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DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply in this Schedule 1 unless expressly stated otherwise or unless the context otherwise requires:

Affiliate has the same meaning as set out in the CRL Constitution.

ARL Commission means Australian Rugby League Commission Limited, ACN 003 107 293.

Chief Executive Officer means the chief executive officer of the CRL.

Clayton Cup means the award determined by the CRL in accordance with rule 1.3.

Club means an organisation, which is a member of or affiliated to a Member Group / Division.

Competition means rugby league tournaments, competitions, matches and fixtures conducted by and between Member Groups / Divisions with the approval, and under the auspices of, the CRL.

Country Rugby League and **CRL** means Country Rugby League of New South Wales Incorporated.

CRL Board means the board of directors of the Country Rugby League.

CRL Constitution means the constitution adopted by CRL as amended from time to time.

Cup Competition will typically mean a knock-out style rugby league Competition.

CRL Referees' Appointments Board means the body appointed in accordance with rule 1.12.

CRL Representative Teams means the teams selected by the CRL to represent the CRL in the sport of rugby league.

CRL Rules means the rules, regulations, by-laws, policies, determinations and decisions of the CRL which are made and amended from time to time.

CRL Service Award means an award bestowed by the CRL on individuals nominated in accordance with these CRL Rules, who have given outstanding service to the CRL and its Members, other organisations and its Competitions.

Director has the same meaning as given to that term in the CRL Constitution.



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First Grade Competition means the highest grade Senior Grade Football Competition conducted by a Member Group / Division.

Group Competition will typically mean a season-long, premierships style rugby league Competition.

Junior Grade Competitions means aged-limited Competitions conducted by or under the auspices of a Member Group / Division.

Junior Grade Football means age-limited rugby league Competitions.

Mini and Mod Laws of the Game means the rules for mini and modified rugby league adopted by the Country Rugby League and set out in Schedule 6 to the CRL Rules.

Mini League has the same meaning as given to that term in the Mini and Mod Laws of the Game.

Member has the same meaning as set out in the CRL Constitution.

Member Group / Division means an organisation which is a Member or Affiliate of CRL which conducts rugby league competitions, premierships, tournaments and matches which are approved by the CRL.

Mod League has the same meaning as given to that term in the Mini and Mod Laws of the Game.

NRL means National Rugby League Limited, ACN 082 088 962.

NSWRL means New South Wales Rugby League Limited, ACN 002 704 761.

Open-Age Competitions means the Senior Grade Football Competitions, other than the First Grade Competition, conducted by a Member Group / Division.

Plate Competitions are, typically, socially-oriented Competitions conducted by Member Groups / Divisions.

Player means a person who is Registered by the CRL to play rugby league in Competitions conducted by or under the auspices of Constituent Bodies.

QRL means Queensland Rugby Football League Limited, ACN 009 878 013.

Region has the same meaning as given to that term in the CRL Constitution.

Register of Defaulters means the register maintained by the CRL, containing the details and particulars (determined by the CRL) of players who have defaulted on obligations owed by them to Clubs that they are Registered to play for.



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Registration means the registration of a person by a Member Group / Division, and by the CRL, to participate for a Club in a Competition.

Reserve Grade Competition means the second-highest grade Senior Grade Football Competition conducted by a Member Group / Division.

Senior Grade Football means open-age rugby league Competitions.

INTERPRETATIONS

Unless expressly stated to the contrary:

1. The indexes and headings to the clauses and schedules of this Schedule 1 are for reference only and shall not otherwise affect the construction of its contents.
2. Any reference in this Schedule 1 to a clause is, unless otherwise stated, a reference to that clause which appears in this Schedule 1.
3. Any reference to a clause of an annexure or incorporated document (including the CRL Constitution) is a reference to that clause as it appears in that schedule or incorporated document.
4. Where the context so admits, any gender shall include the other gender, and the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.
5. The expression 'person' means and includes any individual, firm, company, incorporated association, partnership, organisation, government, state, agency of state or joint venture.
6. Where a term is a defined term, grammatical derivations of that term shall be ascribed the corresponding meanings.
7. References to the CRL Rules or this Schedule 1 mean the CRL Rules and this Schedule 1 as amended from time to time in accordance with the powers of the CRL set out in the Constitution.
8. Any reference to a time or date for the performance by any party of any obligation or the doing of any act or thing is a reference to that date or time in Sydney, Australia by reference to the *Standard Time Act 1987* (NSW).



1.1 ADMISSION OF TEAMS TO COMPETITIONS

1.1.1 Any Club wishing to participate in any Competition must be accepted by the Member Group / Division responsible for the organisation and conduct of that Competition. A Club wishing to enter any team in any Competition conducted by a Member Group / Division shall lodge an application (see **Appendix 1.1**) with the Member Group / Division by the date prescribed by the Member Group / Division.

1.1.2 Any Club proceeding in accordance with rule 1.1.1 shall prepare and have accepted a business plan for their participation in the competition which shall include, but not be limited to, the following matters:

- a) The legal structure and governance structure of the Club;
- b) The source(s) of funding and the financial resources of the Club;
- c) The playing resources of the Club;
- d) The playing and training infrastructure of the Club; and
- e) The home ground and facilities infrastructure of the Club.

1.1.3 A Club which enters a team or teams in any Competition conducted by a Member Group / Division in a particular season shall not be entitled as of right to enter any team or teams in any Competitions conducted by that Member Group / Division in any subsequent season. A Member Group / Division shall be entitled to refuse the application of any Club to enter team(s) in its Competitions on terms determined by the Member Group / Division.

1.1.4 Further to rule 1.1.3, a Member Group / Division may approve the application of a Club on terms and conditions determined by the Member Group / Division, and the Member Group / Division may at its discretion cancel such conditional approval if, in the opinion of the board of the Member Group / Division, the Club or any member of the Club has failed to comply with any such term or conditions, PROVIDED THAT:

- a) before the Member Group / Division makes any such decision to cancel the conditional approval, the Member Group / Division has given the Club at least seven (7) days prior notice of its intention to cancel the conditional approval;



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- b) that written notice to the Club states that the Club may make written representations to the Member Group / Division as to why the Member Group / Division should not make the decision to cancel the conditional approval and / or any other matter that the Club considers relevant in the circumstances;
- c) that written notice states that the Club and its representatives may attend the meeting of the Member Group / Division at which the decision as to whether to cancel the conditional approval will be deliberated, for the purposes of making oral submissions as to why the Member Group / Division should not make the decision to cancel the conditional approval and / or any other matter that the Club considers relevant in the circumstances; and
- d) any written and / or oral submissions provided by the Club have been duly considered by the Member Group / Division.



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1.2 AGE POLICY

1.2.1 Minimum Age

All players in all Competitions must at least celebrate their fifth (5th) birthday in the calendar year that the Registration is effected in respect of (that is, if a player's Registration is in respect of the 2015 rugby league season, that player must celebrate his fifth or later birthday in 2015). An application by, or on behalf, of a person for Registration must be declined, and Registration refused, if the person seeking to be registered will not In order to register to play rugby league players must be turning at least five (5) years of age in the current year.

1.2.2 Age Groups

- a) Unless otherwise approved by a Club and a Member Group / Division (and unless the requirements of rule 1.2.3(b) are met), players will play in their correct age category. For example, in a particular year a player celebrating his ninth birthday shall (unless otherwise approved in accordance with this rule 1.2.2) play in the under 9s. This includes all League Tag competitions.
- b)
 - i) Notwithstanding rule 1.2.2(a), no player shall be permitted to play Senior Grade Football unless that person is aged at least 17 years.
 - ii) Notwithstanding rule 1.2.2(a), no player shall be permitted Senior Grade League Tag unless that person has attained the age of at least 16 years
- c) For the purpose of a. above Senior Grade football does not include competitions that are restricted by age limitation e.g. Under 19s.

1.2.3 Playing in an Older Age Group

- a) Notwithstanding rule 1.2.2, no Club or Member Group / Division shall grant any approval for any player to play in any age-limited Competition which is more than two (2) age divisions higher than the youngest age-limited grade that he is eligible for by reference to his date of birth. For example, a player who celebrates his ninth (9th) birthday in 2015 shall be eligible to play in the under 9s and (subject to the approvals required by rule 1.2.2) the under 10s and under 11s. That player shall not, however, be eligible to play in the under 12s or higher in 2015.
- b) No Club or Member Group / Division shall grant any person any permission to play age-limited rugby league in any Competition outside of their correct age level unless that person's parent / guardian and the relevant Club provided a completed and signed consent in the form set out at **Appendix 1.2**.



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- c) Any player granted permission under rule 1.2.2(a) to play in a higher age category is required to fulfil their obligations to their correct age category before playing in an older age category. For example, if a player's correct age category is under 10s, then that player shall not be permitted to play in any under 11s or under 12s Competition for his Club if that Club's under 10s team has insufficient players to properly compete in the Competitions in which it participates.



1.3 CLAYTON CUP

- 1.3.1 The Clayton Cup is awarded annually by the Country Rugby League to the best performed first grade team in all Member Group / Division Competitions.
- 1.3.2 The CRL shall seek nominations for the award of the Clayton Cup following the completion of all the last Group / Division Grand Final
- 1.3.3 The winner of the Clayton Cup shall be selected by the CRL Board, based on a recommendation of the CEO, based on:
- a) win / loss records;
 - b) total points scored;
 - c) total points conceded;
 - d) number of games played; and
 - e) any other criteria which the CRL Board considers relevant.



1.4 COMPETITIONS: GROUP, CUP AND PLATE

1.4.1 Unless otherwise determined by a Member Group / Division and approved by the CRL, Competitions conducted by a Member Group / Division in age categories from under 6s to under 16s (both inclusive) shall be administered by a Member Group / Division's affiliated junior league.

1.4.2 Unless otherwise determined by a Member Group / Division and approved by the CRL, Competitions conducted by a Member Group / Division in any category other than under 6s to under 16s (both inclusive) shall be administered by the Member Group / Division.

1.4.3 Competitions conducted by or under the auspices of Member Groups / Divisions shall meet the following requirements unless the CRL otherwise determines because of exceptional circumstances:

Group Competitions

- a) A minimum of six (6) teams in the First Grade Competition.
- b) An unlimited number of teams in other Open Age Competitions.
- c) A minimum of six (6) teams in each Junior Grade Competition.

Cup Competitions

- d) Shall be structured by a Member Group / Division on the basis that no more than one (1) team per town or city is permitted to enter the Cup Competition.

Plate Competitions

Plate Competitions are conducted by Member Groups / Divisions with an emphasis on the social aspect of rugby league. Plate Competitions are intended as a participation-based alternative to First Grade Competitions and Open Age Competitions; however

- e) all participants in Plate Competitions must be Registered; and
- f) all Clubs participating in Plate Competitions must comply with the requirements of rule 1.1 for the purposes of entering Plate Competitions.



1.5 COMPETITION STARTING DATES

- 1.5.1 The commencement date of any Cup Competition or Plate Competition conducted by or under the auspices of a Member Group / Division in a particular year shall not be before the commencement of the Group Competitions conducted by the Member Group / Division in the same year.



1.6 COUNTRY JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE COUNCIL

1.6.1 The Country Junior Rugby League Council shall be appointed annually and comprise eight (8) members who are appointed as follows for the period from appointment until 31 December in the year of appointment:

- a) the Chief Executive Officer;
- b) a person, who is a Director, that is appointed by the CRL Board as the chairman of the Country Junior Rugby League Council;
- c) one (1) person from each of the six Regions, who is elected by the Region appointing them from the junior rugby league delegates to that Region. Each person nominated by a Region in accordance with this rule 1.6.1(c) must have their nomination endorsed at the next CRL annual general meeting prior to commencing their period of appointment to the Country Junior Rugby League Council.



1.7 CRL SERVICE AWARD

- 1.7.1 Nominations for the CRL Service Award shall close on 31 October in each year in respect of awards to be made by the CRL for that year.
- 1.7.2 Nominations for the award of a CRL Service Award can only be made by Member Groups / Divisions.
- 1.7.3 All nominations made to the CRL in respect of candidates eligible for a CRL Service Award must be made in writing, setting out the full name of the nominee, together with all other information and particulars considered by the nominator to be relevant to the question of whether the CRL should award a CRL Service Award to that person.
- 1.7.4 The Country Rugby League may define whatever criteria it deems necessary for the purposes of evaluating and awarding CRL Service Awards, including as to maximum quotas for the award of CRL Service Awards in specific periods, and in relation to the time(s) of the year in which CRL Service Awards are made.
- 1.7.5 The CRL Service Award will be in the form of a pin.



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1.8 CUP COMPETITION AND PLATE COMPETITION RULES

1.8.1 Cup Competitions and Plate Competitions are bound by the Competition Rules determined by the Country Rugby League, including those set out below and in Schedule 2 of the CRL Rules.

1.8.2 The standard rules which shall apply in respect of all Cup Competitions and Plate Competitions are set out below in this rule 1.8. Specific rules for Plate Competitions and Cup Competitions may be made by relevant Member Groups / Divisions provided that any such rules are not inconsistent with the standard rules.

1.8.2 Standard Rules

- a) Clubs shall be entitled to pay their team's designated captain / coach a maximum amount of five thousand dollars (\$5000.00) per season.
- b) Clubs shall be entitled to pay their other players a maximum of \$40 per match in respect of expenses, but shall not otherwise be permitted to pay its players.
- c) Any Club found to have breached rules 1.8.2(a) or 1.8.2(b) shall be expelled from the relevant Cup Competition or Plate Competition by the relevant Member Group / Division.
- d) Any Club expelled by a Member Group / Division pursuant to rule 1.8.2(c) shall have to apply to the Region for re-entry into the Competition the following year. Any such decision in respect of such an application shall be at the discretion of the Member Group / Division in accordance with the CRL Rules.
- e) Players who have participated in three (3) or more First Grade Competition matches in any First Grade Competition in the immediately preceding year must seek permission from the relevant Member Group / Division in order to Register to play in any Cup Competition or Plate Competition except in the case of a team's captain / coach or where the Country Rugby League determines (on an application made to it) that exceptional circumstances apply which mean that the Country Rugby League should waive the restrictions contained in this rule 1.8.2(e).



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- f) Players who have participated in ten (10) or more Reserve Grade Competition matches in any Reserve Grade Competition in the immediately preceding year must first seek permission from the relevant Member Group / Division in order to Register to play in any Cup Competition except where the Country Rugby League determines (on an application made to it) that exceptional circumstances apply which mean that the Country Rugby League should waive the restrictions contained in this rule 1.8.2(f)
- g) In the event that a player relocates to, and takes up residency in a community for the first time because of employment, then subject to the approval of the Country Rugby League, rules 1.8.2(e) and 1.8.2(f) do not apply regardless as to how many matches the player played in the preceding year.
- h) Players aged 18 years and younger are ineligible to play in a Cup Competition except in the following circumstances:
 - 1) the player is a resident of the community in which the team is based;
 - 2) the player is unable to play in Junior Grade Football because of the distances that the player would have to travel in order to do so;
 - 3) the nearest Junior Grade Football team that the player would ordinarily be eligible to play for (because of the player's age) already has 20 or more Registered players; or
 - 4) if the Member Group / Division determines that other exceptional circumstances apply.



1.9 DEFAULTERS

1.9.1 No person whose name appears on the Register of Defaulters shall be eligible to be a member of a Club, a player Registered to play for a Club, or to be engaged by a Club as a coach, trainer or official.

1.9.2 No player shall be listed on the Register of Defaulters unless the player is determined to be in breach of an agreement between the player and his relevant Club, Member Group / Division or the Country Rugby League. For the avoidance of doubt, a person shall not be listed as a defaulter in the Register of Defaulters, for the non-payment of items / goods including registration, insurance, fines, apparel, membership, rental, rental bonds, airline tickets, relocation costs, car hire or other similar items / goods **unless** the relevant playing agreement specifically records that these items / goods are to be paid / repaid, and unless the player has been invoiced for the same by the entity claiming the debt.

1.9.3 Any person who is in default of any financial obligation to any Club, Member Group / Division or the Country Rugby League may be nominated to the Country Rugby League as a defaulter provided:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the nominator most recently prior to 1 November contain a minute setting out the circumstances of the indebtedness, and the attempts which have been made by the nominator to recover the amounts outstanding;
- b) Such nomination is received by the Country Rugby League by the nominator on or before 31 October; and
- c) The documents submitted by the nominator to the Country Rugby League contain a signed declaration by the president of the nominator as to the fact that the nominee remains indebted to the nominator, and that the circumstances of the indebtedness are such that the nominee is in default of his obligations in respect of the amounts outstanding.



1.10 MIXED GENDER

1.10.1 Males and females shall be entitled to participate in mixed gender Competitions up to and including the calendar year in which they attain the age of 12 years.

1.10.2 Mixed gender Competitions are not permitted otherwise than in accordance with rule 1.10.1. The rationale for this is that the sport of rugby league is a vigorous, high-intensity body-contact physical activity. The strength, stamina and physique generally of boys aged 12 years and older, when compared and contrasted to the strength, stamina and physique generally of girls of a corresponding age (for example, in the case of a comparison between the strength, stamina and physique of 13 year old boys and 13 year old girls) is materially disparate. If boys and girls aged 12 years or more (and within the same age group, such as under 13s) were allowed to compete in the same teams and against each other in competitive rugby league matches, then the competition in those matches would be rendered uneven because of the magnitude of disparity between the relative strength, stamina and physique of girls and boys of the same age.



1.11 MINI AND MODIFIED COMPETITIONS

- 1.11.1 Member Groups / Divisions conducting Competitions for Junior Grade Football where the Mini and Mod Laws of the Game apply, because of the age of the participants, must first obtain permission to do so from their applicable Region and the Country Rugby League.
- 1.11.2 Any organisation conducting Junior Grade Competitions under the Mini and Mod Laws of the Game must have current Public & Products Liability and Not-For-Profit Organisation (Directors and Officers) Insurance, which is appropriate and adequate by reference to those Junior League Competitions.
- 1.11.3 All matches in all Competitions played under the Mini and Mod Laws of the Game shall be controlled by appropriately qualified officials.
- 1.11.4 Clubs entering teams competing in Competitions played under the Mini and Mod Laws of the Game must be affiliated to a Member Group / Division or a member of the ARL Commission.
- 1.11.5 Clubs shall only play players who are Registered with that Club.
- 1.11.6 All Member Groups / Divisions and Clubs **MUST NOTE** that the Country Rugby League's insurance schemes and arrangements only apply in respect of Registered players playing organised rugby league with the Clubs that they are Registered with, in Competitions.
- 1.11.7 As these competitions are usually held pre or post season a higher level of attention than normal shall be given to player comfort in regard to temperature, the number of games to be played, fitness, hydration and medical support. Member Groups / Divisions and Clubs are referred to the policies set out in **Schedule 6** to the CRL Rules.



1.12 REFEREES APPOINTMENT BOARD

- 1.12.1 The CRL Referees Appointment Board shall be appointed by the CRL Board as a sub-committee of the Board (in accordance with the CRL Constitution) and otherwise as determined by the CRL Board. The CRL Board shall determine the role and responsibility of the CRL Referees Appointments Board.
- 1.12.2 One of the functions of the CRL Referees Appointments Board is to appoint referees and other match officials to inter-Regional matches and other matches as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.



1.13 REGISTRATIONS, CLEARANCES AND DELETIONS

- 1.13.1 In accordance with the National Registration Policy and the National Clearance & Permits Policy (see **Schedule 6** to the CRL Rules), any player participating in any Competition, or otherwise training, trialling or playing rugby league for a Club is required to be Registered and cleared in accordance with the requirements of those Policies and in accordance with the requirements otherwise set out in this **Schedule 1**. Further, in addition to any other provisions of this **Schedule 1**, the rules relating to the registration of players set out in **Appendix 1.6** apply to all Registrations.
- 1.13.2 Where a Competition involves age-limited Junior Grade Football, a person shall not be Registered to participate in that Competition unless satisfactory proof of age is submitted to the Club and Member Group / Division, and where that proof of age provides that the person is eligible, in accordance with the CRL Rules, to play in the relevant Junior Grade Football Competition.
- 1.13.3 With the exception of Mini League, a clearance under the National Clearance and Permits Policy will not be issued, nor will a person be Registered for a current season, after 30 June in that year.
- 1.13.4 A person may not be Registered, nor shall a clearance be issued in respect of a person, between 5:00 pm on a Friday and 9:00 am on the following Monday.
- 1.13.5 Registrations and clearances are invalid for all purposes unless they are made and given in writing.
- 1.13.6 A person serving a current suspension or disqualification from rugby league may be granted a clearance (if required) and be Registered prior to 1 July in any year, however that person must serve out the full sanction before he is entitled to participate in rugby league by virtue of his Registration.
- 1.13.7 A player who is Registered to play Junior Grade Football and who is called upon to play Senior Grade Football for his Club after 30 June during a season shall be deemed Registered to play Senior Grade Football by virtue of his Registration which was current as at 30 June.
- 1.13.8 An application made by a person for Registration shall, upon the granting of Registration in accordance with the CRL Rules, constitute a binding contract for valuable consideration between the person, the Club which he Registers for, the Member Group / Division and the Country Rugby League.
- 1.13.9 A Club shall not directly or indirectly approach a player registered with another Club for the purposes of inducing that player to terminate or breach his registration with that Club.



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1.13.10 A player shall not play with more than one Club in any Member Group / Division Competition in a single season without the approval of two-thirds of the members of the Member Group / Division general committee present at a meeting of the Member Group / Division.

1.13.11 Not used

1.13.12 Not used

1.13.13 Not used

1.13.14 **REGISTRATION AND INSURANCE PAYMENTS**

- a) Player registration and insurance fees shall be payable by each Club to the Country Rugby League in three instalments.
- b) The Country Rugby League shall determine the percentage of the total player registration and insurance liabilities payable by Clubs on each instalment date.
- c) The final date for instalment payments are as follows:
 - 1) 30 April;
 - 2) 31 May; and
 - 3) 30 June in the season to which the liabilities relate.
- d) After 30 June in each year the Country Rugby League shall undertake a final reconciliation in respect of each Club and its liabilities still owing at 1 July. In the event the Country Rugby League determines as a result of the reconciliation that amounts remain owing, those amounts shall be paid to the Country Rugby League within fourteen (14) days of the Country Rugby League issuing to the Club a tax invoice for that amount.
- e) Clubs that fail to meet their obligations under this rule 1.13.14 shall be liable to penalties as determined by the Country Rugby League in conjunction with the relevant Member Group / Division. Those penalties may include without limitation monetary fines, and the suspension or expulsion of the Club and its teams from Competitions.



1.13.15 REGISTRATION DELETIONS

The record of a person being Registered with a Club for a particular season shall not be deleted from the relevant register(s) if:

- a) The Competition(s) in which the person is registered to participate in have commenced;

- b) If the person has participated as a player in any of the following for the Club:
 - 1) A trial match;

 - 2) A pre-season match; or

 - 3) A Mini League or Mod League match.



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1.14 REGIONS – MAKE UP AND CONSTRUCTION

1.14.1 The following Regions are established by the Country Rugby League, as set out in the CRL Constitution:

- a) **Newcastle / Central Coast Region**, which is comprised of the Newcastle and Central Coast Divisions.
- b) **East Coast Dolphins**, which is comprised of the Northern Rivers Rugby League, Group 2 and Group 3.
- c) **Greater Southern Region**, which is comprised of the Illawarra Division, Group 6 and Group 7.
- d) **Bidgee Bulls**, which is comprised of the Canberra District Rugby League, Group 9, Group 16 and Group 20.
- e) **Western Rams**, which is comprised of Group 10, Group 11, the Castlereagh Rugby League and the Woodbridge Cup.
- f) **Greater Northern Tigers**, comprised of Group 4, Group 19 and Group 21.

1.14.2 The constitution of each Region must provide that the Management Committee of each Region comprise:

- a) Three (3) representatives appointed by each Member Group / Division.
- b) One (1) representative appointed by the combined Junior affiliated bodies of that Member Group / Division;
- c) One (1) representative of the referees' association affiliated to each Member Group / Division; and
- d) The regional manager of the Region that is appointed by the Country Rugby League.

NOTE: The Regional Manager is a non-voting member of the Management Committee of the Region and is not eligible to be appointed as Chairman.

1.14.3 Each Region shall conduct their own election for the position of Regional Chairman

1.14.4 Each Region shall conduct a separate election for the position of deputy chairman.

NOTE: The deputy chairman is for the purposes of the Region and is not an alternative or substitute delegate to the CRL Board of Directors.



1.15 REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL PARTICIPATION

- 1.15.1 Every player required by a Member Group / Division, Region or the CRL to play in any Group, Division, Region, CRL or other representative team shall make himself available therefor and play as required
- 1.15.2 A player who fails to comply with rule 1.15.1 or otherwise makes himself unavailable for, or withdraws without approval, from any representative team, shall be ineligible to play for his Club in any team until such time as the commitments of the relevant representative team in which he was selected have been completed.
- 1.15.3 A player participating in any representative match covered by rule 1.15.1 must complete a Player Availability Form (see **Appendix 1.3**) and deliver that completed form to the organisation which has selected him to play representative rugby league before taking part in any representative rugby league match.
- 1.15.4 A player participating in any representative match covered by rule 1.15.1 must complete a Country Rugby League Code of Conduct Form (see **Appendix 1.4**) before taking part in any representative rugby league match.



1.16 REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL TEAM OFFICIALS

- 1.16.1 The CRL shall from time to time, and in accordance with its objectives, select, manage and administer CRL Representative Teams to represent the Country Rugby League in rugby league competitions.
- 1.16.2 The Board of the Country Rugby League is responsible for the selection of CRL Representative Teams and all coaches, managers, sports trainers, doctors, physiotherapists and all other non-playing individuals involved in CRL Representative Teams.
- 1.16.3 All coaches and sports trainers selected in accordance with rule 1.16.2 shall hold the appropriate qualifications and accreditations as per the requirements of the ARLC Coaching & Sports' Trainers Accreditation Schemes.
- 1.16.4 All persons selected in accordance with rule 1.16.2 are required to comply with all obligations imposed by law as a consequence of their selection, including "Working with Children Check" obligations arising under the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 (NSW)*.



1.17 RESTRICTIONS ON PLAYING

- 1.17.1 Clubs must not without the written permission of the Country Rugby League allow their teams or Registered players to participate in rugby league matches, tournaments or competitions unless those matches, tournaments and / or competitions are conducted by or under the auspices of the Member Group / Division, another Member, the ARL Commission or the NRL.
- 1.17.2 Further to any other provision of the CRL Rules, in the event that a person (whether a player or other participant, for example a coach or trainer) is presently serving any sanction handed down by any Club, any Member / Group, any Division, the CRL or otherwise, that person is not permitted to have any involvement in rugby league as a player, coach, other official, except where the decision of the body imposing the sanction was in respect of a captain / coach and where the determining body specifies that the sanction handed down applies only in respect of a person in their capacity as a player.
- 1.17.3 Any Registered player who participates in any district junior representative competitions or other similar competitions conducted by or under the auspices of NSWRL and / or QRL are not thereafter in the same rugby league season eligible for selection to participate in any CRL Junior Aged or Divisional Championships.
- 1.17.4 Any Registered player returning to a Competition at the completion his participation in any district junior representative competitions or other similar competitions conducted by or under the auspices of NSWRL and / or QRL shall only be cleared back to the Club with which they played the previous year.



1.18 SELECTION COMMITTEES

- 1.18.1 Under the CRL Constitution, an objective of the CRL is to select teams to represent the Country Rugby League in rugby league competitions. The Board has the discretion to appoint sub-committees for the purposes of selecting such teams.
- 1.18.2 The Board shall from time to time appoint selection committees on terms and conditions determined by the Board.



1.19 SPONSORSHIP

1.19.1 No Member Group / Division, Club or any other organisation bound by the CRL Rules shall enter into any sponsorship, endorsement or similar agreement or understanding:

- a) without the prior written approval of the CRL (such approval which shall, subject to this rule 1.19, not be unreasonably withheld);
- b) where the proposed sponsor provides goods or services in the same product category as a sponsor or official licensed supplier of the CRL;
- c) where to do so would constitute a breach of Australian law;
- d) where to do so would be contrary to the best interests of the Competitions, the Member / Group, the CRL or the sport of rugby league; and / or
- e) where to do so would be likely to incite vilification on the basis of race, religion or ethnicity.

1.19.2 Any Member Group / Division, Club or any other organisation bound by the CRL Rules which enters into a sponsorship, endorsement or similar agreement or understanding must, subject to the terms of that agreement or understanding:

- (a) use its best endeavours to promote the goods and services supplied or to be supplied by that sponsor to the general public;
- (b) meet all reasonable requests from such sponsor to attend functions and public appearances arranged by sponsor;
- (d) ensure that all team apparel worn by any players, officials, coaches, trainers and similar bears the official trademark of the Country Rugby League.



1.20 TRAVELLING OR TOURING TEAMS

1.20.1 Interstate Travel and Activities

Any team representing any Club or Member Group / Division that wishes to travel / tour interstate for the purposes of playing rugby league or otherwise representing the sport shall:

- a) have completed and submitted an Application to Travel/Tour (see **Appendix 1.5**) no later than six (6) weeks' prior to departure;
- b) not undertake any such travel or tour activities except with the prior permission of the relevant Club, Member Group / Division and the Country Rugby League.

1.20.2 International Travel and Activities

Any team representing any Club or Member Group / Division that wishes to travel / tour internationally for the purposes of playing rugby league or otherwise representing the sport shall:

- a) submit an expression of intention to tour one (1) year prior,
- b) have completed and submitted an Application to Travel/Tour (see **Appendix 1.5**) no later than six (6) months' prior to departure;
- c) only be considered for approval providing that each of the members of the touring party are aged 17 years or older; and
- d) not undertake any such travel or tour activities except with the prior permission of the relevant Club, Member Group / Division and the Country Rugby League.



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1.21 TRIAL MATCHES

- 1.21.1 Clubs wishing to play trial matches may do so only with the prior permission of the relevant Member Group / Division, their Region and the Country Rugby League.
- 1.21.2 Any Player participating in a trial match approved in accordance with rule 1.21.1 must be Registered in order to participate.
- 1.21.3 All Member Groups / Divisions and Clubs **MUST NOTE** that the Country Rugby League's insurance schemes and arrangements only apply in respect of Registered players playing organised rugby league with the Clubs that they are Registered with, in Competitions.
- 1.21.4 Trial matches shall be controlled by appropriately qualified officials
- 1.21.5 A referee's report / match sheet must be completed by the match referee appointed to control a trial match. Copies of those documents must be provided to each relevant Member Group / Division having regard for the teams participating in the trial match.
- 1.21.6 Clubs whose teams travel to play trial games and stay overnight for the purposes of or in connection with the participation in that trial match are required to:
- a) provide written notice to their Member Group / Division, setting out details of the accommodation which will be used by the team and its members, including the name and address of that accommodation facility;
 - b) Lodge with the Member Group / Division a bond in the amount of \$500 or such higher amount determined by the Member Group / Division, such bond which must be deposited with the Member Group / Division prior to the team embarking on the outward journey; and
 - c) Within seven (7) days' after the last night of the accommodation at the place referred to in rule 1.21.6(a), provide a written statement from the management of the accommodation that all conduct was satisfactory and that no damage or other expenses were incurred.
- 1.21.7 A Club which has paid a bond in accordance with rule 1.21.6(a) shall be entitled to its return upon the Club complying with rule 1.21.6(c).



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APPENDIX 1.1

APPLICATION TO ENTER TEAMS IN COMPETITIONS

On behalf of _____
(insert name of club)

We _____ President

and _____ Secretary

hereby apply to _____
(insert name of group)

for admission to the competitions to be conducted by the Group in season _____
(insert season)

We and the Club agree and undertake to be bound by the Group Constitution and By-Laws, the Constitution of Country Rugby League of New South Wales Inc, the CRL Rules and all other Rules and Regulations of the CRL and the decisions of the Group General Committee and Management Committee.

We hereby warrant to the Group that the Club is not insolvent and will be able to make payment of its debts as and when they fall due for payment.

SIGNED for and on behalf of _____
(insert name of club)

PRESIDENT



APPENDIX 1.2

PLAYING IN HIGHER AGE DIVISION CONSENT FORM

I/We hereby give permission for my/our son/daughter

_____ (insert full name)

DOB ___/___/___

to play with the _____ (insert Club)

Under _____ (insert higher age division)

I/We am aware of the increased risks my son/daughter will be exposed to both physically and mentally by playing in a higher age division.

I/We am aware that my son/daughter is required to fulfill his/her obligations to his/her correct age division and Group prior to competing in the higher age division.

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

On behalf of the _____ (insert Club Name)

JRLFC

I hereby give permission for _____ (insert player's name)

to play with the _____ (insert Club)

Under _____ (insert higher age division)

I am aware of and have explained the increased mental and physical risks of playing a higher age division to both the player and his/her parent/guardian.

Club Representative Name _____

Club Representative Signature _____ Date _____

This form is to be completed and returned to the Group Secretary for approval PRIOR to the player playing in a higher age division

Group Secretary Signature _____ Date _____



APPENDIX 1.3

PLAYER AVAILABILITY FORM

I _____
(insert name)

acknowledge, understand and agree that by playing in the Country Rugby League Senior Championships I am making myself available for selection in the Country Rugby League's Senior representative teams as outlined above.

I acknowledge, understand and agree that if I am selected in either team and then withdraw I may be suspended, at the discretion of the Country Rugby League, from Rugby League for a minimum period of two matches.

Player's Signature

Date

Regional Chairman/Manager

Date



APPENDIX 1.4

REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT OF THE COUNTRY RUGBY LEAGUE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

The Code of Conduct seeks to:

- promote and strengthen the good reputation of Rugby League, Rugby League Players and Playing Staff by establishing acceptable standards of performance and behaviour of Rugby League Players while on duty as Country Representatives
- deter conduct which could have an adverse effect on the standing and reputation of the game of Rugby League and the Country Rugby League.

Discipline

In addition to breaching this Code, misconduct by a Player/Playing staff may give rise to actions against the Player under or pursuant to any one or more of the following:

- civil and/or criminal laws;
- the CRL Rules

The Country Rugby League may suspend an individual charged or summonsed by Police until such time as the matter is finalised in a court of law.

2. GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Behaviour

2.1.1 All Players must behave in a responsible, professional and sportsmanlike manner.

2.1.2 A Player/Playing staff shall not participate, be involved in or associated with activities that bring the Country Rugby League or the game into disrepute.

2.1.3 Where a Player/Playing staff commits a breach of this section, the Country Rugby League will impose a penalty on the Player/Playing staff. The Country Rugby League will determine the penalty after taking into account the seriousness of the offence, the financial implications on the Player/Playing staff, as a result of the action in question.



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2.2 Property

- 2.2.1 All Players/Playing staff must treat the property and facilities of the Country Rugby League, and other providers (including transport and accommodation providers) with respect and regard.
- 2.2.2 Where a Player/Playing staff commits a breach of this section, the Country Rugby League will impose a penalty on the Player/Playing staff. The Country Rugby League will determine the penalty after taking into account the seriousness of the offence, the financial implications on the Player/Playing staff, as a result of the action in question.

3. FOOTBALL RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 Playing

Players will not engage in any activity which prevents that player from playing rugby league to the best of his ability.

3.2 Discipline

3.2.1 A Player is to comply, to the extent that is reasonable, with all directives which are conveyed directly or indirectly by coaching staff and management.

3.2.2 Specifically:

- All Players will be required to attend specified training sessions as set by the coaching and training staff and management.
- A Player shall not leave the training field without prior permission from his coach.
- A Player shall not leave team accommodation without prior permission from his coach or team manager.
- A Player shall not enter the playing field unless instructed to do so by his coach.
- A Player will be required to achieve all specific training tasks set by the coaching staff.

3.3 Attendance

3.3.1 All Players shall be responsible for familiarizing themselves with times for all scheduled events, including but not limited to training times, match times and travel times, team meetings and promotional events.

3.3.2 Players are required to attend all scheduled events, be punctual in attendance.



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3.3.3 Where a Player commits a breach of this section, the Country Rugby League will impose a penalty on the Player. The Country Rugby League will determine the penalty after taking into account the seriousness of the offence, the financial implications on the Player as a result of the action in question.

4. PUBLIC AND RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 Public Conduct

4.1.1 Players/Playing staff will at all times while in public behave and conduct themselves in a dignified and appropriate manner.

4.1.2 Where a Player/Playing staff commits a breach of this section, the Country Rugby League will impose a penalty on the Player.

4.2 Promotional Events

4.2.1 Individuals must participate in all activities and events required by the Country Rugby League or the League for the promotion of the game, and in particular:

- attend public functions organised or supported by the Country Rugby League or the League; and
- attend appointments arranged by the Country Rugby League or the League to make appearances in public or on radio or television.

4.2.2 Notification will be provided in reasonable time to any event indicating the individual's responsibilities and attendances.

4.2.3 The individual shall be responsible for familiarising himself with times for all scheduled events, including but not limited to promotions, media events and functions.

4.2.4 Individuals are required to be punctual in attendance.

4.2.5 Where a Player commits a breach of this section, the Country Rugby League will impose a penalty on the Player. The Country Rugby League will determine the penalty after taking into account the seriousness of the offence, the financial implications on the Player, as a result of the action in question.



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4.3 Sponsors

The Country Rugby League relies solely on its income producing activities for the ongoing success of the Country Rugby League. The Country Rugby League relies heavily on its sponsors and sponsorship support provided by companies and individuals. The Country Rugby League enter into contracts with sponsors to provide a mutually benefiting service to the sponsor in a businesslike manner in return for the funds, which subsequently support the Country Rugby League. Companies do not enter into sponsorship deals unless they are of benefit and rewarding financially to both parties. The Country Rugby League enters into these deals by providing the Country Rugby League's products - the Players and the image of the Country Rugby League – thus allowing the sponsor to benefit in the contracted manner.

Accordingly, it is important for the Players and Officials to understand their responsibilities in this regard, and to assist in maximising the benefits to the Country Rugby League, which subsequently flow to Players.

5. CONFIDENTIALTY

5.1 Material of the Country Rugby League

Players acknowledge the confidential nature of all material of the Country Rugby League, and will protect the confidential nature of such material.

5.2 Disclosure

Players will, so far as is reasonable, disclose to the Country Rugby League any matter which might adversely affect their performance, the performance of their team, their sponsors or the Country Rugby League.

6. DRUGS

At all times Players will continue to comply with the NRL/ARL/CRL anti-doping rules.



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SCHEDULE 1

I acknowledge that I have been provided with a copy of the Code of Conduct.

.....
Player/Official
(Print & Sign)

.....
Witness
(Print & Sign)

.....
Team Manager

.....
Date

If player is under the age of eighteen (18) years, document to be co-signed by Parent/Guardian.

.....
Parent/Guardian

.....
Date



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APPENDIX 1.5



APPLICATION TO TOUR / TRAVEL

Application must be submitted: -

Inter-State: *4 weeks prior to departure date.*

Overseas: *Expression of intention to tour 1 year.*
Application 3 months prior to departure date.

1. Full name of Club/School/Representative Team: _____

Address of League/Club/School: _____

2. The nature of this application covers a Tour, which is,: (please circle)

Internal / Overseas

3.The destination(s) of the Tour is/are:

NSW / QLD / NT / WA / SA / VIC / TAS
UK / PNG / NZ / France / Pacific / Other

If 'other', please indicate: _____

4.Name of Host Club/Body: _____

5.Timetable including GAME SCHEDULE for the Tour is as follows: _____

6.Approximately number of Touring Party:

- (a) Players ()
- (b) Coaching Staff ()
- (c) Managers ()
- (d) Trainers ()
- (e) Support ()



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7. Age Group of Players Touring:

- Mini / Mod teams ()
- U/13 / U/14 Years ()
- U/15 / U/16 Years ()
- U/17 Years ()
- U/18 / Open ()

8 Qualifications of Coaches are:

| Name | Level of Accrediation | Folio No. |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------|
| (i) | | |
| (ii) | | |
| (iii) | | |

9. Budget for Tour (briefly):

**10. Funds will be generated / raised through the following activities / grants / levies:
(Please itemise and indicate amounts)**

11. Brief description of Purpose of Visit:

12. Has Approval been provided by inviting Body: (Please circle and attach relevant documentation)

Yes or No



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13. Contact particulars of Tour Organiser / Manager:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (H) _____ (W) _____
(Fax) _____ (Mob) _____

14. Endorsement by Club / League Executive that the Club / League accepts responsibility for the Tour / Travel.

Name: _____

Position: _____

Signature: _____

PLEASE NOTE:

International Tours will only be considered for teams 13 years and over. Teams needs to supply Club colours and team logo for approval.

Interstate Tours (i.e Tours within Australia), all applications will be considered on their merits (Interstate).

OFFICE USE ONLY

District Club: _____

State Body: _____

National Body: _____



APPENDIX 1.6

COUNTRY RUGBY LEAGUE OF NEW SOUTH WALES INCORPORATED

RULES

REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS BY THE CRL AND CONSTITUENT BODIES

Preamble

The rules set out in this Appendix 1.6 are made by the CRL pursuant to the objects and powers of the CRL set out in the Constitution, including the power to determine the terms and conditions upon which persons may play rugby league in Competitions.

Rules

Registration

1. Unless a person is currently Registered with the CRL the person is prohibited from participating in any Competitions conducted by or under the auspices of the CRL and any Member Group / Division.
2. For the avoidance of doubt a person who is Registered but:
 - a) Has been deregistered; or
 - b) Whose Registration has:
 - i) expired;
 - ii) been suspended; or
 - iii) been cancelled;shall be deemed to be a person not Registered.

Unregistered Persons

3. Under no circumstances shall a Club or Member Group / Division:
 - a) Select a person to play rugby league for it;
 - b) Attempt to field a person to play rugby league for it; or
 - c) Field a person to play rugby league for it;



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in a Competition conducted by or under the auspices of the CRL or a Member Group / Division unless that person is Registered.

Pre-Requisites to Registration

4. Any person who wishes to participate as a Player in any Competition conducted by or under the auspices of the CRL or a Member Group / Division must:
 - a) Be eligible to participate as a player in accordance with the Constitution and any other rules, regulations, by-laws or directions made by the CRL.
 - b) Be a party to a registration form or playing contract as prescribed by the CRL.
 - c) Comply with the pre-Registration requirements of the CRL.

Registration

5. When considering whether a person ought be Registered, the Chief Executive Officer shall have regard to the following:
 - a) Whether the person has complied with the provisions of rule 4 of this Appendix 1.6.
 - b) Whether Registering the person as a Player would contravene the prohibitions on Registration set out in rule 10 of this Appendix 1.6.
 - c) Whether the person is a fit and proper person to be Registered.
 - d) Whether Registering the person would be reasonably likely to:
 - i) Be detrimental to;
 - ii) Bring into disrepute;
 - iii) Be inconsistent with;
 - iv) Be contrary to; or
 - v) Be prejudicial to;the best interests, image or welfare of the CRL, its Members and other participants, or the sport of rugby league.
 - e) Any other matter that, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, in his absolute discretion, should be taken into account when considering whether the person ought to be Registered.



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6. For the purposes of rule 5(c) of this Appendix 1.6 the Chief Executive Officer shall have regard to matters including the following:
 - a) The person's past history, if any, as a player in the sport of rugby league.
 - b) The person's part history, if any, as a player in other sports.
 - c) Whether the person has engaged in conduct of the kind that, if repeated in the future, would be likely to be conduct that would be reasonably likely to:
 - i) Be detrimental to;
 - ii) Bring into disrepute;
 - iii) Be inconsistent with;
 - iv) Be contrary to; or
 - v) Be prejudicial to;the best interests, image or welfare of the CRL, its Members and other participants, or the sport of rugby league.
 - d) Any other matter that, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, in his absolute discretion, should be taken into account in considering whether the person is a fit and proper person to be Registered.
7. If after consideration of the matters referred to in rules 5 and 6 of this Appendix 1.6 the Chief Executive Officer, in his absolute discretion, is satisfied that the person ought to be Registered pursuant to CRL Rules, the Chief Executive Officer may decide to Register the person.
8. If the Chief Executive Officer decides to Register a person the Registration shall forthwith be effected.
9. A decision of the Chief Executive Officer whether to Register a person pursuant to the CRL Rules shall not be capable of review and in any event shall not be justiciable. If the Chief Executive Officer decides to Register a person:
 - a) Relevant particulars in respect of the Player shall be entered in the CRL's register maintained for this purpose.
 - b) The CRL shall notify the Player's Club and Member Group / Division that the person has been Registered.



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Prohibitions on Registration

10. A person must not be Registered if:

- a) The person has not complied with the provisions of rule 4 of this Appendix 1.6.
- b) He has been refused Registration as a Player in the twelve-month period immediately before the application for Registration is made, unless the Chief Executive Officer, in his absolute discretion, is satisfied that the person ought to be Registered notwithstanding that prior refusal.
- c) He was previously Registered and that Registration was cancelled in the five (5) year period immediately before the application for Registration is made, unless the Chief Executive Officer, in his absolute discretion, is satisfied that the person ought to be Registered notwithstanding that prior cancellation.
- d) He was previously Registered but the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion, in his absolute discretion, that the person when registered did not comply, or if Registered would not in the future be likely to comply, with the rules, regulations, by-law or directions of the CRL or any Member Group / Division.

Notice of Refusal of Registration

11. If the Chief Executive Officer is not satisfied that a person ought to be Registered pursuant the CRL Rules, then the application for Registration shall be refused, in which event the Chief Executive Officer shall, as soon as possible, give written notice of that fact to:

- a) The person who sought Registration; and
- b) The relevant Member Group / Division and the person's Club.

12. Nothing in these Rules requires the Chief Executive Officer to provide reasons for his refusal to Register any person.