
- (b) Any Player ordered off the field will be suspended from playing any Match until their case has been decided by the Judicial Committee.

Rule 25.3 The Judicial Committee will meet as directed by the Union or when the Judicial Committee deems necessary throughout the season to hear cases. Where possible, the Judicial Committee will meet at a regular time and place to be determined by the Union prior to the commencement of each Season;

Rule 25.4 In the event of there being special circumstances arising subsequent or prior to the regular meeting of the Judicial Committee, the Committee may convene a special meeting;

Rule 25.5 Any Player sent off the field must, without any other form of notice, attend the next meeting of the Judicial Committee. It is the Player's responsibility to check with the Union, on the first Business Day following the Match in which they were sent off the field of play, the time and place of the hearing.

Rule 25.6

At any hearing of the Judicial Committee:

- (a) The presence of two members of the Judicial Committee at the time and place specified will constitute a quorum;
- (b) Recorded visual evidence may be presented, at the discretion of the Judicial Committee, by the Player, a representative of the Union or by any other person authorised by the Judicial Committee;
- (c) in the event of a Referee's report not being before the Judicial Committee when a Player appears before the Judicial Committee, the Player will be permitted to play without suspension until such time as that report is received by the Judicial Committee at which time the Union will give notice to the Player that they are required to appear before another meeting of the Judicial Committee following receipt of the report;
- (d) penalties to be imposed by the Judicial Committee will be in general accordance with those recommended by the ARU;

Rule 25.7

Failure by a Player to attend the next meeting of the Judicial Committee will render the Player concerned ineligible to play any Match until their case is dealt with at a subsequent meeting. It is the responsibility of the Player to ascertain when the subsequent meeting will be held.

Rule 25.8

If a Player is unable to attend a regular meeting of the Judicial Committee, they may give written authority to be represented at that hearing of the Judicial Committee by a representative of their Club.

Rule 25.9

If a Club has had a total of five (5) or more Players across all Teams sent from the field in any one Season, the Club will be required to report to the Union the actions taken, or proposed to be taken, by the Club to address the lack of Player discipline evidenced by that rate of send-offs.

Rule 25.10

If a Player is sent off, as a temporary suspension, by a Referee during a Match played under these Rules (i.e. by the showing of a yellow card), the following shall occur

- (a) the Player will remain with the approved side line official and if there is no side line official with the Player's Team manager at such location as may be designated by the Referee (and in the absence of direction at a location removed from all other Player's participating in that Match and outside the field of play) for a period of ten (10) minutes and will not enter the field of play until expressly permitted to do so by the Referee. The ten (10) minute suspension period will exclude half time and any injury time for the purpose of calculating the ten minutes;
- (b) the Referee is responsible for keeping the time that the suspended Player is off the field of play but may delegate that task to a touch judge or another person;
- (c) if the period of suspension continues beyond the half time interval the suspended Player is not permitted contact with their Team during that period; and
- (d) the temporary suspension of a Player must be recorded on the team sheet prior to signing by the Referee. Failure to do so will leave the Player and the Club liable to such penalty by the Union as the Union may designate from time to time.

Rule 25.11 If a Player incurs three (3) temporary suspensions in one Season, that Player will be automatically suspended from playing the next scheduled Match. Any subsequent temporary suspension in the same Season will automatically result in suspension of that Player from the next scheduled Match. Temporary suspensions do not transfer to the next Season. Clubs will be advised by the Union when a Player has received two temporary suspensions.

RULE 26. Citing procedures

Rule 26.1 Any Participant may submit a Citing Report on any alleged breach of the Laws of the Game, these Rules or the ARU's Code of Conduct, by completing and signing the appropriate form and submitting that Report to the Union in the proscribed manner.

Rule 26.2 The person initiating a Citing Report must have been a witness to the incident and must not submit a Citing Report solely upon the request of others.

Rule 26.3 A Citing Report must be lodged in writing with the CEO of the Union by 5:00 pm on the first Business Day following the alleged breach.

Rule 26.4 Except where a Citing Report is made by a Referee or by a Director of the Board who is not associated with either club participating in the Match in question, the Citing Report must be accompanied by a deposit of \$200, which will only be refunded if any aspect of the alleged breach is upheld.

Rule 26.5 Upon receipt of a Citing Report, the Union may seek to obtain a report from the Referee to ensure that the matter has not already been reported or dealt with during the course of the Match. A Citing Report is not intended to be an opportunity to re-referee an incident or its interpretation if already detected and/or dealt with by the Referee.

Rule 26.6 If not already dealt with by the Referee the Citing Report will be referred to the Judicial Committee and the Judicial Committee Chair (or nominee) will first determine whether or not there is sufficient or reasonable evidence to justify the calling of a Participant before the Judicial Committee on a Citing Report.

Rule 26.7 Any person who is the subject of a Citing Report:

- (a) must be given sufficient notice to report before the Judicial Committee, preferably within 7 days of the Citing Report and, where possible, this appearance will be at the normal Judicial Committee sitting times under these Rules;
- (b) and who is a Player may play in any Match until they appear on the date set down by the Judicial Committee;
- (c) who does not appear at the scheduled Judicial Committee session will be ineligible to play or participate in any Match until such time as that person does appear before the Judicial Committee;

Rule 26.8 The Judicial Committee will hear and determine the matter the subject of the Citing Report and may impose any penalty considered appropriate including a fine and/or period of suspension from all or any capacity in relation to rugby union in South Australia;

Rule 26.9 Any decision of the Judicial Committee under this RULE 26 may be the subject of appeal under RULE 28.

RULE 27. Playing ineligible, suspended or unqualified Players or Teams

Rule 27.1 While a Player or Team is suspended, disqualified or unqualified they shall be ineligible to play in any Match.

Rule 27.2 Any Club which plays an ineligible Player or Team shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match in question and shall be liable to suspension, disqualification or such other penalty as the Union may decide.

Rule 27.3 For the purposes of this RULE 27, an ineligible Player shall include a player suspended or disqualified from any other Union and/or from any other code of sport, unless deemed otherwise by the Union.

Rule 27.4 Ineligible and/or suspended Players or Participants are not permitted within the boundaries of the field of play nor are they to act as team trainers, runner's etc.

RULE 28. Appeals

Rule 28.1 Any decision of the Judicial Committee will be final unless there is an appeal to the Union within 14 days of the decision appealed against.

Rule 28.2 A committee appointed by the Board from time to time will hear all appeals against decisions of the Judicial Committee or the JYRC.

Rule 28.3 All appeals must be in writing to the CEO of the Union and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$200.00. This deposit will be forfeited if the appeal is dismissed or refunded if the appeal is upheld.

RULE 29. Right of appeal against Union's decision

Rule 29.1 In any case where matters for the decision of the Union under these Rules have been delegated by the Board to the discretion of a sub-committee or other person, there will be a right of appeal within 14 days of the decision appealed against. Such appeals will be treated as if they were an appeal under RULE 28.

RULE 30. Abuse of Match Officials and Expectations of Behaviour

Rule 30.1 Clubs and Participants are expected to comply with the Code of Conduct and abide by the Expectations of Behaviour Guidelines promulgated by the ARU.

Rule 30.2 Notwithstanding RULE 26 the Union reserves the right to invoke penalties against clubs whose participants, members or supporters breach the Code of Conduct and/or Expectation of Behaviour Guidelines.

FINALS SERIES

RULE 31. Conduct of Finals Series

Rule 31.1 No Team from any Club which is Financially Indebted to the Union for any reason will be eligible to participate in any Match in a Finals Series

Rule 31.2 No Player or Official who is Financially Indebted to the Union for any reason will be eligible to participate in any capacity in any Finals Series.

Rule 31.3 Where any Grade comprises less than ten (10) Teams, but more than five teams at the end of the Minor Round the Teams occupying the first four (4) positions in that Grade will play off against each other in a Finals Series of Matches conducted as follows:

- (a) Third will play Fourth (**1st semi-final**);
- (b) First will play Second (**2nd semi-final**);
- (c) the winner of the 1st semi-final will play the loser of the 2nd semi-final (**Preliminary Final**);
- (d) the winner of the 2nd semi-final and the winner of the Preliminary Final will play in the Grand Final.
- (e) the winner of the Grand Final will be declared the Premiers in that Grade.

Rule 31.4 Where a Grade comprises ten (10) Teams or more, at the end of the Minor Round the Teams occupying the first five (5) positions in that Grade will play off against each other in a Finals Series of Matches as follows:

- (a) Fourth will play Fifth (**Elimination Final**) with the loser eliminated from the Finals Series;
- (b) Second will play Third (**Qualifying Final**);
- (c) the winner of the Elimination Final will play the loser of the Qualifying Final (**1st semi-final**);
- (d) the winner of the Qualifying Final will play First (**2nd semi-final**);
- (e) the winner of the 1st semi-final will play the loser of the 2nd semi-final (**Preliminary Final**);
- (f) the winner of the 2nd semi-final will play the winner of the Preliminary Final (**Grand Final**);
and
- (g) the winner of the Grand Final will be declared the Premiers in that Grade.

Rule 31.5 Where a Grade comprises less than six (6) teams at the end of the Minor Round the conduct of the Finals Series shall be determined by the Board.

Rule 31.6

In any Match conducted in a Finals Series (including a Grand Final) where the scores:

- (a) are equal at the end of the allotted period of play (including any injury time in Premier Grade only) then:
 - (i) an extra period of ten minutes playing time each way, without an interval, will be played (**Extra Time**);
 - (ii) Teams will change ends before the start of Extra Time and at the half-way point of Extra Time; and
 - (iii) Extra Time must commence not later than five minutes after the end of the ordinary period of play.
- (b) remain equal at the end of Extra Time then:
 - (i) an extra period of a maximum of five minutes playing time each way, without an interval, will be played until one team scores (**Sudden Death Time**);
 - (ii) Teams will change ends before the start of Sudden Death Time and at the half-way point (if any) of Sudden Death Time;
 - (iii) Sudden Death Time must commence not later than five minutes after the end of Extra Time; and
 - (iv) the first team to score during Sudden Death Time will be the winner.
- (c) remain equal at the end of Sudden Death Time the Team allocated highest position in the Minor Round points table pursuant to Rule 5.3 and Rule 5.4 will be declared the winner.

RULE 32.

Competition conditions

Rule 32.1

For the purposes of RULE 33 and RULE 34:

- (a) a Player will be deemed to have played in a Match in any particular Grade if, during that Match, they have taken to the field of play, with the intention of playing;
- (b) a Player who plays in more than one Grade during the same weekend will be deemed to have played in the highest of those Grades of which s/he was a run on Player, and only one Match per weekend will qualify for eligibility under RULE 34.

RULE 33.

Qualification to Play in the Finals Series

Rule 33.1

Without in any way limiting the operation or effect of Rule 33.2, Rule 34.1, Rule 34.5, Rule 34.6 and Rule 34.7, unless granted prior written approval of the Union, a Player may only play a Finals Match where the Player has played the Minimum Number of Qualifying Matches during the current Minor Round.

Rule 33.2 The Minimum Number of Qualifying Matches for each Player to play in a Finals Match shall be :

Number of Home & Away Matches in Minor Round	Minimum Number of Qualifying Matches
22	9
21	8
20	8
19	8
18	7
17	7
16	6
15	6
14	6
13	5
12	5

RULE 34. Qualification to Play in a Particular Grade of the Finals Series

Rule 34.1 Notwithstanding Rule 34.3 and Rule 34.8 and without in any way limiting the operation or effect of Rule 34.5, Rule 34.6 and Rule 34.7, unless granted prior written approval of the Union, a Player may only play a Finals Match in the Grade in which the Player has played at least 50% of their Matches as a Run on Player during the current Minor Round.

Rule 34.2 Players may play a Finals Match in a Grade higher than which they played during the current Minor Round.

Rule 34.3 Where a Player is unable to meet the qualification for eligibility requirements under Rule 34.1 due to injury; illness; or absence due to unavoidable circumstances, the Union may, upon application in writing by the Club concerned and accompanied by supporting documentation, grant the Player an exemption from the requirements of Rule 34.1 in its absolute discretion and on such terms and conditions as the Union may impose.

Rule 34.4 Further, for the purpose of Rule 34.1 any Player unable to play for their Club due to State, Provincial or other Representative Commitments required under the auspices of the ARU, will have been deemed to have played a Match for the most senior team in their Club during the relevant period for which they are unable to play due to those commitments.

Rule 34.5 For the purposes of determining eligibility of a Player to play in any Finals Series Match team sheets or cards for all Matches played in a Season will be provided by the Union and are to be completed by the Clubs accurately in accordance with the Union's requirements and forwarded to the Union within 3 days of the date on which the relevant Match is played.

Rule 34.6 Proven falsification of any information contained in a team sheet will result in a loss of all points for the Match concerned by the offending Team and Club and the Union may impose a penalty on the Club which may include a fine and/or loss of championship points.

Rule 34.7 Any Player or Club contravening any part of this Rule 34.1 may be liable to disqualification or suspension for such time as the Union may think fit, and the Club concerned may be deemed to have forfeited any Match during the Final Series or Minor Rounds in which any offending Player took part.

Rule 34.8 If a Club has more than one Team playing in the Finals Series in consecutive Grades on the same weekend, selection of Players for those Teams is the responsibility of the Club proposing to play those Players to ensure that they meet the criteria under Rule 33.2.

JUNIOR AND YOUTH RUGBY

RULE 35.

Grades and Ages

Rule 35.1

Each year the Union will issue to the Clubs a table of the applicable group ranges which will apply to the conduct of the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 35.2

The date for determining the age of Junior and Youth Players for the purposes of eligibility to participate in the Junior and Youth Competition will be 1 January in each year.

Rule 35.3

Junior and Youth Players registered in accordance with RULE 11 must fall within the applicable age group designated by the Union under Rule 35.1 at the date prescribed by Rule 35.2 to be eligible to play in the corresponding age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition designated by the Union.

Rule 35.4

Subject to Rule 36.1 and Rule 36.2, a Junior and Youth Player must not play and is not eligible to play in:

- (a) any Match in the Senior Competition during that Season; and
- (b) a Match in the Junior and Youth Competition in an age grade below the age grade determined as applicable to that Junior and Youth Player under Rule 35.3.

RULE 36.

Dispensation

Rule 36.1

A Junior and Youth Player and their Club may apply in writing to the JYRC seeking dispensation to play in the Senior Competition in accordance with the following procedure:

- (a) the application must be in writing in the form specified from time to time by the JYRC or the Union addressed to the JYRC and be signed by the parent or guardian of the Junior and Youth Player;
- (b) the application must be received by the Union before 5.00pm on the Tuesday preceding any Match in relation to which the Junior and Youth Player is seeking dispensation;
- (c) the application must be delivered to the Union by hand or by post in hard copy;
- (d) must be accompanied by the documents specified by the JYRC or the Union from time to time and which may include photographic identification, letters from Doctors and proof of age.

Rule 36.2

Each Junior and Youth Player who submits an application for dispensation in accordance with Rule 36.1 must also attend with their coach and their parent or legal guardian at one of three (3) dispensation assessment days to be held by the Union during each year and notified to each Club by the Union and any Junior and Youth Player who has made an application for dispensation in accordance with Rule 36.1 who does not attend a dispensation assessment day will not be granted dispensation by the JYRC.

Rule 36.3

Subject to compliance with Rule 36.1 and Rule 36.2 and subject to the requirements of Rule 36.4 and Rule 36.5, the JYRC:

- (a) will consider each application made in accordance with Rule 36.1 as soon as reasonably practicable;

- (b) may grant or deny a dispensation to play in an age group other than the age group for which the Junior and Youth Player is otherwise qualified provided such age group is not more than two years above or below the age of the Junior and Youth Player as at 1 January in the year the application is made unless exceptional circumstances can be shown;
- (c) may make its determination in its absolute discretion having regard to:
 - (i) any guidelines or consideration which the JYRC determines will apply consistent with the principles of duty of care including previous playing experience, age and physical characteristics of the Junior and Youth Player;
 - (ii) any verbal submissions the Junior and Youth Player, their coach and/or their parent or guardian make if invited by the JYRC to attend in person before the JYRC;
 - (iii) any additional or supporting documentation the JYRC may require; and
 - (iv) such by-laws, guidelines and principles as the Union may set down from time to time; and
- (d) may determine what, if any, terms and conditions will apply if the dispensation is granted.

Rule 36.4

The JYRC cannot grant dispensation under Rule 36.3 for:

- (a) a Junior and Youth Player to play as a Run-on Player in the Senior Competition;
- (b) a Junior and Youth Player to play as a front row forward (prop or hooker) in the Senior Competition.

Rule 36.5

The JYRC may grant dispensation for a Junior and Youth Player to play as a reserve or substitute Player in one Team in the Senior Competition only if the Junior and Youth Player:

- (a) is over the age of 17 years at the time the application under Rule 36.1 is made;
- (b) plays for the applicable age group Team of their Club in each Match in the Junior and Youth Competition conducted during the week in which the Junior and Youth Player plays in a Match in the Senior Competition; and
- (c) complies with the requirements of Rule 38.1.

Rule 36.6

The JYRC or the Union may withdraw a dispensation granted under Rule 36.3 without the need to give a reason.

Rule 36.7

If the JYRC grants a dispensation under Rule 36.3 a notice will be sent to each Club with a Team in the Junior and Youth Competition including details of the conditions (if any) pursuant to which the dispensation is granted.

Rule 36.8

If a Club objects to the grant of a dispensation under Rule 36.3 the Club may lodge an appeal in writing with the Union within 48 hours of receiving notification of the decision under Rule 36.6 and must otherwise comply with the requirements of RULE 28.

RULE 37. Eligibility Challenges

Rule 37.1 If a Club wishes to challenge the eligibility of a Junior and Youth Player to play in a particular age group or a particular Match the following procedure must be followed by that Club and by the Club for whom the relevant Junior and Youth Player is registered:

- (a) first, the manager or coach of the relevant Team must bring that challenge to the attention of the manager and coach of the Team in which the relevant Junior and Youth Player is participating;
- (b) second, the manager and coach of the Team receiving the challenge must enter on the back of the Team sheets for that Match for both participating Teams the full name and date of birth of the relevant Junior and Youth Player;
- (c) third, the managers and coaches of both Teams must sign and date the back of both Team sheets; and
- (d) fourth, the challenging Club must submit a written report outlining the basis of their challenge to the Union within three (3) days of the Match.

Rule 37.2 If the Union receives a report in accordance with Rule 37.1 a determination of the eligibility of the relevant Junior and Youth Player will be made by the Union in accordance with the criteria for eligibility specified in these Rules and the decision notified to the challenging Club and to the Club with whom the relevant Junior and Youth Player is registered.

RULE 38. 90 Minute Rule

Rule 38.1 Irrespective of any dispensation sought or granted by the JYRC, no Junior and Youth Player is permitted to play for a combined total of greater than ninety (90) minutes in any consecutive twenty four (24) hour period.

RULE 39. Conduct of the Junior and Youth Competition

Rule 39.1 By 1 March of each year Clubs must give notice in writing to the JYRC of the number of Teams they intend to enter in the Junior and Youth Competition in that year.

Rule 39.2 The JYRC will notify the Clubs of the details of the proposed Junior and Youth Competition in each year by 15 March of that year.

Rule 39.3 By 30 March of each year the Clubs must give the JYRC and the Union:

- (a) notice in writing of:
 - (i) the number of Junior and Youth Players who are expected to play for the Club in that Season;
 - (ii) the age grade(s) of each Team the Club will enter in the Junior and Youth Competition,
- (b) a schedule setting out the names, addresses and dates of birth of each intending coach and manager for each nominated Team and indicating whether such coach or manager is a new coach or manager;

- (c) a schedule setting out the names, addresses and dates of birth of each intending Junior and Youth Player and indicating whether each such Junior and Youth Players is new Player seeking registration for the first time;
- (d) if an intending Junior and Youth Player is a new player seeking registration, proof of age of the intending Junior and Youth Player in the form of a birth certificate, valid passport or such other evidence as may be determined by the JYRC or the Union from time to time; and
- (e) the registration fee for each Team in the amount determined by the JYRC or the Union and notified to the Clubs each year.

Rule 39.4 On or before 15 April in each Season playing schedules for the Junior and Youth Competition will be provided to the participating Clubs by the JYRC.

RULE 40. Team sheets

Rule 40.1 The Union will provide each Club with Team sheets to be used at all Matches held in the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 40.2 The Team sheets provided by the Union must be completed accurately and in full in accordance with the Union's requirements notified to the Clubs from time to time.

Rule 40.3 Prior to each Match in the Junior and Youth Competition:

- (a) the Team sheets must be signed by an Official representing each of the competing Teams;
and
- (b) a copy of each Team sheet must then provided to an Official representing the opposing Team.

Rule 40.4 The original signed Team sheet and the copy of the Team sheet of the opposing Team must be forwarded to the Union by the Club by 5.00pm on the day falling 3 business days after the day on which the Match was played.

Rule 40.5 If a Team sheet is not received by the JYRC within the time allowed under Rule 40.4, Junior and Youth Competition points and Club championship points will be awarded on the basis of the Team sheets which are received by the JYRC within the allotted time.

Rule 40.6 Proven falsification of, or failure to complete in full, information required in a Team sheet may, at the discretion of the JYRC and the Union, may result in:

- (a) a loss of all Junior and Youth Competition points and Club championship points for the Match concerned; and
- (b) the imposition of such further or other penalty as the JYRC recommends to the Union.

RULE 41. Junior and Youth Competition Points

Rule 41.1 All Junior and Youth Competition and Club championship points will be determined and allocated by the JYRC.

RULE 42. Match Duration and Playing Conditions

Rule 42.1 Matches in the Youth and Junior Competition will be played:

- (a) in two equal periods of a duration designated by the JYRC or the Union for each age grade;
- (b) with an interval of not more than five (5) minutes between each period unless otherwise directed by the Referee.

Rule 42.2 The JYRC and the Union may establish other playing conditions for matches in the Junior and Youth Competition, as they may determine, from time to time.

RULE 43. Minimum Player Numbers

Rule 43.1 In any Match conducted in the Junior and Youth Competition, no Team will be permitted to take the field unless it is comprised of the total minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated for that age group by the JYRC or the Union from time to time.

Rule 43.2 If within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled commencement time of a Match:

- (a) one Team does not have the minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated in accordance with Rule 43.1 the Match will be forfeit by that Team;
- (b) both Teams do not have the minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated in accordance with Rule 43.1 the Match will be deemed to be a draw with no score awarded to either Team,

thereafter, if the Official representing both Teams and the Referee agree, the Match may proceed as a trial or friendly Match with even numbers of Junior and Youth Players on each Team and otherwise subject to these Rules.

RULE 44. Evening Up

Rule 44.1 In any Match in the Junior and Youth Competition conducted with Players aged 12 years and under, where the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team meets the minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated in accordance with Rule 43.1 but the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team is not equal:

- (a) no Team is permitted to take the field with a total number of Junior and Youth Players which exceed the number of Junior and Youth Players on the opposing team;
- (b) the Team with the greater number of Junior and Youth Players must provide sufficient Junior and Youth Players to the opposing Team so that the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team is equal;
- (c) the Official representing the Team with the greater number of Junior and Youth Players must elect to either:
 - (i) provide sufficient Junior and Youth Players to the opposing Team so that the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team is equal; or
 - (ii) reduce the number of Junior and Youth Players on the field of play during the Match so that the number of junior and Youth Players on the field during the Match is equal.

Rule 44.2 Subject to Rule 44.3, in any Match in the Junior and Youth Competition conducted with Players aged 12 years and under where:

- (a) the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team meets the minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated in accordance with Rule 43.1 at the commencement of the Match; and
- (b) one or more Junior and Youth Players are either:
 - (i) ordered off the field or temporarily suspended by the Referee (shown a red or yellow card); or
 - (ii) leave the field of play due to illness or injury,

the Match may only proceed if the Team whose Junior and Youth Player has not departed the field of play removes sufficient Junior and Youth Players from its Team from the field of play so that the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team remains equal.

Rule 44.3 In any Match in the Junior and Youth Competition conducted with Players aged 12 years and under if one or more Junior and Youth Players are ordered off the field or temporarily suspended by the Referee (shown a red or yellow card) and the process under Rule 44.2 cannot be used due to a lack of numbers sufficient to meet the minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated in accordance with Rule 43.1 the Team whose Junior and Youth Player was ordered off or temporarily suspended by the Referee will be deemed to have forfeit the Match.

Rule 44.4 Any Team or Club, which does not comply with the requirements of this RULE 44 will be deemed to have forfeited each Match to which that contravention applies and the Team and Club may be subject to such further suspension, disqualification or other penalty as the JYRC may recommend to the Union.

RULE 45. Substitution in the Junior and Youth Competition

Rule 45.1 The provisions of RULE 21 apply to Matches conducted in the Junior and Youth Competition provided that:

- (a) in any Match conducted in any age grade up to and including Under 12/13 Rule 21.3 does not apply and each Team may make an unlimited number of substitutions of Junior and Youth Players during that Match;
- (b) in any Match in any age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition if a Junior and Youth Player is temporarily suspended or ordered off the field by the Referee (shown a yellow or red card) Rule 21.4 does not apply and the Team whose Junior and Youth Player has departed the field of play must send a substitute Junior and Youth Player onto the field of play.

RULE 46. Junior and Youth Representative Teams

Rule 46.1 The provisions of RULE 13 apply to State representative teams from the Junior and Youth Competition provided that if any Team has three (3) or more Junior and Youth Players absent and unavailable to play a scheduled Match (including a Finals Match) due to selection in a representative team approved by the JYRC the Club may apply to JYRC and:

- (a) in the case of a Match scheduled to be played in the Minor Round of the Junior and Youth Competition the Match will either:
 - (i) be rescheduled and played before the end of the Minor Round at a time and place designated by the JYRC or the Union; or
 - (ii) if it cannot be rescheduled to be played prior to the end of the Minor Round, the Match will be deemed to have been played and to have resulted in a nil all draw with Competition points awarded accordingly;
- (b) in the case of a Finals Match the Match will be rescheduled and played at a time and place designated by the JYRC or the Union.

Rule 46.2 Any Junior and Youth Player who has received a dispensation under RULE 36 will be eligible to be selected and play for the State in a representative team in their age group.

RULE 47. Junior and Youth Competition Finals Series

Rule 47.1 Where an age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition is comprised of four (4) or more Teams, at the end of the Minor Round the Teams occupying the first four (4) positions in each age grade will play off against each other in a Finals Series as follows:

- (a) First will play Fourth (**1st semi-final**) with the winner progressing to play in the Junior and Youth Competition Grand Final for that age grade;
- (b) Second will play Third (**2nd semi-final**) with the winner progressing to the Junior and Youth Competition Grand Final for that age grade; and
- (c) the winners of the 1st and 2nd semi-finals will play in the Junior and Youth Competition Grand Final for that age grade with the winner being declared the Premiers in that age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 47.2 Where an age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition is comprised of less than four (4) Teams, at the end of the Minor Round the Teams holding the first and second position will meet in the Junior and Youth Competition Grand Final for that age grade with the winner being declared the Premiers in that age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 47.3 In any Match played in the Finals Series in the Junior and Youth Competition in any age grade up to and including Under 18 (including the Junior and Youth Competition Grand Final in each age grade), if the scores are equal at the expiration of the ordinary period of play then an extra period of play will be played as follows:

- (a) Teams will change ends at the expiration of ordinary time;
- (b) extra time will commence not later than five minutes after the expiration of ordinary time;
- (c) one period of five (5) minutes will be played;

- (d) the Teams will change ends at the expiration of the five (5) minutes without an interval; and
- (e) a second period of five (5) minutes will be played.

Rule 47.4 In any Match played in the Finals Series in the Junior and Youth Competition in any age grade up to and including Under 18 (but not including the Junior and Youth Competition Grand Final in each age grade), if scores remain equal at the expiration of extra time played in accordance with Rule 47.3, the Team who finished the Minor Round of the Junior and Youth Competition higher in the points table issued by the Union will be declared winner.

Rule 47.5 In the Grand Final in the Junior and Youth Competition in any age grade up to and including Under 18, if the scores remain equal at the expiration of extra time played in accordance with Rule 47.3, the Teams will be declared Joint Premiers in that age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 47.6 Any Club which is financially indebted to the Union for any reason will be ineligible to have any Team participate in any Match in the Finals Series of the Junior and Youth Competition and no Team from that Club can be declared the Premiers in any grade or any Competition.

Rule 47.7 Any Junior and Youth Player or any Official involved in the Junior and Youth Competition who is financially indebted to the Union for any reason may not participate in any capacity with any Team participating in any Match in the Junior and Youth Competition including the Finals Series of the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 47.8 Each Junior and Youth Player who wants to play for a Team participating in the Finals Series in the Junior and Youth Competition:

- (a) must have played in three (3) of the last (5) Matches which that Team played in the Minor Round of the junior and youth Competition;
- (b) cannot do so if the Match is in the same round in the Finals Series as a Match being played by a Team in a higher age grade in which the Junior and Youth Player participated during the Season.

RULE 48. Breaches and the Junior and Youth Competition

Rule 48.1 Without limiting the other provisions of these Rules any Club who allows a person to play in a Match in the Junior and Youth Competition who:

- (a) is not registered in accordance with the requirement of RULE 11;
- (b) is aged above the age limit designated for that Match;
- (c) who does not hold a current dispensation under Rule 36.2;
- (d) is under suspension or disqualified from playing; or
- (e) is otherwise ineligible to play;

will be automatically deemed to have forfeited each Match in which that person was involved, irrespective of the actual result of that Match.

Rule 48.2

Any Junior or Youth Player, Club or Official who is found by the JYRC or by the Union to have contravened any rule relating to Junior and Youth Players or the Junior and Youth Competition may be subject to the penalties prescribed for breaching these Competition Rules as otherwise prescribed under these Competition Rules and the Union or the JYRC may also impose the following penalties:

- (a) suspension or disqualification of the Junior or Youth Player and/or the Official for such period of time as the JYRC or the Union determine;
- (b) the Team in relation to which the breach applies may be deemed to have forfeited:
 - (i) each Match or age group Competition to which the breach relates; and/or
 - (ii) to have forfeited each Match in which the offending Junior and Youth Player and/or Official participated,irrespective of the actual result of each such Match.

RULE 49.

Player ordered off the field

Rule 49.1

All the provisions of RULE 25 apply to the conduct of Junior and Youth Players provided that if a Junior and Youth Player is sent off the field as a temporary suspension by a Referee during a Match played in the Junior and Youth Competition (shown a yellow card):

- (a) the time period for which the Junior and Youth Player must remain outside the playing enclosure will be kept by the Referee (who may delegate this task to a Touch Judge or another person) and will be calculated from when the Junior and Youth Player leaves the playing enclosure;
- (b) after departing the field of play the Junior and Youth Player must remain with the manager of their Team outside the playing enclosure for a minimum period of five (5) minutes and must not re-enter the playing enclosure for any reason until invited to do so by the Referee; and
- (c) if the period of temporary suspension has not expired when half-time or full time is called, the period of temporary suspension is then considered to have expired.

RULE 50.

Police check of Officials

Rule 50.1

Each person proposing to act as an Official with respect to any aspect of the Junior and Youth Competition must:

- (a) obtain a police check and clearance in the form and manner specified from time to time by the Union; and
- (b) submit the results of the police check and clearance to the Union,

before they participate in any aspect of the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 50.2

Any Club which permits a person to act as an Official with respect to any aspect of the Junior and Youth Competition who has not met the requirements of Rule 50.1 will be subject to the penalty determined by the Union or, on reference by the Union, as determined by the Judicial Committee.