



RUGBYWA

2006 COMPETITION RULES

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1. CITATION

These rules shall be cited as the RugbyWA Competition Rules.

2. MEANING AND DEFINITIONS OF RULES

In these rules the following interpretations apply:

- a. **“Board”** means the Board of Directors of RugbyWA or any Committee to which it has delegated its authority.
- b. **“Club”** means one of the clubs approved by the Board to participate in any RugbyWA Competition known as 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade, 6th Grade, Under 19, Womens, Junior and Country.
- c. **“Competition”** means the annual Competition between affiliated clubs.
- d. **“Competition Manager”** means the person so nominated by the Board of RugbyWA or a Sub Committee thereof deemed responsible for the day to day operational management of the RugbyWA competitions.
- e. **“Competition Administrator”** means the person who assists the Competition Manager in the day to day administrator of the Competition.
- f. **“Registrar”** means the title of the person deemed responsible for the registration processes involved in all RugbyWA competitions for the purpose of these rules the Competition Administrator.
- g. **“Union”** means the Western Australian Rugby Union.
- h. **“WARURA”** means the Western Australian Rugby Union Referees Association.
- i. **“Participant”** means any player, coach, or official, or volunteer registered with the Australian Rugby Union.
- j. **“Judicial Committee”** means the Judicial Committee appointed by the Board of RugbyWA at the Annual General Meeting and voted in by those representatives of affiliated clubs in attendance.
- k. **“Match Day Controller”** means the club official as notified to the Union in terms of Club Day duties and responsibilities.
- l. **“Minor Premiership Series”** means those matches played under rule 8.

3. MATCHES

Every match shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the rulings thereon as published by the IRB including Under 19 and Seven a side variations, together with all by-laws, directives and judicial procedures of both the ARU and RugbyWA.

4. CONFIRMATIONS OF TEAMS

- a. By submitting the Team Confirmation, at the requested date set down by the Competition Manager, the Club agrees to abide by the Constitution and the Competition Rules applicable for the season in question.
- b. Each Team Confirmation must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of \$100 as part of the nomination fee and details of all coaching staff and their coaching accreditations and/or certificates.
- c. The Board in its absolute discretion may invite Clubs to apply for admission and in its absolute discretion may admit clubs to the competition.
- d. The Board will determine the grade or grades in which a Club may compete in any one year in accordance with the type of Competition approved by the Board. A Club wishing to appeal against a grading must lodge a Notice of Appeal with the Competition Manager within seven (7) days of grade notification.
- e. After acceptance of the grading for the season, a Club withdrawing a team from a grade will be liable for the team fees for that team, unless the Board after consideration of the circumstances exercises its discretion to waive the fees.

5. REGISTRATIONS OF PLAYERS AND COACHES

- a. Each club shall ensure that all its players, coaches and officials are properly registered on the official form prescribed by the Australian Rugby Union and that the responsible club officials properly counter signs each registration.
- b. A person shall be eligible to play for an Affiliated Club in a match conducted or controlled by the Union only if he or she registered as a playing member of that Affiliated Club for that year.
- c. A person shall be eligible to coach for an Affiliated Club in a match conducted or controlled by the Union only if he or she registered as a coach of that Affiliated Club for that year.
- d. All Registrations must be entered on MyRugbyAdmin by the Club no later than 5 days after that player has completed the registration form.
- e. Each original registration form must be sent to the Competition Administrator and the club must retain a copy.
- f. The Competition Administrator shall keep and maintain details of all players, coaches and officials including the name of the Club to which they belong.
- g. Each Club Affiliated to the Union shall:

- 1) Provide annually to the Union, 1 week prior to the first competition match, a completed registration for each of its playing and coaching members.
 - 2) Provide to the Competition Administrator by noon on the next working day following the match, a completed registration form for each additional playing or coaching member joining subsequently.
- h. Should the Competition Administrator object to any proposed player or coach's registration the Competition Administrator will, without delay, advise the Club concerned that the player must not play or the coach must not coach until the objection has been resolved. If the player has played or coach has already coached then the Club concerned will be considered as having played an unregistered player or engaged a non-registered coach.
- i. In the event of a club permitting an unregistered player to take part in any game, the club will lose four competition points for the grade in which the unregistered player participates, or in the event of any club failing to enter the registration form on Rugbynet hereof, the club will be fined a pre determined amount as set by the Board.
- j. Each club is responsible to the Competition Manager and the Board that the information supplied on each registration form is correct. If it can be proved to the satisfaction of the Board that any material statement is incorrect, the player and/or club concerned shall be liable to suspension and/or penalty at the Board's discretion.
- k. The registration files shall be available for inspection for approved purposes at the offices of the Union during regular office hours.

6. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS AND COACHES

- a. Senior players must be 18 years of age to be eligible to play in any open age competition.
- b. A player who, on the 1st January in any competition year, is under 19 years of age or has turned 17, upon proof of age being provided to the Union, is eligible to play Under 19s Grade. Proof of age must be provided to RugbyWA by noon on the last working day prior to the match, before the player participates, and may be provided in the following ways:
- 1) Photocopy of passport or drivers license showing photo and date of birth:
 - 2) Certified copy of birth certificate or extract of birth certificate: or,
 - 3) Original birth certificate or extract sighted and copied by RugbyWA.
- c. When a player fails to play in a representative team for which he or she is selected on a particular day, he or she is ineligible to play for his Club in any grade on that weekend in the competition.
- d. In order to participate in the competitions conducted by RugbyWA:
- 1) All 1st Grade coaches must, as a minimum, hold a current ARU Level 2 coaching accreditation or are in the process of being assessed.
 - 2) All Under 19s and 2nd Grade coaches must, as a minimum, hold a current ARU Level 1 coaching accreditation and register for an ARU Level 2 coaching course within 12 months of being appointed.

- 3) All other coaches must, as a minimum, have attended a Foundation Seminar.
 - 4) All coaches must be Smart Rugby compliant.
- e. Where a Club contravenes this sub-rule, the Club shall be deemed to have forfeited the match that the ineligible player or coach participated in.

7. TRANSFERS

- a. No player shall play for any Club other than the Club of which he or she is a registered, player unless and until he or she first is transferred.
- b. A player registered with a club in Western Australia in a year of Competition may only change clubs with the written permission of RugbyWA. Such applications must be made on the appropriate form provided by RugbyWA.
- c. No application for transfer shall be granted within Western Australia after the completion of the first half of the competition draw in any year. Unless that player is on a professional contract with RugbyWA and the ARU and it is in the best interest of that player, decided by the Union.
- d. No permission to play will be granted to a registered player of another Union unless he or she produces the written consent of that Union on the appropriate form provided by the IRB or the ARU.

8. COMPETITIONS

Competitions conducted by RugbyWA will be in accordance with a schedule of matches drawn up by the Competition Manager or a delegated authority or affiliate body and approved by the Board and/or a Sub Committee thereof prior to the start of the playing season and varied as necessary from time to time.

8.1 TIMINGS

- a. The Competition Manager shall direct the start time of all matches and grounds to be played on.
- b. A team that is not able to start a match within five minutes of the appointed time may forfeit the match unless the Referee is satisfied there were reasonable grounds for the failure or delay. Every effort should be made to play the game. The Competition Manager shall fine a Club \$100 for a team which wilfully delays the start of a game for longer than five minutes.
- c. With the agreement of the participating Clubs, Referees and RugbyWA, games may be scheduled to be played at night under lights under the following conditions:
 - 1) The standard of lighting conforms with the approved safety standard for football codes, namely AS 2560.2.3
 - 2) Players who participate in night matches will not be eligible to play in lower grade matches that are conducted after the night match within the same round of fixtures. This excludes those who were replacements or substituted players.

8.2 COMPETITION SCORING

- a. The record of a team in the Competition is compiled by the aggregated competition points it obtains, an award of four (4) points being made for a win; two (2) points for a draw; one (1) bonus point for a loss within 7 points or less; one (1) bonus point for a team scoring 4 tries or more; one (1) bonus point for a team awarded a match by forfeiture. A team with a bye fixture (except in the case of a Competition Bye) shall be awarded four(4) points plus one (1) bonus point and have twenty five (25) for and zero (0) against points awarded.
- b. Where two or more teams of the same grade obtain an equal number of competition points, the better or best record is that of the team having the higher or highest ratio of points scored by it to points scored against it in the aggregate (called “the percentage”) during the preliminary matches of the Competition.
- c. The Club Championship shall be decided by ascertaining the Club with the greatest number of points being the aggregate of the following products, namely:
 1. 1st Grade Competition points x by 5
 2. 2nd Grade Competition points x by 4
 3. Under 19s Competition points x by 4
 4. 3rd Grade Competition points x by 3
 5. 4th Grade Competition points x by 3
 6. 5th Grade Competition points x by 2
 7. 6th Grade Competition points x by 2
 8. Womens Competition points x by 2
- d. Where a team is moved from one grade to another by the Board the team shall retain all points gained at the time of grade transfer. Where a team is moved from one grade to another at the request of that Club, the team shall not be entitled to retain any points gained at the time of transfer.

8.3 CONDUCT OF MATCHES

- a. Every competition match shall be played in two halves with the interval not exceeding five minutes between each half.
- b. Subject to 8.3.c, a half shall be:
 1. 1st Grade 40 minutes plus injury time
 2. 2nd Grade 35 minutes no injury time
 3. Under 19s 35 minutes no injury time
 4. 3rd Grade 35 minutes no injury time
 5. 4th Grade 35 minutes no injury time
 6. 5th Grade 30 minutes no injury time
 7. 6th Grade 30 minutes no injury time
 8. Womens 30 minutes no injury time
- c. Where a match is to be followed by that of a higher grade, on the same pitch, it shall end five minutes prior to the time appointed for the start of the next match.
- d. Players being replaced either temporarily or for the remainder of the match must notify the referee and no player may enter the playing area without the permission of the referee.

- e. All player movements to and from the playing area can only be enacted when the ball is dead AND with the permission of the match Referee. This permission is to be delegated through the Touch Judge. NB: The ball is NOT dead during penalty and free kick activity.
- f. Two medical attendants only per team may be allowed on the pitch whilst the game is in progress provided that they do not impede the conduct of the game.
- g. An adequate supply of fluid should be made available to players during a match, so that appropriate levels of hydration are maintained. For this purpose the following will apply:
 - 1) Two attendants only per team are permitted to enter the field of play.
 - 2) Attendants may only enter the field of play during a bona fide stoppage (i.e. a stoppage for injury or when a try is scored).
 - 3) Attendants may not enter the field of play during an attempt at penalty goal.
 - 4) Attendants must wear distinctive clothing and must be of at least high school age.
- h. In all matches, teams shall provide at least five players who are suitably trained to play in front row positions. If a suitably trained front row player is not available, **in the interests of safety**, the game shall proceed with non-contestable scrummages. If non-contestable scrums are awarded during a match due to a team's failure to provide the minimum number of suitably trained front row players, the result of the match may be reviewed by the Board or a sub committee thereof.
 - 1) This review will take into consideration a report from the referee, the impact non-contested scrums had on the result and the spirit in which the situation occurred.
- i. The Board shall decide the make and type of ball to be used in all Competition matches.
- j. In the event of uncontested scrums being awarded **for any reason**, it is the responsibility of the referee to record on the team sheet the elapsed match time, the score at the time of awarding uncontested scrums and the reasons for awarding uncontested scrums.

8.4 TEAM SHEETS AND MATCH RESULTS

- a. At the end of every match each team shall give the referee an authentic list (the team sheet) of the names of the players who took part - already signed by a representative of that team.
- b. Replacement players shall be recorded on the team sheet **only** if they take the field of play as a substitution or permanent replacement. In the event that a replacement player takes the field of play as a temporary replacement, the recording of this movement shall be made on the team sheet beside the letters T.Rep. Should this temporary replacement become a permanent replacement, (either as a result of the original movement or a subsequent one), a further entry on the team sheet must be made beside the letters Rep. to record this player's eligibility.

- c. The referee, on being satisfied that all the details recorded on the team sheet are correct, shall complete the following:
 - i. The total points for each team, making sure that the “make-up” of each final score tallies correctly.
 - ii. The details of any temporary and/or permanent suspensions occurring during the match are recorded on both team sheets, including alleged foul play.
 - iii. A report on the particulars of the field and, if necessary, comments that the referee deems necessary to be drawn to the attention of the Competition Manager.
 - iv. The names of the two (2) accredited Touch Judges.

On the satisfactory completion of the above, the referee must record his or her name and sign the team sheet as being accurate.

- d. A copy of a completed team sheets is to be received at RugbyWA by no later than 12 noon on the first working day following the match. Original team sheets, if not delivered prior to 12 noon are to be in the possession of the Competition Administrator by 5pm on the Wednesday following the match.
- e. RugbyWA shall review each team sheet to determine player eligibility.
- f. The team deemed to be the hosting club is responsible for telephoning match results to RugbyWA by 6pm on the day of the match.
- g. The above rule 7.4.f is for teams that are playing away from their home ground but are drawn as the home team in the competition draw as it is published.
- h. If a Club contravenes any sub-rule, the Club shall be fined an amount determined from year to year by the Union and approved by Council.

8.5 FORFEITURE OF MATCHES

- a. If a Club were to forfeit a match on any particular day other than by disqualification, it is to field the Club team, (not being the Under 19s Grade or 6th Grade teams) of the succeeding lower grade for the match that would otherwise be forfeited, with the intent that the match to be forfeited shall be that of the lowest grade team of the Club, excluding the Under 19s Grade and 6th Grade teams. A Club that contravenes this sub-rule is deemed to have forfeited every match (other than that of the Under 19s Grade and 6th Grade) played by it on that day in a grade lower than it in fact forfeited.
- b. The Board may disqualify a Club or team that forfeits three or more matches in any one grade in the same season, and, upon its disqualification, the succeeding matches fixed to be played by the Club or team in that grade during the balance of the season are deemed to be forfeited.
- c. Where a Club or team forfeits a match, whether by virtue of its disqualification or otherwise, the match is deemed to have been won by the opposing team against which the match would, but for the forfeiture has been played, by a margin of twenty five (25) points to nil (0).
- d. Clubs are required to contact RugbyWA by 10am on Friday before a scheduled match is to take place if they are not able to field a particular team in a particular grade and a forfeit shall be recorded. Clubs who do not contact RugbyWA within this time frame will be issued with a \$110.00 penalty.

8.6 PLAYERS UNIFORM

- a. Every player taking part in a competition match shall wear the approved club jersey, shorts and socks. Players taking part in a competition match shall wear on the back of their jersey a distinguishing number. Such numbers shall be a minimum length of 150 millimetres and of such colour as to be easily discernible within a reasonable distance of the match.
 - 1) No two players shall wear the same numbered jersey on the playing field at any one time.
 - 2) The distinguishing number shall correspond with the information supplied by the club on the team sheet submitted to the Competition Administrator for that match.
- b. A Club contravening this rule is liable to a penalty not exceeding \$50.00 for each offending player.
- c. A player does not commit an offence against this rule by reason only of replacing a jersey damaged during the course of play with a jersey bearing an alternative number, provided that the alternative number is not worn by any other player of his or her side.

9. GROUND PREPARATION

- a. The playing field is to be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Ropes shall be placed no less than 5 metres from the touch line, with both touch lines of the playing enclosure roped or fenced, unless dispensation is granted by the Board. Goal post pads and ropes must be in place prior to the commencement of the game.
- b. Clubs must provide adequate first aid support for their teams at all playing venues. Stretchers shall be provided by the home team (with the exception of matches held at Rugby Park whereby RugbyWA will provide stretchers) and be readily accessible to the playing area.
- c. Clear access must be provided for emergency vehicles.
- d. A player is not permitted to dig the ground for the purpose of taking a kick. A kicking tee or sand shall be used. The home Club shall be responsible for providing sand for such purpose.
- e. Where a Club contravenes this sub-rule, the Club shall be fined an amount determined from year to year by the Union and approved by Council.

10. MATCH OFFICIALS

- a. There shall be a referee for every match:
 - 1) who shall be appointed by or under the authority of the Union, or
 - 2) where no such referee has been appointed or fails to arrive, a substitute may be agreed on by the teams, or
 - 3) Where agreement cannot be reached, the referee shall be appointed by the home team.

- b. If the referee is unable to officiate for the whole match a replacement shall be appointed as directed by the Union, or if not so directed, by the referee, or if unable to do so, by the home team.
- c. In respect of all matches, the referee appointed or agreed upon, must:
 - 1) Have a current Australian or other recognised Rugby Union refereeing accreditation or be in the process of attaining the appropriate accreditation, having completed the theoretical component of the referee course.
 - 2) Have completed, signed and submitted an ARU registration form for that season (or in the case of a visiting referee have insurance cover from their own Union) and
 - 3) Be a current member of the WARURA.
- d. Each club will endeavour to provide an ARU Level 1 accredited Touch Judge for each match, (except 1st Grade).
- e. Touch Judges for 1st Grade matches, and matches for the Final Series, will be appointed by the Referees' Association under the authority of the Union.
- f. Where a Club contravenes this sub-rule, the Club shall be fined an amount determined from year to year by the Union and approved by Council.

11. FINALS

11.1 Times and Venues

- 1. The Competition will be decided by the playing of Semi-Final and Grand Final matches in a manner directed by the Board. All finals matches will be played at venues and commence at such times as determined by the Competition Manager.
- 2. All teams competing in a Final Series match must lodge with the Competition Administrator by 10am on the last working day prior to the match, an official RugbyWA Team List for the purpose of Rugby Park entry and the determination of Player Eligibility.
- 3. Where, at the end of a Finals match the scores of the teams are equal the referee shall direct the teams immediately to change ends and play 2 periods of 10 minutes each way with a 1 minute interval between each period. If there is still no result, the match shall, except in the case of a Grand Final match, be awarded to the team that finished higher in the Competition Table. In the case of a Grand Final the trophy shall be shared.
- 4. In Under 19's Final Series there shall be no extra time. If at the end of the match the scores are equal the match will be awarded to the team who finished higher in the Competition table. In the case of a Grand Final the trophy shall be shared.
- 5. Where a Club contravenes this sub-rule, the Club shall be fined an amount determined from year to year by the Union and approved by Council.

11.2 FINALS ELIGIBILITY

- a. A player is not eligible to play for any Club in Finals matches in any grade unless:
- b. He or she is registered with that Club and has competed in at least 3 matches in separate rounds in that season, (excluding contracted professional players with the Union).
- c. He or she has played the majority of his or her games in that team or in a team in a lower grade :
 - 1) for the second half of that season, or
 - 2) where no games have been played for the second half of that season, the first half of that season, or
 - 3) where clubs have more than one team in a grade. The player will be graded to the team where he or she has played the majority of his or her games.
 - 4) except in the case of Under 19, where at the discretion of the Competition Manager, splits the Competition into Under 19 Division 1 and Division 2. If this occurs players in Division 2 will be eligible to play in Division 1 in the Final Series, however a Division 1 player will not be eligible to play in Division 2.
- d. If a player plays more than one match (other than as a replacement or substitute) in any Competition round, he or she shall be graded according to one match, which shall be the highest grade in which he or she played during that round. The order of grading shall be 1st Grade, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade, 4th Grade, 5th Grade, 6th Grade, Under 19.
- e. If after having played a game in a lower grade, a player takes the field as a replacement or substitute in a higher grade, his or her grading will be the original match in which he or she played.
- f. Clubs with teams playing in successive grades (excluding Under 19s) at the same venue on the same day in Final Series matches shall be allowed to select teams from players available for each of these grades. A player whose eligibility is deemed to be graded in the higher grade may be selected and play in the lower grade, but is not permitted to play in the higher grade unless he or she is a replacement or substitute player. Also, a player whose eligibility is for the higher grade and is selected in the higher grade cannot be a replacement or substitute in the lower grade.
- g. Playing an unregistered or ineligible player in the Finals matches will disqualify the offending team from all finals matches.

11.3 DISPENSATIONS

- a. Clubs seeking dispensation for players to participate in Finals matches in a team that they are otherwise ineligible to play for, must apply in writing to the Competition Manager for dispensation by 12 noon on the Wednesday prior to the match. Clubs will be advised by 5pm on the Thursday prior to the match on the result of the dispensation application. Applications for dispensation that fall outside these time requirements will only be considered in extenuating circumstances.

- b. Dispensations will only be granted for the purposes of safety or to compensate for ineligibility caused by representative commitments or through injury to players for the duration of the finals series.
- c. Breaches of the conditions of dispensation or the provision of false information will disqualify the offending team from all finals matches.

12. PROTESTS, DISPUTES AND APPEALS

- a. Subject to the Constitution, the Board or a sub-committee thereof as referred by the Competition Manager, shall hear and determine all protests, appeals, complaints and disputes that relate to the Competition or any match of the Competition.
- b. A member of an Affiliate Club or Body may make a complaint to the Competition Manager regarding the conduct of persons not under the control of the referee.
- c. A Club may protest to the Competition Manager against the actions of any Club or player that is contrary to these Rules.
- d. A Club or member of the Union wishing to protest, appeal or make a complaint shall notify the Competition Manager in writing within seven (7) days of the occurrence.
- e. All parties to such matters shall be given the opportunity to speak at the hearing.

13. APPEALS AGAINST COMPETITION MANAGER

- a. A Club or person affected by a decision of the Competition Manager under the powers conferred by the Board, or under these rules, may appeal to the Board against that decision in writing within two business days from receiving notification of the decision.

14. GENERAL

- a. A Club or person contravening these rules is liable, where no other penalty is expressly provided, to a penalty not exceeding \$50.00.
- b. The Board may impose any penalty provided by these rules and in default of payment of a monetary penalty, may disqualify the defaulting Club or person or exclude it or him from the Competition.

15. NOTIFICATION OF COMPETITION RULE CHANGES

- a. A copy of the Competition Rules shall be sent to each Affiliated Club/Association within one month of ratification by the Council.

16. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

- a. A player may be temporarily suspended with the following effects:
 - 1) Player shall remain with Team Manager for 10 minutes (5 minutes for Under 19 Grade) on the team bench.
 - 2) The 10 minutes DOES NOT include the half-time break (with the exception of Under 19 Grade).
 - 3) The suspension time shall be kept by the referee.

- c. The referee shall report on the Team Sheet, the name, number and club of the player as well as the type of offence and the time of which it occurred.
- d. The Competition Administrator shall record the temporary suspension and following three (3) temporary suspensions in a season, shall advise the player and club that he or she is suspended from playing for one playing date.

17. ORDERING OFF

- a. Where a Referee orders a participant off the playing enclosure by reason of an act or acts of illegal and/or foul play, the Referee shall lodge, unless other arrangements have been made, no later than 12 noon on the first working day following the match with the Referee Manager, on the forms provided by RugbyWA, a written report of the circumstances of the ordering off.
- b. The Australian Rugby Union Judicial Procedures for Australian Domestic Rugby Competitions, with any necessary modifications apply to the Competition and participants: see Annexure 'A'.

18. CITING

Where a participant commits misconduct, an act or acts of illegal and/or foul play which have not been detected by match officials, the Australian Citing Procedures for Australian Domestic Rugby Competitions, with any necessary modifications apply to the Competitions and participants: see Annexure 'D'.

19. APPEALS

- a. There shall be a right of appeal to an Appeals Committee from any decision of the Judicial Committee by a person affected by such a decision.
- b. The Australian Rugby Union Appeals Procedure for Australian Domestic Rugby Competitions, with any necessary modifications apply to the Competition and participants: see Annexure 'E'

20. MISCONDUCT

- a. Clubs and participants must conduct themselves in a disciplined and sporting manner and ensure that they do not commit an act or acts of misconduct.
- b. The Australian Rugby Union Code of Conduct By-Laws apply to the Competition, clubs and participants: see Annexure 'F'.
- c. The Australian Rugby Union Breach of the Code of Conduct Procedures for Australian Domestic Rugby Competitions apply to the Competition, clubs and participants: see Annexure 'G'.

21. FEES AND FINES

AFFILIATION FEES

Clubs	\$605.00
Affiliated Bodies	\$275.00

TEAM NOMINATION FEES

1 st & 2 nd Grade	\$385.00
3 rd , 4 th , 5 th & 6 th Grade	\$330.00
Under 19	\$220.00

PLAYER REGISTRATION (PER PLAYER)	\$6.60
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TOURING FUND CONTRIBUTION

1 st & 2 nd Grade Competition	\$1,200.00
3 rd , 4 th , 5 th & 6 th Grade Competition	\$495.00

FINES FOR 2006 SEASON

Playing an unregistered player	\$55.00
Failure to enter Registrations on My Rugby Admin	\$22.00
Failure to enter correct players on the team sheet	\$110.00
Failure to phone through match results	\$22.00
Failure to sign team sheet (referee and/or club official)	\$22.00
Team Sheet late or not received at RugbyWA	\$22.00
Failure to report forfeit to RugbyWA within time frame	\$110.00
Failure to submit Team List within time frame	\$22.00
Wilfully delaying start of match	\$100.00
Ground poorly marked	\$22.00
No goalpost pads	\$55.00
No or inadequate roping of ground	\$110.00

**RUGBYWA
2006 COMPETITION RULES**

Annexure 'A'

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS – CODE OF PROCEDURE

The procedures should be read in conjunction with the International Rugby Board Regulation 17 Illegal and/or Foul Play and Misconduct and the RugbyWA Code of Conduct,

This document sets out the procedures for dealing with the following disciplinary matters:

- a. When a Participant is Ordered Off the playing enclosure;
 - I. Where a referee orders a participant from the playing enclosure by reason of misconduct the referee should **unless other arrangements have been made, no later than 12 noon** on the first working day following the match, lodge with the Referee Manager on the forms provided by RugbyWA, a written report of the circumstances.
 - II. A participant who has been reported under this rule is suspended until the report has been considered and finally dealt with by the Judicial Committee and the Club shall forfeit any match in which the participant participates in whilst suspended.
- b. When a Participant is cited for an act or acts of Illegal and/or Foul Play;
- c. When a Participant has been Temporarily Suspended three (3) times in accordance with RugbyWA Competition Rules;
- d. When an act or acts of Misconduct may have been committed by a Union, Player or Person.

1. ATTENDANCE AT HEARINGS

- a. Any participant ordered off or notified of a citing, shall without further notice, attend the next meeting of the Judicial Committee. The Judicial Committee will meet on Wednesday immediately following the match. In the event a participant fails to attend the meeting of the Judicial Committee, the participant is automatically suspended from all matches pending his/her appearance. Unless reasonable notice of non appearance (including reason) is given to RugbyWA prior to the appointed meeting of the Judicial Committee, that committee may impose such additional suspension as it considers appropriate as penalty for the participant's failure to attend as required.
- b. Only in exceptional circumstances should the matter be dealt with in the absence of the participant; and when necessary, the committee should accommodate the participant by postponing the hearing. The participant shall be entitled to be accompanied by a senior member of his/her club and/or legal representative. In addition, if he/she wishes to bring witnesses, he/she will generally be allowed to so.

2. PROCEDURE AT HEARINGS

a. Composition

The Judicial Committee shall comprise at least three (3) persons nominated by the relevant Union, and where possible should include at least one suitably qualified member of the legal profession. No person who is a member of the governing union or other affiliated organisation responsible for the management of either Team participating in the match nor any person who is a full-time paid employee of a National or Member Union shall be eligible for appointment as Chairman or member of a Judicial Committee.

b. Power to regulate own procedure

The procedure of the Judicial Committee in all such proceedings shall be as the Judicial Committee shall determine in each case, but subject to this power to regulate its own procedures it shall generally conform with the procedures stated in these procedures.

c. The procedure prescribed should be directed at ensuring that there will be fair hearings, and should include elements that normally should be dealt with in the following sequence:

1. The procedures to be followed at the hearing should be explained clearly by the Chairman of the Committee to all present.
2. All who are entitled to be present throughout the hearing should attend during the taking of the evidence and when submissions are made.
3. The Committee shall read the referee's report and touch judge's report, if provided.
4. Evidence/submissions shall then be heard on the following sequence:
 - i. Evidence from the participant, if he/she so chooses
 - ii. Evidence from his/her witnesses (if any).
 - iii. Submissions (if any) by a senior member if his/her club and/or his/her legal representative.
- d. Those giving evidence shall be subject to questioning from any member of the committee. There shall be no right of the participant to cross-examine the referee (or touch judge).
- e. In addressing the factual conflicts, it must be remembered that pursuant to Law 6.A.4 (a) in the Laws of the Game Rugby 2005, the referee is deemed to be the sole judge of fact as to the events which occur on the playing enclosure. Where there is a conflict in the evidence before the committee that it is unable to resolve, in its discretion it may adjourn the hearing for the purpose of obtaining further evidence that may assist in resolving the dispute. However, in the event of the referee's account of the incident remaining in conflict with the players' account, pursuant to the Laws of the Game, the referee's account must be accepted, unless the committee is comfortably satisfied on the evidence that the referee's reason for his decision were wrong.

A participant, if he/she wishes, may tender his/her evidence to the committee in writing. Similarly, witness' evidence may also be tendered in writing.

f. At the conclusion of the evidence and submissions, the committee shall deliberate in private.

- g. A member of the committee who has a conflict of interest in dealing with the participant before the committee shall disclose the conflict and act in such a manner as he/she and/or the committee considers appropriate.

3. EVIDENCE ADMISSIBLE AT HEARINGS

- a. Hearsay evidence

Hearsay evidence, i.e. second-hand accounts of what occurred, and evidence not given at the hearing, shall generally not be admitted and considered by the committee in reaching its decision.

- b. Video tape/DVD evidence

- I. The committee has the sole discretion to determine if it shall accept evidence by video/DVD.
- II. The committee shall decide what weight should be attached to the video/DVD evidence produced.
- III. If there is a dispute on the facts, the video/DVD may be shown again on as many occasions as are considered necessary by the committee, and at any speed, in an endeavour to clear up the factual conflict. The committee, in its discretion, shall determine if and when the video/DVD shall be replayed.
- IV. The audio sound shall be muted when the video/DVD is shown. Preferably, the video/DVD should be shown in total silence, but the committee may, in its discretion, decide whether there shall be any comment by those present while it is being shown.
- V. The committee may inform the participant of the nature of any observations it has made from the video/DVD evidence.

- c. Character evidence

Character evidence shall be admissible on in relation to the penalty to be imposed by the committee.

- d. Previous incident evidence

In the case of a participant having previously appeared before the committee within three (3) years, the previous incident(s) shall be relevant, but only in relation to the penalty to be imposed by the committee.

4. VARIATION TO CHARGE

- a. If, during a hearing, it becomes evident that the participant may have committed an offence, that participant not having been charged with that offence or having being charged with another offence, the Chairman may adjourn the proceedings.
- b. The committee is empowered to alter or add to the initial charge or to substitute an entirely new charge based on facts reported in the initial charge.

- c. The participant should then be given the opportunity of answering that charge. An adjournment of the proceedings, if sought, may be granted if necessary.

5. PROCEEDINGS NOT TO BE INVALIDATED FOR TECHNICAL REASON

No proceedings heard by any Judicial Committee or Board sub Committee shall be quashed or held invalid by any committee by reason only of any defect, irregularity, omission or other technicality, provided the committee is satisfied there has not been a miscarriage of justice.

6. NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

- a. The participant must be told, without delay the decision of the committee that conducted the hearing. The decision initially may be given orally and brief reasons for reaching it should be given.
- b. The Judicial Committee shall provide a written report to the Union no later than 2 working days after the hearing.
- c. In all cases where a participant is in any way adversely affected by the decision of the committee, he/she must be advised that he/she has a right of appeal to be lodged with the Competition Manager within the time prescribed by the Unions Appeals Procedures.
- d. A comprehensive record of the hearing before the committee shall be kept and be made available to the Appeal Committee.

7. SCHEDULE OF RECOMMENDED PENALTIES

- a. Each case must be treated on its merits and any penalty imposed must be seen to be fair and equitable and in accordance with the circumstances of the case and in accordance with natural justice.
- b. Recommended sanctions for offences within the playing enclosure are found in the RugbyWA Schedule of Recommended Penalties and the RugbyWA Schedule of Pre-Determined Sanctions: see Annexures 'B' and 'C'.
- c. Except in clear cases of mistaken identity or where the referee states he/she may have made a genuine mistake and the Judicial Committee makes a finding pursuant to Clause 5 of this Code, the Judicial Committee has no power to find "no case proven" and it can therefore decide upon only one or other of the following, namely:
 - I. No further punishment additional to the appearance before the Judicial Committee;
 - II. That the player be cautioned or severely cautioned as to his/her future conduct; or
 - III. That a period of suspension be imposed.
- d. The effect of any sanction/suspensions may not be suspended by a Judicial Committee.

**RUGBYWA
2006 COMPETITION RULES**

Annexure 'B'

CRIMES ACT

SANCTIONS TO BE APPLIED FOR ON-FIELD INFRINGEMENTS OF LAW 10-FOUL PLAY

OFFENCE	LAW	PENALTY	REPEAT
Obstruction	1 (a)-(g)	P	B
Waste Time	2 (b)	F	B
Wilfully throw / knock ball to touch, touch-in-goal or dead ball line	2 (c)	P	B
Intentionally offending	2 (a)	P,B	B,S
Repeat infringements	3 (a)-(d)	B	S
Striking			
1. One on one – punching	4 (a)	B,S	S
2. Blind, 3 rd man in	4 (a)	S	
3. After whistle – continuing on	4 (a)	B,S	S
4. Otherwise striking	4 (a)	B,S	S
5. Retaliation	4 (j)	B,S	S
6. Head butting	4 (a)	S	
7. Use of elbow	4 (a)	B,S	S
8. “Christmas” hold	4 (k)	S	
9. Eye gouging	4 (k)	S	
10. Biting	4 (k)	S	
11. Kneeing	4 (a)	B,S	S
4		S	
All Under 19 and below Striking Offences			
Kicking opponent	4 (c)	S	
Tripping opponent	4 (d)	B	B,S
Trample: Head	4 (b)	S	
Body or legs near ball	4 (b)	B,S	S
Body or legs away from ball	4 (b)	B,S	S
Tackle:			
Early (incl player off ground)	4 (e) (h)	P	B,S
Late	4 (e)	P	B,S
Reckless (not dangerous)	4 (e)	P	B,S
Dangerous – Above shoulder	4 (e)	B,S	S
Shoulder charge	4 (g)	B,S	S
Stiff Arm	4 (e)	B,S	S
Defenceless opponent	4 (e)	B,S	S
Flying/spear tackle	4 (e)	B,S	S
Charge or obstruct kicker	1 (a)	B	S
Hold, charge, obstruct, grasp opponent	4 (f)	P,B	B,S
Front row charging	4 (i)	P,B	B,S
Front row wilful lifting	4 (i)	P,B	B,S
Wilful scrum collapse	4 (i)	P,B	B,S
Ball out of play	4 (l)	P,B	B,S
Misconduct prejudicial to good sportsmanship	4 (k)	P,B	B,S

Note:

- P** = Penalty Kick and Admonish
- B** = Penalty with Caution & Sin Bin
- S** = Penalty with Send Off
- F** = Free Kick

Otherwise Striking may include the use of the forearm or the open hand.

Kicking is defined as a forward action of the boot, contacting with the toe or instep.

Trampling is defined as: using the soles of both feet in a continuous downward movement

Stamping is defined as: using the sole of one foot in a downward motion whilst the weight is on one foot.

SCHEDULE OF RECOMMENDED PENALTIES

RECOMMENDED PENALTIES FOR ON AND OFF FIELD MISCONDUCT

OFFENCE	LAW REF	MAX PENALTY	RECOMMENDED PENALTY
Punching or Striking an Opponent Dangerous (provoked or unprovoked) Other	10(4)(a)	2 years	5 - 8 weeks 3 - 4 weeks
Stamping or Trampling an Opponent Dangerous Other	10(4)(b)	5 years	7 - 9 weeks 3 - 6 weeks
Dangerous use of Boot on an Opponent		6 months	2 - 12 weeks
Kicking an Opponent Dangerous Other	10(4)(c)	5 years	7 - 9 weeks 3 - 6 weeks
Tripping an Opponent Dangerous Other	10(4)(d)	2 years	4 - 6 weeks 1 - 3 weeks
Dangerous Tackling of an Opponent Dangerous Other	10(4)(e)	2 years	4 - 6 weeks 1 - 3 weeks
Head Butting	10(4)(a)	Life	7 - 9 weeks
Eye Gouging or contact with the eye area	10(4)(k)	Life	24 - 30 months
Biting	10(4)(k)	Life	18 - 24 months
Other Forms of Manhandling Dangerous Other	10(4)(k)	2 years	4 - 6 weeks 1 - 3 weeks
Testicle grabbing or twisting or squeezing	10.(4)(k)	Life	6 - 18 months
Verbal abuse of opponents whether based on Race, creed, colour or otherwise	10.(4)(k)	Life	2 - 12 weeks
Spitting at opponents	10.(4)(k)	12 months	4 - 12 weeks
Offences involving Referees and Touch Judges Any deliberate bodily act Threats - actions or Words Abuse Repeated Infringements (3 sin bins)	10(4)(k) 10 (3) and Domestic Safety Law Variations	Life Life 10 weeks 8 weeks	2-3 years 6 - 12 months 4 - 6 weeks 1 week (Min and Automatic)
NOTE: Unless stated , The above are not minimum penalties. Any aggravating or mitigating features must be taken into account.			

**RUGBYWA
2006 COMPETITION RULES**

Annexure 'C'

PRE-DETERMINED SANCTIONS

PRE-DETERMINED SANCTIONS OR 'EARLY PLEA'

1. The club and/or participant will be notified of the foul play for which he/she has been sent off through the medium of the RugbyWA Send Off Report Form on the Monday following the match;
2. He/she will also be advised at this time whether he/she qualifies for the imposition of a pre-determined sanction – styled 'early plea', and
3. If a player wishes to take an early plea, the participant or his/her Club must register this intention in writing with RugbyWA by 3.00pm on the Tuesday following the match.

CONDITIONS

1. The eligibility of a participant for a pre-determined sanction is contingent upon the foul play falling within the 'minor' offence category – as noted on the RugbyWA Send Off Report Form – styled the 'penalty threshold'.
2. If a participant elects to take an early plea, he/she will be subject to the penalty set out in the Schedule of Pre-determined Sanctions.
3. Participants will have the opportunity to elect to take an early plea once every 2 seasons within RugbyWA competitions.
4. If a participant has been sent from the field or cited previously with disciplinary consequences imposed within a two (2) year period, including automatic suspensions under RugbyWA Competition Rule 11.c he/she will not have the opportunity to elect to take an early plea, and
5. The 2004 and 2005 rugby seasons to be included in the determination of whether a player is eligible to elect to take an early plea.

RIGHT TO JUDICIARY COMMITTEE APPEARANCE

A participant eligible for an early plea may, nevertheless, elect to appear before the RugbyWA Judicial Committee. In these cases, he/she will be liable to have imposed such sanction as the Judiciary Committee sees fit, taking into account the Schedule of Recommended Penalties.

SCHEDULE OF PRE-DETERMINED SANCTIONS

OFFENCE	LAW REF	PENALTY / SANCTION
▪ Punching or striking an Opponent	Foul Play Law 10.4(a)	2 weeks
▪ Stamping or trampling an Opponent	Foul Play Law 10.4(b)	3 weeks
▪ Kicking an Opponent	Foul Play Law 10.4(c)	3 weeks
▪ Tripping an Opponent	Foul Play Law 10.4(d)	1 week
▪ Dangerous tackling	Foul Play Law 10.4(e)	1 week
▪ Other forms of foul play	Foul Play Laws 10.4(f), 10.4(g), 10.4(h), 10.4(i), 10.4(j), 10.4(k) and 10.4(l)	1 week

In respect of send offs involving two temporary suspensions, ("yellow cards") (see Foul Play Law 10.5(b), the participant is required to attend a Judicial Committee hearing. The participant may still be eligible for a pre-determined sanction if he/she comes within the penalty threshold.

**RUGBYWA
2006 COMPETITION RULES**

Annexure 'D'

CITING PROCEDURES

These procedures apply for those matches where Citing Commissioners are not appointed and are therefore in accordance with IRB Regulation 17.

There are two distinct methods by which players may be cited to appear before a Judicial Committee to answer complaints that they have committed acts of illegal and/or foul play not detected by match officials.

1. CITING BY NOMINATED OFFICIALS

- a. Each Union, Affiliated Club or Body participating in a Union sanctioned match may cite a player for an act or acts of Illegal and/or Foul Play committed during that match provide that such alleged act or acts has or have not been detected by the referee and/or touch judges. (IRB Regulation 17.6.3.a)
- b. The person reporting the citing must be a Nominated Official.
- c. For the purpose of the Citing Procedure, Nominated Officials are:
 - I. An office bearer of the union pursuant to the constitution;
 - II. A President of an Affiliated Club or Body
 - III. Any member of an affiliated Referee' Association or a Affiliate's Referee Association;
 - IV. Such members of Committees or Sub-Unions as authorised by the Union.
- d. Each Affiliated Club or Body participating in a match may cite a player for more than one alleged incident of Illegal and/or foul Play in the same Match.
- e. Each Affiliated Club or Body participating in a Match may cite more than one Player in any Match.
- f. A citing complaint must be completed in writing by a Statutory Declaration delivered by hand, fax or post to the Competition Manager no later than 5.00pm on the second working day after the completion of the match. Any supporting evidence must accompany the complaint.
- g. Upon receipt of the Statutory Declaration, a report will be obtained from the match referee to ensure that the matter had not already been detected or dealt with during the match. (i.e. a citing is not intended to be an opportunity to re-referee an incident or its interpretation if already detected and acted upon).
- h. The Competition Manager (The Board of Directors Nominee) should first satisfy himself/herself that there is sufficient or reasonable evidence of prima facie case to justify a citing prior to a hearing date to be determined.
- i. The Club of the cited player will be provided with a copy of the citing complaint and advised of the time, date and venue 2 working days prior of the hearing of the Judicial Committee to consider the complaint.

2. CITING BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR ITS NOMINEE

- a. The Union Board or its nominee has the power to cite a player for an act or acts of illegal and/or foul play committed during a sanctioned match regardless of whether or not such alleged act or acts has or have not been detected by the match official.
- b. The citing complaint must be in writing addressed to the cited players club and shall advise a time, date and venue of the hearing of the Judicial Committee to consider the complaint.
- c. The citing complaint must be made by 31st December of the calendar year in which the Competition takes place.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS RELEVANT TO CITINGS UNDER BOTH THE ABOVE PROCEDURES.

- a. The hearing of the citing complaint shall occur substantially in accordance with the procedure prescribed in the Judicial Procedures.
- b. Any penalties imposed shall be substantially in accordance with those set out in the Judicial Procedures.
- c. The cited player may continue to play until the date set down for the hearing of the citing complaint by the Judicial Committee.
- d. If the cited player fails to attend the hearing on the date nominated, he/she is suspended from playing until such time as he/she attends a hearing on the date mutually agreed by the player and the Judicial Committee.

**RUGBYWA
2006 COMPETITION RULES**

Annexure 'E'

APPEALS PROCEDURES

These procedures should be read in conjunction with the International Rugby Board Regulation 17.

1. RIGHT OF APPEAL

The right of appeal is to the Board, which may appoint an Appeals Committee. The appeals committee shall be conducted not by way of re-hearing but is limited to consideration of the severity or inadequacy of the sanction imposed by the Judicial Committee.

2. COMPOSITION OF APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Appeals Committee will comprise of the Board of Directors or a sub-committee of the Board of Directors appointed for that purpose.

3. POWER TO REGULATE OWN PROCEDURE

The Appeals Committee shall have power to regulate its own procedure but shall generally conform to the procedures referred to in this part of these procedures.

4. COMMENCEMENT OF APPEAL

An appeal shall be commenced by the lodging of a notice of appeal in writing with the Competition Manager of the Union.

5. NOTICE OF APPEAL

An appeal to the Appeals Committee shall be invalid unless it is lodged in writing with the Competition Manager before 4.00pm on the second working day after the decision of the Judicial Committee.

6. CONTENTS OF NOTICE

The notice of appeal shall be in writing from the participants club lodging the appeal and shall specify:

- I. The name of the person lodging the appeal;
- II. The decision appealed against;
- III. The date of the decision appealed against; and
- IV. The specific grounds of the appeal.

7. RECORD OF FIRST PROCEEDINGS

On lodgement of the appeal, the Competition Manager of the Union shall make available to the Appeals Committee the record of the proceedings before the Judicial Committee.

8. HEARING DATE

The Appeals Committee shall set a time, date and place of hearing of the appeal which shall be notified by the Competition Manager of the Union to the party who has lodged the appeal. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall remain in effect pending the hearing of the appeal.

9. POWER TO ADJOURN

The Appeals Committee shall have power to postpone or adjourn the hearing of an appeal.

10. REPRESENTATION

The Appellant may be represented before the Appeals Committee by a representative of his/her club and/or legal counsel.

11. FURTHER EVIDENCE

If in its discretion the Appeals Committee admits further evidence to be adduced at a hearing, there shall be no cross-examination of witness/witnesses.

12. DELIVERY OF DECISION

The Decision of the Appeals Committee shall be advised as soon as practicable after the conclusion of the hearing. Where it considers it appropriate, the Appeals Committee may deliver a short oral decision at the conclusion of the hearing, or it may reserve its decision.

**RUGBYWA
2006 COMPETITION RULES**

Annexure 'F'

AUSTRALIAN RUGBY UNION

CODE OF CONDUCT BY-LAWS

1. INTERPRETATION

In these By-Laws:

'ARU' means the Australian Rugby Union Ltd;

'Bookmarker' means a person or organisation in the business of receiving, negotiating, or settling bets;

'Competition' means any match played as part of a structured competition or series, a trial match, a friendly match, a match against a visiting team from another union or matches, trials or any other competitions involving a Rugby Body;

'Game' means rugby football

'Laws of the Game' mean the Laws of the Games of the International Rugby Board;

'Member Union' means a union in membership of the ARU;

'Officer' means a director, other officer or employee of the Rugby Body;

'Participant' means a player (including an amateur or non-contacted player), a referee, touch judge or other match official, a selector, coach, trainer, manager or other team official, or an individual involved in the organisation, administration or promotion of Rugby Football including a director, other officer or employee of a Rugby Body;

'Rugby Body' means the ARU, any Member Union or Affiliated Union of the ARU, or any Rugby Union, Club or other body in membership with or affiliated to a Member Union or Affiliated Union;

'Rugby-related Conduct' includes behaviour which occurs outside the playing enclosure that may damage the image of Rugby Football or which may impair public confidence in the integrity and good character of participants, including, but not limited to, conduct during travel to or from either Rugby Football games or authorised tours (whether within Australia or overseas), conduct when on tour, conduct at Rugby functions and promotional events and other conduct where a participant is involved in activities connected with the ARU or its sponsors;

Words in the singular include the plural and vice versa; and a reference to a gender includes other genders.

2. OBJECT OF BY-LAWS

The ARU is committed to promoting and strengthening the positive image of Rugby Football and its participants in Australia. In light of this commitment, the Code of Conduct seeks to establish standards of performance and behaviour to ensure that participants act in a professional and proper manner and to ensure that the game is played and conducted with disciplined and sporting behaviour. The Code of Conduct also seeks to deter all on-field and Rugby-related conduct that could damage the game of Rugby Football by impairing public

confidence in the honest and orderly conduct of matches and competitions or in the integrity and good character of participants. In addition, these By-Laws seek to ensure that every Participant is liable to effective sanctions if they are found to have breached the Code of Conduct.

3. CODE OF CONDUCT

All participants in the game are bound:

- a. not to bet or otherwise financially speculate, directly or indirectly, on the outcome or on any other aspect of a Rugby Football match or Competition which he or she is either involved in (whether as a player, official or in any other capacity) or connected to;
 - I. not to throw or fix a match, try to achieve a contrived outcome to a match or a Competition, or otherwise influence improperly the outcome or any other aspect of a match or a Competition'
 - II. not to provide information to a Bookmaker about a match or any aspect of a match which he or she is either involved in (whether as a player, official or in any other capacity) or connected to;
- b. not to seek or accept a bribe or other benefit to do anything mentioned in subparagraphs (I) or (II);
- c. to report immediately to the ARU any offer of a bribe or other benefit to do anything mentioned in paragraph (I) and (II) or any attempt by any person to do anything mentioned in paragraphs (a), or (b);
- d. to promote the reputation of the game and to take all reasonable steps to prevent the game from being brought into disrepute;
- e. not to engage in any Doping Practice and defined in the ARU's Doping By-Laws;
- f. to comply with the ARU's Safety Directives for Referees, Coaches and Players;
- g. not to repeatedly breach the Laws of the game relating to Foul Play or Misconduct;
- h. not to abuse, threaten or intimidate a referee, touch judge, or other match official, whether on or off the field, or a selector, coach manager or other team official;
- i. not to show unnecessary obvious dissension, displeasure or disapproval towards a referee, touch judge or other match official, his or her decision or generally following a decision or generally following a decision of a match official;
- j. not to use crude or abusive language or gestures towards referees, touch judges or other match officials or spectators;
- k. not to do anything which is likely to intimidate, offend, insult or humiliate another participant on the ground of the religion, sexual orientation, disability, race, colour or national or ethnic origin of the person;
- l. not to conduct themselves in any manner, or engage in any activity, whether on or off the field, that would impair public confidence in the honest and orderly conduct of matches and competitions or in the integrity and good character of participants; and
- m. not to do anything which adversely affects or reflects on or discredit the game, the ARU, any Member Union or Affiliated Union of the ARU, or any squad, team,

competition, tournament, sponsor, official supplier or licensee, including, but not limited to, any illegal act or any act of dishonesty or fraud.

4. OFFICERS OF A RUGBY BODY

An officer must, in relation to the Rugby Body of which he or she is an officer;

- a. act in good faith and in the best interests of the Rugby Body;
- b. avoid all conflicts of interest between;
 - I. the interest of the Rugby Body; and
 - II. his or her own interests or the interests of any other person, including another Rugby Body; and
- c. not disclose to any person or use for his or her own purposes confidential information obtained as a result of the officer's relationship with the Rugby Body, including but not limited to deliberations of the board of directors or other governing of the Rugby Body.

5. DUTY TO COMPLY

Each Member Union and each Affiliated Union is obliged:

- a. to comply with, and to require Rugby Unions, Clubs and other bodies and persons in membership with it or affiliated to it to comply with, these By-Laws; and
- b. to adopt the Procedures for Monitoring and Disciplining Breaches of the Code of Conduct set out in the Appendix to these By-Laws for monitoring compliance with, and imposing sanction for breaches of, these By-Laws by participants under its jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of Rugby Unions, Clubs and other bodies in membership with it or affiliated to it.

A person may be an officer of more than one rugby Body, in which case it is important for that person to distinguish the separate capacities in which he or she acts as an officer, for example, a director of the ARU, when acting in that capacity, must act in the best interest of the ARU in preference to the interests of any other Rugby Body of which he or she is an officer.

APPENDIX TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT

PROCEDURES FOR MONITORING AND DISCIPLINING BREACHES OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

1. INTRODUCTION

The following procedures have been established in order to assist in providing uniform disciplinary procedures for alleged breaches of the Code.

2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

In this Appendix:

'Code' means Code of Conduct By-Laws

'Committee' means the Conduct Committee constituted by the Rugby Body to investigate and conduct hearings in the name of the ARU in relation to alleged breaches of the Code and to impose sanctions, ad constituted by the Rugby Body for the time being and for the purpose of hearing a particular matter;

'Contract Participant' means a participant who is currently receiving, or has received, Material Benefit;

'Guidelines' means any guidelines issued by the ARU in relation to these Procedures;

'Managing Union' means a Member Union which organises and supervises a particular competition or competitions;

'Material Benefit' means money, consideration, gifts or other benefits given to a participant in respect of such participant's participation in the game;

'Principal Rugby Body Representative' means the General Manager or President of the Rugby Body, or person acting in a similar or equivalent role;

'Procedures' mean these Procedures for Monitoring and Disciplining Breaches of the Code of Conduct;

'Senior Legal Practitioner' means a person who is admitted to practise law in Australia and who has at least five years experience in legal practice;

'State Union' means the highest level Managing Union in any State or Territory where an alleged breach of the Code occurs (eg. the NSWRU, QRU, ACTRU or WARU); and

'Tribunal' means the Conduct Tribunal established under clause 10 of these Procedures as constituted by the ARU from time to time.

Where words appearing in these Procedures have been interpreted or defined in the Code, the Code interpretation of definition shall apply;

Words in the singular include the plural and vice versa; and a reference to a gender includes other genders.

3. CONDUCT COMMITTEES

- 3.1 Each rugby Body must establish a Conduct Committee, which will have power to act in the name of the ARU to determine all alleged breaches of the Code by participants under its jurisdiction.
- 3.2 For the purposes of clause 3.1 where the Rugby Body is a:
 - a. Club; where the alleged breach does not occur at a Competition and the participant against whom the breach is alleged usually plays for, or is connected to the club, the club will be the rugby Body for the purpose of this Code;
 - b. a Managing Union; where the alleged breach occurs at a Competition organised by the Managing Union will be the Rugby Body for the purpose of this Code.
- 3.3 Each Committee shall consist of three participants of the Rugby Body nominated by the Principal Rugby Body Representative. The Principal Rugby Body Representative may nominate them self to be a participant on the Committee. One of the three participants must be appointed as Chairperson.

4. ALLEGED BREACHES OF THE CODE

- 4.1 Where a Rugby Body is notified by a participant, or for any other reason believes, that a participant under its jurisdiction may have acted in breach of the Code, it must, in a timely manner, notify:
 - a. the participant in respect of whom a breach has been alleged;
 - b. the relevant Committee,
 - c. the State Union; and
 - d. the ARU,of the nature of the alleged breach.
- 4.2 The notification required by clause 4.1 must be by way of a standard Code of Conduct Notification Form and must include particulars of the alleged breach.
- 4.3 Subject to clauses 8 and 9 the Committee:
 - a. must investigate the alleged breach of the Code;
 - b. may impose a disciplinary measure, in accordance with the Guidelines, taking into account any relevant aggravating or mitigating circumstances; and
 - c. must prepare a written statement of its factual findings, decision and reasons and provide copies of that statement to:
 - I. the participant in respect of whom a breach has been alleged;
 - II. the relevant Rugby Body;
 - III. the State Union; and
 - IV. the ARU.

- 4.4 The investigation referred to in clause 4.3(a) must be commenced as soon as reasonably practicable after the Committee receives notification of the alleged breach under clause 4.1
- 4.5 A Committee will have the power to regulate its own procedure. Subject to its obligation to give proper consideration to the matter before it, a committee should generally conduct hearings with as little formality, and with as much expedition, as is permitted by the nature of the matter.

5. ALLEGED BREACH BY CONTRACT PARTICIPANT

- 5.1 Where a Rugby Body becomes aware of an alleged breach of the Code by a Contract Participant under its jurisdiction, in addition to the obligations contained in clause 4, the rugby Body must ensure that the Chairperson of the relevant Committee is a Judge, a retired Judge or a senior legal practitioner with preference to be given to persons who have previous experience in proceedings relating to Rugby matters.

6. APPEAL

- 6.1 Subject to clause 6.5, a participant against whom a Committee has made an adverse finding pursuant to clause 4.3, may appeal to the Committee of the State Union against the decision, including any disciplinary measure imposed.
- 6.2 Written notification of an appeal under 6.1 must be received by the secretary of the State within five business days of the making of the adverse finding.
- 6.3 A State Union which receives notice of an appeal against the decision of a Committee must notify the ARU of that appeal within 2 business days of receiving such notice.
- 6.4 Subject to clauses 8 and 9, the State Union, on the expiry of seven business days from the receipt of notification of the appeal under 6.2:
 - a. may refuse to hear the appeal;
 - b. may conduct a fresh investigation of the alleged breach of the Code, however it may have reference to documents prepared by a Committee in the course of the initial investigation into the alleged breach;
 - c. may confirm, modify or dismiss decision of the Committee;
 - d. may confirm, modify or dismiss the disciplinary measure imposed, provided that any change to the disciplinary measure imposed takes into account the Guidelines and any relevant aggravating or mitigating circumstances;
 - e. must make a statement in writing stating its findings of fact, reasons and decision and send copies of that statement to the relevant participant, the Rugby Body and the ARU.
- 6.5 Any appeal against an adverse finding made by the Committee of a State Union must be made to the Tribunal adopting the same procedure set out in 6.1 to 6.4 above save for the substitution of 'State Union' with 'ARU'.

7. FURTHER PARTICULARS OF ALLEGED BREACH

- 7.1 If requested by the ARU, a rugby Body must send to the ARU a report detailing further particulars of the alleged breach of the Code.
- 7.2 The report in 7.1 must;
- a. be in writing;
 - b. provide any information requested by the ARU; and
 - c. provide any other information that the ARU would need to make an informed assessment of the nature and severity of the alleged breach of the Code.

8. STATE UNION INTERVENTION AND REPRESENTATION

- 8.1 Subject to clause 9, where the State Union receives notification of an alleged breach of the Code by a participant, either from a Rugby Body under clause 4.1 or from any other source the State Union has the right to:
- a. Declare that the procedure referred to in clause 4.3 must be conducted by the Committee of the State Union if, in the opinion of the State Union, the alleged breach of the Code negatively affects, or has potential to negatively affect, the image of the State Union or the game of Rugby; or
 - b. appoint a representative to the Committee required to conduct the procedure under clause 4.3, in place of a Committee member that would otherwise sit. If there is any dispute, the State Union may determine which Committee member is to be replaced by the State Union representative; or
 - c. be given the opportunity to be heard by the Committee.
- 8.2 The State Union must notify the Committee from whom the State Union received notification under clause 4.1 of its decision whether to exercise the rights in paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) within seven days.
- 8.3 No decision, with the exception of an interim decision, can be made before the Committee has received the notice in paragraph 8.2.

9. ARU INTERVENTION AND REPRESENTATION

- 9.1 Where the ARU receives notification of an alleged breach of the Code by a participant, either from a Rugby Body under clause 4.1 or from any other source the ARU has the right to;
- a. declare that the investigation must be conducted by the Tribunal if, in the opinion of the ARU, the alleged breach of the Code negatively affects, or has the potential to negatively affect, the image of the ARU or the game of Rugby; or
 - b. appoint a representative to the Committee required to conduct an investigation under clause 4.3, in place of an existing Committee member that would otherwise sit. If there is any dispute, the ARU may determine which Committee member is to be replaced by the ARU representative; or

- c. be given the opportunity to be heard by the Committee.
- 9.2 The ARU must notify the Committee from whom the ARU received notification under clause 4.1 of its decision whether to exercise the rights in paragraphs (a), (b) or (c).
- 9.3 No decision, with the exception of an interim decision, can be made before the Committee has received the notice in paragraph 9.2.
- 9.4 Where the ARU receives notification of an appeal to a State Union under clause 6 the ARU has the right to:
- a. declare that the procedure referred to in clause 4.3 must be conducted by the Tribunal if, in the opinion of the ARU, the alleged breach of the Code negatively affects, or has potential to negatively affect, the image of the ARU or the game of Rugby; or
 - b. appoint a representative to the Committee required to conduct the procedure under clause 4.3, in place of an existing Committee member that would otherwise sit. If there is any dispute, the ARU may determine which Committee member is to be replaced by the ARU representative;
 - c. be given the opportunity to be heard by the Committee.
- 9.5 The ARU must notify the Committee hearing the appeal of its decision whether to exercise the rights in paragraphs (a), (b) or (c).
- 9.6 No decision, with the exception of an interim decision, can be made before the Committee has received the notice in paragraph 9.5.
- 9.7 At all times the rights of the ARU under this clause 9 supersede those of a State Union under clause 8. The exercise by the ARU of the rights provided by this clause 9 preclude the exercise or operation by a State Union of the rights provided by clause 8.

10. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONDUCT TRIBUNAL

- 10.1 The ARU will establish from time to time a Tribunal to investigate and conduct hearings in relation to alleged breaches of the Code, to impose appropriate sanctions where the Tribunal finds that a breach has occurred, and hear appeals from the Committee of a State Union.
- 10.2 The Tribunal will consist of three members, to include:
- a. as the Chairperson, a Judge, retired Judge or senior legal practitioner. Preference will be given to a person with prior experience in proceedings related to Rugby matters;
 - b. two other members to be selected in the ARU's absolute discretion.
- 10.3 The Tribunal will have power to regulate its own procedure. Subject to its obligation to give proper consideration to the matter before it, the Tribunal should generally conduct hearings with as little formality, and with as much expedition, as is permitted by the nature of the matter.
- 10.4 The Tribunal will be the forum for the investigation, hearing and disciplinary of any alleged breach of the Code by a Contract Participant employed to play with any

Australian Super 14 team during the course of the Super 14 (or any successor competition).

11. REVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE DECISION BY TRIBUNAL

11.1 In addition to the Tribunal's role under clause 10, the Tribunal may, at the request of the ARU, review the decision of any Committee.

11.2 The Tribunal:

- a. may conduct a fresh investigation of the alleged breach of the Code, however it may have reference to documents prepared by a Committee in the course of the initial investigations into the alleged breach;
- b. may confirm, modify or dismiss the decision of the Committee;
- c. may confirm, modify or dismiss the disciplinary measure imposed, provided that any change to the disciplinary measure imposed takes into account the Guidelines and any relevant aggravating or mitigating circumstances;
- d. Must make a statement in writing stating its findings of facts, reason and decision and send copies of that statement to the relevant participant, the Rugby Body and the ARU.

12. COMPLIANCE

12.1 All Rugby Bodies and participants are deemed to have full knowledge of the Procedures and any Guidelines in relation to these Procedures.

12.2 A Rugby Body must ensure it complies with the Procedures and Guidelines and must take reasonable steps to inform each participant under its jurisdiction of the terms of the Procedures and Guidelines.

12.3 A Rugby Body or participant who fails to comply with these Procedures or Guidelines is liable to sanctions from the ARU.

13. GENERAL

Each Rugby Body will be responsible for all costs associated with establishing a Committee, conducting investigations and hearings.

**RUGBYWA
2006 COMPETITION RULES**

Annexure 'G'

BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT PROCEDURES

The Code of Conduct of the Australian Rugby Union and all constituent and affiliated Unions is that of the International Rugby Board (Regulation 20). The provisions of Regulation 20 will apply as amended by the IRB from time to time.

An alleged breach of the Code of Conduct may be reported only by a nominated official. Nominated Officials comprise of the following:

- a. Match Referee;
- b. The duly appointed Touch Judges, provided they are members of, or appointed by, the Union, or their respective Referees' Association;
- c. An office bearer of the Union pursuant to the constitution;
- d. A President of an Affiliated Club or Body;
- e. Any member of and affiliated Referee' Association or Affiliate's Association;
- f. A Member of any Committee or sub-union duly authorised in writing by the Union;
- g. A duly authorised employee of the Union or Sub-Union.

An alleged breach of the Code of Conduct must be completed in writing and delivered by hand, email or post to the Competition Manager of the Sub-Union at their registered office. Any supporting evidence must accompany the complaint.

Where an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct is reported to the Sub-Union, the matter may be referred by the Board of Directors or Committee of the Sub-Union or to the Judicial Committee in the Articles of Association shall apply to a reference to the Judicial Committee pursuant to the Code of Conduct.

The Board of Directors/Committee of the Union or the Judicial Committee may after inquiry in accordance with the Articles of Association, if they consider it appropriate, suspend, expel or otherwise deal with a participant in any way they see fit, including exclusion from participating in any competition conducted by the Union.

Any person dealt with under these provisions shall have a right of appeal to a duly constituted appeals body.