



WELCOME TO THE JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE SEASON

Information for Parents



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New South Wales Rugby League would like to welcome you to the Junior Rugby League season. Whether you are joining a club for the first time or returning from previous seasons, being part of a Junior Rugby League Club can be a rewarding and fulfilling experience. In order to provide a quality environment for its members, Clubs rely heavily on volunteers who commit their time and energy to fill roles across every level of the club structure. The majority of volunteers in Junior Rugby League Clubs are parents.

The role of the parent within a Junior Rugby League Club is very significant. Regardless of a parent's level of involvement, how they conduct themselves can have lasting effects on young participants, teams, fellow members and the club culture as a whole. Whilst parents have certain expectations of their Junior Rugby League Club to provide an environment that is safe, supportive and inclusive for their child and themselves, there is also an expectation from Clubs for their members to conduct themselves in ways that reflects positively on the Club's values.

We hope that the information in this booklet can assist you in understanding your responsibilities as a member of your Club, and also outline how your Club will endeavour to make this a great experience for your child and for your family.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM YOUR JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

- A Club culture focussed on providing a positive experience for their players and members
- An approachable Committee with open lines of communication
- Qualified coaching staff for your child's team – trained for the appropriate level of competition
- Team staff that create an inclusive environment for all players
- Clear and relevant information from your Club on your responsibilities as a member of the Club
- A Club that meets governance and management standards as outlined by NSWRL
- Most importantly a fun, safe and supportive environment for you and your child

DO'S

- Understand that winning is not everything
- Positively encourage your child to do their best
- Show sportsmanship and composure when cheering on your child's team on game day
- Enjoy your involvement and engagement within your Junior League Club

DON'TS

- Put pressure on your child to meet your expectations
- Coach, unless that is your role
- Criticise others who are trying to enjoy their experience (other players, volunteers and referees)



“When it comes to your child's Junior Rugby League Club, you only get out what you put in. Give yourself a chance to experience what kids sport is all about. Don't sit on the sidelines... get involved and be a part of your Junior League Club.”

Brad Fittler,
Brydens Lawyers NSW Blues Head Coach

WHAT YOUR CLUB CAN EXPECT FROM YOU

- Follow the rules of the Club, the District and the NSWRL / NRL
- Contribute to the Club when you can – pitch in, even if it is just for a few minutes – if you see that someone at the Club needs a hand, offer them one
- Set a positive example for your child and others within the Club with both your attitude and your behaviour
- Represent your Club in a positive way in the Rugby League community
- Show sportsmanship... always... in all ways
- Stay informed about your team and your Club

HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED

A Rugby League Club needs a broad spectrum of people to operate both in season and in the off-season.



For kids to take the field, Clubs need to provide coaches, managers and trainers for all teams. Don't forget, they also need people to prepare the field for training and on game day.

Off the field, all Clubs need volunteers across all facets of their operations. From helpers in the canteen to Social Committees, Treasurers, Gear Stewards, Presidents, Secretaries and Fundraising Committees, there is always somewhere you can add value to your Club.

If you would like to help out at your Club in one of the above positions, speak to someone in your Clubs' Committee and ask them how you can become involved.

USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES



The NSWRL website will give you access to a wealth of information on Junior Rugby League competitions. You can find all relevant NSWRL policies along with links to Community Football initiatives and also NSWRL Conference Competition websites. You can use this website to stay up to date with changes in Junior Rugby League and also opportunities for involvement in Recreational Rugby League and other Rugby League programs for kids of all ages.



nrl.com/play

The nrl.com/play website will give you access to registration and Club information as well as information on courses for coaches and sports trainers. The nrl.com/play website also gives you access to the nrl.com/play Rewards program for all registered Junior Rugby League players. You can also find all the Laws of the Game across all age groups and access to all of the NRL's Policies as they relate to Junior Rugby League.



MYLEAGUE

The My League NRL App allows you to follow your child's teams progress throughout the season. It will give you access to draws and results as well as a wealth of Rugby League information and links to helpful websites and news and podcasts. Download this extremely helpful and free app through the app store.

NRL NATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT - SPECTATOR

- Condemn all violent or illegal acts, whether they are by players, coaches, officials, parents or spectators
- Respect the referee's decisions - don't complain or argue about decisions during or after the game
- Behave! Unsportsmanlike language, harassment or aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Encourage players to play by the rules and to respect opposition players and officials.
- Never ridicule or scorn a player for making a mistake - respect their efforts
- Understand that sport is a total life experience, and the benefits of involvement go far beyond the final score of a game.
- Participate in positive cheering that encourages the players in the team you are supporting; do not engage in any cheering that taunts or intimidates opponents, their fans or officials.
- Remember that children participate in Rugby League for their own enjoyment, not yours!
- At all times, follow the direction of the Ground Manager and/or other duty officials.
- Never arrive at a Junior League game under the influence of alcohol, never bring alcohol to a Junior League game and only drink alcohol, if it is available, in a responsible manner in the designated licensed area.



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NSWRL #RESPECT PROGRAM



FELLOW PLAYERS, COACHES, TEAMS AND MATCH OFFICIALS

- In a bid to eliminate poor behaviour both on and off the field, the NSWRL has implemented a #RESPECT Program. The primary aim is to ensure all players, volunteers and spectators act in a manner that displays the core values of the game.
- We would like to ask all participants, volunteers and parents to get actively involved by taking an online RESPECT PLEDGE. Simply scan the QR Code below to take the pledge and agree to promise that you will act in a manner that displays the core values of excellence, inclusiveness, courage, teamwork and respect.
- There are prizes to be won for the Clubs and Districts with the most online pledges. So get involved! Be an active member of your Club and take the pledge!



#NSWRL
#RESPECT
#LETTHEMPLAY



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