RUGBY GUIDELINES

ISA Mission Statement

Providing students from its member schools with opportunities to participate in a developmental sport programme at progressively higher levels in a healthy competitive environment.
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1 GENERAL

1.1 Meetings

1.1.1 The Rugby Committee will consist of the school’s Rugby Co-ordinator of each school taking part in both Divisions.

1.1.2 Meetings will be set by the Director of ISA Sport. There are currently two standing meetings held annually, these being:

- Annual Pre-Season Fixtures Meeting.

- An end-of-season meeting to assess the competition in retrospect. This will be held after Representative fixtures have been completed.

1.1.3 The Director of ISA Sport may call for a meeting to be convened at any time should they be warranted.
2 SPORT OFFICIALS

2.1 Positions to be filled are:
Convenors: Division 1 & 2
Rep Convenor
Coach(es)
Manager(s)
Selector(s)

2.2 Officials will be selected according to the ISA Officials Election Procedure.
3 THE COMPETITION AND RULES

3.1 Affiliation
The competition is open to all Full Member and approved Associate Members of Independent Sporting Association (ISA)

Current membership includes:
**Division 1 (1 Round)**
Chevalier College
Oakhill College
St Patrick’s College, Strathfield
St Pius X College
Kinross Wolaroi School
St Stanislaus’ College
St Andrew’s Cathedral School
St Augustine’s College

**Division 2 (1 Round)**
Blue Mountains Grammar School
Central Coast Grammar School
Oxley College
St Paul’s Grammar School
All Saints, Bathurst
Redlands
Redfield College

3.2 Fixtures and results
3.2.1 Fixtures between schools will alternate between home and away each year.

3.2.2 All results must be faxed to the convenor before 11.00 am every Monday so points updates can be given.

3.3 Rules
3.3.1 All rules will be in accord with the NSWRU U/19 Rule structure.

3.3.2 Students play in the age group they turn that year. (providing they do not come under the weight exemption rule)

3.3.2a ISA Age Eligibility Policy:
ISA Students studying via Pathways – Age restrictions for Competitions and Representative Teams.
To participate in the ISA Sporting Competitions and Representative Teams, a student must be no older
than 19 years (i.e. cannot turn 20 in the Calendar year) and studying a minimum of 4 units or the equivalent, at a Member or Associate Member School.

3.3.3 Weight exemptions:
13 years can play in 12 years if less than 38 kg
14 years can play in 13 years if less than 44.5 kg
15 years can play in 14 years if less than 51 kg
16 years can play in 15 years if less than 57 kg
17 years can play in 16 years if less than 65 kg

3.3.5 A decision on allowing a student to play down an age group is made by the sportsmaster and school co-ordinator. A student's rugby experience, skill and weight can be taken into account before a student plays in a lower age group.

3.3.6 Any student's name must be given to the Convenor of Rugby 1 and 2 plus the reasons why the student is playing down an age group at least one week before the first competition match. These changes must be confirmed by the ISA Director.

Game times are:
- 13 to 16yrs 2 x 25 minute halves (max of 5 minute half time)
- 2nd XV 2 x 30 minute halves (no time out for injury) Division 1
- First XV 2 x 35 minute halves (time out for injury)

3.3.7 Teams are not to use more than six fresh reserves in any match plus any player who may be injured or sent to blood bin.

3.3.8 The Referees shall have complete jurisdiction over the field of play, and as such shall take responsibility for all on-field management.

3.3.9 Similarly, linesmen come under the control of the referee and shall therefore be accorded the same respect. (if badged)

3.3.10 In accordance with the rules of the game the referee is the sole timekeeper.

3.3.11 All ISA competition games should be assigned
qualified (ticketed) Association referees. Junior referees should only be assigned to games of a level which are commensurate with their ability and experience.

3.3.12 All ISA competition games should be assigned qualified linesmen. If unavailable then staff, or senior students, with a sound knowledge of the game and its rules may be used.

3.3.13 A team players may not play in B teams, if this occurs, that school will forfeit the points for that match.

3.3.13A 16A players can play in the 3rds, 2nds and 1sts, but not in the 4ths or lower.

3.3.13B “A's” players in the age groups, could play in the above age, “B” teams but no lower. i.e. Not in the “C’s”.

3.3.14 Should any player play in a particular age division in a given round that player is not eligible to play in a lower age division during that round. eg If a 16 years player plays in the Opens game first he may not then play in the 16 years game in that same round, even if they are on different days. He may, however, play a full game in the 16 years first and then play in the Opens.

3.3.15 Any player sent off by a referee should be stood down from the next ISA match, including ISA Representative games. Further sanction may be taken by each school as they see fit, including ISA Rep games. A school may contact the Director to review an appeal regarding a send off. The appeal will be reviewed by the ISA Disputes Committee, with recommendation forwarded to the appealing school’s Head.

3.4 **Home team responsibilities.**

3.4.1 Playing fields should be properly marked.

3.4.2 A barrier should be placed at least approximately 3 metre (indicative) from the sidelines and parallel to it for the purpose of crowd control and to assist in the good conduct of the match.
3.4.3 Goal post pads must be of a size and padding to ensure the safety of the players.

3.4.4 Host schools should supply the match balls only at First XV matches. (Gilbert size 5)

3.4.5 Referees should be appropriately attired.

3.4.6 Qualified referees must be used for each match.

3.4.7 Each side should provide a touch judge.

3.4.8 Host schools should ensure that there is an adequate supply of sand at each ground.

3.4.9 Uniforms approved by the school should be worn to and from games.

3.4.10 The home team school shall advise Australian Associated Press (AAP) on 02 9322 8000 of all First XV results for publication without fail. These results must be in by 6.00 pm on Saturday evenings. Also send full results to the Daily Telegraph: Fax 9288 2608, Attention Duncan Horscroft, email: horscroftd@dailytelegraph.com.au. Early Monday morning at the latest.

3.4.11 A visible on-ground First Aid Point and qualified First Aid Personnel must be provided at all ISA matches.

### 3.5 Point system

3.5.1 Point system adopted for both divisions:

- **Win**: 4 points
- **Super 12 points will be used by 1st XV Teams only (Division 1 and 2)**
- 4 or more tries scored: bonus 1 point
- Loss by 7 or less: 1 bonus point
- Loss: 0 point
- Forfeit: 0 points
- Draw: 2 points

Point system adopted for U13 Development Squad (Division II):

- **Win**: 4 points
- **Loss**: 1 point
- **Forfeit**: 0 points
- **Draw**: 2 points
3.5.2 **ISA COMPETITION PLACINGS FORMULA**

1. Points competition placing, divided by number of games actually played. *(includes forfeit)*

**Example:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Final Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wash out</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19 ÷ 9 = 2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16 ÷ 10 = 1.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. If equal: \( \text{points for} \times \frac{100}{\text{points against} + \text{number of games played}} \) *(Don't include forfeits)*

3. If still equal, 2 teams concerned, difference points for and against.

### 3.6 Extreme Weather Guidelines

#### 3.6.1 Cold Weather:

To postpone the game in the case of extreme cold, Officials of both teams must be in agreement.

#### 3.6.2 Hot Weather

In the event of extreme heat, either team Official may implement special conditions prior to the commencement of the game.

Examples:
* Increased game breaks – to provide adequate fluid intake.
* Decreased game time.

The ISA recommends that Schools adhere to their individual School’s Sun Protection Policy.

#### 3.6.3 Storms:

In the case of electrical/hail storms, games must be stopped immediately and a safe location sought. Play may resume after the storm, with remaining time left in the fixture being utilised. By mutual agreement, both team Officials can use the total time remaining, even if this exceeds the published finishing time of the game. The fixture must be played on the allocated draw date.

#### 3.6.4 Wet Weather:

In the event of a wash out there is to be no replay of washed out fixtures and neither team receives any points. 1st XV, Division 1 only to replay matches if possible.

### 3.7 Guidelines for Players

3.7.1 Each individual should give a reasonable time each week to training in order to maintain balance with
time allocated to study, home duties, cultural enjoyment and social activities.

3.7.2 All the courtesies should be observed; teams must be punctual; the Coach and captain of the home team should receive the visiting team members courteously and show them to the change rooms.

3.7.3 Play may be hard and vigorous in body contact sports, but never deliberately foul and unfair. A player using deliberate violence should be removed by his coach before it becomes necessary for the referee to take action.

3.7.4 Bad language is not to be tolerated. Any player offending in this way should be removed from the field by the Coach.

3.7.5 Barracking should be enthusiastic, but never belittling. Neither should it be provocative or designed to upset the opponents or encourage rough play.

3.7.6 A team or individual that wins should behave modestly. A team that is defeated or an individual who makes an error, should not make of his self disgust.

3.7.7 Good play should be recognised, whether by an opponent or a member of one's own school.

3.7.8 The referee’s decision must be accepted without negative response by players, coaches or spectators.

3.7.9 Unfair tactics must never be used. eg the use of provocative comments of a personal nature.

3.7.10 Home schools should show courtesy to visiting spectators as well as players. Visitors must respect the host school’s premises and rules in matter of parking, tidiness, access to playing areas and change rooms.

3.8 **Guidelines for Coaches**

3.8.1 Coaches should recognise that games are for enjoyment, and satisfaction should come from participation in a team. Coaches should kindle in their players, on the one hand, a desire to win; which
should motivate them towards excellence; and, on the other hand, a readiness to accept defeat.

3.8.2 Coaches should develop in their players respect for the ability of their opponents, as well as for the judgement of officials (referees, touch judges etc).

3.8.3 The home coach should always welcome the visiting coach, and encourage the Captain of the team to seek out the visiting Captain.

3.8.4 Coaches should be reasonable in their expectations of the players and in their demands of players' time and energy. They should be sensitive to the age, skill and physical maturity of their players.

3.8.5 It is an educational responsibility of coaches to acquaint their players thoroughly with the rules or laws of the game, as these provide structure and order. For this reason, coaches should continually update their knowledge of the game.

3.8.6 The role of the coach is to teach, support and encourage players. Criticism should be focused on the mistake and no personal derogatory remarks should be made. Never yell or ridicule a student for making a mistake.

3.8.7 Coaches should be meticulous to observe the ruling that there is to be no coaching from the sidelines while the game is in progress and encroaching on the field is not allowed.

• Coaches must notify the Head of Sport if any student from his team is dismissed from the field. All students who are dismissed from the field shall appear before the School Coordinator of that sport and the Sportsmaster. It is generally accepted that students will receive at least a one match suspension or what is appropriate for the incident.

Only ISA Representative games and Round games are to count for the match suspension. As a courtesy to the opposition school, a report on the sanction applied should be forwarded to the Head of Sport before the next match takes place. A referees report must be submitted in
the case of a send-off to both schools involved in the fixture.

- Any First XV player dismissed from the field shall appear before the School Co-ordinator of Rugby, Sportsmaster and the Head of his school.

3.8.8 All Coaches must read and sign the ISA Code of “Conduct for Coaches”, before the start of each season. All Coaches must carry the laminated copy of the Code with their coaching kit to each ISA fixture.
4 REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

4.1 Players
4.1.1 Representative players can gain selection for the NSW Schoolboys and Australian Schoolboys teams through ISA teams.

4.1.2 ISA Representative players are required to purchase the current uniform.

4.1.3 All Representative players must wear school uniform to all fixtures without fail.

4.2 Fixtures
Representative fixtures are currently held against Combined High Schools, Combined Associated Schools and Combined Catholic Colleges and AICES.

4.3 Other
4.3.1 ISA Rugby representative colours will be black, white and gold.

4.3.2 The Representative Convenor of ISA Rugby must attend all NSWSRU meetings when required.
5 **AWARDS**

5.1 The Premiership Shield will be awarded in the Opens Division 1 & 2 with ISA Premiership Certificates going to teams taking out premierships in both divisions.

5.2 Colours may be awarded to players selected in and taking the field for the First XV side after consultation of the Representative Convenor, Representative Coaches and the ISA Director.