

## **HS Girls Rugby Eligibility Rules, Policies & Guidelines – 2020 Season**

Here are eligibility, rules, policies and guidelines for this year's competition:

### **Combined High School Girls**

1: All players must be BOTH enrolled in high school/ Early or Middle College/ home school equivalent and not have turned 19 before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year (Sept. 1, 2019 for the 2020 season is the date for school enrollment and age). The following exceptions apply as long as team coach coordinates with the director and commissioners BEFORE a player plays in a match:

- Exception 1: A high school freshman who is 14 years old on Sept. 1 of the school year MAY play in the middle school division instead of the high school division. They may not do both HS & MS. They must choose one competition or the other and are then locked in for the season. The only exception would be this player would be allowed to participate in Mixed HS JV Scrimmages that are friendly in format and do not count towards any season standings.
- Exception 2: An 8<sup>th</sup> grader who turns 15 before March MAY play in one of the high school divisions. They may not do both HS & MS. They must choose one competition or the other and then are locked in for the season. This player MAY participate in Mixed HS JV Scrimmages regardless of if they choose to participate in MS or HS competition as these are age appropriate, friendly, developmental in nature.
- Exception 3: Players that are still age eligible but have already graduated HS only if BOTH of the following criteria are met: They are not enrolled in college AND are not playing for a college team; They are not CIPPed, playing for, or a member of an adult club.

2: Head Coaches must turn in rosters by noon on the Thursday prior to game day to the Director and Commissioners to ensure compliance and for the record.

1. Team A Reserves (16-23) MAY play in Team B matches
2. Failure to comply with this rule will forfeit BOTH a clubs Tier 1 & Tier 2 result for the game week in question.

3: Each team must have a minimum of one currently certified Level 200 in their technical zone when any match is played.

1. L200 Coaches may be shared between teams but may only monitor one match at a time
2. Only an additional two coaches, one trainer, two water-carriers and all reserve players are also allowed in a team technical zone

3. League officials, referees, medical personnel, touch judges are the only people allowed up-and-down the technical side of the field. Teams should stay in their zones but at a minimum are not permitted to cross halfway on the technical side.
4. The gallery side of the field is open to everyone. Everyone should stay a minimum of 2 meters back from the field boundary
5. The ATC should be on the technical side of the field – in the middle – between both teams.

### **Substitution and Roster Rules:**

- 23 person roster capped.
- Rolling and unlimited substitutions

### **Disciplinary:**

1: A card given to a player or coach during the course of any League match in any division will be adjudicated by the NCYRU disciplinary board. A player or coach receiving a red card may NOT participate in any League match until the card is adjudicated by their local disciplinary board.

2: Disciplinary actions will be reported to, and implemented in conjunction with the South East Rugby Referee Society (SERRS) which is our regional Rugby Referee Society. Apart from state disciplinary boards, this is the only other governing body which may hear appeals, mitigate, or change a card and the resulting judgement of that card.

### **Photography/ Videography:**

1: Unlimited photography and videography from the gallery side of a field is allowed as long as the photographer/ videographer stays a minimum of 2 meters behind the sideline boundary.

2: Each team may have one stationary videographer and one roving photographer MAXIMUM on the technical side of the field (to include behind the try-zones) with the following rules:

1. A roving videographer will take up the one roving photographer slot – you may not have two roaming the technical boundary.
2. Stationary videographers must set up at halfway (between team technical zones) and be a minimum of two meters from the sideline boundary
3. A roving photographer/ videographer must remain 2 meters back from the boundary and under NO circumstances should step onto an active pitch.
4. Photographers/ videographers may NOT coach or yell instructions to players at any time during a match.
5. Photographers/ videographers may NOT engage players playing in an active match in conversation. This is a purely observational role meant to record the action – no become part of it.

**Culture:**

1: Each club is responsible for the behavior of their coaches, players, and spectators on game day. Please ensure they understand the ethos of rugby and know the difference between cheering FOR their team and yelling AGAINST another team or officials. The continued growth, success, and positive culture of our game is our responsibility to protect and preserve. Here are key items that go to our culture:

1. Referee abuse will not be tolerated. Team captains during a match and head coaches during appropriate breaks in action are the only persons who should be speaking to the referee and assistant referees (with the exception of a designated 4<sup>th</sup> official handling substitutions and league officials communicating official business).
2. Arguments, fights, physical altercations, etc. between players, coaches, spectators will not be tolerated.
3. The head referee AND/ OR league officials retain the right to eject people engaged in this type of behavior from the game day premises.
4. Host teams should ensure restrooms & water are available on game day. Concessions in the form of food trucks and/ or concession stands selling food and drinks to raise money for host clubs on game days are unrequired but excellent additions to a game day experience. Third half where possible are encouraged.
5. Any culture issues will be addressed directly with the president/ director of the host club and with the president/ director of the infracting club. Any issues arising will be adjudicated by the local disciplinary board.