

COMPETITION RULES OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RUGBY UNION 2018

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PREAMBLE

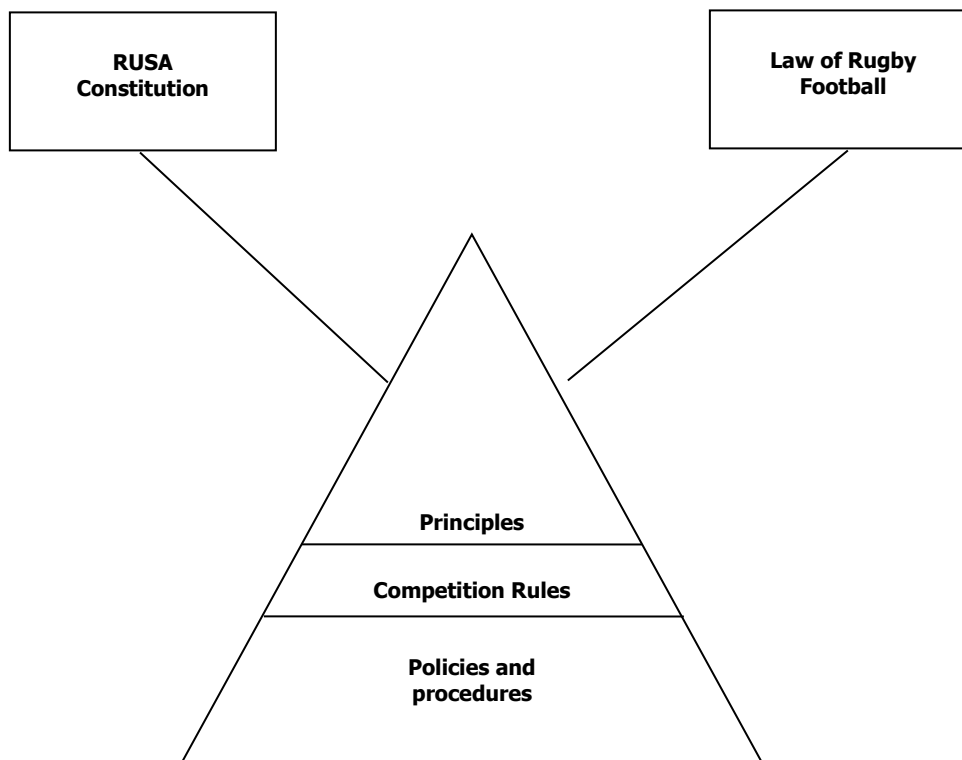
These are the Rules governing Competitions (**Rules**) conducted by the South Australian Rugby Union Limited (**Union**) and are issued by authority of the Board of Directors of the Union (**Board**).

The Rules apply to all Players and Officials of all Clubs affiliated with the Union and the South Australian Rugby Union Referees Association.

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 RUSA Policies, Laws of Rugby Football and the Constitution of the Union.

HOW THESE RULES APPLY



PRINCIPLES

These rules are designed to:

1. To foster, prompt and facilitate Rugby Union football throughout South Australia whilst upholding the values of the Game.
2. To adapt and enforce the laws of the game of Rugby Union football as promulgated by World Rugby 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 a competition between clubs which is competitive, fair and transparent.
6. Player eligibility for finals in principle should be a reasonable reflection of the competing team during the minor rounds competition.

ROLE OF THE UNION

RULE 1. Powers of the Union

- Rule 1.1** Subject to RULE 2 the Union 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 1.2.
- Rule 1.2** Changes made by the Union under this RULE 1 must be notified to each Club, in writing, within fourteen (14) days of the change.
- Rule 1.3** These Rules will be reviewed annually by the Union and a copy of these Rules shall be sent to each Club by 31st March each year.
- Rule 1.4** 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 Rugby Football

- 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 Rugby Football and if there is any inconsistency between these Rules and the Laws of Rugby Football 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 Memorial Drive Complex War Memorial Drive, North Adelaide SA 5006; or
 - (ii) by prepaid post to PO Box 43, North Adelaide SA 5006; or
 - (iii) by scanning and emailing to info@sarugby.com.auas 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 prepaid post, on the fourth (4th) Business Day after the date of posting (or on the seventh (7th) Business Day after the date of posting if posted to or from a place outside Australia);
 - (c) if sent by email, when received within Business Operating Hours.
- but 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.

Rule 3.4 A notice to a Club required to be given under these Rules must be given by the Union in accordance with the Constitution.

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 the Competition on an annual basis.

Rule 4.2 By 30 November of each year Clubs must 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 through the Competition Advisory Group 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 20th 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 Where Clubs have taken on the liability for the fees and levies of a portion or all of their players, only Clubs that have paid in full all fees and levies rendered by the Union including as set out in the fees schedule issued by the Union for the previous Season are eligible to submit application for entry of Teams into the Competition to be run in any subsequent Season.

Rule 4.6 The Union will provide an online registration portal for individual players in accordance with the Rugby Australia Registration Regulations. Each player is responsible for paying their individual playing fees prior to playing in any game in any competition season. Where required, 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 (e.g. in the case of a defaulted Part Payment).

Rule 4.7 The Union has the right to allocate the Teams nominated by the Clubs to such Competitions and such Grades as the Union decides, in conjunction with the Competition Advisory Group, for any particular Season.

RULE 5. Ranking Teams in Minor Round

Rule 5.1 At the conclusion of each Match, points will be awarded by the Union as follows:

- (a) five (5) points (with a deemed score of twenty (20) points to zero (0)) to a Team whose opponent has forfeited the Match;
- (b) four (4) points to the winning Team;
- (c) two (2) points to each Team in a Match in which the scores are equal
- (d) one (1) point to a Team which loses the Match by seven (7) points or less;

(e) one (1) point to any Team which scores at least four (4) tries in the Match.

Rule 5.2 The Union may determine that further points may be awarded or deducted for defined situations provided that the circumstances under which those points will be allocated are advised by Notice to all Clubs.

Rule 5.3 The relative positions of Teams in the Minor Round for each Competition will be determined by the number of total points awarded to each Team.

Rule 5.4 If:

- (a) two (2) or more Teams in any Grade have the same number of points at the end of the Minor Round, 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) the difference in points for and against a Team and the total number of points for each Team are equal then the relative positions of each Team will be determined by reference to the number of disciplinary offences committed by each Team during the Minor Round with the team recording the least number of disciplinary offences in the Minor Round being allotted the higher position; or
- (d) none of the criteria under Rule 5.4(a) to Rule 5.4(c) can be met to determine the respective positions of two (2) 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.
- (e) teams in the same grade have played a different number of games in the Minor Round, these will be corrected by the Union via a formula to ensure that all teams finish the Minor Round on the same number of games

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) three (3) forfeits in total;

during any one (1) 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 Despite any withdrawal of a Team under Rule 6.1 or 6.3 the Club will incur a financial liability of \$1,000 per Senior Team (\$500.00 per Junior Team U12 to U18) at the discretion of the Union.

Rule 6.5 If a Club withdraws Teams from one (1) or more Competitions, the Match Points ("for" and "against") 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. The opposition of a withdrawn team will retain all For, Against and Competition points for matches already played. All future matches against the withdrawn team will be recorded as a Forfeit, and points awarded per RULE 10, unless deemed otherwise by the Union.

Rule 6.6 For the purpose of interpreting this RULE 6 each Team in each Grade in each Competition in which a Club participates will be regarded as a separate Team.

RULE 7. Club championship

Rule 7.1 There may be a club championship, which will be determined from time to time by the Union.

CONDUCT OF MATCHES

RULE 8. Laws of the Match

Rule 8.1 Matches must be played in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Football and the rulings on the Laws of Rugby Football as recognised by Rugby Australia and as adopted and interpreted by the Union from time to time.

RULE 9. Allotment 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 and the appointed Referee agree no later than forty eight (48) hours before the scheduled time for the commencement of that Match and the Union is given Notice of that change twenty four (24) 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 upon it may be decided on the field by the Referee and if a ground is designated as unfit:

- (a) Notice of the decision of the Referee will be provided to the Union by each Club who was to participate in that Match within twenty four (24) hours of the decision of the Referee; and
- (b) the Match will be declared a draw.

RULE 10. Forfeits

Rule 10.1 Each Match which 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 10.2 Five (5) Minor Round points, with a deemed score of twenty (20) points to zero (0) shall be awarded to a Team whose opponent has forfeited the Match.

Rule 10.3 Any Club intending to forfeit a Match must do so in accordance with the RUSA Team Forfeit Procedure

PLAYERS

RULE 11. Registration of Players

Rule 11.1 Only persons registered in accordance with the Rugby Australia Registration Regulations will be eligible to take part in any Match in any Competition including any Finals Series conducted by the Union.

Rule 11.2 Co-Joined Clubs must also adhere to RUSA Co-Joined Clubs Policy and Procedure, and where there are conflicting rules, the RUSA Co-Joined Clubs Policy and Procedure will prevail.

Rule 11.3 Persons with financial indebtedness to the Union will be ineligible to take part in any match in any competition including any Finals Series conducted by the Union.

RULE 12. Player transfers

Rule 12.1 Any Player wishing to transfer to another Club must do so in accordance with the Rugby Australia Player Clearance and Transfer Procedures. Players are unable to transfer within Clubs competing in the RUSA Competition in a given year after the second Competition BYE (14 August 2018), unless otherwise determined by the Union.

Rule 12.2 Co-Joined Clubs must also adhere to Co-Joined Clubs Policy and Procedure, and where there are conflicting rules, the Co-Joined Clubs Policy and Procedure will prevail.

Rule 12.3 A Club may only withhold a player clearance on account of one (1) years outstanding fees. If a Club have other criteria they wish to withhold a player clearance for, evidence of this should be in the form of a written agreement between the player and the Club, and provided to RUSA for consideration.

RULE 13. Representative teams

Rule 13.1 All Clubs must make their Players available for selection in any State representative team selected by the Union.

Rule 13.2 All Players selected in a State Team Squad, under the auspices of the Union (including but not limited to the Black Falcons), will be ineligible to represent their Club in any Match, within five (5) days before or after 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 13.3 Any Player who is selected in a State Team Squad will be deemed to be an ambassador of the Union and of its values and beliefs, and must comply with such further Rules and conditions governing their conduct as may be set down from time to time by the Union including in the form of a player participation agreement and the Union may at any time inform a Player that they are no longer eligible to participate in the State Team Squad or that they are no longer a selected Player on the State Team Squad.

Rule 13.4 A Player who is selected in a State Team Squad may receive material benefits by way of clothing, playing equipment, meals, travel subsidies and the like from the Union but the selection of the Player and their participation in a State Team Squad is on a voluntary basis and there will be no employment, partnership or agency relationship created between such a Player and the Union and such a Player is not entitled to receive any employee benefits or entitlements through the Union.

Rule 13.5 Players that are financially indebted to the Union are ineligible for selection in a State Team Squad.

MATCH DAY RULES AND PROCEDURES

RULE 14. Rules and Procedures

Rule 14.1 All Clubs, Teams, Players and participants must abide by the RUSA Match Day Procedures.

RULE 15. Appointment of Referee and Assistant Referees

Rule 15.1 Referees will be appointed for all Matches by the SARURA and Rugby SA in accordance with the Rugby Australia Match Official Accreditation Policy.

Rule 15.2 The SARURA 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 15.3 If a Referee appointed under this RULE 15 does not attend at the Match for which they have been appointed within fifteen (15) minutes of the time set down by the Union for the Match to commence a substitute Referee may be appointed in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Football.

Rule 15.4 If a Referee is not appointed under Rule 15.1 a Referee must be appointed in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Union.

Rule 15.5 If a Referee is unable to continue to act in the capacity of Referee during any Match through illness or injury a substitute Referee must be appointed for the remainder of the Match in accordance with the Laws of Rugby Football and the Match will then proceed.

Rule 15.6 No Match will proceed without a Referee.

Rule 15.7 Where possible, Assistant Referees will be appointed by SARURA and where Assistant Referees are not so appointed, the two (2) Clubs participating in any Match must appoint one (1) Assistant Referee each.

Rule 15.8 Any Assistant Referee in any junior grade must not Assistant Referee any match which is more than 2 years above their current age.

Rule 15.9 To Assistant Referee any senior match, the individual must be at least 16 years of age.

Rule 15.10 For all Matches in the Junior and Youth Competition in age grades from Under 12 and above, Referees will be appointed by the SARURA Selection Committee.

Rule 15.11 For all Matches in the Junior and Youth Competition in age grades below and not including Under 12, Referees must:

- (a) be Smart Rugby accredited;
- (b) have completed a Police Background check; and
- (c) be provided and appointed by the Club designated by the Union as the home Club.

RULE 16. Replacements

Rule 16.1 Players may be replaced due to illness or injury at any time during any Match in accordance with the RUSA Replacement Policy.

RULE 17. Uncontested Scrums

Rule 17.1 Where there is an uncontested scrum during a Game, the RUSA Uncontested Scrum Policy must be followed.

BREACHES OF PLAYER DISCIPLINE

RULE 18. Concussion

Rule 18.1 Refer to <http://www.rugbyaustralia.com.au/runningrugby/PolicyRegister/ConcussionProcedureManagement.aspx>

Rule 18.2 Should a Blue Card be issued to a player by the Referee in the course of a match, the Blue Card process (and graduated return to play) must be adhered to.

RULE 19. Code of conduct and violation of the code of conduct

Rule 19.1 Clubs, Participants and Spectators are expected to comply with the Rugby Australia Code of Conduct and abide by the Rugby Australia Expectations of Behaviour Guidelines promulgated by the Union and Rugby Australia.

RULE 20. Removal of Players from the field of play

Rule 20.1 If a Player is sent off the field of play by a Referee during a Match by the showing of a red, yellow or blue card the RUSA Send Off Policy must be followed.

RULE 21. Judicial Committee

Rule 21.1 All SA Rugby Judicial procedures are now contained in RUSA Send Off Policy, RUSA Citing Procedures, and RUSA Judicial Committee Policy.

RULE 22. Participant citing procedures

Rule 22.1 Any Participant may submit a Citing Report with respect to any alleged breach of:

(a) the Laws of the Game; or

(b) these Rules,

in accordance with RUSA Citing Procedures.

RULE 23. Playing ineligible, suspended or unqualified Players or Teams

Rule 23.1 While a Player or Team is suspended, disqualified, or unqualified they shall be ineligible to play in any Match.

Rule 23.2 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 Union may decide.

Rule 23.3 For the purposes of this RULE 23, 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 23.4 Ineligible and/or suspended Players or Participants are not permitted within the boundaries of the field of play nor are they to act as team trainers, runners, etc.

RULE 24. Appeals

Rule 24.1 Any decision of the Judicial Committee, Rugby SA, or the Code of Conduct Committee will be final unless there is an appeal to the Union within 48 hours of the decision appealed against, unless otherwise determined by the Union. An appeal will only be an opportunity to make submissions on errors in the application or interpretation of the Laws of the Game, relevant Codes of Conduct or the Competition Rules, unless the Appeals Committee determines that extraordinary circumstances exist.

Rule 24.2 A committee appointed by the Board from time to time will hear all appeals against decisions of the Judicial Committee, the Match Management Committee or Rugby SA (Appeals Committee).

Rule 24.3 All appeals must be made in accordance with RUSA Appeals Procedure in writing on the appropriate Appeals Form and submitted to the Union and must be accompanied by a deposit of \$200.00. This deposit will be forfeited if the appeal is dismissed or refunded if the appeal is upheld by the Appeals Committee.

RULE 25. Right of appeal against Union's decision

Rule 25.1 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 48 hours of the decision appealed against, unless otherwise determined by the Union. Such appeals will be treated as if they were an appeal under RULE 24.

FINALS SERIES

RULE 26. Conduct of Finals Series

Rule 26.1 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 26.2 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 26.3 Finals format will be determined on an annual basis by RUSA having sought consultation with Competition Advisory Group (CAG), and Rugby Advisory Committee (RAC). This format will be promulgated to Members prior to the start of Minor Rounds.

Rule 26.4 In any Premier Grade Match conducted in a Finals Series (including a Grand Final) where the scores:

- (a) are equal at the end of the allotted period of play (including any injury time) then:
 - (i) an extra period of ten (10) minutes playing time each way, without an interval, will be played, being a total of twenty (20) minutes;
 - (ii) Teams will change ends before the start of extra time and at the half-way point of extra time; and
 - (iii) the period of extra time must commence not later than five (5) minutes after the end of the ordinary period of play.
- (b) remain equal at the end of extra time then played in accordance with Rule 26.4(a):
 - (i) an extra period of up to five (5) minutes playing time, without an interval, will be played until one (1) team scores (**Sudden Death Time**);

- (ii) Teams will change ends before the start of Sudden Death Time;
 - (iii) Sudden Death Time must commence not later than five (5) minutes after the end of extra time; and
 - (iv) the first team to score during Sudden Death Time will be the winner.
- (c) remain equal at the end of Sudden Death Time the Team participating in that Game which was allocated the highest position in the Minor Round points table pursuant to Rule 5.3 and Rule 5.4 will be declared the winner.

Rule 26.5

Subject to Rule 26.4, in any other Senior Grade Match (including a Grand Final) where the scores:

- (a) are equal at the expiration of the ordinary period of play (excluding injury time) then an extra period of five (5) minutes playing time each way will be played as follows:
- (i) Teams will change ends at the expiration of ordinary time;
 - (ii) extra time will commence not later than five (5) minutes after the expiration of ordinary time;
 - (iii) one (1) period of five (5) minutes will be played;
 - (iv) the Teams will change ends at the expiration of the five (5) minutes without an interval; and
 - (v) a second period of five (5) minutes will be played.
- (b) remain equal at the expiration of extra time played in accordance with Rule 26.5(a), the Team participating in that Game which was allocated the highest position in the Minor Round points table pursuant to Rule 5.3 and Rule 5.4 will be declared the winner.

RULE 27.

Competition conditions

Rule 27.1

For the purposes of RULE 27.

- (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 27. This rule also applies to Co-Joined Clubs.

RULE 28.

Qualification to Play in the Finals Series

Rule 28.1

Refer to RUSA Finals Eligibility Policy, which is to be read in conjunction with RUSA Co-Joined Club Policy and where there are conflicting rules, RUSA Co-Joined Club Policy will prevail.

JUNIOR AND YOUTH RUGBY

RULE 29.

Grades and Ages

Rule 29.1

Each year the Union will post on the SA Rugby website a link to the Rugby Australia table of the applicable group ranges which will apply to the conduct of the Junior and Youth Competition for Clubs. See club spot – Junior Age Grade/Senior Rugby Guidelines Tables

Rule 29.2

The date for determining the age of Junior and Youth Players for the purposes of eligibility to participate in the Junior and Youth Competition will be as per the Junior Age Grade/Senior Rugby Guidelines Table.

Rule 29.3 Junior and Youth Players registered in accordance with RULE 11 must fall within the applicable age group designated by the Union under Rule 29.1 at the date prescribed by Rule 29.2 to be eligible to play in the corresponding age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition designated by the Union.

Rule 29.4 Subject to RULE 30, a Junior and Youth Player must not play and is not eligible to play in:

- (a) any Match in the Senior Competition during that Season; and
- (b) a Match in the Junior and Youth Competition in an age grade below or above the age grade determined as applicable to that Junior and Youth Player under 29.3

RULE 30. Dispensation

Rule 30.1 All Dispensations must be initiated 14 days before the potential dispensed player takes the field. The Union will consider mitigating circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

Rule 30.2 A Junior and Youth Player and their Club may apply in writing through their Club's Junior Coordinator using the Rugby Australia Senior Rugby Dispensation Procedure to Rugby SA seeking dispensation to play in the Senior Competition in accordance with the Rugby Australia Participation Policy and Safety Policy.

Rule 30.3 A Junior and Youth Player and their Club may apply in writing through their Club's Junior Coordinator (via applicable Rugby Australia dispensation form) seeking a dispensation to play one year above or one year below their eligible age grades.

- (a) if they are seeking to play above the age grade for which they qualify, by submitting a request via their club's Junior Coordinator to Rugby SA in accordance with the Rugby Australia Age Grade Dispensation Procedure.
- (b) if they are seeking to play below the age grade for which they qualify, by submitting a request via their club's Junior Coordinator to Rugby SA in accordance with the Rugby Australia Age Grade Dispensation Procedure.

Rule 30.4 Where a Junior and Youth Player has been granted dispensation to play in the Senior Competition subject to the RUSA Dispensation Procedures and the Rugby Australia Senior Rugby Dispensation Procedure, and the Club has a scheduled Junior and Youth fixture within which the Player is eligible to play, the Junior and Youth Player must play in this fixture prior to playing in the Senior Competition and subject to RULE 31.

Rule 30.5 Where a Junior player has turned 18 and has become eligible to play in the Senior Competition and the Club has a scheduled under 18 fixture within which the Player is eligible to play, the Player eligible for both Under 18 and Senior rugby must play as a run on starting or reserve player in the Under 18 fixture prior to playing in the Senior Competition.

Rule 30.6 Players may be dispensed up as standby players, there can only be a maximum of four per team. They must not play in the front row (unless obtained Rugby Australia front row approval) nor exceed the 90min playing time in a 24 hour period. (please be aware of finals eligibility criteria).

Rule 30.7 RUSA reserves the right to assess any player within the competition who are, or have to potential to, fall outside the standard deviations of height and weight for their age grade, by following the Rugby Australia Size for Age Guidelines and Procedures.

Rule 30.8 Should a player be dispensed up permanently they are not to play back down without written approval from Rugby SA.

Rule 30.9 A representative from Rugby SA will consider each application made in accordance with this RULE 30 as soon as reasonably practicable.

RULE 31. Eligibility Challenges

- Rule 31.1** If a Club wishes to challenge the eligibility of a Junior and Youth Player to play in a particular age group or a particular Match the following procedure must be followed by that Club and by the Club for whom the relevant Junior and Youth Player is registered:
- (a) the manager or coach of the relevant Team must bring that challenge to the attention of the manager and coach of the Team in which the relevant Junior and Youth Player is participating;
 - (b) Any club or individual can submit any concern through the Rugby Australia grievance procedure. This is to be submitted to the Code of Conduct Committee by 10am on the Tuesday immediately following that weekends match.
- Rule 31.2** If the Code of Conduct Committee receives a report in accordance with Rule 31.1 a determination of the eligibility of the relevant Junior and Youth Player will be made by the CoCC in accordance with the criteria for eligibility specified in these Rules, and the decision will be notified to the challenging Club and to the Club with whom the relevant Junior and Youth Player is registered.

RULE 32. 90 Minute Rule

- Rule 32.1** Irrespective of any dispensation sought or granted by RUSA, no Junior and Youth Player under the age of 18 is permitted to play for a combined total of greater than ninety (90) minutes in any consecutive twenty four (24) hour period.

RULE 33. Junior and Youth Competition Points

- Rule 33.1** All Junior and Youth Competition and Club Championship points will be determined and allocated by the JYRC.

RULE 34. Match Duration and Playing Conditions

- Rule 34.1** Matches in the Youth and Junior Competition will be played:
- (a) in two (2) equal periods of a duration designated by Rugby SA or the Union for each age grade;
 - (b) with an interval of not more than five (5) minutes between each period unless otherwise directed by the Referee.
- Rule 34.2** Where a Junior or Youth team is scheduled to play two Junior or Youth teams in any consecutive twenty four (24) hour period, these two games will be played with shortened game times, with each game consisting of a maximum of two 20-minute halves.
- Rule 34.3** SA Rugby may establish other playing conditions for matches in the Junior and Youth Competition, as they may determine, from time to time.

RULE 35. Evening Up

- Rule 35.1** In any Match in the Junior and Youth Competition conducted with Players aged twelve (12) years and under, where the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team meets the minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated by these Rules but the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team is not equal:
- (a) no Team is permitted to take the field with a total number of Junior and Youth Players which exceed the number of Junior and Youth Players on the opposing team;

- (b) the Team with the greater number of Junior and Youth Players must provide sufficient Junior and Youth Players to the opposing Team so that the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team is equal;
- (c) the Official representing the Team with the greater number of Junior and Youth Players must elect to either:
 - (i) provide sufficient Junior and Youth Players to the opposing Team so that the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team is equal; or
 - (ii) reduce the number of Junior and Youth Players on the field of play during the Match so that the number of Junior and Youth Players on the field during the Match is equal.

Rule 35.2 Subject to Rule 35.3, in any Match in the Junior and Youth Competition conducted with Players aged twelve (12) years and under, where:

- (a) at the commencement of the Match the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team meets the minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated in accordance with these Rules; and
- (b) one (1) or more Junior and Youth Players are either:
 - (i) ordered off the field or temporarily suspended by the Referee (shown a red or yellow card); or
 - (ii) leave the field of play due to illness or injury,the Match may only proceed if the Team whose Junior and Youth Player has not departed the field of play removes sufficient Junior and Youth Players from its Team from the field of play so that the number of Junior and Youth Players on each Team remains equal.

Rule 35.3 In any Match in the Junior and Youth Competition, conducted with Players aged twelve (12) years and under, if one (1) or more Junior and Youth Players are ordered off the field or temporarily suspended by the Referee (shown a red or yellow card) and the process under Rule 35.2 cannot be used due to a lack of numbers sufficient to meet the minimum number of Junior and Youth Players designated in accordance with these Rules, the Team whose Junior and Youth Player was ordered off or temporarily suspended by the Referee will be deemed to have forfeit the Match.

Rule 35.4 Any Team or Club, which does not comply with the requirements of this RULE 35 will be deemed to have forfeited each Match to which that contravention applies and the Team and Club may be subject to such further suspension, disqualification or other penalty as the JYRC may recommend to the Union.

RULE 36. Junior and Youth Representative Teams

Rule 36.1 The provisions of Rule 12.2 apply to State representative teams from the Junior and Youth Competition provided that if any Team has three (3) or more Junior and Youth Players absent and unavailable to play a scheduled Match (including a Finals Match) due to selection in a representative team approved by Rugby SA the Club may apply to SA Rugby and:

- (a) in the case of a Match scheduled to be played in the Minor Round of the Junior and Youth Competition the Match will either:
 - (i) be rescheduled and played before the end of the Minor Round at a time and place designated by the JYRC or the Union; or
 - (ii) if it cannot be rescheduled to be played prior to the end of the Minor Round, the Match will be deemed to have been played and to have resulted in a nil all draw with Competition points awarded accordingly;

- (b) in the case of a Finals Match the Match will be rescheduled and played at a time and place designated by SA Rugby.

Rule 36.2 Any Junior and Youth Player who has received a dispensation under RULE 30 will be eligible to be selected and play for the State in a representative team in their age group, unless Size for Age dispensation prevents this from occurring.

RULE 37. Junior and Youth Competition Finals Series

Rule 37.1 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 37.2 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 37.3 Finals format will be determined on an annual basis by RUSA having sought consultation with Competition Advisory Group (CAG), and Rugby Advisory Committee (RAC). This format will be promulgated to Members prior to the start of Minor Rounds.

Rule 37.4 In any Match played in the Finals Series in the Junior and Youth Competition in any age grade up to and including Under 18 (including the Junior and Youth Competition Grand Final in each age grade), if the scores are equal at the expiration of the ordinary period of play then an extra period of play will be played as follows:

- (a) Teams will change ends at the expiration of ordinary time;
- (b) extra time will commence not later than five (5) minutes after the expiration of ordinary time;
- (c) one (1) period of five (5) minutes will be played;
- (d) the Teams will change ends at the expiration of the five (5) minutes without an interval; and
- (e) a second period of five (5) minutes will be played.

Rule 37.5 In any Match played in the Finals Series in the Junior and Youth Competition in any age grade up to and including Under 18 (but not including the Junior and Youth Competition Grand Final in each age grade), if scores remain equal at the expiration of extra time played in accordance with Rule 37.3, the Team who finished the Minor Round of the Junior and Youth Competition higher in the points table issued by the Union will be declared winner.

Rule 37.6 In the Grand Final in the Junior and Youth Competition in any age grade up to and including Under 18, if the scores remain equal at the expiration of extra time played in accordance with Rule 37.3, the Teams will be declared Joint Premiers in that age grade in the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 37.7 Any Club which is financially indebted to the Union for any reason will be ineligible to have any Team participate in any Match in the Finals Series of the Junior and Youth Competition and no Team from that Club can be declared the Premiers in any grade or any Competition.

Rule 37.8 Any Junior and Youth Player or any Official involved in the Junior and Youth Competition who is financially indebted to the Union for any reason may not participate in any capacity with any Team participating in any Match in the Junior and Youth Competition including the Finals Series of the Junior and Youth Competition.

Rule 37.9 Each Junior and Youth Player who wants to play for a Team participating in the Finals Series in the Junior and Youth Competition:

- (a) must have played in a minimum of 30% of matches which that Team played in the Minor Round of the Junior and Youth Competition in accordance with SA15 – Finals Eligibility Policy, unless granted prior written approval from the Union.
- (b) Where a Club has two (2) Teams in a particular age group, Players must qualify for each Team, but, the Club may apply for dispensation as a result of lack of front row or unavoidable circumstances. This also applies to two Teams that are part of a Co-Joined Club.

RULE 38. Breaches and the Junior and Youth Competition

Rule 38.1 Without limiting the other provisions of these Rules, any Club who allows a person to play in a Match in the Junior and Youth Competition who:

- (a) is not registered in accordance with the requirement of RULE 11;
- (b) is aged above the age limit designated for that Match;
- (c) who does not hold a current dispensation under **Error! Reference source not found.** or **Error! Reference source not found.**;
- (d) is under suspension or disqualified from playing; or
- (e) is otherwise ineligible to play;

will be automatically deemed to have forfeited each Match in which that person was involved, irrespective of the actual result of that Match.

Rule 38.2 Any Junior or Youth Player, Club or Official who is found by the Union to have contravened any Rule relating to Junior and Youth Players or the Junior and Youth Competition may be subject to the penalties prescribed for breaching these Competition Rules as otherwise prescribed under these Competition Rules and the Union or the JYRC may also impose the following penalties:

- (a) suspension or disqualification of the Junior or Youth Player and/or the Official for such period of time as the Union determine;
- (b) the Team in relation to which the breach applies may be deemed to have forfeited:
 - (i) each Match or age group Competition to which the breach relates; and/or
 - (ii) to have forfeited each Match in which the offending Junior and Youth Player and/or Official participated,irrespective of the actual result of each such Match.

RULE 39. Player ordered off the field

Rule 39.1 All the provisions of RULE 20 and RULE 21 apply to the conduct of Junior and Youth Players provided that if a Junior and Youth Player is sent off the field as a temporary suspension by a Referee during a Match played in the Junior and Youth Competition (shown a yellow card):

(i) If a Player is issued a Yellow Card by a Referee during a Match in **Seniors to U16s** the Player must sit on allocated chair on half way for a period of ten (10) minutes, and must not re-enter the field of play until expressly permitted to do so by the Referee. The ten (10) minute suspension excludes half time and any injury time.

(ii) If a Player is issued a Yellow Card by a Referee during a Match in **U14 and below** the Player must sit within their team box for a period of five (5) minutes, and must not re-enter the field of play until expressly permitted to do so by the Referee. The five (5) minute suspension includes injury time. Regardless of whether 5 minutes is up or not at half time, player will be permitted to take the field after half time

(iii) **U12 variation** – When a player is red or yellow carded the team may put a replacement player on for the 5 minutes or the duration of the game if red card.

The Referee or their nominated delegate will keep and be the sole arbiter of the time for which a suspended Player is off the field.

INTERPRETATION

In these Rules:

Rugby Australia means the Australian Rugby Union Limited (ACN 002 898 544) of St Leonards New South Wales 2065;

Rugby Australia Code of Conduct means the code of conduct issued and revised from time to time by Rugby Australia;

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

Board means the Board of Directors of the Union;

Business Day means a day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, bank holiday or public holiday in South 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 accepted by the Union as an affiliated club;

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

Code of Conduct means the code of conduct for all Participants as issued by Rugby Australia and adopted by the Union from time to time;

Co-Joined Club means two or more clubs that have joined together for the purpose of the competition draw and is bound by SA23 – Co-Joined Clubs Policy and Procedure;

Constitution means the constitution of the Union;

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;

Finals Series means the series of Matches conducted by the Union in accordance with RULE 26 after completion of a Minor Round;

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;

Home Club means the Club designated by the Union to be the Home Club for any particular Match;

Judicial Committee means the committee established by the Union in accordance with RULE 21;

Junior and Youth Rugby Committee (JYRC) means the committee appointed by the Board responsible for advising on matters concerning the running of rugby by the Union for Junior and Youth Players;

Junior and Youth Competition means the Competition and Matches run by the Union in any Season for Junior and Youth Players;

Junior and Youth Player means a Player who meets the age criteria for Under 18 and below by the Rugby Australia Junior Age Limits (18) years at the date prescribed by Rule 29.2 in the year of the current Season;

Laws of Rugby Football 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 football conducted by the Union;

Minor Round means the series of Matches conducted by the Union in any Season other than the Finals Series;

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;

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 football including a director, officer or employee of a Club;

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;

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 nominated by the Selection Committee and appointed by the Union to officiate a Match;

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

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;

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, as appointed by the South Australian Rugby Union Referees Association Incorporated (Registration Number SA A12575) (**SARURA**);

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;

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 South 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;

Transfer of Registration Form means the form issued by the ARU and adopted by the Union (or as otherwise prescribed by the Union) for the transfer of the Registration of Players between Clubs in each Season;

Union means the South Australian Rugby Union Limited (ACN 091 684 409) and includes any person or sub-committee to whom the Board has delegated any of the responsibilities of the Union under these Rules;

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 Adelaide, 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 SA Procedures and Policies

Each of the Policies and Procedures listed in the tables 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.

Rugby Union South Australia Policies

Subject	Date of Issue/Last Amendment
Team Forfeit Procedure	March 2018
Match Day Procedure	March 2018
Citing Procedures	March 2018
Appeals Procedure	March 2018
Hot Weather Policy	February 2018
Uncontested Scrum / Player Numbers / Replacement Policy	15 May 2013 (<i>under review</i>)
Replacement Policy	13 May 2013 (<i>under review</i>)
Game Abandonment Procedure	March 2018
Finals Eligibility Policy	March 2018
Send Off Policy	21 May 2013 (<i>under review</i>)
Reporting the Non-Appearance of a Referee Procedure	March 2018
Dispensation Policy and Procedures	March 2018
Co-Joined Clubs Policy and Procedure	February 2018
Sanctions & Suspensions from Other Sports	February 2018
Judicial Committee Policy	February 2018