SOUTH SYDNEY DISTRICT JUNIOR RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED

RULES & REGULATIONS

2022

Last updated at AGM 14th September 2020

Rule and Number	PAGE NUMBER
2. Definitions	1
3. District Uniform	2
4. General Conditions Governing the Competitions	2 to 6
5. Affiliation	7
6. Appeals	7
7. Rule Deleted at EOGM 22/3/10	8
8. Assumed Name	8
9. Blazers	8
10. Bye	8
11. Child Protection	8
12. Clearances	8
13. Code of Conduct	9
14. Competition	11
15. Conduct Panel	11
16. Disciplinary Provisions	11
17. Disqualification	12
18. District Club & District Representative Matches	12
19. District Club Players	12
20. Draw in Semi-Finals, Finals or Grand Finals	12
21. Entries	12
22. Fitness of Ground	12
23. Forfeits	13
24. Grading Committee	13
25. Indemnity	14
26. Judiciary Committee	14
27. Kicking Tees	15
28. Misconduct	15
29. Misconduct by Players	15
30. Mod League Judiciary Panel	16
31. Number of Players	17
32. Offending Players	17
33. Players from Other Competitions	17
34. Players Under Suspension or Disqualification	18
35. Players' Uniforms	18
36. Prize Money and Grants	18
37. Protests	18
38. Referees	18
39. Registration	19
40. Registration Cards	19
41. Registration Colours	20
42. Rough Play	20
43. Signature Panel	20
44. Team Sheets	20
45. Timekeepers	21
46. Tours	21
47. Value of Trophies	22
48. Voting rights of other districts playing in our comp.	22

SOUTH SYDNEY DISTRICT JUNIOR RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED
A.C.N. 051 393 992 A.B.N. 2105 139 3992

RULES & REGULATIONS 2020 (last update AGM 14th September 2020)

1. Each affiliated Club, member, official, player, coach and trainer associated with a Club agrees, as a condition of that association or registration with the League, to be, at all times, bound by the provisions of these Rules or such Rules as may be added or amended from time to time.

2. **Definitions**

(A) **"Affiliated Junior League Club"** is a Club consisting of teams and which has objects relating to the control, promotion, integration and fostering of participation and development of junior rugby league football in the district.

(B) **"Called up Junior Representative player"** is a player called into a Junior Representative squad subsequent to the final squad being decided to substitute for a player who due to unforeseen circumstances cannot, for a time, fulfil his playing obligation.

(C) **"Called up Player"** is a player called up to represent the District Club from the Junior League during the currency of a season. Irrespective of whether the player subsequently signs a Contract with the District Club he shall, for the remainder of that particular year of competition be classified as a "called up player".

(D) **"Club"** means any Junior Rugby League Club affiliated with the League in accordance with the Constitution.

(E) **"Constitution"** means the Articles of Association of the League.

(F) **"Contracted Player"** is a player who has signed an agreement for money or incentive to play Rugby League for a specified period of time.

(G) **"Delegate"** means the person selected by a Club to represent it in accordance with the Constitution.

(H) **"Delegates Meeting"** means a meeting of Delegates properly convened in accordance with the Constitution.

(I) **"District Club"** means the South Sydney Members Rugby League Club Limited (ACN. 118 320 684)

(J) **"First Grade Player"** is a player who has played a total of ten or more First Grade Competition matches in the Premier Competition conducted by the National Rugby League, or any other body sanctioned by that League, or in the event of a Country player, one who has represented at Group Rugby League level on ten or more occasions or a combination of both.

(K) **"Graded Player"** is a player under Contract to a District Club and shall include "Jim Beam" and Metropolitan Cup players or equivalent, but shall exclude National Youth Competition players

(L) "Junior Representative Player" is a player who is selected in a final squad to represent the League and District in any restricted age junior representative competition conducted by the N.S.W. Rugby League, or similar sanctioned body, during the currency of the season and may include State and Australian players selected from such competition.

(M) "Local Junior" is a player who played his last season of junior football in this league.

(N) "Local Club Junior" is a player who last played three years from the age of twelve years upwards with the one Club in this League.

(O) "Management Committee" means the Directors of the League.

(P) "The League" means the South Sydney District Junior Rugby Football League Limited A.C.N. 051 393 992 A.B.N. 2105 139 3992

(Q)"Voting Members" (i) Life members. (ii) Management Committee members. (iii) Vice Presidents. (iv) three representatives of the South Sydney District Rugby League Football Club Limited. (v) Two representatives of the South Sydney Referees Association. (vi) One delegate from each team registered in the year of competition, providing (ii), (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) are current financial members of both the League and the South Sydney Junior Rugby League Club Limited.

(R) "Words" of the male gender shall include those of the female and neuter genders and quoted in the singular form shall also have the plural meaning, where applicable.

(S) "Year" means a calendar year commencing on 1st January and ending on 31st December.

3. District Uniform

The representative uniform of the League shall be that of the District Club.

4. General Conditions Governing the Competitions.

(a) The various grades of the competition for the year shall be determined from the following age groups. Game durations shall be determined subject to team ages as recorded.

A Grade:	open age
A Reserve:	open age
2nd Division:	Restricted open age numbers with qualifying conditions to be defined.
21's	May attain the age of twenty-one years in the year of competition.
20's	May attain the age of twenty years in the year of competition.
19's	May attain the age of nineteen years in the year of competition.
18's	May attain the age of eighteen years in the year of competition.
17's	May attain the age of seventeen years in the year of competition.
16's	May attain the age of sixteen years in the year of competition.
15's	May attain the age of fifteen years in the year of competition.
14's	May attain the age of fourteen years in the year of competition.
13's	May attain the age of thirteen years in the year of competition.
12's	May attain the age of twelve years in the year of competition.
11's	May attain the age of eleven years in the year of competition.
10's	May attain the age of ten years in the year of competition.
9's	May attain the age of nine years in the year of competition.
8's	May attain the age of eight years in the year of competition.

7's	May attain the age of seven years in the year of competition.
6's	May attain the age of six years in the year of competition.

TIMES OF PLAY

A Grade	35 Minutes each way
A Reserve to U16's inclusive	30 Minutes each way
U15's, to U13's	25 Minutes each way
U12's, to 10's	20 Minutes each way
U9's to U5's	8 Minutes each quarter

(a1) Injury time shall occur only in the second half of Mod and International league matches and the final third of Mini League matches during the competition rounds. In any playoffs, semi, final and grand final matches injury time shall be allowed throughout the entire match including any extra time, where applicable.

(b) any player who

(i) being over the age of 25 years and a product of the League, has played more than 10 First Grade matches for the South Sydney District Rugby Football Club or

(ii) being under the age of 25 years and a product of the League, has played 30 or more First Grade matches for the District Club, or

(iii) has played First Grade football for a District Club other than the South Sydney Club, or

(iv) has represented his Group in the Country Rugby League Divisional Championships or Country against Sydney shall submit his playing record and seek the approval of the Management Committee to play before registration is effected.

Not more than three of any such players, who can only be considered for A Grade registration, shall be registered in any one team and the Management Committee shall be empowered to accept or reject any application for registration by a player in this category.

(b1) Any player who falls into the category encompassing Rule 4(b)(i),(ii),(iii),(iv), but has not Played at the level specified for a period of 8 years will not be included in the 3 players limited to register under rule 4(b), However, any such player can only register with the approval of the management committee and participate in A Grade only.

(c) Any player who participates in four or more First Grade competition matches during the currency of a season shall be ineligible, thereafter in that season, to return to play in any Junior League competition game, semi-final, final or grand final.

(d) A registered player in who has been called upon to represent the District Club in grade competition matches shall obtain the permission of the District Club in writing before returning to play in the League.

(e) Rule 4(e) deleted at AGM 2008.

(f) Teams participating in the A Reserve grade competition shall not be permitted to register any further players, nor include in their future line-up, players who have not participated in competition matches prior to final grading. The Management Committee may, in exceptional circumstances, grant exemption from strict compliance with this rule.

(f)(i) Automatic exemption to this rule applies to Clubs represented by both A and A Reserve grade teams.

(g) rule deleted at EOGM 14th March 2016

Rule Amended at the AGM on 14th September 2020

(h) "In instances where Clubs are represented by teams in both the A and A Reserve grade competition, to be eligible to play in the A grade semi-final series players must have participated in a minimum of five games during the competition rounds. **Any A Reserve grade registered player who has taken the field in more than three A grade games to be eligible to play in the A Reserve grade semi-final series must participate in a minimum of eight games in that grade during the competition rounds, INCLUDING three of the final five games played immediately prior to the commencement of the semi-final series."**

(i) A player registered in a team in any of the Grades A, A Reserve, Under 20's 18's or 16's who has been called upon to play in a higher grade during the season, shall not be eligible to play in a lower grade semi-final and grand final series unless he shall have played in a minimum of five matches in such lower grade during the preliminary rounds.

(j) Rule deleted at EOGM 19th March 2012

(k) Any National Youth Competition or District Club Graded player, to be eligible to participate in a semi-final, final or grand final series in the grade he is registered, must have played in at least 5 games in that grade during the preliminary rounds.

(l) No player who has represented a District Club, either as a graded or called up player, shall, thereafter in the same season, be eligible to play in competition rounds, or the semi-final, final and grand final series in A Reserve or second Division grades.

(m) Any player called up to represent the District Club during the currency of the season shall be required to have played in at least five competition games in the grade he is registered during the preliminary rounds to be eligible to participate in a semi-final, final and grand final series in that grade.

(n) Any player, graded or called up by the District Club or National Youth Competition team, wishing to play in the League shall, on every occasion, before being admitted to do so, present an appropriate Clearance, signed by the Chief Executive, Football Manager or Team Manager of the District Club or National Youth Competition team to the Ground Manager/League Official in charge of the game. The Ground Manager/League Official shall ensure the clearance is forwarded to the Chief Executive for tabling at the next Delegates meeting.

(o) No player who participates in a competition match for the District Club or in the National Youth Competition team shall be permitted to return to play in the League preliminary rounds thereafter the same weekend.

(p) Any Junior Representative player of the current year, to be eligible to play in a semi-final, final and grand final series in the grade he is registered must play in at least five games in that particular grade during the preliminary rounds.

(q) With the exception of Local Club Juniors no more than a combined total of three Junior Representative and District Club players, all of whom must be Local Juniors, shall be registered in any one team. The Management Committee may, in exceptional circumstances, grant exemption from this rule.

(r) Junior Representative and District Club players who are not Local Juniors but seek to register

in the League may do so, subject to these rules, providing no more than one such player overall shall be registered in any one team. The Management Committee may, in exceptional circumstances, grant exemption from this rule.

(s) For teams participating in the South Sydney Juniors competition, no more than three local juniors from any one club team are permitted to register with an individual team of another club without the permission of the Management Committee.
For teams participating in the SCC (Sydney Combined Competition), flexibility may be given, at the discretion of the football management committee, to ensure the sustainability of teams from within the SSDJRFL competition.
Local Club Juniors wishing to return to the club they are a local club junior at are excluded From the 3 players counted in this rule.

(t) Where two teams finish the rounds on equal points and a play-off is required to determine which team will play in the semi-finals, such match shall not count as a match which qualifies a player to play in semi-finals, finals or grand finals.

(u) Rule deleted at EOGM 19th March 2012

(v) To qualify to play in a higher grade semi-final, final and grand final series a player, must have played in a combination of at least five competition matches between the grade in which he is registered and the appropriate higher grade.

(w) To be eligible to play in a semi-final, final and grand final series for International players (A Grade to Under 13) in the grade he has registered a player must have played in (5) five or more matches in that grade during the preliminary rounds. To be eligible to play in a semi-final, final or grand final series for Mod and Mini League (Under 12 to Under 6) in the grade he has registered a player must have played in (4) four or more matches in that grade during the preliminary rounds.

(x) A player shall not play in a grade or division lower than that in which they are registered nor Play for a team in the same age group as his/her registered team.

(y) Rule deleted at AGM 26/8/13

(z) Any player who is a participating member of the "Junior Bunnies" squads, including anyone so selected from the under twelve's competition, is required to play for the club team selected from in the following year. In the event of that club not fielding a team in the relevant age group, or in the same higher division as the previous season in the following year, the Management Committee shall retain the right to grant exemption from this rule.

(aa) Any new or reforming Club shall not be permitted to register any player who represented another Club in the League the previous year. This rule shall remain in force for the first two years of the new or reformed Clubs participation in the Leagues competition unless the previous Club involved willingly issues a clearance to the player.

(ab) Teams participating in or re-graded to age divisions lower than first division shall not be permitted to register any further players, nor include in their future line up any player who has not participated in competition games prior to the final grading. The Management Committee may, in exceptional circumstances, grant exemption from strict compliance with

this rule.

(ac) Rule deleted at AGM 13/9/2010

(ad) The Rules of Mini and Mod League football shall be those detailed in the latest copyright edition of "NRL Junior Rugby League Laws: 6-12 years" with the following additions.

(i) Mini League players are not permitted to "backup" higher age groups.
(ii) Coaches for all non-competitive mini league age groups are permitted on the field for all matches. Coaches for U6 competitive teams are allowed on the field up to but not including the final three competition rounds, semis and finals. Coaches in all other mini league competitive teams are not permitted on the field and must remain behind the fence/roped off area for the entire season.
(iii) The option of footwear to be worn by mini league players are gym boots, joggers/runners or fully moulded sole football boots. No studs of the screw in type or spikes are permitted.

(ae) Rules for the A and A Reserve Grade competitions. The operation of the A and A Reserve Grade competitions is governed by these Rules and Regulations with the following additions to the existing rules.

(ae 1) A maximum of 30 registered players permitted per team, excluding any such players as allocated to individual teams in accordance with the portability agreement (i.e. South Sydney Rabbitohs, North Sydney NSW Cup) and temporary clearance arrangement (i.e. Sydney Roosters NYC). A maximum of 7 players may have their registration de-activated during the season, however, any de-activated player may only be re-activated on one occasion during that year.

(ae 2) Rule deleted at EOGM 11/3/13

(ae 3) If teams are on equal points at the end of the competition rounds, then Finals series placing would be determined by points for and against

(ae 4) All team Coaches are required to remain in the designated area set out next to their teams' bench for the duration of the game. No coach will be permitted to call out nor leave the designated area whilst the game is in progress

(ae 5) During any match where the points difference reaches 40, the losing team Manager may instruct the ground manager to immediately terminate the match and the ground manager shall immediately terminate the match. In such an event all players in the winning team who have signed on, whether they have taken to the field of play or not, shall be credited with a qualifying game.

(af) Providing a player plays in the junior league round immediately prior to and immediately following a wash-out round(s), then the wash-out round(s) will count as a "game played" for Semi-final series qualification purposes. In the case of a team having a Bye in the first or last round of competition, those players who play in the round immediately prior to or immediately following a Wash-out round, then the Wash-out round will count as a "game played" for Semi-final series qualification purposes.

(ag) Should a competition round be "washed out" then that round will be rescheduled at the discretion of the Football Management Committee.

(ah) A player who is backing up a higher age group must not take the field of play until all players from that age group have participated in the game in question for the minimum time required by the laws of the game.

(5) Affiliation

Each Club seeking to enter teams in a competition in any grade shall pay such affiliation fees as may be fixed by the Finance Panel prior to the first competition match of the year.

(6) Appeals

(a) The Appeals Panel shall consist of three persons selected by or including Directors of the South Sydney Members Rugby League Football Club Limited and shall hear appeals in accordance with these rules and regulations.

(b)(i) Any Club affected by a decision of the Management Committee may appeal to the Appeals Panel against that decision.

(b)(ii) Any Club affected by a decision of the Conduct Panel may appeal to the Appeals Panel against that decision.

(b)(iii) Subject to Rule 6(c) any player affected by a decision of the Judiciary Committee may, with the permission of his Club, appeal to the Appeals Panel against that decision.

(b)(iv) Any person may, with the permission of his Club, appeal to the Appeals Panel against any decision of the Conduct Panel affecting that person.

(c) An appeal may only be made under Rule 6(b)(iii) where:

(i) there is discovered evidence which was not available at the primary hearing before the Judiciary Committee and which could not have been discovered if all diligent searches and inquiries had been made by the appellant prior to the conclusion of the primary hearing; or

(ii) if the appeal is on the grounds of severity of sentence the penalty imposed at the primary hearing is a period of disqualification or suspension of twelve months or longer.

(d) The Appeals Panel may quash, uphold or vary the decision or penalty before it.

(e) An appeal shall not operate as a stay of proceedings or a stay of execution.

(f) The Management Committee may be represented at hearings of any appeal by a Member of the Management Committee.

(g) Any appeal must be lodged in writing signed on behalf of the Club and, in the case of a person or player, by that person or player personally and lodged together with a fee of $20.00 with the Chief Executive Officer of the League within seven (7) days of the date of the Judiciary Committee, Conduct Panel or Management Committee decision. The fee shall be forfeited if the Appeals Panel considers the protest or appeal frivolous.

(h) The Chief Executive Officer shall forward any appeal received by him to the Chief Executive Officer of the District Club within three days of the lodgement of the appeal.

(i) Any decision of the Appeals Panel shall be final and binding on all parties except in the case of a penalty of disqualification or suspension of twelve months or longer. The Club, or person or player affected by that penalty may appeal against the decision of the Appeals Panel to the Board of Directors of the South Sydney Members Rugby League Football Club Limited, who shall hear the Appeal on the ground of severity of the penalty.

Rule 7 Deleted at EOGM 23/3/2010

(8) Assumed Name

Any player playing under an assumed name must first register his correct name with the Secretary of the League. Players committing a breach of this rule will be treated as unqualified players for the purposes of the rules.

(9) Blazers

No person or Club wishing to purchase League Blazers shall do so without first seeking the approval in writing of the Management Committee.

(10) Bye

A team having a bye shall be awarded points on a win basis except in the case where that competition round is declared a "wash out" round and is not rescheduled. A bye shall not be taken into account for the purpose of determining whether or not a player has served a suspension and shall not count as a competition match for the purpose of determining a players' semi-final qualification.

(11) Child Protection

As per the New South Wales Rugby League child protection policy, all officials involved directly with children's teams must have a valid working with children check, have applied for one, or if exempt, have provided the club/league with a statutory declaration, undertaking and consent. No team will be granted entry into the competition until all appropriate officials have abided by this. Further to this, all clubs accept their role and responsibility under the NSW Rugby League child protection policy.

(12) Clearances

(a) A player transferring from any Club to another Club shall not be eligible to play for that Club unless and until he shall have been registered by the League.

(b) No such player shall be effectively registered with a Club unless and until he shall have produced a clearance from his previous Club.

(c) Such clearance shall be produced to the League meeting and noted in the Minute Book and Clearance File provided by the League.

(d) The Clearance File shall be tabled at each and every Delegates Meeting and be available for inspection by all Club Secretaries.

(e) Subject to the provisions of Rule 4 a player who has played in any competition outside the jurisdiction of the League shall furnish a clearance to the League prior to his being granted permission to play in matches under the control of the League. Such clearance may be in

electronic form from the District Administrator or their designate. The acceptance or otherwise of such clearance shall be at the discretion of the Management Committee and shall be reported to the Delegates Meeting and recorded in the Minute book and clearance file. This procedure shall include any player who is subject to the existing portability agreement which currently includes South Sydney District Club graded and/or NYC players, North Sydney NSW Cup players and the temporary clearance system that currently includes Sydney Roosters NYC players

(f) A player who has been registered with the League shall not, without the permission of the Management Committee, play in any other Rugby League weekend competition.

(g) The Management Committee of the League may at its discretion grant permission to a player to play for a Club after he has applied for a clearance from a previous Club but not before such clearance is presented to the League.

(h) Upon failure to issue a clearance being reported to it, the Management Committee may request the Club concerned to issue a clearance to the player or state its reasons for failing so to do. Failing receipt by the League within ten days of any stated reasons satisfactory to it or failure to issue a clearance the Management Committee may then issue a clearance which shall be valid notwithstanding any objection by the previous Club.

(i) rule deleted at EOGM 14th March 2016

(j) Teams that have participated in the previous seasons division 1 grand final in ages 6 to 17 cannot accept a player transfer from another division 1 team.
This rule does not apply to age groups where an increase of player numbers is required as per the laws of the game.

(13) Code of Conduct

(a) All persons attending matches controlled by the League do so with the permission and license of the League and not otherwise.

(b) All players, Coaches, Managers, Trainers, Members, Officials, Clubs and their Officials and Members, shall be bound by and comply with the Code of Conduct to be laid down by the League from time to time.

(c) Any such person refusing to comply with the Code of Conduct may be charged with misconduct by the Management Committee and dealt with in accordance with these Rules, Constitution and the Code of Conduct.

(d) No person attending a match controlled by the League shall:

(i) Use obscene or offensive language to any player, referee, touch judge, official or other spectator.
(ii) Enter the field of play during the course of a match without the prior approval of the Ground Manager appointed by the League.
(iii) Dispute the decision of a referee or touch judge.
(iv) Assault or act in aggressive manner toward any other person.
(v) Behave in anyway contrary to the spirit of, or best interests of the game.
(vi) Behave in anyway which disturbs the enjoyment of the game by any other person or

brings discredit to the League.

(vii) Act in any way as to exhibit racial intolerance either by language or conduct toward any other person.

(viii) Refuse to accept the reasonable instruction of the Ground Manager, Official of the League or relevant Club Official.

(e) Procedure to be adopted in the event of any of the aforementioned rules being contravened.

(i) The Ground Manager shall, wherever possible, and if considered necessary, report the offender to the Manager of the team who he is supporting.

(ii) The Team Manager must then enlighten the offender of this Code of Conduct.

(iii) The Ground Manager should record the relevant details as to the nature and time of the offence and the content of his report to the Team Manager on the reverse side of the team sign on sheet.

(iv) In the event of the inappropriate conduct continuing the Ground Manager should either ask the offender to leave the ground immediately or instruct the Team Manager to do so.

(v) The request by the Ground or Team Manager that the offender leave the ground and the time thereof is also to be recorded on the reverse side of the team sign on sheet.

(vi) Failure by the offender to comply with the Ground or Team Managers request the Ground Manager, at his sole discretion, may instruct the Referee to terminate the game.

(vii) In the event of no Team Manager being at the ground any request or instruction from the Ground Manager to an Official of that team or Club shall suffice.

(viii) Team Managers and/or Club Officials will afford the Ground Manager every assistance in identifying offenders.

(ix) Clubs will be held accountable for the conduct of their officials, members, players and supporters.

(x) Clubs which do not exercise control over their officials, members, players and/or supporters may be called upon by the League to accept responsibility for any offence committed by any of them.

(xi) In the event the match is so terminated full details relating thereto are to be reported to the Committee of the League.

(xii) The Committee, in adjudicating on the matter, shall take whatever action it deems relevant to the circumstances which may include the awarding of, or deduction of the points for the match and/or the following financial penalties:

(xiia) **First Offence:** A fine not exceeding $500.00 and/or loss of competition points and/or suspension of the offender from attendance at future games.

(xiib) **Second Offence:** The temporary suspension of the team and/or Club from the competition.

(xiic) **Third Offence:** Suspension of the team and/or Club for the remainder of the season or permanently.

(f) Abuse to any person, including Referees, Touch Judges, Officials and Players, by a Parent or guardian of a player may result in the registration of that player being cancelled.

(14) Competition

(a) The method of conducting the competition shall be decided by the Management Committee prior to the first competition match.

(b) Matches for the first round of the competition on a date to be fixed by the League shall be allocated by ballot.

(c) Competitions in all age groups and divisions from Under 9s and older shall be of a competitive nature and shall have semi-finals, finals and grand finals each year

(15) Conduct Panel

(a) The Management Committee shall appoint persons to the Conduct Panel, the functions of which shall be to adjudicate upon such matters as may be referred to it. Any 3 or more of such persons or a lesser number by consent of the parties appearing before it shall constitute a Conduct Panel in each case.

(b) The Function of the Conduct Panel shall be to adjudicate upon breaches of the Code of Conduct and any other matters which may be referred to it from time to time by the Management Committee.

(c) In exercising its function the Conduct Panel shall have the power to suspend, disqualify, fine or otherwise deal with a person found guilty, after due investigation, of any matter referred to it.

(d) A person or body, as expressly detailed in rule 13(b), required to appear before the Conduct Panel in relation to any allegation shall receive a written detailed account of such allegation at least forty eight hours prior to the scheduled hearing. Wherever possible the names of witnesses and/or other persons required to appear in relation to the allegation should be included in the written detailed account.

(16) Disciplinary Provisions

(a) The jurisdiction of the League extends to all members of the League and affiliated Clubs, registered Players, Coaches, Team Officials, Trainers, Referees Association and members thereof.

(b) No person shall be appointed, elected or engaged as a Coach, Trainer or to act in any other official capacity within a Club unless he shall forthwith be admitted to membership to the Club.

(c) Upon any complaint being made to it of any breach of these Rules or of conduct contrary to the policy or prejudicial to the interests or welfare or image of the League or of the game on the part of any member of the League or Club, player, member or associate thereof, the Management Committee shall have the power to cite such member, Club, player, member or associate thereof to appear before the Management Committee or Conduct Panel. The Management Committee or Conduct Panel may disqualify, suspend, fine or otherwise deal with any person, Club or member thereof which it finds after due to inquiry to have been guilty of such conduct.

(d) All fines, disqualifications or suspensions imposed pursuant to these rules shall operate throughout the League unless an appeal there from shall have been finally determined and allowed.

(17) Disqualification

A person whilst disqualified for any reason by the League shall not be eligible to hold any position or office within a Club or the League or the New South Wales Rugby League Ltd., Country Rugby League of New South Wales Inc. or the Australian Rugby League Ltd. or any of their affiliates.

(18) District Club and District Representative Matches

Every player required by the District Club to play in any fixture or by the League to play in any District Representative fixture or trial match shall make himself available and play as required. Any player who fails to make himself available when requested may be suspended by the District Club or the League.

(19) District Club Players

Players who have played for the District Club shall not return to the League in the same season at the completion of the District Club's competition except in accordance with these rules.

(20) Draw in Semi-Finals, Finals or Grand Finals

(a) In all competitions, A grade to U6 semi-finals, finals and play-offs for these competitions, all Grades will play golden point extra time. If no points are scored in the first 5 minute period of golden point, teams will change ends and the match will continue until a result is reached.

In all competitions, A Grade to U13, if matches are drawn in grand finals, a period of extra time will follow in the form of two 5 minute periods each way (straight turn around). If the game is still drawn after the two 5 minutes periods of extra time, teams will then play golden point extra time for a period of 5 minutes ONLY (after a 2- minute break) until a team scores a point(s). Should a game still be drawn both teams will be declared joint premiers.

(b) In the event of a draw at fulltime in any Mini or Mod League grand final no extra time will be played and the two participating teams will be declared joint premiers.

(21) Entries

(a) Prior to a date nominated by the Delegates Meeting all entries of teams shall be lodged in writing with the Chief Executive Officer of the League. The allocation of teams to respective competitions shall be made by the Management Committee.

(b) Delegates from a new team shall not be entitled to vote until its nomination or entry shall have been accepted by the League.

(22) Fitness of Ground

(a) The fitness of the ground to be played upon shall be decided on the field of play by the League representative in charge of the ground.

(b) The League will not entertain protests based on ground measurements.

(23) Forfeits

(a) In the event that a Club shall forfeit to its opposing team, points on a win basis shall be awarded to the team receiving the forfeit.

(b) For the purpose of qualifying for the semi-final, final and grand final series players in the team receiving the forfeit shall sign the appropriate "sign on sheet"(if the forfeit occurs at the ground on the day of the game). Any team upon forfeiting prior to the game day, the team receiving the forfeit shall supply team members for this game to a maximum of twenty names (U13 – A Grade) to the league office by the Wednesday following the forfeit.

(c) Any team, upon forfeiting on three occasions overall during the preliminary rounds, shall be excluded from participation in the competition thereafter in that year and be deprived of all points accrued.

(d) In the case of a suspended player a forfeit to his team shall count as one competition match for the purpose of his suspension.

(e) In the event of a team aged from 15 years to A grade forfeiting, without giving the opposing team at least one hours notice prior to the scheduled match starting time of such match, the forfeiting team shall be liable to a financial penalty of not exceeding $200.00. The Management Committee shall determine the extent of the fine, if any, after considering the reason for the forfeit and inconvenience caused to the other team. The Club Secretary of the team receiving the forfeit shall advise the Management Committee, in written detail and within seven days of such forfeit, the extent of any financial claim. Thereafter the Management Committee will adjudicate on the matter.

(f) Any team taking the field of play with less than the full complement of players shall be deemed to have forfeited should the number of players be reduced to less than the minimum requirement during normal playing time, and the game be terminated.

(g) **Rule Amended – AGM 26th August 2019**
This rule applies to the A & A Reserve Grade competition only.
The team receiving the forfeit will be credited with 30 additional "points scored". The forfeiting team will have 30 points removed from their "points scored" and will have $500 deducted from their team grant for each of the first 2 forfeits. Upon the third occasion, said team will be excluded from participating in the competition thereafter in that year. Should a forfeiting team not provide their opposition with a minimum of 1 hour notice prior to the scheduled match starting time, the non-offending Club shall advise the Management Committee of any financial claim. The Management Committee shall determine the extent of any financial recompense, if applicable.

(24) Grading Committee

(a) The Grading Committee shall consist of an appropriate number of members as determined from year to year by those eligible to vote pursuant to Rule 2(Q).

(b) The function of the Grading Committee is to assess the performances of teams from Under 6's to A Grade and endeavour to grade them in competitive divisions, subject to these rules. The final gradings will be presented to the Management Committee for approval.

(c) The regrading of teams will take place after 5 competition rounds have been played and will be final. Teams elevated to a higher division will be placed on the equivalent points/position of

4th place. Where for and against applies, the average for and against of the other 4th place team/s will determine the for and against of the elevated team/s.

(25) Indemnity

It is a condition of membership of and/or registration with the League by any person and each person acknowledges:

(i) membership is conditional on continued observance of and compliance with the provisions of these rules and the Constitution of the League.

(ii) he will accept the decisions and directions of the League and its Sub-Committees made in accordance with the Rules and Constitution of the League.

(iii) he will not during the currency of his membership or at any time thereafter should he cease to be a member take any court proceedings for damages for negligence, trespass, assault or breach of duty of care arising out of any act or omission of the League or any Club or Referee or Referees Association or any of their members, officials or employees, or for injury arising out of any game or training program under the control, direction or supervision of the League or any of its Clubs or Referees or in respect of any breach of the Constitution or Rules.

(iv) in the event of any person commencing any such proceedings against a member or sometime member of the League or any of its sub committees or the League itself or in the event of any such person or any organisation against whom or which proceedings have been commenced seeking indemnity or contribution from any of them, the member or sometime member bringing such proceedings for himself, his heirs, successors and assigns indemnifies and keeps indemnified all or any of the bodies or persons hereinbefore mentioned and any of their officials and employees against any order of the court or award for damages and legal costs and disbursements which may be awarded or ordered or given against them.

(v) the Indemnity herein contained may be pleaded in bar to any such proceedings aforesaid.

(vi) (a) the right, if any, of any member, coach, player official or employee of the League or Club to seek compensation against any other member, coach, player, official or referee or the League or any of its Clubs, or Sub-Committees for personal injury or death arising out of a match shall be limited.

(b) if any such person shall suffer any injury including death whilst engaged in training or playing the game of Rugby League and a cause of injury was the negligence, trespass, assault or a breach of other obligations imposed by law or any of their persons or bodies named in Clause 6(v)(a) then the liability of those persons or bodies is limited under any insurance policy held by the League and the amount which the insurer is liable to pay under the policy, or on the liquidation of the insurer, the amount which any of those persons or bodies can recover whichever is the lesser and/or the amount of insurance payable by the Sporting Injuries Scheme under the Sporting Injuries Insurance Act, 1978 and any policy of insurance he may have entered into on his own behalf.

(c) every such person agrees that this limitation of liability applies after the person making the claim ceases to be a member of the League or Club Teams on Tour – Conditions to be complied with visits to Country Centres and elsewhere.

(26) Judiciary Committee

(a) The Judiciary Committee shall comprise of, in total, four persons, they being either Life Members and/or Vice Presidents of the League. Three of such persons shall constitute the Tribunal, with the Chairman to be appointed there from.

(b) The function of the Judiciary Committee is to investigate and deal with reports by referees who have dismissed players from the field of play during a match conducted by the League and such other matters as may be referred to it by the Management Committee.

(c) In exercising its function the Judiciary Committee shall have the power to suspend, disqualify, fine or otherwise deal with a person found guilty after due investigation of any matter referred to it.

(d) Subject only to the right of appeal to the District Club the decision of the Judiciary Committee shall be final.

(27) Kicking Tees

Only kicking tees approved by the National and/or New South Wales Rugby Leagues shall be permitted for use in this league. Those currently sanctioned are the Steeden, Halligan 2000, Reliance, Rugby Tech and Devere brand kicking tees.
Ball boys and other minors are not permitted to take tees onto or retrieve them from kick-offs, although they can do so for goal kicks.

(28) Misconduct

(a) The Management Committee shall have the power to cite, deal with or adjudicate upon any complaint made to it of misconduct, or any offence considered detrimental to the policy, interest and welfare of the League. Any member of the League, Club or any member thereof, Referees Association and members thereof, registered Team, Player, Coach, Team Official, Trainer, or any person who participates in the conduct of a match on any given day may, in the event of a complaint being lodged, be required to appear before the Management Committee.

(b) Any such person, or body cited to appear before the Management Committee as aforesaid who does not appear shall be suspended from the League until such time as he or it does appear.

(c) In dealing with any member or Club in accordance with Rule 34(a) the Management Committee shall, after proper inquiry, be empowered to disqualify, suspend, fine or otherwise deal with such person or Club. The Management Committee shall notify such person or Club of its decision.

(d) The Management Committee may delegate its functions under this Rule to the Conduct Panel or Judiciary Committee which shall exercise all of the powers of the Management Committee in dealing therewith.

(29) Misconduct by Players

(a) A Referee who has been appointed by the League or by the Referee's Appointments Board to a match, shall, without delay, report to the League any incident of misconduct or foul play during the progress of that match which led to the dismissal from the field of play or sin binning of a player. Any player dismissed from the field of play shall be suspended from all matches until the report has been determined by the Judiciary Committee.

(i) Players sent off shall immediately leave the field of play, report to the match officials at the table and thereafter vacate the enclosed area or, if necessary, retire to the dressing rooms.
(ii) Players "sin binned" shall immediately leave the field of play in the direction of, and proceed promptly, to the official table. "Sin bin" timing shall commence when players exit

the field of play in the general area of the official table. Such players shall thereafter report to the official table and remain seated there with ground officials during remainder of the "sin bin" period. Failure to promptly proceed to the table or exiting the field elsewhere may result in time not being deducted.

(b) A Referee or Touch Judge who has been appointed to a match by the League or by the Referees Appointment Panel may report any incidents of misconduct by a player, irrespective of whether such misconduct occurred before, during or after such match irrespective of whether it shall have led to the player being ordered from the field or not.

(c) (i) Any report received by the League pursuant to sub clauses (a) and/or (b) shall be referred by the Chief Executive Officer to the Judiciary Committee.

(ii) Where the League receives a complaint from a Ground Manager, member of the Management Committee or a Club concerning the conduct of a player immediately prior to, during the course of, or immediately subsequent to a match in which the player registered with the League takes part and such conduct has not been the subject of a report to the League by the referee in charge of the match, the Chief Executive may call on the player concerned to appear before the Management Committee or the Conduct Panel to answer a charge that the conduct complained of constitutes conduct contrary to the policy or prejudicial to the interests, welfare or image of the League or the game. A complaint under this rule must be lodged with the Chief Executive no later than 5.00pm on the first business day following the date of the match which the conduct complained of is alleged to have occurred.

(iii) The Chief Executive Officer may at any time call on a player registered with the League to appear before the Management Committee or Conduct Panel to answer a charge, that that conduct, which he shall specify in such charge, by that player immediately prior to, in the course of, or immediately subsequent to a match in which the player took part constitutes conduct contrary to the policy or prejudicial to the interests, welfare or image of the League or the game.

(d) A player who has been reported to the League by a Referee or Touch Judge pursuant to these rules shall be suspended until the report has been determined by the Management Committee, Judiciary Committee or Conduct Panel.

(e) A Referee who has ordered a player from the field of play, or a Referee or Touch Judge who intends to report a player for misconduct which occurred during a match, must, immediately following the match, specifically detail the charge in writing in the "send off book", provision in which is made for a copy of the written charge to be made available to the player or his Team Manager. Prior to 5.00pm on the first business day thereafter the Referee and/or Touch Judge shall provide a full written statement, outlining the nature of the charge and all relevant circumstances, to the Chief Executive Officer of the League.

(30) <u>Mod League Judiciary Panel</u>

Any player sent from the field whilst participating in a Mod League Official trial, competition match, semi-final, final or grand final shall be interviewed by a special panel selected by the Management Committee or a member thereof. The interview will be convened as soon as practicable following the send off at a convenient location. The decisions of the special panel, which shall be empowered to clear, warn, caution or suspend the player, shall be final.

(31) Number of Players

(a) In the event of any team in 12's to A Grade, playing with more than thirteen players on the field at any one time, or the 9's, 10's or 11's playing more than eleven players at any one t time, or the 6's, 7's or 8's playing more than eight players at any one time, any match point scored until the discovery of that fact shall be disallowed and the Referee shall forthwith order the removal of such extra player from the field of play. In the event of a team not complying forthwith with any such order the Referee shall immediately award the match to the opposing team.

(b) If a team commences a match with less than the full complement of players it may fill the vacant place at any time during the match providing the player shall have signed the team sheet appropriately attired prior to the completion of the first half of the match.

(c) No team from 13's to A Grade shall be permitted to play unless a minimum of nine players take to the field of play at the commencement of a match. In the 12's a minimum number of eleven players are required to start the match. In the 9's, 10's and 11 year olds, a minimum number of eight players are required to start a match and in the 6's, 7's and 8 year olds six players are required for a match to commence.

(d) Any team not having the required number of players ready to take to the field of play within ten minutes of the scheduled starting time for the game shall forfeit the right to play.

(e) A team shall be allowed to substitute seven players on an unlimited interchange basis in the A Reserves to Under 13's. A Grade teams shall be allowed to substitute five players on an unlimited interchange basis. Exceptions to this would be any player who has been dismissed from the field of play or sin binned, providing such replacements do not exceed two at any one time. Such players should report to the nearest Touch Judge and not enter the field of play until the player being replaced has left the playing area.

(f) In those matches where the rules of Min and Mod League apply substitutes shall be allowed in accordance with those rules.

(g) Rule deleted at EOGM 17th March 2014.

(32) Offending Players

(a) Referees shall obtain the names of any player accused of misconduct from the Manager or Captain of the player's team and lodge a report with the Chief Executive Officer of the League prior to 5.00pm on the night of the Delegates Meeting next following the event.

(b) Any player dismissed from the field of play shall be notified by the Referee of the nature of the offence at the time of his dismissal and the Referee shall record such offence on the back of the player's signing on sheet which may then only be perused by the offending player's Team Manager or Club Secretary.

(33) Players from Other Competitions

(a) Except as hereinbefore provided or provided in the Constitution of the League, any player who has taken part in another competition shall not be permitted to play in the League competition in the same season without the permission of the Management Committee.

(b) Any professional Coach in any other competition other than those under the jurisdiction of the League shall not coach in the League in the same season without the prior approval of the Management Committee.

(34) Players Under Suspension or Disqualification.

(a) Any Club which permits any player to play whilst under suspension or disqualification shall lose the matches in which the suspended or disqualified player takes part and shall be rendered liable to disqualification or such other penalty as may be imposed by the Management Committee.

(b) A Club shall be entitled to protest under this Rule only in relation to a suspended or disqualified player from another Club playing against that Club and such protest shall be in writing and in the hands of the Chief Executive Officer of the League prior to 5.00pm on the Monday following the match.

(35) Players' Uniform

Players must appear in proper uniform, which shall consist of jersey with sleeves to the elbow or longer and the Club's registered colours, shorts, boots or shoes (which must not have spikes or studs or anything else which in the opinion of the Referee could be considered dangerous) and whole hose. The Referee shall report any infringement of this rule to the Management Committee.

Mini League players must appear in the proper uniform but shall wear moulded soled football boots, gym boots or joggers. The wearing of screw in type spikes and/or studs is not permitted.

(36) Prize Money and Grants

Any Club or team not fulfilling its obligations to the League, subject to these rules, shall forfeit all rights to prize money and grants.

(37) Protests

(a) Clubs intending to protest against a decision of a Referee or for any breach of these rules or of the Constitution shall notify the Secretary or Captain of the opposing team immediately after the match from which the protest arises.

(b) Protests must be lodged in writing specifying the nature of the complaint and be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer of the League not later than 5.00pm on the night of the Delegates Meeting next following the completion of the match.

(c) The Management Committee will adjudicate upon such protests as quickly as possible and notify all parties at the next Delegates Meeting of such adjudication.

(d) Appeals against any such adjudication shall be in writing lodged with the Chief Executive Officer of the League within 24 hours of notification of the decision.

(38) Referees

(a) A Referee shall be appointed in accordance with the League Constitution or failing such appointment, by the Chief Executive Officer of the League.

(b) In the event of the Referee so appointed shall not be in attendance within fifteen minutes after the time fixed for the commencement of the match, a Referee may be appointed by the Junior League Official in charge of the ground.

(c) The Management Committee may annul or award a match or order it to be replayed on the grounds of incompetence of the Referee on proof of his inability as Referee to control the teams or either of them.

(d) In the event of a referee abandoning any game, the Management Committee will after investigation, declare the winner of the game and allocate points to that side, declare the game to be a draw and allocate a point to both teams, decide no team has won the game and that no points will be allocated to either side or order the game to be replayed.

(39) Registration

(a) No player shall be registered after the 30th June in any one year.

(b) No player shall compete in any official trial and/or competition match unless and until he shall have been registered with the League.

(c) No Coach, Team Manager or Trainer shall officiate at any official trial and/or competition match until he has been registered with the League.

(d) Application for registration shall be made to the League in the manner approved by the Management Committee and shall include a photograph. In the case of a player, an original certified copy of a birth certificate, current passport or such other document as may in exceptional circumstance be acceptable to the Management Committee, as evidence of the player's age, shall be provided before registration is effected.

(e) A player shall not be registered with more than one Club in any season except with the permission of the Management Committee or unless the team with which he was first registered shall have withdrawn from the competition, in which case he might apply for registration with another team on or before the 30th June.

(f) With the exception of players representing the District, either by playing for the District Club or in Junior Representative teams or in other competitions authorized by the Management Committee, no player shall concurrently play for more than one Club and/or play in an outside competition.

(g) Players exempted under (39e) shall, apart from District Club or Junior representation or any other participation in outside competition authorized by the Management Committee, be bound by 39(f).

(h) A Club or team allowing an unregistered or unqualified player, or a player who is playing in two competitions without the Management Committee's sanction, whether or not the Club or Team is aware of this fact, shall be penalized two competition points for each winning match and one point for each draw in which the player participated.
A Club wishing to lodge an allegation/complaint/protest in relation to 39(h) of these Rules, shall adopt the following procedure: A Letter detailing the offence, signed by the Secretary of the Club lodging the complaint/protest, shall be forwarded in writing to the Chief Executive Officer of the League as soon as practicable after its occurrence. In the event the Club lodging the allegation/complaint/protest wishes to claim points for a proven breach of the rule, such letter must be in possession of the Chief Executive Officer by 5.00pm on the Monday night following the alleged breach."

(40) Registration Cards

All players seeking registration with the League shall comply with the registration requirements as outlined in 39(d) of these rules and supply a clearance, if necessary, before registration will be effected. No registration card will be issued unless all relevant requirements outlined in these rules are complied with.

(41) Registration Colours

The Secretary of each Club shall register its colours with the Chief Executive Officer of the League, and such Club's players shall appear in proper uniform in all matches. The Management Committee shall have power to refuse to register any uniform if not sufficiently distinctive, but upon registration of a uniform it shall not be worn by any other Club in the same Competition. Any Club ceasing to affiliate shall be deemed to have forfeited all rights to retaining its registered colours. A team whose players are incorrectly attired will not be permitted to take the field of play.

(42) Rough Play

(a) The Referee or any Official of the League shall, without delay, report to the Chief Executive Officer of the League any instance of rough or foul play or any instance of misconduct on the part of players or officials occurring during the progress of or after completion of a match, whether or not such misconduct shall have led to a player being ordered from the field of play.

(b) Any Club or Official of such Club refusing to supply the name of any offending person or player shall be guilty of an offence under these Rules.

(c) Any such report shall be forwarded without delay to the Management Committee for such action as it shall deem fit.

(43) Signature Panel

(a) The Signature Panel may from time to time visit grounds and inspect the players' signatures on the Team Sheets. The findings of the Panel shall be reported to the Committee for any action deemed necessary.

(b) Notwithstanding the absence of any protest or complaint from an opposing team the Management Committee may take such action as it deems fit in those cases where it ascertains that unqualified players are being permitted to play by a Club.

(c) A Birth Certificate or current Passport of any player to be registered, or such evidence as may in exceptional circumstances be accepted by the Management Committee, shall be produced prior to the player being registered. The Management Committee may call upon the player to verify his Birth Certificate and/or reproduce acceptable evidence of his birth date at any time.

(44) Team Sheets & Managers

(a) Prior to the commencement of each match the players of each team competing shall sign a Team Sheet under the supervision of a League Official. A maximum number of 20 players are permitted, unless otherwise specified, all of whom must sign on prior to half time in the designated game properly attired in their playing gear.

(b) The team manager or registered official must sit at the table during the entire game and remain at the table until the completion of the fixture and complete the following tasks:

- Complete the sign on sheet
- Check the cards of the opposing team
- Keep time with opposition manager
- Keep the score with the opposition manager and sign off on the score
- Managers must be a registered official for the club and wear ID at all times.
- Managers remain in charge of their teams until 10 minutes after the completion of the fixture.

(c) & (d) deleted at EOGM 26th March 2018
(e) Rule deleted at EOGM 17th March 2014

(45) Timekeepers

Official Timekeepers may be appointed for any games at the discretion of the Committee or its representative.

(46) Tours

The following conditions governing tours to country centres or elsewhere by Club and representative teams have been laid down by the League. These conditions must be rigidly observed, otherwise permission to tour will be withheld in the case of future applications by offending teams.

(a) All applications to visit country centres or elsewhere must be made to the Management Committee in writing.

(b) A bond of two hundred dollars ($200.00) must be lodged with each application.

(c) Applications from Junior teams must be supported by a covering letter from their Club Secretary.

(d) Applications for permission to visit country centres and elsewhere must be lodged for consideration by the League, not later than the Monday night prior to the weekend on which the visit is applied for.

(e) A written report must be submitted to the League, covering the tour, immediately the club returns to Sydney.

(f) References covering conduct must be presented to the League from the Hotel, Motel and/or Boarding House proprietors with whom the party was accommodated whilst on tour. These references are to be attached to the tour report, so that all documents relating to the tour will be lodged with the League simultaneously.

(g) When teams travel to country centres or elsewhere for one-day visits that do not involve overnight accommodation, they are required to submit a reference in relation to their conduct from the Secretary of the Club that they have visited, in lieu of the Hotel reference refereed to in Clause (f)

(h) All visits by Metropolitan teams to country centres must have the approval of the local group prior to such visits being made. It is the responsibility of the local clubs or teams to secure this Group approval, but Metropolitan clubs must satisfy themselves that approval for the visit has been obtained, before the trip is made.

(47) Value of Trophies

Winners' trophies shall be of a value to be determined by the Management Committee.

(48) Voting rights of other districts playing in our competition.

Clubs from other Districts with teams participating in our competition shall have voting rights, in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, on football related matters only. Persons so eligible shall be precluded from voting on and/or standing for positions within the League.