

2023



# **OPERATIONS MANUAL**

## **BRL PREMIER/SENIOR COMPETITIONS**

RUGBY LEAGUE BRISBANE



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## FOREWORD

This **2023** Operations Manual supersedes all previous versions and is a reference for all persons involved in the day-to-day management, administration, coaching, playing, and officiating of all Rugby League Brisbane (**RLB**) Clubs affiliated with the Queensland Rugby League (**QRL**), South-East Queensland (**SEQ**) Region and RLB. This includes

• <b>management committees,</b>
• <b>development staff,</b>
• <b>team officials (including coaches, managers, and on-field support staff)</b>
• <b>duty officials</b>
• <b>players, and</b>
• <b>spectators.</b>

Only the RLB Board can amend this document. All amendments will be issued under covering RLB Area Manager's Memo. The rules detailed in this document will be operative and enforced for all rulings and proceedings from the date of issue.

## REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

[Rules of the Queensland Rugby Football League Limited](#)

[Constitution of Rugby League Brisbane Limited](#)

[Working with Children \(Risk Management and Screening\) Act 2000](#)

[NRL Policies and Guidelines](#)

[NRL Laws of the Game](#)

[NRL Code of Conduct](#)

[Associations Incorporations Act 1981 \(Qld\)](#)

[NRL Facilities Guidelines \(May 2021\)](#)

*BRL Premier/Senior Competitions*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Rules of the Queensland Rugby Football League Limited (**QRL Rules**), as amended from time to time, provide the framework under which all Rugby League is administered within the State of Queensland.

The rules detailed within this operation manual are to supplement the QRL Rules and to ensure the common interpretation and consistent application across all Rugby League Clubs affiliated with RLB.

The rules detailed in this operation manual have been written in good faith; however, the RLB Board of Directors reserves the right to modify or override any rule that unintentionally hinders or favours any affiliated Club, their officials, players, and staff.

Should any information within this document conflict or contradict any of the QRL Rules, then the QRL rule as documented within the Rules of the Queensland Rugby Football League Limited (as amended from time to time) will have precedence. Please notify in writing the RLB Area Manager (or nominee) of any such issues.



## 2. ADMINISTRATION

### 2.1 Affiliation

- 2.1.1 RLB requires each Club to submit/lodge with the League specific information/forms by specified due dates within a football year.
- 2.1.2 Failure to comply with lodgement of forms by the nominated due date may result in a fine imposed by RLB to the Club.
- 2.1.3 Additionally, RLB Board has the right to refuse an application for affiliation if the Club:

- **has failed to meet its financial obligations with the RLB or the region; and/or**
- **is in breach of any QRL or sub-ordinate rule and has failed to remedy the breach within a reasonable amount of time.**

- 2.1.4 In addition, any other grounds determined by the Region and/or RLB Board for rejection of an affiliation application from a Club, should that Club then not complete and lodge an affiliation application for the following year by the date specified in the application, RLB Board shall be entitled to reject such application.

### 2.2 Child Protection

- 2.2.1 RLB adopts the Risk Management Program/Blue Card Policy. Refer to [Queensland Government Blue Card Services](#)

### 2.3 Integrity – Anti Doping

- 2.3.1 All participants within RLB are bound by the League's Anti-Doping Policy and participants must be aware of their obligations and the rules that apply to them. Refer to [NRL Anti-Doping Policy](#)

### 2.4 Heat Policy

- 2.4.1 A common-sense approach must be applied with consideration to the comfort and well-being of all individuals, including participants and officials. For further information, refer to [NRL Heat Guidelines](#).
- 2.4.2 If the prevailing weather conditions necessitate some relief from the normal playing conditions, the following concessions may apply:



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>All matches must have a compulsory “drinks-break”</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Referees will call one (1) minute “timeout” period halfway into each half to allow players to take a fluid break</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Players will remain on the field and may only be tendered to by trainers.</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No Coaching Staff shall be permitted on the field during the “time-out period.</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Sports Trainers/Trainers National Accreditation Scheme <a href="#">On Field Policy</a> will be relaxed so that all trainers may carry water.</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The half-time interval may be extended and shall be done so after consultation of both match and team officials.</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>In the event of severe heat conditions, the commencement of a match may be delayed.</b></li> </ul>

## 2.5 Player’s Equipment

2.5.1 All Clubs must submit their playing strip design to the RLB Office for approval prior to production. Jerseys must be manufactured in accordance with the QRL Brand Guidelines and relevant to the Season Year Competition.

2.5.2 All players must wear the complete uniform – jersey, shorts, and socks – as registered by the Club and approved by the RLB. A player’s normal gear shall consist of:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A numbered Jersey,</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A pair of shorts,</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Long Socks, and</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Studded Boots and/or shoes.</b></li> </ul>



- 2.5.3 Protective equipment refers to shoulder pads, arm bands, rib covering, head gear and hip pads. Protective equipment may be worn provided it contains nothing of a ridged nature. The use of gloves or mittens is prohibited.
- 2.5.4 All visible body jewellery must be removed, and non-visible jewellery must be taped. Players with beads in their hair must remove them or must wear head gear which covers the beads.
- 2.5.5 The practice of 'knotting' (pulling together and tying a knot in the jersey) or 'bundling' (pulling together in a bundle or tail and taping) as a method for tightening the fit of a Rugby League jersey is prohibited.

## 2.6 Non-Standard Equipment

- 2.6.1 Non-Standard or modified equipment must first be approved for use by the RLB Area Manager (or nominee) before that item may be used by a player in a match.
- 2.6.2 The referee may order a player to remove any item or any part of his/her equipment that may be considered dangerous. The player shall not be allowed to take any further part in the match until the item or equipment is removed.
- 2.6.3 The Match Officials should check all equipment (field and player) prior to the commencement of each match.

## 2.7 Sponsors Logo

- 2.7.1 All approved RLB sponsorship logos are required to be sublimated onto all jerseys for affiliated Clubs who are entering the RLB Competitions for the season. The preferred position for the logo is the left sleeve.

## 2.8 Compression Garments

- 2.8.1 A player may wear compression garments provided it does not:

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>extend below the elbow or knee of the player; or</b></li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>extend outside the neck/collar of the jersey; or</b></li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>extend past the length of the player sock</b></li></ul>        |



2.8.2 Full – length compression garments are not permitted unless approved by the RLB Area Manager (or nominee). The colour of the garment may only be black. Branding and/or logos other than the garment manufacturer's logo is not permitted.

## 2.9 Registration

2.9.1 All registrations (existing and new players) must be completed online via [MySideline](#). Strict control measures are in place to ensure the information uploaded in the online registration are not accessible to any persons other than:

- **A Club President, Secretary, Registrar, or an approved Committee member, and**
- **The RLB Area Manager (or nominee).**

2.9.2 All players participating in RLB administered rugby league matches must be registered with a Club affiliated with the QRL before participating in training, trial matches and/or RLB premiership fixtures.

2.9.3 New players to a Club are not covered by Insurance and must not be allowed to participate in training, trial matches and RLB Premiership fixtures until the registration process has been completed.

2.9.4 A player is deemed to be registered/re-registered with a Club and may train and participate in training, trial matches and RLB premiership fixtures after the following has been actioned:

- **The relevant player online registration has been duly completed.**
- **Acknowledgement and acceptance of statements and information pertaining to the registration/re-registration of a player; and**
- **A current photograph and/or proof of age document of the player has been uploaded to the MySideline.**





## 2.10 Proof of Age

2.10.1 An approved 'Proof of Age' Document must be supplied by a player to a Club. The following documents are considered acceptable by RLB:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An Original Birth Certificate.</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An Extract of a Birth Certificate.</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A Current Driver's Licence/18+ Card; and</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A Current Passport</b></li> </ul>

2.10.2 A copy of the document must be uploaded to the player's data card in [MySideline](#) including the document number.

2.10.3 All Clubs must upload a recent photograph of every registered player to [MySideline](#). This photograph must not be altered in anyway.

2.10.4 RLB Seniors – players over forty (40) years of age must refer to [QRL Rule 4.1.16 Medical Clearance](#)

## 2.11 Transfers and Clearances

2.11.1 Players may transfer to an accepting RLB Club from the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A QRL Affiliated Club (QRL Rules Part 4 – <a href="#">4.1 Players</a> is applicable)</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An Interstate Club</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A New Zealand Club (refer to <a href="#">International Clearance Form</a>)</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An International Club (on the condition a National Rugby League Clearance Certificate is provided)</b></li> </ul>

2.11.2 Requests to change Clubs will be granted by the releasing Club provided that:



- **The player has no outstanding financial obligation to the releasing Club**
- **The Club is responsible for collecting registration fees by 30 June of the football year. If Fees are not collected by the Club by 30 June – it will be deemed the Club will carry the financial burden of the unpaid fees; and**
- **The player is not currently serving a suspension by the Club and/or RLB.**

2.11.3 The RLB may overturn any decision of a Club in not approving a request to change Clubs if, in the opinion of the RLB Area Manager (or nominee), the denial was not for a reason listed above.

2.11.4 Where a team becomes defunct, any players from that team may, upon application, be granted a transfer without being subjected to [QRL Rules part 4](#). A Club with more than one team must withdraw the lower/lowest graded team.

2.11.5 Where an application to change Clubs is unreasonably delayed or refused, the transferor Club's approval may be dispensed with and approved by RLB.

## 2.12 Permit Registration

2.12.1 Permit registration of players will be allowable between Clubs/teams that have approval from RLB Area Manager (or nominee). However, Permit registration is not allowable between Clubs/teams playing in the same division/grade.

**Permit registered players playing down may only play one (1) division down – i.e., an *Hostplus Cup Club* registered player may only play with the affiliated Club in the RLB Premier Grade Competition and not in any lower division. Exception to this would be for an underage player.**

2.12.2 A provision will be in place for individual consideration by the RLB Management for dual registration of any player. Such consideration is to be made in writing and be lodged with the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

## 2.13 Train and Trial Only

2.13.1 RLB permits trial and train to temporarily register a new player to the game and/or a player new to the geographical area of the Club. [Train and Trial Forms](#) must be completed



in full, signed and submitted within three (3) days to the RLB Office. They are not to be used as part of any recruitment process.

2.13.2 The form covers a player with normal QRL insurance whilst training or playing in trial matches up and until 28 February of the current football year. It does not cover players for fixture matches.

2.13.3 A player must be fully registered to take the field in any RLB Premiership fixture. Any player registered to a previous Club must be fully registered by 28 February of the current football year prior to training and/or playing.

## 2.14 Team Nomination

2.14.1 Affiliated Clubs must nominate using the approved RLB process and should be submitted prior to closing deadlines. Clubs must nominate the number of teams in each division/age group and the proposed Competition grade in which they will field teams.

2.14.2 Clubs will be invoiced individually for their team nominations.

2.14.3 Each team nominated in the RLB Competition must have the following team officials:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An accredited and registered coach.</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An accredited and registered League Safe (Yellow Shirt).</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An accredited and registered League First Aid – (Under 6 to Under 15).</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>An accredited and registered Level 1 Sports Trainer – (Under 16 to Opens).</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A qualified registered touch judge – (U13 to Opens)</b></li> </ul>

2.14.4 A Team Manager may also fulfil one of the roles listed above.

2.14.5 Nominated League Safe and Sports Trainers must nominate and successfully complete the relevant course prior to their first team fixture (including trials).

2.14.6 Nominated coaches and/or assistant coaches must nominate and complete the relevant online modules prior to their first team fixture (including trials). Face-to-face components of their accreditation must be completed before **June 30 of the current football year.**



## 3. VENUE MANAGEMENT

### 3.1 Facilities

- 3.1.1 RLB will review all Club playing venues on an annual basis to confirm compliance with these rules, particularly regarding player facilities.
- 3.1.2 The Club shall ensure that the venue nominated to host a Competition match is presented in an appropriate manner and has adequate security engaged in the interest of the comfort of the public and the welfare of match officials.
- 3.1.3 BRL – BRL Clubs must have a Broadcast Area. The Position should be elevated off ground level and have an unobstructed view of the playing field.

For further information - refer to [NRL Facilities Guide](#)

### 3.2 Ground Markings/Dimensions

- 3.2.1 RLB adopts NRL recommended ground markings/dimensions for all levels of Competition.

Juniors (6-12) refer to [Junior League Laws](#).

Junior International (13-18) and Seniors (19+) refer to [International Laws](#).

### 3.3 Warm Up Area

- 3.3.1 The home team shall ensure a safe, secure and suitable area is provided for warm up.

### 3.4 Lighting Standards

- 3.4.1 The following lighting standards shall be required for training and competition matches:

<b>Ball and Physical Training</b>	50 LUX
<b>Local Club Competitions and Match Practice (Local Club Standards)</b>	100 LUX



For further information, refer to [NRL Facilities Guide](#).

### 3.5 Field Equipment

- 3.5.1 The Match Officials should check all equipment prior to the commencement of each match.
- 3.5.2 A kicking tee may be used provided it is a product that is licenced and displays the logo of the QRL, NSWRL or NRL. Such tees may be used for kicks at goal and starts or restarts of play from the 50m line.
- 3.5.3 The following is the minimum acceptable field equipment:

<b>Goal Post Pads</b>	shall be a maximum width and depth of 50cm and shall comply with the Brand guidelines relevant to the year of Competition.
<b>Corner Post Pads</b>	may be no wider than the width of the touch line and shall comply with the Brand guidelines.
<b>Corner Posts</b>	shall be placed at the intersection of each touch line and goal line. The posts shall be of non-rigid material and shall not be less than 1.25m high.



## 4. BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

### 4.1 Code of Conduct

- 4.1.1 RLB adopt the [NRL Code of Conduct](#). It provides all participants – players, parents, coaches, referees, spectators, and officials – with simple rules that assist in delivering a safe and positive environment to everyone involved in the game.
- 4.1.2 The QRL Rules and Guidelines shall apply for all Judiciary procedures, Appeals and Disputes.
- 4.1.3 RLB will adopt the Positive Environment Program (PEP). This will enforce the existing NRL Code of Conduct and support the QRL Rules.

### 4.2 Dismissed Players

- 4.2.1 The match referee has the discretion to suspend for ten (10) minutes or to dismiss a player for 'on field' misconduct.
- 4.2.2 A player receiving a period of temporary suspension by the referee shall immediately leave the field of play and shall be met at the sideline by an official from the host Club and escorted to the designated 'sin bin' area. The player shall remain in that area until the end of the temporary suspension period.
- 4.2.3 The time of temporary suspension shall be ten (10) minutes and is for playing time only and shall commence after the referee signals time-on and/or when play recommences. Suspended time does not include the half-time break and shall cease at the end of the first period and resume upon the commencement of the second period.
- 4.2.4 If more than one player receives temporary suspension from the one incident, the players' temporary suspension shall be equal and shall be entitled to return to the field of play together after the completion of their suspension.

**Hosting Clubs – it is recommended to have two (2) separate sin bin areas to avoid further issues in the event players from opposition teams are sent to the sin bin at the same time.**

- 4.2.5 Players re-entering the field of play from the sin bin shall do so from an onside position after reporting to the Touch Judge.
- 4.2.6 Any player permanently dismissed from the field (i.e., sent-off), must immediately return to their team's dressing room and change out of their playing uniform. Under no circumstances can a dismissed player return to the players' bench unless it is outside the area bounded by the fence surrounding the playing area.



### 4.3 On-Field Incident Report

- 4.3.1 The referee shall complete an On-Field Incident Report immediately after the completion of the match and shall lodge the form with a nominated representative of the Club of the dismissed player, Brisbane Rugby League Referee's Association (**BRLRA**) secretary and the RLB Area Manager (or nominee) within 24 hours of the incident.
- 4.3.2 [Major incidents](#) are to be immediately reported to the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

### 4.4 Match Review Committee

- 4.4.1 A Match Review Committee (**MRC**) has delegated authority to deal at first instance with the alleged misconduct of a player involved in an on-field incident in a match.
- 4.4.2 A player who has been reported for player misconduct shall not be required to appear before the MRC.
- 4.4.3 Any registered player participating in any Competition under the jurisdiction of the QRL (including games sanctioned by the QRL) who is suspended by a MRC, Judiciary Tribunal or any other Disciplinary Tribunal must serve out the number of fixture games imposed upon that player in accordance with the **Penalty Judicial System**. The player must not participate in any form (i.e. League Safe) in any match whilst serving that suspension.

### 4.5 Tribunals

- 4.5.1 Any RLB Judicial or Disciplinary Tribunal will be held on Thursday evenings following each weekend round of fixtures at a time and venue nominated by the RLB. All players appearing before the RLB Tribunal will have their identity verified against the MySideline Database.
- 4.5.2 RLB have the discretion to hold the hearing electronically (i.e. TEAMS Meeting) provided that all participants shall be able to hear and may be heard by all participants involved in the hearing.
- 4.5.3 A person that has been found guilty by the MRC, Judiciary or Disciplinary Tribunals, regardless of penalty, or has participated as a member of the Tribunal Panels is unable to advocate for a player charged and appearing before any Judiciary or Disciplinary Tribunal in the same football year.

For further information, refer to [QRL Rules Part 5.3.4](#)



## 4.6 Penalty Judicial System

- 4.6.1 The Base Penalty Schedule has been amended and will be adopted in RLB (**see Appendix A**).
- 4.6.2 For the purposes of determining penalty, offences can be similar or non-similar therefore, consideration of any previous offence must be undertaken to determine the correct penalty (i.e. whether the offence is 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup>).
- 4.6.3 In addition, the offences set in the table are each divided into three (3) grades, where Grade one (1) represents the lower end of the scale of seriousness for the offence. Grade three (3) representing the higher end on the scale of seriousness for the offence.
- 4.6.4 In referencing the table, all offences considered by the MRC to be higher than Grade three (3) will be referred to the Judiciary Tribunal.

For further information, refer to [QRL Rules Part 5.2.6](#)

## 4.7 Poaching of Players

- 4.7.1 RLB prohibits the poaching or enticing a player registered with any other rugby league club or team.
- 4.7.2 No coach, manager, official nor anyone associated with a junior rugby league football club or team, shall poach, or entice a player registered with any other rugby league club in Queensland. This means a player currently registered or registered in the immediate past season.

**Definition of “Poaching”:** is defined as a direct approach to a player or an indirect approach through an agent to a player, by a coach or any official or anyone associated with a club, to entice that player to move from the club he/she is registered with to play for any other club in Queensland.

**Definition of “Enticement”:** is anything offered to a player as an incentive to change clubs and that may include but is not limited to a promise of better playing conditions, free apparel, payment or promise of payment. Notwithstanding this definition, it is the actual approach to the player that constitutes a breach of the Rule.

**Penalty:** A coach found guilty of poaching a player will face a penalty, which may include suspension from participating in the game in any form. Any Club Official found guilty of





poaching a player faces a maximum penalty of exclusion from holding any position in rugby league in Queensland.



## 5. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

### 5.1 Age – Junior Players

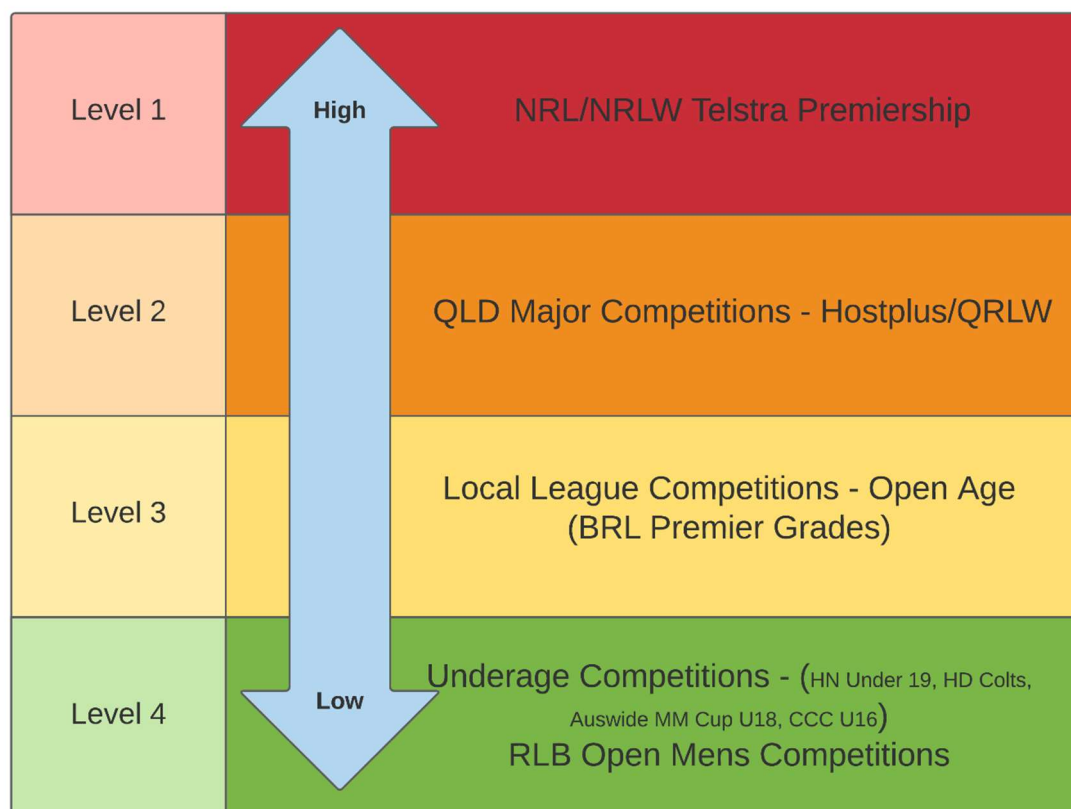
5.1.1 A player who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) years is not otherwise entitled to register under the rules as a Senior Player.

For further information refer to QRL Rules Part 4 – [4.1.3 Age Eligibility](#)

5.1.2 Any Club found to be playing an ineligible player may be fined for the match (or matches) in which the player took part. Loss of competition points may also be applied at the discretion of the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

### 5.2 Classification of Players

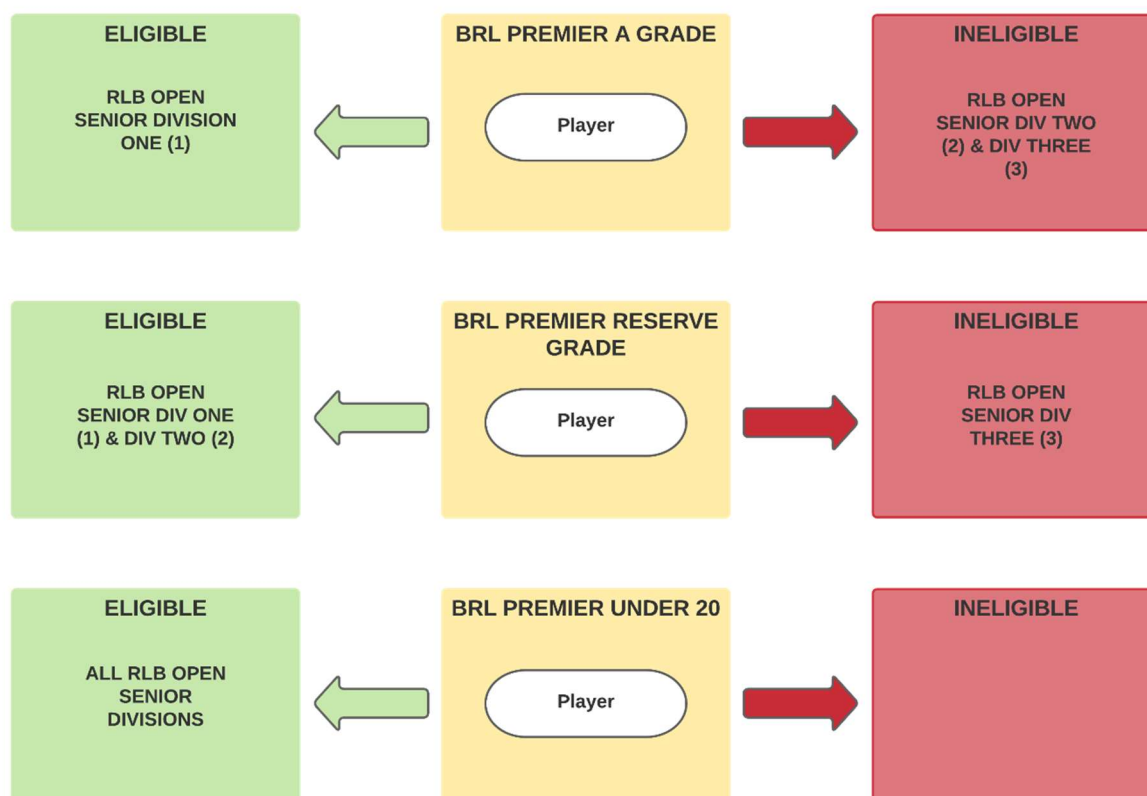
5.2.1 Every player within the RLB Senior Competitions will be classified as either a **core player** or **non-core player** and are subject to the rules relating to the movement of players. The following table represents the classification of players:



### 5.3 BRL Premier Grade Clubs

5.3.1 All BRL Premier A Grade Clubs must submit their Hostplus Cup affiliate player list to RLB Area Manager (or nominee) prior to Round 1 of the season competition.

5.3.2 Clubs that have teams participating in both Premier Grade and RLB Senior Men competitions can have player movement between both competitions. During the season, a player is not permitted to play more than two (2) divisions below what they have played.



### 5.4 RLB Senior Men Clubs

5.4.1 RLB Senior Clubs with more than one (1) team across divisions will be required to submit a player grading register for each of its teams competing in the RLB Senior Competitions. A player's name must only appear on one (1) team list.

5.4.2 The register shall list a [Club's core players and non-core players](#) and are subject to the rules relating to the movement of players. **To replace a core player** – a written submission must be presented to the RLB Area Manager (or nominee) for determination.

5.4.3 **In the absence of a player grading register** – the RLB Area Manager (or nominee) may determine a player's core/non-core status and their grading. Deliberate attempts to exclude players from the core player list to gain advantage for lower divisions/grades is considered a serious breach of the rules.



## 6. COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

### 6.1 Trials

- 6.1.1 For preseason and post season trials, other than intra club trials which may be approved upon application to the RLB Area Manager (or nominee), clubs shall refrain from playing games from the 3rd weekend of October to the 2nd weekend in January, inclusive (QRL abeyance period).
- 6.1.2 RLB have agreed to a maximum of two (2) trial matches only. Any requests for additional matches must be referred to RLB Area Manager (or nominee).
- 6.1.3 **RLB Clubs only** – please download and [complete Form 14 Application to participate in a Trial Match](#).
- 6.1.4 Clubs wishing to host a preseason or post season trial match against another club within the QRL SEQ Region must submit a completed 'application to tour form' a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to proposed match. A copy of this form can be found here: [Match Sanctioning Form](#).
- 6.1.5 Any club wishing to host a trial match against a club from another QRL division or Interstate league must lodge a duly completed QRL 'Application to Tour' form a minimum of eight (8) weeks prior to the proposed match date. A copy of this form can be found here: [Match Sanctioning Form](#).
- 6.1.6 Any club wishing to host an overseas club or tour to an overseas club must submit a duly completed QRL 'Application by a Queensland Club to Tour or Host' form a minimum of six (6) months prior to the proposed match.

### 6.2 Competition Format

- 6.2.1 RLB has the authority to decide the format and implementation of competitions, including the number of divisions, times, and dates of all playing fixture matches and finals series matches.
- 6.2.2 RLB will offer the following Senior Competitions:

<b>BRL Premier A Grade</b>
<b>BRL Premier Reserve Grade</b>
<b>BRL Premier Under 20s</b>

**RLB Senior Open Men Divisions**
**Over 35s**

6.2.3 Competition points shall be allocated during the season in the following manner:

<b><u>Result</u></b>	<b><u>Points</u></b>
<b>Win</b>	Three (3)
<b>Draw</b>	Two (2)
<b>Loss</b>	One (1)
<b>BYE</b>	Three (3)
<b>Forfeit (receiving)</b>	Three (3)
<b>Forfeit (declaring)</b>	Zero (0)

6.2.4 In the event of a Forfeit, teams receiving will receive fifty (50) points added to the "for" and zero (0) to the "against". Teams declaring a forfeit will receive zero (0) points to the "for" and fifty (50) points to the "against".

6.2.5 Teams who forfeit for three (3) consecutive weeks or who reach a total of five (5) forfeits may receive additional fines from the RLB Board. A letter will be issued to the club asking why the team should not be excluded from the remainder of the season.

6.2.6 If two (2) or more teams are equal on competition points, the final series rankings will be determined according to the following criteria:

- i. The greater positive (+) difference between points scored for and against; then if equal**
- ii. The greater percentage (%) of points for and against; then if equal**



iii.	<b>The most tries scored; then if equal</b>
iv.	<b>The most goals kicked; then if equal</b>
v.	<b>The most drop goals kicked; then if equal</b>
vi.	<b>By the toss of a coin</b>

### 6.3 Over 35's

6.3.1 The RLB Over 35s caters for players over the age of 35 years, who still wish to play rugby league football. This includes players who have moved on from participation in competitive opens football, and those who may have never otherwise played the game before.

**All matches must remain uncompetitive, no points will be awarded for a win or draw. No competition ladder will be kept. For further information, refer to [NRL Masters Rules](#).**

6.3.2 The Over 35s will be administered by the RLB Office and therefore comes under the QRL Rules and those other applicable rules contained within this Operations Manual including registration, judiciary, and disciplinary processes.

Players over forty (40) years of age must refer to [QRL Rule 4.1.16 Medical Clearance](#).

### 6.4 Match Scheduling

6.4.1 Match days and times will be as determined and published by the RLB office. Any match alterations inside of fourteen (14) days shall require the approval of the opposition club and RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

6.4.2 Night games must commence no later than 8.30pm unless approval has been granted by the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

- **Mod-league games to take precedence over Mini-league games,**
- **International rule games to take precedence over Mod-league games, and**

- **Senior Club games to take precedence over Junior Club games.**

6.4.3 Under no circumstances can individual clubs change any game without prior consent from the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

## 6.5 Match Times

6.5.1 All games must start on time; however, the referee can delay the start of play by up to a maximum of ten (10) minutes if a team has failed to appear. If after this time has elapsed a team cannot take the playing field; a forfeit will be declared in favour of the conforming team.

## 6.6 Game Duration

GRADE	HALF DURATION
<b>BRL PREMIER GRADE</b>	X2 40-minute intervals
<b>BRL PREMIER RESERVE GRADE</b>	X2 35-minute intervals
<b>BRL PREMIER UNDER 20S</b>	
<b>RLB SENIOR OPEN MEN</b>	
<b>OVER 35S</b>	X2 25-minute intervals

6.6.1 All games will have a 10-minute half-time intervals and time off during regular season fixtures will be allowed for all Senior RLB competitions.

6.6.2 Clubs shall ensure that all games they host will start on time. RLB may in their discretion impose a fine for any games that start late.

## 6.7 Cancellation, Suspension, Postponement

6.7.1 Emergency circumstances include the following:

**A natural disaster (E.g., Fire, flood, cyclone etc)**

**State Government Public Health Directives (E.g., COVID Safety Protocols)**

**Scheduled transport has been delayed or cancelled.**

**Other circumstances deemed to be an emergency by the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).**

## 6.8 Procedure

6.8.1 The RLB Area manager (or nominee) will make the decision on the postponing or cancelling of any scheduled game, in consultation with referee and both teams' management.

6.8.2 Competition matches may only be cancelled, suspended, postponed, or abandoned with the prior approval of the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

6.8.3 After the commencement of a competition match, a referee may suspend play if continuation of play would put the safety of players, match officials and/or spectators at risk.

6.8.4 If a game is to be delayed due to severe weather conditions, a decision will be made on the length of delay.

## 6.9 Emergency Procedure

6.9.1 Where a game is in progress and is stopped due to an **emergency/incident**, the following steps must be taken:

**As the emergency is a 'time-out', a direction will be given by the referee.**

**If the game re-commences within a reasonable time, play will continue as with any 'time-out'.**

**If the game cannot be continued, the circumstances shall be reported to the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).**





## 6.10 Outcome

- 6.10.1 If the referee suspends play and the match is cancelled or abandoned there shall be no replay.
- 6.10.2 If more than half of the match has been completed, the score at the time of the suspension of play in the match will be the result for determining the competition points table.
- 6.10.3 If less than half of the match has been completed, the match shall be declared drawn and two (2) competition points awarded to each of the teams. For Competition Points Table purposes, the score for the match will be recorded as nil all (0 – 0).
- 6.10.4 If any scheduled match cannot be played due to a 'wash out' the match will not be replayed.
- 6.10.5 If any team is unable to play a scheduled match, due to extenuating prior circumstances and it cannot be replayed, and with prior approval from the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).
- 6.10.6 If any scheduled match cannot be played due to the assigned match official failing to attend, the teams will be provided with an option to 1. Replay the match at a venue, date and time as set by the RLB Area Manager (or nominee) or 2. Have the match declared drawn and two (2) points awarded to each of the teams. For Competition Points Table purposes, the score for the match will be recorded as nil all (0-0).
- 6.10.7 In the event of the referee stopping a fixture match after the kick-off because a team has an insufficient number of players to continue the match, the match shall be deemed a loss by the team with insufficient number of players. Players in the Sin Bin are counted as players. Players dismissed from the field or who have retired from the game due to injury are not counted. Points scored, (for and against) at the time of the abandonment shall stand regardless of which team was leading.
- 6.10.8 Any preliminary matches which, due to significant injury or other delay, encroach on the next scheduled game may be abandoned after receiving authorisation from the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).
- 6.10.9 Where preliminary matches are played under the jurisdiction of a Local League or other governing body the abandonment and procedures of such abandonment will be the responsibility of the Local League or other relevant governing body.

## 6.11 Coin Toss and Team Run On

- 6.11.1 The captains of each team must make themselves available for the coin toss as directed to do so by the match referee. If the captain is unavailable to attend the toss, he must appoint and authorise another player from the team to attend in his/her place.



6.11.2 In all cases the visiting team will take the field first when directed by the match officials, followed by the home team also when directed by the match officials.

## 6.12 Grading and Regrading of Teams

6.12.1 RLB will grade all teams in all competitions. If applying for a re-grading the Club secretary must:

- |   |
|---|
| <b>1. List all players transferring into the club in that division.</b>   |
| <b>2. List all players transferring out of the club in that division and to which club/s they are transferring.</b> |
| <b>3. List all players who have left the club in that division and their reason for leaving.</b>                    |
| <b>4. Provide all the above information to RLB prior to the nominated closing day for season grading.</b>           |
| <b>5. RLB Area Manager (or nominee) will review information provided before a decision is approved/denied.</b>      |

6.12.2 At the completion of each season to review, the results of all graded competitions and to make a preliminary assessment of where teams should be graded in the following season based on the assumption that all players/teams will be returning. This pre-assessment will allow RLB to make informed decisions when reviewing each Club's list of team nominations for the new season.

6.12.3 Immediately following the cut-off date for team nominations and prior to the commencement of the premiership rounds to finalise initial teams grading – **All clubs must carefully consider the grade for which they nominate each team as requests for regrades after Round 3 will not be considered.**

6.12.4 Any regrading that may be required will only be undertaken with the express approval of the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

6.12.5 Teams requesting to be dropped down a Division **after Round 3** will be ineligible to play finals in that lower Division should that request be approved. If the regrading is approved, all opposing teams in that Division will automatically receive three (3) points.



6.12.6 In those instances, where a team is withdrawn from a competition before the end of a complete competition round, all premiership and 'For' and 'Against' points associated with the matches played by the team withdrawn will be nullified.

6.12.7 For teams being **ADDED** to the competition:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>A 'BYE' must exist in the relevant competition,</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>The team nomination fee must be paid before the team will be added to the competition,</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Team Insurance must be paid before the team is added to the competition,</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>New teams added to the competition will start with zero (0) points,</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Existing teams in the competition will be awarded three (3) competition points for each 'BYE' they had prior to the addition of the new team</b></li></ul>

6.12.8 For teams being **WITHDRAWN** from the competition:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>A bond of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) may be applied to that club by RLB.</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Any bond paid and held by the RLB shall be returned to the club at the end of the following football year, if the team has participated and completed the regular season.</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Clubs with multiple teams in a division seeking to withdraw a team will be required to withdraw the lowest graded team.</b></li></ul>



## 7. GAME DAY MANAGEMENT

### 7.1 Match Officials

- 7.1.1 The match officials for Senior Competitions will be appointed by Rugby League Referees' Appointments Officer. The Brisbane Rugby League Referees Association (**BRLRA**) are responsible for the payment of match officials.
- 7.1.2 Host clubs will be responsible for providing adequate security for the match official's dressing room, their entry to and exit from the playing field and venue.

**Under no circumstances are match officials to be approached, questioned, or harassed in any way by club officials, players, or spectators either during, or after a match.**

- 7.1.3 All complaints regarding the performance of the match officials shall be lodged in writing through the complainant's club in the first instance. The club executive will then decide whether to forward the complaint onto the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).
- 7.1.4 All written complaints must be lodged in the RLB Office by close of business no more than two (2) days following the relevant match. Under no circumstances are written complaints to be sent to the BRLRA directly nor should any referee or BRLRA Official be approached regarding the performance of any match official.

### 7.2 Team Sheet

- 7.2.1 The home team shall be responsible for the supply of the team sheet.
- 7.2.2 Teams that fail to submit their team list by the specified cut off times as per the RLB Game Day Process could face sanctions that may include but not limited to, forfeiture of match, a fine or loss of competition points.
- 7.2.3 If both teams fail to submit their team list by the specified cut off times as per the RLB Game Day Process the match could be declared a no result with no points allocated to each team. Both teams could face further sanctions that may include but not limited to, a fine or loss of competition points.

**For further information – refer to [RLB Game Day Process](#).**



## 7.3 Volunteer Registration

7.3.1 All Clubs must register all volunteers on MySideline such as team managers, sports trainers, League Safe, League First Aid, touch judges and other volunteers who hold any official position within the Club. In addition, all Clubs must upload a recent photograph to MySideline of those volunteers, directly involved with a team.

## 7.4 On Field Personnel

7.4.1 RLB adopts the recommended [NRL On Field Policy](#) for all levels of Competition. For further information regarding team officials – refer to Team Nomination.

## 7.5 On Field Personnel – Roles

7.5.1 Each team may engage and use a maximum of four (4) On Field personnel during a game (one of which must hold a minimum qualification of Level One Sports Trainer for Under 16 and above; League First Aid for Under 6 to Under 15).

7.5.2 The four (4) On Field personnel referred to in clause above shall be the only On Field personnel permitted inside the playing area.

7.5.3 Great care and diligence must be exhibited when assessing an injured/ill player and removing an injured/ill player from the field of play. Liaison with the match referee in a respectful manner will be of great assistance in such cases.

**All on-field personnel must be registered as a volunteer in [MySideline](#) under the volunteer type and carry appropriate accreditation** and identified with the following shirt/vest below:

- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>League Safe – yellow shirt/vest - LEAGUESAFE must be printed on the back of the shirt/vest.</b></li> </ul>           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>League First Aid – green shirt/vest – LEAGUE FIRST AID must be printed on the back of the shirt/vest.</b></li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sports Trainer – blue shirt/vest – SPORTS TRAINER must be printed on the back of the shirt/vest.</b></li> </ul>      |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head Trainer – orange shirt/vest – HEAD TRAINER must be printed on the back of the shirt/vest.</b></li> </ul>        |



For further information on roles and responsibilities – refer to [NRL On Field Policy](#)

## 7.6 Concussion

7.6.1 RLB recommends early management of concussion should include:

- Recognising the injury,
- Removing the player from the game/training, and
- Referring the player to a medical practitioner (doctor) for assessment.

For further information, refer to [NRL Concussion Management Guidelines](#).

## 7.7 Health and Safety Guidelines

7.7.1 RLB adopts the NRL Infectious Diseases Policy, and this will apply in all cases where a player is:

- |   |
|---|
| • <b>Bleeding; or</b>   |
| • <b>His/her person clothing is contaminated by blood; or</b> |
| • <b>His/her person's equipment is contaminated by blood</b>  |

For further information – refer to [NRL Infections Diseases Policy](#).

## 7.8 Interchanges

7.8.1 RLB will conduct **limited player interchange** in **BRL Premier Grade Competitions**.

7.8.2 **Open Men's** and **Over 35 competitions** will have **unlimited interchange permitted** throughout the duration of the match.

7.8.3 Each club will be responsible for ensuring compliance with these interchange provisions. An interchange player must report to the appointed interchange official and handed an official numbered interchange card.

7.8.4 A maximum of two (2) interchange/replacement players can report to the interchange official at any one time. Other players must remain on the bench until the two interchanges being managed by the interchange official have been affected.



- 7.8.5 The interchange player is not to enter the field of play until the player they are replacing has left the field of play and the interchange official has accepted the interchange card.
- 7.8.6 Except for scrums, Interchanges may occur during general play (i.e., whilst the ball is in motion), after any scoring has been completed or if play has been suspended by the referee (e.g., injury or caution).
- 7.8.7 Otherwise, interchanges must not be made after the referee has ordered a scrum until after the scrum has been completed. This applies regardless of whether the referee calls time out for an injury or not. The player leaving the field may do so at any time, but a player cannot enter the field until the ball emerges from the scrum.
- 7.8.8 All interchange players must enter the field of play from an 'on side' position. If touch judges are appointed to control any match, normal rules will apply, and players must report to the touch judge before entering the field.
- 7.8.9 When a team has used all their allotted interchanges, the interchange official must inform the coach that no further interchanges are to be made for the remainder of the match.
- 7.8.10 All breaches of the interchange rule will incur a fine and penalty as determined by the RLB Area Manager (or nominee).

## 7.9 Interchanges – Maximum Number of Players

COMPETITION	OFFICIAL MATCH SHEET	INTERCHANGES
<b>BRL PREMIER GRADE, BRL PREMIER RESERVE GRADE &amp; UNDER 20s</b>	Maximum seventeen ( <b>17</b> ) listed with four ( <b>4</b> ) interchange players.	Maximum eight ( <b>8</b> ) interchanges permitted during the match.
<b>RLB OPEN MENS</b>	Maximum nineteen ( <b>19</b> ) listed with six ( <b>6</b> ) interchange players.	Unlimited interchange permitted throughout the duration of the match.
<b>OVER 35s</b>	Maximum twenty ( <b>20</b> ) listed on the match sheet. Eleven ( <b>11</b> ) players may take the field.	



## 7.10 Temporarily leaving the field of play

- 7.10.1 If the referee requests a player to leave the field due to bleeding and a replacement is made this will constitute an interchange. However, if the player retires to the sideline and has the blood removed and then re-enters play then no interchange is deemed to have occurred.
- 7.10.2 If a player's jersey is damaged or blood stained and requires a replacement jersey, the coach must notify the interchange official of the jersey change and the new number of the replacement jersey.

## 7.11 "Free" Interchanges

- 7.11.1 If a player is to be replaced due to an injury incurred because of 'Foul Play' and the referee deems the foul play as serious enough to warrant a free interchange, the referee will point to the player involved (i.e., the injured player) and then signal to the interchange official and the replacement will not be counted as an interchange.
- 7.11.2 The referee's signal for this replacement will be arms crossed in front of chest with hands on shoulders. The interchange official is to acknowledge the referee so that he/she knows that they have seen the signal.
- 7.11.3 The interchange official will be required to record FREE interchanges on the player interchange sheet.
- 7.11.4 A concussion injury/assessment is **NOT** considered a FREE interchange unless it has been deemed by the referee as a result of 'Foul Play'.

## 7.12 Sideline Area and Bench Locations

- 7.12.1 Where team benches are located within the playing area (i.e., Inside the fence) the following provisions must be adhered to:

- **Adequate seating provided for each team and placed parallel to touch line. Located as near to the 40m line as possible.**
- **Only personnel directly related to the conduct of the match itself (i.e., Coaches, interchange players, trainers, manager, medical officer).**



- **BRL Premier – No more than ten (10) persons are permitted on the bench for each team.**
- **Open Men’s Divisions – No more than twelve (12) persons are permitted on the bench for each team.**

7.12.2 Under no circumstances “barracking” or “abuse” from the bench will be permitted.

This not only refers to abuse, but also to what might be described as offering advice or assistance to the match officials in relation to their performance or how they should be carrying out their duties.

7.12.3 Players and officials on the bench must always remain at the bench allocated to their team (except for player warm-ups). Any player(s) warming up must remain at least 1m from the field of play.

7.12.4 No player or players may temporarily leave the field of play and subsequently re-enter the field of play without the permission of the referee or a touch judge.

7.12.5 Under no circumstances, is a suspended player permitted on the sideline or bench area.

7.12.6 No members of the public or any other unauthorised persons are permitted within the playing area (i.e., inside the fence surrounding the field of play).

### 7.13 Timekeeping – Official Match Time (Field Manager)

7.13.1 It should be noted that the match clock on display at the venue does not necessarily accurately represent the official match time.

7.13.2 The home team, in conjunction with the visiting team shall be responsible for the keeping of match time. If a visiting team does not nominate anyone for this purpose, they must accept the timing of the home team.

7.13.3 All decisions of the official timekeeper(s) shall be final and not open to review or appeal unless the League Manager (or nominee), at his/her absolute discretion, so determines.

7.13.4 Match clocks should be in good working order and showing second hand if analogue or indicating seconds if digital. A back up system should be available at all venues.

### 7.14 Sin Bin Officials

7.14.1 Visiting clubs must nominate their personnel for timing of “temporary suspensions” and make themselves known to the home club nominee prior to the start of the match.

7.14.2 If a visiting club does not nominate anyone for this purpose, they must accept the timing of the home team sin bin operator.



7.14.3 Operators must be provided with time pieces displaying minutes and seconds by their clubs.

## 7.15 Recording of Matches

7.15.1 All BRL Premier and Senior Open Men's matches shall be recorded by the host club and submit complete and full footage of games by **12 noon on the first business day** following the scheduled match.

7.15.2 Senior Open Men's - If the fixture is played at a neutral venue, the listed home side is responsible to record and submit complete and full footage. The home side should liaise with the host venue prior to the fixture being played.

7.15.3 Should the host club fail to produce the video of the game upon request from RLB, the club may face sanctions that could include, but not limited to:

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>A fine</b></li></ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Loss of competition points</b></li></ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>The standing down of the team until the footage is made available.</b></li></ul> |

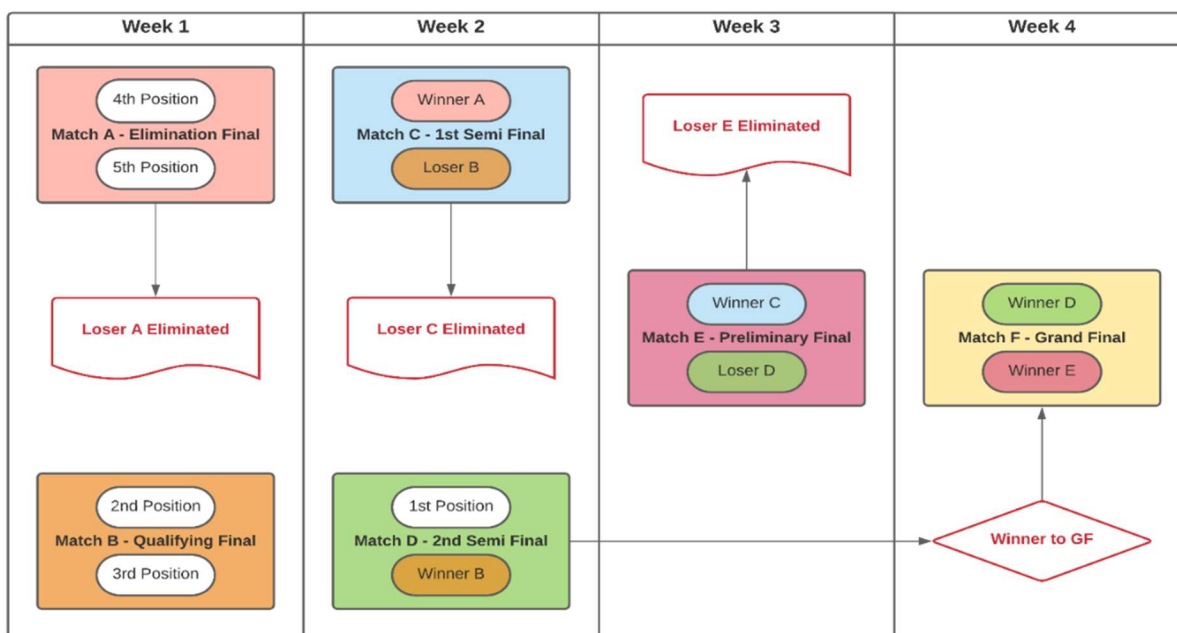


## 8. FINALS

### 8.1 Finals Format

8.1.1 After the completion of competition fixtures, the team leading on the points table shall be number one (1) and the next team number two (2) and so on. The team at the top of the premiership table will be declared minor premiers.

8.1.2 The following format will apply for a Top Five (5) Finals Series will apply:



8.1.3 RLB retains the option to alter the format of Semi Finals increasing or reducing the numbers of teams eligible to contest Semi Finals.

8.1.4 All dates, times and venues for all Finals Series Matches will be determined prior and adequate notification provided.

8.1.5 After the premiership rounds if two (2) or more teams are equal in competition points, the final series rankings will be determined.

### 8.2 Finals Eligibility

8.2.1 A player shall be deemed eligible for Finals of the Competition in which the player has played the most games throughout the premiership season.

8.2.2 RLB will always exercise discretion in determining finals eligibility. To play in any RLB Finals Series match, the following eligibility conditions will be considered:



- **the player has played a minimum of three (3) or more premierships fixture matches for their club in the current season.**
- **BRL Premier Grade and Senior Men competitions are considered separate competitions. If the player is not selected in BRL, they can be eligible for selection in Open Divisions. However, if the BRL team doesn't make finals and the Open Men's Division 1 team does - the player will be deemed ineligible as they have played majority of games in BRL Premier Grade.**
- **Multiple matches played in different grades on the same weekend will only count as one (1) match. In this case the lowest grade match will count in determining qualification.**
- **Teams forfeiting (declaring) the match will not have the match counted towards finals eligibility.**

8.2.3 Qualification shall commence at the start of each premierships competition and cease upon the completion of each competition's premierships rounds. In the event of forfeited or cancelled matches, clubs must submit the Team List via MySideline by **5pm Sunday**, listing the players who would have played to be reviewed for eligibility.

**Note: Clubs are responsible for recording from completed match reports the divisions and/or age group/s a player participates in during the premierships fixtures to establish what divisions/age group finals a player qualifies to participate in, and such information must be relayed to the coach of the player/team involved.**

### 8.3 Finals Series – Eligibility Categories

8.3.1 A player who has qualified for a lower-level competition finals series shall still be eligible to participate in the final series of a higher-level competition.

8.3.2 A player will not be eligible to play in two (2) levels of a Final Series scheduled on the same weekend except where the lower-level team has played earlier than the higher-level team on that weekend.



- 8.3.3 If a player has participated in an equal amount of premierships competition matches in multiple levels of competitions, the player shall be deemed eligible for the lower level subject to the discretion of the League to decide on final's eligibility.
- 8.3.4 In those instances, where a team was regraded, the matches played prior to regrading will count as matches in the team's new competition grade. For example, if a team is regraded from Division One to Division Two, the matches played in the Division One competition prior to the regrade will count as Division Two matches in terms of player eligibility.
- 8.3.5 Each Club with a team engaged in any Final Series shall lodge a list of players whom they consider to be eligible to play in each level for the Finals Series. This list must be submitted to the RLB Office for confirmation two (2) weeks prior to the first finals match. There is no limit to the number of players listed.

For further information refer to [State-wide Competitions Operations Manual 10.7](#)

#### 8.4 Finals Series – BRL Premier Grade

- 8.4.1 If a player has participated in three (3) games or more in any BRL Premier Grade competition throughout the season, such player will be deemed eligible to compete in that competition's Final Series, regardless of whether the player has played most games in that competition.
- 8.4.2 A higher-level qualified player (i.e. Hostplus and/or Hastings Deering) shall not be eligible to participate in the BRL Premiership final series unless he has failed to gain selection in the higher-level team playing on the same weekend.
- 8.4.3 However, if the higher-level team (i.e. Hostplus and/or Hastings Deering) is still competing but has a bye in their relevant final series then players are eligible to play for the lower-level team provided, they have played at least one (1) match for the lower-level team during the regular season.

**UNDER 20S** – a player must have played a minimum of three (3) fixtures in Under 20s to be eligible for finals. However, if the player has played their majority of matches in a higher-level team (i.e. BRL Reserve Grade and/or A-Grade), then that player will be ineligible for finals in the Under 20 competition.



## 8.5 Finals Series – RLB Senior Men

- 8.5.1 If a player has participated in three (3) games or more in any RLB Senior Men's competition throughout the season, such player will be deemed eligible to compete in that competition's Final Series, regardless of whether the player has played most games in that competition.
- 8.5.2 As above, a player shall be deemed eligible for Finals of the Competition in which the player has played the most games throughout the premiership season.

## 8.6 Extra Time – Golden Point (Final series only)

- 8.5.1 If scores are equal after normal time in any Finals Series match, then in such matches a period of extra time – Golden Point, shall follow.
- 8.5.2 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.
- 8.5.3 If no point or points have been scored after the 1st period of five (5) minutes, the referee shall 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.
- 8.5.4 Play shall then continue for an unlimited time basis until the first point or points have been scored to determine the winner of the match.
- 8.5.5 In such extra time, the first scorer of any point or points (e.g., field goal, penalty goal or try) will immediately be declared the winner. If a try is scored in extra time the conversion kick will not be permitted.
- 8.5.6 In the case of any 'Extra Time' (finals) matches being played, any unused interchanges remaining from the total maximum number allowed will be cancelled after the normal period of play (fulltime). For the 'Extra Time' period, each team will be allowed a maximum of two (2) interchanges, with these two numbered cards to be returned to each team by the interchange official.

## 8.7 Admission Prices

- 8.7.1 All BRL Premier matches during the regular season will be charged an admission fee of seven (**\$7**) dollars.
- 8.7.2 Aged, invalid, and service pensions shall be recognised by all clubs throughout the season. Eligible holders of these pensions shall be permitted entry into general admission areas for all matches free of charge.
- 8.7.3 Children seventeen (17) years and under shall be permitted entry into general admission areas for all matches free of charge.



- 8.7.4 RLB season passes shall be recognised by all clubs during premiership rounds only. Entry shall be subject to the terms and conditions printed on the passes.
- 8.7.5 Each club secretary is to take all reasonable action to ensure all club members are aware that a gate entry fee is payable for all Finals Matches. Abuse of gate officials by host or visiting club members and their spectators will not be tolerated. The parent club of a guilty offender could also be subject to a fine/disciplinary tribunal action.
- 8.7.6 Entry to the grounds for team staff of six (6) will be allowed free of charge. Each team staff member's name must be on a list held at the gate. Details of team staff will be as per 'team list' forwarded by the club to RLB Office prior to the game.

### 8.8 Hosting Finals Series Matches

- 8.8.1 Open Senior Men's Finals Series Matches will be charged an admission fee of seven (**\$7**) dollars. BRL Finals Series Matches will be charged an admission fee of ten (**\$10**) dollars.
- 8.8.2 Clubs hosting finals games conducts these games for and on behalf of RLB. The RLB Board sets an admission fee for these finals, which the host club collects from all persons that enter the grounds, excepting persons nominated by RLB. Total gate receipts for the day are to be paid to RLB and/or any agreed hosting fee set by RLB.
- 8.8.3 Host clubs as a minimum are to supply the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>At least five (5) Duty Officials</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A public-address system and announcer</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gate Staff</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A qualified Level 2 Sports Trainer</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Suitable timekeeping equipment and timekeeper (field manager) who shall act as the recorder in the event of a drawn match</b></li> </ul>

- 8.8.4 BRL Finals Series matches – all finals fixtures for BRL must have a fully fenced venue. RLB at their discretion will move any fixtures that do not meet the minimum standards of a fully fenced venue.



8.8.5 For finals eligibility please ensure all clubs run Player Stats Report at least two (2) weeks prior to the first finals match. Eligibility lists must include all eligible players, coaches, First Aid Officers, League Safes, and managers.

**Only those players listed on the team list may participate in the match. No exceptions.**

8.8.6 Only those players who qualify to take part in finals are eligible. Breaches of the rules relating to player eligibility for finals as defined in the Rules and any deliberate playing of ineligible player/s in lower grades may result in the loss of the match and a maximum fine of \$500.00 per player being issued against the offending club.

<b>Duty Officials</b>	<p>Maintaining a minimum two duty officials inside of the playing field perimeter in front of where spectators are gathered during a match (if possible, use five duty officials, two on either side and one to act as field manager).</p> <p>Field Manager responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official timekeeper.</li> <li>• Referee Escorts</li> <li>• Ground Controller</li> </ul> <p>All persons acting in the role of a duty official must wear the approved RLB Duty Official bib.</p>
<b>Visiting Team Duty Official</b>	Each team participating in a Final Series matches will be required to supply a duty official to assist in the management of spectators.
<b>First Aid</b>	Accredited sports trainers are to be provided by each host club.
<b>Ball Boys/Girls</b>	Host clubs are to provide a minimum of two ball persons for each game dressed in the neutral colours to be readily distinguishable from players, touch judges, sports trainer, or League safe. Minimum 10 years of age.





## 8.9 Referees and Touch Judges

- 8.9.1 Referees and touch judges will be allocated by the Rugby League Brisbane Referee Appointment Officers. Depending on the number of match officials available host clubs may be asked to provide a touch judge.
- 8.9.2 In the event touch judges need to be supplied by the host club, a person qualified and registered as a referee will have precedence over a qualified touch judge and a qualified touch judge will have precedence over any unqualified person. The use of unqualified touch judges is to be avoided.
- 8.9.3 Referees and touch judges are to be escorted on and off the field of play by the duty officials.

## 8.10 Player ID and Team Official Checks

- 8.10.1 Player/team officials ID checks must be undertaken for each team prior to each match by a host club duty official and/or RLB Official.

**No photo in MySideline – NO PARTICIPATION – NO EXCUSES – NO EXCEPTIONS**

- 8.10.2 The player and team official name must be listed on the approved team sheet, team sheets will be supplied by RLB.

## 8.11 Ground Announcements

- 8.11.1 If available excerpts from the [NRL Code of Conduct](#) Ground Announcement are to be broadcast across the PA system at regular intervals.
- 8.11.2 Official Photographers (refer [NRL Member Protection Policy](#))



## 9. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

### 9.1 Forfeits

- 9.1.1 If a club forfeits a match, the club must forfeit the lower division/grade team first.
- 9.1.2 Clubs having to forfeit games before match day must immediately notify the opposition club and the RLB office by 7pm on the Thursday evening prior to the weekend game. If a match is forfeited after 7pm, the forfeiting club shall pay a fine of \$700 to the League
- 9.1.3 [RLB Form 07](#) must then be completed and emailed to the League office by the Secretary of the Club forfeiting the match no later than 8.00am on the Friday morning prior to the weekend of the game.
- 9.1.4 If a match is forfeited on game day, the forfeiting club shall pay a fine up to a maximum of \$1500 to the League. Half of the fine (\$750) will be retained by the League and the remaining half (\$750) will be available to be paid to the host club by the League to cover all unavoidable costs incurred for the forfeited game on the day (e.g., food and drink purchased). If the host club forfeits, they will not receive the \$750.
- 9.1.5 Any team or members of a team who leave the field of play whilst a match is in progress, other than through injury, without the permission of the Referee must be reported in writing to RLB by the Referee and Host Club Secretary. The Club to which the team/players belong will be subject to disciplinary action and a fine/suspension may be imposed.

**The League has the discretion to choose not to apply the rules of forfeiture in the interests of developing participation in the game of rugby league.**

### 9.2 Team Levy

<b>BRL Premier Grade</b>	\$2,500
<b>BRL Reserve Grade</b>	\$2,500
<b>BRL Under 20</b>	\$1,000
<b>Open/Senior Men</b>	\$2,425.50

<b>Over 35's</b>	\$1,155
<b>Affiliation Fee (per club)</b>	\$449.59

### 9.3 Schedule of Fines

<b>OFFENCE</b>	<b>PENALTY</b>
<b>Playing an ineligible player</b>	\$500 fine  Automatic Forfeit of the game (other penalties may be applicable)
<b>Late notification of Forfeit</b>	\$700 fine
<b>Forfeit on Game Day</b>	\$1500 fine  (\$750 to be retained by RLB)  The host club to receive other \$750, however this is not applicable to host clubs that forfeit matches.
<b>Withdrawal of Teams</b>	\$2000 bond  Bond to be returned if the team plays the next season in full.
<b>Deliberately excluding core players from the Core Player Register</b>	\$500 fine for each breach identified
<b>Clubs with Teams failing to have all players in the registered Club Uniform</b>	\$100 fine for each breach identified



<p><b>Failure to enter Team List by required due date and time</b></p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Offence – Warning Letter</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Offence - \$200 fine per breach</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Offence - \$200 fine per breach and loss of three (3) competition points</p> <p>**Continual Breaches may result in withdrawal of team from competition or withdrawal of club from ALL competitions**</p>
<p><b>QRL &amp; Lion (XXXX) Partnership Circular 358</b></p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Offence – Warning Letter</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Offence - \$500 fine</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Offence - \$1000 fine and loss of three (3) competition points.</p> <p>**Continual Breaches may result in loss of hosting rights for the club and /or withdrawal of team from all competitions.</p>
<p><b>Alcohol being brought into ground</b></p>	<p>\$1000 fine (Host Club)</p>
<p><b>Interchange Breaches</b></p>	<p><i>1<sup>st</sup> breach by a team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of Premiership points for that match</li> </ul> <p><i>2<sup>nd</sup> breach by a team (in a different match to the first breach)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of Premiership points for that match.</li> <li>• A loss of an additional two (2) Premiership points; and</li> <li>• \$500 fine</li> </ul> <p><i>Subsequent Offences</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of all Premiership points for the season (includes future matches where the team will not be able to accumulate</li> </ul>



	<p>Premiership points, although the opposition may).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$500 fine for each offence (multiple fines may apply in each match if more than the maximum number of interchanges take place).</li> <li>• Withdrawal of participation in the game (applicable to Coach).</li> </ul>
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## 10. INSURANCE

### 10.1 Insurance Declaration

10.1.1 The QRL [Insurance Declaration](#) must be completed and team insurance premiums paid for prior to:

- **28<sup>th</sup> February each year or**
- **before the team plays a game,**
- **either by lump sum or by a funding agreement with the insurer.**

10.1.2 The club shall hold at least the minimum cover of insurance for each team that participates in the competitions as outlined in the QRL Insurance Handbook.

10.1.3 The club shall hold a valid certificate of currency for public liability insurance to the value of not less than \$20 million.

10.1.4 Any players or officials injured and making an insurance claim, must make claims on the prescribed form available for download from the Arthur J. Gallagher website. <https://www.qjg.com.au/>

10.1.5 For further information, please visit the [QRL Clubhouse resource center](#).

**Non-profit organisations can apply for an exemption that excludes the payment of Queensland Government Stamp Duty on insurance premiums.**

## Appendix A.

### BASE PENALTY SCHEDULE

#### Revised NRL Penalties table with aligned Amalgamated Penalties

Note – highlights shaded denote changes from NRL penalties.

Offence	Grade	1st Offence (early plea in brackets)	2nd Offence (early plea in brackets)	3rd & Subsequent Offence (early plea in brackets)
High Tackle - Careless	1	1 match (Warning)	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)
	2	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)
	3	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)
High Tackle – Reckless	1 (4) #	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)	6 matches (5)
	2 (5)	5 matches (4)	6 matches (5)	7 matches (6)
	3 (6)	6 matches (5)	7 matches (6)	8 matches (7)
Dangerous Contact	1	1 match (Warning)	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)
	2	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)
	3	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)
Dangerous Throw	1	1 match (Warning)	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)
	2	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)
	3	5 matches (4)	6 matches (5)	7 matches (6)
Striking	1	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)
	2	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)
	3	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)	6 matches (5)
Crusher Tackle	1	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)
	2	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)
	3	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)	6 matches (5)
Contrary Conduct	1	1 match (Warning)	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)
	2	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)
	3	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)
Shoulder Charge	1	2 matches (1)	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)
	2	3 matches (2)	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)
	3	4 matches (3)	5 matches (4)	6 matches (5)

# High Tackle Reckless is effectively treated as a grade up from High Tackle Careless