



By Laws

**Canterbury – Bankstown
District Junior Rugby League Incorporated**

Revised February 2013

PREAMBLE

These By Laws are made by the General Committee of the Junior League in accordance with the powers conferred on the General Committee as set out in the Constitution of the Junior League.

DEFINITIONS, INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION

Definitions

In these By Laws, unless expressly stated to the contrary:

1. The indexes and headings to the clauses, annexure, appendices and schedules of these By Laws are for reference only and shall not otherwise affect its construction.
2. The preamble to these By Laws form part of the Agreement.
3. The annexures, appendices, schedules and any incorporated documents form part of these By Laws and shall have the same force and effect as if expressly set out in the body of these By Laws and any reference to these By Laws shall include a reference to all annexures, appendices, schedules and incorporated documents.
4. Any reference in these By Laws to a clause is unless otherwise stated a reference to that clause which appears in these By Laws.
5. Any reference to a clause of an annexure, appendix, schedule or incorporated document is a reference to that clause as it appears in that annexure, appendix, schedule or incorporated document.
6. Any reference to 'writing' includes references to any communication effected by cable, facsimile, email or any other comparable means.
7. Where the context so admits, any gender shall include the other gender, and the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.
8. The expression 'person' means any individual, firm, company, incorporated association, partnership, organisation, government, state, agency of state or joint venture.
9. Any reference to a rule of these By Laws or any other governing rules shall be construed also as a reference to the same from time to time as amended, consolidated, modified, extended, re-enacted, repealed or replaced.
10. References to these By Laws mean these By Laws as amended from time to time in accordance with the provisions hereof.
11. References in these By Laws to any contract or other instrument shall be deemed to include references to that contract or instrument as varied, supplemented, substituted, novated or assigned from time to time in accordance with the provisions thereof.
12. A reference to 'dollars', "\$A", "A\$", "AUD\$" or '\$' is a reference to Australian Dollars.

13. Any reference to a time or date for the performance by a person 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).

Definitions

In these By Laws the following capitalised terms shall have the corresponding meanings unless expressly stated to the contrary or unless obviously inconsistent with the context:

Active Member means active member of a Club.

Affiliation means the official attachment of a Club to the Junior League.

Affiliation Fee means any amount determined by the General Committee to be payable by a Club to the Junior League in consideration for the grant by the Junior League to the Club of the rights of Affiliation.

Appeals Rules means the appeals rules which are set out in **Schedule 2**.

Club means any club affiliated with the Junior League together any club which enters teams in any rugby league tournament, competition or Match conducted by or under the auspices of the Junior League.

Club Official means any person who acts or purports to act on behalf of a Club in any capacity.

Code of Conduct means the code of conduct which is set out at **Schedule 2**.

District means the Canterbury Bankstown district as determined by NSWRL.

District Club means the Bulldogs Rugby League Club Limited ACN 001 869 405.

Finals Match means any end of regular season finals series or grand final Match played in any Junior Competition.

General Committee means the general committee of the Junior League.

Ground Committee means the grounds committee of the Junior League.

Judiciary means the judiciary established by the Junior League to hear and determine matters referred to it in respect of conduct during and in connection with competitions, tournaments and Matches played under the auspices of the Junior League, and otherwise.

Judiciary Committee means the committee of people formed to sit on the Judiciary.

Judiciary Rules means the rules set out in **Schedule 4**.

Junior League means Canterbury Bankstown District Junior Rugby League Incorporated, registration number Y0764711.

Junior League Competition means and includes any rugby league competition, tournament or Match conducted by or under the auspices of the Junior League.

Match means any rugby league match played in any Junior League Competition.

Match Official means any referee, touch judge or other match official appointed to control or officiate in any Match played in any Junior League Competition including any person who replaces a referee, video referee, touch judge or other match official.

Member means a member of the Junior League.

Minor means a person who has not yet attained the age of 18 years.

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

NSWRL Competition means the various rugby league competitions, premierships, tournaments and matches conducted by NSWRL.

NRL Premiership means the premier rugby league premiership competition conducted by or under the auspices of the Australian Rugby League Commission or any related corporation of the Australian Rugby League Commission.

Player means any person who is registered to play rugby league in any tournament, competition or Match conducted by or under the auspices of the Junior League.

Referees' Association means the Canterbury Bankstown District Rugby League Referees' Association Incorporated, registration number Y1052113.

Registration Committee means the registration committee of the Junior League.

Sanctions includes without limitation expulsion, disqualification, suspension, fines, censure and reprimand.

Season means a rugby league season.

Secretary means the secretary of the Junior League.

Smoke means smoke, hold or otherwise have control over, an ignited Smoking Product.

Smoking Product means any tobacco or other product that is intended to be smoked.

Team Sheet means any document which contains information about the Players in a team playing in a Match in any Junior League Competition which the Junior League requires a Club to complete and any Player or Players to sign before, during or after a Match.

Application

These By Laws:

- (a) Are administered by the General Committee and the Secretary.
- (b) Are intended to regulate the conduct of Clubs, Club Officials, Players in order to organise, manage and administer the tournaments, competitions and Matches conducted under the auspices of the Junior League.
- (c) Apply to all:
 - (1) Clubs;
 - (2) Players;

- (3) Club Officials;
- (4) Members;
- (5) Match Officials; and
- (6) Any other person who is bound by these By Laws because of their involvement with Junior League Competitions, Clubs or the Junior League.

1 AFFILIATIONS

- (a) The Affiliation Fee for each Club competing in any Junior League Competition shall be determined by the General Committee from time to time and must be paid to the Junior League before the commencement of that Junior League Competition.
- (b) The secretary of each affiliated club shall notify the secretary of the Junior League in writing the names and addresses of its delegates and officials for the following year before December 31

2 APPEALS

- (a) Any person who is the subject of a determination by the Judiciary, General Committee or Secretary of the Junior League may lodge an appeal against that determination to the Appeals Committee.
- (b) The procedure for the lodgement and hearing of appeals before the Appeals Committee are set out in the Appeals Rules set out in **Schedule 1** to these By Laws. The capitalised terms in this paragraph 2 may be defined in **Schedule 1**.
- (c) No appeal application lodged under these By Laws shall be accepted unless it is signed and lodged by the appellant, save in the case of a Minor, in which case the appeal application shall be signed and lodged by the appellant and by his parent or guardian.
- (d) An appeal application must be lodged accompanied by the requisite appeal fee stipulated by the General Committee. The appeal fee is not refundable to the appellant in any circumstances unless otherwise ordered by the Chairman.
- (e) The General Committee may make rules prescribing that an appeal application be lodged in a certain way or contain certain particulars and / or information. If an appeal application lodged by a person fails to comply with any such rules made by the General Committee then the Appeals Committee may determine to refuse to hear the appeal.
- (f) Any appeal application must be lodged no later than the following deadline:
 - (1) In the case of Judiciary appeals (held on Monday) it will be 12 midday Wednesday.
 - (2) In the case of Board of Management (held on Monday) it will be 12 midday Wednesday.
 - (3) The limitation of time for appeals other than those mentioned in this clause will be seven (7) days.

- (g) No appeal application will operate as a stay of the decision which is appealed against unless the Chairman of the appeals committee determines otherwise upon the reasoned written application of the appellant.
- (h) Any player or club official required at an appeal hearing shall be advised of that fact in writing, such notice which will be sent to the Secretary of the appellant's Club. It is the responsibility of the Club to inform the relevant person particulars of the scheduled appeal hearing. The failure of a Club to advise a person of the arrangements for a hearing or the requirement that the person concerned be in attendance at the hearing is no defence against the non-attendance of that person at the hearing or that the Appeals Committee dealt with the appeal in the absence of the person concerned.

3 APPEALS COMMITTEE

- (a) The composition of the Appeals Committee, the procedural rules regarding the hearing of appeals and the powers of the Appeals Committee are set out in **Schedule 1**.

4 MEMBERSHIP AND REPRESENTATION OF CLUBS

- (a) Subject to rule 4(b), no person shall in any one Season represent more than one Club in any Junior League Competition.
- (b) The application of rule 4(a) may, at the discretion of the Junior League, be waived in respect of persons who wish to play for a second or subsequent Club in any Junior League Competition in any Season where the first and all other prior Clubs which he played for earlier in that Season have withdrawn from the tournament, competition or Match in which the person wishes to represent the new Club.
- (c) A Player shall be deemed ineligible to play with any Club in any Junior League Competition if his registration fee has not been paid in full or if any other amount remains outstanding to the Junior League.
- (d) No Player or Club Official shall be allowed to participate in any capacity in any Junior League Competition or any activity conducted in connection with any Junior League Competition unless that person is and at all times remains a member of the Club which he represents.

5 CLEARANCES FOR PLAYERS FROM OTHER DISTRICTS

- (a) A person must first request and obtain an online clearance from the relevant governing body in the event that the person wishes to play rugby league in a Junior League Competition and where the last match (other than school rugby league) in which the person played was a match played under the control or auspices of a governing body other than the Junior League.
- (b) Any Player registered with a Club in the Junior League may transfer to and play for another Club in the Junior League; however any such transfer may not be effected until the Player obtains an online clearance from his present Club permitting him to do so and until the Junior League, at its absolute discretion, determines to approve the transfer request.

6 CODE OF CONDUCT

- (a) The Code of Conduct which applies to all Players, Club Officials and others involved with or connected with the activities of the Club is set out at **Schedule 2** subject to the additional provisions of this rule 6 which are set out below.
- (b) Further to rule 6(a), each person bound by these By Laws must not:
 - (1) knowingly, recklessly or carelessly do, write or say anything or omit to do anything which is likely to bring the Junior League or the game of rugby league into disrepute, cause the person or any other person to be in breach of the By Laws, or cause damage to the Junior League or its officers or employees or any other person.
 - (2) engage in any conduct which might impair public confidence in the Junior League or the game of rugby league.
 - (3) engage in any conduct which might impair the public confidence in the honesty or integrity of any employee of the Junior League or any Club, any fellow or opposing Player or any Match Official.
 - (4) Sing any song or chant with indecent or suggestive language, and in case of a breach of this rule 6(b)(4) every player in the team who has signed the sign on sheet for that game will be held responsible and any action taken will involve all those players, unless there are extenuating or acceptable evidence which clearly indicates a certain player(s) was not involved

7 CODE OF CONDUCT RESPONSIBILITY PROCEDURES

- (a) Each Club must before 31 March before the commencement of each Season deliver to the Secretary a document in a form approved by the General Committee, properly executed by the Club, an acknowledgment and undertaking that the Club agrees that it and its members are bound by the Code of Conduct, failing which the Junior League may determine that the Club is ineligible to participate in Junior League Competitions.
- (b) Each Player must deliver to his Club a document in a form approved by the General Committee, properly executed by the Player (and his parent or guardian in the case of the Player being a Minor), an acknowledgment and undertaking that the Player agrees that he is bound by the Code of Conduct, failing which the Junior League may determine that the Player is ineligible to participate in Junior League Competitions.
- (c) The Code of Conduct **MUST** be printed in A3 size and placed on display at the canteen and timekeepers table on game days.

8 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SALE OF ALCOHOL

- (a) The Junior League would prefer Clubs not to sell or supply alcoholic beverages at their playing fields when Junior League games are in progress.
- (b) The Junior League acknowledges the right of Clubs who, because of the acquisition of a liquor licence, are able to lawfully sell or supply alcoholic beverages at their playing fields or other Club venues.

- (c) The sale and / or supply of alcoholic beverages at Junior League grounds when Junior League Competitions involving under 6 to under 13 age groups is not permitted under any circumstances.
- (d) The sale and / or supply of alcoholic beverages at Junior League grounds on a Sunday is not allowed prior to midday.
- (e) The General Committee may at its absolute discretion approve the sale of or supply of alcoholic at Club home grounds otherwise than in accordance with rules 8(a) to (d) in special circumstances upon the written application of the Club to the General Committee, setting out those special circumstances and the particulars as to the proposed sale and / or supply of alcoholic beverages.
- (f) At Club home grounds where alcoholic beverages are sold / supplied in accordance with the requisite liquor Licence it is the responsibility of the Club concerned to properly supervise such sale / supply in accordance with the terms of these By Laws and the liquor licence.
- (g) It is the responsibility of the Club concerned to confiscate any alcoholic beverages, and to deal with any spectators if necessary, where alcoholic beverages are brought into or consumed at a Club's home ground in contravention of these By Laws or the terms of the liquor licence held by the Club.

9 DISQUALIFICATION AND SUSPENSION

- (a) The use of the term “**disqualification**” in and in connection with these By Laws means the disqualification of all of the rights and privileges afforded to a person in connection the activities of the Junior League, including playing rights acquired through registration as a registered player of rugby league.
- (b) The use of the term “**suspension**” in and in connection with these By Laws means the suspension, on whatever terms which are specified when the suspension is handed down, of all or some of the rights and privileges afforded to a person in connection with the activities of the Junior League, including playing rights acquired through registration as a registered player of rugby league.
- (c) A Club shall be guilty of a breach of these By Laws in the event that the Club allows or acquiesces to a person the subject of a Sanction of disqualification or suspension doing any act or thing which is in contravention of the terms of the applicable Sanction.

10 DISTRICT CLUB PLAYERS

Any person who has played rugby league for the District Club and then wishes to register as a Player to in any Junior League Competition is subject to the following restrictions before being eligible to play in that Junior League Competition:

- (a) The person must present a written clearance from the District Club chief executive officer or his authorised representative to the Secretary.
- (b) Any person who has played in the NRL Premiership in the current Season or has played more than 50 games in any grade for the District Club must first be given a clearance by the Management Committee of the District Club.

11 DISCIPLINARY PROVISIONS

These provisions of rule 11 of the By Laws relate to the procedure which shall be followed by the Junior League in instances of any breach of these By Laws (including, without limitation, the Code of Conduct).

- (a) Complaints may be made to the Junior League in respect of the conduct of any of the following persons where that conduct is alleged to be a breach of these By Laws (including, without limitation, the Code of Conduct):
 - (1) Clubs;
 - (2) Players;
 - (3) Club Officials; and
 - (4) Any other person who is subject to the jurisdiction of the Junior League.
- (b) Upon any complaint being made under rule 11(a) the matter shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of **Schedule 3**.
- (c) Further to the provisions of rule 11(a), the Junior League may make a complaint against a Club in the event that the Junior League is of the opinion that the Club has failed to, unreasonably delayed in, or manifestly erred in dealing with any conduct of any member of that Club which amounts to a breach by that person of these By Laws.
- (d) All Sanctions imposed pursuant to these By Laws shall operate throughout the Junior League.

12 DISTRICT UNIFORM

The representative uniform of the Junior League shall be consistent in colours and style to the representative uniform of the District Club.

13 ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS MATCHES

- (a) In order for a Player to be eligible to play in any Finals Match the Player must be properly registered to play for the Club in either that particular Junior League Competition or a lower age-limited Junior League Competition.

14 GENERAL CONDITIONS GOVERNING JUNIOR LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

- (a) Conditions governing the conduct of Junior League Competitions shall be determined by the Junior League, subject to approval of the District Club.
- (b) No Junior League Competition shall comprise less than teams representing six (6) Clubs unless expressly approved by the Junior League and the District Club.
- (c) Any Club fielding a Player who exceeds the maximum age limit relevant to that particular Junior League Competition shall be deducted any competition points which the Club's team earned from Matches played in that Junior League Competition in which the ineligible Player took part.

- (d) All Players must produce to the Club an original birth certificate, passport or driver licence at the time of registration. The Club shall make and retain a true copy of that proof-of-age document produced by the Player to the Club.
- (e) A Club shall produce to the Junior League a copy of the proof-of-age document produced to the Club by a Player at the time of registration within 24 hours of the Junior League serving notice on a Club requiring the Club to produce the document.

15 GROUNDS COMMITTEE

- (a) The Grounds Committee shall consist of four (4) members elected by the General Committee and shall include the CEO of the Junior League.
- (b) The Grounds Committee shall be responsible for all the allocation of ground locations and times of all Matches.
- (c) The decision of the Grounds Committee shall be final.

16 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

- (a) The Judiciary Committee shall consist of five (5) members elected at the annual general meeting of the Junior League in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- (b) The Management Committee as its first meeting following the annual general meeting shall appoint a chairman and deputy chairman of the Judiciary Committee from among the members elected in accordance with rule 16(a).
- (c) The powers, functions and procedural rules of the Judiciary Committee are set out in **Schedule 4**.

17 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- (a) The Management Committee shall consist of the following persons President, Vice president, Secretary, Asst Secretary and three representatives elected from the General Committee.
- (b) Management Committee shall have the power to investigate and adjudicate on matters of misconduct by players, active members and others persons.
- (c) A quorum of the Management Committee at any meeting shall consist of three of the members elected.
- (d) Any player, active member or other person appearing before the Management Committee is to be accompanied by an executive of his club.
- (e) The decisions of the Management Committee shall be final except on appeal to the Appeals Committee.

18 PLAYING IN HIGHER GRADE

- (a) Subject to these By Laws a Player may play in a Junior League Competition in the grade for which he is registered and eligible by age to play in, but under no circumstances may he play in a lower grade. If any Player breaches this rule then these By Laws prescribe sanctions which shall apply to Clubs.

- (b) If a Player is called upon by his Club, he may play in a higher grade than the one for which he is registered and when his services are no longer required in the higher grade he may return to his original grade without re-registering.
- (c) There shall be no limit to the number of Matches a Player may play in a higher grade, except in the case of eligibility for Finals Matches.

19 EXCEEDING MAXIMUM PLAYER NUMBERS

- (a) In the event of any team playing in any Match with more than the maximum number of players on the field (that being Mini League – eight (8) players; Mod League for 9 to 11 year age groups eleven (11) players, and 12 year age group and above thirteen (13) players, the opposing Club playing the relevant Match must lodge any protest with the Junior League in writing before 5:00pm on the first business day following the Match.
- (b) Upon the Secretary being satisfied a team has breached the maximum player provisions of rule 19(a) the following penalties shall be imposed:

1. Match

- (a) The loss of all competition points earned in that Match in the event that the offending team either won or drew the Match.
- (b) A monetary fine in an amount determined by the Secretary.

2. Finals Match

The awarding of the result of the Finals Match to the opposing team.

20 PLAYERES ORDERED OFF THE FIELD

- (a) Any Player who has been ordered from the field by a Match Official shall immediately leave the playing enclosure, shall resume his ordinary attire and shall be suspended from playing in any Match in any Junior League Competition until the matter has been finally dealt with under these By Laws.
- (b) The Club of any Player ordered from the field as referred to in rule 20(a) shall do all things necessary both to provide to the Match Official the name of the Player and to provide the Match Officials with all necessary access to the team's sign-on sheet and the Player's registration card.

21 PLAYER SIGNING-ON FORMS

- (a) The Team Sheet must be signed by each Player in a team in the presence of any class of witness approved by the Junior League.
- (b) Team Sheets must be signed by all Players before commencement of each Match and must be available for production to and inspection by the Junior League upon the Junior League requesting the production of any such Team Sheet.
- (c) Each person must be registered with the Club and the Junior League before playing in any Match in any Junior League Competition and the Club for which any particular person plays must ensure that the registration card of each person playing for the Club is available for inspection by the Junior League at all Matches in which the person he participates.

- (d) The Junior League shall be entitled to impose Sanctions upon any Club or person in the event that it is determined by the Junior League that any Club has entered any team in any Match where that team was comprised of one or more persons not properly qualified, unregistered, not properly registered, expelled, disqualified or suspended.
- (c) Upon the Secretary being satisfied a team has breached rule 21 the following penalties shall be imposed:

Match

- (1) The loss of all competition points earned in that Match in the event that the offending team either won or drew the Match.
- (2) A monetary fine in an amount determined by the Secretary.

Finals Match

The awarding of the result of the Finals Match to the opposing team.

22 PLAYER'S UNIFORM

- (a) A Player taking any part in any Match must appear in proper football uniform, which shall consist of a rugby league jersey with either long or short sleeves, shorts, football boots (which must not have spikes, studs or any other protrusion or attribute which, in the opinion of the Match Official, might be dangerous or a threat to the safety of any other Player or other person involved in the Match) socks.
- (b) A Player's football jersey, shorts and socks shall in the Club's registered colours and shall be the same in appearance as the playing kit worn by the other Players in the same team in that Match.
- (c) The referee may report any infringement of this rule to the General Committee.

23 MATCH OFFICIALS

- (a) Match Officials shall be appointed for each Match by the Referees Association or the Secretary.
- (b) In the event of a Match Official failing to attend a Match within fifteen (15) minutes before the allotted start time of the Match or if the Match Official is unable or unwilling to officiate in the Match the Junior League or the Clubs involved in the Match may appoint a properly qualified and registered replacement Match Official to officiate in the Match.
- (c) The General Committee shall have the power to annul any Match and order it to be replayed if the General Committee is satisfied that the result of the Match was affected by incompetency or misconduct on the part of a Match Official.
- (d) Subject to rule 23(c) the Junior League shall not interfere with the outcome of a Match for reason of an error made by a Match Official. If however it is found that an error was made by any person responsible for recording the progressive scoring or the final score or the final result of the Match, the Junior League may elect to interfere with the outcome of the relevant Match.

(e) Complaints against Match Officials

- (1) Any Club may lodge a complaint against a decision of a Match Official, or on the grounds of misconduct of a referee.
- (2) A written statement setting out all relevant particulars of the complaint must be delivered to the Secretary by 5:00pm on the Tuesday following the Match.
- (3) A copy of all complaints is forwarded to the Secretary of the Referees' Association for investigation. The Secretary of the Referees' Association is conferred with the full power to deal finally with any such complaints.

(f) Approaching a Match Official

- (1) No Player, Club Official or other person in connection with a Club may "approach" a Match Official during or within thirty (30) minutes after the end of a Match for the purpose of seeking a rule explanation or for any other reason directly relating to a Match.
- (2) Breaches of this rule may upon conviction include loss of points, suspension or other penalty and result in Coaches and / or Trainers having their qualification / certification suspended or cancelled.

24 REGISTRATIONS

- (a) All Players must personally sign their registration cards except mini-league Players, who must have a parent / guardian sign on their behalf.
- (b) Registrations must be effected in the presence of an official of a Club.
- (c) Players signing registration cards shall be open to Sanctions imposed by the Junior League if any particulars contained therein are found to be incorrect.
- (d) Any Player seeking to register under an assumed name for personal or other acceptable and proper reasons must register his actual, correct name with the Junior League.
- (e) The Club who registers a person as a Player is responsible for ensuring that the particulars and information obtained from the Player at the time of registration are correct.
- (f) Any person who plays Harold Matthews Cup or S.G Ball Cup for any team other than one representing the District Club in any Season shall be ineligible to return to the Junior League and register to play in that same Season unless that person first trialled to represent the District Club for that Season but failed to be selected.

25 REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

- (a) The Registration Committee shall consist of a secretary and five (5) others elected by the General Committee. Without limiting the general powers of the Management Committee, the Registration Committee In addition to the Management Committee, it shall have the power to investigate and adjudicate on all matters relating to players' qualifications referred to it by the General Committee.

26 REGISTRATION OF COLOURS

- (a) Each Club shall register its colours with the Secretary and that Club's Players shall appear in proper uniform in all Matches in the colours registered by the Club.
- (b) The General Committee shall have the power to refuse to register any colours submitted by a Club if those colours are not sufficiently distinctive, but upon registration of those colours the Junior League shall not register the same or substantially the same colours submitted for registration by any other Club.

27 SMOKING RESTRICTIONS

No person is permitted to Smoke:

- (a) Within ten (10) metres of all children's playground equipment;
- (b) Within 10 metres of all sporting fields under the control of the Junior League;
- (c) Inside any change room / dressing room at any ground under the control of the Junior League; or
- (d) In any other area, space or place which, under any operative law or regulation, is designated as an area, space or place where Smoking is prohibited.

Any person disobeying this rule will be in breach of these By Laws and will be dealt with by the penalty deemed necessary by the Junior League.

28 TIME OF PLAY

- (a) Matches shall commence at such times as specified by the Grounds Committee.
- (b) Any Club not prepared to commence a Match at the allotted start time for that Match shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match unless satisfactory reason for the delay is given to the General Committee.
- (c) Mini rugby league will be played over three (3) periods of time with an interval of not more than five (5) minutes.
- (d) All other Matches will be played over two (2) periods of time with an interval of not more than ten (10) minutes, unless the Junior League or Match Official on in charge of the Match otherwise directs.
- (e) In the event of any alteration in the playing times, the Clubs must be informed prior to the start of the Match by the Match Officials.

29 TRANSFER OF REPRESENTATIVE AND DEVELOPMENT PLAYERS

Administration

- a) The Secretary must approve all transfers. Unless a transfer is in conflict with these By Laws, including the following sub-clauses, it will be granted by the Junior League:

- (1) Application for transfers by players Under 16 must have an endorsement by their parent or guardian.
 - (2) The Junior League will not process transfers prior to the 1st February each year. Clubs need not respond to transfer applications or other club transfer requests prior to that date.
 - (3) All transfers cease on the 30th June each year unless otherwise directed by the Board.
 - (4) Players 'sitting out the season' or moving to another district for one season to avoid these rules will gain no advantage.
 - (5) Transfer Rules apply to the following ages: 13's, 14's, 15's & 16's.
16's: Only those players who make Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs Harold Matthews will be included in the quota of four (4)
- b) A Player's transfer will be considered completed when the following conditions are in place:
- (1) The approved transfer application has been completed to the satisfaction of the Secretary.
 - (2) A Player will be officially attached to his new Club from the date the transfer application was approved. Any move by the Player to another Club (including the Club transferred from) will have to go through the system in the same manner the original transfer did.
 - (3) Only applications that are in accordance with the By Laws will be considered.
- c) A Club may refuse a transfer if a Player is financially encumbered to that Club or has not returned property owned by the Club.
- d) The movement of players from a senior NSWRL Competition to a Junior League Competition and from a Junior League Competition to a Senior NSWRL Competition must be approved by the Secretary.
- e) Representative Squad Players:
- (1) For the purpose of these By Laws a "**Representative Squad Player**" is a Player selected in the final squads of representative teams that are selected to represent the District.
 - (2) When a Representative Squad Player returns to the Junior League (for whatever reason) he must return to the Club he was registered with at the start of the Season for the remainder of that Season.
 - (3) When a Player is selected in the final squad of a representative team it will be necessary for the Player to acknowledge the existence of the By Laws that apply to the transfer and movement of Representative Squad Players. Once a Player accepts selection as a Representative Squad Player the Player also accepts all transfer and other conditions pertaining to it.
 - (4) The transfer of a Representative Squad Player or a Development Squad Player (irrespective of the Season that Player represented) may be

refused if it is considered the team to which the Player makes application to transfer to has sufficient Representative and Development Squad Players (current number is 4).

(5) Should a Player who was registered with a Club in the Junior League within the previous two (2) Seasons, submit a clearance from another district to play in the Junior League, the following conditions will be observed:

(A) The transfers of such a Player to a particular Club may be refused if it is considered that his departure from and return to the District was done for the purpose of avoiding the transfer rules.

(B) If the Player was a Representative or Development Squad Player prior to his clearance out of the District, that classification will continue unless otherwise directed by the Board.

(C) Players classified as representative players in other districts, when transferring to the District, will be regarded as Representative Squad Players in this District.

(D) A Player registered with a development squads as a Development Squad Player in this District will also be regarded as a Representative Squad Player for the purpose of these By Laws.

(E) Players in the development and representative squads will remain Representative Squad Players until they fail to be selected in any development or representative squads the following Season. This rule may also be adjusted depending on the structure of representative rugby league in NSW.

(F) Representation made on behalf of Players in the representative and development squads regarding injuries and / or medical matters, must be supported by a medical report from a qualified and registered medical practitioner.

(G) A Player who is out injured for a full Season or lengthy period and who is expected to return to football within a period of 12 months (i.e. the following season) cannot be replaced in the player's Junior League team by another Representative or Development Squad Player.

(H) When Players are advised at the end of each Season of selection in the representative and / or development squads, a copy of the transfer rules that apply be issued to them.

(I) Representative and Development Squad Players are required to submit an application for transfer prior to them commencing training at another Club. Discipline action will result for any exceptions.

f) Development Squad

(1) A "Development Squad Player" is a player who has been selected and named in any of the junior development squads for the District.

- * The age structure for these squads could change from time to time
- (2) Following the formation of each junior development squad and if considered necessary the Players and parents may be brought together for the purpose of explaining the outcomes hoped to be achieved, the future squad activities and the Junior League transfer rules and other matters:
 - (A) If any Player after attending a meeting does not desire to be involved in squad activities he may apply to be released and if his request is granted he will not qualify for any benefits or future selection until further notice.
 - (B) Once a Player accepts his place in a development squad, he accepts the conditions and Junior League rules that apply.
 - (C) When Players are advised at the end of each Season of selection in the representative and / or development squads a copy of the transfer rules that apply be issued to them.
 - (D) Representative and Development Squad Players are required to submit an application for transfer prior to them commencing training at another Club. Discipline action will result for any breach of this rule.
 - (3) Players named in a development squad will be recognised as Development Squad Players until they fail to be selected in the squads the following Season.
 - (4) The Junior League may deny the transfer of a Development Squad Player (irrespective of the Season that Player represented) if it is considered the team to which player wishes to transfer to has sufficient development squad players (the current number is four (4)).
 - (5) A Development Squad Player named in any of the squads may transfer if he so wishes provided the transfer conforms to these transfer rules.

30 YEAR

The football year shall commence on 1 January.

SCHEDULE 1 APPEALS RULES

Appeals Committee Code of Procedure

1.1 Definitions

The definitions in the By Laws apply in this Appeals Committee Code of Procedure. Further, for the purposes of this Schedule 1 of the By Laws the following terms shall be ascribed the corresponding meanings.

Appeal means an appeal by a Player against a decision of the Judiciary.

Appeal Folder is defined in **Rule 1.12(c)(4)**.

Appeals Committee means the body constituted in accordance with **Rule 1.6**.

Appellant means the Player, who Appeals a decision of the Judiciary, referred to in **Rule 1.6(a)**.

Appellant's Material means:

- (a) All documentary or other evidence (including a written outline of the oral evidence to be adduced from any witness) on which the Appellant intends to rely at the hearing of an Appeal; and
- (b) A written outline of the contentions and arguments that the Appellant proposes to advance at the hearing of an Appeal.

Code of Procedure means this **Schedule 1** of the By Laws.

Committee Member means a person appointed to the role pursuant to **Rule 1.5(c)**.

Judiciary is ascribed the same meaning as set out in **Schedule 4**.

Judiciary Counsel is ascribed the same meaning as set out in **Schedule 4**.

Notice of Appeal means a notice in the form set out in **Appendix 1 to this Schedule 1** specifying all relevant particulars of an Appeal by a Player against a decision of the Judiciary.

Notice of Appeal Hearing means a notice in the form set out in **Appendix 4 to this Schedule 1** specifying all relevant particulars of an Appeal hearing before the Appeals Committee which is issued pursuant to **Rule 1.12(c)(3)**.

Notice of Challenge means a notice in the form set out in **Appendix 3 to this Schedule 1** specifying all relevant particulars of a challenge by an Appellant to the jurisdiction and / or composition of the Appeals Committee submitted in accordance with **Rule 1.11**.

Notice of Withdrawal of Appeal means a notice in the form set out in **Appendix 2 to this Schedule 1** which seeks to withdraw an Appeal in accordance with **Rule 1.9(b)**.

party means the Appellant or a Respondent.

Chairman means the person appointed to the role pursuant to **Rule 1.5(b)**.

Respondent means a person, who is a respondent to an Appeal, referred to in **Rules 1.6(b)** and **1.6(c)**.

Respondent's Material means:

- (a) All documentary or other evidence (including a written outline of the oral evidence to be adduced from a witness) on which a Respondent intends to rely at the hearing of an Appeal; and
- (b) A written outline of the contentions and arguments that a Respondent proposes to advance at the hearing of an Appeal.

Secretary means the person appointed to that role pursuant to **Rule 1.4**.

Schedule 4 means Schedule 4 of the By Laws.

1.2 Leave to Appeal

- (a) A Player aggrieved by a decision of the Judiciary may appeal therefrom, by 5.00pm on the day after the hearing before the Judiciary, to the Appeals and Disputes Committee on one or more of the following grounds:
 - (1) With respect to the issue of guilt:
 - (A) That there was an error of law; or
 - (B) That the decision was unreasonable or insupportable having regard to the evidence presented to the Judiciary in the hearing; or
 - (C) If the Player is able to adduce fresh evidence which was not available to the Player at the time of the hearing in respect of which the Player is seeking leave to appeal the determination of.
 - (2) With respect to the issue of penalty: that the penalty imposed by the Judiciary was manifestly excessive.
- (b) A Player who wishes to appeal from a decision of the Judiciary must first obtain leave to do so from the Chairman.
- (c) The Chairman shall not grant leave for the Player to appeal unless he forms the view in his absolute discretion that the Player has good prospects of success on the hearing of that appeal.
- (d) The Judiciary Counsel has a right to be heard by the Chairman on any application for leave to appeal made by a Player pursuant to Rule 1.18 of Schedule 4 and this Rule 1.2 before the Chairman grants a Player leave to appeal.
- (e) Unless otherwise ordered by the Chairman, neither an application for leave to appeal nor an appeal by a Player to the Appeals and Disputes Committee shall operate as a stay of the decision of the Judiciary which is the subject of the appeal or the application for leave to appeal.

1.3 Jurisdiction

- (a) Subject to strict compliance with the procedure set out in Rule 1.18 of Schedule 4 and Rule 1.2, the Appeals Committee has jurisdiction to hear Appeals against decisions of the Judiciary.
- (b) The sole function of the Appeals Committee is to hear and determine appeals against decisions of the Judiciary.

1.4 Relationship with Other Appeal Provisions

Notwithstanding anything herein this Code of Procedure or elsewhere contained, the Rules contained in this Code of Procedure are not intended to affect in any way a specific provision regarding an appeal that is contained in the By Laws in respect of matters including anti-doping and misconduct.

1.5 The Secretary

The Secretary of the Appeals Committee shall be the secretary of the Junior League or his delegate, whose role it shall be to perform all procedural and administrative tasks so as to ensure the fair, impartial and efficient conduct of the business of the Judiciary.

1.6 Composition of the Appeals Committee

- (a) The Appeals Committee shall be constituted by a Chairman and two (2) other Committee Members appointed in accordance with this Code of Procedure.
- (b) The Secretary shall appoint the Chairman. It is recommended that the Judiciary Chairman shall be a person who is a practising solicitor or barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales but not restricted to.
- (c) The Secretary shall appoint two (2) Committee Members. A Committee Member shall be a former rugby league player who is not a coach or a member of the coaching staff of a Club.
- (d) A person is ineligible to be a member of the Appeals Committee if that person is also a member of the Judiciary Committee.

1.7 Parties to an Appeal

For the purposes of this Code of Procedure:

- (a) The Appellant to an Appeal shall be the Player who is appealing against the decision of the Judiciary pursuant to Rule 1.18 of Schedule 4.
- (b) The Respondent to an Appeal shall be the Junior League, who shall in turn be entitled to be represented in the Appeal by the Judiciary Counsel or another person who meets the requirements set out in Rule 1.13(a).

1.8 Time Limit

- (a) A Player wishing to appeal against a decision of the Judiciary must seek leave to appeal in accordance with Rule 1.18 of Schedule 4 and Rule 1.2 by the deadline in Rule 1.18(a) of Schedule 4.

- (b) An Appeal shall not be regarded as having been commenced within the time limit set out in Rule 1.18(a) of Schedule 4 and Rule 1.2 unless a properly completed Notice of Appeal is served on the Secretary before the expiry of that deadline.

1.9 Leave to Appeal

- (a) The Appellant must seek and obtain the leave of the Chariman in accordance with Rule 1.18 of Schedule 4 and Rule 1.2 before the Appeals Committee hears an Appeal and before any of the pre-hearing procedures set out pursuant to this Code of Procedure.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, the Appeals Committee has no jurisdiction to hear an Appeal or make any ruling in respect of an Appeal unless leave to appeal has first been granted by the Chariman in accordance with Rule 1.18 of Schedule 4 and Rule 1.2.

1.10 Amendment and Withdrawal of Notice of Appeal

- (a) A Notice of Appeal may not be amended by the Appellant after it is submitted.
- (b) At any time prior to the hearing of an Appeal, the Appellant may withdraw the Notice of Appeal by lodging with the Secretary a Notice of Withdrawal of Appeal, whereby the Appeal shall be finally concluded.

1.11 Pre- Hearing Procedures and Parties' Material

- (a) In the event that the Chairman grants a Player leave to appeal a decision of the Judiciary the Chairman shall forthwith notify the Secretary that leave has been granted by the Chairman.
- (b) After receiving notification in accordance with Rule 1.10(a) the Secretary shall forthwith:
 - (1) Provide a copy of the Notice of Appeal to the Respondent; and
 - (2) Call upon the Appellant to provide, within twenty-four (24) hours, the Appellant's Material.
- (c) Unless the Chairman grants leave to the Appellant (such leave to be granted on such terms as the Chairman in his absolute discretion thinks fit in the circumstances), the Appellant shall not be permitted to rely, at the hearing of an Appeal, on any:
 - (1) Documentary or other evidence (apart from oral evidence of a witness whose evidence is outlined in writing in the Appellant's Material); or
 - (2) Contention or argument;that is not contained in the Appellant's Material.
- (d) After receiving the Applicant's Material in accordance with Rule 1.11(b)(2) the Secretary shall:

- (1) Provide a copy of the Notice of Appeal and the Appellant's Material to the Respondent; and
 - (2) Call upon the Respondent to provide, within twenty-four (24) hours, the Respondent's Material.
- (e) Unless the Chairman grants leave to the Respondent (such leave to be granted on such terms as the Chairman in his absolute discretion thinks fit in the circumstances), the Respondent shall not be permitted to rely, at the hearing of an Appeal, on any:
- (1) Documentary or other evidence (apart from oral evidence of a witness whose evidence is outlined in writing in the Respondent's Material); or
 - (2) Contention or argument;
- that is not contained in the Respondent's Material.

1.12 Challenge to Jurisdiction

- (a) Where the Player intends at a Judiciary hearing to challenge:
- (1) The jurisdiction of the Appeals Committee to hear or to deal with the Appeal; and / or
 - (2) The composition of the Appeals Committee; and / or
 - (3) Any other matter which might reasonably take the Appeals Committee by surprise;

then the Player or his representative shall complete a Notice of Challenge and forward it to the Secretary no later than 5.00pm on the day before the hearing of the Appeal. On receipt of a Notice of Challenge the Secretary shall forthwith forward a copy of it to the Respondent.

1.13 Setting Down for Hearing

- (a) Unless otherwise ordered by the Chairman a hearing of an Appeal shall commence at 6.00pm on the day after the expiry of the deadline in Rule 1.10(d)(2) for the Respondent to submit the Respondent's Material.
- (b) Hearings shall:
- (1) Occur in Sydney; and
 - (2) Be closed to members of the public.
- (c) On receipt of the Respondent's Material the Secretary shall:
- (1) Notify the Chairman;
 - (2) Notify the Committee Members;
 - (3) Forward to the Appellant and the Respondent a Notice of Appeal Hearing;

- (4) Collate, index and paginate the Appeal Folder consisting of the:
 - (A) Notice of Appeal;
 - (B) Appellant's Material; and
 - (C) Respondent(s)'s Material;
- (5) Provide a copy of the Appeal Folder to the President, the Committee Members, the Appellant and the Respondent(s); and
- (6) Take whatever other steps which are necessary to convene the hearing of the Appeal by the Appeals Committee.

1.14 Representation of Parties

- (a) Subject to the leave of the Chairman having first been obtained, a party appearing before the Appeals Committee may be represented by a barrister, solicitor, agent or other representative on such terms, if any, as the Chairman in his absolute discretion thinks fit.
- (b) Without limiting Rule 1.14(a) and in accordance with Rule 1.6(b), the Junior League may at the discretion of the Chairman be represented at the Appeal hearing by the Judiciary Counsel.
- (c) If a party issued with a Notice of Appeal Hearing fails to attend the hearing at the time specified in the Notice of Appeal Hearing, the Appeals Committee may proceed to hear and determine the Appeal in the absence of that party.
- (d) In any case where the Appellant and the Respondent(s) agree in writing the Appeals Committee may determine the Appeal on the contents of the Appeal Folder and without an oral hearing.

1.15 Hearing is a Review and Adjournments

- (a) The Appeals Committee shall hear and determine appeals by way of a review.
- (b) A hearing before the Appeals Committee shall not proceed de novo.
- (c) Subject to any order of the Chairman, an Appeal hearing cannot be adjourned to a later date or time.

1.16 Role of President

- (a) In every case, it shall be the Chairman's task to decide every question of law, evidence and / or procedure.
- (b) The Chairman shall in his absolute discretion give such instructions or directions, as he thinks fit, to the Appeals Committee as to matters of law, evidence and / or procedure.
- (c) The Chairman may give whatever directions and make all such orders as he in his absolute discretion deems fit for the conduct, expedition and resolution of matters heard by the Appeals Committee.

1.17 Rules of Evidence and Witnesses

- (a) Hearings before the Appeals Committee are not bound by the rules of evidence usually applicable to proceedings before courts of law.
- (b) The Chairman shall be entitled to disallow the appearance of any witness or the tender of any evidence on the grounds of irrelevance.
- (c) Subject to Rules 1.11(c) and 1.11(e) and subject to any order of the Chairman, a party may present the evidence of a witness by that witness giving evidence:
 - (1) In person at the hearing;
 - (2) Via teleconference; or
 - (3) Via video conference.
- (d) Any documents or things admitted into evidence shall be consecutively marked as exhibits, which exhibits at the conclusion of the hearing shall be placed in the custody of the Secretary for safe keeping.

1.18 Hearing Procedure

Subject to any ruling or order to the contrary made by the Chairman, the procedure of a hearing before the Appeals Committee shall proceed in accordance with the following sequence:

Notice of Challenge

- (a) If the Appellant has served a Notice of Challenge in accordance with Rule 1.12 the Chairman shall invite submissions from the Appellant and then the Respondent(s) in respect of the substance of the Notice of Challenge. If either party requires to adduce evidence in support of an argument in respect of a Notice of Challenge it shall be adduced at the same time.
- (b) The Chairman alone shall make such orders as is necessary to determine the Notice of Challenge.

The Appellant's Case

- (c) The Appellant's case shall be presented in the following sequence:
 - (1) Playing any video footage adduced in evidence before the Judiciary;
 - (2) Adducing any oral evidence from any witness relied on, whereupon the witness:
 - (A) Shall be examined in chief by the Appellant or his representative;
 - (B) May be cross-examined by the Respondent or its representative;

- (C) May be questioned by the Chairman and, with leave granted by the Chairman, by any Committee Member; and
 - (D) May, with leave granted by the Chairman, be re-examined by the Appellant's representative.
- (3) Thereafter the Appellant shall close his case.

The Respondent's Case

- (d) The Respondent's case shall be presented in the following sequence:
- (1) Adducing any oral evidence from any witness relied on, whereupon the witness:
 - (A) Shall be examined in chief by the Respondent's representative;
 - (B) May be cross-examined by the Appellant's representative;
 - (C) May be questioned by the President and, with leave granted by the President, by any Committee Member; and
 - (D) May, with leave granted by the President, be re-examined by the Respondent's representative.
 - (2) Thereafter the Respondent(s) shall close its case.

Addresses

- (e) At the conclusion of the Respondent's case the Appellant may make a closing address to the Appeals Committee, followed by an address by each Respondent.

Directions and Deliberations

- (f) At the conclusion of the closing addresses the Appeals Committee may, but need not, adjourn to consider its decision.

Decisions

- (g) A decision of the Appeals Committee must at least be a decision of the majority of the three (3) members being the Chairman and the two (2) Committee Members.
- (h) Reasons for a decision of the Appeals Committee may, but need not, be given.
- (i) A decision of the Appeals Committee may be given orally by the Chairman or in writing by the Appeals Committee.

Powers of the Appeals Committee

- (j) On the hearing of an Appeal the Appeals Committee may:
 - (1) If the Appeal is in respect of a decision made by the Judiciary as to guilt:
 - (A) Uphold that decision;
 - (B) Vary that decision; or
 - (C) Quash that decision.
 - (2) If the Appeal is in respect of a decision made by the Judiciary as to penalty:
 - (A) Increase the penalty;
 - (B) Decrease the penalty;
 - (C) Vary the penalty; or
 - (D) Affirm the penalty.

Decision Binding

- (k) All decisions of the Appeals Committee shall be final and conclusive, are binding on, and shall be given effect to by the parties to the Appeal.

Appendix 1

Notice of Appeal

TAKE NOTICE that I, **[INSERT NAME OF PLAYER]** (“**Appellant**”), hereby appeal from (seek a review of) the whole / part of the decision made by the Judiciary on **[INSERT DATE]** on the following grounds:

1. **[INSERT]**.
2. **[INSERT]**.
3. **[INSERT]** et cetera.

Appellant:
(Signature)

Date:

Appendix 2

Notice of Withdrawal of Appeal

I, **[INSERT NAME OF APPELLANT]** hereby withdraw my Notice of Appeal dated **[INSERT DATE]**.

**Appellant:
(Signature)**

Date:

Appendix 3

Notice of Challenge

I, **[NAME OF PLAYER]** of, **[CLUB]**, having received a Notice of Appeal Hearing dated **[INSERT DATE]** hereby give you notice that at the hearing of this Appeal I intend to challenge **[INSERT SUFFICIENT PARTICULARS OF THE CHALLENGE SO AS TO ENSURE THAT THE JUDICIARY COUNSEL IS AWARE OF THE NATURE OF THE CHALLENGE TO THE JURISDICTION OR THE COMPOSITION OF THE APPEALS COMMITTEE OR OTHERWISE]**.

Signature:
(Player)

Date:

Appendix 4

Notice of Appeal Hearing

TAKE NOTICE that the Appeal detailed in the Notice of Appeal dated **[INSERT DATE]** has been set down for hearing and determination by the Appeals Committee at the following place and time:

PLACE:

DATE:

TIME:

Signature:
(Secretary)

Date:

Schedule 2
Code of Conduct

Schedule 3

Disciplinary Process

- (a) The Secretary shall investigate or appoint his delegate to investigate any allegation of any breach of the By Laws or Code of Conduct (together the “**Rules**” for the purposes of this Schedule 3) by any person bound by the By Laws.
- (b) If after investigation:
 - (1) The Secretary forms the opinion, in his absolute discretion, that a breach of the Rules has been committed by a person bound by the Code of Conduct; and
 - (2) The Secretary proposes to impose a penalty in relation to that breach;

The Secretary shall issue a breach notice to that person setting out the particulars of the alleged breach and the proposed penalty, and specifying a period of time not less than forty-eight (48) hours during which that person and / or his Club may make written representations to the Secretary in relation to the alleged breach and the proposed penalty.

- (c) After the expiration of the period for written representations specified in Rule (b) and in the breach notice the Secretary may, after considering any written response to the breach notice from the person and the Club:
 - (1) Determine that the breach has occurred and impose the penalty specified in the breach notice;
 - (2) Determine that the breach has occurred and impose a different penalty to the one set out in the breach notice;
 - (3) Determine that the breach has not occurred; or
 - (4) Determine that a different breach than the one set out in the Breach Notice has occurred, in which event he may withdraw that breach notice and forward to the person an amended breach notice pursuant to Rule (b).
- (d) In determining whether to issue a Breach notice pursuant to Rule (b) and impose a penalty pursuant to Rule (c) the Secretary may at his absolute discretion take into account whether the person’s Club has already punished that person for the same conduct constituting a breach of the Rules.
- (e) For the avoidance of any doubt, nothing in this Schedule 3 prevents the Secretary from issuing a breach notice and imposing a penalty for a breach by a person of the Rules where, in relation to the same conduct, the Club has already taken action or imposed a punishment against that person.
- (f) Where the Secretary has determined that a breach of the Rules by a person has occurred and where the Secretary has imposed a penalty

pursuant to Rule (c), he shall forthwith notify the person and the Club of his determination and the imposition of the penalty.

- (g) Any person who is subject of a determination and imposition pursuant to Rule (c) shall, within 48 hours of being given notice of that determination and imposition pursuant to Rule (f), be entitled to provide the Secretary with a written request that the Appeals Committee review the determination and / or imposition.
- (h) Any review by the Appeals Committee must proceed in accordance with the requirements set out in Schedule 1 as to the hearing procedure, but no leave of the Chairman of the Appeals Committee is required in order for an appeal to proceed.
- (i) On the hearing of a review of a determination and / or imposition the Appeals Committee may:
 - (1) Affirm the determination and / or the imposition of the Secretary;
 - (2) Set aside the determination and / or the imposition of the Secretary; or
 - (3) Vary the determination and / or the imposition of the Secretary.
- (j) Any review by the Appeals Committee of a determination or imposition by the Secretary shall not be justiciable and shall be final and conclusive.
- (k) A request for review made pursuant to (g) shall not operate to stay the determination or imposition of the Secretary.
- (l) Where pursuant to Rule (b) the Secretary forms the opinion, in his absolute discretion, that a breach of the Rules has been committed by a person bound by the Rules and where the conduct giving rise to the breach is also the subject of a police investigation or criminal proceeding, the Secretary shall not proceed to issue a breach notice until the conclusion of the police investigation and / or criminal proceeding unless the Secretary forms the view, in his absolute discretion, that it is appropriate to do so.
- (m) The Secretary shall have the power to impose any one or more of the following penalties on a person in relation to a breach of the Code of Conduct:
 - (1) Reprimand; and / or
 - (2) Fine; and / or
 - (3) Suspension; and / or
 - (4) Expulsion / disqualification.

Schedule 4

Judiciary Code of Procedure

1.1 Definitions

The definitions in the By Laws apply in this Judiciary Code of Procedure. Further, for the purposes of this Schedule 4 of the By Laws the following terms shall be ascribed the corresponding meanings:

Appeals and Disputes Committee means the body constituted pursuant to the provisions of **Schedule 1** of the By Laws.

Charge means the offence particularised in the Notice of Charge.

Judiciary means the Junior League Judiciary constituted in accordance with **Rule 1.5**, comprising the Judiciary Chairman and the Judiciary Panel.

Judiciary Chairman means the person appointed to that role pursuant to **Rule 1.5**.

Judiciary Code of Procedure means this **Schedule 4** of the By Laws.

Judiciary Counsel means the person appointed to that role pursuant to **Rule 1.3**.

Judiciary Panel means the panel of two (2) Judiciary Panel Members empanelled for a Judiciary hearing pursuant to **Rule 1.8(a)(2)**.

Judiciary Panel Pool means the persons appointed to that role pursuant to **Rule 1.5**.

Judiciary Panel Member means a person in the Judiciary Panel Pool appointed to that role pursuant to Rule 1.5 empanelled on a Judiciary Panel in accordance with Rule 1.8(a)(2).

Match Official's Incident Report means a report in the form of that which is prescribed at **Appendix 1 to this Schedule 4** which is completed by a Match Official in accordance with **Rule 1.7**.

Match Review Committee means the body established pursuant to **Rule 1.4**.

Match Review Committee Chairman means the Match Reviewer appointed to that role pursuant to **Rule 1.4**.

Match Reviewer means the persons appointed to that role pursuant to **Rule 1.4**.

Notice of Challenge means a notice in the form set out in **Appendix 3 to this Schedule 4** specifying all relevant particulars of a challenge by a Player to the jurisdiction and / or composition of the Judiciary submitted in accordance with **Rule 1.9**.

Notice of Charge means a notice in the form set out in **Appendix 4 to this Schedule 4** specifying all relevant particulars of a Charge which is issued pursuant to **Rule 1.7** by the Match Review Committee to a charged Player.

Notice of Hearing means a notice in the form set out in **Appendix 5 to this Schedule 4** specifying all relevant particulars of a Judiciary hearing which is issued pursuant to **Rule 1.8** by the Secretary to a charged Player, the Judiciary Counsel and any other person required by this Judiciary Code of Procedure to receive such notice.

Notice of Plea means a notice in the form set out in **Appendix 6 to this Schedule 4** specifying in accordance with **Rule 1.7** how a Player shall plead in response to a Charge particularised in a Notice of Charge.

offence means an act or omission in a Match which is sufficient to give rise to the Match Review Committee issuing a Notice of Charge against the Player. A schedule of offences is set out at **Appendix 2 to this Schedule 4**.

Chairman means the Chairman of the Appeals and Disputes Committee.

Referee means the referee of a Match.

Secretary means the person appointed to that role pursuant to **Rule 1.5(e)**.

1.2 For the Junior League:

- (a) The Judiciary Code of Procedure shall apply to and shall govern all procedure and proceedings involving a Player in respect of conduct constituting an offence and a Charge.
- (b) For the avoidance of any doubt the provisions of this Judiciary Code of Procedure shall be in full force and effect for each Match played in the Junior League and any Junior League Competition.

1.3 **Judiciary Counsel**

- (a) The Secretary shall appoint a person to act as Judiciary Counsel.
- (b) The Judiciary Counsel shall be a person who is appropriately qualified to fulfil the functions of the position.
- (c) The role of the Judiciary Counsel shall be to, where a Charge proceeds to a hearing before Judiciary:
 - (1) Appear at that hearing and present evidence relied upon in support of the Charge;
 - (2) Test the Player's case; and
 - (3) Address and make submissions to the Judiciary.
- (d) The Judiciary Counsel shall at all times in the discharge of his functions and responsibilities:
 - (1) Act independently, impartially and fairly; and
 - (2) Be aware of and proceed with due respect for the necessity to preserve the independence of the Judiciary.

1.4 **The Match Review Committee and Match Review Committee**

- (a) The Secretary shall appoint three (3) persons to serve as Match Reviewers on the Match Review Committee. The Secretary shall appoint one (1) of the Match Reviewers as the Match Review Committee Chairman. A Match Reviewer shall:
 - (1) Be a former rugby league player or referee;
 - (2) Not be a Player; and
 - (3) Not be a coach or a member of the coaching staff of any Club.
- (b) The Match Review Committee shall, as directed by the Match Review Committee Chairman, review video footage and other evidence derived from or in connection with Matches for the purposes of examining and considering any conduct by any Player in any Match which may constitute an offence.
- (c) Further to Rule 1.4(b), the Match Review Committee shall review and consider Match Officials Incident Reports and requests received from Clubs in accordance with Rule 1.7(b).

1.5 **The Judiciary**

- (a) The Judiciary shall be constituted by the Judiciary Chairman and two (2) Judiciary Panel Members empanelled from the Judiciary Panel Pool in accordance with Rule 1.8(a)(2).
- (b) The Secretary shall appoint the Chairman. It is recommended that the Judiciary Chairman shall be a person who is a practising solicitor or barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales but not restricted to.
- (c) The Secretary shall appoint the members of the Judiciary Panel Pool. The Secretary may appoint more than two (2) persons as members of the Judiciary Panel Pool, and if this is the case the composition of the Judiciary Panel to hear any particular case brought before the Judiciary shall be selected by the Secretary from the Judiciary Panel Pool in accordance with Rule 1.8(a)(2).
- (d) A Judiciary Panel Member shall be a former rugby league player.
- (e) The Secretary of the Judiciary shall be the Secretary of the Junior League or his delegate, whose role it shall be to perform all procedural and administrative tasks so as to ensure the fair, impartial and efficient conduct of the business of the Judiciary.

1.6 **Offences**

For the purposes of this Judiciary Code of Procedure, an offence is constituted by any instance of conduct, acts or omissions of the nature set forth and described in Appendix 2 to this Judiciary Code of Procedure.

1.7 Match Review

- (a) Where, during a Match, any conduct of a Player which may constitute an offence is observed or otherwise comes to the attention of a Match Official who officiated in that Match, and where that conduct, in the opinion of that Match Official, warrants consideration by the Match Review Committee, then:
 - (1) In the case of a Match Official other than the Referee, that Match Official shall, immediately after the conclusion of the Match, complete a Match Official's Incident Report specifying all of the particulars required in that Report, and then provide that Report to the Referee; and
 - (2) In the case of the Referee, he shall complete a Match Official's Incident Report specifying all of the particulars required in that Report and then he shall forward that Report, together with any other Match Official's Incident Reports, to the Match Review Committee so that the Match Review Committee receives those Reports no later than 9.00am on the first business day after the Match.
- (b) Further to Rule 1.7(a), where, in the opinion of a Club which played in a Match, conduct of a Player during that Match warrants consideration by the Match Review Committee, the Club may forward a written request for review to the Match Review Committee specifying all relevant particulars of the subject conduct so as to enable the Match Review Committee to identify that conduct.
- (c) Any such written request for review must be received by the Match Review Committee before 9.00am on the first business day after the Match and must be signed by the Secretary of the Club making the request.
- (d) At 9.00am on the first business day after every Match the Match Review Committee shall meet to review the video footage of the Match as well as any other evidence and any Match Official's Incident Reports and / or requests for review made in accordance with Rule 1.7(b).
- (e) It is the role of the Match Review Committee to review all reasonably available evidence irrespective of whether or not any Match Official's Incident Reports and / or requests for review made in accordance with Rule 1.7(b) are submitted to the Match Review Committee.
- (f) After considering all of the evidence referred to at Rule 1.7(e), the Match Review Committee may authorise, by at least a majority vote of the Match Review Committee members, the Match Review Committee to issue a Charge against a Player for an offence.
- (g) In the event that the Match Review Committee is so authorised he shall cause a Notice of Charge to be issued to the Player and copied to the Secretary by 5.00pm on the first business day after the Match.
- (h) The Notice of Charge shall include notice from the Match Review Committee as authorised by the Match Review Committee as to the penalty which he will recommend that the Judiciary impose should the

Player be found guilty of the Charge particularised in the Notice of Charge.

- (i) A Player issued with a Notice of Charge must by 9.00am on the third business day after the Match provide to the Secretary a Notice of Plea.
- (j) The Notice of Plea shall specify whether the Player:
 - (1) Pleads guilty to the Charge specified in the Notice of Charge and accepts the imposition of the recommended penalty specified in the Notice of Charge by the Match Review Committee; or
 - (2) Pleads guilty to the Charge however challenges the imposition of the penalty proposed by the Match Review Committee in the Notice of Charge; or
 - (3) Pleads not guilty to the Charge specified in the Notice of Charge.
- (k) In the event that the Player:
 - (1) **Enters a plea in accordance with Rule 1.7(j)(1):** The Secretary shall ask the Judiciary Chairman to make orders consistent with those specified by the Match Review Committee in accordance with Rule 1.7(f).
 - (2) **Enters a plea in accordance with Rule 1.7(j)(2):** The Secretary shall issue a Notice of Hearing in accordance with Rule 1.8, such hearing to be conducted in accordance with Rule 1.17(g).
 - (3) **Enters a plea in accordance with Rule 1.7(j)(3):** The Secretary shall issue a Notice of Hearing in accordance with Rule 1.8, such hearing to be conducted in accordance with Rule 1.17.
- (l) In the event that a Player issued with a Notice of Charge fails to enter a Notice of Plea in strict compliance with Rule 1.7(i) then immediately after the expiry of the deadline stipulated in 1.7(i) that Player will be deemed to have entered a Notice of Plea in accordance with Rule 1.7(j)(1).

1.8 Hearings

- (a) Where the Secretary receives a Notice of Plea pursuant to Rules 1.7(k)(2) or 1.7(k)(3) the Secretary shall promptly:
 - (1) Notify the Judiciary Chairman;
 - (2) Empanel the Judiciary Panel by selecting two (2) Judiciary Panel Members from the Judiciary Panel Pool;
 - (3) Issue a Notice of Hearing to the Player and the Secretary;
 - (4) Notify the Judiciary Counsel by providing him with a copy of the Notice of Hearing;
 - (5) Take whatever other steps which are necessary to convene the Judiciary.

- (b) Where a Notice of Charge is set down for hearing, the Match Review Committee shall ensure that the Judiciary Counsel is forthwith provided with:
 - (1) Copies of all Match Official's Incident Reports and Notices relating to the hearing;
 - (2) Copies of all evidence required to support the case, including copies of all video footage of the incident which was available for review by the Match Review Committee and all statements given by witnesses;
 - (3) The Player's career disciplinary history (to the extent available);
 - (1) Any expert reports obtained by or on behalf of the Match Review Committee in support of the Judiciary Counsel's case; and
 - (2) The Player's record of previous convictions for on-field offences in respect of Matches played in the World Cup.
- (c) The Match Review Committee shall ensure that the Player is supplied with copies of all evidence which the Judiciary Counsel may rely on at the hearing before the Judiciary.

1.9 Preliminary Matters

Challenge to Jurisdiction and / or Composition of the Judiciary

- (a) Where the Player intends at a Judiciary hearing to challenge:
 - (1) The jurisdiction of the Judiciary to deal with the Player and / or the Charge;
 - (2) The composition of the Judiciary empanelled to deal with the Player and / or the Charge; or
 - (3) Any other matter which might reasonably take the Judiciary by surprise;

then the Player or his representative shall complete a Notice of Challenge and forward it to the Secretary no later than 9.00am on the day of hearing. On receipt of a Notice of Challenge the Secretary shall forthwith forward a copy of it to the Judiciary Counsel.

- (b) A hearing before the Judiciary shall commence at 6.00pm on the Wednesday after the Match to which the hearing relates. However, on the application of either of the parties the Judiciary Chairman may, in his discretion, make further or other orders in respect of the date and time for a Judiciary hearing. Without limitation and for the avoidance of doubt:
 - (1) Such orders may be made by the Judiciary Chairman in circumstances where a Player or his Team would or might be disadvantaged if a Judiciary hearing was scheduled at the date and time presumed in this Rule 1.9(b).
 - (2) Any Judiciary hearing in respect of a Player's conduct in a Match must be held and concluded before the next Match that the

Player is eligible to play in but for any penalty which may be imposed by the Judiciary.

- (c) Judiciary hearings shall occur in Sydney.

1.10 Representation

Subject to the leave of the Judiciary Chairman having first been obtained, a Player appearing before the Judiciary may be represented by a barrister, solicitor, agent or other representative on such terms, if any, as the Judiciary Chairman in his absolute discretion thinks fit.

1.11 Attendance at Hearings

- (a) A Player served with a Notice of Charge and a Notice of Hearing shall attend the Judiciary hearing at the time and place specified in the Notice of Hearing.
- (b) If a Player is unable to attend the Judiciary hearing in person, he must inform the Secretary of this fact no later than 5.00pm on the day before the hearing date specified in the Notice of Hearing. If the Player so advises the Secretary of his inability to attend the hearing in person his evidence may be taken by alternate means such as video conference or teleconference.
- (c) If a Player issued with a Notice of Charge and a Notice of Hearing fails to attend the Judiciary hearing at the time specified in the Notice of Hearing, the Judiciary may proceed to hear and determine the Charge and penalty in the absence of the Player.
- (d) Subject to Rule 1.16(d), any witness which a party intends to call in evidence before the Judiciary shall wait outside the hearing room until such time as that person is called to give evidence.
- (e) Judiciary hearings shall be closed to members of the public.

1.12 Decision Final

All decisions of the Judiciary shall be final, binding and conclusive subject to any leave to appeal granted by the Chairman in accordance with Rule 1.18.

1.13 Onus of Proof

In every case, the Judiciary Counsel bears the onus of proof on the balance of probabilities.

1.14 Role of the Judiciary Chairman

- (a) In every case, it shall be the Judiciary Chairman's task to decide every question of law, evidence and / or procedure.
- (b) The Judiciary Chairman shall in his absolute discretion give such instructions or directions as he thinks fit to the Judiciary Panel as to matters of law, evidence and / or procedure.

- (c) The Judiciary Chairman may give whatever directions and make all such orders as he in his absolute discretion deems fit for the conduct, expedition and resolution of matters heard by the Judiciary.

1.15 Role of Judiciary Panel Members and Judiciary Chairman Constituting the Judiciary

In every case it is the task of the Judiciary, comprising the Judiciary Panel and the Judiciary Chairman, to decide every question of fact.

1.16 Evidence

- (a) Proceedings before the Judiciary are not bound by the rules of evidence usually applicable to proceedings before courts of law.
- (b) The Judiciary Chairman shall be entitled to disallow the appearance of any witness or the tender of any evidence on the grounds of irrelevance.
- (c) Evidence of a Player's disciplinary history (if any) of convictions for misconduct shall not be admissible as evidence on the issue of guilt.
- (d) Subject to any ruling by the Judiciary Chairman, a party may present the evidence of a witness by that witness giving evidence:
 - (1) In person at the hearing;
 - (2) Via teleconference; or
 - (3) Via video conference.
- (e) Any documents or things admitted into evidence shall be consecutively marked as exhibits, which exhibits at the conclusion of the hearing shall be placed in the custody of the Secretary for safe keeping.

1.17 Procedure at Hearing

The Judiciary Counsel's Case

- (a) Subject to any orders made by the Judiciary Chairman as to the conduct of any hearing, and after the Judiciary Chairman outlines briefly to the parties the procedure of the hearing, the Judiciary Counsel shall present his case to the Judiciary in the following sequence:
 - (1) Playing any video footage considered by the Match Review Committee; then
 - (2) Tendering any Match Official's Incident Reports considered by the Match Review Committee and any expert reports; then
 - (3) Calling each witness whereupon that witness:
 - (A) Shall be examined in chief by the Judiciary Counsel;
 - (B) May be cross-examined by the Player or his representative;

- (C) May be questioned by the Judiciary Chairman and, with leave granted by the Judiciary Chairman, by any Judiciary Panel Member;
 - (D) May, with leave granted by the Judiciary Chairman, be re-examined by the Judiciary Counsel.
- (4) Thereafter the Judiciary Counsel shall close his case.

The Player's Case

- (b) After the close of the Judiciary Counsel's case the Judiciary Chairman shall call upon the Player or his representative to advise whether he wishes to give or call evidence in his defence. If he does wish to present evidence that evidence shall be given in the following sequence by:
- (1) Tendering any expert reports and other documentary evidence; then
 - (2) Calling each witness whereupon that witness:
 - (A) Shall be examined in chief by the Player or his representative;
 - (B) May be cross-examined by the Judiciary Counsel;
 - (C) May be questioned by the Judiciary Chairman and, with leave granted by the Judiciary Chairman, by any Judiciary Panel Member; and
 - (D) May, with leave granted by the Judiciary Chairman, be re-examined by the Player or his representative.
 - (3) Thereafter the Player or his representative shall close the Player's case.

Closing Addresses

- (c) At the conclusion of the Player's case:
- (1) The Judiciary Counsel may make a closing address to the Judiciary Panel; followed by
 - (2) A closing address made by the Player or his representative.
 - (3) Further to Rule 1.17(c)(1), in the event of a Judiciary hearing in respect of a Notice of Plea entered pursuant to Rule 1.7(j)(2) (that is, a plea of guilty which challenges the recommended penalty) the closing address and submissions made by the Judiciary Counsel shall include submissions as to the objective seriousness of the conduct of the Player referred to in the Notice of Charge and any other matter relevant to the issue of penalty.

Directions to the Judiciary Panel

- (d) At the conclusion of the closing addresses the Judiciary Chairman shall address the Judiciary Panel and give whatever directions he deems necessary as to:
- (1) The onus and standard of proof;
 - (2) The elements of the charge;
 - (3) The substantive law;
 - (4) The evidence presented to the Judiciary; and
 - (5) Such other matters which, in his opinion, should properly be brought to the attention of the Judiciary Panel.

Deliberations and Verdict

- (e) After the Judiciary Chairman has given directions to the Judiciary Panel the Judiciary shall retire to deliberate and decide on their verdict. In respect of the deliberations and the decision of the Judiciary Panel as to guilt:
- (1) The verdict of the Judiciary must be at least a verdict of the majority of the Judiciary Chairman and the Judiciary Panel Members.
 - (2) The Judiciary must immediately return to the hearing room upon reaching a verdict. Once the Judiciary returns to the hearing room the Judiciary Chairman shall act as spokesman and state whether the Judiciary has found the player guilty or not guilty of the Charge.
 - (3) Unless ordered otherwise by the Judiciary Chairman, the Judiciary shall not give reasons for their decision.
 - (4) If the Judiciary finds the Player not guilty of the Charge the proceedings are thereby concluded.

Penalty

- (f) If the Judiciary finds the Player guilty of the Charge or if the Player enters a Notice of Plea pursuant to Rule 1.7(k)(2), it is the function of the Judiciary to determine the penalty to be imposed. A penalty may be imposed in the form of:
- (1) A suspension from:
 - (A) A specified number of Matches; and / or
 - (B) Such other penalty as to the Judiciary Panel appears just in the circumstances.

For the avoidance of doubt, in respect of any penalty in the form of a suspension, that suspension must be expressed by the Judiciary in terms of a specified number of Matches.

- (g) The procedure to be followed by the Judiciary to determine the penalty to be imposed on the Player shall generally be in accordance with the procedure set out at Rules 1.17(a) to (d) (both inclusive) with such modifications and / or adaptations as the Judiciary Chairman thinks fit in the circumstances.
- (h) Further to Rule 1.17(g) and for the avoidance of any doubt, the Judiciary shall decide on penalty at the hearing and not at any later date. The Judiciary Chairman shall afford the Player an opportunity to address the Judiciary Panel on the question of penalty.
- (i) Any penalty ordered by the Judiciary which comprises in whole or in part a suspension from playing Matches shall be specified in terms of how many Matches and / or matches that Player is suspended from playing in.

1.18 **Leave to Appeal**

- (a) A Player aggrieved by a decision of the Judiciary may appeal therefrom, by 5.00pm on the day after the hearing before the Judiciary, to the Appeals and Disputes Committee on one or more of the following grounds:
 - (3) With respect to the issue of guilt:
 - (A) That there was an error of law; or
 - (B) That the decision was unreasonable or insupportable having regard to the evidence presented to the Judiciary in the hearing; or
 - (4) With respect to the issue of penalty: that the penalty imposed by the Judiciary was manifestly excessive.
- (b) A Player who wishes to appeal from a decision of the Judiciary must first obtain leave to do so from the Chairman.
- (c) The Chairman shall not grant leave for the Player to appeal unless he forms the view in his absolute discretion that the Player has good prospects of success on the hearing of that appeal.
- (d) The Judiciary Counsel has a right to be heard by the Chairman on any application for leave to appeal made by a Player pursuant to Rule 1.18 before the Chairman grants a Player leave to appeal.
- (e) Unless otherwise ordered by the Chairman, neither an application for leave to appeal nor an appeal by a Player to the Appeals and Disputes Committee shall operate as a stay of the decision of the Judiciary which is the subject of the appeal or the application for leave to appeal.

Appendix 1

Match Official's Incident Report

Player's Name:

Country:

Versus:

Match Venue:

Date:

Period of Match when incident occurred:

Full details of incident:
(please annex additional pages if necessary)

Was the Player dismissed?

Were other Players dismissed?

If other Player were dismissed, who were they?

Was an opposition Player injured in the incident?
(if so, please detail injuries sustained)

Signed:
(Match Official)

Date:

Appendix 2

OFFENCES

[to be completed]

Appendix 3

Notice of Challenge

I, **[NAME OF PLAYER]** of, **[CLUB]**, having received a Notice of Charge dated **[INSERT DATE]** and a Notice of Hearing dated **[INSERT DATE]** alleging the Charge of **[INSERT SHORT PARTICULARS OF CHARGE]** hereby give you notice that at the hearing of this Charge I intend to challenge **[INSERT SUFFICIENT PARTICULARS OF THE CHALLENGE SO AS TO ENSURE THAT THE JUDICIARY COUNSEL IS AWARE OF THE NATURE OF THE CHALLENGE TO THE JURISDICTION OR THE COMPOSITION OF THE JUDICIARY OR OTHERWISE]**.

Signature:
(Player)

Date:

Appendix 4

Notice of Charge

TAKE NOTICE that you are hereby charged with the following offence arising out of an incident which occurred on **[INSERT DATE]** during a Match between **[CLUB]** and **[OPPOSITION CLUB]** at **[INSERT NAME OF VENUE]**:

Offence:

Particulars:

Recommended Penalty (Rule 1.7(f)):

Signature:

Date:

Appendix 5

Notice of Hearing

TAKE NOTICE that the Charge alleged in a Notice of Charge dated **[INSERT DATE]** and / or the penalty stipulated in the Notice of Charge **[DELETE AS APPROPRIATE]** has been set down for hearing and determination by the Judiciary at the following place and time:

PLACE:

DATE:

TIME:

COMPOSITION OF JUDICIARY:

1. Judiciary Chairman: **[NAME]**
2. Judiciary Panel Members:
 - a) **[NAME]**
 - b) **[NAME]**

Signature:
(Secretary)

Date:

Appendix 6

Notice of Plea

I, **[INSERT NAME OF PLAYER]** of **[CLUB]** having received the Notice of Charge dated **[INSERT DATE]** alleging the offence of **[INSERT SHORT PARTICULARS OF CHARGE]** hereby give notice that I elect to:

1. Plead guilty to the Charge.
 2. Plead not guilty to the Charge.
 3. Plead guilty to the Charge but contest the penalty sought by the Secretary stipulated in the Notice of Charge.
- (delete whichever is inapplicable).

Signature:

(Player)

Date: