



Riverina Region Rugby League General Competition Rules & By-Laws

Competition Instructions

1. Coaches, Managers & Trainers (Sports Trainers & League Safe) must be registered and have a current (no older than 10 years) profile picture in the Mysideline database.
2. Playing area must be fenced. A rope line or red ground marking will constitute a fence.
3. Clubs that play Juniors & Seniors on the same day & venue must notify the opposition secretary 3 business days before the scheduled games commence, the allocated time that parents/guardian will be able to access the venue free of charge.
4. All First Grade games are to be videoed. The home club failing to do this may be fined \$100.00 or in the instance of a player dismissal \$1000.00
5. Each club is to provide one Ground Manager to each game in which they play for the purpose of monitoring their own supporters' behaviour and in particular ensure coaches remain seated in bench area and trainers observe the on field policy. The Home club is to provide no less than two Ground Managers for the purpose of patrolling the entire facility.
6. 'Ground Manager' is to be displayed on the back of highly visibility vests and worn by the acting officials at all times.
7. The Home or Host club is to have completed the Ground Maintenance Officer
8. PRE GAME/TRAINING CHECKLIST before the rostered first game. The Checklist is to be returned along with the team sheets each week.
9. The only people allowed inside the bench area are the Coach, Manager, Trainers & the allocated number of Reserves for each team as designated by the Member Group / Division.
10. In accordance with the NRL Laws of the Game, each team is permitted a maximum number of players on the field at any one time. If a team has more than the maximum required players on the field at any one time, then any points scored by the offending team are to be voided. Also, that team may have competition points deducted that are equal to the amount of points awarded for a competition win.

Riverina Region Equalisation Policy

1. Where any team has less than the maximum number (13), the coach from that team can request that the game be played under the rules of the Riverina Region equalization policy.
2. At no stage can a game commence if the Minimum number (9) of players is not present as required under the Laws of the Game. The Rule does not therefore replace any Laws of the Game.
3. If additional and eligible player/s for the lower numbered team arrive after the game has commenced the team that has equalised must be notified and additional players can then be added to the game at the first available stoppage in play.
4. In the event of an injury during the match, the teams are expected to equalise once again with numbers not allowed below the minimum (9).
5. Should a player be sinbinned the offending player cannot be replaced whilst they are still serving their sinbinned penalty period. In the event Teams are at the minimum number of 9 players per team if one player in a team is sinbinned the game will continue as per normal (reduced to 8 players) but if 2 players



are sinbinned at the same team per team reducing it to 7 players the game will cease and the competition points be awarded to the other team.

6. Should a player be dismissed (sent off) the offending player cannot be replaced, and should the number drop below 9 as a result of the dismissal the game will cease and the NSWRL Rules and Laws of the Game will be applied to obtain a result.
7. All games will still be played under the "International" Laws of the game. Whilst it will be with played with reduced numbers the game duration will remain the same (i.e. 2 x 30 minute halves).
8. If a team would like to initiate the policy, the opposition team should receive prior warning as soon as possible but no later than 10am on the Friday before the game. Fail to comply will mean the match is declared a forfeit.
9. Teams that are placed in the top 4 cannot request this policy with 4 or less rounds remaining in the competition.
10. The rule will extend throughout the regular season only.

On Field Policy

1. In Junior Competitions (5 -16 years) throughout the Riverina Region Trainers (League Safe, League First Aid, Level 1 & Level 2) are only permitted to access the field of play
 - After a try has been scored;
 - During a timeout called by the referee; and
 - In the event of an injury.
2. Trainers must not become involved in any match, including approaching or having any contact with players, other than in strict compliance with their specific role and responsibilities. Under no circumstances are trainers permitted to approach or become involved in an altercation or melee involving players from either competing team. This includes not attempting to separate or restrain players who may be attempting to become involved in the incident.

Note: Rugby League Laws of the game – International Level. A temporarily suspended player shall re-enter the playing field when permitted to do so by the Referee. The Referee shall be guided by the timekeeper if one is employed, otherwise the referee will determine the end of the suspension. This player is NOT to be regarded as a substitute.

Forfeits

If a side forfeits a game in the last 3 rounds of the competition, then that side will be deemed ineligible to participate in the Finals Series, unless exceptional circumstances are deemed to apply. In this instance, the team (or teams) sitting below them on the ladder at the completion of the competition rounds shall participate in the Finals Series.

The club forfeiting must notify the Member Group/ Division and opposing club before 8pm Thursday. Failure to do so may incur a fine.

The non-forfeiting team will receive a points differential that equates to 25 for 0 against.



Riverina Region 18 Month Policy

1. Players who wish to be considered for the “18 month” provision must be born in the second half of the year (1st July to 31st December) and are able to play back in the same age the next season should they elect and are approved by the Member Group / Division Qualifications Committee. This player forfeits his right to play up an age, including the player’s true age competition, and cannot be considered for representative duties or any of the Group’s performance based awards.
2. In dual age competitions the player must be born between 1st September to 31st December.
3. In the Riverina Region the 18 Month policy only applies to tackle competitions.
4. Players that are turning 20 years of age in the calendar year are not eligible.
5. A player’s representative selection in other codes will be considered by the Qualifications Committee when ruling on eligibility.
6. Clubs have until the end of Round 2 to submit player’s names for approval to the Member Group / Division Qualifications Committee.
7. A maximum of 3 players per team are allowed to play under the 18 Month policy. If a team requests more than the allowed 3 players per team. They forfeit the right to play in the Member Group/division finals.
8. Players that play under the 18 Month policy must have the initials (PD) clearly marked next to their name on the team sheet for the first 6 rounds. Fail to comply may mean the player forfeits their right to continue playing under the policy.
9. Players that have been charged and found guilty of a 15-1 (a) Trips, kicks or strikes another player offence will forfeit their right to continue playing under the 18 month rule for the remainder of that competition and cannot be considered under this rule in the following season.
10. Qualifications Committee decision will be final.

Match Reviews

Written request (before 10am on the first business day after the match) may also come in the form of an email or SMS and be from the club President or Secretary.

In the event that a FIRST GRADE player has been dismissed or a review has been requested the importance of the video is significantly greater and the Member Group/Region requires FULL co-operation from the host Club to have the video available no later than 12.00 pm on the first business day after the Match.

If the Match Review committee receives multiple requests to review incidents from a particular match they may elect to review the whole game. Further “Notice of Charges” may occur whilst conducting a whole game review



Judiciary

Where possible a notice of charge will be sent to the player before 6pm on the first business day after the match. The judiciary will convene on the following Wednesday evening, at a time and venue stipulated on the Notice of Charge. If complications occur and a Notice of Charge cannot be sent out on the first business day after the match, the judiciary chair will determine the details of any hearing that may be required.

Suspended Players/Person

Any Player, Coach, Trainer or Spectator who is found guilty of breaching the Code of Conduct is not permitted to access any Bidgee Region Rugby League venue's on match day. This restriction applies to any defined boundary of the match day venue, including car parks within this boundary, which may be demarcated by a fence or where there is no fence, any other feature, natural or otherwise, which ordinarily would be accepted as the venue boundary.

When serving a suspension the player must serve a match/matches in the competition in which the player committed an offence. An exemption will be given for Schoolboy Rugby League and Group sanctioned events under the following terms -

- a) A gala day event with modified games will collectively count as one (1) match;
- b) full form matches (Schoolboy Cup, State Finals Matches) will count as one (1) match.

Group sanctioned events e.g. 9's, Preseason Cup matches may collectively count as one (1) match even if it's conducted over consecutive weeks.

Trials – A club trial doesn't count towards a players suspension. Only a player with 2 or less matches remaining on his/her suspension may be granted an exemption to play. If sent off during the trial the penalty (points) for the offence will automatically be doubled.

Referee Security

Ground Managers are to ensure that referees are not harassed during or after a game. Reports (complaints) regarding referees will be required to follow the same timelines as a Match Review. The report is to be signed off by the Club President or Secretary before being submitted.

Approaching a Referee

No-one should be approaching a Referee during or after a Game under the Code of Conduct. A captain can ask a Referee a question respectfully during a Game but should not expect to have a debate. After a Game Referees should not be **approached by anyone**, except to shake hands and thank them for their efforts.



Finals

In JRL Premiership Competitions throughout the Riverina Region. Time off will apply in all finals in the last 5 min of the second half and throughout the entire duration of the Grand Final. Time off will be judged by the referee.

The Secretary of the home team or host club (or an appointed Ground Manager) is responsible for outfitting the ground (goal post pads, corner posts, markers, clocks and hooters) the appointment of timekeepers (including a sin-bin timekeeper), the protection of referees, the starting time of matches, the notification of results and the general cleaning of the grounds and facilities after the game.

Drawn Games in Finals

In Junior Competitions (5 -16 years) & Senior League Tag Competitions.

In respect of matches in which scores are level at the end of regular time the following provisions shall apply:

- The Golden Point period will consist of an extra ten (10) minutes. 5 minute each half.
- If no points have been scored in the period of “golden point” then the winner shall be:

The team who scores the most tries. If equal -
the team who scored the first try. If no tries scored –
the team who scored the first goal. If no goals scored –
the team who receives the first penalty. If no penalties –
a toss of the coin

In Senior Rugby League Competitions (17+)

In respect of matches in which scores are level at the end of regular time the following provisions shall apply:

If scores are equal at the conclusion of normal time, a period of ten (10) minutes extra time (5 minutes each half) will follow

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

After the first half of five (5) minutes, the referee shall cease play and teams shall immediately change ends. The team that did not kick off to commence the initial half of extra time will kick off to commence the second half

If the scores are still level at the end of the ten (10) minute extra time period a further period of “golden point” extra time shall be played whereby play will continue on an unlimited basis until the first point/s have been scored to determine the winner of the match

- If a try is scored in this further period of extra time the conversion kick will not be permitted
- The commencement of this period of “golden point” extra time shall be determined by the toss of a coin as described under the Laws of the Game



Player Qualifications For Finals Series

For the purpose of finals series matches including semi-finals, finals and grand finals, a Player will be eligible for finals series matches in the Competition he played the majority* of his matches in throughout the season. *In the Riverina Region only players that have played three (3) or more games in that League can be considered.

Players that are under 18 years of age but have been playing Senior Grade Football are eligible for finals irrespective of the games played throughout the season.

In JRL Premiership Competitions throughout the Riverina Region a player who has been asked to “play up” in the finals must have played a minimum four (4) games for that team throughout the regular season.

The decision of a Member Group / Division (or its qualification committee) shall be final in respect of the eligibility of any Player to play in any Team for a Club in a final series.