St Marys Junior Rugby League Registration Policy Handbook





JUNIOR LEAGUE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome everyone to St Marys Rugby League Club, home of the mighty SAINTS!

Whether you're returning this season or new to the St Marys Rugby League Club family, we want you to know that we are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all participants, especially children and young people.

This handbook outlines some simple rules and guidelines to support our commitment. It is important that you read the handbook and understand what is expected of players, parents, volunteers and officials. More detailed copies of our policies, including Child Safety and Equitable Access can be found at

https://juniors.stmarysleagues.com.au

Should you have any questions or comments regarding the contents of this handbook, or concerns regarding the behaviour of a parent, participant, volunteer or official, please contact our Rugby League Executive.

We look forward to another successful year ahead for the Mighty Saints and hope that you enjoy your involvement with St Marys Rugby League Club, and of course the great game of rugby league.

Lastly, special thank you to our officials, coaches and volunteers who aid in supporting over 1,000 St Marys Rugby League Club players and 58 rugby league teams throughout the year.

Regards

Peter Bowler

St Marys Junior Rugby League President



CONTACT INFORMATION

Our Rugby League office is located next to St Marys Leagues Stadium at the Cnr Forrester & Boronia Roads, St Marys NSW 2760.

The office is open Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm.

ST MARYS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE EXECUTIVE

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

Rugby League Community & Development Manager Geoff Daniela: 0472 802 449 gdaniela@saintsrl.com.au

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

Junior League President Peter Bowler 0417 788 522

Junior League Secretary Janelle Borg 0419 746 875

ON-LINE COMMUNICATIONS

WEBSITE:https://juniors.stmarysleagues.com.auFACEBOOK:St Marys Saints Junior Rugby League ClubINSTAGRAM:stmarysjrlc



DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday 6th April 2024 PJRL Round 1

Sunday 7th April 2024 PJRL Round 1

Monday 20th May 2024 Team Photos

Tuesday 21st May 2024 Team Photos

Wednesday 22nd May 2024 Team Photos



Codes of Conduct & Good Behaviour Rules

St Marys Rugby League Club welcomes all players, coaches, trainers, managers, officials, supporters and parents to the 2024 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.

Certain breaches will result in the registration of a child being cancelled. Breaches may also result in a person being suspended from attending the Club's licensed premises and / or rugby league grounds.

Any complaints regarding suspected child abuse, sexual assault or other criminal activity will be reported to the Police and / or relevant Government authority.



Reporting Breaches to the Codes of Conduct, Club Policies & Guidelines

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.

Any complaints must be addressed to the Rugby League Executive either in writing, face to face or via phone. The Executive 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 Rugby 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 & District Junior League.
- Referring the complainant to an external agency such as a communication mediation centre, police or anti-discrimination agency.

It is important to note that any person deemed guilty of breaching the Club's Codes, Guidelines or 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 & District Junior League.

Safeguarding Children & Young People

All persons involved in our rugby league activities are required to report any child safety concerns including:

- Disclosure of abuse or harm
- Allegation, suspicion or observation
- Breach of a Code of Behaviour
- Safety issues relating to the physical environment

Examples of scenarios which may be signs of Child Abuse or Neglect:

- Distrust or wariness of adults;
- Extreme behaviour aggressive, submission, anxious, distressed;
- Low self-esteem, being withdrawn or having difficulty relating to adults or other children;
- Being overly obedient and trying hard to please;
- Difficulty concentrating;
- Excessive rocking, humming, sucking or biting;
- Bedwetting, frequent nightmares or sleeping difficulties (seeming tired and falling asleep at unusual times);
- Seeming to be accident prone or having unexplained bruises or injuries at different stages of healing;
- Explanations for injuries that are unbelievable, vague or don't align with the type of injury;
- Alcohol or drug abuse;
- Suicidal tendencies;
- Not wanting to go home (or somewhere else)
- Creating stories or artwork about abuse; and
- Inappropriate sexual knowledge or behaviour for the age and development of the child.

Incidents should be reported to a member the St Marys Junior Rugby League Executive (Rugby League Manager, Rugby League Administrator, Community & Development Manager, Jnr League President or Jnr League Secretary). Incidents can be reported face to face, via email, telephone, or written correspondence.

If you become aware that a child or young person is at imminent risk of harm or immediate danger, you must report the situation directly to the Police – CALL '000'



NSW Government - Office of the Children's Guardian Working With Children Check

It is a prerequisite for anyone involved in child related work at St Marys Junior League, whether paid or otherwise (ie. coaches, trainers, officials, committee persons, volunteers), undergo a **"A Working with Children Check"**. It involves a national criminal history check and review of reportable workplace misconduct.

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 childrelated work in NSW for as long as the worker remains cleared.

NRL Child Safety – Patrons of the Game Course

It is compulsory for all St Marys Junior Rugby League Club Executive, Committee persons, Coaches, Managers, Trainers, Officials and Volunteers to complete the **NRL Child Safety – Patrons of the Game** course each year and provide proof of accreditation.

Guidelines for Social Media

These guidelines apply to all St Marys Junior Rugby League Club Players, Committee Persons, Officials, Volunteers, Parents and Spectators 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 TikTok, 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 Executive 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.
- 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 platforms and / or messaging.



Guidelines for Social Media

- 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 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!
- 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.

Anti-discrimination, Harassment & Bullying Policy

St Marys Rugby League Club opposes all forms of discrimination, harassment 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 discrimination, harassment 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 discrimination, harassment, 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 Executive.

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

- <u>People with a disability</u> 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.



Equality

St Marys Rugby League Club is committed to providing a safe environment where individuals of all ages and genders can participate in social activities and rugby league. St Marys Rugby League Club acknowledges:

- The disadvantaged position some individuals have had in rugby league due to their gender.
- Achieving gender equality requires diverse approaches for women and girls to achieve similar outcomes for all genders.
- Achieving equality requires diverse approaches for men, people with disabilities, First Nations peoples, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to achieve similar outcomes for all.

St Marys Rugby League Club will:

- Engage fairly and equitably with participants, community stakeholders, staff, members, volunteers, officials, supporters, and members of the Penrith & District Junior Rugby League and NSW Rugby League, in a positive, respectful, and constructive manner, regardless of gender.
- Engage with the broader rugby league community to assess the implications for women, men, people with disabilities, First Nations peoples, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds of any planned action, including policies, programs, and communications.

Statement of Intent

This Statement of Intent establishes the expectation that gender equality is considered and prioritised in all current and future planning, policies, and practices. St Marys Rugby League Club understands that gender equality is:

- The attainment of equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities for women, men, trans, and gender-diverse people. Equality does not mean that everyone will become the same, but that their rights, responsibilities, and opportunities will not depend on their gender.
- The provision of fairness and justice in the distribution of benefits and responsibilities.

Guidelines for Head Injuries and Managing Concussion

The most important element in the management of concussion must always be the welfare of the player. All players with concussion, or suspected of having a concussion, should seek urgent medical assessment.

Sport-related concussion is a traumatic brain injury caused by a direct blow to the head, neck or body resulting in an impulsive force being transmitted to the brain that occurs in sports and exercise-related activities. Symptoms and signs may present immediately, or evolve over minutes or hours, and commonly resolve within days, but may be prolonged (Patricios et. al. 2023).

Symptoms include but are not limited to headache, blurred vision, dizziness, nausea, poor balance, fatigue and feeling "not quite right". A concussed player may also exhibit confusion, memory loss and reduced ability to think clearly and process information. Loss of consciousness is not common and occurs in less than 10% of cases of concussion. A player does not have to lose consciousness to have concussion.

The management of head injuries may be difficult for non-medical personnel. It may be unclear whether you are dealing with a concussion, or there is a more severe structural head injury, especially in the early phases of an injury. Concussion is considered a medical condition and therefore can only be assessed, diagnosed, and managed by an appropriately qualified doctor.

- In the period following a concussion, a player should not be allowed to return to play or train until they have had a formal medical clearance using the NRL Head Injury/Concussion Medical Clearance form by a doctor. N.B. this is the only form in Rugby League that will be accepted as medical clearance to return to play.
- A RTS (Return to Sport) Strategy should be followed to manage the return to training and/or play following a diagnosed concussion. Children and adolescents generally take longer to recover from a concussion and additional time (there is limited research determining how much additional time is required, however it is recommended a minimum of at least double the time period required for adults) should be allowed in developing a RTS Strategy for a child or adolescent.



Guidelines for Head Injuries and Managing Concussion

- For children and adolescents, an RTL (Return to Learn) Strategy may be required. If symptom exacerbation occurs during cognitive activity or screentime, difficulties with reading or other aspects of learning are reported, clinicians should consider the implementation of an RTL Strategy. RTL and RTS Strategies can be completed in parallel, however student athletes should complete full Return to Learn before unrestricted Return to Sport.
- Unrestricted Return to Sport can only occur once a player has been cleared using the NRL Head Injury/Concussion Medical Clearance Form.
- A child or adolescent is defined as a person aged 18 years and younger, an adult is defined as a person who has attained the age of 19 years and above.
- Player's suspected of having a concussion must not be allowed to drive, operate machinery, drink alcohol, take anti-inflammatory medication (including aspirin and Ibuprofen), or use strong painkillers, such as those containing codeine, or sleeping tablets until they have been medically cleared to do so by a doctor.
- The best available evidence shows that recommending strict rest until the complete resolution of concussion-related symptoms is not beneficial following a Sport Related Concussion (SRC). Relative (not strict) rest, which includes activities of daily living and reduced screen time, is indicated immediately and for up to the first 2 days after injury. Individuals can return to light-intensity physical activity (PA), such as walking that does not more than mildly exacerbate symptoms, during the initial 24–48 hours following a concussion.

Complications can occur if a player continues playing before they have fully recovered from a concussion. Therefore, a player who is suspected of having a concussion must be taken out of the game or training session immediately. A player who has suffered a suspected concussion or exhibits the symptoms of concussion should not return to play in the same game or training session or any game/training session until medically cleared by a doctor, even if they appear to have recovered.

Guidelines for Head Injuries and Managing Concussion

The complications which can possibly occur following a concussion include:

- Increased risk of other musculoskeletal injury (possibly due to an increase in reaction time) or repeated concussion (with the second injury often much more severe than the first);
- Prolonged symptoms;
- Symptoms of depression, anxiety and other psychological problems;
- Severe brain swelling (especially in young players); and
- Potential long-term cognitive deficits and a deterioration in brain health, however this is not currently definitively proven but currently the topic of continued research.

Complications are not common, however, the risk of complications from a concussion are increased by allowing the player to return to play or unrestricted training before they have completed the RTS Strategy as outlined below. It is therefore essential to recognise a suspected concussion, remove the player from the game or training, confirm the diagnosis with a doctor, and keep the player out of training and competition until the player has been cleared by a medical professional using the NRL Head Injury/Concussion Medical Clearance Form.

A complete copy of the NRL Community Rugby League Policy and Guidelines for the Management of Concussion can be found at <u>https://www.playrugbyleague.com/policies</u>



STEPS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF CONCUSSION

Presence of any symptoms or signs suggestive of concussion e.g., stunned, confused, memory problems, balance problems, headache, dizziness, 'not feeling right'



Apply first aid, including cervical spine immobilisation, if indicated



Remove from the Ground – Assess using the NRL Community Head Injury, Recognition and Referral Form* *Developed from the CRT6



Presence of any RED FLAGS as per CRT6 following injury: neck pain or tenderness, double vision, weakness or tingling in the arms/legs, severe or increasing headache, seizure or convulsion, deteriorating conscious state, vomiting, increasingly restless, agitated or combative, or any other deteriorating



YES – Call an ambulance and Refer to hospital



NO – DO NOT allow a player to return to play. Refer to a medical practitioner for assessment either at the ground, local medical centre, or hospital emergency department.

NOTE: For any player with a loss of consciousness, basic first aid principles should be applied i.e., **D**anger, **R**esponse, **S**end for help, **A**irway, **B**reathing, **C**PR, and **D**efibrillation (**DRSABCD**). Care must always be taken with the player's neck, as it may have also been injured in the collision. An ambulance should be called, and the player(s) transported to hospital for assessment and management.

















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Introduction

Rugby League is the greatest game for all for many reasons.

But the true strength of the game is in our people and the values by which they abide.

We are determined to ensure the environment we create is a positive and enjoyable one for all participants, regardless of age, gender and ability.

The Rugby League Code of Conduct sets the standard for all players, parents, coaches, match officials, spectators and volunteers.

I trust all those connected to our sport share in our vision of being inclusive, positive, united and disciplined.

These foundations are at the core of the continued growth and prosperity of the game for everyone involved.

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Peter V'landys AM Chairman Australian Rugby League Commission



General Principles



Participants in the game of Rugby League include:

All Players, Coaches, Sports Trainers (including League Safe Officers), Match Officials, Club Officials, Volunteers, Parents/Carers and Spectators.

Participants are encouraged and expected to:

- Show positive acts of sportsmanship, discouraging all instances of foul or illegal play, or acts of violence, both on and off the field.
- Demonstrate the greatest levels of respect, protecting the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability / disability, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion.
- Lead by positive example, and condemn the use of recreational and performance enhancing drugs and doping practices; their use endangers the health of players and is contrary to the concept of fair play.
- Celebrate the "good news" stories, and understand that cyber-bullying, which includes negative or demeaning comments, status posts, personal messages or emails, is deemed as a serious form of harassment.
- Accept that the integrity of the sport is of paramount importance, therefore, no coach, player, Club official or match official is allowed to participate, or be directly or indirectly involved in any way, in gambling.



By adhering to the National Code of Conduct at every Rugby League activity, you embrace the game's beliefs

> We are: Inclusive Positive United Disciplined



Code of Conduct >Player

- Be a good sport. Respect all good play whether from your team or the opposition and shake hands with, and thank, the opposition players and officials after the game win, lose or draw
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.
- Always respect the Referee's decision.
- Never become involved in acts of foul play.
- Honour both the spirit and letter of the competition rules and live up to the highest ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; avoid gamesmanship, and respect the traditions of the game.
- Never engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, sledging, obscene gestures, offensive remarks, trash-talking, taunting or other actions that are demeaning to other players, officials or supporters.
- Care for and respect the facilities and equipment made available to you during training and competition.
- Safeguard your health; don't use any illegal or unhealthy substances.
- Recognise that many Officials, Coaches and Referees are Volunteers who give up their time to provide their services. Treat them with the utmost respect.
- Do not bet or otherwise financially speculate, directly or indirectly, on the outcome or any other aspect of a Rugby League match or competition in which you are involved.



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Endorsement

Players at every level of Rugby League have a responsibility to always play within the Laws, and to compete with respect, integrity and sportsmanship.

Rugby League is a fantastic game, made even better when players, officials and fans all working together to make a safe and respectful playing environment, ensuring a positive and enjoyable experience for all participants

I fully endorse the players' section of the National Code of Conduct.

All the best,

James Tedesco Sydney Roosters, New South Wales Blues and Australian Kangaroos Captain

Rugby League is a great game and should always be played in the right spirit, so that all participants get the opportunity to have fun and make friends.

We are all in a very fortunate position to be able to participate in the sport and have a duty to care for each other as well as the equipment and facilities that are made available to us.

I am proud to endorse the National Code of Conduct as it provides the guiding principles for the best possible Rugby League environment.

Enjoy the season,

Kezie Apps Wests Tigers NRLW Player, New South Wales and Australian Jillaroos Captain







Code of Conduct Coach

- Actively discourage foul play and / or unsportsmanlike behaviour by players.
- Seek to maximise the participation and enjoyment of all players regardless of ability; avoid the tendency to over-use a talented player; treat all players as equals, regardless of their talent.
- Show concern and caution towards all sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician and/or sports trainer to the letter when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or playing.
- > Teach players that an honest effort and competing to the best of their ability is as important as victory.
- Maintain appropriate, professional relationships with players at all times.
- Maintain a thorough knowledge of the Laws of the Game and keep abreast of current coaching methods; maintain or improve your current accreditation level.
- Always consider the health, safety and welfare of the players.
- > Teach young players to realise that there is a big gap between their play and the professional game; do not coach them as if they are professionals.
- > Ensure that your coaching reflects the level of the competition being played; do not be a "win-at-all-cost" coach.
- As coach, conduct yourself at all times in a manner, and in all situations, that shows leadership, respect for the game of Rugby League and respect for all those that are involved in the game the players, officials, the fans, the parents, the referees and the media.

Remember that junior players participate for pleasure and mateship.

Your coaching should create a positive environment that is fun, safe, and inclusive.

Code of Conduct >Match Officials

- Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else; be alert to minimise dangerous physical play, fair or foul, especially in junior matches.
- Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
- Avoid any form of verbal contact with coaches, team officials, parents and spectators during play.
- Be impartial! Also, be consistent, objective and courteous.
- Avoid any situation which may lead to a conflict of interest, both on and off the field.
- Maintain an appropriate level of fitness for the standard of game at which you are officiating.
- Condemn all and every instance of unsportsmanlike, foul or unfair play.
- Set a good example by the way you dress, speak and act towards players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators.
- Show concern and caution towards sick and injured players.
- Officiate to the age and/or experience of the players.

Referees are the key to the successful application of the Safeplay Code (up to and including 15 years) in Junior Rugby League.



Code of Conduct > Team and Club Officials

- > Uphold the integrity of the game of Rugby League at all times.
- Always act in a sportsmanlike manner, respecting opposition players, team and club officials and spectators.
- Make decisions in the best interests of the game of Rugby League.
- > Place the safety and welfare of players as the top priority.
- Accept responsibility for all decisions made.

Code of Conduct > Parent / Spectator

- Condemn all violent or illegal acts, whether they are by players, coaches, officials, parents or spectators.
- Respect the Referee's decisions don't complain or argue about decisions during or after 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 all participants are involved in the game of 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 under the influence of alcohol, never bring alcohol to a Junior League game and only drink alcohol, if it is available, in a responsible manner in the designated licensed area.

Children learn from positive experiences and positive examples of best practice.



Code of Conduct > Summary of Offences

NOTE – Clubs are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents/carers of players, coaches, officials and spectators.

No person(s) attending a match, function, or Club related event or activity shall:

- A Use offensive or obscene language to any participant.
- Enter the field of play or playing area during the course of, or following a match without the prior approval of the Ground Manager or official appointed by the home Club and/or League
- Excessively dispute the decision of a Referee or Touch Judge either during or after a match.
- D Assault, or act with aggression, to any person/s.
- **E** Behave in a way contrary to the Code of Conduct and/or the spirit of the game.
- F Behave in a way which disturbs the enjoyment of a match, function, activity or event by any person/s, or brings discredit to any Club, League or the game.
- G Act in such a way as to exhibit racial, sexual, religious or gender intolerance by language or other conduct, to any person/s
- H Refuse to accept the reasonable direction of the Ground Manager, official of the team/ Club which that person is supporting, or official of the home Club and/or League.
- No person/s may make comment or take actions that bring discredit to any person, Club or league through any social media outlet.

Clubs are responsible for the conduct of their players, parents/carers of players, coaches, officials and Club supporters.

Breaches of the Rugby League Code of Conduct may result in penalties, including but not limited to:

- Suspension of a match and/or
- > Termination of a match (including potential forfeiture of competition points) and/or
- Monetary fines and/or
- Suspension of a participant on a temporary or permanent basis and/or
- Suspension of a Club, League or Association on a temporary or permanent basis and/or
- Revocation or suspension of an accreditation issued by the National Rugby League (NRL) or relevant governing body

These penalties are in addition to any penalty which may be imposed by the relevant governing League bodies.



Our Beliefs

We are inclusive

- > Engaging and empowering everyone to feel welcome in our game.
- Reaching out to new participants and supporters.
- Promoting equality of opportunity in all its forms.
- Respecting and celebrating diversity in culture, gender, sexuality and social background.
- The ability to see opportunities in the face of adversity.

We are positive

- The willingness to stand up for our beliefs and empowering others to do the same.
- The commitment to stand up and be recognised as a brand ambassador.
- The tenacity to do something despite how hard it is or how long it takes to achieve.

We are united

- **Recognising and respecting our differences in the pursuit of achieving a common goal.**
- > Putting the game ahead of individual needs and personal agenda.
- Be a source of motivation and support to those around me.
- Commitment to a culture of respect, honesty, and trust.

We are disciplined

- Say what we are going to do and do what we say.
- Have the strength to make the right decisions, placing facts ahead of emotion.
- Take responsibility for your own actions and the impact they have on others and the wider game
- Champion processes, procedures, and the governing principles of the game.





