







Welcome everyone to the 2022 Season at St Marys Rugby League Club.

This registration handbook will provide all players, parents, coaches and officials with some simple rules that will assist in delivering a safe and positive environment to play our great game.

I would also like to welcome the new players and families who have joined St Marys Rugby League this season. We hope that you enjoy being a part of our wonderful Club.

Also, a warm welcome back to our returning players and families for the 2022 season.

Thank you to all the Coaches and Team Officials who will volunteer their time to support the St Marys Rugby League Club.

so please don't hesitate to help where you can.

Look forward to another successful year ahead for the Mighty Saints.

Finally, we hope that you enjoy your involvement with St Marys Rugby League Club and most of all, that our children enjoy playing the great game of Rugby League.

Regards,

Peter Bowler St Marys Junior League President



St Marys JRL Officials Contact Information



JL PRESIDENT: Peter Bowler 0417 788 522

JL SECRETARY: Janelle Borg 0419 746 875

ADDRESS: Cnr Forrester & Boronia Roads,

St Marys NSW 2760

WEBSITE: www.stmarysleagues.com.au

St Marys Junior Rugby League Office

RUGBY LEAGUE ADMINISTRATOR

Dannielle Black: 0437 304 003 dblack@saintsrl.com.au

FOOTBALL MANAGER

Adam Przybyla: 0407 847 312 aprzybyla@saintsrl.com.au

St Marys Rugby League Office

Monday - Friday

9am-5pm

Location: Next to St Marys Leagues Stadium



Codes of Conduct & Good Behaviour Rules

St Marys Rugby League Club welcomes all players, coaches, trainers, managers, officials, supporters and parents to the 2022 Season. This Registration Handbook contains very important information in relation to codes of conduct and standards of behaviour expected by those involved in our club. It is critical that everyone understands, accepts, and is committed to those standards and the culture of St Marys Rugby League Club.

By respecting the Codes of Conduct and Good Behaviour Rules you will greatly assist in the participation and enjoyment of all involved in the greatest game in the world. The safety and wellbeing of players and all those associated with our Club is paramount and the Codes of Conduct and Good Behaviour Rules form the basis of ensuring that.

Zero Tolerance

St Marys Rugby League Club has adopted and is committed to a Zero tolerance policy in relation to breaches of the Codes of Conduct, Good Behaviour Rules and poor behaviour. Please read, support and encourage what the Club is trying to achieve for the betterment of all.

Parents, Players, Officials or others found to be in breach of the Codes of Conduct & Good Behaviour Rules or who behave in a way that St Marys Rugby League Club deems to be inappropriate will face disciplinary action.

The disciplinary action may result in you being suspended from attending junior rugby league games, your membership of St Marys Rugby League Club suspended and / or the cancelling of your child's registration.

DATES TO REMEMBER



Friday 25th March 2022 2nd U5-U20 Gear Collection Day

Saturday 2ND April 2022PJRL Round 1

Sunday 3RD April 2022PJRL Round 1

Monday 23rd May 2022 Team Photos

Tuesday 24th May 2022Team Photos

Wednesday 25th May 2022 Team Photos



Penrith Junior League Code of Conduct



- 1. Be a good sport. Control your temper. Do not abuse, yell at, sledge, harass or ridicule others. Do not use foul, threatening or insulting language.
- 2. Condemn the use of violence in any form. Do not bully or take advantage of others. Treat everyone as you would like to be treated yourself.
- 3. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants, regardless of their sex, ability, cultural background or religion. Never make racist threats or remarks.
- 4. Display respect, control and professionalism at all times to your opposition, your team, your club, the referee and everyone involved in the game.
- 5. Abide by the rules. Never argue with the referee. Respect decisions made by officials and encourage others to do the same.
- 6. Focus on the game and everyone's involvement and performance rather than winning or losing. Win or lose with respect and dignity.
- 7. Show compassion and consideration at all times, to injured and ill players and other persons. Do everything you can to help and support them.
- 8. Strive for continual improvement by everyone in your club and the Junior League. Keep up to date with the latest rule changes and techniques.
- 9. Co-operate and support all efforts to provide quality leadership, supervision, coaching and protection for your children and all participants.





<u>Spectator / Parent</u> <u>Code of Conduct</u>

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

"As a parent, lead by example, promote good sportsmanship and be a positive role model for your children."







Unauthorised Entry to the Sporting Field:

All supporters and spectators, particularly parents and family members are advised that should they make any unauthorised entry inside the spectator fence or ropes and / or commit a serious breach of the codes of conduct, the registration of the offender's child may be cancelled, preventing the child from taking any further part in the junior league competition.

Referees:

The referees and touch judges are important and vital components of junior rugby league and without them there would not be a game. Young referees are no different to young players. They too are learning the game, improving their skills and doing their best to perform as well as they can. Players, team officials and supporters are required to show tolerance and respect to the referees and touch judges.

It is against the rules for any player, team official or other person to approach a referee during or after the game to seek explanation about any ruling or decision made by the referee.

Breaches of this rule have serious consequences for the Club and the persons involved. Breaches of this rule may result in a fine, suspension, loss of competition points and any other penalty deemed appropriate by the Penrith District Junior Rugby League and / or the club.





Stamp Out Sport Rage Tips for Parents:

Parents can help create a positive sporting environment and reduce sport rage by being good role models. To do this:

- Encourage Fair Play
- Cheer and acknowledge good plays by both teams.
- Thank the official, coach and other team after the game.
- Respect Officials, Coaches and Opponents
- Accept decisions by officials they are human and can make mistakes.
- Deal with issues in a controlled and professional manner after the game.
- Keep your emotions in check
- Be enthusiastic, but don't scream instructions from the sideline.
- Don't get into shouting matches with anyone.
- Never use bad language or harass others.
- Understand, uphold and support the St Marys Rugby League Club codes of conduct.
- Help Kids Enjoy Sport
- Emphasise trying hard and having fun, not only winning.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake.

"Children learn best by example"



Anti-harassment, Discrimination & Bullying

St Marys Rugby League Club opposes all forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying. This includes treating or proposing to treat someone less favourably because of a particular characteristic; imposing or intending to impose an unreasonable requirement, condition or practice which has an unequal or disproportionate effect on people with a particular characteristic; or any behaviour that is offensive, abusive, belittling, intimidating or threatening – whether this is face-to-face, indirectly or via communication technologies such as mobile phone and social media. Some forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying are against the law and are based on particular characteristics such as age, disability, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy, political or religious beliefs, race, and marital status.

St Marys Rugby League Club takes all claims of harassment, discrimination, bullying and cyber bullying seriously. We encourage anyone who believes they have been harassed, discriminated against or bullied to raise the issue with the Rugby League Manager.

St Marys Rugby League is welcoming and we will seek to include members from all areas of our community.

People with a disability

Where possible we will include people with a disability in our teams and club.

• People from diverse cultures

We will support and respect people from diverse cultures and religions to participate in our club.

Sexual & Gender Identity

All people, regardless of their sexuality, are welcome at our club. We strive to provide a safe environment for participation and will take action over any homophobic behaviour.

Girls playing in boys teams

If there is not a separate sex competition, our club will support girls playing in boys teams up until the age of 12 years.

Guidelines for Social Media



These guidelines apply to all St Marys Junior Rugby League Club Players, Committee Persons, Officials, Volunteers and Parents who create or contribute to blogs, wikis, social networks, virtual worlds, or any other kind of Social Media. Whether you log into Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat or Myspace pages, or comment on online media stories - these guidelines are for you.

We expect everyone who participates in online commentary to understand and to follow these simple but important guidelines. These rules might sound strict but please keep in mind that our goal is simple: to participate online in a respectful way that protects and promotes all St Marys Junior Rugby League Club participants, the Club's reputation and of course follows the letter and spirit of the law.

- Postings should be family friendly and feature positive news.
 Do not post information in any format that may harm the reputation of any person or the reputation of St Marys Junior Rugby League Club.
- Never use a public forum or social media outlet to criticise another participant. Abusive, discriminatory, intimidating, or offensive statements will not be tolerated, and any such communication or online content should be reported to the Rugby League Manager immediately.
- Watch your language avoid swear words and profanity and remember that your sense of humour may not be shared by others. You should not make comments based on religion, politics, sex, sexuality or racial issues.
- Remember that your comments can be seen by many and a comment is not easy to erase once you commit to making it public. It is important to note those persons who publish false or misleading comments about another person in the public domain maybe liable for defamation.
- When disagreeing with the opinion of others keep it appropriate and polite.

Guidelines for Social Media



- It is inappropriate for adult officials to communicate on a one on one basis with players under the age of 18 years via social media outlets.
- Adult officials should not have players under the age of 18
 years as their "friends" on social networking sites when the
 primary reason for the relationship is rugby league and they
 have a position of trust in relation to that young person.
- Officials should carefully consider what they post as some comments can be seen by friends of friends. This also applies to comments left on other people's pages and the sharing of photographs. Consider your position as a role model in this area.
- In the event of a player under the age of 18 years showing an official a text, instant message, image, email or posting that is considered being inappropriate for a child to have, the official must inform the appropriate person whether that be the Club or Guardian of the minor.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Be smart about protecting yourself and your privacy. What you publish is widely accessible and will be around for a long time, so consider the content carefully. Google and Microsoft have long memories!
- SMJRLC participants who send inappropriate electronic communication or post inappropriate online content or comments regarding another St Marys Junior Rugby League Club participant or any third party will be subject to disciplinary action by the Junior League Executive and the St Marys Rugby League Club Board of Directors.





What happens to people who break the rules?

The Junior League Executive are responsible for dealing with any complaints and / or breaches to the Codes of Conduct and Good Behaviour Rules. They are authorised to take evidence and adjudicate upon any complaint of misconduct considered detrimental to the policies, interests and welfare of any person involved in our junior league.

The Club will handle complaints regarding both on and off field behaviour based on the principles of procedural fairness, that is:

- all complaints will be taken seriously;
- Both the person making the complaint and the person that the complaint is made against will be given full details of what is being said and have the opportunity to respond.
- Decisions will be unbiased and fair.

All complaints must be made in writing and should be addressed to the Rugby League Administrator. The Rugby League Administrator will:

- listen carefully and ask questions to understand the nature and extent of the problem;
- explain the different options available to help resolve the problem.

Where appropriate and necessary the RLA, RLM & Junior League Executive will facilitate the resolution process. This may involve:

- encouraging the person making the complaint to talk to the person being complained about.
- bringing all those concerned together to talk objectively through the problem.
- gathering more information (witnesses)
- seeking advice from the Penrith & Districts Junior League.
- Referring the complainant to an external agency such as a communication mediation centre, police or antidiscrimination agency.

It is important to note that any person deemed guilty of breaching the Code and Rules will be required to attend a disciplinary hearing. Failure to attend a disciplinary hearing may result in the matter being heard and dealt with in the absence of the accused. More serious complaints / breaches may be escalated to the Board of Directors and / or the Penrith & Districts Junior League.

What happens to people who break the rules?



Certain breaches will result in the registration of a child being cancelled. They may also result in a member of the licensed Club being cited to appear before the Board of Directors and their membership being suspended.

Any complaints relating to suspected child abuse, sexual assault or other criminal activity will be reported to the police and / or relevant government authority.

New Working with Children Check

It is a prerequisite for anyone involved in child related work such as St Marys Junior League, whether paid or otherwise to undergo a "A Working with Children Check". It involves a national criminal history check and review of findings of workplace misconduct.

These guidelines apply to all St Marys Junior Rugby League Club Executives, Committee, Coaches, Managers, Trainers and Officials.

The result of a Working with Children Check is either a clearance to work with children for five years, or a bar against working with children.

Cleared applicants are subject to ongoing monitoring, and relevant new records may lead to the clearance being revoked.

The Check is fully portable which means it can be used for any paid or unpaid child-related work in NSW for as long as the worker remains cleared.





NRL Head Injuries Policy Statement



- 1. Any head injury that results in signs or symptoms of brain trauma (no matter how minor) must be treated as serious until proven otherwise.
- 2. Great care is needed in the initial management, especially if any degree of concussion or decreased level of consciousness is evident.
- 3. All unconscious players must be managed by the attending NRL Sports Trainer and an ambulance called immediately.
- 4. The possibility of spinal injury must be considered with any head injury.
- 5. The player must be referred to a doctor for medical evaluation. The doctor should have a history or know the players previous health status regarding head injury.
- 6. Under no circumstances should the player be allowed to continue playing or return to play during the same game. This will eliminate any potential "second hit syndrome".
- 7. A Certificate must be obtained from a doctor before the player resumes training or playing. The Certificate should nominate that the player is being cleared of a "head injury".
- 8. The initial assessment and management must be carried out by the accredited NRL Sports Trainer in attendance at the game venue, following the protocols of the NRL Sports Trainers Scheme.
- 9. Any return to activity / playing must follow the gradual, symptom free process outlined in the NRL Head Injury Notification brochure.

Head Injury Notification

If a player sustains an injury to the head and does not show signs or symptoms of a concussion immediately, it is advisable to give this form to the player's parents, relative(s) or any other person who will be with this player for at least the next 24 hours. After a direct or indirect blow to the head, the player should stop participation, be evaluated by a medical professional and is not permitted to return to rugby league the same day, if concussion is suspected.