



2019 COMPETITION RULES OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN RUGBY UNION LIMITED

INDEX

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| INDEX..... | 1 |
| PREAMBLE..... | 2 |
| PRINCIPLES | 2 |
| ROLE OF THE UNION | 2 |
| CONDUCT OF COMPETITION | 3 |
| CONDUCT OF MATCHES | 6 |
| PARTICIPANTS | 7 |
| MATCH DAY RULES AND PROCEDURES | 8 |
| BREACHES OF PLAYER DISCIPLINE | 11 |
| FINALS SERIES | 12 |
| INTERPRETATION & DEFINITIONS | 13 |
| APPENDIX A – Rugby AU 2019 CR GAME MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES | 16 |
| APPENDIX B - RUGBYWA PROCEDURES & POLICIES | 16 |
| APPENDIX C - RUGBY AU PROCEDURES & POLICIES | 17 |

PREAMBLE

These are the rules (**Rules**) governing competitions conducted by the Western Australian Rugby Union Inc (**Union**) and are issued by authority of the Board of Directors of the Union (**Board**).

The rules apply to all players and officials of all clubs affiliated with the Union and the Western Australian Rugby Union Referees Association (**WARURA**).

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

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

PRINCIPLES

These rules are designed to:

1. To foster, promote and facilitate the game of Rugby Union throughout Western Australia.
2. To adapt and enforce the Laws of the Game Rugby Union as promulgated by the World Rugby Board as adopted or modified by Rugby Australia.
3. To protect the safety and well-being of all participants and sanction those who break these rules.
4. To encourage and promote a fair competition where each player is able to participate to the full extent of their desire and ability.
5. To allow competition between clubs which is competitive, fair and transparent.

ROLE OF THE UNION

RULE 1. Powers of the Union

- Rule 1.1** Subject to RULE 2 the Board has the power to make new rules and to add to, delete, amend or otherwise vary the rules at any time and in the manner and to the extent the Union may determine subject to the notification requirements under Rule 1.3.
- Rule 1.2** Where Rule 1.1 is exercised by the Board, the Board must specify the date (which may be retrospective) from which the changes so made will operate.
- Rule 1.3** Changes made by the Board under this RULE 1 must be notified to each club, in writing, within fourteen (14) days of the change.
- Rule 1.4** These rules are reviewed annually. Once ratified by the Board a copy of these rules shall be sent to each club prior to the commencement of the competition each year.
- Rule 1.5** At any time, the Board may, by written notice, delegate (or revoke a previous delegation) any of the responsibilities allocated to the Union under these rules.

RULE 2. Constitution and the Laws of the Game Rugby Union.

Rule 2.1 These rules must be read in conjunction with the Constitution and if there is any inconsistency between these rules and the Constitution then the Constitution will prevail.

Rule 2.2 These rules must be read in conjunction with the Laws of the Game Rugby Union and if there is any inconsistency between these rules and the Laws of the Game Rugby Union then these rules will prevail.

RULE 3. Communication with the Union

Rule 3.1 A notice, request, consent, approval or communication to the Union under these rules (**Notice**) must be:

- (a) in writing, in English and signed by a person duly authorised by the sender; and
- (b) delivered either:
 - (i) by hand to the Union's offices located at 203 Underwood Avenue, Floreat WA 6014; or
 - (ii) by prepaid post to PO Box 146, Floreat WA 6014; or
 - (iii) by scanning and emailing to justin.shakeshaft@rugbywa.com.au as varied by any notification given by the Union.

Rule 3.2 A Notice takes effect when taken to be received and is taken to be received:

- (a) if hand delivered, on delivery;
- (b) if sent by mail, within five (5) business days from date of posting;
- (c) if sent by email, when received within business operating hours.

If the delivery, receipt or transmission is not on a business day or is after 5.00pm on a business day, the notice is taken to be received at 9.00am on the next business day.

Rule 3.3 In all cases the onus will be on the club, player or their authorised representative to prove that the notice was received by the Union.

CONDUCT OF COMPETITION

RULE 4. Method of conducting Competitions

Rule 4.1 The Union:

- (a) will determine the number, structure and timing of competitions and matches to be conducted in a particular season; and
- (b) may cancel, postpone or otherwise vary the number, structure and timing of any competition or any matches; and
- (c) will release a fee schedule per participant for participation in any competition on an annual basis.

- Rule 4.2** Clubs will be requested to give notice to the Union advising the Union of their club's preliminary intentions relative to the number of teams to be entered in the next season's competitions and this information will be used by the Union as the basis for planning the next season.
- Rule 4.3** The details of competitions planned for any year will be advised to all clubs by the end of January in any year.
- Rule 4.4** Clubs must give notice to the Union confirming the number of teams in all competitions which that club will enter in the forthcoming season by the date nominated by the Union.
- Rule 4.5** Clubs must provide full details of all teams coaching staff including their contact details and details of their coaching or other relevant accreditations and/or certificates by the date nominated by the Union, approximately 2 weeks prior to the start of the season. If a team only has one coach then, for the purposes of these rules, that coach will be considered to be the Head Coach of that team.
- Rule 4.6** Any club that is in debt from a previous season cannot play in any future competitions until all debt has been cleared.
- Rule 4.7** The Union will provide an online registration portal for individual players in accordance with the Rugby AU Registration Regulations. Each club must pay all individual player fees, registered by the club and not paid by players on the dates specified in the invoices issued by the Union.
- Rule 4.8** The Union has the right to allocate the teams nominated by the clubs to such competitions and such grades as the Union and the Senior Competition Subcommittee decides, in conjunction with the Community Rugby Advisory Committee (CRAC), for any particular season.
- Rule 4.9** The details pertaining to the above requirements of clubs can be found in [RWA1 - Team Confirmation & Grading Procedure \(Appendix B\)](#).
- Rule 4.10** For the 2018, 2019 & 2020 seasons, RWA has implemented a new competition structure. The details of this structure can be found in [RWA1A – 2018-2020 Competition Structure \(Senior Men\) \(Appendix B\)](#).

RULE 5. Ranking Teams in Regular Season Competition Matches

- Rule 5.1** The record of a team in the 2019 Competition (not including the finals series) is to be calculated and compiled by aggregation of all the competition points that team obtains in all competition matches in which it takes part.
- Rule 5.2** At the conclusion of each match, points will be awarded by the Union as follows:
- (a) four (4) points to the winning team;
 - (b) two (2) points to each team in a match that is drawn;
 - (c) one (1) point to a team which loses the match by seven (7) points or less;
 - (d) one (1) point to any team which scores three (3) tries or more than the opposition in the match. (i.e. Team A – 6 tries vs Team B – 3 tries then difference of 3 tries or more);

- (e) five (5) points (with a deemed score of twenty-five (25) points to zero (0)) to a team whose opponent has forfeited the match;
- (f) five (5) points to a team with a bye fixture (except in the case of a competition General Bye), (with a deemed score of twenty-five (25) points to zero (0)).

Rule 5.3

The relative positions of teams in the regular season rounds for each competition will be determined by the number of total points awarded to each team. If:

- (a) two (2) or more teams in any grade have the same number of points at the end of the regular season rounds, the team with the greater difference between points scored for and against will be allotted the higher position; or
- (b) the difference in points for and against a team are also equal then the team with the highest total of points for will be allotted the higher position; or
- (c) if neither of the criteria under Rule 5.3(a) to 5.3(b) can be met to determine the respective positions of two (2) or more teams their relative positions will be determined by the drawing of lots by the Union with the first drawn team being allotted the higher position.

RULE 6. Withdrawal from Competition

Rule 6.1

A club may give notice to the Union that it wishes to withdraw a team from a competition only after that team has conceded either:

- (a) two (2) successive forfeits; or
- (b) four (4) forfeits in total;

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

Rule 6.2

Any notice to withdraw a team under Rule 6.1 must first be given with respect to the lowest grade team of the club.

Rule 6.3

The Union reserves the right to make exception to Rule 6.2 in extenuating circumstances and as a result of a formal request made by a club.

Rule 6.4

If a club withdraws teams from one (1) or more competitions, the match points in all matches played by such a team and all competition points for that team will be forfeited by the club and will not be attributed to the club for any purpose.

Rule 6.5

For the purpose of interpreting RULE 6 each team in each grade in each competition in which a club participates will be regarded as a separate team.

Rule 6.6

Where a team is moved from one grade to another at the direction of the Board, that team shall retain all competition points gained by it at the time of transfer. However, where a team is moved from one grade to another at the request of that team's club, that team shall not be entitled to retain any of the competition points it had gained up to the time of transfer.

RULE 7. Club Championship

Rule 7.1

There will be one Metropolitan Club Championship and the winner shall be determined as the club with the greatest number of club championship points earned across all its' teams in all grades.

Such points being calculated for this purpose by reference to the following table:

| GRADE | Competition Points Factor |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Premier Grade | x by 8 |
| Reserve Grade | x by 6 |
| Third Grade | x by 4 |
| Colts | x by 5 |
| Women's | x by 5 |
| Community Grade | x by 3 |

CONDUCT OF MATCHES

RULE 8. Laws of the Match

Rule 8.1 All matches must be played in accordance with World Rugby Laws of the Game Rugby Union (Laws of the Game Rugby Union) and the rulings on the Laws of the Game Rugby Union as recognised by Rugby Australia and as adopted and interpreted by the Union from time to time, including Under 20s, Women's and Seven-a-side variations if applicable, together with all relevant by-laws, directives and judicial procedures of both Rugby AU and RugbyWA. Matches shall also be played and refereed in accordance with the applicable *Rugby AU Community Rugby Game Management Guidelines – (Appendix A)* and these Competition Rules (Refer: *RWA2 - Match Day Rules (Appendix B)*).

RULE 9. Allocation of grounds

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

Rule 9.2 The ground designated for any particular match may be changed only if both participating clubs agree and the Union is given notice of that change no later than forty-eight (48) hours before the time for the commencement of that match.

Rule 9.3 The fitness of the ground for the purposes of the match designated to be played is the responsibility of the match referee to decide. The referee will decide whether the ground is fit for play after their inspection of the field, and if a ground is designated as unfit:

(a) notice of the decision of the referee will be provided to the Union by the referee/WARURA within twenty-four (24) hours; and

(b) If weather or other conditions (not covered by forfeit provisions) require a scheduled match or matches to be postponed, then these matches will be declared a draw with each club receiving two (2) competition points. No points will be awarded for 'for/against' totals. See *RWA3 – Hot and Adverse Weather Procedure (Appendix B)*.

Rule 9.4 The playing field is to be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game Rugby Union; also refer to *RWA4 – Match Day Set-Up Procedure (Appendix B)*.

RULE 10. Forfeits

- Rule 10.1** Any club intending to, or with no other option but to, forfeit a scheduled match, must do so in accordance with *RWA5 - Team Forfeit Procedure (Appendix B)*.
- Rule 10.2** Each match that is forfeited by a club will be regarded as having been won by the opposing team scheduled to play the relevant match and which, but for the forfeit, would have been played.
- Rule 10.3** Five (5) regular season round points, with a deemed score of twenty-five (25) points to zero (0), shall be awarded to a team whose opponent has forfeited the match.
- Rule 10.4** Clubs must contact the Competition Manager by 10am on the 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.

PARTICIPANTS

RULE 11. Registration of Participants

- Rule 11.1** Only persons registered in accordance with *RWA6 - Registration Procedure: Player, Coach, Club Officials & Volunteers (Appendix B)* will be eligible to take part in any match in any competition including any finals series conducted by the Union.
- Rule 11.2** Persons with financial indebtedness either to the Union, or their club, will be ineligible to take part in any match in any competition including any finals series conducted by the Union.
- Rule 11.3** All players must be registered online in Rugby Xplorer, and if necessary, have a valid, *and completed*, clearance from their former club. Failure to be appropriately registered, and cleared, will result in a player being ineligible to participate in any 2019 RWA competition.

RULE 12. Eligibility of Players & Coaches to Participate in the 2019 Competition

- Rule 12.1** Subject to the further provisions of this rule, a player must be at least 18 years of age to be eligible to play in any Open age grade competition or competition match. Further provisions to this rule, including exemptions can be found in *RWA7 – Player & Coach Eligibility Criteria Procedure (Appendix B)*.
- Rule 12.2** Coach Qualifications – in order to participate in the role of coach in the competition, coaches must hold the coaching accreditations as detailed in *RWA7 – Player & Coach Eligibility Criteria Procedure (Appendix B)*.

RULE 13. Clearances (formerly known as 'Transfers')

- Rule 13.1** Any player, or participant, wishing to play/participate for another club must do so in accordance with *RWA8 – Player & Participant Clearance & Transfer Procedure (Appendix B)*.
- Rule 13.2** No player or coach, once he or she is registered to a club for the purposes of the 2019 Competition, shall be permitted to participate in any competition matches for any other club unless, **and until**, he or she is duly cleared to their new club.

Rule 13.3 No application for permission to move between metropolitan clubs within WA, shall be granted after **Round 9** of the Senior Metropolitan Competition.

Rule 13.4 Permission to play in the competition or in any competition matches will not be granted to a player who is or was at any time registered with another Union until he/she produces documentary evidence to RWA and makes a written statement or declaration, on the appropriate form as provided by World Rugby or Rugby Australia, that is sufficient to satisfy RWA, that the written consent of that other Union to the player's move to WA is being properly and lawfully obtained.

Rule 13.5 If RWA is satisfied (on reasonable grounds) that a player or coach of club that is seeking a registration and or transfer pursuant to this rule, knowingly provided false or misleading information or documentation, then the Competition Manager shall have the power to suspend that person or that club from participating in the 2019 Competition for such period and on such terms as the Competition Manager may (in his/her absolute discretion) determine to be appropriate.

Rule 13.6 Failure by any club to comply with, or found to be in breach of, any of the above clauses may, at the discretion of the Competition Manager, be fined an amount not exceeding \$500 and/or subject to the loss of competition points as determined to be appropriate by the Competition Manager.

RULE 14. Western Force Contracted Players

Rule 14.1 Western Force contracted players are eligible to play in any RWA competition. Full details of the eligibility requirements for WF contracted players, and the conditions under which they can play, must be in accordance with the conditions provided in *RWA9 – Western Force Player and Club Interaction Policy (Appendix B)*.

RULE 15. Representative teams

Rule 15.1 All clubs must make their players available for selection in any state representative team selected by the Union.

Rule 15.2 All players selected in a state team squad, under the auspices of the Union, will be ineligible to represent their club in any match, within five (5) days before any match played by a state representative team selected from that state team squad unless specifically notified to the contrary, in writing, by the Union.

Rule 15.3 Players that are financially indebted to their club or the Union are ineligible for selection in a state team squad.

Rule 15.4 Any player who is selected in a state team squad and as such misses a round(s) for their club during the regular season, will be granted these missed round(s) towards their finals eligibility.

MATCH DAY RULES AND PROCEDURES

RULE 16. Rules and Procedures

Rule 16.1 The conduct of all matches in any RWA Competition will be governed by Rugby AU's applicable *Community Rugby Game Management Guidelines – (Appendix A)*.

Rule 16.2 Details of the rules for regular season competition matches, by which all clubs, teams, players and participants must abide by, are in *RWA2 - Match Day Rules* and *RWA4 – Match Day Set-Up Procedures (Appendix B)* which cover:

- Match duration
- Replacements and rolling substitutions
- First aid procedures
- Front row player requirements
- Water attendants
- Front row players
- Night games
- Player uniforms
- Game Abandonment
- Uncontested scrums
- Club championships
- Minimum player numbers
- Ground Marshall role
- Ground set-up & match day requirements

Rule 16.3 Where Challenge Cup competitions exist (currently the RugbyWA Cup is competed for by Premier Grade teams), refer to *RWA10 – Challenge Cup(s) & Cup Holder Responsibilities (Appendix B)* for the procedure under which they are to be conducted.

Rule 16.4 Match and results: Refer *RWA11 – Match Results Procedure (Appendix B)*.

Rule 16.5 Where a player or team is suspended, disqualified or unqualified, due to a suspension, they shall be ineligible to play in any match.

Rule 16.6 Any club which plays an ineligible player or team shall be deemed to have forfeited the match in question and shall be liable to suspension, disqualification or such other penalty as the Competition Manager may decide.

Rule 16.7 Ineligible and/or suspended players or participants are NOT permitted within the boundaries of the field of play.

Rule 16.8 For the purposes of this RULE 16, an ineligible player shall include a player suspended or disqualified from any other sanctioned competition and / or any other Union and/or from any other code of sport, unless deemed otherwise by the Union.

RULE 17. Match Officials

Rule 17.1 Referees will be appointed for all matches by the WARURA and RWA in accordance with *RWA12 – Match Official Appointments Procedure (Appendix B)* and covers:

- Minimum referee accreditation & registration
- Non-appointment
- Non-arrival
- Late arrival
- Injury or illness

Rule 17.2 **No Replacement:** If there is no suitable replacement available, the match must be abandoned and a nil-all draw will be recorded for the game.

Rule 17.3 **Assistant Referees:** where possible, assistant referees will be appointed by the WARURA to Premier grade games. Where assistant referees are not appointed, the two (2) clubs participating in any match **MUST** appoint one (1) assistant referee each.

RULE 18. Ground Marshalls

Rule 18.1 Each club **MUST** provide a Ground Marshall for competition matches played **at each venue, home or away** – *RWA4 – Match Day Set-Up Procedure (Appendix B)*.

The responsibilities of the Ground Marshall include:

- ensuring the grounds are properly marked and roped off;
- welcoming all referees and other officials to the venue;
- assisting officials with their match preparation and;
- organising and supervising crowd control.

Rule 18.2 Any club that persistently fails to provide a Ground Marshall to act in accordance with this rule will be subject to having to attend a Code of Conduct hearing and/or be fined an amount not exceeding \$250 and/or be liable to the loss of competition points as determined to be appropriate by the Competition Manager.

Rule 18.3 Clubs will receive an official letter from the Competition Manager that they are in breach of this RULE before any formal sanctions are considered to be imposed.

RULE 19. Replacements

Rule 19.1 Players may be replaced due to illness or injury, or for tactical reasons, at any time during any match in accordance with the *RWA2 – Match Day Policy (Appendix B)*.

Rule 19.2 In the unfortunate event of a serious injury refer to *RWA2 – Match Day Policy (Appendix B)* for possible game abandonment.

RULE 20. Uncontested Scrums

Rule 20.1 If at any time during the course of a match (including from the start of a match), at least three suitably trained front row players are not available to a team then, in the interests of safety, the referee must direct that the game shall proceed with uncontested scrums. However, if uncontested scrums are awarded due to a team's failure to provide the minimum number of suitably trained front row players as provided for in this rule, then the result of the match may be reviewed by the Board at the instigation of the Competition Manager.

Rule 20.2 Where there is a possibility of uncontested scrums during a game, refer to *RWA2 – Match Day Policy (Appendix B)* (uncontested scrum procedure) for minimum player numbers required in the front row before transitioning into uncontested scrums.

RULE 21. Concussion

Rule 21.1 Whenever a player receives an injury to the head, either from a direct blow or indirectly, potential serious head injury or concussion **MUST** be considered a possible consequence of the impact.

Rule 21.2 Players, parents, coaches and officials need to act in the best interest of player safety and welfare at all times. Taking responsibility for the recognition, removal and referral of players to a medical doctor and then ensuring concussion is appropriately managed is fundamental to Rugby AU's Concussion Guidance. Refer *Rugby AU Concussion Guidance (Appendix C)*.

Rule 21.3 All incidences of concussion must be recorded in Rugby Xplorer match statistics. Refer *RWA11 –Match Results Procedure (Appendix B)*.

BREACHES OF DISCIPLINE

RULE 22. Code of Conduct and violation of the Code of Conduct

Rule 22.1 Clubs, participants and spectators are expected to comply with *Rugby AU's - Code of Conduct – (Appendix C)* as well as RWA's Code of Conduct.

Rule 22.2 For further information regarding Code of Conduct processes, refer *RWA13 - RWA Code of Conduct Violation Procedure (Appendix B)*.

RULE 23. Removal of Players from the field of play

If a player is sent off the field of play by a referee during a match by the showing of a red or yellow card the *RWA14 - Send Off Policy & Judicial Process (Appendix B)* must be followed.

RULE 24. Participant Citing procedures

Any participant may submit a citing report with respect to any alleged breach of:

- (a) the Laws of the Game Rugby Union; or
- (b) these rules,

in accordance with *RWA15 - Citing Procedure (Appendix B)*.

RULE 25. Judicial Committee

All RWA Judicial procedures are found in *RWA13 - Code of Conduct Violation Procedure, RWA14 - Send Off Policy & Judicial Process, and RWA15 – Citing Procedure (Appendix B)*. All of these procedures are subject to *Rugby AU's Disciplinary Rules – (Appendix C)*

RULE 26. Appeals

Rule 26.1 Any decision of the Judicial Committee, or the Code of Conduct Committee, will be final unless there is an appeal to the Union within **fourteen (14)** days of the decision appealed against. An appeal will only be an opportunity to make submissions on errors in the application or interpretation of the Laws of the Game

Rugby Union, relevant Codes of Conduct or the Competition Rules, unless the Appeals Committee determines that extraordinary circumstances exist.

Rule 26.2 A committee appointed by the Board from time to time will hear all appeals against decisions of the Judicial Committee, or the Code of Conduct Committee.

Rule 26.3 All appeals must be made in accordance with *RWA16 – Appeals Procedure (Appendix B)*, in writing, on the appropriate appeals form, and submitted to the Competition Manager and must be accompanied by a deposit of **\$250.00**. This deposit will be forfeited if the appeal is dismissed or refunded if the appeal is upheld by the Appeals Committee.

RULE 27. Right of appeal against Union’s decision

In any case where matters for the decision of the Union under these rules have been delegated by the Board to the discretion of a sub-committee or other person, there will be a right of appeal within **fourteen (14)** days of the decision appealed against. Such appeals will be treated as if they were an appeal under RULE 26.

FINALS SERIES

RULE 28. Conduct of Finals Series

Rule 28.1 At the conclusion of all regular season home and away matches the competition will be decided by the playing of finals series matches between such teams and in such a manner as shall be directed by the Competition Manager.

Rule 28.2 No team from any club which is financially indebted to the Union for any reason will be eligible to participate in any match in a finals series.

Rule 28.3 No player or official who is financially indebted to the Union for any reason will be eligible to participate in any capacity in any finals series.

Rule 28.4 The WARURA will notify the Union of the names of all referees appointed to officiate in all matches conducted by the Union in any finals series.

Rule 28.5 All finals series matches will be conducted at such times and at such venues as shall be determined by the Competition Manager.

Rule 28.6 Rules for finals series matches are available in *RWA17 – Finals Series Matches (Appendix B)*.

RULE 29. Qualification to Play in the Finals Series

Rule 29.1 For the purposes of RULE 28 and establishing player eligibility to compete in Finals matches refer to *RWA18 - Finals Eligibility & Dispensation Policy (Appendix B)*.

In Summary:

- (a) a player will be deemed to have played in a match in any particular grade if, during that match, they have taken to the field of play, with the intention of playing;
- (b) a player who plays in more than one (1) grade during the same weekend will be deemed to have played in the highest of those grades of which s/he was a ‘run-on-player’ and only one (1) match per weekend will qualify for eligibility under RULE 29.

Rule 29.2 Dispensations for finals – refer to *RWA18 – Finals Eligibility & Dispensation Policy (Appendix B)*.

INTERPRETATION & DEFINITIONS

In these Rules:

Rugby Australia and **Rugby AU** means Rugby Australia Limited (ACN 002 898 544) of Moore Park New South Wales 2021;

Rugby AU Code of Conduct means the Code of Conduct (CcC) issued and revised from time to time by Rugby AU;

Assistant Referee means a person who has been approved and accredited by the Union as an assistant referee;

Best Endeavours means 'prompt and diligent actions using all reasonably available resources and powers, in order to achieve the intended outcome'.

Board means the Board of Directors of RugbyWA (the Union) or any committee thereof or any individual director or employee of RugbyWA to which the Board has delegated its' authority;

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

Business Operating Hours means the hours from 9.00am to 5.00pm on any Business Day;

Club means any club, rugby union or other body which has been approved by the Board to participate in the Competition and accepted by the Union as an affiliated club and "clubs" shall have an equivalent meaning;

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

Community Rugby Advisory Committee (CRAC) is a committee set up to advise on community rugby matters and provide liaison between the Community & Game Development department and the RugbyWA Board.

Competition means each series of matches conducted by the Union during any season designated by the Union and notified to the clubs in terms of grade, age level and number of teams from each club competing in that competition.

Competition Administrator means a person who assists the Competition Manager in the day-to-day administration of the competition;

Competition Manager also known as Senior Competition Manager (SCM) means the employee of RugbyWA who has been nominated by the Board to be responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the competition;

Constitution means the constitution of the Union;

Finals Series means the series of matches conducted by the Union in accordance with RULE 28 after completion of the regular season rounds;

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

Grade means the teams designated by the Union as a grade for the purpose of participating in and conducting the competition;

Ground Marshall means a club official whom that person's club has notified to RugbyWA as being responsible for performing the duties prescribed pursuant to RULE 18;

Home Club means the club designated by the Union to be the home club for any particular match;

Judicial Committee means the committee that has in any given year been duly appointed by the Board;

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

2019 Laws of the Game Rugby Union means the laws issued by Rugby Australia and World Rugby from time to time as adopted by the Union;

Match means any match of Rugby Union conducted by the Union;

Match Official means referee, assistant referee, touch judge, and the sideline referees (the latter also known as 4's and 5's);

Minimum Number of Qualifying Matches means the number of matches calculated in accordance with the *RWA18– Finals Eligibility & Dispensation Policy (Appendix B)*.

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

Participant means a player, a referee, assistant referee or other match official, selector, coach, trainer, manager or other team official and an individual involved in the organisation, administration or promotion of rugby including a director, officer or employee of a club;

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

Player means a person registered to play in a competition and, except to the extent otherwise specified in these rules, includes Junior and Youth players;

Playing Enclosure means the playing area and the perimeter area;

Policy means a policy issued by the Union and having the effect of a rule under these Competition Rules;

Premier Grade means the highest grade of the men's senior competition;

Procedure means a procedure issued by the Union and having the effect of a rule under these Competition Rules;

Referee means the person appointed by WARURA to officiate a match;

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

Regular Season Competition matches or Competition matches means the series of matches conducted by the Union in any season other than the finals series;

Round means each set of consecutive matches, starting from the commencement of a season, in which each team in each grade from each club plays each other team from the equivalent grade in each other club once or as otherwise may be determined by the Union from time to time;

Rugby Xplorer means the online registration and competition management system established by Rugby Australia and used by the Union to record the details of players and participants;

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

Season means all the matches in all rounds in all competitions conducted by the Union over the periods designated by the Union in any calendar year;

Selection Committee means the referees selection committee or 'CAB', as appointed by the Western Australian Rugby Union Referees Association (**WARURA**);

Senior Competition means the Competition and matches run by the Union for players over the age of eighteen (18) years as at 1 January in any given season;

Senior Competition Sub-Committee (SCSC) is a sub-committee set up to help evaluate the needs of Community Rugby's competition structures and to make recommendations to CRAC in relation to those needs. This Sub-Committee is intended to assist in enhancing and protecting the interests of Community Rugby in WA.

Smart Rugby means the program of accreditation and training of that name conducted by Rugby Australia;

Spectator means any person present at a match but who is not a participant;

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

Team means any group of players designated each week by a club to play in a particular grade in the competition;

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

Union means the Western Australian Rugby Union Limited operating as **RugbyWA (RWA)** and includes any person or sub-committee to whom the Board has delegated any of the responsibilities of the Union under these Rules;

WARURA means the Western Australian Rugby Union Referees Association;

Western Force (WF) Contracted Player is a player who is formally contracted with the Minderoo Foundation. This definition does not include any player on a scholarship with the Senior Academy.

World Rugby means the World Rugby Council;

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

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

A reference to time is to Perth, Australia time;

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

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

All policies and procedures referred to in these Rules form part of these Rules.

APPENDIX A – Rugby AU’s 2019 Community Rugby Game Management Guidelines

APPENDIX B – RWA Policies and Procedures

Each of the Policies and Procedures listed in the table below form part of these rules and are to be read in conjunction with these rules and in accordance with the definitions and rules of interpretation applicable to these rules. These policies and procedures can be found at:

RUGBY WA POLICIES & PROCEDURES

| Number | Subject |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RWA1 | RWA1 - Team Confirmation & Grading Procedure |
| RWA1A | RWA1A - 2018-2020 Competition Structure (Senior Men) |
| RWA2 | RWA2 - Match Day Rules |
| RWA3 | RWA3 - Hot Adverse Weather Procedure |
| RWA4 | RWA4 - Match Day Set-Up Procedure |
| RWA5 | RWA5 - Team Forfeit Procedure |
| RWA6 | RWA6 - Registration Procedure: Player, Coach, Club Officials & Volunteers |
| RWA7 | RWA7 - Player & Coach Eligibility Criteria Procedure |
| RWA8 | RWA8 - Player & Participant Clearance & Transfer Procedure |
| RWA9 | RWA9 - Western Force Player & Club Interaction Policy |
| RWA10 | RWA10 - Challenge Cup(s) & Cup Holder Responsibilities |
| RWA11 | RWA11 - Match Results Procedure |
| RWA12 | RWA12 - Match Official Appointments Procedure |
| RWA13 | RWA13 – RWA Code of Conduct Violation Procedure |
| RWA14 | RWA14 - Send Off Policy & Judicial Process |
| RWA15 | RWA15 – Citing Procedure |
| RWA16 | RWA16 – Appeals Procedure |
| RWA17 | RWA17 - Finals Series Matches |
| RWA18 | RWA18 - Finals Eligibility & Dispensation Policy |

| | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------|
| RWA19 | RWA19-Variations to Womens Rugby Matches |
| RWA20 | RWA20 – Variations to Colts (Under 20) Rugby Matches |

APPENDIX C – Rugby AU Codes & Policies

<http://www.rugbyau.com/about/codes-and-policies/all-codes-and-policies>