



RUGBYWA
JUNIORS

**COMPETITION RULES
AND REGULATIONS**

2020

DOCUMENT CONTROL

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This document is the Competition Rules for all Competitions conducted by the West Australian Junior Rugby Union.

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A. CITATION / STATEMENT OF INTENT

These rules set out the minimum standards and procedures that apply to Competitions conducted under the jurisdiction of Rugby Australia and its Member Unions rules shall be cited as the 2020 RugbyWA Juniors Competition Rules and Regulations. This Competition, as with all competitions played under the auspices of Rugby WA Juniors, are amateur competitions. All Participants in the Competition are to be made aware of the [WR Playing Charter](#); which includes the:

- (a) [Principles of the Game](#)
- (b) [Principles of the Laws](#)

All Participants are to be made aware that by virtue of the acceptance of a team into this competition the match organiser e.g. Rugby WA or Rugby WA Juniors and their respective Participants subject themselves and agree to be bound by the Rules of the Competition.

It is intended that these rules shall apply to all Clubs participating in any competition organised under the auspices of the RugbyWA Juniors, and shall be read in conjunction with, and in the order of, the Constitution of the RugbyWA Juniors, Rugby Australia Safety Directives & Pathway Laws, Laws of the Game and the Rugby Australia Rugby Code of Conduct.

The Junior Competition Co-ordinator is responsible for the day - to - day running of the competition and ensuring that these Rules and Regulations are adhered to. The Junior Competition Co-ordinator is authorised to impose penalty/s / sanctions on the member club/s for all breaches of these rules. Any breach of these rules may also result in penalties being imposed at the discretion of the Junior Competition Co-ordinator and the RugbyWA Juniors Executive Committee also have the right to amend/dismiss any penalty imposed by the Junior Competition Co-ordinator.

The advice of any RugbyWA Juniors Executive Member does not in any way supersede anything contained in these Rules.

From time to time it may be necessary for the RugbyWA Juniors Executive Committee to issue directives to the member Clubs. If a directive is passed by the majority of the Executive Committee, it is to have the force of a Rule.

RULE 1. MATCH LAW

Rule 1.1 Under 13 and Above:

All matches in these age groups shall be played in accordance with [the World Rugby Laws of the Game and Regulations](#), as published by the [World Rugby Under 19 and 7-a-side variations](#), together with all by-laws and directives of the Rugby Australia, RugbyWA and RugbyWA Juniors.

Rule 1.2 Under 12 and Below:

All matches in these age groups shall be played in accordance with the current [Rugby Australia Junior Player Pathway Laws](#).

Rule 1.3 Variations to Girls (7's) Rugby Matches

Full details of the RWA Juniors Variations to Girls (7s) Rugby Matches can be found in policy RWAJ16 including:

- ❖ Competition Structure
- ❖ Timing
- ❖ Playing Numbers
- ❖ Finals Competition Structure

RULE 2. CODE OF CONDUCT

RWAJ-A Breach of Code of Conduct & Member Protection Policy (RWAJ - A)

Rule 2.1 [The Rugby Australia Code of Conduct](#) defines the expected behaviour of Club Affiliates.

Rule 2.2 Each Club is responsible for the distribution to, and education of Club Affiliates, to the Code of Conduct and must take all reasonable steps to ensure that Club Affiliates adhere to the Code.

Rule 2.3 Club Affiliates must comply with the Code of Conduct and at no time act in a manner detrimental towards the game or the spirit of Rugby Union.

Rule 2.4 Club Affiliates must endorse the Code of Conduct at registration. By registering as a Rugby WA Juniors Participant through the Rugby Xplorer Registration system, you are agreeing to adhere to the Rugby Australia Code of Conduct.

Rule 2.5 Any breach of this rule, by any Club Affiliate or any other person associated with a Club of the Union, may result in disciplinary action and penalties including financial, being imposed at the discretion of the Junior Competition Co-ordinator / RugbyWA Juniors Executive Committee. In accordance with Rugby AU Code of Conduct Annexure 1 Procedures for Disciplining Breaches of the Code of Conduct (*RWAJ-A Breach of Code of Conduct & Member Protection Policy*).

RULE 3. TEAM NOMINATION

RWAJ1 – Team Nomination Rules

Rule 3.1 Participation, and or Competitions, shall be initiated by the calling for nominations from each age group, as shown in the RugbyWA Juniors calendar for that year, or as otherwise directed by the RugbyWA Juniors Executive Committee.

Rule 3.2 By submitting the *Team Nomination Summary (RWAJ Form 1)* and *Individual Team Nomination Form (RWAJ Form 2)* by the requested date set by the Junior Competition Coordinator, the Club, the team, and its team officials agree to abide by the RWA Juniors Competition Rules and Policies.

Rule 3.3 Any breach of the Rules outlined in Policy RWAJ1 – Team Nomination Rules by a club could result in a team nomination being withdrawn at the discretion of the Junior Competition Coordinator, until such time as the team and/or club have complied with the above rules.

Full details of the nomination requirements, forms and procedure to be followed are provided in *RWAJ1 – Team Nomination Policy*.

RULE 4. AGE ELIGIBILITY and determining Age Group

RWAJ2 – Age Eligibility Policy

Rule 4.1 All junior players must prove their eligibility, in respect of age and gender, to play in an age group certified by the Club Registrar of the Club submitting the **Team Nomination forms**.

Rule 4.2 The player **MUST BE 4 years of age** before being **registered** with a Club, however this registered player **MUST be born in 2015** to play in any match under the control of the Union during the current calendar year.

Rule 4.3 Age, Gender and Disability Dispensations - Dispensation may be granted by the Junior Competition Coordinator to a Registered Player to play in a Competition that is below that Registered Player's age group for as determined in accordance with this Competition Rule for players between the U6 and U18 age groups. As Per RWA Juniors RWAJ6 L Age Grade Dispensation Policy

RWA Juniors policies associated with player Age Eligibility are as follows: RWAJ2 Age Grade Eligibility, RWAJ6 L Age Grade Dispensation Procedure, RWAJ6 M Disability Dispensation Procedure and Rugby AU's Mixed Gender Dispensation Policy

RULE 5. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS, COACHES AND MANAGERS

*RWAJ3 – Eligibility of
Players, Coaches and
Managers*

Rule 5.1 All participants must be registered in Rugby Xplorer if they wish to participate in the RugbyWA Juniors Competition.

Rules 5.2 Player Eligibility: a player is eligible to participate in a given Competition match(es) if:

- He/she is listed on a Team's Nomination form; or
- He/she is listed with an older age team provided that the Two-Year Window Policy is adhered to.

Rule 5.3 Coach Eligibility – coaching qualifications are required at all levels of rugby. In order to participate in the role of coach in the competitions, coaches must hold the coaching accreditations as detailed in *RWAJ3 – Eligibility of Players, Coaches and Managers*. All team coaches must be registered on Rugby Xplorer and added onto the Rugby Xplorer team list for each round

Rule 5.4 Manager Eligibility – team management (including coaches) are responsible for the actions of their team, and they must be conversant with the applicable laws, Competition Rules, RugbyWA Juniors, RugbyWA and Australian Rugby Policies and Procedures. Team managers must be registered on Rugby Xplorer and added onto the Rugby Xplorer team list for each round

Full details on eligibility is provided in RWAJ3 – Eligibility of Players, Coaches and Managers and RWAJ B Team Spectator Management.

RULE 6. REGISTRATION

RWAJ4 – Registration Policy

Rule 6.1 The following are mandatory Registration requirement as per [Rugby Australia's 2020 Registration Regulations](#)

- (a) It is a mandatory requirement of Rugby Australia that all players, Non-Playing Members and Match Officials are registered via Rugby Australia's [Rugby Xplorer System](#)

(b) It is a mandatory requirement of Rugby Australia that the Competition Management System (CMS) attached to Rugby Xplorer is also used for all Sub Union Competition games, Senior and Junior.

Rule 6.2 In the event a club breaches any Registration rulings, disciplinary action may be taken at the sole discretion of the RugbyWA Juniors Executive

Further details on the registration process, and requirements thereof can be found in *RWAJ4 – Registration Policy*.

RULE 7. TRANSFERS

RWAJ5 – Transfer Policy

Rule 7.1 Domestic Clearance

- (i) Club to Club player movements for currently registered players
- (ii) Requirement for a currently registered player registering in the same season to another Club for the same or different registration type. Restricted at XV's, 10s, 7s and Veterans registrations types in Competition Rugby only.

Rule 7.2 International Clearance

- (i) The international Player Clearances Policy within Rugby states:
 1. A player leaving their current Union to play in another Union shall not be registered or eligible to participate in competitions organised, recognised or sanctioned by that new Union until they have an endorsed International Clearance.
 2. Therefore, players wishing to play within another International Union are required to complete the Rugby Australia International Clearance Form: <https://australia.rugby/participate/rugby-administration/international-clearance>

Further details on the requirements of the transfer process for both domestic and international clearances can be found in *RWAJ5 – Transfer Policy*.

RULE 8. COMPETITIONS

This rule governs the procedures involved in conducting competitions under the control of the RugbyWA Juniors. The rule has been divided up into the following sub-procedures.

RWAJ6:

- A - Draw/Grading/Timings
- B - Scoring
- C - Conduct of Matches
- D - Age Group, Laws and Number of Players
- E - Replacements/Reserves
- F - Playing Enclosure
- G - Team sheets and match results
- H - Home Carnivals
- J - Forfeiture of Matches
- K - Player Uniforms

Rule 8.1 Draw/Grading

RWAJ6 A – Draw/Grading/Timings

The RWA Junior competition will be conducted in accordance to the RWAJ6 A Policy.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ6 A – Draw/Grading/Timings on:*

- ❖ management of the Gold and Swan divisions;
- ❖ movement of teams between the two;
- ❖ handling of subsequent competition points

Rule 8.2 Timings *RWAJ6 A – Draw/Grading/Timings*

- Matches will be played at the times and ground indicated in the fixture list or as set by the Junior Competition Coordinator.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ6 A – Draw/Grading/Timings on:*

- ❖ *Changes to timings sought by clubs*

Rule 8.3 Scoring *RWAJ6 B – Scoring*

The record of a team in the Competition is compiled by the aggregated competition points obtained. Competition points obtained will be in accordance with RWAJ6 B Policy.

It is the responsibility of both teams to ensure that:

- All players and team officials (where required by the Competition) must be selected in their respective team list for the match;
- All details of point scorers are to be recorded;
- All players who have either been temporarily suspended (yellow card), sent from the field of play (red card) or have a suspected concussion (blue card) must have all their details recorded;
- All movements of players following an injury (blood or otherwise) or for tactical reasons shall be recorded (where required by the Competition);
- The match day scoring, and stats can be entered by ONE team manager for BOTH teams, or EACH team manager for their OWN team. It is also permissible to have an independently appointed ground manager that does the scoring for both teams;
- The referee is to confirm the result of the match by confirming this on the Match Day App in the presence of both teams; and
- All clubs must enter the team list, scoring and stats of all matches online via the Match Day App by no later than noon on the first working day following completion of the match. PLEASE NOTE: Competitions reserve the right to require this information earlier than this timeline if necessary.

Information entered must include:

- All players' details including substitutes;
- Team Officials' details
- Result of the match;
- Tries;
- Conversions;
- Penalties;
- All players temporarily suspended (yellow card);
- All players sent from the field of play (red card);
- Players who have a suspected concussion (blue card).

PLEASE NOTE: Clubs failing to follow the procedures are liable to receive penalties in relation to Competition points.

Further details can be found in RWAJ6 B – Scoring on:

- ❖ Competition points;
- ❖ ranking criteria; and
- ❖ Club Championship points.

Rule 8.4 – Conduct of Matches

RWAJ6 C – Conduct of Matches

- Matches will be conducted according to the laws appropriate to the age grade.
- Rugby Australia Game Management Guidelines for Community level rugby are to be used in conjunction with the current World Rugby Laws of the game.

Further details can be found in RWAJ6 C – Conduct of Matches on:

- ❖ Playing Times;
- ❖ Match Timings;
- ❖ Ball Sizes;
- ❖ Pre-match Checks;
- ❖ Maximum *Player* Playing Time;
- ❖ Mercy Rule; and
- ❖ Extra Time

Rule 8.5 – Age Groups, Laws & Number of Players

RWAJ6 D – Age Groups, Laws & Numbers of Players

The table below shows the minimum number of players required to participate in an Under 11 – Under 18 competition match.

Criteria for determining how a match can/should proceed where minimum numbers of players are not available for one, or both teams, at the start of a match, or after a match has commenced, can be found in RWAJ6 D – Age Groups, Laws and Numbers of Players.

AGE GROUP	LAW	NO. OF PLAYERS	SCRUMS
Under 11	Pathway	12 (minimum of 10)	6 players
Under 12	Pathway	15 (minimum of 12)	8 players
Under 13-18	Under 19	15 (minimum of 12)	8 players

Rule 8.6 – Replacements / Reserves

RWAJ6 E – Replacements and Reserves

- **Under 6 – Under 18:** In keeping with the philosophy of the Junior Player Pathway (JPP), and in accordance with the current World Rugby Laws, for maximising skill development, enjoyment and safety, teams should adhere to JPP rules regarding replacements

Further details can be found in RWAJ6 E – Replacements and Reserves on:

- ❖ Specific replacements/reserves requirements for the U6-U18 age groups.
- ❖ Front Row replacement law variations for the Under 10 to Under 18 age gr

Rule 8.7 – Playing Enclosure

RWAJ6 F – Playing Enclosure

- The only persons authorised to enter the playing enclosure whilst all age group matches are in progress are:
 - RugbyWA Juniors Officials;
 - Venue managers;
 - Sports trainers/Medical personnel/St. Johns' & Talis Ambulance staff;

- Teams (x2)
- Referee
- Assistant referees (x2)
- 4th / 5th officially appointed referees.
- Team coaches (as per age group conditions)

Further details can be found in *RWAJ6 F – Playing Enclosure on:*

- ❖ Criteria for all other personnel permitted to enter the playing enclosure.

Rule 8.8 – Team Lists and Match Results

RWAJ6 G – Team Sheets and Match Results

- At the end of every match, each team shall show the referee their team lists, already approved by a representative of that team, for the referee to verify the score, temporary suspensions and send-offs. Once satisfied that all details are correct, the match official is approve the submission of the match details into Rugby Xplorer.
- For ALL age groups: ALL teams will be required to input their completed team lists online via Rugby Xplorer by Monday midday (12pm) following the match. The only exception to this being the U6 to U10 Junior Force Carnival games which teams will be required to submit a hard copy of team sheet to host club.
- It is a Rugby Australia National requirement that all team coaches and managers are added to team lists on Rugby Xplorer for each game

Further details can be found in *RWAJ6 G – Team Sheets and Match Results on:*

- ❖ Requirements for correct completion and handling of team sheets prior, during and post-match, for the various age groups
- ❖ Team sheet for U6-U10 age groups can be found in *RWAJ Form 3*.

Rule 8.9 – Home Carnivals

RWAJ6 H – Home Carnivals

- Clubs can apply to host a Home Carnival (U6-U10 Games) during the season.
- The Junior Competition Coordinator (JCC) and RugbyWA Juniors Executive reserves the right to amend the conduct of the carnivals or may not sanction the event if the carnival does not comply with the Competition Rules, and/or directives of the RugbyWA Juniors Executive.

All Home Carnivals must comply with the criteria detailed in *RWAJ6 H – Home Carnivals*.

Rule 8.10 – Forfeiture of Matches

RWAJ6 J – Match Forfeits

In the instance a team needs to forfeit a game, a Club Official must contact the Junior Competition Coordinator by 10am on the Friday before the scheduled match is to take place.

Failure to do so may result in said team incurring penalties.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ6 J – Match Forfeits on:*

- ❖ criteria for forfeiting a match; and
- ❖ points awarded subsequent to a forfeit being called
- ❖ sanctions for late/ too many forfeits

Rule 8.11 – Players Uniform

RWAJ6 K – Player Uniforms

- Rugby WA Juniors Players’ Uniform policy is in accordance with [World Rugby Laws of the Game \(Law 4\)](#)
- Any breach of this rule may result in the loss of one (1) or more competition points, by the offending team at the discretion of the JCC.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ6 K – Player Uniforms* on:

- ❖ Specific numbering requirements of player uniform;
- ❖ Mouthguards; and
- ❖ permitted specifications for additional items of clothing.

Rule 8.12 – Player Dispensation

RWAJ6 L – Player Dispensation Policy

Rugby WA Juniors policy aligns with [the National Rugby Australia ‘Participation Policy’ and the associated dispensation procedures](#). It aims to assist players to participate in a safe and inclusive environment.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ L – Player Dispensation Policy* on:

- ❖ Dispensation Eligibility
- ❖ Mandatory Assessments
- ❖ Size for Age Guidelines
- ❖ Dispensation procedures for Age Grade, Mixed Gender, Disability and Gender Identity

RULE 9. VENUE SET-UP AND CONTROL

RWAJ7 – Venue Set-Up & Control Policy.

The set-up and control of playing fields and a venue are critical to the safety and enjoyment of all participants, including spectators.

Rule 9.1 The Playing Enclosure is to be marked in accordance with the [Laws of the Game \(Rule 1\) and Junior Pathway Laws](#).

Rule 9.2 For any Central Venue, where several clubs/age groups are participating, one or more clubs will be rostered to assist with RugbyWA staff with the set-up of the venue.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ7 – Venue Set-Up & Control Policy* on:

- ❖ Setting up the Playing Enclosure;
- ❖ Central Venue assistance from clubs; and
- ❖ Field pack down.

RULE 10. MATCH OFFICIALS

RWAJ8 – Match Officials Policy

Rule 10.1 There should be a Referee for every match.

Rule 10.2 In the case where the WARURA (Western Australia Rugby Union Referees Association) appointed referee is unable to officiate (either through non-attendance or injury), the replacement referee is required to hold a minimum of a Foundation Course certification.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ8 – Match Officials Policy* on:

- ❖ Appropriate accreditation and qualification for referees;
- ❖ requirements of Assistant Referees; and
- ❖ equipment requirements for match officials.

RULE 11. FINALS

RWAJ9 – Finals Policy & RWAJ10 - Finals Dispensation Policy

Further details can be found in *RWAJ9 – Finals Policy & RWAJ10 Finals Dispensation Policy* on:

- ❖ consequences for a team not being able to meet the front row player numbers obligation; or
- ❖ consequences for a team which nominates less than 23 players;
- ❖ process to be followed if the scores are equal at end of ‘normal time’ in a Finals Series match; final winner determination.
- ❖ Finals allocation of a player who is eligible for registration in more than one team;
- ❖ Submitting of finals team lists and detailed requirements thereof;
- ❖ Eligibility criteria;
- ❖ Finals qualification for Under 17/Under 20 players can be found in the ‘RWAJ11 Transition Procedures for Junior U17 to Senior Competition’ Policy document.

RULE 12. U18 TRANSITION TO SENIORS

*RWAJ11 (RWA21) – Transition Procedures
for Junior U18 to Senior Competition*

This policy governs the rules relating to the management of transition of players wishing and entitled to play in both the Rugby WA Juniors (RWAJ) U18 and RWA Senior Competitions.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ11 (RWA21) – Transition Procedures for Junior U18 to Senior Competition* on:

- ❖ Registration Procedure
- ❖ Eligibility of players to play in respective competitions
- ❖ Eligibility of playing in finals

RULE 13. PROTESTS, DISPUTES AND APPEALS

RWAJ12 – Protests, Disputes & Appeals Policy

Rule 13.1

- Clubs have the right to appeal any decision handed down, an appeal must come in writing/email from the Club President within 48hrs of receiving written notice of the decision.

Further details can be found in *RWAJ12 – Protests, Disputes and Appeals* on:

- ❖ Registration and Age
- ❖ Player Transfer
- ❖ Appeals against the JCC and/or RWA Junior Executive

RULE 14. FEES, INSURANCE & FINES

RWA13 – Fees, Insurance & Fines Policy

Further details can be found in *RWAJ13 – Fees, Insurance & Fines Policy* on:

- ❖ Various fees applicable in a season across all age groups, casual players and girls’ rugby.
- ❖ Club Affiliation fees
- ❖ Individual participant fees
- ❖ Insurance fees
- ❖ Fines

RULE 15. TEAM SPECTATOR MANAGEMENT

RWAJ-B Team Spectator Management (TSM) Policy

Further details can be found in *RWAJ-B Team Spectator Management (TSM) Policy* on:

- ❖ What a TSM does
- ❖ What they need to know

- ❖ Tips for Conflict Resolution
- ❖ Common Scenarios

RULE 16. GENERAL

Rule 16.1 Integrity

Rugby WA Juniors adheres to [Rugby Australia's Codes, Policies and Procedures](#) have been developed to provide a safe, fair and inclusive sporting environment for all rugby participants in Australia. This includes the following:

- a) *Australian Rugby Disciplinary Rules* - these have been developed to ensure a consistent approach to foul play, citing and judicial hearings;
- b) *Anti-Doping Code* - all participants are bound by the Anti-Doping Code and must be aware of the requirements;
- c) *Supplement Policy*;
- d) *Code of Conduct* – provides a set of standards that everyone involved in rugby is required to comply with to ensure that the image and integrity of the sport is protected. The Code also outlines the procedures for reporting, complaint handling and investigations of any alleged breaches;
- e) *Medical Policy* - provides information on the use of medications, medical procedures and measures to protect the health and welfare for semi-professional and professional players;
- f) *Member Protection Policy* – ensures that all Participants feel included and safe in rugby; and
- g) *Anti-Corruption and Betting Policy* – applies to all Participants and they need to be aware of its requirements.

Rule 16.2 Breach Of Rules

A club or person contravening these rules is liable, where no other penalty is expressly provided, to a minimum penalty of \$50. The RugbyWA Juniors 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/her, from the competition.

Rule 16.3 Consequences Of Failure To Pay Fines

If a club, affiliated body or person fails to meet or pay any monetary penalty provided for or imposed under these rules, the RugbyWA Juniors Executive may disqualify the defaulting club, affiliated body or person or may exclude it or him/her from participating in the competition either absolutely or on such terms as the RugbyWA Juniors Executive (in its absolute discretion), sees fit.

Rule 16.4 Safety Directives

Rugby must be as safe, inclusive, and fair as possible. Rugby Australia has several policies and initiatives aimed at ensuring that rugby is safe to play and is enjoyable for all participants.

- a) Concussion Management;
- b) Serious Injuries;
- c) Welfare Initiatives;
- d) Player Dispensation;
- e) Match Day Safety; and
- f) First Aid medical.

Clubs must adhere fully to current [Rugby Australia Safety Directives](#)

Clubs must comply fully with the requirements laid out in the [Rugby Australia Serious Injury Protocol](#).

Rule 16.5 Photography & Videoing Policy

RugbyWA Juniors policy on photography or videoing children aligns with [Rugby Australia's Member Protection Policy Rule 7.2 – Taking Images of Children](#)

Inclusions in this policy can be found in [RWAJ14 – Photography and Videoing Policy](#).

Rule 16.6 Club Organised Games, Tours And Visits

RugbyWA Juniors welcomes the organisation, by clubs, of games and/or tours by some of their club teams, either elsewhere in Australia, or overseas, and similarly, games for visiting teams from these other areas to local clubs in Western Australia. Teams/ Clubs will need to send [relevant application forms to JCC for approval within 30 days of said tour/ event](#).

Further details can be found [RWAJ15 – Games, Tours & Visits Policy](#) on:

- ❖ procedures to be applied to any club organised game, tour or visit.

Rule 16.7 Notification Of Competition Rule Changes

- A copy of the Competition Rules shall be sent to each Affiliated club/association for approval by the Council of Clubs, prior to the commencement of the current rugby season.
- Clubs may apply to the RugbyWA Juniors Executive committee for amendments, alterations or interpretations of these competition rules from time to time, as is necessary.
- The RugbyWA Juniors Executive committee may at any time, amend, appeal or add to these competition rules throughout the season.

Rule 16.8 Impact of COVID-19: Competition Rules

The variations below are for consideration by JCC in the event a player or person connected to a team tests positive to COVID-19 and forces other players within the competition to stand down for a period of time, if directed by the relevant Health Authority.

- Implementation of Law Variations to matches where the number of players in a team has been reduced due to confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19
- Provisions to reschedule matches where one or both teams are unable to field the minimum number of players due to confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19
- Considerations to alter existing competition rules on forfeits where a team is unable to field the minimum number of players due to confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19
- Considerations to implement a competition ladder that is based on percentage of wins as opposed to total competition points (i.e. number of wins) to mitigate any disadvantage that a team suffers if forced to forfeit matches due to COVID-19

DEFINITION OF TERMS

In the Competition Rules, except in so far as the context or subject matter otherwise indicates or requires:

AGE GROUP means Registered players and teams participating within a common chronological age group e.g. Under 12.

APPEALS COMMITTEE means the committee or a subcommittee thereof.

APPEALS TRIBUNAL means the tribunal appointed by the committee and convened by the Junior Competition Coordinator to hear any appeals against decisions of the Judiciary.

Rugby AU means Rugby Australia Limited (Rugby AU) and its affiliates.

Rugby AU POLICIES means the policies published by Rugby AU from time to time and included on the Rugby AU website.

Rugby AU REGISTRATION FORM means the form produced by the Online Administration System for registration of players and coaches.

ASSISTANT REFEREE means a person who:

- a) Holds a current Rugby AU Referee accreditation; or
- b) Holds a current Rugby AU Assistant Referee accreditation; or
- c) Has successfully completed the Rugby AU Pathway course, is a member of a Referees Association, and is actively refereeing Under6s to Under12s.

AWAY TEAM means the Team which is not the Home Team.

CLUB means a body, incorporated or unincorporated, that executes a Competition Participation and Affiliation Agreement and enters Teams into Competition(s).

CLUB AFFILIATE means any Registered Player, Team, Club Official, Team Affiliate or any other individual or organisation that has an association with the Club.

CLUB REGISTRAR means the person(s) responsible *for overseeing and maintaining the Club's player registrations on the Online Administration System.*

CLUB PRESIDENT means the person(s) who holds the position of President in a Club as advised by the Club to the Administrator.

COACH means the Coach of the Team.

CODE OF CONDUCT includes the Codes of Conduct issued by Rugby Australia and its' affiliates.

COMMITTEE means the RugbyWA Juniors Executive committee or a subcommittee thereof.

COMPETITION means all Competitions (including the Friday Night Competition, the Saturday Competition and the Sunday Competition) organised, administered and conducted by the Junior Competition Coordinator.

COMPETITION RULES mean these rules which are the Competition Rules for the current season. The Competition Rules shall be read in conjunction with the Laws of the Game, Rugby AU Policies and the Code of Conduct.

FINALS SERIES means Matches designated as Semi-finals, Preliminary finals and Grand finals.

FINANCIALLY INDEBTED means any sum outstanding to the Rugby WA Juniors which has remained unpaid for thirty (30) days after the date on which such payment was due.

GRADE means a part of an Age Group for which the Junior Competition Coordinator conducts a competition.

HOME TEAM means the Team who usually plays at the venue at which a Match is to be played or, if there is no such Team or both Teams usually play at that venue, the Team that appears first for the match in the Official Draw. However, if the venue for a Match is moved to a venue that is not the home venue for either Team playing, then the Team requesting the move shall be deemed to be the Home Team.

JUDICIARY means a committee appointed by the Rugby WA Juniors Executive and convened to investigate and adjudicate on Send-Offs, Code of Conduct violations and breaches or disputes of the Competition Rules.

JUNIOR CAB is the Junior Committee Advisory Board that is responsible for the allocation of appropriate referees to match(es) in the RugbyWA Juniors Competition.

JUNIOR COMPETITION COORDINATOR (JCC) is the person so nominated by the RugbyWA Board and deemed responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the RugbyWA Juniors Competition.

LAWS OF THE GAME mean the World Rugby Laws of the Game, the World Rugby Regulations, the Rugby Australia Law Variations and the Rugby Australia Under 19 Law Variations, which are included on the Rugby Australia website.

LAWS OF RUGBY mean for Matches in Competitions, for:

- a) Under 6 – Under 12 age groups shall be played in accordance with the Pathway Laws, subject to the variations as outlined in these Competition Rules, which will have preference in the case of any uncertainty; and
- b) Under 13 – Under 16 age groups shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game subject to the variations as outlined in these Competition Rules which will have preference in the case of any uncertainty.

LODGEMENT DATE means the final date for the submission of forms as directed by the Junior Competition Coordinator.

MATCH means a game in the Official Draw.

MATCH OFFICIAL means the Referee, Assistant Referee or Touch Judge.

MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS means ten (10) registered players for a twelve (12)-a-side competition and twelve (12) players for a fifteen (15)-a-side competition.

MISCONDUCT means conduct, action or behaviour that is detrimental to a Club, Junior District, a Club Affiliate, the RugbyWA Juniors or Rugby Australia or one of its Affiliates.

NO MATCH means a scheduled Match that has not been played within the required time period.

OFFICIAL DRAW means the draw for Competitions as issued by the Junior Competition Coordinator from time to time.

PARTICIPANT means any player, coach, official or volunteer registered with Rugby AU.

PATHWAY LAWS mean the modified Laws of the Rugby Australia TryRugby Kids Pathway.

PLAYING ENCLOSURE means the playing area and the space around it normally bounded by permanent perimeter fencing. If no perimeter fencing is evident then the natural boundary such as buildings or rock faces, and in the absence of any natural or physical boundary then an area not less than 5 metres where practicable surrounding the playing area.

PROVEN OFFENCE means an offence that has been found proven by a judiciary of a sporting code.

REFEREE means a person who holds a current Rugby AU Referee accreditation.

REFEREES ASSOCIATION means a Referees Association approved by RugbyWA.

REGISTERED PLAYER means a person who *has registered on the Online Administration System*.

REGULAR SEASON means the season from Round 1 to the Final Round immediately prior to the Finals Series.

REPRESENTATIVE GAME means any match of competition as determined by the Junior Competition Coordinator and includes but is not limited to the Rugby WA Juniors State Championships, the RugbyWA Juniors Regionals and matches involving the RugbyWA Juniors representative teams.

REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER means a Registered Player who is nominated or selected to play in a Representative Game, even though they may subsequently withdraw due to injury or any other circumstance, and in the current year they will be a Representative Player:

- a) Up to the day immediately before the first day of the RugbyWA Juniors State Championships, if they were nominated or selected to play in a Representative Game, even though they may have subsequently withdrawn due to injury or any other circumstance, at any time during the previous calendar year;
- b) From the first day of the RugbyWA Juniors State Championships, if they were nominated or selected to play in a Representative Game, even though they may have subsequently withdrawn due to injury or any other circumstance, at any time from the beginning of the current calendar year to the end of the RugbyWA Juniors State Championships;
- c) If they are nominated or selected to play in their first Representative Game for the current calendar year after the RugbyWA Juniors State Championships, even though they may subsequently withdraw due to injury or any other circumstance, then from the day of their first Representative Game after the RugbyWA Junior State Championships for the current calendar year.
- d) All Registered Players selected, even though they may subsequently withdraw due to injury or any other circumstance, in the Rugby AU's Junior Gold Youth (Under 18) 7s, national Gold Squad, Junior Gold Squad, Junior Gold Under 15 High Performance Camp or any other Rugby AU High Performance Unit squad as determined by the Junior Competition Coordinator for the current calendar year, are considered Representative Players from the date of their selection.

RugbyWA is the West Australian Rugby Union Inc.

RugbyWA JUNIORS means the trading name of the RugbyWA Juniors Inc.

RugbyWA JUNIORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE means the elected members that form the Executive Committee as derived from the RugbyWA Juniors Inc.

SCHEDULED GAME TIME means the venue, date and time as specified by the Competition Manager in the Official Draw.

SENT OFF means permanently suspended from a Match, trial carnival or tournament, general signalled by the referee showing the player a red card, and Send Off shall have a similar meaning. May also be referred to as 'red carded'.

SIN BINNED means temporarily suspended from a Match, trial carnival or tournament for a period of five (5) or ten (10) minutes, generally signalled by the referee showing the player a yellow card, and Sin Bin shall have a similar meaning. It may also be referred to as 'yellow carded' and/or 'temporarily suspended'.

SPORTS TRAINER means a suitable trained person that participates in providing medical treatment, carrying water, or providing a kicking tee when required.

SUSPENSION means a prohibition from playing in any rugby matches organised under the auspices of Rugby Australia or its affiliates (including school rugby) and may be imposed by the Judiciary or automatically pursuant to the Competition Rules. Suspend and Suspended shall have similar meanings. In accordance with Rugby AU policy, the Junior Competition Coordinator recognises all sanctions and suspensions imposed by other sporting codes in relation to all Proven Offences.

TEAM means the list of Registered Players in a team as contained on the Rugby Xplorer team list

TEAM AFFILIATE means Trainer, First Aid Officer, Parent, Guardian or Spectator.

TEAM OFFICIAL means a Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager, Assistant Manager or Trainer of a Team.

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION means Sin Binned.

TRAINER means a person who administers water to players, deliver and retrieves the kicking tee and attends to injured players of his Team.

TRANSFERABLE PLAYER means any Registered Player who is permitted to move between grades and Age Groups within their club.

TWO YEAR WINDOW means the Age Grade Two Year Window Policy issued by Rugby Australia, which states that a player shall not participate in an age grade competition more than two years above his or her age on 1 January in the year in which the competition is run. This two-year period is known as the two-year window.

TSM means Team Spectator Manager for a team nominated in the RugbyWA Junior Competition.

WAJRU and or **UNION** means the West Australian Junior Rugby League Inc. (old name), now replaced by RugbyWA Juniors Inc. (on 16 March 2016).

WARURA means the West Australian Rugby Union Referees Association Inc.

WASRU means the West Australian Schools Rugby Union.

WORLD RUGBY (formerly International Rugby Board – IRB until 2014) is the world governing body for the sport of Rugby Union.

WORLD RUGBY LAWS OF THE GAME – means the Rugby Laws incorporating the Playing Charter that are issued by World Rugby and are on the Rugby Australia website.

WORLD RUGBY REGULATIONS mean the Regulations of World Rugby, which are on the Rugby Australia website.

INTERPRETATIONS

In these Competition Rules, unless the context indicates a contrary intention:

- a) Words denoting the singular number include plural and vice versa;
- b) Headings are for convenience only and do not affect interpretation;
- c) References to clauses and sub-clauses, are references to clauses and sub-clauses of these Competition Rules; and
- d) Words denoting the male gender include the female gender and vice versa.

APPENDICES

1. RWAJ A - Breach of Code of Conduct and Member Protection Policy
2. RWAJ1 - Team Nomination Rules
3. RWAJ Form1 - Team Nomination Summary Form
4. RWAJ Form2 - Team Nomination (Individual team) Form
5. RWAJ2 - Age Eligibility Rules
6. RWAJ3 - Eligibility of Players, Coaches & Managers
7. RWAJ4 - Registration Policy
8. RWAJ5 - Transfers Policy
9. RWAJ6A - Draw/Grading/Timings
10. RWAJ6B - Scoring
11. RWAJ6C - Conduct of Matches
12. RWAJ6D - Age Group, Laws and Number of Players
13. RWAJ6E - Replacements/Reserves
14. RWAJ6F - Playing Enclosure
15. RWAJ6G - Team Sheets and Match Results
16. RWAJ Form3 - Team Sheet for U6 – U10
17. RWAJ6H - Home Carnivals
18. RWAJ Form4 - Home Carnival Nomination Form
19. RWAJ Form5 - Home Carnival Ground Manager Form
20. RWAJ Form6 - Home Carnival Guidelines
21. RWAJ6J - Match Forfeits
22. RWAJ6K - Player Uniforms
23. RWAJL - Age Dispensation Policy
24. RWAJL i - Size for Age Guidelines
25. RWAJ6L ii - RWAJ 2020 Age Grade Dispensation Procedure
26. RWAJM - Disability Dispensation Procedure
27. RWAJ7 - Venue Set-Up & Control Policy
28. RWAJ8 - Match Officials Policy
29. RWAJ9 - Finals Policy
30. RWAJ FD - Finals Directive & Bench Management Protocol
31. RWAJ10 - Finals Dispensation Policy
32. RWAJ11 - Transition Procedure for Junior U18 to Senior Competition
33. RWAJ12 - Protests, Disputes & Appeals Policy
34. RWAJ13 - Fees, Insurance & Fines Policy
35. Rugby AU - Safety Directives
36. Rugby AU - Serious Injury Protocol
37. RWAJ14 - Photography & Videoing Policy
38. RWAJ15 - Games, Tours & Visits Policy
39. Rugby AU - U6 Pathway Game Modifications 2018
40. Rugby AU - U7 Pathway Game Modifications 2018
41. Rugby AU - U8/9 Pathway Game Modifications 2018
42. Rugby AU - U10/11 Pathway Game Modifications 2018
43. Rugby AU - U12 Pathway Game Modifications 2018
44. RWAJ B - Team Spectator Management (TSM)

ANNEXURES

1. Rugby Australia Code of Conduct
2. RugbyWA Juniors Code of Ethics
3. Rugby Australia Participation Policy
4. Rugby Australia Registration Regulations 2020
5. Rugby Australia Player Transfer Guidelines
6. Rugby Australia Game Management Guidelines 2020

FORMS

1. Team Nomination Summary
2. Team Nomination (Individual Team)
3. Team Sheet (U6 – U10)
4. Home Carnival Nomination
5. Home Carnival Ground Manager
6. Home Carnival Hosting Guide