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1.3.5 LOCAL CONDITIONS IN RELATION TO CLEARANCES/TRANSFERS AND PERMITS

- 1.3.5.1 If the registration of a player is withdrawn or suspended by the JL Manager in accordance with the JL rules, a clearance for that player to transfer to another club will be denied. The player has the right to appeal to the Board of management
- 1.3.5.2 If the JL Manager becomes aware there is a mass movement of players by way of clearance out of district, irrespective of the reason, the clearance of such players will be denied. The player/s has the right to appeal to the Board of management
- 1.3.5.3 The clearance/transfer of any player / official / parent / supporter / volunteer or other person who has breached the JL Codes of Conduct and had his / her right to have an official involvement with the JL or any JL club withdrawn or suspended will be denied. The person has the right to appeal to the Board
- 1.3.5.4 It is the responsibility of the club the player is clearing/transferring to, to ensure the clearance/transfer is fully approved online prior to their registration
- 1.3.5.5 If a club allows a player to participate in a game without a fully approved clearance/transfer or permit online, should the team win or lose the game, the team may be fined \$500 and deducted (3) competition points
- 1.3.5.6 All clearances/transfers and permits requested within the Penrith JL are to be approved or denied within 5 days. The JL will then approve or deny following this timeframe without further consultation with the respective JL clubs involved

1.4 INSURANCE AND OTHER FEES

- 1.4.1 Compulsory insurance and other fees deemed necessary by the JL Manager must be paid at the prescribed rate and time or face fines / disciplinary action for late or ignoring request(s) for payment. Player and officials cards may not be issued until the payments are made.
- 1.4.2 **Players & Team Support Officials** - Before any player / team official can take part in any JL sanctioned activity which includes competition matches, the player / team official must be fully registered online and qualified to be covered by the prescribed JL insurance policy and other protective insurance cover and the players / team officials ID card must be available at the official table. Failure to ensure this most important and necessary requirement is in place, may result in suspension of the player / team official, loss of 3 competition points for the team and other penalties
- 1.4.3 Insurance for player's registrations must be paid at the time of registration

1.5 TEAM LISTS

- 1.5.1 Team player lists for the nominated season are due to the JL by the deadline date set by the JL Manager and listed No.1 to the last no. i.e. no.25
- 1.5.2 Clubs shall provide a team list for teams who reach the Finals to the JL Manager no later than 12 noon on the Monday before the 1st Final. Teams are to wear numbers as per official program for the entire finals series, with the exception of injuries. Any club not providing the required lists may be fined \$500 for each team list not supplied by the deadline. Lists from U9 through to A-Grade

1.6.6 A REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER WILL BE PLAYERS SELECTED IN A FINAL SQUAD THAT WILL REPRESENT THE PENRITH DISTRICT IN A NSWRL, COMPETITION, INCLUDING WSAS.

- 1.6.6.1 When a representative player returns to the JL (for whatever reason) he must return to the club he was registered with for the remainder of the season
- 1.6.6.2 When a player is selected in a representative squad it will be necessary for the player to acknowledge the existence of the rules that apply to the transfer and movement of representative players. Once a player accepts representative selection the player also accepts all transfers and other condition pertaining to it.
- 1.6.6.3 All clearance/transfer applications will be considered in their age group, not the age they may play i.e. SG Ball player wishing to play A-Grade. If the club currently has 5 representative players for their age group the clearance/transfer may be refused
- 1.6.6.4 A Player remains a representative player until they fail to be selected in a squad the following year
- 1.6.6.5 Representations made on behalf of players in representative squads regarding injuries and or medical matters, must be supported by a medical report from a licensed practitioner
- 1.6.6.6 A Player who is out injured for a full season or lengthy period and who is expected to return to Rugby League within 12 months, cannot be replaced by another representative player
- 1.6.6.7 Representative squad players are required to submit an application for transfer prior to them commencing training at another club. This is a serious breach, penalties apply

1.6.7 A DEVELOPMENT PLAYER WILL BE PLAYERS SELECTED IN ANY PENRITH JL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. DEVELOPMENT PLAYERS DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN NSWRL BASED COMPETITIONS.

- 1.6.7.1 If any Player after attending meetings, training sessions or receives written information, does not desire to be further involved in squad activities, may apply to be released, if the request is granted they will not qualify for any benefits or future selection until further notice.
- 1.6.7.2 Once a player accepts a place in a development squad, they accept the conditions / rules that apply
- 1.6.7.3 Players in a development squad will remain a development player until they fail to be selected in the squads the following season.
- 1.6.7.4 Representations made on behalf of players in development squads regarding injuries and or medical matters, must be supported by a medical report from a licensed practitioner
- 1.6.7.5 A Player who is out injured for a full season or lengthy period and who is expected to return to Rugby League within 12 months, cannot be replaced by another development player
- 1.6.7.6 The JL Manager or authorised person adjudicating, are the only people that can approve or deny a transfer request for a player in a development squad. Rights to appeal exist
- 1.6.7.7 The transfer of a player in a development squad can be denied if it is considered the team to which the player wishes to transfer to have sufficient development squad players. The current number is 5.
- 1.6.7.8 All transfer applications will be considered in their age group, not the age they may play. If the club currently has 5 development players for their age group the transfer may be refused
- 1.6.7.9 A development squad player, may transfer if he so wishes, provided the transfer conforms to the JL transfer rules. If the conditions and rules aren't adhered to, this is a serious breach, penalties apply.

1.6.9 MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS BETWEEN SENIOR NSWRL COMPETITIONS AND JL

- 1.6.9.1 Movement of players from a Senior NSWRL competition to a JL competition and from a JL competition to a senior competition must be approved by a JL Manager
- 1.6.9.2 Should a club within the district desire to play a JL player in the senior competition after the JL competition has commenced, the club shall advise the JL Manager of the player's name and grade he will play in, prior to 5pm Friday before the match
- 1.6.9.4 Players from a club that has teams in the senior competitions can move from the JL competition to the senior competition at any time during the season
- 1.6.9.5 Players who move from a JL club to the senior competition during the season, who later are released back to JL shall return to the club they were selected from
- 1.6.9.6 Players in the senior competition cannot move back to JL competitions after the half-way point of the senior competition, unless such movement is approved by the JL Manager or authorised person adjudicating the matter (i.e. injuries/other reason)
- 1.6.9.7 When players return to the JL competition, the various JL and final series qualification rules that apply will have to be observed. The clubs are responsible to observe these rules
- 1.6.9.8 If a player is promoted from the Ron Massey Competition (or equivalent) to the NSW Cup or higher competition and later released back to the Ron Massey Cup (or equivalent), that player shall return to the club they were released from
- 1.6.9.9 NYC players returning to the JL competitions and are contracted to Penrith are required to play 'A' grade, if they are not contracted they are free to play any grade. Any amendment to the rule must be approved by the Panthers HP manager

1.6.10 GENERAL RULES

- 1.6.10.1 Not more than 2 players shall be allowed to transfer from one club team to another club, in the same age group, in the same year, unless the club they are leaving from is willing to release the player or unless approved by a JL authorised person
- 1.6.10.2 Not more than 2 players shall be allowed to transfer from one PDJRL club to the same out of district club, in the same age group, in the same year, unless the club they are leaving from is willing to release the player or unless approved by a JL authorised person
- 1.6.10.3 A player may request a transfer from 2nd division to 1st division (Sunday Only) and any player displaced by such transfer may transfer back to 2nd division provided the transfer is approved by the JL Manager or authorised person
- 1.6.10.4 A player cannot be compelled to play in a higher division/age group and may, be refused a transfer to an age group above the one he would normally be qualified to play
- 1.6.10.5 A player who has transferred and registered as an A-Grade player cannot play in an age competition in that season
- 1.6.10.6 If a club is fielding 2 teams in the U16, U17, or U19, not more than 4 players shall be allowed to transfer into the age group in the same year.

1.9 CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT DISPUTES

- 1.9.1 The policy determined in respect to the payment of players, the JL does not support such payments and prefers not to involve itself in contract/agreement disputes that arise between clubs and players. Clubs who find themselves in disagreement with other clubs in respect to the contracting and signing of players will have to come to some form of agreement satisfactory to themselves should there be any legal complication, conflict or dispute about clearance/transfer contracts or agreements
- 1.9.2 Should a club and a player desire to prepare a written agreement in regard to a playing contract, arrangements should be made prior to the contract / agreement being signed between a club and a player, the player is to complete an online clearance/transfer in full before signing a contract
- 1.9.3 Once the online clearance/transfer is completed in full, Notification on club letterhead with a short report advising brief details of the signing of the agreement between the club and the player should then be sent to the JL Manager to confirm the agreement of the player with his new club.
- 1.9.4 It is the responsibility of the club the player is joining to check to see the necessary documentation has been received by the JL Manager before the player takes part in a competition match
- 1.9.5 When a player is offered a contract or agreement with a club, the following questions must be written into the contract: *'Have you signed any contract/agreement with another club for the next season'?* The player will be required to answer this question in writing. Any player who signs a contract or agreement with a club for the following season, knowingly that he/she had already signed a contract or agreement with another club for the same season, may be suspended, fined or have other action taken against them
- 1.9.6 It will be a breach of these rules for any club not to ask the above question of a player prior to entering into a contract or agreement with the player. Further, the JL will not recognise a contract or agreement between a player and a club if the question above is not asked of the player and a completed online transfer is not completed in full before the player signs a contract.

1.10 WITHDRAWAL OF TEAMS

- 1.10.1 Any club that withdraws a team after the competition has started must report all facts to the Board. If the reason for withdrawal is loss of players, the club is to state:
- 1.10.1.1 The players registered with the club that is still available to play. These players may transfer according to the JL rules if they wish
- 1.10.1.2 Players registered with the club who have dropped out, thus causing the withdrawal, to re-register with any club the following year, must make application in writing to the JL for such registration
- 1.10.2 If the reason for withdrawal is the loss of the coach, the reason for the coaches' withdrawal is to be advised and the steps the club has made to keep the team functioning
- 1.10.3 Clubs withdrawing teams will be subject to fines or other penalties determined by the Board
- 1.10.4 All team withdrawals shall be reported to the Board with reasons why the team has withdrawn
- 1.10.5 Fines apply for withdrawal: **Saturday** team \$250, **Sunday** team \$500

1.13 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- 1.13.1 **CLUBS ARE REQUIRED TO FORWARD THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS TO THE JL MANAGER EVERY MONTH**
- 1.13.1.1 A correctly completed monthly statement
 - 1.13.1.2 The latest club bank statement
 - 1.13.1.3 Any other documentation requested
- 1.13.2 **CLUBS SHALL CAUSE CORRECTION ACCOUNTS AND BOOKS TO BE KEPT SHOWING THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE CLUB SHOWING PARTICULAR:**
- 1.13.2.1 All sums of money received and expended by the club
 - 1.13.2.2 All sales and purchases of goods by the club
 - 1.13.2.3 The assets, credits and liabilities of the club
- 1.13.3 The books of account of all clubs should be kept at a place as the club committee thinks fit and should be available for inspection by the JL Manager at any time
- 1.13.4 A copy of the balance sheet, auditor's report and income and expenditure accounts of each club should be forwarded to the JL Manager immediately following the clubs audit
- 1.13.5 It's the responsibility of the President and Executive of each club to overview the financial management of the club and any breaches of the financial management rules or any movement of club funds, other than prescribed by the committee or JL must be reported to the JL
- 1.13.6 Clubs shall forward a proposed budget for the coming 12 months to the JL Manager
- 1.13.7 The Board of Management does not support 2 members of the same family signing club cheques and it is recommended that clubs arrange cheque signing authority to avoid this from happening
- 1.13.8 The clubs Treasurer shall prepare and table an up to date financial report to every club general committee meeting. If he/she fails to do so, a notation should be made in the minutes. The Secretary shall advise the JL within 48hours of the non-submission of the report. If a club fails to submit a monthly financial report to the JL, fines may apply with a thorough audit by the JL
- 1.13.9 The club AGM should not be held until the Treasurer tables an available Annual audit
- 1.13.10 All clubs are asked to close off their financial books on 31st October each year
- 1.13.11 The JL Manager is empowered by the Board to call for the production of the financial records of any club and it is a breach of this rule for such request to be denied
- 1.13.12 All monies received by club officials is to be transferred to the Treasurer within 48hrs and receipted
- 1.13.13 The Treasurer should make regular deposits to the bank and should not retain possession of monies collected on behalf of the club unless there are extenuating reasons approved by the President
- 1.13.14 The committee shall direct policy in regard to the handling, deposit and disbursement of funds collected by teams
- 1.13.15 The JL does not support the lending of club funds to club members and it shall be a breach of rules for any person to retain, use, or be loaned funds for temporary or personal reasons

1.14 CLUB GENERAL MEETING PROCEDURES

- 1.14.1 All clubs must hold a general committee meeting within a calendar month
- 1.14.2 If a club is unable to conduct a monthly meeting, the JL Manager is be notified in writing
- 1.14.3 All minutes of each monthly meeting must be forwarded to the JL office within 10 days of your meeting

- 1.16.4 The JL Board, subcommittees and the JL Manager are empowered under the rules when breaches occur to withdraw the opportunity and privilege of any coach, player, manager, trainer or other person to have involvement in any PDJRL activity.
- 1.16.5 Should the Board have reasonable cause to believe that an affiliated club or member of that club, without approval or permission of the Board, takes any action or aids and abets another person(s) whether directly or indirectly to take action, to form an agreement, joint venture, relationship, sponsorship or align its members, players or teams or club, with another club or group, that is not affiliated with the PDJRLC Ltd., whereby such action is considered by the Board to be against the welfare, interests, policy or image of the JL, the Board may after proper investigation, adjust, suspend, or cancel the affiliation of such club or otherwise deal with the matter or any person found guilty of such actions.

1.17 SUBCOMMITTEES

- 1.17.1 The Board shall establish various subcommittees with designated, function and powers provided that the Board may, at its discretion. Appoint additional members to the committee at any time.
- 1.17.2 Members of the committee shall be indemnified against costs, or any payment required to be made pursuant to, or as a result of, or any settlement of, any legal proceedings that may be instituted against them as consequence of the performance of their duties
- 1.17.3 At meetings of the committees, at least 3 members of the committee shall constitute a quorum
- 1.17.4 The Board may grant leave on such terms as it sees fit to any person appearing to be represented by a barrister, solicitor or agent and may modify or revoke such leave at any time
- 1.17.5 Any subcommittees taking evidence at a hearing may institute action against any player, official or club identified during the hearing as being responsible for a breach of the JL rules
- 1.17.6 Any player or official may request the chairperson of a subcommittee to review the conduct of another person seen on video (or reported verbally) who is alleged to be in breach of the JL rules
- 1.17.7 All reports from subcommittees shall be in writing to the Board of the JL
- 1.17.8 Active players, Referee's, club officials of any PDJRL club, is ineligible to hold a position on any JL subcommittee

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

To adjudicate when players are sent from the field or reported for rough or illegal play or behavior offenses

CONDUCT REVIEW COMMITTEE

To investigate any complaint made of conduct in breach of JL rules, contrary to the policy / welfare of the JL

GRADING COMMITTEE

To determine the grading of players and teams for the 2017 season

REPRESENTATIVE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

To overview the effectiveness and operation of rep/dev Rugby league and determine rep/dev transfer appeals

APPEALS COMMITTEE

To investigate and adjudicate on any appeal escalated to the District appeals committee as per competition rules

PLAYER ASSESSMENT POINTS COMMITTEE

To assess player points applications and manage the A-Grade competition player points throughout the year

SPORTS TRAINERS, VENUE MANAGERS, GROUND MANAGERS AND TEAM MANAGERS COMMITTEE

To educate clubs, trainers and officials in the latest rules, techniques and treatment of on field situations

2.3 GROUND MANAGERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.3.1 **JOB DESCRIPTION** – Be visible, alert and aware of activity inside or outside the spectator fence or rope and do everything possible to ensure the wellbeing and safety of patrons whilst they are at your venue. Attend meetings and co-operate with JL Manager and have a good knowledge of club and JL disciplinary procedures, along with crowd and ground control rules that apply to both home and visiting clubs.
- 2.3.2 **COMPLEX NATURE OF THE GROUND MANAGER** – Tasks and responsibilities and the threat of litigation and the possible exposure of the club to legal action should a serious incident occur, it is important the ground manager is well prepared and aware of the responsibilities that are involved.
- 2.3.3 **COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS** – Because of the time involved, multiple grounds being used and the number of games that are played at some venues, ground managers are not expected to be able to witness every breach or exception that occurs but are encouraged to have a general overview of the majority of club activity when matches are played and have effective reporting and communication processes in place to keep themselves informed of various developments.
- 2.3.4 **AUTHORISED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING** – Action to ascertain the identity of any in breach of the JL rules
- 2.3.4.1 Approach the teams coach, trainers or manager of the team the offending person is supporting and request the offender's name
- 2.3.4.2 If the coach, trainers, manager or other team or club officials refuse or hinder efforts to obtain that information, they will be in breach of JL rules
- 2.3.4.3 If the Ground Manager refuses to support a person being inside the spectator fence, the person concerned should leave the area immediately
- 2.3.5 **REPORT TO THE POLICE** – It is standing JL policy to report all assaults and serious altercations to the police and to firmly support any action that is taken. There will be no hesitation to provide documentation and records to the authorities and do everything reasonable and possible to assist with the identification and prosecution of offenders. Any police involvement will be in breach of JL Rules.
- 2.3.6 **FOLLOW UP BY ASSISTING** – the victim, family or relatives: (a) Advise them the matter will be followed up by the JL Manager (b) Give them the correct number of the JL Manager (c) Visit the hospital or doctor's surgery with them (d) Telephone victim/s later that night to see how they are (e) Find out what can be done to assist them. In very serious cases (serious injury or death) it might be necessary to arrange a counsellor (the JL Manager can assist with contact numbers) and get that person to conduct a counselling session as soon as possible with family members, team members, close friends and club members etc.
- 2.3.7 **SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT** – to the JL Manager

2.4 HOSTING VENUE RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.4.1 The Hosting venue will be responsible for the control of spectators and supporters. If after the appropriate investigation, a club or its appointed representative is convicted of having inadequate crowd and ground management procedures in place, or ignored or refused to meet the required JL ground management obligation, resulting in serious breach of the JL rules, code of conduct and good behavior rules, in addition to discipline action being taken against individuals, the affiliation of the offending club could be threatened.
- 2.4.2 Provide ground managers for each field and ensure they are visible, alert and aware of activity inside or outside the spectator fence or rope and do everything possible to ensure the wellbeing and safety of patrons whilst they are at your venue.
- 2.4.3 All Club officials and committees should make themselves aware of the list of responsibilities of the hosting club ground preparation responsibilities that are set out in the JL Rules. The hosting venue is responsible to ensure the following are provided:
- 2.4.3.1 Provide correct size and a minimum of two footballs per field per match
 - 2.4.3.2 Corner posts and goal post pads – Agility poles cannot be used as corner posts
 - 2.4.3.3 Correct ground/field markings with Witches hats and domes must be soft rubber
 - 2.4.3.4 Competition rule book, match sign on sheets and time keepers (team managers) clock, siren or bell
 - 2.4.3.5 Touch judges if not appointed. Must be 14 years of age or over
 - 2.4.3.6 Stretcher, First Aid Kit, Ice and receptacle for blood soiled dressings etc.
 - 2.4.3.7 Clean dressing rooms and toilets
 - 2.4.3.8 Canteen facilities for spectators
 - 2.4.3.9 Easy access for ambulance and prompt medical contact
 - 2.4.3.10 Ball and kicking tee girls and boys. Only use approved kicking T's. Must be soft rubber
 - 2.4.3.11 Inspect playing field and surrounds to ensure all safety measures are in place and there are no foreign or dangerous articles or implements protruding or evident
- 2.4.4 The visiting clubs are responsible to support the hosting venue club in relation to the above and the following:
- 2.4.4.1 Control of their own players, team officials, spectators, supporters and parents.
 - 2.4.4.2 Provide a time keeper (team manager).
 - 2.4.4.3 Proper medical procedures for care of own players.

2.5 TRIAL MATCHES

- 2.5.1 The JL will manage two Saturday and two Sunday trials where necessary. Other Saturday and Sunday trials will be a matter for each club to organise between themselves. The JL will arrange insurance and other protection for the teams involved, provided the clubs inform the JL office in writing of proposed trial games they will be involved in, internally or externally. The clubs will have to arrange their own grounds, Referees (to be booked through the JL) and resource support.
- 2.5.2 Official sign on sheets must be used in trials, the team management MUST prepare and retain a list of all players full names (and their previous club, irrespective if the club is in or out of this JL) who played in the respective trial. Nicknames, shortened names, aliases or other references cannot be used. If a player is sent off, clubs shall give the name and previous club to the Referee concerned. The player cannot play again that weekend or until an adjudication by an authorised person is finalised.
- 2.5.3 Players cannot play in trials unless the club they play for know their full name and previous club.

2.6.9 'A' GRADE POINTS

- 2.6.9.1 An 'A' Grade points sub-committee is appointed each season consisting of 1 person from each club involved in the competition, a Chairperson and JL Manager
- 2.6.9.2 The JL Manager will take the minutes of the meeting and table a copy for confirmation at the next Board meeting. The chairperson shall be a member of the Board who will table a report at the annual conference.
- 2.6.9.3 The committee shall meet when necessary, meetings arranged by the A Grade Points coordinator.
- 2.6.9.4 The committee shall adjudicate on player assessment points for all players as and when player assessment point forms are submitted. In between meetings the adjudication shall be carried out by the executive. The executive of the point committee: A Grade Points Coordinator, Chairperson and JL Manager
- 2.6.9.5 All conflicts, protests and adjudications shall be determined by the executive.
- 2.6.9.6 In September/October each year the committee shall meet to discuss the completed season and identify any frustrations that may exist and arrive at rules for the following season
- 2.6.9.7 When a player assessment form is submitted, the club submitting shall complete all sections of the form. Forms not completed in accordance with the requirements will not be processed. Forms must be submitted for all players in the U19, A Reserve and A Grade 1st division competitions.
- 2.6.9.8 If a team exceeds the allocated assessment points (the figure that has been agreed upon by the Board) the team will lose the (2) competition points should the team win the game or be fined \$500.00 if the team lost the game.
- 2.6.9.9 If a player completing a player point assessment form is convicted of deliberately providing false information, the player will be suspended for 14 competition rounds
- 2.6.9.10 If a club official completing a player points assessment form is convicted of deliberately providing false information, the official will be suspended for 5 years.
- 2.6.9.11 If a club official is convicted of deliberately providing false or misleading information, the team concerned shall lose the (2) competition points for every game won where the player was involved and fined \$500 for every game that the team lost where the player was involved.
- 2.6.9.12 If a player or official when completing a player points assessment form is convicted of carelessly or unintentionally providing false or misleading information, the person shall be brought before the executive and dealt with for a breach of this rule.
- 2.6.9.13 It is the sole responsibility of the club to check any information provided by the player when completing a player point's assessment form. It is a serious breach of the rules and explanations that the player provided incorrect information because of limited intelligence or understanding by the player will not be accepted.
- 2.6.9.14 Player assessment forms should be submitted to the JL office prior to 12 noon each Friday so the player assessment weekly return can be circulated to the clubs.

2.7 BYES

- 2.7.1 A bye shall receive 2 competition points and count as a win, not as a match played
- 2.7.2 For the purpose of a player serving a suspension a BYE round will count as a round served
- 2.7.3 A BYE and a forfeit are two distinct situations

2.11 NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- 2.11.1 In the event of any team comprising with less than the required number of players or more than the required number of players for any age group on the field, it shall be the duty of the opposing captain or club official to draw the Referee's attention to that fact.
- 2.11.2 Should the Referee or JL Manager become aware of and satisfied that a team has more than the authorised number of players on the field, any points scored whilst the additional player(s) were on the field shall be deducted. The Referee may order the removal of the additional player(s) from the field and if that order is not observed immediately shall award the match to the non-offending team.
- 2.11.3 Any appeal or protest under this rule will be dismissed if evidence supports the fact that the appellant club's captain and/or team support officials were aware of the breach during or immediately after the match and fail to bring it to notice of the Referee at the time by reporting the matter to the official table.
- 2.11.4 When arriving at a decision the JL Manager will take into account the amount of time the additional player(s) were on the field and the impact that it had on the outcome of the game specifically.
- 2.11.5 Matches will not be played after a (15) minute period has elapsed. Any team not prepared to start a match within (15) minutes with the minimum number of players, the game shall be deemed to have been forfeited.
- 2.11.6 In the event of a team in any grade or division having less than the required number of players on the field, the game shall be terminated immediately and the match awarded to the opposing team.
- 2.11.7 Should a team begin a match with less than the prescribed number of players, it may fill the vacant place(s) provided the on field duration rule/time for the mini and mod players is observed. If a team should begin a match with a full complement of players, substitutes can be introduced to take the place of other players during the match in accordance with the replacement rules and the Referee must be notified.
- 2.11.8 If a team is short of the required amount of players at the time the game is to commence, it will be allowed (15) minutes to allow missing players to arrive and then take the field, however, when the minimum number of players have signed on, the team shall take the field and commence the game, irrespective if there are still other players missing. If the team refuses to take the field when the minimum number of players is available, the game will be forfeited and awarded to the opposing team. The following table outlines all minimum and maximum player numbers required within specific time frames for all competitions.

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS REQUIRED ON FIELD FOR EACH AGE GROUP							
SATURDAY	MIN NUMBER TO TAKE THE FIELD	MAX NUMBER TO TAKE THE FIELD	MAX TIME LIMIT TO TAKE FIELD	SUNDAY	MIN NUMBER TO TAKE THE FIELD	MAX NUMBER TO TAKE THE FIELD	MAX TIME LIMIT TO TAKE FIELD
UNDER 6	4	6	16 mins	UNDER 16	9	13	UNLIMITED
UNDER 7	4	6	16 mins	UNDER 17	9	13	UNLIMITED
UNDER 8	6	8	16 mins	UNDER 19	9	13	UNLIMITED
UNDER 9	8	11	20 mins	A GRADE 3	9	13	UNLIMITED
UNDER 10	8	11	20 mins	A GRADE 2	9	13	UNLIMITED
UNDER 11	8	11	20 mins	A RESERVE	9	13	UNLIMITED
UNDER 12	10	13	20 mins	A GRADE 1	9	13	UNLIMITED
UNDER 13	9	13	20 mins		9	13	UNLIMITED
UNDER 14	9	13	20 mins				
UNDER 15	9	13	20 mins				
GIRLS	7	9	20 mins				

2.13 PLAYING WITH MORE THAN ONE CLUB IN THE SAME SEASON

- 2.13.1 Once a player signs on and plays a portion of a competition match with a club, he is unable to play with another club in the same season unless the player's team withdraws from the competition or
- 2.13.2 A club has an overabundance of players and is prepared to release those not required (ie representative players returning, an influx of new players-return of previously registered players).
 - 2.13.2.1 Clubs shall submit a list of registered players, together with player cards.
 - 2.13.2.2 Players cannot make application for transfer on their own behalf, under this clause.
 - 2.13.2.3 The Board agrees with such transfer or there are other special reasons.
- 2.13.3 Written representations containing extenuating circumstances that are acceptable to the JL Manager.
 - 2.13.3.1 Fines apply if a club promises / encourages a transfer without referring the matter to the JL Manager
- 2.13.4 A player cannot play in a higher level competition i.e SG. Ball, Harold Matthews, Ron Massey Cup, Sydney Shield, NSW Cup or any other competition introduced and the JL on the same weekend (this applies to the 17 players named in the squad). Penalties will apply

2.14 PLAYING WITH MORE THAN ONE TEAM IN THE SAME SEASON

- 2.14.1 When an affiliated club has more than one team in an age group of which there is more than one division, a player must not play with more than one team within that age group during any part of the competition or the playoffs, semi-finals, finals and Grand Finals. Once the player plays his first competition match in a particular division in an age group, that player must remain in that division for the rest of the season, except under the following circumstances:
 - 2.14.1.1 No more than (2) players in the same age group can move up a division in the same season and can only do so, at any stage before the end of the sixth (6) competition round. There can be no movement after the sixth (6) competition round and to promote a player it will be necessary for the club committee to endorse and must advise the JL in writing
 - 2.14.1.3 Once a player plays in a higher division he cannot return to the lower division
 - 2.14.1.4 This rule should not be confused with the rule which allows a player from a lower age group to play in a higher age group in any competition match, playoff, semi-final, finals or Grand Final
- 2.14.2 Should a player be in breach of this rule by playing with more than the one team in the same age group, either or both teams' competition points may be confiscated, or the team could be disqualified from the semi-final series and the player be declared unqualified and/or be suspended. The Board may determine the length of time a player remains unqualified depending on the circumstances.
- 2.14.3 In respect to first division teams who field a second side in the U16, U17 or U19 age group, there is a restriction of two players who can move from a division one team one season to a division two team the following season. Unless approved by the Board.

2.16 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

- 2.16.1 Clubs have the responsibility to ensure all player registrations are in accordance with the following criteria and maximum player registration per team rules or fines or other penalties may apply.
- 2.16.2 Players desiring to play under an assumed name for personal reason must register their correct name with the JL Manager, whom shall treat the matter with utmost confidence.
- 2.16.3 Players registered with the PDJRL must register their correct address with the JL and must notify of changes within (14) days otherwise, unless a reasonable explanation can be furnished, may not be eligible to play the following year with any club in the Penrith District
- 2.16.4 Affiliated JL clubs are empowered to impose registration, insurance and other fees.
- 2.16.5 Clubs have the responsibility to ensure every player who represents their club is fully registered and a qualified player. An affiliated club, group or member thereof, shall be deemed guilty of an offence, if they allow any person who is unregistered, suspended or disqualified to take part in any matches
- 2.16.6 A registration will not be deemed complete until such time as the JL administrator has supplied the club with an authorised player / volunteer identification card
- 2.16.6 All applications for registration must be completed on-line. A copy of the player's identification must be sighted by their club official confirming original identification and attached to their on-line profile.
- 2.16.7 All players and officials must produce an original Birth Certificate, Driver's License or Passport acceptable to the JL. Any reports or complaints about unqualified players or players using false identification should be reported to the JL Manager and may face fines, suspension or other penalty
- 2.16.8 A JL club may with reasonable cause, deny, refuse, return, suspend, disqualify (or for other reason) the registration of a player, official or other person. When the action is taken the club shall invite the person concerned and conduct a proper hearing into the reasons that action was necessary. A copy of the Minutes of that meeting together with the persons ID card should be forwarded to the JL Office

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYER REGISTRATIONS PER TEAM					
SATURDAY	1 TEAM	2 OR MORE	SUNDAY	1 TEAM	2 OR MORE
UNDER 6	10	10	UNDER 16	23	40
UNDER 7	10	10	UNDER 17	23	40
UNDER 8	12	12	UNDER 19	23	40
UNDER 9	15	15	A GRADE 3	30	30
UNDER 10	15	15	A GRADE 2	30	30
UNDER 11	15	15	A RESERVE	50 PLAYERS TOTAL	NOT APPLICABLE
UNDER 12	20	20	A GRADE 1		
UNDER 13	20	20			
UNDER 14	20	20			
UNDER 15	20	20			
GIRLS	15	15			

3.3 AUTHORISED PERSONS INSIDE SPECTATOR ENCLOSURE

3.3.1 UNAUTHORISED ENTRY ONTO PLAYING AREA (ZERO TOLERANCE FIELD INVASION)

If after appropriate investigation, any member of a club, including coach, manager, trainer, the parent(s) of any player, family member or supporter/ spectator of any team is convicted of an unauthorised entry inside the spectator fence or onto the playing field commits an assault or other serious breach of JL rules, Codes of Conduct or good behaviour rules, or if any of the above persons fail, refuse or neglect to do or take any reasonable action to prevent others committing similar breaches, in addition to action against the offender, the team that the offending person supports, may lose competition or disqualified from the competition

3.3.2 The following persons are authorised to be inside the spectator fence at JL playing fields and must be identified by Vests, ID card or similar.

3.3.2.1 Players who are actively involved in the game.

3.3.2.2 The Coach, trainers, manager and approved medical personnel of the team or club.

3.3.2.3 Club officials or representatives authorised to perform crowd and ground control. ie. ground manger.

3.3.2.4 District JL crowd and grounds personnel, district selectors or other officials.

3.3.2.5 Referees, approved touch judges and Referee appointment Board representatives.

3.3.2.6 Persons who have been given authority by the JL Manager or ground manager or have legitimate reasons to be there i.e unofficial touch judge.

3.3.3 If the ground manager refuses to support a person being inside the spectator fence, the person concerned should leave the area immediately.

3.3.4 Should any spectator or other person (parent, guardian, carer, relative, etc.) make an unauthorised entry (cross the sideline and or dead ball line) onto the playing field, at any JL game the person will be in breach of the JL Codes of Conduct. Following investigation and identification of the offending person, the registration of any player(s) related to that offending person may be suspended by the JL Manager or authorised person.

3.4 PLAYING UNIFORM

3.4.1 Clubs should ensure that players appear in proper uniforms in all competition matches and end of season matches which shall consist of jersey in the clubs registered colours, socks, shorts, boots or shoes (which must not have spikes or studs which in the opinion of the Referee could be considered dangerous).

3.4.2 The following must be adhered to in relation to playing uniform:

3.4.2.1 Skins past the knee are not allowed. Approval upon receipt of a doctor's certificate will be reviewed.

3.4.2.2 Players with beaded hair or hearing aids must wear headgear.

3.4.2.3 Knots cannot be tied anywhere in the football jumper.

3.4.2.4 Body jewellery must be removed.

3.4.2.5 Players wearing eye goggles. See NSWRL Policy and procedures manual (4.27)

3.4.2.6 Gang orientated colours cannot be displayed.

3.5 CONDITION OF THE GROUND

3.5.1 Where there is doubt regarding the fitness of the ground where a competition match is to be played, consultation between the Referees, two captains and senior officials from each club should take place with the final decision resting with the Referee.

3.7 PLAYER AND OFFICIALS REGISTRATION (ID) CARDS

- 3.7.1 Registration books should be available to the officials at the official table with player's cards in the same order as the list of players and programs.
- 3.7.2 Books of identification photographs are to be produced prior to sign on and to remain at the table for the duration of the game. Any anomalies noticed with identity cards to be recorded on the back of the sign-on sheet and a follow up report submitted to the JL. It is the duty of the officials at the table to ensure the players' cards and sign on sheets are correctly completed and then to make the appropriate notations regarding replacement players and to correctly record scores before having the Referee sign the sheet.
- 3.7.3 If a player goes onto the field and plays without the players' card being available at the official table, the players' team may forfeit any competition points gained as a result of that particular match and the player and the club concerned could face disciplinary action.
- 3.7.4 A team manager is entitled to check players' cards from both teams prior to and during a game. Opposing players and officials should not be cross-examined or put under duress. If player's cards are to be compared with players, this should be done by way of a visual inspection when the opposing team is signing on. Any apprehension, concern or suspected rule breach should be written on the back of the sign on sheet and a JL incident report submitted to the JL Manager prior to 5:00pm on the Monday following the match.
- 3.7.5 If a player leaves a venue during a game, to go to another venue and takes his players' card with him, the opposing team officials must be informed and given an opportunity to inspect the players' card prior to his departure from that venue. Breaches against this rule could result in loss of points and/or suspension.
- 3.7.6 **LOST OR MISPLACED PLAYERS ID CARD / BRAG BOOK** – Team managers should check weekly to ensure all players and team officials ID cards are in the team brag book.
- 3.7.6.1 If an individual player's ID card is not at the official table that player should not take the field and if he does the team will be in breach of this rule.
- 3.7.6.2 In the event of team officials becoming aware before the weekend that a brag book has been lost or misplaced, they should advise the JL office in sufficient time so duplicate cards or other authorisation can be arranged before the game.
- 3.7.6.3 In the event of team officials becoming aware on game day that a brag book has been lost or misplaced, they should advise the opposing team coach prior to the game. The game should be played first and any protest or complaint regarding the unavailability of the players ID cards attended to afterwards.
- 3.7.6.4 The usual result of a protest or complaint about a team playing without the players ID cards being at the official table is for the game to be awarded to the opposing team. If extenuating circumstances for unavailability of ID cards and all players involved were registered in accordance with the rules, there is provision for the result of the game to be recognized.
- 3.7.6.5 If the unavailability of the cards was the result of carelessness or lack of proper security, there is provision for the game to be awarded to the opposing team.
- 3.7.6.6 Players and officials ID cards will be returned to the JL office by a date nominated by the JL manager. Fines will apply if cards are not returned by this date and persons who have not returned their ID card to their club or the JL office by the due date will be added to the defaulters list until the card is returned. ID cards are the property of the Penrith JL.

3.9 REFEREE'S

- 3.9.1 The Referee has the discretion to terminate a game whenever by reason of climatic condition, interference by spectators or other causes the Referee deems it necessary. In all cases, including complaints, the Referee shall advise the JL Manager through the Secretary of the Referees' Association prior to 7:00pm on the Sunday by submitting a written report.
- 3.9.2 Should the Referee's Association have prior warning or opinion regarding the condition of a ground, the matter should be brought to the attention of JL Manager as a matter of urgency prior to action being taken.
- 3.9.3 The Referee's Association Board shall appoint Referee's to the games.
- 3.9.3.1 Eligibility and constitutions of said Appointments Board shall be constituted by the Referee's Association and included in their constitution with the approval of the JL.
- 3.9.3.2 A Referee shall be appointed for each match by the Appointments Board.
- 3.9.3.3 In the event of the Referee's Association failing or refusing to appoint Referee's, the JL Manager may carry out that function.
- 3.9.4 Any club official who is qualified to Referee and appointed to games by the Referee's association, must declare a conflict of interest if appointed to games involving teams from that persons club. The JL Manger is entitled to request the Referee's Association to change such appointment.
- 3.9.5 In the event of the Referee so appointed not attending within fifteen (15) minutes after the time set down to commence the match, then any person (qualified as a Referee for the particular age group) may be appointed to control the match by the secretaries (or in their absence) by officials of the opposing clubs.
- 3.9.6 If an agreement to appoint a qualified person is reached and the match is played, the result of the match shall stand and cannot be protested on the issue of Referee appointment or performance.
- 3.9.7 If an agreement cannot be reached and a Referee is not appointed, the game should not be played.
- 3.9.8 In any case a written report should be forwarded as soon as possible to the JL Manager.

3.10 APPROACHING A REFEREE OR TOUCH JUDGE

- 3.10.1 It is a breach of JL rules for a player, coach, trainer, manager or other official to 'approach' a Referee or touch judge during or immediately after a game seeking a rule explanation or for any other reason directly relating to a game. Zero tolerance applies to any incident reported to the JL in relation to approaching a match official during or immediately after a game. (There is no objection to a Referee being approached before a game provided the approach is civil and courteous).
- 3.10.2 Any 'approach' to a match official shall be made through the Referee's Association Appointments Board official at the ground or at semi-final time through the JL Game Manager.

3.11 DECISIONS OF THE REFEREE

- 3.11.1 It is the firm policy of the JL not to interfere with the result of a match due to a Referee error on the field. If however it should be found that an error was made by officials at the official table recording the match, or for other reasons supported by committee resolutions after taking evidence, the Board of Management may consider (after due deliberation), interfering with the outcome of any match so effected.
- 3.11.2 Any club may lodge a complaint against a Referee, or on the grounds of misconduct of a Referee. Copies of all complaints are forwarded to the Secretary of the Referees' Association for investigation.
- 3.11.3 A written statement defining the points at which the complaint or protest is founded and the law or laws under which it is laid must be delivered to the JL Manger by 5:00pm on the Monday following the match.

3.16 BITING, EYE GOUGING OR RACIAL INSULT ALLEGATIONS

- 3.16.1 When a player makes an allegation to the Referee that he has been bitten, had his eye(s) gouged or racially abused by another player the following action will be taken:
- 3.16.1.1 The Referee will call together both touch judges, the (2) team captains, the player who made the allegation and the player against whom the allegation was made.
- 3.16.1.2 Draw attention to any injury i.e. bite mark, cut or scratch or alleged words used etc.
- 3.16.1.3 Inform them that a complaint form will be completed after the match and forwarded to the JL office.
- 3.16.1.4 Then have this matter investigated by an authorised person of the JL and the player or his parent or guardian or club official who made the complaint will be expected to complete a written complaint and submit same to the JL office before 5pm on the Monday following the incident.

3.17 SUSPENDED AND DISQUALIFIED PERSONS

- 3.17.1 All PDJRL suspensions and disqualifications will be adjudicated in competition rounds or years
- 3.17.2 The following restrictions apply to any coach, manager, trainer, club official, spectator, supporter, parent, club member or other person who has been suspended and/or disqualified by any JL club, subcommittee or the JL Manager, provided such adjudication has been endorsed by the JL:
- 3.17.2.1 Cannot be inside the spectator fence or rope at any JL ground at any time whilst JL or JL club sanctioned activity is taking place, this includes acting as a 'runner' for any team.
- 3.17.2.2 Cannot be in the dressing room at any time with a JL team at any JL or JL club sanctioned activities.
- 3.17.2.3 Cannot have any official involvement in club or committee activities, meetings, training etc, however the JL Board may allow suspended persons limited involvement in various non official activities.
- 3.17.2.4 It will be clubs responsibility to advise the JL if a PDJRL finals match or rep trial is to be deducted from the player's suspension or disqualification period. The following table outlines when a Rugby League match may be counted as a match served to reduce a suspension or disqualification served.

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF EVENT	INCLUDED?	SHORT DESCRIPTION OF EVENT	INCLUDED?
SCHOOL RUGBY LEAGUE	NO	ANY OTHER SPORTING CODE ACTIVITY	NO
PDJRL TRIAL MATCHES	NO	NSWRL COMPETITION BYES	NO
PDJRL SANCTIONED KNOCKOUTS / TOURS	NO	NSWRL COMPETITION FORFEITS (RECEIVED)	NO
PDJRL COMPETITION BYES	YES	NSWRL COMPETITION WASHOUTS	NO
PDJRL COMPETITION FORFEITS (RECEIVED)	YES	NSWRL SANCTIONED JUNIOR REP TRIALS	NO
PDJRL COMPETITION WASHOUTS	YES	NSWRL JUNIOR REP COMPETITION MATCHES	YES
PDJRL COMPETITION MATCHES	YES	NSWRL COMPETITION FORFEITS (RECEIVED)	YES
PDJRL FINALS MATCHES	YES	NSWRL JUNIOR REP PLAYOFF MATCHES	YES
PDJRL BATTLE OF THE WEST FINALS MATCH	YES	NSWRL JUNIOR REP FINALS MATCHES	YES
PDJRL REP/DEVELOPMENT TRIALS	YES		

3.18 REMOVING RUGBY LEAGUE JERSEY

- 3.18.1 It is a breach of JL rules for any player to remove their jersey during or after a game until the player moves to their dressing room (unless removal of jersey is necessary i.e. torn, blood, requires strapping etc.)

3.19 RUNNING A DISTANCE

- 3.19.1 It is a breach of JL rules for a player to 'run a distance' to involve themselves in an on field incident.

3.23 COMPRESSION GARMENTS

- 3.23.1 Compression garments are defined as any technical garments worn under a players on field uniform. These garments include upper body tops, shirts, tights and shorts. In a match environment, compression garments may only be worn as follows:
- 3.23.1.1 Garments may not exceed past the knee, past the elbow or past the length of the playing socks
- 3.23.2 In the event of a breach of this policy the following penalties will be enforced:
- 3.23.2.1 A player will be asked to remove the garment before entering the field of play and if they refuse to do so, they will be removed from the field and action will be taken against the club
- 3.23.3 If for any reason a player is required to wear full length compression or other garments, an application should be made to the JL Manager who will refer the matter and application to the NSWRL for approval.

3.24 CUTS, BLOOD, BLOOD BIN AND CONCUSSION RULE

- 3.24.1 The Referee may direct a player who is bleeding to leave the field for attention and if necessary change any part of the playing kit. Clubs are expected to provide receptacles for collection of blood soiled bandages etc.
- 3.24.2 In Saturday football from U6 to U12 if player is ordered from the field by the Referee for a 'blood bin' related incident, this will constitute as a free replacement, if the player is removed from the field by a trainer without notifying the Referee of a 'blood bin' related incident, this will constitute as a replacement and the player will be deemed injured and the player is not to return to the field of play for the remainder of the match.
- 3.24.3 In Saturday and Sunday international football, if a player is removed from the field of play or a player is ordered from the field by the Referee for a 'blood bin' related incident, this will constitute as a replacement, or the team have the option to play with a player short until the 'blood binned' is able to return to the field.
- 3.24.4 In all Saturday and Sunday limited interchange football a head knock or concussion will constitute as a replacement and the player is not to return to the field of play for the remainder of the match.

3.25 NSWRL CONCUSSION RULE

- 3.25.1 **HEAD INJURIES POLICY STATEMENT:** Any head injury that results in signs or symptoms of brain trauma (no matter how minor) must be treated as serious until proven otherwise. Great care is needed in the initial management, especially if any degree of concussion or decreased level of consciousness is evident. All unconscious players to be managed by an attending NRL Sports Trainer and ambulance called immediately. The possibility of spinal injury must be considered with any head injury.

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. 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”. 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”. 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 Trainer Scheme.

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 the 'Head Injury Notification' 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.

3.27 MERCY RULE

3.27.1 All matches in the Saturday competition will stop immediately when there is a gap of 50 points. All matches in the Sunday competition will stop immediately when there is a gap of 60 points. Officials at official tables will sound the siren at the appropriate time.

3.28 WHEN A GAME CONCLUDES

3.28.1 The reserve players are not permitted to enter the field of play after a game concludes until the Referee has blown the whistle and signals full time. It is a breach of JL rules if reserve and injured players enter the field of play before the game is officially ended by the Referee.

3.29 SPORTSMANSHIP AND SHAKE HANDS

3.29.1 At the conclusion of each game, the two teams will come together in the vicinity of where the game ended and shake hands. Any player or official who refused to support or encourage this rule will be in breach of the JL Codes of Conduct.

3.30 PROTESTS

- 3.30.1 Provided the rules and regulations have been observed and followed, a club may lodge a protest against a breach of the JL rules in relation to the outcome of a match and the complaint may subsequently be heard by the appropriate sub-committee or the JL Manager.
- 3.30.2 All protests shall be in writing on the official JL incident report form and addressed to the JL Manager and be delivered / lodged to the JL office by 5:00pm on the Monday following the match, except for finals series matches.
- 3.30.3 If a club decides to protest whilst a match is in progress (or immediately before or after) a brief account of the protest should be written on the back of the sign-on sheet with the name of the club, official and position.
- 3.30.4 It is still necessary for the club secretary to forward a letter of protest to the JL Manager by 5:00pm on the Monday following the match, except for finals series matches.
- 3.30.5 If the follow up letter from the club Secretary is not received by 5:00pm on the Monday following the match, no further action will be taken by the JL Manager. This letter may be emailed or delivered to the JL office however the club official should confirm receipt of the protest with the office staff.
- 3.30.6 Clubs are still able to lodge a protest irrespective of whether or not the sign-on sheet is endorsed (there will be circumstances when that endorsement might not be practical).

3.31 PERMITS

- 3.31.1 Players moving between JL / Grade / Ron Massey Cup and Representative Football (see transfers)
- 3.31.2 Any player who last played grade football, First Division, Metropolitan, Sponsors or Ron Massey Cup, or other external competition or with the Junior Representative Squads must first obtain written permission from the JL Manager prior to playing in any JL match.
- 3.31.3 The JL Manager has the sole right in regard to the number of permits issued and a permit will not be valid unless it is issued by the JL Manager.
- 3.31.4 Permits must be handed in at the official table and attached to the sign-on sheet. The player's ID card must be at the official table prior to the player taking the field of play. It is the responsibility of the club the player is playing with to ensure this rule is observed.

- 3.34.9 All teams must have a qualified coach present, prior, during and at the completion of every PDJRL games.
- 3.34.10 If there are complaints directly about the action and/or attitude of a coach of a team (swearing, abusing, yelling at players, Referees, officials, encouraging rough and unfair play, or other breaches of the Codes of Conduct) and there is insufficient evidence to place the coach before the Conduct Review hearing, the matter will be referred to the JL Manager or authorised person who will interview the coach or take other action.
- 3.34.11 **TASKS SPECIFIC TO COACH** – As a senior official and in accordance with JL Rules, the coach of each team is responsible and accountable for the actions and behaviour of the players and team support officials of the team.
- 3.34.12 The coach is expected to set an example to others by exercising self-control and discipline, act at all times in a professional manner and insist all players and team officials respect the Codes of Conduct.
- 3.34.13 Approach any player, team official or supporter being unreasonable boisterous and / or using unacceptable language or exhibiting poor behaviour and ask them to refrain from such behaviour.
- 3.34.14 The coach is expected to show respect and support towards match and ground officials at all times, not openly 'coach' from the sideline and not go onto the playing field whilst a match is in progress. Only the coach is to be inside the spectator fence.
- 3.34.15 All coaches are to wear a black vest indicating home or away coach whilst in the playing area, and wear an arm band with their current registration card for all to view. The registration card is to be presented to a referee or any junior league official when called for.**

3.35 TEAM MANAGER

- 3.35.1 **TASKS SPECIFIC TO TEAM MANAGER** – Each club is required to appoint a manager for each team. The manager will be in charge of the team until the completion of the match and a reasonable period thereafter and support the requirements set out in the JL rules in respect to the proper compilation of sign on sheets.
- 3.35.2 Make themselves aware of the content of the section on match sign on sheets that appear in the JL Competition Rules Manual.
- 3.35.3 Before each game commences, check the ID cards of the opposing team to ensure all players, names are properly recorded on the match sign on sheet and that all ID cards of the opposing team players are in the 'brag' book. Any exceptions should be immediately brought to the notice of the opposing team manager and if any reasonable request is ignored or refused, to the notice of the ground manager.
- 3.35.4 All exceptions to be reported to the JL Manager with an incident report prior to 5.00pm the following Monday.
- 3.35.5 The name of the trainer who is in attendance at the ground as the Level 1 (or higher qualified) trainer shall be endorsed on the sign on sheet.
- 3.35.6 Write details of any errors, omissions or anomalies that are observed on the back of the sign on sheet and if necessary submit any major concerns to the JL Manager by way of incident report.
- 3.35.7 Check the ID cards of trainers, and coaches of the opposing team to ensure they are qualified. If the ID cards of a coach or trainer are not in their armband or sighted the person concerned becomes unqualified and is unable to take any part in the game.**
- 3.35.8 Endorse the names on the match sheet of any unofficial touch judge who officiates during the game. Any unofficial touch judge who refuses to provide his/her name, becomes an unauthorised person and must move behind the spectator fence.

DESCRIPTIONS:

- GAME MANGER:** A Person other than a ground manager who is appointed to control and maintain communication with both benches / dugouts and enforce rules and behaviour standards and are empowered under the rules when breaches occur to withdraw the opportunity and privilege of any coach, manager, trainer or other person to have any further involvement in that match.
- 'CO' BOX:** Coaches receive 1 rules and code of conduct strike per match. Second warning the coach is ejected from the game and the game to be forfeited to the opposing team. The game manager will provide the JL manager with an incident report that is to be lodged by 8.00pm on the Sunday following the game
- 'MG' BOX:** Managers receive 1 rules and code of conduct strike per match. Second warning the manager is ejected from the game and the game to be forfeited to the opposing team. The game manager will provide the JL manager with an incident report that is to be lodged by 8.00pm on the Sunday following the game
- 'PB' BOX:** The Players Bench will receive 2 rules and code of conduct strikes per match. Second warning the coach is ejected from the game and the game to be forfeited to the opposing team. The game manager will provide the JL manager with an incident report that is to be lodged by 8.00pm on the Sunday following the game
- 1ST 'YELLOW BOX:** Blue Shirt trainers will receive 2 rules and code of conduct strikes per match. Second warning the coach is ejected from the game and the game to be forfeited to the opposing team. The game manager will provide the JL manager with an incident report that is to be lodged by 8.00pm on the Sunday following the game
- 2ND 'YELLOW' BOX:** Orange Shirt trainers will receive 2 rules and code of conduct strikes per match. Second warning the coach is ejected from the game and the game to be forfeited to the opposing team. The game manager will provide the JL manager with an incident report that is to be lodged by 8.00pm on the Sunday following the game
- 3RD 'YELLOW' BOX:** Yellow Shirt trainers will receive 2 rules and code of conduct strikes per match. Second warning the coach is ejected from the game and the game to be forfeited to the opposing team. The game manager will provide the JL manager with an incident report that is to be lodged by 8.00pm on the Sunday following the game
- 'EJECT NRLID' BOX:** The game manager after having to remove any team official or player from the playing area will notate the person/s NRLID number in the box provided and attach the game card to the score sheet for submission to the JL. The game manager will then provide the JL manager with an incident report that is to be lodged by 8.00pm on the Sunday following the game
- 3.36.18 The JL Board, authorised person and the JL Manager are empowered under the rules when breaches occur to withdraw the opportunity and privilege of any coach, player, manager, trainer or other person to have any involvement in official JL activity, including competition, trial and other games, training and associated activity.

3.39 CONSUMING INTOXICATING LIQUOR

3.39.1 It will be a breach of the JL rules for any team official, spectator or player to consume intoxicating liquor prior to or during a game, upon conviction of that person, the team may lose 3 competition points or other penalty.

3.40 CRITICAL COMMENTS DIRECTED AT MATCH OFFICIALS

3.40.1 It is a breach of JL rules for a player or team official or other person to uses racial, abusive or threatening language, openly use criticism of match or other officials as an excuse for the outcome of the game or for anti-social behaviour or comments by team members.

3.41 IDENTIFICATION OF OFFENDERS

3.41.1 It will be a breach of JL rules for any Coach, Trainer or team manager (or other official) upon request being made to refuse or fail to advise the name of any player or team official to the Ground Manager, Referee, Touch Judge or other authorised person.

3.42 INSULTING GESTURES

3.42.1 Any player or official who makes gestures that are found to be intimidating, insulting, suggestive, unacceptable, offensive, or not in the best interest and welfare of the game or JL, to the crowd or group of spectators, will be in breach of JL Codes of Conduct.

3.43 INTIMIDATION BY PLAYERS OR TEAM OFFICIALS

3.43.1 It is a breach of JL rules for player(s) or team official(s) to congregate or form groups prior, during or after a game in such a manner they intimidate, harass or cause inconvenience to others.

3.44 COWARD PUNCH

3.44.1 It will be a breach of JL Codes of Conduct for a player to deliberately and unexpectedly throw a 'Coward Punch' at an opposing player and upon conviction may face suspension of a minimum (28) rounds.

3.45 OFFENSIVE AND THREATENING LANGUAGE

3.45.1 It is a breach of JL rules for any player, coach and team support officials to yell at, harass or intimidate touch judges, the Referee or other persons. Breaches of this rule may see them suspended.

3.45.2 If any spectator, is convicted of using indecent, abusive, or threatening language to a match official, that persons' team may be fined and lose competition points and is in serious breach of the Codes of Conduct, in such a manner that the offender is unable to be identified, the team as an entity will be held responsible.

3.46 RACIAL, RELIGIOUS OR SEXUAL VILIFICATION

3.46.1 It will be a breach of JL Codes of Conduct for any reason to threaten abuse, intimidate, or make insulting reference to another person's colour, religion, nationality, sexuality or beliefs. To convict under this specific rule the hearing committee after the taking of evidence must be satisfied beyond reasonable doubt, that the language used was offensive and racially or religiously intended. Alternatively, the Committee may determine a conviction for another Codes of Conduct breach.

4. SEMI FINALS, FINALS & GRAND FINALS

4.1 ABANDONED END OF SERIES MATCHES

- 4.1.1 Because of the significantly increased profile of the end of series matches and the privilege of being involved, the JL Board expects players and team support officials to place emphasis on the need to respect and support the JL Codes of Conduct and good behaviour rules during these prestigious matches.
- Should a play-off, semi-final, final or Grand Final be abandoned, due to the pressing need to conclude an investigation before the following weekend, the JL Manager shall obtain reports from both teams, match and ground officials and other appropriate persons and cause an immediate investigation to be carried out into the reasons that caused the game to be abandoned. Players and team support officials involved in end of series games are advised that penalties in regard to teams or individuals convicted of actions and/or behaviour considered responsible or contributing towards end of series games being abandoned, may be significantly increased compared to abandoned matches during the competition rounds.

4.2 BEHAVIOUR OF PLAYERS AND TEAM OFFICIALS IN FINALS MATCHES

- 4.2.1 JL officials at end of season semi-final matches are empowered to take on the spot action within the JL rules against players and team support officials for breaches of the JL code of conduct.
- 4.2.2 Should that person continue to be in breach following an official caution that person may be suspended from taking part in any future match on that day or in the match that he is involved in at that particular time.
- 4.2.3 Should that person or team official refuse to accept the disciplinary action or further offend, the person's ID card will be taken possession of the matter referred to the JL Manager, with a recommendation that it be referred to the JL conduct review committee.
- 4.2.4 If a player takes the field or a coach, trainer or team manager disregards a direction after being suspended in accordance with this rule, the match may be awarded to the opposing team.
- 4.2.5 Significant penalties apply upon conviction of a player, coach, trainer, manager or other person for using offensive and/or threatening behaviour or language towards a match or JL official at end of series matches.
- 4.2.6 **PLAYERS SENT OFF IN FINALS** – If a player appears before any committee (Judiciary, conduct review etc.) for being sent off or cited in a semi-final, final or Grand Final, upon conviction and in addition to the normal penalty, he may be asked to show cause why a further suspension should not be implemented.
- 4.2.7 **PLAYERS SENT OFF IN GRAND FINALS** – Will not participate in any Presentation or Photos inside the playing area and must remain in the dressing room until their team has retired to the dressing room after the completion of all activities.

4.3 HARRASMENT OF JL OFFICIALS

- 4.3.1 If any player or team support official uses any insulting, abusive or threatening language or unnecessarily challenges any JL official involved during the semi-final series on crowd and ground control, gate admission, signing players on or other official function, the matter should be immediately reported to the ground manager, who if satisfied with the circumstances will suspend the offending person from any involvement in any match on that date and submit a report to the JL Manager with the view of bringing the offending person before the conduct review committee

4.6 METHOD OF DETERMINING FINALS POSITIONS

- 4.6.1 At the conclusion of the competition rounds, the first (5) teams shall take part in the final series matches.
- 4.6.2 At the conclusion of competition matches, if (2) or more teams are equal in competition points, then for the purpose of determining the order of placement of teams for the final series, the teams will be ranked in order, according to the difference between the number of points scored by a team and the number of points scored against a team with the team with the greater difference being ranked ahead of a team with lesser, in the event of that difference being equal, the following percentage determination will be made with the team with the highest percentage being ranked ahead of the team with the lower percentage:

$$\frac{\text{Points score for}}{\text{Points scored against}} \times 100$$

- 4.6.3 **QUALIFICATION FOR SEMI-FINALS** – semi-final qualification for all teams will be on competition points and then for and against points. There will be no play-offs for any position.

- 4.6.4 **FIVE (5) TEAM FINALS STRUCTURE FOR SATURDAY AND SUNDAY COMPETITIONS** – When the final number of teams to play in the final series has been determined, the order of play shall be as follows:

MATCH 'A'	Team 4	-v-	Team 5
MATCH 'B'	Team 2	-v-	Team 3
MATCH 'C'	Winner of Match 'A'	-v-	Loser of Match 'B'
MATCH 'D'	Team 1	-v-	Winner of Match 'B'
MATCH 'E'	Winner of Match 'C'	-v-	Loser of Match 'D'
MATCH 'F'	Winner of Match 'D'	-v-	Winner of Match 'E'

- 4.6.5 **FOUR (4) TEAM FINALS STRUCTURE FOR SATURDAY AND SUNDAY COMPETITIONS** – When the final number of teams to play in the final series has been determined, the order of play shall be as follows:

MATCH 'A'	Team 3	-v-	Team 4
MATCH 'B'	Team 1	-v-	Team 2
MATCH 'C'	Winner of Match 'A'	-v-	Loser of Match 'B'
MATCH 'D'	Winner of Match 'B'	-v-	Winner of Match 'C'

4.7 DRAWN END OF FINAL SERIES MATCHES

- 4.7.1 Where the scores are equal after the completion of any play-off, semi-final, final or Grand Final of both the Saturday and Sunday competition, the Referee will call the two captains together and advise that the game will go into extra time of two (5) minute periods for all matches. A coin will be tossed. The captain winning the toss will have the option of either kick off or receive the ball from the kick off. The game will commence and continue until one of the teams scores either a field goal, penalty goal or try. The Referee will then immediately terminate the game with the team scoring first being declared the winner.
- 4.7.2 In Grand Finals, in the event that neither team has scored following (2) periods of (5) minutes of extra time, the game will be declared a draw with both teams' joint premiers.
- 4.7.3 In semi-finals and finals, in the event that neither team has scored following (2) periods of (5) minute periods of extra time, the team that scored the first try in the game will be declared the winner. If no tries, it will be the team that scored the first goal; if no goals the game will be replayed mid-week.
- 4.7.4 After the first (5) minute period of extra time the teams will change ends and the game recommenced with a kick-off from half-way.
- 4.7.5 Teams with limited interchange, an additional (2) players will be available in the extra time periods

5. COMPLIANCE & LEGAL

5.1 APPEALS

- 5.1.1 Any player, official, person, group, team or club has a right of appeal against any adjudication or decision made by a JL Sub-Committee, the Executive, JL Manager or the Board of the JL. All appeal applications must be completed by the appellant, or, in the case of a minor, by a parent or guardian. The District Appeals Committee will adjudicate upon all appeals. For an appeal to be accepted by the Appeals Committee the following requirements must be observed:
- 5.1.1.1 The official JL Appeal Form is be used.
 - 5.1.1.2 The prescribed appeal fee should be attached.
 - 5.1.1.3 The appeal should be lodged at the JL office within the limitation of time. Clubs, coaches and other officials cannot appeal or pay the appeal fee on behalf of members.
 - 5.1.1.4 Fresh evidence must be available and fully set out in or attached to the Appeal Form. This is most important. (The success of the appeal may depend on the quality of the fresh evidence submission).
 - 5.1.1.5 Proper appeal procedures should be followed.

5.2 THE OFFICIAL JUNIOR LEAGUE APPEAL FORM

- 5.2.1 Copies of the appeal form can be obtained from the JL website. All sections of the form must be completed and if necessary additional documentation can be attached. The appeal could lose impact if insufficient information is provided. http://websites.sportstg.com/assoc_page.cgi?c=7-91-0-0-0&assoc=91

5.3 THE APPEAL FEE

- 5.3.1 The appeal fee is \$500.00 and should be attached to the appeal form when it is lodged with the JL. The fee can be paid by cash or eftpos and is refundable, only if the appeal is upheld.

5.4 THE LIMITATION OF TIME FOR APPEALS

- 5.4.1 The limitation of time for the lodgement of appeals will be 7 days.
- 5.4.1.1 Appeals against decisions of Conduct Review, Judiciary, JL Manager, JL Board or other Subcommittees must be lodged within 7 days.
 - 5.4.1.2 As a result there may be insufficient time to arrange an appeal hearing between a previous adjudication and the following weekend. Accordingly any penalty (suspension, fine or other penalty) appealed against will be operative until the appeal hearing takes place.
 - 5.4.1.2 Should an appeal be lodged following a hearing into or adjudication into an incident, complaint, protest, etc. from the last competition round, a play-off, semi-final or final the limitation of time will be 24 hours from the date of any special hearing or adjudication that took place.

5.5 FRESH EVIDENCE

- 5.5.1 Fresh evidence is evidence that could not have been reasonably known at the time of the earlier hearing. Any evidence that could have been available at the earlier hearing if all diligent searches and inquiries had been made by the appellant prior to the conclusion of the initial hearing is not fresh evidence. (i.e. Under most circumstances a video or additional witnesses is not fresh evidence). An appeal will not proceed unless there is fresh evidence and the appeal fee will be confiscated.

5.10 TRANSFER APPEALS

- 5.10.1 There are special procedures in place to deal with appeals in respect to transfers.
- 5.10.2 The JL Manager has approval from the Board to review appeals prior to the appeals going to the District Appeals Committee. In the case of transfer appeals, after due investigation and if satisfied special circumstances exist, may alter the previous decisions. In the case of other appeals the JL Manager may after due investigation and if satisfied special circumstances exist, recommend review by the Board.
- 5.10.3 Further, there is also provision for transfer appeals involving players in the District Representative and Development Squads to be reviewed by a special Sub-Committee of the JL Board.
- 5.10.4 Appeals may proceed to the District Appeals Committee following dissatisfaction in regard to the adjudication by the JL Manager or special Sub-Committee should that action be desired.

5.11 BREACH NOTICE – CODE OF PROCEDURE

- 5.11.1 **COMPLIANCE** – All clubs and all persons (which include players, team support and / or club officials and other persons i.e. parents / relatives / supporters, etc.) as defined by the JL Board as bound by the rules of the Penrith and Districts Junior Rugby League club Limited (i.e. Constitution and competition and other rules as resolved by the Board from time to time) shall at all times comply with the provisions of this breach policy.

5.12 PROOF OF BREACH

- 5.12.1 **PROOF OF BREACHES** – Where in these rules a club or a person is prohibited from doing something, that club or person shall be taken to have failed to comply with that provision if that club or person:
 - 5.12.1.1 Does the thing that is prohibited;
 - 5.12.1.2 Attempts to do the thing that is prohibited; or
 - 5.12.1.3 Aids, abet, counsels, procure or induce another person or entity to do or attempt to do the thing that is prohibited.
- 5.12.2 Where in these rules a club or a person is required to do something, that the club or person shall be taken to have failed to comply with that provision if that club or person:
 - 5.12.2.1 Fails to do the thing required; or
 - 5.12.2.2 Aids, abet, counsels, procure or induce another person or entity not to do the thing that is required.
- 5.12.3 Any breach of these rules by a club and / or team support or other club official shall be deemed to also be a breach of the relevant rule by that official's club.
 - 5.12.3.1 In any breach proceedings brought against a club for a contravention of these rules it will be sufficient proof of that contravention if it is established that a team support official and / or official of that club contravened the relevant rule.
 - 5.12.3.2 Notwithstanding anything herein or elsewhere contained in any breach proceedings against a person for a contravention of these rules the contravention shall not be taken to be proved unless the evidence, directly or inferentially supports the conclusion and balance of probabilities, that a person:
 - 5.12.3.2.1 Knowingly committed the act or made the omission constituting the contravention
 - 5.12.3.2.2 Knowingly aided, abetted, counselled, procured or induced the contravention; or
 - 5.12.3.2.3 Has been in any way directly/indirectly, knowingly concerned in, or part to the contravention

5.15 IMPOSING PENALTIES

5.15.1 If the JL Compliance and Legal officer forms the opinion, in his absolute discretion, that a breach of these rules by a person bound by these rules and / or club has occurred and the JL Compliance and Legal officer proposed to impose a penalty in relation to that breach the JL Compliance and Legal officer may:

5.15.1.1 Issue a Breach Notice to that person and / or that club setting out the alleged breach and the proposed penalty and specifying a period of not less than (5) business days during which that person and / or that club may respond in writing to the JL Compliance and Legal coordinator in relation to the alleged breach and the proposed penalty.

PLEASE NOTE: The JL Compliance and Legal officer may in special circumstances reduce the above period (i.e. five business days) to a lesser period provided he clearly advises / explains the reason for doing so (i.e. semi-finals or other pressing competition commitment or circumstance).

5.15.1.2 After the expiration of the period for response the JL Compliance and Legal officer may, after considering any written response to the Breach Notice from the person or the club, determine that the breach has occurred and impose the penalty set out in the Breach Notice.

5.15.1.3 Determine that the breach has occurred and impose a different penalty to the one set out in the Breach Notice.

5.15.1.4 Determine that the breach has not occurred.

5.15.1.5 Determine that a different breach than the one set out in the Breach Notice has occurred, in which event he may withdraw that Breach Notice and forward to the person or club an amended Breach Notice.

5.15.1.6 In any case where the JL Compliance and Legal officer had determined that a breach has occurred and he has imposed a penalty, the JL Compliance and Legal officer shall forthwith notify the club or the person, as the case may be, of that determination or imposition.

5.16 RIGHT OF REVIEW

5.16.1 Any person who is the subject of a determination and imposition may, within (5) business days of that determination and imposition, request the JL conduct review subcommittee (i.e. the appeals tribunal that is in place) to review that determination, conduct a hearing and / or imposition as the case may be.

5.16.2 A person or club who is entitled to request the JL conduct review subcommittee to review a determination and / or imposition must proceed in accordance with the requirements of the Breach Notice procedural rules as set out.

5.16.3 On the hearing of the review of a determination or imposition of the JL Compliance and Legal officer, the JL conduct review subcommittee may vary the determination and / or imposition of the JL Compliance and Legal officer or take other action.

5.16.4 The limitation of time for a review after the last competition match, play-off, semi-final, final or grand final is (24) hours from the date the adjudication was advised.

- 5.17.8 **GENERAL OFFENCES** – For the purpose of this Code an offence is constituted by any instance of misconduct and such other conduct as may, from time to time, be deemed by the Incident Review Officer or Conduct Review Committee to constitute an offence.
- 5.17.9 **CONSEQUENCES** – A person will be deemed to have been charged with an offence immediately such person is informed (verbally, in writing or electronically) by the Secretary of that persons club (or the club that person has some connection with) or by the JL with the Incident Review Officer having absolute discretion in determining the definition of the words ‘some connection’.
- 5.17.10 **GRADINGS**

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3
BHAVE IN AN UNPROFESSIONAL OR CONTRARY MANNER, INCLUDES: THREATENING, OFFENSIVE AND ABUSIVE UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT.	1000	2000	3000
UNAUTHORISED ENTRY ONTO PLAYING FIELD		1400	
BECOME INVOLVED IN AN ON-FIELD INCIDENT		1400	
OFFENSIVE, ABUSIVE, THREATENING LANGUAGE. (INCLUDES RACIAL or SEXUAL INSULTS)	700	1400	2800
OFFENSIVE, ABUSIVE, THREATENING LANGUAGE. (INCLUDES RACIAL or SEXUAL INSULTS) DIRECTED AT A MATCH OFFICIAL	1400	2800	4200
OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE DIRECTED AT A MATCH OFFICIAL DURING THE COMPETITION ROUNDS	LOSS OF 3 COMPETITION POINTS		
OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE DIRECTED AT A MATCH OFFICIAL DURING A FINALS SERIES MATCH	DISCRETION OF THE JL MANAGER		

Competition points may be deducted at the committee's discretion upon conviction for other serious offences.

In the event of a complaint being made of conduct not itemised in above grading, the Incident Review Officer may determine a grading and advise such action. The Incident Review Officer may also reduce demerit points if he is satisfied there are extenuating circumstances.

- 5.17.11 **BASE PENALTY POINTS** – The base penalty for each grading of an offence shall be the number of demerit points specified above.
- 5.17.12 **MERIT (DEDUCTION) POINTS** – A person who does not have any convictions for the past three seasons will be entitled to a deduction of 25% of base penalty points.
- 5.17.13 **EARLY GUILTY PLEA** – A person who offers an early guilty plea will be entitled to a deduction of 25% of base penalty points.
- 5.17.14 **DEMERIT (ADDITION) POINTS** – A person who has a conviction of a similar offence during the last three seasons will have 50% of the base penalty points added.
- 5.17.15 A person who has a conviction for other offences during the last three seasons will have 25% of the base penalty points added.
- 5.17.16 **100 POINTS EQUALS ONE-MATCH SUSPENSION** – After taking into account base, deduction and addition of points, if the total amount of points totals 100, the person shall be suspended for (1) match, 200 points for (2) matches and so on.

- 5.17.29 **SEQUENCE OF PROCEDURE (TIMEFRAME)** – If the person concerned intends to plead not guilty there is a commitment on that person to make contact with the JL or the Incident Review Officer. The person should attend a subsequent hearing ready to respond to the charge.
- 5.17.30 If the person concerned intends to plead guilty with an explanation or to plead 'No Contest' it is necessary for that person (or the club Secretary) to advise the JL of that decision so the various witnesses and complainant can be advised not to attend the hearing.
- 5.17.31 **MERIT OPPORTUNITY (DEDUCTION) OF PENALTY** – Should a person charged elect to plead guilty with an explanation or to plead 'No Contest' and that person advises such intention to the Incident Review Coordinator within a period of (5) days, and the Incident Review Officer is of the opinion the matter can be dealt with summarily the following deduction of penalty may apply:
- 5.17.31.1 The penalty for the early guilty plea will be reduced by 25%.
- 5.17.31.2 And additional 25% if the person has no prior convictions during the past (3) years.
- 5.17.32 **PERSONS FAILING TO RESPOND TO A CONDUCT REVIEW NOTICE** – Should a person fail to respond by the time limit prescribed, the charge may be set down for hearing before the Conduct Review Committee. The committee will be so informed and any merit opportunity (i.e. deduction of penalty) no longer available.
- 5.17.33 If the person concerned does not respond within the timeframe allocated to the charge the maximum penalty or Conduct Review committee's adjudication will apply.
- 5.17.34 Should a person be charged with an offence fail to appear, the committee may proceed to hear and determine the charge and the penalty in the absence of the person.
- 5.17.35 Players or officials failing to appear at conduct review without acceptable explanation may face additional penalty.
- 5.17.36 **REHABILITATION** – Should the Chairman of Conduct Review and / or the Incident Review Officer form an opinion (in his absolute discretion) that a player, official or other person would benefit from rehabilitation or counselling, a recommendation may be made and the person undertake a program or similar initiative.
- 5.17.37 **PROCEEDINGS NOT TO BE INVALIDATED** – Proceedings shall not be invalidated or subject to appeal, merely by reason of any defect whether of substance or of form in any notice or by reason of non-compliance by the JL with any provision of this Code, unless the Chairman so directs.
- 5.17.38 **DOCUMENTATION** – The following documentation will be recognised and retained by the JL:
- 5.17.38.1 **Form 1** Letter(s) of complaint or Incident Report(s) to JL, hard copy or email.
- 5.17.38.2 **Form 2** Notice of Charge from JL to Club, email.
- 5.17.38.3 **Form 3** Response from Club or person to JL, hard copy or email.
- 5.17.38.4 **Form 4** Conduct Review hearing hard copy record of evidence at time of hearing.
- 5.17.38.5 **Form 5** Conduct Review report (results of matters circulated to clubs), email.
- 5.17.39 **VISUAL EVIDENCE** – Visual evidence must be DVD or USB compatible to JL equipment. Visual evidence should be delivered to the JL office on Monday prior to 5pm, so compatibility can be checked.

5.19 CONDUCT REVIEW – HEARING PROCEDURES

- 5.19.1 The club representative and person appearing are called into the hearing room where the Chairperson explains the purpose of the hearing.
- 5.19.2 The person appearing is made aware of details of the complaint and is asked for a plea by the Chairperson.
- 5.19.3 If the person appearing pleads guilty the complainant and witnesses may not be called
- 5.19.4 If the person appearing pleads not guilty a full hearing of the complaint will take place with evidence taken from witnesses, the complainant and the defendant.
- 5.19.5 Following the taking of evidence in a not guilty matter, the committee will first of all decide on the guilt or otherwise of the defendant and then decide the penalty.
- 5.19.6 Prior to the committee retiring to consider guilt or otherwise and penalty, the defendant will have ample opportunity to advise character and other evidence on his / her behalf.
- 5.19.7 The Chairperson will not allow anyone to interrupt (or talk over), belittle, insult or ridicule another and will insist on everyone receiving natural justice and being treated in a decent and fair manner. Anyone in breach of this clause may be called before the Conduct Review Committee on a complaint of misconduct.
- 5.19.8 No member of any committee, defendant, complainant or witness, shall leave the hearing room during the progress of a hearing and whilst evidence is being taken, except with the Chairperson's permission.
- 5.19.9 No member of any committee, defendant, complainant or witness, during the progress of a hearing or whilst a matter is being heard, discuss any part of the evidence with any person, except their legal representative.
- 5.19.10 Any person who feels they have been disadvantaged or have a complaint about procedure may first of all make representations to the JL Board and if not satisfied with the response, may appeal any adjudication to the District Appeals Committee.

5.20.12 **CONSEQUENCES** – A player will be deemed to have been charged with an offence immediately the Referee Dismissal Notice has been issued to the player or team official following the match in question.

5.20.13 **GRADINGS**

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3
STRIKING	150	600	1400
TRIPPING	150	600	1400
CONTRARY & DETRIMENTAL CONDUCT	150	600	1400
DEL & CONT. BREAKING LAWS OF THE GAME	150	600	1400
NOT BEHAVING IN TRUE SPIRIT OF THE GAME	150	600	1400
OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE	400	800	1400
OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE AT A MATCH OFFICIAL	600	1400	2800
OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE AT A MATCH OFFICIAL	LOSS OF 3 COMPETITION POINTS		
KICKING	600	1400	2800
KNEEING	600	1400	2800
ELBOWING	600	1400	2800
HEADBUTTING	600	1400	2800
RUN A DISTANCE	600	1400	2800
CARELESS OR RECKLESS HIGH TACKLE	150	600	1400
LIFTING TACKLE	150	600	1400
SPEAR TACKLE	400	800	1400
CANNONBALL TACKLE	400	800	1400
DANGEROUS THROW	600	1400	2800
INTENTIONAL HIGH TACKLE	600	1400	2800
REMOVAL OF JERSEY	1000		
INSTIGATOR OF AN ALL IN BRAWL	1400	2800	
DELIBERATE 'COWARD PUNCH'	2800	6000	
USE OF RACIAL or SEXUAL INSULTS OR ABUSE	2800	6000	
RE-ENTER THE PLAYING FIELD	2800	6000	

** Competition points may also be deducted at the Committees discretion upon conviction for other serious offences. (I.e. racial or sexual insults or abuse). In the event of a complaint being made of conduct not itemised in above grading's, there is provision for the Incident Review Coordinator to determine a grading for that complaint / breach and advise appropriate persons of such action.

5.20.14 **BASE PENALTY POINTS** – The base penalty for each grading of an offence shall be the number of demerit points specified above.

5.20.15 **MERIT (DEDUCTION) POINTS** – A person who does not have any convictions for the past three seasons will be entitled to a deduction of 25% of base penalty points.

5.20.16 **EARLY GUILTY PLEA** – A person who will be entitled to a deduction of 25% of base penalty points.

5.20.17 **DEMERIT (ADDITION) POINTS** – A person who has a conviction of a similar offence during the last (3) seasons will have 50% of the base penalty points added.

5.20.18 A person who has a conviction for other offences during the last (3) seasons will have 25% of the base penalty points added.

5.20.19 **100 POINTS EQUALS ONE-MATCH SUSPENSION** – After taking into account base, deduction and addition of points, if the total amount of points totals 100, the person shall be suspended for (1) match, 200 points for (2) matches and so on.

5.20.30 SEQUENCE OF PROCEDURE (TIMEFRAME)

GAME DAY

- 5.20.30.1 Player dismissed from field by Referee and may be issued with a Dismissal Notice
- 5.20.30.2 Team official advises Club Secretary of player dismissed
- 5.20.30.3 Referee advises Secretary of Referees' Association

MONDAY

- 5.20.30.4 Secretary of Referees' Association advises JL
- 5.20.30.5 JL compiles list of dismissals and checks record
- 5.20.30.6 JL advises player's club of offence grading
- 5.20.30.7 Player makes decision regarding offence grading

TUESDAY

- 5.20.30.8 Player's club advises JL of player's decision before 10am
- 5.20.30.9 JL considers player's decision and responds accordingly
- 5.20.30.10 JL arranges player's appearance before Judiciary (if appropriate)
- 5.20.30.11 JL advises witnesses (to or not to) attend Judiciary

WEDNESDAY

- 5.20.30.12 JL prepares Judiciary hearing documentation
- 5.20.30.13 Judiciary hearing conducted

THURSDAY

- 5.20.30.14 Judiciary records adjusted
- 5.20.30.15 JL advises clubs outcome of Judiciary hearings

- 5.20.31 **COMMITMENT ON PLAYERS (AND CLUBS) TO ATTEND JUDICIARY** – It is the responsibility of every player dismissed from the field by the Referee to automatically attend Judiciary on the allocated night, unless the player has resolved through the Judiciary Code of Procedures to accept the grading as determined by the JL and that grading negates the need for the player to attend. The JL is not obliged to pre-advise the player or the club of the need for a player dismissed from the field to attend Judiciary.
- 5.20.32 **PLAYER (OR CLUB) FAILING TO RESPOND AND / OR APPEAR** – Should a player fail to respond by the time limit prescribed in the Notice of Charge Form, the Minimum adjudication advised in the Notice of Charge Form will apply and automatically come into effect on and from that time limit.
- 5.20.33 Should a player charged with an offence fail to appear, provided proper process has been followed, the Judiciary panel may proceed to hear and determine the charge and any penalty in the absence of the player
- 5.20.34 Players failing to appear at Judiciary without an acceptable explanation may face additional penalty.
- 5.20.35 **REHABILITATION** – Should the Chairman of Judiciary or the Incident Review Coordinator form an opinion (in his absolute discretion) that a player (or other person) would benefit from rehabilitation or counselling, a recommendation may be made that the person concerned undertake a program or other initiative.
- 5.20.36 **DOCUMENTATION** – The following documentation will be recognised and retained by the JL:
- 5.20.36.1 **Form 1** Referee's Dismissal Report, hard copy may be completed by Referee on game day
 - 5.20.36.2 **Form 2** Notice of Charge to player's club from JL to Club, email sent to club from the JL.
 - 5.20.36.3 **Form 3** Player's Response to Charge to JL from player's club by email sent to JL by club.
 - 5.20.36.4 **Form 4** Judiciary hearing recorded and hard copy completed at time of hearing.
 - 5.20.36.5 **Form 5** Judiciary report and results circulated to clubs by email from the JL.
- 5.20.37 **PROCEDURES NOT TO BE INVALIDATED** – Proceedings shall not be invalidated or subject to appeal, merely by reason of any defect whether of substance or of form in any notice or by reason of non-compliance by the JL with any provision of this Code, unless the Chairman so directs.
- 5.20.38 **VISUAL EVIDENCE** – Visual evidence must be DVD or USB compatible to JL equipment. Visual evidence should be delivered to the JL office on Monday prior to 5pm, so compatibility can be checked.

5.22 JUDICIARY – HEARING PROCEEDINGS

- 5.22.1 The club representative and player are called into the hearing room where the Chairperson explains the purpose of the hearing.
- 5.22.2 The Chairperson confirms with the player that he has been given a copy of the Referee's report and asks the player for a plea.
- 5.22.3 If the player pleads guilty the Referee and witnesses may not be called. The player will have an opportunity to offer an explanation and any other constructive and character information of his / her choice.
- 5.22.4 If the player pleads not guilty a full hearing of the complaint will take place with evidence taken from witnesses and the defendant.
- 5.22.5 Following the taking of the evidence and before retiring, the committee will first of all decide on the guilt or otherwise of the player and then decide the penalty.
- 5.22.6 The committee will invite the player to advise the committee on character and other evidence on his behalf.
- 5.22.7 The Chairperson will not allow anyone to interrupt (or talk over), belittle, insult or ridicule another and will insist on everyone receiving natural justice and being treated in a decent and fair manner. Anyone in breach of this clause may be called to account on a complaint of misconduct.
- 5.22.8 No member of any committee, defendant, complainant or witness, shall leave the hearing room during the progress of a hearing and whilst evidence is being taken, except with the chairpersons permission.
- 5.22.9 No member of any committee, defendant, complainant or witness, during the progress of a hearing or whilst a matter is being heard, discuss any part of the evidence with any person, except their legal representative.
- 5.22.10 Any player who feels he has been disadvantaged or has a complaint about procedure may first of all make representations to the JL Board and if not satisfied with the response, may appeal any adjudication to the District Appeals Committee.

5.23 JUNIOR LEAGUE CLUB ADJUDICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.23.1 **DISCIPLINE ACTION AT CLUB LEVEL** – A JL club may with reasonable cause suspend, disqualify, fine or take other action against any player, official, club member or other person who is convicted of a breach of the club and/or JL Codes of Conduct. When that action is taken the club shall invite the person concerned and conduct a proper hearing into the incident. A copy of the Minutes of the hearing shall be forwarded to the JL Manager within (5) days of the hearing and provided the clubs actions have been endorsed by the JL Manager, the adjudication of any person so dealt with, will apply throughout all clubs in the Penrith JL District. (Persons called to a hearing should be given (5) or more days' notice, brief details of the complaint and invited to produce whatever evidence and witnesses deemed necessary).
- 5.23.2 Should any member of a JL club holding an official position have allegations or complaint made against them regarding criminal or indictable offence or activity (stealing, dishonesty, assault etc) the JL Manager shall be advised as a matter of urgency.
- 5.23.3 Should any member of a JL Club Executive have allegations or a complaint made against them regarding criminal or indictable offence or activity (stealing, dishonesty, assault etc) the matter shall be referred to the JL Manager for investigation.

5.28 BEHAVIOR AT HEARINGS

- 5.28.1 It will be a breach of this rule for anyone appearing before any JL committee or the JL Manager, to ridicule, insult, belittle or otherwise make any unreasonable or unnecessary critical comments about the committee or the proceedings that are underway or just completed.

5.29 PROTESTS

- 5.29.1 Upon receipt of the protest, the JL Manager will advise brief details of the protest/complaint to the club complained against and arrange for the matter to be investigated and adjudicated upon. Non receipt of that notice will not be a defence at any subsequent hearing.
- 5.29.2 Should a club or official lodge a frivolous or groundless complaint or fail to proceed with a complaint in such a way it is considered an inconvenience, disciplinary action against the club or official may follow.
- 5.29.3 A representative of the club committee may represent players or club officials appearing at a protest hearing from their club. Players U16 years of age may have a parent or guardian attend the hearing with them.
- 5.29.4 The JL Manager is empowered by the Board to adjudicate on any protest, complaint or issue where required.

5.30 REPRESENTATIONS BY CLUBS - POLICY

- 5.30.1 The current policy that exists does not support clubs or players and officials of clubs writing directly to the NSWRL or the ARL or other authority without directing their concerns to the JL first.
- 5.30.2 The Board wants clubs to feel confident about exercising their rights and to have an opportunity to express any frustrations they may have. The Board also feels it is necessary for the JL to be afforded the same opportunity. Accordingly, the following policy is in place:
- 5.30.2.1 Should any player, team support official, official of any club, club committee, person acting on behalf of a club or an official of the JL be of the opinion that they, their club or member of their club has been disadvantaged by a decision, rule or resolution made by the JL management team (Board, Sub-Committees or JL Manager) or that any decision, rule, resolution or recommendation is not in the best interests of themselves, their club or their members they should follow procedures set out in these rules. Following the completion of the appeal process, if they are not satisfied with the outcome they may notify the JL Manager in writing and submit details of their objection or concerns.
- 5.30.2.2 Upon receipt of such representations the JL Manager will present same to the Board for discussion.
- 5.30.2.3 The JL Manager will convey the Board's decision to the person or club concerned.
- 5.30.2.4 Officials and clubs are reminded that current policy allows any member of the General Committee to raise any subject on the floor of General Committee meetings and request the matter be discussed. Further, they may also request that the Board re-considers any decisions it has previously made. The General Committee is able to make recommendations to the Board.
- 5.30.2.5 It will be a breach of JL rules for any person or club to make contact with the District Club, NSWRL or the ARL or other authority without first observing and utilising JL Appeal procedures and the requirements of the policy set out in this document.
- 5.30.2.6 Irrespective of what reason a person or club has to make contact with the District Club, NSWRL or ARL or other authority a copy of the correspondence or verbal contact proposed must be forwarded to the JL Manager first with a covering letter explaining the reasons for such action.
- 5.30.2.7 The JL Manager will forward all correspondence to the appropriate authority together with a response by the JL Board.

- 5.31.11 **INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS** – The JL Manager shall conduct an investigation into reports or breaches of the JL rules, Codes of Conduct and good behaviour rules by players, coaches, managers, trainers, spectators, supporters, parents, officials, and other persons and observe the following procedures:
- 5.31.11.1 Seek immediate reports from club officials and other persons.
 - 5.31.11.2 Evaluate reports and seek additional information if necessary.
 - 5.31.11.3 If necessary, arrange meeting of Match and Incident Review Committee.
 - 5.31.11.4 Take appropriate action in accordance with JL rules.
 - 5.31.11.5 Report outcome to next meeting of the Board.
- 5.31.12 **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION** – The JL Manager may issue a written request to any club official or member to reveal the identity of any person who is in breach of JL rules. If that request is ignored, refused or for other reason not provided within a reasonable period, or misleading false information is given, the team concerned may be suspended, lose competition points and additional action may be taken against the official, member, team or club concerned.
- 5.31.13 **SUPPORT** – In the event of any person being injured as a result of any assault or incident, the JL Manager is authorised by the Board to make whatever further enquiries are deemed necessary and to further support such person:
- 5.31.13.1 Check on the welfare and wellbeing of any person involved.
 - 5.31.13.2 Advise the JL policy in regard to assaults and other serious incidents
 - 5.31.13.3 what extent the JL is able to support such person(s)
 - 5.31.13.4 Offer any reasonable level of support and assistance.
 - 5.31.13.5 Report the outcome to the next meeting of the Board.

5.32 MASS MEDIA INFORMATION

- 5.32.1 If the JL Manager, Subcommittee or authorised person adjudicating or investigating a complaint involving the sending of material or comments by way of 'mass information media' (including but not limited to Facebook, You Tube, Twitter, etc.) has reasonable cause to believe a coach, trainer, manager, player, official or other person was responsible for 'publishing or circulating' any insulting, offensive, intimidating, or otherwise unacceptable material or comments, that person or persons may be fined, suspended or otherwise dealt with.
- 5.32.2 Existing penalties that are advised for breaches of the Codes of Conduct in respect to offensive and threatening language and behaviour, will apply in respect to any player, coach, trainer, manager, official or other person, who uses mass information media to threaten, abuse, intimidate, harass or offend another person, authority, organisation of the JL.
- 5.32.3 A player, coach, trainer, manager or official of the JL or JL club shall not publish or cause to be published any comments or material that is considered by the Board to be detrimental to the policy or prejudicial to the interests, welfare or image of the JL or elsewhere. "Comments publicly" means adverse comments either orally or in writing or in the presence of any person known or ought to be known to be a member of the media or makes such a comment which is known or ought to be known may be reported to the media.

5.35 SPECTATORS SUPPORTERS AND PARENTS

- 5.35.1 **PLAYER REGISTRATION SUSPENDED** – Following an investigation by the JL Manager of a complaint concerning serious breach of JL rules and/or Codes of Conduct, alleged to have been committed by the parent(s) or family member of a player or official, the JL Manager may request the alleged offender to attend an interview with the JL Manager and at the same time advise that the registration of the offender's child (the player) or relative is suspended until the offender attends a meeting with the JL Manager to discuss the incident that occurred.
- 5.35.2 **PARENTS MEETING WITH THE JUNIOR LEAGUE** – Interviews between the JL Manager and an offending parent (or family member) of a player or official, will be held in private at the JL office and a club representative (club official or coach) will not be invited to attend. When a club secretary (or other delegated senior official) is aware that an offending parent (or family member) is attending such meeting and feels there is a need to support that person, the club may make representations to the JL Manager prior to the meeting taking place. The JL Manager will report the outcome of the meeting to the Board.
- 5.35.3 **REFUSE OR FAIL TO ATTEND MEETING** – Should any parent(s) or family member of a player or official, who has been requested to attend a meeting with the JL Manager, to discuss that persons alleged breach of the JL Codes of Conduct, refuse or fail to attend such meeting, the JL Manager may confirm the suspension of the registration of such player or official, until the person(s) concerned attend such meeting. The matter shall be reported to the Board.
- 5.35.4 **REPRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD** – If the parent(s) or family member of any player or official who has had his/her registration suspended by the JL Manager, objects or feels disadvantaged by such adjudication, they may make written representations to the Board. They may then appeal to the District Appeals Committee should they not be satisfied with any adjudication or decision resolved by the Board.
- 5.35.5 **IN THE EVENT OF ANY SPECTATOR, GROUP OF SPECTATORS OR OTHER PERSON WHO:**
- Throws any article or object at a Referee, touch judge, player, team support staff, official or other person,
 - Makes an unauthorised entry inside the spectator fences or ropes,
 - Engages in any action that disrupts or has the potential to disrupt any JL game or official activity,
 - Seriously demonstrates against, abuses, threatens or otherwise demeans another person,
 - Is in serious breach of the JL Codes of Conduct,

Upon being made aware of any such incident, the JL Manager shall take the following action:-

5.35.5.1 Call for reports and carry out a thorough investigation into the incident.

5.35.5.2 Make whatever enquiries he feels are appropriate and necessary.

5.35.5.3 Utilise provisions available within the rules to assist in the investigation of the complaint.

- 5.35.6 **ACTIONS BY THE JUNIOR LEAGUE MANAGER** – If the JL Manager after carrying out an investigation, is in the possession of sufficient evidence, that provides reasonable cause to believe that a particular person or persons, are in breach of any part of this clause and further, provided the team the offending person was supporting can be identified, the following action may be taken:-

5.35.6.1 Contact the club concerned and invite the club to show cause why a fine, other action taken, or competition points should not be deducted from the team the offending spectator was supporting.

5.35.6.2 Report any action taken under this clause to the next Board meeting.