

ILLAWARRA DIVISION



RUGBY LEAGUE

Registered 1995

**Illawarra Division Rugby League
Senior (Open Aged) Competition By-Laws**

Amended 13 December 2018

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND DEFINITIONS –

Term	Definition
Administration Assistant, Illawarra Division Rugby League	Appointed position of the Illawarra Division Rugby League
Appointments' Co-ordinator	Person elected by the Board of Management to oversee and administer the appointments of match officials to Open Aged Competition matches
Board of Management	The representative administrative body as defined in Illawarra Division Rugby League Constitution
Chairman	Role as defined in Illawarra Division Rugby League Constitution
Club	An organisation which is a member or affiliated to a member under Illawarra Division Rugby League Constitution
Coach	Any qualified person registered as a 'Coach' under the Country Rugby League
Code of Conduct	The Australian Rugby League Commission – Code of Conduct
Competition	Any Rugby League tournaments, matches, or fixtures conducted under the Illawarra Division Rugby League with the approval of the NSW Country Rugby League. See Appendix 2
Competition Committee	Committee comprising of delegates from constituent clubs (see Appendix 1), Board of Management representatives, Referee Association representative and other accepted organisations
Competition Points	Points awarded to a team after the conclusion of a competition match depending on the outcome of the match
CRL	Country Rugby League of NSW Inc
Delegate	Person authorised to act on behalf of a club or organisation
Final Series	Defined series of matches played at the conclusion of a competition
Ground Manager	Qualified person responsible to act as the controller of a venue at which matches are played
Judiciary	Body defined under Illawarra Division Judiciary Code of Procedure
Laws of the Game	Australian Rugby League Commission – Rugby League Laws of the Game (International Level)
League	Illawarra Division Rugby League

Manager	Person undertaking the role of team manager
Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League	Appointed position of the Illawarra Division Rugby League
Match	Any Rugby League game played as part of a competition ratified by the Illawarra Division Rugby League
Match Official	Any qualified person appointed to undertake specific duties relating to the controlling of a rugby league match – including referee, touch judge, in-goal touch judge and interchange official
Match Review Committee	Body defined under Illawarra Division Judiciary Code of Procedure
NRL	National Rugby League ACN – 082 088 962
Official	Any person engaged in a duty or action recognised by the club or organisation
Open Aged Competitions	Senior grade rugby league competitions conducted by the Illawarra Division Rugby League –1 st Grade, 2 nd Grade, 2 nd Division, U18/U19, senior women and any other completion defined by the Board of Management
Player	Any person registered as a player under the CRL
Season	Period taken to complete a competition from Round 1 to the conclusion of the Grand Final
Special Meeting	A Competition meeting called for a specific purpose as defined under the Illawarra Division Rugby League Constitution
Steelers	Illawarra District Rugby League Football club Ltd.
Supporter	Any person attending a match ratified by the Illawarra Division Rugby League as a spectator to support a team or club.
Team	Any recognised rugby league group of players which represent a club or organisation
Year	A period comprising of 365 days (366 days during a leap year)

1 CHANGES TO BY-LAWS

- 1.1. A notice of motion to change a by-law must be passed by a three-fifths (3\5) majority of those in attendance at any meeting of the Competition Committee. Subject to prior notice of 21 days to the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League who will circulate the notice of motion to change a By-law to all voting bodies at least 14 days prior to the next Competition Committee meeting.

2 CONSTITUENT CLUBS

- 2.1. The Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc (Open Aged Competitions) shall be composed of clubs whose names appear in Appendix 1 of these By-laws. In order for a club/organisation to be listed in Appendix 1, it must satisfy the qualification an admission criteria as set out in the Illawarra Division Rugby League Constitution (Rule 10).
- 2.2. Each constituent club shall hold its annual meeting no later than the third week in January of each year and shall thereat elect or appoint its delegate to the Competition Committee. Each constituent club MUST provide the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League with a list containing the names, addresses and telephone numbers of its elected officials and delegates within ten (10) days of its annual meeting
- 2.3. Any club not represented at any Competition or Special meeting of the League may be fined fifty dollars (\$50) for every non-attendance without an official apology.
- 2.4. Any Constituent Club may at any time recall its delegate on the Competition Committee to elect another in their place. Any change must be notified to the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League.
- 2.5. Alternate delegates of each Constituent Club shall exercise all the rights and privileges of the member of the Competition Committee when acting in the place of an absent member or in the place of any person who has ceased to be a member of the Competition Committee.
- 2.6. The secretary of each constituent club shall register its colours with the Board of Management in written form and with colour photograph(s) included and such club's players shall appear in proper uniform in all matches unless otherwise directed by the Board of Management. The Board of Management shall have the power to refuse to register any uniform if in its opinion it is not sufficiently distinctive. Upon registration the uniform shall become the exclusive property of the club first registering it and shall not be used by any other club.
- 2.7. It is the responsibility of each constituent club, to ensure that all its players, prior to their participation in any game/match/competition or otherwise training or trialling, are registered and cleared in accordance with the requirements set out in ***NRL National Clearance and Permits Policy and CRL Rules – Schedule 1 (1.13 – Registrations, Clearances and Deletions)***.
Failure to comply with these requirements may result in (but be not limited to) –
 - 2.7.1. The loss of competition points from any match in which the player participated whilst not registered, (*Note - Points for such matches SHALL be awarded to the non-offending team*).
 - 2.7.2. The suspension of the player for a period not exceeding one calendar year.

- 2.7.3. A fine imposed on the player's club not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500), as determined by the Board of Management for each unregistered player.
- 2.8. Any club not fulfilling its duties as described by the League may be subject to disciplinary action as administered by the Board of Management.
- 2.9. Any tickets issued to constituent clubs and/or persons whatsoever and not returned seven (7) days prior to any function held and/or controlled by the Divisional League shall be responsible for the payment for any such tickets.

3 NOMINATION

- 3.1. An Annual affiliation fee of Fifty dollars (\$50.00) per club and shall be payable to the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc.
- 3.2. All affiliation fees, ground rentals and levies shall be paid before the League's Annual General Meeting, unless otherwise specified. All clubs must be affiliated prior to the Annual Meeting.

4 COMPETITION RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 The Board of Management shall be responsible for the correct administering of the League's competition draw and the Competition Committee shall administer it on their behalf.
- 4.2 Details of the competition draw shall be available at all meetings of the Competition Committee and Board of Management.
- 4.3 The Administration Assistant, Illawarra Division Rugby League, shall report to the Board of Management and, when required, to the Junior Competition Committee on matters pertaining to her role.

5 COMPETITION COMMITTEE

- 5.1 The Competition Committee membership shall consist of:
A Chairman, three (3) Board of Management representatives, a delegate from each constituent club and a delegate of the Referees' Association. The Chairman shall be that person as nominated by the Board of Management (and may include one of the three Board of Management representatives). In the absence of that person being present at any meeting, the Competition Committee shall elect a chairman for that meeting from those present.
- 5.2 Three fifths (3/5) of the Competition Committee members shall form a quorum at any Competition Committee meeting.
- 5.3 In the event of a quorum not being present thirty (30) minutes after the time fixed, the meeting shall lapse.
- 5.4 A club delegate must be in attendance to vote at a meeting of the Competition Committee - there is to be NO PROXY VOTING permitted.
- 5.5 Life Members are ineligible to vote at any Competition Committee meeting unless in an official voting capacity in accordance with 5.1 of these By-Laws.
- 5.6 The Competition Committee shall meet nominally monthly during the playing season and as required during the non-playing season.

- 5.7 The Board of Management may at any time call a meeting of the Competition Committee and upon this request the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League shall notify the members of the Competition Committee, indicating the nature of the business thereat.
- 5.8 Minutes shall be kept at all Competition Committee Meetings and be presented at the next Competition Committee Meeting, where they shall be dealt with as per the agenda.
- 5.9 Except where otherwise provided in the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc. Constitution or these By-Laws, motions at any meeting of the Competition Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes and in every case of any equality of votes, Chairman shall decide the matter. This is the only voting power held by the Chairman.
- 5.10 Any motion passed at a Competition Committee meeting shall take effect immediately.
- 5.11 Any dissent from the Chairman's ruling shall be put without further discussion apart from the mover of such dissent, who shall be allowed five (5) minutes to state his reason for such dissent.
- 5.12 Any fine incurred by any club shall be paid within fourteen days (14) of receipt of an invoice from the League, or the said club's voting powers will be revoked until such fines are paid.
- 5.13 The Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League is empowered to make operational decisions of urgency where such decisions are required prior to a regular Competition Committee meeting.

6 TRANSFER COMMITTEE

- 6.1 The Transfer Committee shall consist of a committee as delegated by the Board of Management (and may comprise of the Board of Management) to deal with such matters under the
NRL – National Clearance and Permits Policy,
CRL Rules – Schedule 1 (1.13) – Registrations, Clearances and Deletions, and
Schedule 1 Appendix 1.6 – Registration of Players by the CRL and Constituent Bodies.
- 6.2 The Illawarra Rugby District League Football Club and/or the St George Illawarra RLFC, in conjunction with the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc. will, at the commencement of the year, allocate all applicable representative players of the Illawarra Steelers and the St George Illawarra RLFC (graded) to affiliated clubs of the Illawarra Open Aged competitions who are eligible to play in the respective competition proper.
This allocation shall be done on an agreed basis with preference given to the players' junior club and / or residences.

7 DEFAULTERS

- 7.1 A Club may refuse a transfer if a player is financially obligated to that club or has not returned property owned by the club (as per **CRL Rules, Schedule 1 (1.9.2) –**

- Defaulters**) provided the club has informed the player in writing, of their financial and/or property obligation.
- 7.2 For monetary reimbursement an invoice must be sent to the player prior to 31 October of the current year.
- 7.3 Any outstanding monies owed by players to the club must also be minuted in club records and a copy sent to the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League prior to 31 October of the current year.
- 7.4 The Country Rugby League of NSW insurance component of any outstanding monies is NOT grounds for denial of a clearance.

8 Administration Assistant

- 8.1 In addition to any special duties imposed upon her by the Board of Management, the Administration Assistant (formerly League Registrar) shall regulate/oversee the correct registering of players by clubs, monitor player qualifications, ratify team sheets (both paper and LeagueNet), and monitor the recording of player/team scores and results.

9 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

- 9.1 All players in the Open Age Competition shall be registered in accordance with; **NRL – National Clearance and Permits Policy, CRL Rules – Schedule 1 (1.13) – Registrations, Clearances and Deletions, and Schedule 1 Appendix 1.6 – Registration of Players by the CRL and Constituent Bodies.**
before taking part in a competition fixture, trial or training activity
- 9.2 All players must be registered by the 30th June in any year of competition.
- 9.3 It is the responsibility of constituent clubs to ensure players playing in the under 18/under 19 or equivalent competition qualify in reference to age.

10 COMPETITION RULES

- 10.1 The League shall adopt the laws of the game as set down by the Country Rugby League of NSW and all the amendments and alterations made by it.
- 10.2 All competition games shall be played in accordance with the League competition draw and/or by any direction of the Competition Committee.
- 10.3 No club is to be given permission for teams to leave the district on any day Open Age League competition games are listed for play, without the express permission of the Board of Management.
- 10.4 By mutual agreement, clubs may defer individual matches on the condition that the competition is not delayed, and shall notify the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League no later than ten (10) days prior to the programmed date and time of that game. When deferring, clubs must also advise the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League of the time and date that the deferred match is requested to be played.
- 10.5 If mutual agreement on an alteration or deferment cannot be reached, the decision shall be left in the hands of the Board of Management.

- 10.6 Any club guilty of altering a venue or time of a game or games as allocated in the Open Age League competition draw without the approval of the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League may be fined five hundred dollars (\$500).
- 10.7 **Any club not fulfilling its commitments as outlined by competition draws circulated by the league, without providing notice of a forfeit more than 48 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the fixture, may be subject to fines as described;**
- 1st grade - \$500**
- 2nd grade - \$350**
- Other grades - \$250**
- Further, any club which provides notice of a forfeit less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the fixture, shall also be liable for applicable fees in relation to appointed match officials.**
- 10.8 Any player may transfer from a non-affiliated club or league to the Open Age competition in the same season provided that player meets the clearance and transfer requirements of the NRL and CRL.
- 10.9 All affiliated clubs participating in the Open Age competition must field at least two (2) teams in separate grades during the same round. Failure to comply shall see that club guilty of misconduct and shall be called before the Board of Management to show cause why they should not have a consequence (to be determined by the Board of Management) imposed upon them.
- 10.10 Any team not properly attired shall be fined twenty dollars (\$20) per breach per player. This includes any pre-season competition.
- 10.11 All clubs shall participate in approved apparel of the CRL and the Illawarra Division, which shall include the displaying of the logo of the CRL. **CRL Rules Schedule 2 (1.15 – Jerseys).**
- 10.12 In the event of a clash of playing strips in competition matches, the away team will arrange and wear an alternative set of jumpers.
- 10.13 When any club or clubs play in jerseys which may in any way conflict with the jersey worn by the referee or touch judges, the referee and touch judges shall wear a jersey that in no way conflicts with either team.
- 10.14 For International games, each participating team is responsible for supplying their own level 1 Sports Trainer. No game is permitted to commence without the appropriate accredited personnel (and number) being present. Breaches may incur a fine as determined by the Board of Management.
- 10.15 Replacement Players and Interchange
- 10.15.1 First Grade. The number of replacement (interchange) players to participate in first grade shall be no more than four. To be eligible to be used as a replacement player in first grade, two (2) players must have played at least twenty (20) minutes in an earlier second grade, under18/under 19 or equivalent grade fixture played at the same venue,

on the same day, contested between the same two clubs as are contesting the first grade fixture. Up to two (2) of the remaining interchange positions may be filled by fresh players. Where the same two (2) clubs do not contest an earlier second grade fixture, then both first grade teams may utilise up to four (4) fresh replacements. Note: This by-law does not apply for finals series fixtures.

10.15.2 Interchange (1st Grade)

Interchange will be used in 1st Grade matches. Its use and operation will be as is laid out in **CRL Rules – Schedule 2 (1.33) – Replacements (Interchange)**

10.15.3 Fresh replacements are permitted in 2nd Division Cup and Under 18/Under 19 or equivalent competitions.

10.15.4 Other Competitions

The number of replacement players permitted to participate in other competitions shall be –

<u>Competition/Grade</u>	<u>Permitted Replacement Players</u>
2 nd (Reserve) Grade	Maximum of six (6) players*
2 nd Division	Maximum of seven (7) players*
Under18/19	Maximum of seven (7) players*
Women's Competitions	Maximum of seven (7) players*

* Additional numbers may participate in all competition matches with the mutual consent of coaches.

10.16 There will be free movement of players between the Illawarra Open Aged Competitions and the 2nd Division Competition within an affiliated club during the competition proper subject to any qualifications set down by the Competition Committee. This will also apply to 2nd Division clubs affiliated with Illawarra League grade clubs and subject to the player criteria of the 2nd Division competition.

10.17 The competition will be based on a home and away format as much as practical.

10.18 Clubs having unenclosed grounds shall have the playing area roped off to the satisfaction of the League and/or the Referee prior to the commencement of any competition game or games played thereon.

10.19 All spectators shall remain outside the playing area (off the grounds as enclosed or outside the roped area, as the case may be), immediately preceding, during and following any match.

10.20 All team officials (Coaches, Managers, team support staff) shall remain within the areas designated by the League while a match is in progress.

10.21 All teams are to provide a ball person and kicking tee person for each game.

10.22 Coaching during a match by a referee or touch judge or other match official, when acting as such, is not permitted.

10.23 No club shall participate in any fixtures on representative, semi-final, final or grand final days. Functions will not be held at any time when an official fixture is being held.

10.24 A player is deemed to have played in a match if they have signed the official team sheet and has participated in any part of the match.

- 10.25 Any club playing an unqualified player eg suspended, shall lose the match/es in which such player took part and may incur a penalty as set down by the Board of Management. The competition points for the match (if applicable) will be reallocated to the non-offending team. **CRL Rules Schedule 2 – 1.43 (Unqualified Players)**.
- 10.26 No player shall play with two clubs in the competition matches conducted by the League in any one season except where special permission is granted by the Transfer Committee with such transfer being in accordance with **Rule 6 – Transfer Committee** of these By-Laws.
- 10.27 The points allocated in competition matches shall be as follows:
- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| Win | 2 points |
| Draw | 1 point |
| Forfeit | 2 points |
| Bye | 2 points. |
- 10.28 Any team forfeiting three (3) competition games may be expelled from the competition.
- 10.29 The Board of Management in conjunction with the Open Aged Competition Committee will set admission charges to venues prior to the commencement of the season, these charges will reflect entry costs, concessions details and pass allocations to each affiliate.
- 10.30 All participating clubs shall be bound by policies of the Division which pertain to competition operations, including (but not limited to) IDRL Code of Payments, IDRL Player Points System, IDRL Player Payments Cap, CRL Player Transfer Policy – Junior Grade Football, and the IDRL 2nd Division Criteria.

11 DURATION OF GAMES

- 11.1 The host club will appoint a qualified ground manager who will be responsible for the progression of games at their ground (as per **CRL Rules, Schedule 2 (1.12) – Ground Management and Ground Managers**) as well as other duties determined by the Board of Management.
- 11.2 Each club will appoint a timekeeper who will carry out the duties of the role as outlined in **CRL Rules, Schedule 2 (1.38) – Time Keeping**, and satisfy themselves that the game is played in two equal divisions.
- 11.3 The Board of Management reserves the right at all times to appoint an official timekeeper, but the Club concerned shall have the right to appoint check timekeepers. All matches are to proceed at the times scheduled in the draw.
- 11.4 The duration of playing time shall be:

Competition	Time periods	½ time interval	Time-off
1 st Grade	2x40 min halves	Max 10 mins	As indicated by the referee.
2 nd Grade (Reserve)	2x35 min halves	Max 5 mins	As indicated by the referee in the final ten (10) mins of the match.

2 nd Division	2x35 min halves	Max 5 mins	As indicated by the referee in the final ten (10) mins of the match.
Under 18/ Under 19	2x35 min halves	Max 5 mins	As indicated by the referee in the final ten (10) mins of the match.
Women's Competitions	2 x 30 min halves	Max 5 mins	As indicated by the referee in the final ten (10) mins of the match.
All matches should be played in two equal halves			

- 11.5 A team is permitted a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes (without prior notification), from the scheduled starting time of a match to field its side, before a forfeit can be claimed against it. It is the responsibility of both the referees and clubs to ensure matches proceed on time. If unforeseen circumstances delay kick off times, common courtesy should be extended to all parties to ensure good relations.
- 11.6 In the event of a match starting later than the appointed time and a following match required to start at an appointed time, the late starting match shall be played in two equal halves of the remaining time.

12 DISMISSED PLAYERS

- 12.1 Refer to **CRL Rules Schedule 2 (1.7) – Dismissed Players**
- 12.2 A player temporarily suspended may not be replaced while the suspension is in progress.

13 TEAM SHEETS

- 13.1 The ground manager is to ensure that participating teams have correctly supplied and completed all sections of the LeagueNet team sheets including, but not limited to, player signatures and player points allocations (if applicable), prior to the commencement of any match.
- 13.2 The manager, or acting manager, of each team participating in competitions that carry player points, must enter on the team sheet the players' allocated points for the purpose of eligibility criteria to play in that competition.
- 13.3 It is the responsibility of the host club to furnish returns for all completed matches held at their venue. Failure to furnish returns (above) via the LeagueNet system may result in a maximum fine of fifty (\$50) dollars.
- 13.4 Any host club not submitting results and scorers of games via the LeagueNet system by the times nominated below, may be fined fifty dollars (\$50) for each missing result. (Games played Friday and Saturday by 5pm Saturday night and all other games within 1 hour of completion.)

14 FINAL SERIES (SEMI FINALS, FINAL, GRAND FINAL)

- 14.1 In all grades of premiership competition proper a series of matches shall be played. In all matches competition points shall be awarded as per Rule 10.26.

- 14.2 The method of determining teams for the final series of the Open Aged Competitions shall be as documented in **CRL Rules, Schedule 2 (1.6) – Competition Format, Draw and Point Score.**
- 14.3 If a player has not played four (4) games in four separate rounds, in any grade in the competition proper (ie excluding pre-season and finals fixtures) they will be ineligible to play in any grade in the finals series.
- 14.4 If a player has participated in a lower grade on a game day and then participated in a higher grade on the same day, the lower grade reference shall be taken into consideration for qualification of the final series, subject to rules 10.15 and 14.3.
- 14.5 With the exception of an Under 18 player/ Under 19 player, a player's lowest qualifying grade for any matches defined under Rule 14.2 will be determined by a 'count back' system.
Commencing with the last round played by that player and calculating back to the start of the season, the player's qualifying grade will be determined by the particular grade in which he first completes five rounds at that grade, subject to Rules 14.4 and 14.9, as well as any other qualification rules and/or policies that the Competition Committee determines.
Where a player has participated in no more than four (4) rounds of a particular grade, the lowest qualifying grade will be determined by the majority of rounds played in that particular grade. Where there is an equality of appearances then the lowest qualifying grade will be used.
For the purpose of this Rule alone, where an Illawarra Division Rugby League registered player is called upon to play at a higher representative level (eg Illawarra Division, St George Illawarra RLFC or Illawarra Cutters) any game played at that higher representative level will be counted as an Open Aged Competition game of a grade equal to that of 1st grade (or in the case of an U18 player/U19 or equivalent player, U18/U19 or equivalent grade) provided an Open Aged Competition round involving that player's team has been played on the same weekend.
- 14.6 To qualify to play in the 2nd division playoffs, semi-finals, preliminary finals or grand finals, a player's majority of games played in any grade during the season proper equals the grade the player shall qualify for during the finals series. In the event the games played are equal the lower grade will be taken into consideration.
- 14.7 In addition to the eligibility requirements outlined in 14.3, any contracted player of the St George Illawarra RLFC (or Illawarra Cutters or Junior Steelers) playing with an affiliated club in the Division must have played at least fifty per cent (50%) of the second half of the competition rounds with that club (does not include byes) to be eligible to play with that club in the final series.
- 14.8 Contracted players of the Illawarra Cutters, Illawarra Junior Steelers, St George RLFC junior representatives and/ or St George Illawarra RLFC are ineligible to play within the Divisional League unless specifically given permission by the Board of Management.
- 14.9 If a club has qualified to play in one or more grades in the final series on the same order of play as listed in 14.2 there can be free movement of players as long as those players have qualified for that grade under **Rules 10.16**, 14.5 and 14.6.
- 14.10 The qualifications of players of all grade teams for the final series must be submitted to the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League for approval **not later than four (4) days** prior to the first appearance in the final series. Any changes to the original

player list must be submitted to the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League for approval prior to the fixture. Decisions on qualifications shall be final.

- 14.11 Fresh replacements are permitted in all final series matches, subject to qualifications of players in the final series.
- 14.12 Time off for injuries shall be allowed throughout all final series matches.
- 14.13 If, at the conclusion of any final series match, both teams are equal on points, they shall turn around and play on until one team score a point/s. If, after the expiration of five (5) minutes of extra time, there has been no points scored, they will turn around once again and continue until a result is known. **See CRL Rules Schedule 2 (1.10) – Final Series – Format and Drawn Games (1.10.5). This policy will be referred to as the “Extra Time Rule”.**

15 Trophies

- 15.1 The Board of Management shall have the power to regulate and control trophies played for within the Illawarra Divisional area. The rules of all trophies shall be approved by the Board and no trophy shall be introduced into play without the sanction of the Board. The Board may restrict play for such trophies to the Illawarra Divisional area and may debar clubs from playing for trophies controlled by other Leagues.
- 15.2 A Club Championship trophy shall be awarded in the Open Age Competition to a Club as follows:
If involving First Grade, Reserve Grade and Under 18.

1 st Grade Premiership	Competition points x 3 points
2 nd Grade Premiership	Competition points x 2 points
Under 18 / Under 19 Premiership	Competition points x 1 point

If involving First Grade and Reserve Grade only.

1 st Grade Premiership	Competition points x 3 points
2 nd Grade Premiership	Competition points x 2 points
- 15.3 The club with the highest tally at the end of the Premiership Competition proper will be declared the Club Championship winners
- 15.4 All trophies are to be returned to the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League on or before the July meeting of the Competition Committee.

16 REPRESENTATIVE RUGBY LEAGUE

- 16.1 Representative Rugby League shall be played as determined by the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc. No representative fixtures shall be played without the permission of the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc.
- 16.2 Representative Coaches, managers, selectors and associated representative staff shall be appointed by the Board of Management.
- 16.3 To be eligible to apply for the position of a Representative Team Coach, the applicant must have attained the Accredited Australian Rugby League Coaching Certificate Level 2 or its equivalent.
- 16.4 All representative players must be registered with an affiliated club and insured against injury. They automatically will be covered under the compulsory insurance scheme of the CRL.

- 16.5 Any representative player with the Division League may be paid expenses as determined by the Board of Management.
- 16.6 All players, with the exception of player-coaches, must make themselves available for representative football, including the Illawarra District RLFC or the St George Illawarra RLFC should they be selected. Failure to do so, without showing just cause, shall see that player suspended from playing for his club until the representative commitments are completed.
- 16.7 Three or more representative players selected from one particular team shall constitute reason for that club to apply to the League to have competition match/es deferred while representative commitments are in progress.

17 SEND-OFFS

- 17.1 All players dismissed from the field in any Open Aged Competition shall be dealt with under the following Rules and Procedures –
**Illawarra Division Rugby League – *Judiciary Code of Procedures*, and
CRL Rules Schedule 3 – *CRL Judiciary Code of Procedure*.**
Should a conflict exist between the above documents, the Board of Management shall rule on such conflict.
- 17.2 Home club secretaries shall notify the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League following the completion of matches where player/s have been dismissed from the field. The time and venue of such hearing (if required) shall be decided by the Judicial Committee after taking into consideration any arguments submitted to it. The venue will usually be the Steelers Club.
- 17.3 No member of the League, clubs or referees shall comment publicly on any matter that is, or is likely to be subject to an official inquiry.

18 JUDICIAL COMMITTEES

- 18.1 The Judicial Committees of the Illawarra Division Open Aged Competitions shall be the Match Review Committee and the Judiciary Committee.
The Judiciary Committees' authority, responsibilities and operations shall be as detailed in –
Illawarra Division Rugby League – *Judiciary Code of Procedures*

19 MISCONDUCT BY PLAYERS, OFFICIALS, CLUBS OR SUPPORTERS

- 19.1 A match official who has been appointed by the League or a sub-committee of the League to a match, shall, without delay, report to the League any instance or instances of misconduct during the progress of that match which led to the dismissal/removal of a player(s), club official(s) or supporter(s) from the playing area.
- 19.2 A match official who has been appointed to a match by the League or a sub-committee of the League may report any instance of misconduct by a player(s), club official(s) or supporter(s) irrespective of whether such misconduct occurred before, during or after such match, and whether it shall have led to the player(s), club official(s) or supporter(s) being ordered from the playing area or not.
- 19.3 Any report received by the League pursuant to the preceding rules shall be referred to the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League who may, after due enquiry,

determine whether the player(s), club official(s) or supporter(s) concerned should be dealt through the Match Review Committee procedures or called on to appear before the Judiciary Committee to show cause why they should not be disqualified, suspended, fined or otherwise dealt with.

- 19.4 Where the League received a complaint from a member of the League concerning the conduct of a player(s) registered with the League, an official(s) of the League, a constituent club of the League or a supporter(s) of a constituent club immediately prior to, during the course of or immediately subsequent to a match and such conduct has not been the subject of a report to the League by a match official pursuant to Rules 17.1 or 17.2., the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby League may call on the player(s), official(s), club(s) or supporter(s) concerned to be dealt with through the Match Review Committee procedures or appear before the Judiciary Committee to answer a charge that the conduct complained of constitutes conduct contrary to the policies, prejudicial interests, welfare or image of the League or the game.
- Such a complaint must be left at the registered office of the League not later than 5.00 pm on the third business day following the date of the match prior to, in which or after which the conduct complained of is alleged to have occurred. A lodgement fee of \$500 for each individual incident referred to in any complaint lodged, shall accompany any complaint lodged with the Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby, either paid by electronic funds transfer or by cheque. Such lodgement fee may be refunded where a Judicial Committee determines that a charge should be issued as a result of the any specific complaint. Where no charge is laid in relation to a complaint, the lodgement fee may be retained in the general fund of the Illawarra Division.
- 19.5 The Manager, Illawarra Division Rugby may at any time call on a player(s) registered with the League, an official(s) of the League, a member club of the League or a supporter(s) of a member club to appear before the Judiciary Committee to answer a charge, that conduct, which shall specify in such charge, by that player(s) registered with the League, an official(s) of the League, a member club of the League or a supporter(s) of a member club immediately prior to, in the course of or immediately subsequent to a match, constitutes conduct contrary to the policies, prejudicial to the interests, welfare or image of the League or the game.
- 19.6 Any club, non-playing registered player, official or supporter breaching the rules of misconduct, will be automatically removed from the venue at which an Open Aged Competition game is played.
- 19.7 Players and officials inside the rope or fenced area of the field are under the jurisdiction of the referee and are therefore governed by the Codes of Conduct and Laws of the CRL and NRL. Conduct considered to be in breach of the above will be dealt with by the Board of Management as it deems fit.
- 19.8 Affiliated bodies/clubs and players shall not publicly criticise or discuss matters detrimental to the name of Rugby League. Conduct considered to be detrimental to the League will be viewed and dealt with by the Board of Management as it deems fit.

20 APPEALS AND PROTESTS

- 20.1 A person, club or other affected party aggrieved by a decision of the Board of Management or a sub-committee of the Board of Management shall have the right

of appeal from such decision. Grounds and procedures for appeals and protests against the Board of Management or a sub-committee of the Board of Management shall follow those outlined in the **Illawarra Division Rugby League - Judiciary Code of Procedure (Chapter 6 – Appeals)**

21 MATCH OFFICIALS APPOINTMENTS

- 21.1 The appointment of match officials to all Open Aged Competition matches (and any other match as determined by the Board of Management) held within the Illawarra Division shall be carried out by a qualified person elected by the Board of Management to do so.
- 21.2 This person ('Appointment's Co-ordinator'), shall oversee the operations of an advisory sub-committee of qualified assessors that will evaluate the performances of match officials and make recommendations to the Appointment's Co-ordinator with regard to match appointments.

22 REFEREE FEES

- 22.1 Cost of referees' fees, after consultation with the Referees' Association, will be determined by the Board of Management prior to the first Competition Committee meeting for the forthcoming season. Such fees will be put to the Competition Committee for ratification prior to the commencement of the season.

23 GENERAL RULES

- 23.1 Any active player, official or referee, desiring to write newspaper articles or do radio or television commentaries relevant to League must first receive approval from the Board of Management.
- 23.2 Any club found guilty of breaching the code of payments as laid down by the League's Board of Management may incur the loss of all club points for the season and/or be fined up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000).
- 23.3 No club without the sanction of the League may introduce club sponsorships that conflict in any way with League and/or Steelers sponsors.
- 23.4 The host club shall receive all monies raised at home games and shall be responsible for all expenses incurred for that game i.e. ground rentals, referees fees, etc.

24 RISK MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

- 24.1 *Blood*
Refer to the following Policy –
24.1.1 **NRL Policy – Infectious Diseases Policy**
- 24.2 *Concussion and Memory Loss*
Refer to the following Policy and Guidelines –
24.2.1 **NRL – Management of Concussion in Rugby League,**
24.2.2 **NRL – Head Injury Guidelines** and
24.2.3 **NRL – Return to Play Policy**
- 24.3 Electrical Storm Safety Policy
Refer to the following guidelines
24.3.1 **NRL – Electrical Storm Safety Guidelines**

25 INTERPRETATION

- 25.1 Any questions as to the interpretation of these rules and by-laws shall be determined by the Board of Management of the Illawarra Division Rugby League Inc whose decision shall be binding on all life members, affiliated bodies and delegates. Any such determination shall not be varied except after notice of motion given accordance with the Constitution and these By-laws.

APPENDIX 1 – CONSTITUENT CLUBS 2016

1st Grade –

Berkeley Rugby League Football Club Inc
Collegians Rugby League Football Club Inc
Corrimal District Rugby League Football Club Inc
Dapto District Rugby League Football Club Inc
Helensburgh Tigers Rugby League Football Club Inc
Thirroul District Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Western Suburbs Rugby League Football Club Inc.

2nd Grade –

Berkeley Rugby League Football Club Inc
Collegians Rugby League Football Club Inc
Corrimal District Rugby League Football Club Inc
Dapto District Rugby League Football Club Inc
Helensburgh Tigers Rugby League Football Club Inc
Thirroul District Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Western Suburbs Rugby League Football Club Inc.

2nd Division –

Avondale Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Mt Kembla Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Northern Suburbs Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Western Suburbs Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Windang Rugby League Football Club Inc.

Under 18 –

Collegians Rugby League Football Club Inc
Dapto District Rugby League Football Club Inc
Helensburgh Tigers Rugby League Football Club Inc
Thirroul District Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Western Suburbs Rugby League Football Club Inc.

Women's League –

Berkeley Rugby League Football Club Inc
Bomaderry Junior Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Corrimal District Rugby League Football Club Inc
Helensburgh Tigers Rugby League Football Club Inc
Woonona-Bulli Junior Rugby League Football Club Inc.
Windang Junior Rugby League Football Club Inc.

Other –

Port Kembla District Rugby League Football Club Inc. – presently participating in the Group 7 competitions

APPENDIX 2 – OPEN AGED COMPETITIONS 2019

Competition	Completion length – No of Rounds
Illawarra Division Cup –	
1 st Grade	14 Rounds
2 nd Grade	14 Rounds
Under 18	14 Rounds
Illawarra 2nd Division Shield	15 Rounds
Illawarra Women's League	14 Rounds