



NSW RUGBY LEAGUE

MACARTHUR SENIOR CONFERENCE 2023 COMPETITIONS Rules and By-Laws

Updated 01/03/2023



MACARTHUR SENIORS CONFERENCE COMPETITIONS INFORMATION

Application and notes on interpretation

Application: This Handbook applies in relation to the Macarthur Senior Competitions. This is an extension of the NSWRL Conference Competitions.

This handbook should be read in conjunction with the current NSWRL Policies and Procedures Manual and the current NSWRL Metro Conference Competitions Handbook.

Note: All correspondence regarding any Conference Competition matter is to be directed through your local League Administrator or NSWRL League and Club Support Coordinator.

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COMPETITION HANDBOOK 2023

1. COMPETITION RULES

1.1. Admission Charges

For all matches, admission charges will be paid as cash unless alternative arrangements have been made with the host Club prior to the day.

Adults: \$8.00 (over 16 years)

Players: \$8.00

Under 18's players are free no matter what division they are playing.

Support Staff: \$8.00

Under 18 Players: Free

Concessions: \$2.00 - Aged Pensions
Free - Children under 16 Years of age

Non-Semi Professional Venues: Free. (*This applies to venues that are not hosting a 1st or Reserve grade fixture e.g. Conference Competition Gold and Silver*)

1.2. Competition Points

First & Reserve Competition points are awarded as follows:

Win	=	2 points
Draw	=	1 point
Loss	=	0 points
Bye	=	2 points

Other Competitions points refer to NSWRL Conference



1.3. Age Groups and Competition Formats

1st Grade - Open Age

Conference Competition - Open Age

Reserve Grade - Open Age

Under 18's - Under 18 (Boys and Girls)

Women's Rugby League - Open Age

Ladies League Tag - Open Age

- 1.3.1. Under 18's Players should not play in the Conference Competition unless prior approval of Competition Management. This means U18's players cannot backup in any Conference Competition matches, without prior approval.
- 1.3.2. U16' Players may back up their U18's Teams as long as they are already 16 years of age with approval from the League. (Playing 2 years above forms must be completed and approved by NSWRL)
- 1.3.3. Players must have turned 17 years of age and have approval from the League to play Open Age (must have Playing 2 years above forms completed and approved by NSWRL)

1.4. Duration of Matches and Interchanges

- 1.4.1. **First Grade** - 40 minutes each half (17 players Maximum)
Interchange Players – 4
Number of Interchanges – 8 (Foul play card can be used when an incident results in an injury from foul play and a player is sent to the sinbin or send off only)
- 1.4.2. **Reserve Grade** - 35 minutes each half (20 Players Maximum)
Interchange Players – 7
Number of Interchanges – 10 (Foul play card can be used when an incident results in an injury from foul play and a player is sent to the sinbin or send off only)
- 1.4.3. **Conference Competition** - 35 minutes each half (20 Players Maximum)
(Gold) Interchange Players – 7 Number of Interchanges - 10
(Silver) Interchange Players – 7 Number of Interchanges - Unlimited
- 1.4.4. **Under 18's** - 30 minutes each half (20 Players Maximum)
Interchange Players – 7 Number of Interchanges – 10
- 1.4.5. **WRL** 30 minute each half (20 Players Maximum)
Interchange Players – 7 Number of Interchanges – Unlimited
- 1.4.6. **LLT** - 25 minutes each half (18 Players Maximum)
Interchange Players – 7 Number of Interchanges – Unlimited
- 1.4.7. **U18 Girls Conference** - 25 minute each half (18 Players Maximum)
Interchange Players – 7 Number of Interchanges – Unlimited



1.5. U18 Girls Conference Competition

Subject to the modifications below, matches will be played under the International Laws of Rugby League. All requirements governing the off-field conduct of matches and the behaviour of players (i.e. judiciary) will be outlined in the NSWRL Community Rugby League Policies and Procedures Manual or elsewhere in the Conference Competitions Handbook.

- 1.5.1 Maximum of 20 registered players
- 1.5.2 Teams can consist of a maximum of eighteen (18) players per game, with no more than eleven (11) players on the field at any one time
- 1.5.3 Unlimited interchange will apply for all female tackle competitions
- 1.5.4 A minimum of nine (9) players are required to take the field for a team before the match will commence
- 1.5.5 U18 Girls will play on an International sized field (100m x 68m)
- 1.5.6 There is a 5 metre play the ball rule
- 1.5.7 Five (5) players only will form scrums (**All scrums are to be DE-POWERED**, as per the SafePlay Code)
Scrums will only be formed in the event of a mutual infringement or double knock-on. In all other circumstances a hand-over to the non-offending team will take place at the location where the scrum would normally have been formed.
- 1.5.8 After any points have been scored the non-scoring team will restart play with a tap restart from halfway
- 1.5.9 Match Duration: 2 x 25-minute Halves

1.6 Player Eligibility

1.6.1 Semi Professional Squad (1st and Reserve Grade)

- Clubs that enter into the Semi Professional 1st Grade and Reserve Grade competition must lodge NSWRL player contracts.
- Minimum 35 (thirty-five) and maximum of 50 (fifty) contracted players.
- The 50 (fifty) listed squad players can only play in the Reserve and 1st Grade competitions.
- Conference competition players and Under 18's players are eligible to play in the semi-professional competition.
- The contract is an agreement between the club and an individual club.
<https://www.nswrl.com.au/siteassets/documents/2020/nswrl-regional-member-standard-playing-agreement-2020.pdf>
- Clubs must submit a spreadsheet with the list of players, as well as individual contracts to NSWRL through macarthurregion@nswrl.com.au by 1 February (Players can be added to list postdate)
- Players can be added to a clubs Semi Professional list until close of registration on June 30 to replace a player who is unable to participate for the remainder of the



season (suspended players not included), or a late registration if the maximum 50 (fifty) spots have not been filled.

- Original contracted list must be submitted by 28 February prior to the season commencement.
- Minimum age to play Open Age is 17 years of age (player must have turned 17 to participate) (Playing 2 years above forms must be completed and approved by NSWRL)

1.6.2 Open Age Conference Competitions (Gold and Silver) Men's and Women

- Maximum number of 28 (Twenty-eight) players per team entered.
- If a club has registered a team in both gold and silver competitions. The club must submit a list of 20 (twenty) players in the gold team that cannot alternate between both teams.
- All players in the conference competitions can play up in the semi- professional competition if the club has entered that competition.

1.6.3 Under 18's Boys

- Maximum number of 25 (twenty-five) players per team entered.
- If a club has registered a team in both gold and silver competitions. The club must submit a list of 20 (twenty) players in the gold team that cannot alternate between both teams.
- Minimum age to play Open Age is 17 years of age (player must have turned 17 to participate) (Playing 2 years above forms must be completed and approved by NSWRL)

[nsw-crla-playing-in-higher-age-division-consent-form-2020-001.pdf \(nswrl.com.au\)](https://www.nswrl.com.au/nsw-crla-playing-in-higher-age-division-consent-form-2020-001.pdf)

1.6.4 Women's Rugby League

- Maximum registration numbers are twenty (28) players per team entered.
- Minimum age to play Open Age is 17 years of age (player must have turned 17 to participate) (Playing 2 years above forms must be completed and approved by NSWRL)

[nsw-crla-playing-in-higher-age-division-consent-form-2020-001.pdf \(nswrl.com.au\)](https://www.nswrl.com.au/nsw-crla-playing-in-higher-age-division-consent-form-2020-001.pdf)

1.6.5 Under 18's Girls

- Maximum registration numbers are twenty (20) players per team entered.
- Minimum age to play Open Age is 17 years of age (player must have turned 17 to participate) (Playing 2 years above forms must be completed and approved by NSWRL)

[nsw-crla-playing-in-higher-age-division-consent-form-2020-001.pdf \(nswrl.com.au\)](https://www.nswrl.com.au/nsw-crla-playing-in-higher-age-division-consent-form-2020-001.pdf)



1.6.6 Monarch Blues Tag

- Maximum registration numbers are twenty (20) players per team entered.
- If a club has registered a team in both gold and silver competitions. The club must submit a list of 15 (fifteen) players in the gold team that cannot alternate between both teams.

1.7 Player Points Index System (PPIS) – Semi Professional

This Competition will operate under a Player Points Index (PPI).

- 1.7.1 Players must have their PPI assessment complete prior to taking the field
- 1.7.2 Players PPI value will be added by the NSWRL to their MySideline record
- 1.7.3 The NSWRL will circulate a MASTER PPI list showing ALL players PPI values
- 1.7.4 Note: If a player doesn't meet the below criteria this will be assessment by the Competition advisory committee.

Points System	1 st Grade: 100 points Reserve Grade: 70 Points	
CATEGORY	CRITERIA	POINTS
A	NRL - British Super League within the last (3) three years .	20
B	Majority of NSW Cup - QLD Cup games within the last (3) three years playing more than 5 games in Cup that season.	15
C	Transferred from another club within the region having played 50% or more of their games in the last 2 seasons in 1st grade	10
D	Majority of Ron Massey Cup - Jersey Flegg games within the last (3) three years	8
E	Sydney Shield coming into the region - A player on Portability - Transferred from another club within the region having played less than 50% of their games in first grade in the last 2 seasons	6
F	A player that doesn't meet other categories	4
G	A player who remains at the same club within the region for three (3) consecutive years. They will meet this category on the fourth (4) season	2
H	Local Junior of the club	1
Equivalent	Other Sports equivalent will match points system above E.g. Super Rugby	

- Each year a returning player will go down two points in the points system unless the player falls into a lower Category, based on their last (3) three years.
- The minimum points a player can go down to is 4 until there 4th year with the club

Examples

NSW Cup player comes to a club.

Year 1: 15 points

Year 2: 13 points

Year 3: 11 points

Year 4: 2 points

Sydney Shield player comes to the club.

Year 1: 6 points

Year 2: 4 points

Year 3: 4 points

Year 4: 2 points



1.8 Finals Series

- 1.8.1 Top five finals series for all Macarthur Conference Competitions unless otherwise changed by the NSWRL in agreeance with the key stakeholders due to number of teams in a competition.
- 1.8.2 Venue for all final's matches will be determined by the position on the ladder:
Major Semi-Final/Minor Semi- Final – Club that finished 2nd place in the first-grade competition. The ground must meet requirements to host this event.
- 1.8.3 Qualifying Final/Elimination Final – Club that Finished 1st in the 1st Grade Competition
- 1.8.4 Preliminary Final – Rotation between appropriate venues that meet criteria to host the event.
- 1.8.5 Grand Final – Campbelltown Stadium
- 1.8.6 Grand Final matches only may be played across Friday, Saturday and Sunday pending availability and how many matches are drawn to play in any given District. In exceptional circumstances, application must be submitted to the NSWRL Community Competitions Coordinator for approval
- 1.8.7 If teams are on equal points at the end of the competition regular season, “for and against” points will determine semi-final placings for all positions. If equal, most points for will determine placings followed by least points against. If the same, then individual results of both teams playing each other will be taken into account (no play offs)
- 1.8.8 Any team breaching Competition By-Laws in any Conference Competition finals series match, regardless of their position, may be disqualified from the Competition. The NSWRL Community Competitions Committee reserves the right to admit the next highest ranked team into the finals.
- 1.8.9 If a team withdraws from any competition or is disqualified from any final's series match, any subsequent matches will be deemed a forfeit. No adjustment for previous matches will occur.

1.9 Draw in Finals only

If scores are equal at the conclusion of normal time in any final series match, then in such matches, including the Grand Final a period of extra time will follow.

2.0 Extra Time in Finals only

- 2.1 The commencement of the period of extra time shall be determined by the toss of a coin as described under the Laws of the Game.
- 2.2 Extra time shall be 2 x 5-minute periods, after the initial 5 minutes of play the referee will cease play and teams shall immediately change ends. The team that did not kick-off to commence the initial period of extra time, will kick-off to recommence the second period.
- 2.3 If scores are equal at the conclusion of extra time. Play will stop and restart again based off the result of the original coin toss on an unlimited basis until the first point or points have been scored (e.g. field goal, penalty goal or try) to determine the winner of the



match. If a try is scored to determine the winner, the conversion kick will not be permitted.

- 2.4 Only the three sports trainers and competing players will have access to the field of play.
- 2.5 Each team will receive two additional interchanges during extra time, interchange cards 1 and 2. These are in addition to any remaining interchanges a team may have.
- 2.6 The normal interchange process will apply for any interchanges that are made during the break (including the two additional interchanges).
- 2.7 Playing unregistered or unqualified players in any Finals Series match will result in the match to be deemed a forfeit and the offending team being disqualified from the Finals with possible further breaches applied
- 2.8 It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure that any player who participates in a finals series match has successfully met the minimum qualification requirements.

3 First Aid / Trainers

- 3.1 Refer to the NSWRL Metro Conference Competition Handbook for Community Rugby League matches.
- 3.2 First and Reserve Grade matches only, teams are allowed one an extra Level 2 or Physiotherapist in their dugout, to act as the team's Head Medical person, (maximum of four trainers) where only three trainers are allowed on the field at any one time, as per the on-field policy.
- 3.3 The team's Head Medical person should remain in the dugout area, unless invited onto the field by the Ground Manager or Macarthur Match Official Officers.

4 Situations Not Covered

- 4.1 NSWRL Determination shall be final should any situation arise that is not covered under these rules including making adjustments to these rules where applicable.



5 Club Championship

- 5.1 For the purpose of the Club Championship, points are accumulated from all teams entered in the current competition and are worked out as follows: -

Semi Professional Clubs

First Grade points earn X 3

Reserve Grade X2

Women's Rugby League X2

Third Grade X 1

Under 18 X 1

- 5.2 The Club with the most points at the conclusion of competition games will be awarded the Macarthur Conference Club Championship

Conference Competition Clubs

Open Age points earn X 2

Women's Rugby League X 2

Third Grade X 1

Under 18 X1

6 Portability

- Portability Agreements have been signed with both the Wests Tigers and Western Suburbs Magpies with the Macarthur Region.
- This will allow Ron Massey Cup, Jersey Flegg and Harvey Norman Women's players that are not required in their respective teams to be assigned back into the Macarthur Conference competitions. (Applicable to only Open Women's and 1st Grade competitions)
- The Macarthur Competition Administration staff will work with clubs if they are able to fit the players into their squads. Once a player is assigned to a club they will remain at that club if they are required to come back into the Macarthur competition.
- Local juniors of a club will automatically be assigned back to their junior club.
- Women's player must have played at the club for 2 or more years to be classed as a local junior.
- Clubs are expected to pay the male players \$120 fixed rate as well as providing playing attire.
* The player's points will be assigned on what their playing history represents.
- Players are eligible to play finals in the Macarthur Conference competitions if they play the majority of their games in this competition. A player must have played a minimum of 5 games to be eligible.