



THE ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS INC. BY-LAWS

The Associated Schools Inc.

By-Laws

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3. Rules of Competition

3.1. *The TAS Competition Structure will comprise the following*

3.1.1. The Associated Schools will run one competition.

- 3.1.1.1. The TAS competition will consist of 8 schools.
- 3.1.1.2. After TAS schools meet their team obligations, any additional sporting teams can be fielded in TAS Shield competitions.
- 3.1.1.3. Additional teams may be made up of students from two adjacent year levels.

3.1.2. The mandatory team list for competition will be determined at the October meeting of principals each year for the upcoming year. Modifications to existing mandatory team lists will be minimal to maintain stability and ensure participation rate of students does not drop significantly.

3.1.3. TAS sport will be played in Trimesters.

- 3.1.3.1. TAS schools have agreed to use the PMSA school holiday dates so that holidays can be aligned and the Association has agreed to use 9-11 week seasons.

3.1.4. Open teams will be called 1sts and 2nds

3.2 *Criteria for participation in TAS*

3.2.1 The following criteria must be reached for ANY school to participate in TAS Competition. If schools do not meet the criteria for participation, as outlined within these By-Laws, they will be asked to show cause, explaining the process they are undertaking to remedy the breach and make positive change.

- 3.2.1.1. All teams outlined in the By-Laws must be fielded by all schools.
 - 3.2.1.1.1. Fielding a team requires 75% participation. ie: 6 games of a potential 8 match season must be played.
- 3.2.1.2. Schools not fielding all teams outlined in the By-Laws will receive until the end of the following calendar year to ensure they comply with By-Law
 - 3.2.1.2.1. Schools not fielding all teams outlined in the By-Laws must submit their strategy, when asked to show cause, outlining how the management and growth of their program will meet the requirements by the conclusion of the following calendar year.
 - 3.2.1.2.2. The plan submitted should be reviewed, as appropriate, to ensure progress is achieved and/or maintained.
- 3.2.1.3. All schools will follow the Code of Conduct as set out in these By-Laws.
- 3.2.1.4. All schools will adhere to the By-Laws of the Association particularly as they pertain to safety regulations for all sports.
- 3.2.1.5. All schools will ensure their selection policies meet the guidelines set out in the Association By-Laws.

3.3. *Year Level Competition*

3.3.1. All team sport competitions run by The Associated Schools on a weekly basis, will be conducted as a Year-Level competition, with a maximum 2-year age window for years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

- 3.3.1.1. The 2-year window requires Year 7 students not to be older than 13 on the 1st January, Year 8 students not to be older than 14 at the 1st Jan in the

- year of competition. Year 9 students must not be older than 15 and Year 10 students not older than 16 at the 1st of January in the year of competition.
- 3.3.1.2. Carnival sports shall continue to be conducted in age groups in accordance with regional competition.
 - 3.3.1.3. Students in Years 7-12 shall not be permitted to compete in JTAS sport, regardless of age.
 - 3.3.1.4. Junior School students are not to play TAS sport, unless, due to age or safety, they are ineligible to play in Junior TAS competition. In these cases the Management Committee should approve this participation.
- 3.3.2. An exemption to this rule exists in cricket and tennis whereby Years 7,8,9 will make up three Intermediate teams and Years 10,11,12 will make up two or three Open teams respectively.
- 3.3.3. In TAS Shield competitions, there are three age division – Junior (Year 7 and 8), Intermediate (Year 9 and 10) and Senior (Year 11 and 12). Within any Division 1 competition, the older year level by-laws should be followed. Within Division 2 and lower, the younger year level should be followed.

3.4. Team Selection

- 3.4.1. All teams will be listed on a team sheet. Students involved in TAS competition will be selected and listed on the team sheets according to the regulations set out by the Association and in line with these guidelines.
- 3.4.1.1. Each student's age shall be taken as at 11:59 p.m. on December 31st in the year of competition.
 - 3.4.1.2. For all sports, no student shall be 19 years or older at 12.00 a.m. on January 1st to be eligible for TAS sport in that year.
 - 3.4.1.3. In addition, for Rugby, no student shall be 18 years or older at 12.00 a.m. on January 1st to be eligible for selection in that year.
 - 3.4.1.4. Schools shall select all higher-grade teams before selecting lower grade teams, whether or not the higher grades compete on a particular day.
 - 3.4.1.5. No student shall play in more than one team (excluding teams of different sports, providing that player does not take the place of another student wanting to play) on the same day.
 - 3.4.1.6. It is important to note that schools ***will*** forfeit points if students shall play in a lower age or grade team when he/she has been selected and/or played for a higher age or grade team in the same round of competition. This includes TAS Shield games. Players may play both Shield and TAS Championship fixtures, but this should be limited to TAS Shield players playing up into TAS Championship teams rather than dropping better players to bolster the TAS Shield strength. (Rationale: TAS Shield teams are playing for Premierships too. Therefore, they should be playing TAS Shield level players. Not playing against top level players of their age group.)
 - 3.4.1.8. Students should play in sports organised for their specific gender.

3.5. Junior TAS Participation.

3.5.1. The Associated Schools shall provide regular Inter-School sporting competition for Years 3-6 of Primary Sections of Association Member schools. All Junior TAS competition shall be that of **skill development** and **participation** conducted in an atmosphere of **good sportsmanship** and **fair play**.

3.5.2. PHILOSOPHY

3.5.2.1. Schools should ensure that coaches and officials of Junior TAS teams understand that the competition emphasises skill development and participation for all players and teams. A culture that prioritises good sportsmanship and fair play should be promoted and reinforced.

3.5.2.2. To align with the philosophy and spirit of the Junior TAS competition, the by-laws for several Junior TAS sports include mercy rules which outline rule and team modifications to support more balanced and constructive play. If an official mercy rule does not exist in the by-laws, opposing coaches are encouraged to collaborate and consider adjustments to support a philosophy of sportsmanship and positive outcomes for both teams.

3.5.3. COMPETITION

3.5.3.1. Weekly Saturday competition shall be programmed to occur in the following sports: **AFL, Cricket, Hockey, Rugby, Netball, Tennis, Touch, Soccer** and **Basketball**.

3.5.3.3. Carnivals shall be conducted in the following sports: **Swimming, Cross Country** and **Athletics**.

3.5.3.4. Rules of various sports may be modified for all levels of competition to ensure a development towards TAS competition in Secondary school.

3.5.4. PREMIERSHIPS

3.5.4.1. Premierships shall **not** be awarded for Saturday team sports.

3.5.4.2. Carnivals shall recognize placegetters with Ribbons and winning schools with the awarding of Trophies as in TAS carnival competitions.

3.5.5. AGE GROUP/YEAR LEVELS

3.5.5.1. Junior TAS shall cater for Years 3-6 and TAS shall provide competition for Years 7-12 (Open) Age groups.

3.5.6. VENUES/MATCH TIMES

3.5.6.1. Wherever possible, Junior TAS matches shall be programmed to occur at the same venue as TAS matches.

3.5.6.2. When both TAS and Junior TAS teams are at Home together, Junior TAS matches shall be timetabled around TAS times as designated in the Association Manual.

3.5.7. ORGANISATION

3.5.7.1. All matters relating to Junior TAS competition shall be organised by the TAS Executive Officer who shall be appointed by the TAS Management Committee at their discretion.

3.5.7.2. Each school participating in Junior TAS sports and activities shall nominate a Delegate to assist the Executive Officer in the organisation and conduct of matches and Carnivals.

3.5.7.3. Delegates so nominated shall attend all required meetings when so called. If meetings are combined with TAS Sports Coordinator Sub-Committee meetings, they shall be chaired by the Association President or his/her appointee. If separate TAS Delegates and Junior TAS meetings are conducted, the Executive Officer shall act as Chairman.

3.6. *By-Law Anomalies and Disputes*

- 3.6.1.** All Directors of Sport will either make contact themselves or ensure that their particular sport coordinators make contact with the opposing school's coordinator whenever there is an anomaly to their team make up or procedures. This contact must take place prior to the match taking place.
- 3.6.1.1. Schools must adhere to the By-Laws set down by the Association.
- 3.6.1.2. Whenever anomalies to the By-Laws occur, particularly with regard to team selection, contact with the opposing coordinators must occur prior to matches taking place.
- 3.6.1.3. Failure to make contact prior to matches taking place may result in forfeiture of competition points.

3.7. *Process for Dealing with Protests and Disputes*

- 3.7.1.** Where school Principals or Directors of Sport feel that an opposing school has breached the Association Constitution, Policies or By-Laws, the guidelines from policy #3 (Protests and Disputes) in the Associated Schools Policy Manual should be followed.
- 3.7.2.** When a protest is submitted to the Association's Management Committee for deliberation, the committee will look to see if any verification of the facts exists.
- 3.7.2.1. Verification of facts should exist in written form via notation on the team sheets concerned with verifying signatures of opposing coaches/directors of sport.
- 3.7.2.2. Should verification exist via a team sheet with written notification and it shows one school has played outside the By-Laws that school will forfeit points.
- 3.7.2.3. Should verification of the facts exist via a team sheet with written and signed notification to state that teams agreed with the anomaly of the By-Laws the result of the fixture will stand.
- 3.7.2.4. Should no verification exist the protest may be reviewed by the Association Management Committee as outlined in Policy #3.

3.8 *Finals*

- 3.8.1:** When Finals are scheduled in the draw, all teams of all schools involved in TAS competition will accrue points during the season to determine their position on the premiership ladder. At the end of each season, where the Association deems it appropriate, these teams will pair off and play each other for the right to occupy the higher position on the ladder of the two competing teams.
- 3.8.1.1. When finals are organised by the Association they will be played by all teams in a competition.
- 3.8.1.2. Finals will be played according to where teams finished the regular season on the ladder. ie: 1st v 2nd, 3rd v 4th, 5th v 6th, 7th v 8th.
- 3.8.1.3. Finals are played with a view to determine the final positions on the ladder.
- 3.8.1.4. Teams playing the 3rd v 4th final are playing off to determine which of them would finish 3rd.

- 3.8.1.5. Teams that win their final will earn the right to occupy the higher ladder position regardless of the number of wins and losses the two teams have during the regular season.
- 3.8.1.6. The Association via the Sports Coordinators' Sub-Committee and the General Committee will decide upon the method of hosting Finals games.

3.8.2. LADDER POSITIONS – FINALS

- 3.8.2.1 For any season of TAS sport to be considered Premiership quality season teams must have played half the allotted number of games to complete the season. Anything less than that will be deemed a season of no competition.
(In situations where half a season includes a half game, the half game can be ignored meaning 4 games of a 7-game season is acceptable for a Premiership to stand.)
(In situations where some schools have not completed the necessary number of games, but other schools have, the competition will be deemed as being acceptable for a Premiership to stand)
- 3.8.2.2. Teams will be placed on the ladder according to the number of points gained due to games won, lost or drawn including bonus points as is normal for each sport.
- 3.8.2.3. In situations where points are level, schools will be separated by the following means.
 - 3.8.2.3.1. The team that won the regular season encounter between the two schools will be placed above the other team on level points.
 - 3.8.2.3.2. Should there be no result in the fixture between the two schools, they shall be separated using the points differential between the two tied teams and their matches against the teams ranked immediately above and below the position of the tie.
 - 3.8.2.3.3. If there are more than two schools on even points, those teams will initially be split based on head-to-head results. If this does not separate the teams, they will then be separated into positions on the ladder with the use of points differential, using the difference between the tied teams; that is, using the points scored for and against each team in the matches involving the tied teams only.
 - 3.8.2.3.4. Should all teams still be unable to be separated, teams will be separated using points for and against accumulated only in games between all tied teams and the teams immediately above and below the tied position.
 - 3.8.2.3.5. If this is still unable to divide the tied teams the point differential between the tied teams and the teams to two places above and below shall be used.
 - 3.8.2.3.6. If teams are still unable to be split, all methods will be used once again. On the second attempt to separate teams, when one team can be eliminated from the tie, it shall be discarded, and the remaining tied teams shall progress through the process until they too are separated.
 - 3.8.2.3.7. Should teams still be unable to be split after a second movement through the process, the teams tied without any teams that have been discarded may begin the process a third time.
 - 3.8.2.3.8. In all cases above, washouts will be considered a drawn match.

3.8.2.3.9. In all cases above, “points” differential or “points” for and against refers to the following:

Basketball – Points

Rugby – Points

Tennis – Games

Volleyball – Sets

Football – Goals

Netball – Goals

Hockey – Goals

Touch Football – Tries

3.8.2.4. In Cricket we use Net Run Rate to determine the positions of tied teams.

When final Cricket points produce inequalities in results, with a second or third placed team producing the same -or less - ‘losses’ in the season than the leading team – ***through a greater number of washouts*** – the points scored from the games actually played shall be divided by the number of games played to ascertain the winner of the Premiership. This shall be the team with the higher resulting average.

3.8.2.5. In all cases when tied teams are unable to be separated using the aforementioned methods, the tied teams will be separated by the point differential of games played between the closest common opponents situated above and below the tied teams on the ladder.

3.8.2 (a). LADDER POSITIONS – NO FINALS

3.8.2 (a).1. For any season of TAS sport to be considered Premiership quality season teams must have played half the allotted number of games to complete the season. Anything less than that will be deemed a season of no competition.

(In situations where half a season includes a half game, the half game can be ignored meaning 3 games of a 7-game season is acceptable for a Premiership to stand.)

(In situations where some schools have not completed the necessary number of games, but other schools have, the competition will be deemed as being acceptable for a Premiership to stand)

3.8.2 (a).2. Teams will be placed on the ladder according to the number of games won, lost or drawn as is normal for each sport.

3.8.2 (a).3. In all cases where teams stand on the same points, they will be awarded the position that corresponds to the highest position of the tied schools.

i.e.: Two schools finish on 10 points and occupy 3rd and 4th on the ladder. Both schools will be awarded 3rd place points for champion school.

or Three schools finish on 14 points in 1st, 2nd and 3rd position on the ladder. All three teams will be granted Co-Premier status.

3.8.3. FORFEITED GAMES

3.8.3.1. All games forfeited will result in the non-offending team occupying the higher position on the ladder of the two teams competing.

3.8.4. TIED and WASHED OUT GAMES

- 3.8.4.1. In the event of a final being washed out or tied, the premiership will be awarded to the school that finished with a higher number of points on the ladder.
- 3.8.4.2. If the two teams both finished on the same number of points on the ladder and the final is a wash out or ends in a drawn match, the two teams will share a Premiership and/or Champion School points.

3.8.5. UMPIRING and REFEREES

- 3.8.5.1. In all Finals matches between 1st and 2nd teams neutral umpires and referees should be sought where possible.
- 3.8.5.2. Where schools are sharing venues and providing umpires, those umpires should be used to officiate games not involving the school from which they have come.

3.9 Results

3.9.1. The Director of Sport (Sports Coordinator) of each school is responsible for passing on weekend sports results to the Executive Officer for publication. This should be achieved according to the guidelines below.

- 3.9.1.1. Except in the case of finals, the "Home" school is defined as the school hosting the games, which may be on home grounds or at another venue.
- 3.9.1.2. The "Home" school is responsible for notifying the Executive Officer of results after each round of fixtures.
- 3.9.1.3. For all sports, results are to be telephoned or emailed to the Executive Officer - by no later than 5:15pm. on the day of the match in Trimester 1, and no later than 2:00pm in Trimesters 2 and 3.
- 3.9.1.4. Where finals take place on a "Home" and "Away" basis, the above guidelines apply. Where finals are at a Central Venue, the Executive Officer will liaise with relevant Sports Coordinators to ensure results are reported.

3.10 Forfeits

3.10.1. Defaulting teams will forfeit the rights to any points on offer for that round of competition. Non-defaulting teams will also be eligible for bonus points according to the guidelines below.

- 3.10.1.1. In the case of a forfeit in any grade, the non-defaulting team shall receive the maximum number of points that can be gained in the competition.
- 3.10.1.2. When schools forfeit a game, points should be scored for the school's for and against rating. Therefore the following by-law 3.10.1.4 will be used as a guide for allocating points for and against when teams have forfeited.
- 3.10.1.3. In the event that a school does not have a team and therefore the game is not played by ANY other schools, no points are allocated to the for and against columns on the ladder.
- 3.10.1.4. In the event of a team starting the competition and forfeiting a game or more than one game after the competition begins, points shall be added to the ladder's for and against columns in the following manner.
 - 3.10.1.4.1. Volleyball can assume a victory by 3 sets to nil in all grades.
 - 3.10.1.4.2. Basketball can assume a victory by 30-0.
 - 3.10.1.4.3. Tennis can assume a 6-36 - 0-0 victory.
 - 3.10.1.4.4. Rugby can assume a 28-0 victory.
 - 3.10.1.4.5. Netball can assume a 12-nil victory.

- 3.10.1.4.6. Hockey can assume a victory of 4-0.
- 3.10.1.4.7. Soccer can assume a victory of 4-0.
- 3.10.1.4.8. Touch can assume a victory of 4-0.
- 3.10.1.4.9. Cricket can assume a Net Run Rate of zero for their team and zero against their team.

3.11 Byes

- 3.11.1 Whenever a school's teams encounter a bye within TAS competition, points will not be allocated to the Premiership tables.

3.12 Heat and First Aid

- 3.12.1 All TAS schools will provide adequate First Aid and adhere to the "Heat" requirements outlined in the following guidelines.
 - 3.12.1.1 Home schools shall provide a minimum of two Sports Medicine personnel for Soccer and Rugby matches so that there is at least one medic available per field.
 - 3.12.1.2 Home schools shall provide a minimum of one First Aid officer, complete with ice and medical kit, for all other TAS team sports.
 - 3.12.1.3 When matches are played away from school venues, it is the responsibility of individual schools to ensure that a qualified First Aid person is in attendance.
 - 3.12.1.4 In Home matches, schools should ensure that all medical personnel are clearly visible to participants and coaches, by means of a large sign indicating "First Aid Post" or by wearing coloured bibs.
 - 3.12.1. When competition is to be played in extreme heat, it is recommended that the Home school supply ample drinking water and, where practical, sun shelter for both teams.

3.13 Late Starts to Matches

- 3.13.1 All teams from all schools will present ready for play within 15 minutes of the their appointed game time unless an alternative agreement can be or has been reached by the opposing Sports Coordinators/Heads of School.
 - 3.13.1.1 Teams should be ready to play at the appointed time.
 - 3.13.1.2 Teams will present for play if they have the minimum number of players to constitute a team as set down in the Association By-Laws.
 - 3.13.1.3 If unable to begin play after 15 minutes from the appointed start time, teams will forfeit the points for that competition match unless exceptional circumstances exist.
 - 3.13.1.4 Exceptional circumstances include but are not limited to...
 - 3.13.1.4.1 School bus accident traveling to the fixture.
 - 3.13.1.4.2 Car accident impacting on players of the team while traveling to fixture.
 - 3.13.1.4.3 Unfavourable traffic conditions when traveling to distant away venues. This refers to traffic jams where several players are unable to make the venue in time for the allocated start of the

match. It does not include situations where players have travelled to an incorrect venue or have assumed an incorrect starting time for their game.

3.13.1.4.4 Agreements made between competing Sports Coordinators.

3.13.1.5 In all cases where exceptional circumstances are believed to exist there must be a discussion between sports coordinators to determine the agreed upon course of action.

3.14 Wet Weather and Extraordinary Circumstances

3.14.1 All schools involved in TAS competition will play matches as set out by The Association. In instances where this is not possible due to wet weather or cancellations by TAS Management, the following guidelines should be followed.

3.14.1.1 Matches washed out or abandoned during play will have points awarded according to the By-Laws of that sport.

3.14.1.2 In circumstances where a match is cancelled prior to the match time, either due to wet weather or through TAS Management cancellations, both teams will be awarded points available for a draw in that sport.

3.14.1.3 When a major weather event threatens TAS sport, all TAS Principals shall meet to determine the best course of action.

3.14.1.4 When 75% of games in a particular sport and/or a particular age group are washed out, all TAS games in that sport will be considered a wash out.

3.14.1.5 When wet weather is in play for outside matches schools should explore all avenues to ensure all matches take place.

3.14.1.5.1 Changing game times or shared hosting between the home and away schools are good ways to ensure all matches take place.

3.14.1.5.2 The away school has an opportunity to host when wet weather is in effect. This can be organised if a call is made by 10:00am on Thursday.

3.15 Rescheduling Matches

3.15.1 All games will be played at the designated time and date of the draw.

3.15.1.1 Schools may request for a change of date ***in exceptional circumstances***, but opposing schools have no responsibility to meet the request.

3.15.2 Timing of games may be modified by mutual agreement. If schools cannot agree timing will be as stated in the By-Laws.

3.15.3 In situations where one school is unable to play matches due to the state of their grounds, discussions should take place between the two opposing schools to see if a change of venue is possible to enable games to go ahead. Due to logistics, these conversations would need to occur with enough time to allow for players and families from both schools to make alternate arrangements for travel.

3.15.4 When a visiting school wishes to modify the game times to allow players from another sport to play in a second sport, the host school will do everything in their power to allow this to happen. Similarly, when a host school wants to modify times, the visiting school will work with the host school to do their best to allow this to occur.

3.16 Appointment of Internal Referees and Umpires

- 3.16.1** When appointing referees or umpires, every effort should be made to not use students or past students of the school.
- 3.16.1.1 If internal referees/umpires need to be used, they should be placed on TAS Shield games first and then 'B' TAS Championship games next.
- 3.16.2** Referees and umpires must not be seen to be engaging with friends or the teams they are officiating.
- 3.16.3** Referees and umpires must not be dressed in school colours and/or clothes.
- 3.16.4** All referees and umpires must be appropriately badged for the sport they are officiating.
- 3.16.5** In the event of a referee or umpire not arriving for their fixture, the coordinators or coaches should discuss the situation with the away school and let them know who will fill their place.

11. Rugby

11.1. Safety Aspects

Safety rules and procedures are important because of the degree of body contact in Rugby Union. The nature of the activities makes it unsuitable for very young students. Rules for the game of Walla Rugby and other approved modified forms of the game should be used for the specific age-groups.

11.1.1. *Nature of hazards*

11.1.1.1. *As part of the process of safety self-regulation, all persons engaging in this activity should identify the hazards, assess their significance and manage the potential risks including any additional hazards not mentioned here.*

11.1.1.2. Hazards that may be encountered in rugby union include:

- equipment (e.g. goal posts, corner posts)
- body contact

11.1.2. *Level of risk*

11.1.2.1. Participation in rugby union involves high risk (level 3).

11.1.3. *Minimum supervision*

11.1.3.1. If an adult other than a registered teacher is engaged for instruction, a registered teacher should be present to take overall responsibility.

11.1.3.2. Minimum First Aid requirements; Senior First Aid (Level 2 with spinal training) (e.g. QAS, St. John's Ambulance) or the equivalent.

11.1.3.3. During competition, the qualified first aid officer/sports trainer should be located in an accessible position to the field(s) of play to provide immediate first aid assistance.

11.1.3.4. There must be phone access to call an ambulance if required.

11.1.4. *Qualifications*

11.1.4.1. The leader should be:

- a registered teacher with competence (demonstrated ability to undertake the activity through acquisition of Smart Rugby competence) in the teaching of Rugby Union
- an adult who has Smart Rugby coaching qualifications from the Australian Rugby Football Union

11.1.4.2. Competition games should be controlled by competent coaches and officials who are Smart Rugby compliant.

11.1.4.3. A referee who is currently a student of a participating school should not be appointed to referee a game in which his/her school is playing, unless there is agreement by officials of both teams for that to occur.

11.1.4.4. In competition games, where touch judges are not provided by the Referees' Association, each school should endeavour to provide a competent touch judge (such as an older student or parent).

11.1.5. *Minimum equipment*

11.1.5.1. A first aid kit should be available at all venues where lessons and competitions are conducted.

11.1.6. *Hazard reduction*

11.1.6.1. The teacher should introduce the activity comprehensively and include:

- appropriate warm-up and warm-down activities

- instruction in rules, safety procedures and prerequisite skills
 - progressive and sequential skill development
 - a structured training and coaching program and selection criteria for teams (training should be specific to player position)
 - modified games that match the skill and fitness levels of students, e.g. walla rugby.
- 11.1.6.2. Students should have progressed through the skills and knowledge areas associated with the modified games before participating at a level governed by the full laws of the game.
- 11.1.6.3. Teachers should select students on the basis of ability and suitability for the position/s they are to play (for example, students with long thin necks should not play in the front or second rows of the scrum).
- 11.1.6.4. The playing area should be level, grassed and free from obstacles and loose objects.
- 11.1.6.5. A minimum space of five metres should surround each field and be roped off free from spectators.
- 11.1.6.6. Unless participating in the game or directly supporting participants (Trainer, 1st Aid and coach/manager at half time) no one is permitted on the field of play.
- 11.1.6.7. Player equipment, including footwear, headgear and shin pads, should comply with age standard levels appropriate to the laws of the game.
- 11.1.6.8. Correctly fitted mouthguards should be worn for playing and practising.
- 11.1.6.9. When playing on a field, if one or more students are wearing footwear, all students should have footwear. All boots should be made of safe materials, provide protection for the feet and have non-slip soles.
- 11.1.6.10. Boots should be inspected before each match. Boots with loose, sharp-edged or excessively worn studs and sharp-edged soles should not be worn.
- 11.1.6.11. All goal posts should be padded.
- 11.1.6.12. Corner flags and other markers should be made of non-injurious material.
- 11.1.6.13. Teachers and coaches/staff should select students on the basis of ability and suitability for the position/s they are to play.
- 11.1.6.14. Teachers and coaches/staff should identify students who may be suffering an existing injury. If there is reason to believe that a student is injured, the teacher should seek first aid treatment.
- 11.1.6.15. The Associated Schools mandates a three-week period from a concussion taking place until the player may play again. (This means the player will miss three weeks of competition.)
- 11.1.6.16. Open cuts and abrasions should be treated immediately. If bleeding cannot be controlled completely, the player should not be allowed to return to the field of play. All clothing, equipment and surfaces contaminated by blood should be treated as potentially infectious.
- 11.1.6.17. Students should not return to playing after injury until it is clear that the injury has been managed. If there is any doubt, the student should not play until medically cleared.

11.2. TAS Rugby By-Laws

11.2.1. GRADES

11.2.1.1. Grades catered for in TAS Championship:

Under 18 First XV

Year 9/10 A

Year 8

Year 7

11.2.1.2. In accordance with Australian Rugby Union Directions, a “two-year-window” exists for Rugby players in all grades of competition under the following formula:

11.2.1.3. Year 9 and 10 age groups will be calculated from July 1st.

Grade Level	Accepted Age	Eligible Playing Ages	Acceptable Birth Dates	Year of Birth
Year 7	Under 13	12 & 13 Years	31 Dec 2013 to 1 Jan 2012	2012 OR 2013
Year 8	Under 14	13 & 14 Years	31 Dec 2012 to 1 Jan 2011	2011 OR 2012
Year 9/10	Under 15	14 & 15 Years	30 Jun 2011 to 1 Jul 2009	2 nd half of 2009, 2010 OR 1 st half of 2011
Open	Under 18	16 to 18 Years	31 Dec 2009 to 1 Jan 2007 (see 11.2.1.3.1 for 2009 consideration)	2009, 2008 OR 2007 (see 11.2.1.3.1 for 2009 consideration)

11.2.1.3.1. Any player wishing to play outside his window of eligibility must have a 2-year window exemption to play in the competitions outside their eligibility

- **Note: All ages as at 00.00am on January 1st OR July 1st in the year of competition.**
- **All players born in 2009 (16-year-old students) will need to be signed off as competent to play within the 2-year window of the Open competition (Under 18).**

11.2.1.4. Schools requiring younger players than the above formula, must provide the Executive Officer with completed Disclosure Forms, signed by a Level 2 Assessing Coach, the student's Parent or Guardian, and the school Rugby Coordinator **before the player takes the field.**

11.2.1.5. Students who fall outside the accepted height and weight parameters set down by Rugby Australia should be assessed to play in their appropriate competition.
<https://d26phqdbpt0w91.cloudfront.net/NonVideo/acd48425-c9ef-4074-81c0-b06de43d5a38.pdf>

11.2.1.6. This form must also be signed by the player's parents/guardians and then sent to the competition manager (Executive Officer) for a countersigning.

11.2.1.7. The Australian Rugby Union require these forms to be completed prior to any student being allowed to play in a match where they may play against players outside their allowed two-year window as outlined in the appendix noted in the Association Policy manual.

11.2.2. MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS

11.2.2.1. A minimum of twelve (12) players is required to constitute a team. A school having less than twelve players by fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled start time shall forfeit the match, notwithstanding the guidelines outlined in By-Law 3.13, “Late Starts”.

11.2.2.2. Should player numbers fall below twelve (12) after a match has commenced, the match shall continue.

- 11.2.2.3. In situations where a team does not have the players available to contest a scrum notice of this should be made to the opposing school as soon as possible.
- 11.2.2.4. In TAS Shield teams, games can be played as 12 players per side and opponents must match the lower numbers down to 12. In these circumstances a team may begin with as few as 10 players, but their opponents need to match numbers down to a minimum of 12 players, unless a mismatch develops. In circumstances where a mismatch occurs, both schools should meet to discuss how best to manipulate the circumstances of play to ensure the match takes on some significance for both sides.

11.2.3. GROUNDS

11.2.3.1. VENUE FOR GAMES

- 11.2.3.1.1. All competition games shall be played at the grounds of the home school.

11.2.3.2. SPECTATOR CONTROL

- 11.2.3.2.1. Sufficient provision shall be made in all grades to keep spectators at a safe distance from the touch-line or outside enclosed grounds. (5m minimum is recommended)

- 11.2.3.2.2. Schools should provide a designated player/official area.

11.2.3.3. PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT

- 11.2.3.3.1. The following equipment shall be provided in all games:

- kicking tee for conversions/penalties
- pads on goal posts
- ice

- 11.2.3.3.2. refer to safety aspects for minimum first aid requirements

11.2.3.4. GROUND / TEAM OFFICIALS

- 11.2.3.4.1. All officials will be required to wear coloured vests to indicate the role being undertaken.

- TOUCH JUDGES Pale Blue
- TEAM TRAINERS/WATER RUNNERS Yellow
- TEAM MANAGERS Maroon
- GROUND OFFICIAL Orange

11.2.4. DURATION OF GAMES

- 11.2.4.1. There shall be two periods of play of the following duration:

- First XV = 35 minutes
All other Grades = 25 minutes

- 11.2.4.1.1. There shall be a half time interval of five (5) minutes in all games.

11.2.4.2. Injury Time

- 11.2.4.2.1. Injury time shall **not be allowed** in any grade.

11.2.5. STARTING TIMES

- 11.2.5.1. The following starting times shall apply:

TIME	FIELD 1	TIME	FIELD 2
8:00 am	Year 7	8:00am	TAS Shield OR Junior TAS
9:00 am	Year 8	9:00 am	TAS Shield OR Junior TAS
10:00 am	Year 9/10A	10:00 am	TAS Shield OR Junior TAS

11:15 am	1 ST XV		
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11.2.5.2. Variations to the above times may be decided by mutual agreement, however it is the responsibility of the "Home" school to advise official referees in any matches to be controlled by QRRA officials.

11.2.5.3. In all games at a particular venue, the lower grade teams shall commence their games before, or at the same time as, higher-grade teams of the same grade/age group.

11.2.6. COMPETITION POINTS

Win	=	4 points
Draw/Washout	=	2 points
Loss	=	1 point
Bye/forfeit	=	0 points

11.2.7. SELECTION OF TEAMS

11.2.7.1. Schools shall select fully the players of all higher grade teams before selecting those of lower grade teams, whether the higher grades are engaged or not.

11.2.7.2. No student shall play in more than one team in the same round, subject to By-Law 3.4 specifically, by-laws 3.4.1.5 and 3.4.1.6. Strategic replacements may be made in 1st XV and Year 9/10A Rugby, provided By-Law 3.4 is not contravened.

11.2.8. RUGBY GAME DAY PROCESS

11.2.8.1. Schools will follow the game day process outlined in Appendix A of these By-Laws.

11.2.8.2. Failure to adhere to these Game day protocols could lead to disciplinary action.

11.2.9. REPLACEMENTS

11.2.9.1. INJURED PLAYERS

11.2.9.1.1. Injured players in all games may be replaced at any time during a game. They may not return to the field in any grade on that day. It is important to note that injured players are replaced for injury and not substituted.

11.2.9.1.2. **Note:** IRB rules state that "A player who has suffered definite cerebral concussion and loss of consciousness should not participate in any match or training session for a period of at least three weeks from the time of the injury, and only subject to being cleared by proper neurological examination."

11.2.9.1.3. **Note:** If a head knock occurs during training, it is the school's responsibility to ensure students take no further part in training once a head knock has been sustained, even if a concussion has not yet been diagnosed.

11.2.9.2. SUBSTITUTIONS

11.2.9.2.1. Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 shall be permitted unlimited substitutions from maximum squads of 23 players.

11.2.9.2.2. 1sts and 2nds shall be permitted 12 substitutions in total.

11.2.9.2.3. The 12 total substitutions should be in keeping with the substitution policy of the Brisbane Junior Rugby Union for teams of 15 years or older.

11.2.9.2.4. Total playing time for **any one team** shall not exceed 90 minutes on any one day.

11.2.10. WEATHER

11.2.10.1. A washout may occur at any time the referee deems the field to be unsafe. Consultation between coaches / coordinators from both schools may assist referees with this call. Should the field be questioned as playable or unplayable, and the referees not agree, the 'existing state of affairs' will exist.

- 11.2.10.1.1. **Existing state of affairs:** This phrase is used in competition rules to clarify situations in which a difference of opinion concerns the progress of the match.
- 11.2.10.1.2. If a match has not started and the Umpires/Coaches do not agree, then the match does not start.
- 11.2.10.1.3. If a match is in progress, and if agreement cannot be reached, then the match is to continue.
- 11.2.10.2. If a wash out occurs prior to half time, the points will be shared between both teams.
- 11.2.10.3. If a wash out occurs at any point at half time or later the leading team will be declared the winner.
- 11.2.10.4. In keeping with TAS policy there will be no rescheduled matches for wet weather.
- 11.2.10.5. Any bonus points already accrued will stand.

11.2.11. BALLS

- 11.2.11.1. Each team shall provide one size 5 match ball
- 11.2.11.2. A high quality standard of ball should be used for all matches regardless of age.

11.2.12. LAW MODIFICATIONS

- 11.2.12.1. The Laws of Rugby apply to all year levels.

11.2.13. REFEREES

11.2.13.1. QRRRA REFEREES

- 11.2.13.1.1. QRRRA officials shall be asked to control all grades of matches.

11.2.13.2. REFEREES NOT TURNING UP

- 11.2.13.2.1. Where the appointed referee does not turn up within 15 minutes of the agreed starting time of the game (including Q.R.R.A. referees), or where Q.R.R.A. referees are unavailable, the home team shall have the right to provide a qualified referee. If such a referee is not available through the home school, the visiting team shall have the right to provide a qualified referee, PROVIDED THAT:

- In no game shall the coach of either team be the referee unless the opposing team agrees;
- No student, unless he/she is suitably qualified, and unless no other qualified adult is available, shall be appointed to referee a TAS competition game where the players are less than 2 years younger than the appointed referee.

11.2.14. TOUCH JUDGES AND BALLBOYS

11.2.14.1. TOUCH JUDGES

- 11.2.14.1.1. Q.R.R.A. officials **may** be appointed to act as Touch Judge for First XV matches.
- 11.2.14.1.2. For every other grade, each school shall supply one Touch Judge who shall be correctly dressed and carry at least one flag. School or other unqualified linesmen shall only officiate on ball in-and-out of play situations.

11.2.14.2. BALLPERSONS

- 11.2.14.2.1. Each school shall provide one correctly dressed ball person for the First XV game.

11.2.15. PLAYERS DRESS

- 11.2.15.1. The dress (jersey and socks) of each player in all grades shall conform to colours of his school. All players in each team should wear shorts and socks of a uniform colour.

- 11.2.15.2. When a TAS representative team is selected, those players chosen to represent the Association shall be presented with a jersey in the Association's colours (viz: sky blue with red cuffs, red monogram, white collar, red numbers) and shall wear white football shorts, socks of the school they represent. When a second representative team is chosen, reverse coloured jerseys shall be worn.

11.2.16. MISCONDUCT

11.2.16.1. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

As per Law 26 1991 variations, a player may be temporarily suspended at the discretion of the referee. In TAS competition, the normal area for this is behind the defending goal posts; however, if at the discretion of the home team's Director of Sport the area on a particular field is deemed unsuitable, then the home school has the right to establish an alternative area for this purpose. It is the responsibility of the home team's Director of Sport to inform visiting referees and coaches of these alternative arrangements should they exist.

11.2.16.2. DISMISSAL

In the case of the player being sent from the field, the referee shall be requested to communicate in writing to the Executive Officer of the Association (contact@theassociatedschools.com.au).

TAS policy is for any player sent from the field to miss at least one competition round. (A BYE is not considered missing a competition round.) Note: This applies equally to Junior TAS matches.

11.2.17. DRAW CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.2.17.1. With TAS no longer providing a representative team for Queensland Schoolboy trials, and students now required to trial through their 'Region', it is probable that clashes with the Association's Draw will occur.
- 11.2.17.2. In these instances, refer to By-Law 3.15 regarding the rescheduling of matches from the date of the trials.