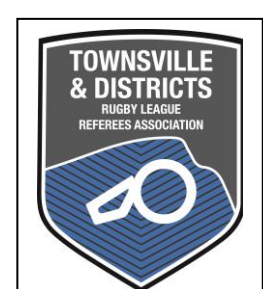


TOWNSVILLE & DISTRICT RUGBY LEAGUE

LOCAL RULES

2021



FORWARD

The Townsville and District Rugby League Incorporated shall adopt and abide by the Rules and Constitution set down by the Queensland Rugby League in conjunction with the following local rules and by-laws.

The Townsville and District Rugby League local rules and by-laws shall be amended on an as required basis.

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1.0 SOCIAL MEDIA AND EMAIL PROTOCOL

- 1.1 Club / Referee officials, members or players shall not comment or partake in media or social media that is inappropriate, threatening, intimidating, or which brings or is likely to bring the game of rugby league into disrepute.
- 1.2 Emails are a communication tool and users are advised to use this tool in a responsible, effective and lawful manner although by its nature emails seems to be less formal than other communication, the same laws apply. It is important that users are aware of the legal risks of email.
 - If you send emails with any libellous, defamatory, offensive, racist or obscene remarks you or your club can be held liable.
 - If you unlawfully forward personal, confidential information, you and your club could be liable.

Any of the above breach of the rules you may face disciplinary action if referred to the league.

2.0 REGISTRATION

- 2.1 Player registration shall be completed on-line via playrugbyleague.com for new(never played before) or returning players to your club. Players changing clubs will need to request a clearance online.
- 2.2 Coaches shall be required to:
 - Have completed an appropriate NRL accredited coaching course and have up to date accreditation
 - Have obtained and display a Positive notice Blue Card or Provide a copy of a Volunteer Blue Card Application form
 - Have registered online with their Club
- 2.3 Managers shall be required to:
 - Have obtained and display a Positive notice Blue Card or provide a copy of a Volunteer Blue Card Application form.
 - Have registered online with their Club
- 2.4 First Aid Officers shall be required to:
 - Have completed a Queensland Rugby League first aid course
 - Have obtained and display a Positive notice Blue Card or provide a copy of a Volunteer Blue Card Application form.
 - Have registered online with their Club

2.5 League Safe Officers shall be required to:

- Have completed a league safe course
- Have obtained and display a Positive notice Blue Card or provide a copy of a Volunteer Blue Card Application form.
- Have registered online with their Club

3.0 DUAL REGISTRATION

3.1 Players are eligible through work commitments to be Dual Registered. ie: A player registered with a Townsville Club can be registered as a player in another District upon approval from Northern Region Office.

4.0 TRANSFERS

4.1 All players shall be registered with a club participating in the Townsville and District Rugby League before being permitted to play.

4.2 Once a player has signed for a club in a season, that player shall not play for another club without first obtaining a clearance.

4.3 Signing and transferring of players shall cease on the 30 of June each year with the exception of players transferring from outside the district.

4.4 Players who play up from Juniors (ie U17 players playing in U19) must also sign on with the Senior Club (by way of an online permit) and may only play up in the same club unless their Junior club does not have a Senior Body of special permission is given. These players **MUST** fulfil their duty to the Junior team prior to playing Senior football.

4.5 All new players to a club **MUST** produce a licence, birth certificate or passport to be for sighting by the club registrar and loaded into My Sideline. Any brand new player (never played before) will not have their pending registration approved until a copy of ID is uploaded into the pending registration online. Pending registration will only be approved at League level.

5.0 GUIDELINES FOR GAMES FOR SEASON PROPER:

5.1 Time guidelines for **Women** are 2 X 30 minute halves with 10 minutes for half time. (There is no time off in this grade during round games except for rule 5.4)

5.2 Under 19 and Reserve grade are 2 x 35 minute halves with 10 minutes for half time (There is no time off for these grades during round games except for rule 5.4)

5.3 A Grade times are 2 x 40 minutes halves with 10 minutes for half time. (There is time off when the referee signals it)

5.4 Time off, in Women's, Reserve grade and Unders 19's is **ONLY** permitted for **injuries** in the last 5 minutes of the game if the scores are close and the outcome of game could be

affected **or** when there is a significant injury to a player that prevents removal from the field and requires an ambulance to be called. Time **may** be stopped once the Ambulance enters the field.

- 5.5 There is a maximum of 19 players to be used in U19'S, Women and Reserve grade for each team through out the game.
- 5.6 There is a maximum of 17 players for A Grade Mens for each team throughout the game.
- 5.7 There is a maximum of 13 players to be on the field for each club at any time through out the game.
- 5.8 There will be a limited interchange of 10 players for A grade Men's. A free interchange for concussion will be permitted but player may NOT return to the field unless cleared by a Doctor.
- 5.9 Set game times for in season games are as per below:

FRIDAY

No A grade games to start later than 8.00pm **

SATURDAY

No games to start later than 7.30 pm

SUNDAY

No games to start later than 3.30pm

**Exemptions to play outside of these times may be granted as long as both teams and referees are in agreeance

6.0 HOST CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Home/Host clubs are to supply footballs for all games. Game footballs shall be Steeden (brand) displaying the Q logo. Games shall not commence until two (2) balls are available.
- 6.2 It is the responsibility of the home team to supply match reports and ensure they are correctly completed. Match reports with allocated 3,2,1 points for all grades are to be scanned and emailed to the Registrar (registrardrl@gmail.com) by NO LATER than **9.30am** of the Monday following to the weekends games.
- 6.3 ALL games **must** be video taped by the Host club. Video cameras and SD Cards are the property of the TDRL and therefore, SD cards MUST be handed to a member of the executive(if present) or referees immediately following the conclusion of the game should they be requested. Referees **will not** be waiting for games to be downloaded. Clubs may obtain a copy of these games by contacting the Secretary (Mardi Sillis) on the Monday morning following the game.

7.0 CITING

- 7.1 Any club wishing to cite a player must contact the Secretary or Chairperson verbally within 24 hours of the game being played (Player no. incident i.e. head butt and time of

incident i.e. 20 min. 1st half.) then in writing to the League within 1 Business day of the game being played.

- 7.2 If a penalty is awarded on field, further action can be taken if there is video or medical evidence to support any such request.
- 7.3 A fee of \$100.00 is to be submitted with the citing. If the citing goes ahead and the player is found guilty then the club will be reimbursed the \$100.00 and if found not guilty the \$100.00 goes to the TDRL.
- 7.4 The video will be viewed by the Match Review Committee members as to whether any further action is needed to be taken.

8.0 VIDEOS FOR JUDICIARY OR CITING

- 8.1 Clubs failing to supply a video whether it is a citing or send off to the Judiciary on the night of the hearing will have a fine of \$ 500.00 imposed on them. If there are any mitigating circumstances clubs are to notify the TDRL Secretary prior to commencement of games as well as supply all supporting documentation to the League. The total game must be videoed. There is to be no stopping or restarting of the video camera (other than long stoppages where there is time off for injuries only) nor must the video be edited in any way. Flat batteries are no excuse.

A fine of \$500.00 will be imposed for a breach of any of the above rules.

- 8.2 The Judiciary will be held on the Thursday night after the weekend games at the Meeting room at the TDJRL, Kern Brothers Drive, starting at 7.00pm.

9.0 INTERCHANGE RESOLUTIONS

- 9.1 Both player benches are to be on the same side of the field. Interchange players, water runners, trainers, and FAOs are to operate from the clearance line and not the touch line.
- 9.2. Interchange players are to report to the touch judge and gain his/her permission before being allowed to take the field.
- 9.3 No interchanges are to take place at a scrum from either side, other than in the case of an injury replacement.
- 9.4 A Grade Only - Interchange numbered cards are to be placed in a container (supplied by the home team) placed between the team benches.

10.0 FIRST AID AND ON FIELD STAFF

- 10.1 Every Club is to have a NRL qualified first aid person in attendance and **present on the sideline**. A stretcher is to be on the sideline in case it is required.
- 10.2 First aid persons are required to wear the relevant shirts as per the NRL on field policy.
- 10.3 A maximum of three (3) qualified on-field personnel per team during a game. (maximum of 2 on the field of play during general play. A qualified person is one who either possesses a League safe course Certificate of Attendance or who is an NRL-accredited First Aid Officer.

- 10.4 Each team participating in a match must have at least one (1) NRL-accredited First Aid Officer on the sideline.
- 10.5 On-field personnel must enter and leave the field of play as quickly as possible.
- 10.6 A League safe qualified person must wear a QRL approved **Yellow** coloured shirt, with the words "League safe" printed on the back.
- 10.7 A Level 1 First Aid Officer (FAO) must wear a QRL approved **Blue** coloured shirt which signifies that he/she has a minimum qualification of Level 1 FAO and Level 2 First Aid Officer must wear a QRL approved **Gold** coloured shirt.

11.0 Cancellation & Forfeiting of Games & Rained out events

- 11.1 Games may be cancelled due to inclement weather.
- 11.2 The two Officials from the Executive of clubs involved (being one from each club) are to consult with a member from the TDRL Executive before a decision is made.
- 11.3 TDRL Executive are to be notified of the new date and time of rescheduled games.
- 11.4 Forfeits **MUST** notified by 8pm Thursday preceding the weekends games. The forfeiting club must notify the **opposing team, the Referees and League Chairman**. Failure to notify by the required time may see the forfeiting club being charged fees for Referees.
- 11.5 The following fees will apply when a club travels to find the opposing team has forfeited: \$200.00 penalty to and \$350.00 compensation to the travelling club to be paid within 30 days. NOTE: It is the responsibility of the club to invoice the club concerned and provide a copy of the invoice to the league.
- 11.6 There will be 20 points awarded for and nil points against for the team receiving the forfeit.

12.0 CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

- 12.1 All players must play in designated club colours displaying the Q logo.
- 12.2 Permission must be obtained from the TDRL prior to teams taking the field in non-designated uniforms; the opposing team will be notified prior to the commencement of the game
- 12.3 On-field uniforms **MUST** be purchased from an approved Queensland Rugby League distributor. (Struddys, EMU Clothing, Classic, Triple play, Dynasty, O'Neills, Zibara)
- 12.4 Compression Garments are allowed to be worn with the following conditions:-
- ❖ The garments do not extend below the elbow or knee
 - ❖ They must be black or match the colour of the club shorts
 - ❖ They do not have any markings other than the manufacturers name
 - ❖ Exemptions for medical reasons must be presented to the League for approval

12.5 All players, Leaguesafe First aid staff shall wear closed-in footwear.

12.6 All coaches and managers are also required to wear closed in shoes when officiating.

13.0 Coach / Manager / Sports Trainers / Runners

13.1 Coaches, Managers, First Aid Officers and League Safe Officers are to remain seated or standing beside their players' reserve bench adjacent the scorer's table.

13.2 Each team participating in the match shall provide a Bench Marshall who will be required to wear an identifying vest (provided by the League) **No other persons other than players/team officials are permitted to be on near or around the players bench during the game.**

13.3 Coaches, Managers, First Aid and League Safe Officers, club members, supporters, or players are not permitted to run or walk up and down the sidelines during the course of a game.

13.4 On field Staff are only permitted to enter the field of play while their team is in possession of the football, unless a player is down injured.

13.5 All persons entering the field of play to provide water must have attained the age of 14 years and attended a league safe course and be registered with the league. Enclosed shoes must be worn at all times when entering the field of play.

13.6 No more than two League Safe Officers per team will be permitted on the field at any one time while the game is in progress or a combination of league safe and first aid officers.

13.7 An additional league safe or first aid officer may enter the field of play only while goal conversions are taking place or there is a break in play for injury.

13.8 Coaches, managers, Parents or spectators are not permitted under any circumstances to enter the field of play while a game is in progress or if the game has been stopped due to injury.

13.9 Team players or officials shall not direct derogatory or abusive remarks towards a referee, touch judge, player, club officials or spectators.

13.10 Team players or officials shall not approach or talk to a match official in relation to their performance.

13.11 **Bench Marshalls/Team managers / coaches** are to ensure that parents, spectators or anyone not participating in the game do not sit on the player's bench or stand within the immediate area.

13.12 Clubs shall be accountable for their players, officials, members and supporters, if a club does not take action or assist the league in taking action against bad behavior by their players, officials, members and supporters then a fine will be placed on the club, the fine shall be determined by the League.

14.0 TEAM SHEETS

14.1 Team sheets shall be filled out correctly ensuring **all** fields are completed correctly prior to the commencement of a game. Team sheets will have the **full registered name** of players, coach and the First Aid officer.

14.2 It is the responsibility of the home team to scan and email the game sheets with 3,2,1 points allocated to the Registrar (registrardrl@gmail.com) by **9.30am** of the Monday following to the weekends games.

15.0 SIN BIN/JUDICIARIES (for full rules refer to Part 5 of Rules & by-laws of the QRL)

15.1 Players sent to the sin bin must report to the host grounds official and time will not commence until the player is seated in the designated area

15.2 No-one, other than the team official is permitted to talk to a player while in the sin bin.

15.3 Players who are sent from the field shall leave the playing area immediately (this includes the reserve bench).

15.4 Where a player send off occurs the following shall occur:-

- Host club shall notify the League Chairman by telephone (0438 237946) immediately following the completion of the game and advise the name of the player sent from the field, the grade and reason. It must also be written on the team sheet.

15.5 It is the responsibility of the **Referee** to ensure that a copy of the charge sheet is given, faxed/emailed to the League Chairman, an Executive of charged players' club and League and Club Co-ordinator by END of GAME DAY.

15.6 Players sent from the field during a game will be required to enter a plea to the Match Review committee and if necessary attend a judiciary tribunal which will take place the following Thursday evening at 6.30pm at the Townsville Junior League grounds, or at a time that the player is subsequently notified, this may be done by telephone for out of town clubs if preferred.

15.7 A club may request that a player be cited for a breach of rules during a game that had not been fairly dealt with or overlooked by a referee, providing that such a request is received in writing to the league within One (1) Business day of the incident, such request is to be made by the club Executive on an official letter head.

15.8 Clubs requesting players to be cited are required to provide the League with witness testimonies and video evidence to support their requests, if this is not forthcoming then no action will be taken.

15.9 The TDRL Match Review Committee shall decide if a player is required to face a judiciary / disciplinary tribunal.

15.10 Video evidence may be used for support when defending a charge at a Judiciary or disciplinary tribunal.

15.11 Video evidence may also be used when requesting that players be charged in relation to rule breaches, providing that the video is presented to the Match review Committee, such request shall be required to be in writing (Official Club letter) to the league Chairman within One (1) Business day of the incident.

15.12 All penalties handed down by the Townsville & District RL Judiciary Tribunal may be appealed in writing, within ten (10) Business days to QRL Northern Division. Such appeal will attract a fee of \$500 which shall be paid in conjunction with a statement on each and every ground upon which the appellant wishes to rely and the new or further evidence which the appellant proposes to call at the appeal. Where the appeal relates to the severity of the sentence imposed on a player, then the appellant shall provide written reasons why the sentence is considered to be excessive. If the appeal is upheld the fee shall be refunded.

15.13 The disciplinary tribunal shall be made up of any three (3) independent members.

16 POINTS / POSITIONS

16.1 Competition points will be awarded as follows:-

- Win = 4 points A grade - 2 points all other grades
- Bye = 4 points A grade - 2 points all other grades
- Draw = 2 points A Grade – 1 point all other grades
- Forfeit / disqualification = 0 points

16.2 Teams shall automatically lose points for any of the following:-

- Playing an unregistered player, plus a fine of \$500.00 may be imposed for repeat offences
- Having more than the allowable number of players on the field during a game
- Swapping of jerseys between players during a game
- Team sheets not being filled out completely, correctly, illegible
- Not abiding by the rules set down by the league.
- A junior playing in older grade ie: A player not yet turned 17 playing in Open Mens. Or A senior player, playing in a junior grade. ie A 20 year old player in under 19's.

Note: Loss of points shall only apply to affected games and clubs shall be notified in writing via e-mail.

17.0 PLAYER QUALIFICATIONS FOR FINALS

- 17.1 Under 19's, Reserve grade, Women and A Grade players must have played **4 games** in that grade throughout the season to qualify for the finals.
- 17.2 A player who has qualified for a lower grade, shall still be eligible to participate in the final series of a higher grade.
- 17.3 Under 21 ISC contracted players are required to play four (4) games throughout the TDRL season to qualify for the finals.
- 17.4 A higher level qualified player shall not be eligible to participate in the lower level final series unless he has failed to gain selection in the higher grade playing on the same weekend and provided they have played at least one (1) match for the lower level team during the regular season.
- 17.5 Mal Meninga Cup (Under 18) and U19 Girls games from the start of the TDRL season proper are considered qualifying games, however these players must play a minimum of **3 club games** in the TDRL competition to qualify.
- 17.6 If an U19 player has played in A Grade throughout the season and his A grade team doesn't make the finals, he can go back to U19's and play in their finals games.
- 17.7 If a player has played more A grade games than Reserve Grade games and his A grade team doesn't make the finals, he is unable to play for the Reserve grade finals games unless he has met the qualifications of both grades.
- 17.8 Qualification exemptions for medical reasons must be submitted to TDRL Chairman for approval prior to Final series commencing.

18.0 CONTRACTED ISC PLAYERS & MMC PLAYERS

- 18.1 Contracted ISC players who are not selected in HDC (Under 21) games or ISC Blackhawks team are to play with their allocated club on that particular weekend.
- 18.2 Under 18 Townsville Blackhawks players if selected to play for the Blackhawks are NOT permitted to play with their local club on the same weekend.

19.0 FINALS SERIES FORMAT -- Four Team Finals

- **Week 1:**
 - Major Semi: Team finishing first versus team finishing second; winner progresses to grand final, loser to play winner of the minor semi final.
 - Minor Semi: Team finishing third versus team finishing fourth; winner to play loser of the major semi final; loser is eliminated.

In the event of clubs be equal on 4th place, the club with the higher for and gainst will host the mid week play off.

- **Week 2:**
 - Preliminary Final: Loser of major semi versus winner of minor semi; winner proceeds to grand final; loser is eliminated.
- **Week 3:**
 - Grand Final: Winner of preliminary final versus winner of major semi.
- In the event of a tied game at full time, then a period of extra time shall follow and golden point rules will apply.
 - The commencement of extra time shall be determined by the toss of a coin as described under the Laws of the game.
 - If no point or points have been scored after 5 minutes, the referee shall cease play and teams will change ends. The team that did not kick-off to commence extra time will kick off to start the second period of play.
 - Play shall then continue on an unlimited time basis until either side scores a point at which time the referee will call time.
- There will be time off in ALL games during final series

20.0 Directives

- Clubs failing to obey a directive, or the rules of the Townsville and District Rugby League and/or the rules of the Queensland Rugby League shall be fined, the fine shall be determined by the League.
- Club officials, players and members failing to obey a directive, or the rules and Code of Conduct of the Townsville and District Rugby League and/or the rules of the Queensland Rugby League shall be required to show cause and may be required to attend a disciplinary tribunal

Appendix A

CODE OF CONDUCT

General Principles

Participants in the game of Rugby League include players, parents, spectators, coaches, referees and officials.

Every participant should:

- Discourage all instances of unsportsmanlike behavior, foul or illegal play, or acts of violence, both on and off the field.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability/disability, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion.
- Condemn the use of recreational and performance enhancing drugs and doping practices; their use endangers the health of players and is contrary to the concept of fair play.
- Be a good sport. Respect all good play whether from your team or the opposition and shake hands with and thank the opposition players and officials after the game – win, lose or draw.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.
- Always respect the referee's decision.
- Never become involved in acts of foul play.
- Honor both the spirit and letter of the competition rules and live up to the highest ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; avoid gamesmanship and respect the traditions of the game.

Important – every person who attends a Rugby League match does so with the permission and license of the home club and/or league. Breaches of this Code of Conduct may result in penalties up to and including a fine, loss of team match points and suspension.

CODE OF CONDUCT – PLAYER

- Be a good sport. Respect all good play whether from your team or the opposition and shake hands with and thank the opposition players and officials after the game – win, lose or draw.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.
- Always respect the referee's decision.
- Never become involved in acts of foul play.
- Honour both the spirit and letter of the competition rules and live up to the highest ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; avoid gamesmanship and respect the traditions of the game.
- Never engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, sledging, obscene gestures, offensive remarks, trash-talking, taunting or other actions that are demeaning to other players, officials or supporters.
- Care for and respect the facilities and equipment made available to you during training and competition.
- Safeguard your health; don't use any illegal or unhealthy substances.
- Recognize that many officials, coaches and referees are volunteers who give up their time to provide their services. Treat them with the utmost respect.
- Do not bet or otherwise financially speculate, directly or indirectly, on the outcome or any other aspect of a Rugby League match or competition in which you are involved.

CODE OF CONDUCT – COACH

- Actively discourage foul play and/or unsportsmanlike behaviour by players.
- Seek to maximise the participation and enjoyment for all players regardless of ability; avoid the tendency to over-use a talented player; treat all players as equals, regardless of their talent.
- Show concern and caution towards all sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician and/or sports trainer to the letter when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or playing.
- Teach players that an honest effort and competing to the best of their ability is as important as victory.
- Maintain appropriate, professional relationships with players at all times.
- Maintain a thorough knowledge of the rules of the game and keep abreast of current coaching methods; maintain or improve your current accreditation level.
- Always consider the health, safety and welfare of the players.
- Teach young players to realise that there is a big gap between their play and the professional game; do not coach them as if they are professionals.
- Ensure that your coaching reflects the level of the competition being played; do not be a “winner-at-all-costs” coach.
- As coach, conduct yourself at all times in a manner, and in all situations, that shows leadership, respect for the game of Rugby League and respect for all those that are involved in the game – the players, officials, the fans, the parents, the referees and the media.

CODE OF CONDUCT – REFEREE/TOUCH JUDGE/OFFICIAL

- Be impartial! Also, be consistent, objective and courteous.
- Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else; be alert to minimise dangerous physical play, fair or foul, especially in junior matches.
- Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
- Avoid any form of verbal contact with coaches, team officials, parents and spectators during play.
- Avoid any situation which may lead to a conflict of interest, both on and off the field.
- Maintain an appropriate level of fitness for the standard of game at which you are officiating.
- Condemn all and every instance of unsportsmanlike, foul or unfair play.
- Set a good example by the way you dress, speak and act towards players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators.
- Show concern and caution towards sick and injured players.
- Officiate to the age and/or experience of the players.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICIALS / SPECTATORS

- All persons attending matches controlled by the League do so with the permission and license of the League and not otherwise.
- At the time of registration or at some other time, all carers of players, coaches, trainers and other persons are to be handed a copy of this Code.
- At such time carers, coaches, trainers and other persons must agree to be bound by this Code prior to acceptance of registration of their child or themselves.
- No person/s attending a match controlled by the League shall:

- a) Use offensive or obscene language to any player, coach, referee, touch judge, official or other spectator;
 - b) Enter the Field of Play during the course of a match without the prior approval of the Ground Manager appointed by the home club and/or league;
 - c) Dispute the decision of a referee or touch judge either during or after a match;
 - d) Assault or act with aggression to any person/s;
 - e) Behave in a way contrary to this Code of Conduct and/or the spirit of the game;
 - f) Behave in a way which disturbs the enjoyment of the match by any other person/s, or brings discredit to the home club and/or league;
 - g) Act in such a way as to exhibit racial intolerance, by language or other conduct, to any other person/s;
 - h) Refuse to accept the reasonable direction of the Ground Manager, official of the home club and/or league, or official of the team/club which that person/s is supporting.
- Any person/s contravening Rule 4 may be reported by the Ground Manager to the Team Manager or other official of the team which that person/s is supporting. Where a team does not have a Team Manager present, a request or direction from the Ground Manager to any official of the team or the team's club shall be regarded as a direction to the Team Manager for the purposes of this Code.
 - The Ground Manager and/or Team Manager must advise the offending person/s of the relevant breach of the Code. The Ground Manager must note the details of their report to the Team Manager on the reverse of the team sheet.
 - In the event that the inappropriate conduct continues, the Ground Manager and/or Team Manager may request the offender/s to immediately leave the ground. This should also be noted on the team sheet.
 - In the event the person/s refuses to obey the direction of the Ground Manager and/or Team Manager, the Ground Manager may direct the referee to terminate the match. In the event that the match is so terminated, the club's and/or league's committee may, at its absolute discretion award the competition points to the non-offending team, or declare that neither side shall be awarded competition points for that match.
 - Clubs are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents/carers of players, coaches, officials and spectators.
 - Clubs which do not exercise control over their players, parents/carers of players, coaches, officials or spectators may be called upon by the League to accept responsibility for their actions and penalties may apply (in addition to penalties which may be imposed by the League's judiciary)

REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

It is a Townsville and District Rugby League requirement that all representative players and officials always abide by the following Code of Behaviour while representing our League.

- Always be friendly and courteous and act in a proper manner
- No excessive consumption alcohol
- No Consumption of prohibited substances
- Do not use derogatory, discriminative or abusive language on or off the field
- Do not deface or damage property belonging to others
- Always be punctual
- Dress appropriately at all times
- Respect directions given by officials
- Consider others when being accommodated in motels

Failure to abide by the above code of behaviour **will** result in disciplinary action being taken.

APPENDIX B

Townsville and District Rugby League Smoke Free Policy

The **Townsville and District Rugby League** recognises that passive smoking is hazardous to health and those non-smoking club members and visitors have the right to be protected from exposure to tobacco smoke.

Accordingly, the following policy shall apply to all League facilitated Games, functions, meetings and activities and will apply to all members, officials, players and club visitors.

Facilities

All facilities hired by the League are to be smoke free and shall include bars, kitchens, meeting rooms, toilets and storage areas as well as Player change rooms inclusive of warm up area, toilets and showers, medical room and property room.

Cigarettes will not be sold (including vending machines) at any time by the club.

Designated smoking areas may be provided.

Functions

All club functions including social and fund raising events and meetings are to be smoke free.

APPENDIX C

DRUG FREE POLICY

ILLEGAL DRUGS

Illegal drugs are defined as “a substance that is not permitted to be taken or used according to state or national laws such as cannabis (marijuana), amphetamines (speed and “ice”), ecstasy, cocaine, heroin and a range of new psycho-active substances known as synthetic drugs. This policy does not apply to pharmaceutical drugs.

Townsville and District Rugby League does not allow the use, distribution or selling of illegal drugs by any league member or any visitors within our league’s jurisdiction.

The committee will investigate all illegal drug-related concerns or incidents in a timely and discreet manner. Once all relevant facts and circumstances are known, the president will recommend appropriate approaches and/or disciplinary measures.

PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS

- you are responsible for knowing what the anti-doping rule violations are
- you must find out which substances and methods are prohibited
- ignorance is no excuse
- you must be aware of the rules and what is prohibited
- athletes are responsible for anything found in their system
- you must be aware of the sanctions that could be applied to you

To find this and other QRL Policies go to:

<https://www.qrl.com.au/about/documents-and-policies/>

SAFE TRANSPORT

Townsville and District Rugby League recognises mixing drugs (including prescription medication) with other drugs or alcohol can seriously affect the ability to drive safely. Driving when over the legal blood alcohol limit is illegal and hazardous to individuals and the wider community.

If any committee members, members, players or officials are suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, our league will take steps to help them get home safely. For example, offer them a ride home or call a taxi or sober person to collect them.

NON-COMPLIANCE

Our league will respond to all breaches of this policy. Any disciplinary measures imposed under our policy must

- Be fair and reasonable and will focus on the safety and welfare of those directly and indirectly involved.
- Be based on the evidence and information gathered and the impact on the league, other members, players, patrons, visitors and the community. Consider the age and personal circumstances of the people involved

APPENDIX D

Townsville and District Rugby League

Anti- Discrimination and Equal Opportunities

Our commitment is to eliminate discrimination whether by reason of gender, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or ability and to encourage equal opportunities. The following policies should be endorsed, enforced and at the heart of all associated club's activities.

Anti-Discrimination Policy

Townsville and District Rugby League is responsible for setting standards and values to apply throughout the game at every level.

Rugby League belongs to, and should be enjoyed by, everyone equally. Our commitment is to eliminate discrimination whether by reason of gender, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or disability.

Equality of opportunity at Townsville and District Rugby League means that in all our activities we will not discriminate or in any way treat anyone less favourably, on grounds of sex, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or disability.

This includes:

- The advertisement for volunteers.
- The selection of candidates for volunteers.
- Training.
- External coaching and education activities and awards.
- Rugby League development activities.
- Selection for teams.
- Appointments to honorary positions.

Townsville and District Rugby League will not tolerate sexual or racially based harassment or other discriminatory behaviour, whether physical or verbal and will work to ensure that such behaviour is met with appropriate action in whatever context it occurs.

Townsville and District Rugby League is committed to the development of the programme of ongoing training and awareness raising events and activities in order to promote the eradication of discrimination within its own organisation and in the wider context, within rugby league as a whole.

Equal Opportunities Policy for Clubs

Townsville and District Rugby League is committed to a policy of equal treatment of all members and requires all members of whatever level or authority, to abide and adhere to this general principle and the requirements of the Codes of Practice issued by the Equal Opportunities Commission and Commission for Racial Equality. All members are expected to abide by the requirements of the Race Relations Act 1976, Sex Discrimination Act 1986 and Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

Specifically, discrimination is prohibited in:

- Treating any individual on grounds of gender, colour, marital status, race, nationality or ethnic or national origin, religion, sexual orientated or disability less favourably than others.
- Expecting an individual solely on the grounds stated above to comply with requirement(s) for any reason whatsoever related to their membership, which are different to the requirements for others.
- Imposing on an individual requirement which are in effect more onerous on that individual than they are on others. For example, this would include applying a condition (which is not warranted by the requirements of the position) which makes it more difficult for members of a particular race or sex to comply than others not of that race or sex.
- Victimisation of an individual.
- Harassment of an individual (which for the purposes of this policy and the actions and sanction applicable thereto is regarded as discrimination).
- Any other act or omission of an act, which has as its effect the disadvantaging of a member against another, or others, purely on the above grounds. Thus, in all the League's recruitment, selection, promotion and training processes, as well as disciplinary matters etc. – in other words all instances where those in control of members are required to make judgements between them – it is essential that merit, experience, skills and temperament are considered as objectively as possible.

Townsville and District Rugby League commits itself to the immediate investigation of any claims of discrimination on the above grounds and where such is found to be the case, a requirement that the practice cease forthwith, restitution of damage or loss (if necessary) and to the investigation of any member accused of discrimination.

Any member found guilty of discrimination will be instructed to desist forthwith. Since discrimination in its many forms is against the league's policy, any members offending will be dealt with under the disciplinary procedure.

The league commits itself to the disabled person whenever possible and will treat such members, in aspects of their recruitment and membership, in exactly the same manner as other members, the difficulties of their disablement permitting assistance will be given, wherever possible to ensure that disabled members are helped in gaining access. Appropriate training will be made to such members who request it.

Townsville and District Rugby League Complaints Procedure

In the event that any member feels that he or she has suffered discrimination in any way or that the League Policies, Rules or Code of Conduct have been broken, they should follow the procedures below.

1. Report the matter in writing to the Club Secretary or another member of the Committee and the report should include:
 - Details of what, when, and where the occurrence took place.
 - Any witness statement and names.
 - Names of any others who have been treated in a similar way.
 - Details of any former complaints made about the incident, date, when and to whom made.
 - A preference for a solution to the incident.
2. The League will then arrange for any hearings that are requested.
3. The League will have the power to:
 - Warn as to future conduct;
 - Suspension;
 - Exclude, any person found to have broken the League's Policies or Code of Conduct.

APPENDIX E

Disciplinary Tribunal Committee Reference Guide

Preamble:

This reference guide focuses on 3 main areas involved with the game of rugby league:

1. League Safe and Sports Trainers
2. Coaches
3. Spectators / others

This guide references three (3) levels of consequence:

- Low Range (Abusive)
- Medium Range (Threatening)
- High Range or Extreme Range (Physical or Violent)

Remember this is only a Reference Guide to assist our Tribunal members and to let the rugby league community know the consequences and the parameters for inappropriate behaviour in our game.

Low Range (Abusive)

- 1-8 week's suspension from participating in the game

Who	Action	Examples
Coach	Verbally abuses match officials, player's spectators or other coaching staff including trainers Plays bogus players and / or unregistered players Makes physical contact with players that is non-threatening and / or not considered to be inflaming a situation such as physically restraining a junior player that poses a risk to themselves and others	Coach who verbally abused a match official after a game in a non-threatening way was given a 3-week suspension from participating in the game i.e. Can't play, coach or hold any official role in the game for a period of 3 weeks but can attend games Coach who verbally abused another coach during and after a game was given a 1 year suspended sentence from coaching in the game i.e. He was allowed to continue coaching but had a suspended sentence that would be activated if he acted inappropriately in any way during that year Coach who stood in the road of two players during an altercation after the game and accidentally made contact with an opposition player was suspended for 6 weeks Coach who played an unregistered player had his club fined and they lost their competition points despite winning the match and was suspended from coaching for 6 weeks
League safe / Trainer	Verbally abuses match officials, player's spectators or other coaching staff including trainers Makes physical contact with players that is non-threatening and / or not considered to be inflaming a situation such as physically restraining a junior player that poses a risk to themselves and others	League safe runner made non-threatening contact with a player in a melee and received an official warning and a fine on his club Sports trainer had a verbal altercation with another league safe officer was suspended from participating in the game for 6 weeks

		with a year's suspended sentence also provided League safe office who verbally abused a referee was suspended from participating in the game for 4 weeks
Spectators (defined as any individual attending a venue regardless of position held) Includes others such as Club or League Office Bearers and / or Committee members	Verbally abuses match officials, player's, spectators or other coaching staff including trainers Makes physical contact with players that is non-threatening and / or not considered to be inflaming a situation such as physically restraining a junior player that poses a risk to themselves and others Includes such things as drunken behaviour and obscene language usage	Disorderly conduct by a club official at a junior league game (verbal altercation with another club official) 4 weeks' suspension from participating officially in the game Spectator who yelled obscene and derogatory remarks towards a match official was excluded from attending rugby league for 8 weeks

Medium Range (Threatening)

- Penalties vary from 2-month suspension / exclusion to 2 years, applied only to the Division where the incident occurs

Who	Action	Example
Coach	Threatens match officials, players, spectators, other coaching staff with physical violence Play bogus players and unregistered players knowingly and not an isolated case Dealt with by the League under QRL Rules	Coach was charged with bring the game into disrepute for going to the referees room after the game to threaten the referee and was suspended from participating in the game for a period of 9 months i.e. he was not allowed to have any active involvement in the game for 9 months Coach who threatened and intimidated a coach at the conclusion of a match was suspended for a period of 1 year with another year suspended i.e. was not allowed to coach for 1 year Coach who player an unregistered in a senior game was given 1 year's suspension from participating in the game i.e. Can't play, coach or hold any official role in the game for a period of 1 year but can attend games Coach you played a bogus player in a senior game was given a 1 year's suspension from participating in the game i.e. Can't play, coach or hold any official role in the game for a period of 1 year but can attend games
League safe / Trainer	Threatens match officials, players, spectators, other coaching staff with physical violence Dealt with by the League under QRL Rules	League safe runner had a minor physical altercation with another trainer in a senior's finals match and was suspended from participating in the game for a period of 1 year League safe officer who abused and threatened a match during a match and was suspended from participating in the game for 6 months

<p>Spectators (defined as any individual attending a venue regardless of position held) Includes others such as Club or League Office Bearers and / or Committee members</p>	<p>Threatens match officials, players, spectators, or coaching staff with physical violence</p> <p>Dealt with by the League under QRL Rules</p>	<p>Disorderly conduct by a spectator at a junior rugby league match received a 1 year warning off with a further year suspended A spectator who abused and threatened a match official at the end of a senior match was warned off for 1 year Spectator who approached a match official in a threatening way was warned off from attending QRL venues for a period of 5 months</p> <p>Threatening abuse by an office bearer of a club to another club office bearer resulted in a 1.5-year suspension from participating in the game of rugby league</p>
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High Range (Physical)

- Penalties vary from 2 years to 10 years' suspension / expulsion from the game of rugby league can be applied state-wide

Who	Action	Example
<p>Coach</p>	<p>Physical violence displayed towards a match officials, players, spectators, or coaching staff The warning off or exclusion period from the game should also be applied in these cases</p> <p>Dealt with by the League under QRL Rules</p>	<p>Coach who threatened physical violence to a referee after a game and went to their dressing room and had been effectively locked out was given a 3.5 year suspension from participating in the game Coach who physically threatened and physically assaulted a match official was warned off for 10 years i.e. The person is not allowed to attend any match held under the control /auspices of the QRL for a period of 10 years Coach who played a bogus player for the second time in a season was suspended from participating in the game for 5 years</p>
<p>League safe / Trainer</p>	<p>Physical violence displayed towards a match officials, players, spectators, or coaching staff</p> <p>Dealt with by the League under QRL Rules</p>	<p>Trainer who physically threatened and physically assaulted a match official was warned off for 10 years i.e. The person is not allowed to attend any match held under the control /auspices of the QRL for a period of 10 years</p>
<p>Spectators (defined as any individual attending a venue regardless of position held) Includes others such as Club or League Office Bearers and / or Committee members</p>	<p>Threatens a match official, players, spectators, other coaching staff with physical violence</p> <p>Dealt with by the League under QRL Rules</p>	<p>Spectator abused and physically threatened an officer bearer of a club and a match official and was warned off for 5 years Spector entered the field of play and approached and threatened an opposition player and was warned off for 2 years Spector who initiated and had a serious physical altercation with another spectator was warned off for 10 years – Criminal charges were also initiated Spectator who displayed serious disorderly conduct and physical</p>

		violence resulting in police intervention was warned off for life Spectator who displayed physical violence to another stakeholder way from the game (not at a rugby league venue) was suspended indefinitely from the game and their children deregistered for the remainder of the league season awaiting results of a police investigation
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