

# **BRISBANE SECOND DIVISION RUGBY LEAGUE INCORPORATED**

## **COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

(Current at January 2013)

These regulations are to be read in conjunction with the Queensland Rugby League and Queensland Rugby League South East Queensland Division regulations and rules and the constitution of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated. All clubs are to be aware that the League has a Zero Tolerance Policy in place.

### **1 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

No player can play in a fixture match unless he is registered for his club as a Brisbane Second Division player with the South East Queensland Division and the South East Queensland Division has allocated a registration number for the current season.

Players who are registered with senior clubs to play Intrust Super Cup, FOGS A Grade or FOGS Colts must complete a separate Player Agreement form with a Second Division club to be eligible to play in the Brisbane Second Division competition. **Clubs must advise the Secretary of the League prior to commencement of fixtures of the names of all players dual registered with senior clubs and the name of the senior club.**

To ensure that registrations can be processed in time for numbers to be issued prior to a player taking part in a match, they should be submitted to the South East Queensland Division office not less than three business days prior to the first match in which the player desires to play.

Any club playing a player for whom a registration number or contract number has not been issued by the South East Queensland Division office or whose registration number or contract number is not listed on the Match Card is liable to be fined for each such incident and to the loss of premiership points for any match in which such an incident occurs.

Clubs are required to verify all details **(including previous playing history)** submitted on each Player's Agreement form submitted by the club.

No player registrations will be accepted after 30 June each year.

### **2 REGISTRATION CHECKS**

Members of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated Executive Committee, or other persons authorised by the Secretary of the League, may conduct random player registration, coaching qualification and on-field personnel checks at any time. All clubs must obey all directions from an Executive Committee member or other authorised person in relation to this matter. Anyone approached must make themselves available for these checks as requested.

### 3 TRANSFERS

The closing date for transfers to or between Second Division clubs is 30 June, with the proviso that a player may only register with one club in any one season except as specified under Clause 8 of the Queensland Rugby League Player's Agreement or the player is released by the club with which he was originally registered.

Players transferring from other clubs within Queensland require an online clearance. It is the responsibility of the club to which a player is transferring to ensure that the player is not suspended or a defaulter to any club.

A player transferring from a club outside of Queensland must produce a written clearance on an Australian Rugby League Clearance Certificate from the club from which he is transferring.

**Where a written clearance is required, this must be produced before the player's registration can be completed and he can play with his new club.**

### 4 TEAM INSURANCE

Compulsory insurance, as defined by the QRL, must be paid before any team plays a trial or fixture match in any season.

### 5 QUALIFICATIONS

To play in any finals match, a player must play at least four Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Premiership rounds in the current season prior to the completion of the final round of the Second Division competition as well as qualifying under the rules below. **For the purposes of determining the number of games played during the season, only one match in any fixture round, or weekend, will count – multiple matches in different grades on the one weekend will only count as one match.**

Players are eligible to play in any grade at any time with the exception of Semi-Finals or Finals. A player is deemed to have participated in a match when his name has been entered on the Match Report Card. For the purpose of Semi-Finals or Finals, a player is eligible for the grade in which he has played the majority of his matches with any club prior to the commencement of the final series, or in a higher grade. If a player plays an equal number of matches in a higher and lower grade he is **NOT** eligible to play in finals with the lower grade.

In the case of a player participating in two grades in the same round, the lower grade shall count in determining qualifications.

In the event of forfeits or cancelled matches, clubs must submit a Match report, listing the players who would have played, if these matches are to be counted for qualifications. Teams forfeiting matches cannot have matches counted under this paragraph. Byes do not count towards qualifications.

In determining qualifications, only matches played during the current season are to be considered.

Where a club has two or more teams playing in finals on the same day, a player may play in any grade in which he is selected provided he meets age qualifications, where they apply.

All clubs taking part in finals are required to submit a list of players and officials intended to be used in the finals matches. This list must be submitted to the Secretary of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated two weeks before the first final match to allow checking of qualifications. There is no limit to the number of names that may be entered on the list.

## **6 AVAILABILITY OF PLAYERS FOR REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES**

Under the rules of the Queensland Rugby League, all players must be available for representative matches if selected. If a selected player does not attend training or a match, he is automatically deemed a suspended player.

## **7 TIME OF MATCHES**

The duration of each half of a match is 35 minutes, ***with the exception of the Premier League which shall be played in 40 minute halves*** with time off for stoppages as indicated by the referee. In any finals match, including Grand Finals, if scores are level at full time a "Sudden death" period of time will be played in ten-minute periods with the first team to score any points being declared the winner of the match. The referee will toss a coin prior to the start of the sudden death period of time, with the team winning the toss having the option of choosing which end of the field to defend, or alternatively may elect to kick-off to commence play. If the team winning the toss elects to kick-off, the choice of ends reverts to the team losing the toss. If no team has scored in the first ten-minute period, the teams will change ends and the team that did not kick-off at the start of the sudden death period will kick-off. The teams will change ends each ten-minutes, with the kick-off alternating between the teams until one team scores.

If scores are level in a Ted Beaumont Trophy match, which is also a premierships match, after regulation time, each team will receive one premierships point, with extra time being played for the trophy only.

## **8 SEMI-FINALS**

Where two teams are level on premierships points at the conclusion of the premierships rounds, places in the semi-finals involving these teams will be decided on the difference in points scored for and against. If the teams are level on points for and against, the positions will be determined by the team with the greatest points for as a percentage of points against being declared the highest placed team. There will be no play-offs to gain a place in semi-finals.

The above rule will also be used to determine positions in the Ted Beaumont Trophies if necessary.

## 9 REPLACEMENT RULE

Each team is permitted to use 19 players in a match, ***with the exception of the Premier League which shall be limited to 17 players***, with any 13 players being on the field of play at any time. There is also no limit to the number of interchanges that may be made during the match.

The names of ***all players*** must be entered on the Match Card prior to the start of the match and no more than ***the 19 or 17*** players' names may be entered on the card. Players' names cannot be changed once they have been entered on the card. If a team does not have the required number of players present at the start of a match, extra names may be entered on the card during the match. No player can take part in a match unless his name is entered on the card before he takes the field.

Players must report to the touch judge before entering or leaving the field of play and no player may enter the field of play before the player he is replacing has left the field.

A player can only take a kick at goal if he was on the field when the try was scored or the penalty was awarded relating to the kick at goal.

Only the players named on the Match Card are allowed to be dressed in the team uniform for any match and only the same players are allowed to sit on the reserves bench during any match.

## 10 REPLACEMENT OF BLEEDING PLAYERS

If a player is bleeding and he is instructed by the referee to leave the field, he must do so until the bleeding has stopped. The player can be replaced under the normal replacement rule while he is off the field.

## 11 STRAPPERS/TRAINERS

All official personnel who enter the field of play **must possess and carry with them** an ARL Leaguesafe Certificate of Attendance or an Accredited Sports Trainer Statement of Attainment and an ARL ID Number.

No person other than the abovementioned personnel, or those with ARL acceptance, shall administer first aid or offer advice to an injured / ill player. Clubs that use unqualified strappers and trainers leave themselves open to liability claims for the negligence of those unqualified personnel who may act in relation to injuries they treat, either on or off the field.

Each team may engage and use a maximum of three (3) On Field personnel during a game; **this must include** at minimum a level 1 ARL accredited sports trainer as part of the 3 on field personnel. At all times Accredited Leaguesafe or Sports Trainers must enter and leave the field of play as quickly as possible. Lingering on the field of play will not be tolerated by match referees.

In the event of an altercation on and / or off the field of play, **Accredited ARL Leaguesafe / Sports Trainer / Head Trainer must not interfere in any way. They must move clear and totally distance themselves from the incident.** The control of on / off field behaviour is the duty of the match referees.

The only exception to the above would be where an injured / ill player needs shielding from possible further harm.

The names of the on-field personnel are to be recorded on the Match Card. All on field staff must wear the officially designated Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated identification uniform and must wear appropriate **enclosed footwear**.

***Members of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated Executive Committee, or other persons authorised by the Secretary of the League, may conduct random registration checks at any time for these qualifications. All clubs must obey all directions from an Executive Committee member or other authorised person in relation to this matter. Anyone approached must make themselves available for these checks as requested.***

## **12 HOME GROUNDS**

All clubs must have a home ground or the use of a home ground. The ground must have adequate changing and showering facilities for both teams and for the referee. The playing surface must be of a suitable standard and the ground must meet any requirements stipulated by the Executive Committee of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated.

Grounds cannot be used for night matches unless the lighting at the ground has been inspected and approved as meeting the requirements of the QRL South East Queensland Division.

Clubs are to ensure that the condition of the ground is not defective in any way and that all equipment has been set up adequately and all safety precautions have been taken.

## **13 DUTIES OF HOME CLUBS AND DUTY OFFICIALS**

It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that the ground is correctly marked, goal post pads are provided, a spare football is on hand at all times, the field is roped or fenced and two Duty Officials, who are not team officials, are in attendance.

One Duty Official is to be responsible for control of sin bin time and to assist the referee as required. The other Duty Official is to be responsible for crowd control and all off-field matters.

Seating, or enclosures, for reserves must not be inside the roped or fenced playing area of the field. Only immediate team officials and the players listed on the Match Card are allowed to be within the reserves enclosure or sitting on the reserves seating.

The sin bin area must be clearly designated and must not be within the roped or fenced playing area of the field. It must be in an area where players in the sin bin will not be subject to harassment from the crowd.

The Duty Official is responsible for making him/herself known to the referee prior to the match, advising the referee of the location of the sin bin, ensuring the Match Card is accessible to both teams and is filled in correctly by both clubs

before players take the field, the score is entered on the card and it is taken to the referee after the match so that the referee can record his/her Player of the Year votes.

The home club must have a designated area where the score is kept and give the visiting team the opportunity to verify the score and time (where this is not being kept by the referee) throughout the match.

The Duty Official must sign and print his/her name on the Match Card. He/she must get the referee, touch judges and an official from each team to sign the Match Card after the match and ensure that all other details are completed as required.

The Duty Official must wear the appropriate identification issued by the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated in a manner so that it is clearly visible at all times. In addition to anything in this regulation, duty Officials must carry out all duties as listed in Attachment 1 (Duty Official Duties).

The referees have been advised not to commence a match unless both Duty Officials are in attendance. Where a match is not played for this reason it will be regarded as a forfeit by the home team.

Breaches of this regulation should be reported to the Secretary of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated.

If a club is found guilty of a breach of this rule it is liable to the loss of its next three home matches. Further breaches may result in the loss of all further home matches for the season.

#### **14 PLAYER UNIFORMS**

No player may participate in a trial or fixture match unless he is wearing a uniquely numbered jersey. Jerseys must not be worn inside out without a number. All jerseys and shorts must have the Queensland Rugby League logo attached.

All players must wear the complete uniform – jersey, shorts and socks – as registered by the club.

#### **15 SPONSOR'S BADGES**

All teams are required to have the Major Sponsor's badge sublimated onto all jerseys. (The Major Sponsor is currently XXXX). Clubs will be liable to a fine of \$200.00 for each match played by teams not wearing the sponsor's badges on their jerseys.

The badge must be on the left sleeve of the jersey, no more than 75 mm below the shoulder.

#### **16 COMPETITION DRAW**

The official match draw is that issued by the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated. The Chairman or Secretary of the League or a member of the staff of the QRL South East Queensland Division will notify any changes in the draw to club secretaries.

## 17 NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

**The home team is to notify the result of its match to the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated on telephone number 07 3848 0132 within thirty minutes of the completion of the match, even if there are other matches being played at the ground on the same day.**

Any home team not notifying a result by the required time will be subject to a fine of \$50.00 for each result not notified. Any club repeatedly breaching this regulation will be liable to the loss of its remaining home games for the season.

## 18 MATCH REPORT

An official of each team is required to check the score entered on the Match Report by the Duty Official after the match and to sign the report verifying that the score entered on the report is correct.

**The home team is responsible for sending both copies of the match report to the Secretary, Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated, 23 Snowdon Street, Slacks Creek Q 4127 to arrive by the Tuesday after the fixture. These must be accompanied by the player of the year points card as completed by the referee.**

**The reports must not be sent to the South East Queensland Division office or the League's P.O. Box at Moorooka and must not be faxed, as the top two original copies are required.**

Any home team not sending the match reports and player of the year cards so that they arrive by the required date will be subject to a fine of \$50.00 for each report not received by the required time. Any club repeatedly breaching this regulation will be liable to the loss of its remaining home games for the season.

The requirement for the names of all players to be correctly entered on the match report and for the match report to be sent to the League by the Tuesday after the match applies to both trial and fixture matches.

## 19 TOUCH JUDGES

All teams must supply a touch judge unless official touch judges have been appointed to the match. Where one official touch judge has been appointed, it is the responsibility of the home team to supply the other touch judge.

Touch judges must be at least 18 years of age if not accredited or at least 16 years of age if accredited as a touch judge or junior referee.

All teams are expected to supply accredited touch judges and accredited touch judges will always take precedence, even if this means both touch judges are supplied by the same club or the away side supplies and accredited touch judge if the home side cannot supply one.

Touch judges supplied by clubs must wear the appropriate identification issued by the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated or the uniform of the Brisbane Junior Referees Association and must use the flag issued by the League. **Touch judges must also wear appropriate enclosed footwear.**

## **20 CANCELLATION OF MATCHES**

When a club considers that it is necessary to cancel a match due to ground conditions, this must be notified to the Secretary of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated no later than 7.30 AM on the day of the match. This will allow time for an inspection of the field prior to cancellation if the Secretary considers this necessary.

If, on inspection of the field by a member of the Executive of the League, the field is deemed playable, the match will be deemed to be a forfeit by the home team if the home club does not allow its field to be used for the match.

Any club not notifying the Secretary of a potential cancellation by 7.30 AM on the day of the match will be liable to having the match declared a forfeit by the home team.

Any match which is not played for any reason, will not be re-played and each team will be awarded one premiership point for the match.

When the referee, for any reason, calls off a match during the duration of the match, the match will not be replayed. The Executive Committee of the League will determine the result of any such match, together with the allocation of match and premiership points, and any further penalty that might be imposed on the teams and clubs involved.

## **21 FAILURE OF REFEREE TO ARRIVE FOR A MATCH**

If a referee does not arrive for a match, it can only be played if a person currently qualified to referee senior matches under International Rules within the jurisdiction of the Australian Rugby League referees. The new referee must be approved by the League's Referee's Allocator and or a member of the Executive of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League.

If the match is not played, it will be regarded as a cancelled match. It will not be re-played and each team will be awarded one premiership point for the match.

## **22 FORFEITS**

Any club forfeiting a match must notify the Secretary of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated of such a forfeit.

Where a club has more than one team in the competition, any forfeits or withdrawals of teams must be by the lowest grade team (other than under age teams) except with the approval of the Executive of the League.

Any club forfeiting a match will be fined \$100.00 for the first forfeit then increased by \$50.00 for each subsequent forfeit up to a maximum of \$500.00 with 50% of all fines going to the club receiving the forfeit. All clubs have a responsibility to ensure that when they nominate a team in the competition that team fulfils its obligation throughout the season.

The points for and against for forfeits will be the average points for the last three losses of the team forfeiting, with a minimum of 20 points being allocated.

Without in any way limiting the options of the League in relation to this regulation, any team forfeiting a match, or failing to complete a match, after having qualified for either the Ted Beaumont Trophy or the semi finals will be liable to a fine of not less than \$200 for each match forfeited or not completed between qualification and the finals matches.

### **23 WITHDRAWAL OF TEAMS FROM COMPETITION**

If any club withdraws a team from the competition before the completion of fixtures in any season, that club may be required to lodge a financial bond with the League prior to any team nominations being accepted from that club in the subsequent year. The League's Executive Committee would determine the amount of such bond and the bond would be forfeited if the club withdrew a team from the competition prior to the completion of fixtures in the year in which the bond was lodged.

### **24 PLAYERS SENT FROM THE FIELD**

When a player is sent for the field by the referee, the player must go directly to the dressing room. He must not leave the dressing room in his playing gear and is not permitted to return to the players' enclosure for the duration of the match. Players sent from the field in finals matches may be refused permission to take part in the medal and trophy presentations.

A team or club official must obtain the charge sheet from the referee after the match.

### **25 ALCOHOL**

The bringing of alcohol into any ground is not permitted and the sale or consumption of alcohol in glass containers is prohibited at all grounds and in dressing rooms.

On all grounds, alcohol must be consumed in a defined area only. It must not be consumed by spectators along the sideline. This defined area must be clearly identified with appropriate signs, be fully enclosed or roped off and must not be located within 10 metres of the playing enclosure. There must be a clear passage between the defined area and the field ropes or fence.

***Alcohol must not be taken into or consumed in dressing rooms.***

**The League recommends that only mid strength or low alcohol be served at all Brisbane Second Division matches.**

### **26 RESPONSIBILITY FOR SPECTATORS**

Clubs are deemed to be responsible for the behaviour of their spectators and team members and are expected to follow the Code of Behaviour as outlined in Regulations 96 and 97 of the QRL Rules.

A responsible club official must accompany all visiting teams. This official must make him/herself known to the Duty Officials and senior club official of the home team prior to the match.

The senior club officials from each team will be deemed to be responsible for the behaviour of their spectators at each match.

## **27 COMPLAINTS**

Any complaint by any club regarding any incident must be lodged in writing with the Secretary of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated within 72 hours of the alleged incident.

## **28 ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

All clubs must be represented at all meetings officially scheduled and notified to clubs by the Secretary of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League Incorporated.

Clubs will be fined \$100.00 for each such meeting at which they are not represented.

## **29 FINES**

All fines issued by the League are payable within fourteen days of the date of issue of the fine.

Any club not paying any fine within fourteen days of the date of issue of the fine will be liable to be charged with failing to comply with a rule of the League.

### **Attachment 1: Duty Official Duties**

All Duty Officials must have sufficient knowledge of the Brisbane Second Division rules and regulations to be able to complete their duties, or at least have one person appointed as Chief Duty Official and have two other persons acting as Assistant duty Officials on match days to assist.

Each club must appoint Duty Officials to act as listed below:

- 1 Each home club shall supply two Duty Officials who should be of a responsible nature and be over 18 years of age.
- 2 These Officials shall be neatly attired and must, with no exceptions, wear the identification vest supplied by the League **and appropriate enclosed footwear.**
- 3 These Duty Officials will be considered as officials of the League and will have the full support of the League.
- 4 The Duty Officials shall be clearly visible at all times.
- 5 The Duty Officials will ensure that the playing area is correctly marked and roped and goal post pads are erected before play commences.
- 6 The Duty Officials will ensure that a suitable area is set aside for the sin bin.

- 7 One Duty Official is to be responsible for the sin bin and assisting the referee as required. The other is to control spectator behaviour and all off field incidents and assisting the referee as required.
- 8 The Duty Officials will ensure that the area set aside for the consumption of alcohol is clearly defined and ensure that alcohol is consumed in this area only.
- 9 The Duty Officials are to ensure that both teams complete all team details on the match report before the match and that all other details are completed at the end of the game. He/she must get the referee, touch judges and an official from each team to sign the report after the match and must ensure that the player of the year points card has also been handed to the referee for completion. The visiting team must be given their copy of the report and the other copies must be forwarded together with the player of the year points card to the club Secretary for forwarding to the League.
- 10 The Duty Officials shall ensure that both visiting and home teams are allocated dressing rooms and advise them of the area set aside for the sin bin. They should also inform team officials of the location of the emergency facilities, i.e. the nearest medical facility and how to contact an ambulance, etc.
- 11 The Duty Officials shall identify themselves to the referees and advise them of their dressing room location and the area set aside for the sin bin.
- 12 The Chief Duty Official should check with the referee before the game to determine if an official touch judge has been appointed for the game and, if not, arrange for a touch judge to be appointed as per regulation 19 of the Brisbane Second Division Rugby League.
- 13 Spectators shall not be allowed to encroach upon the playing area at any time during or immediately after any game and should not be allowed to shout abuse or obscenities at any player, official or other spectator. The Duty Officials should control and supervise spectators and supporters. Club officials should support and assist Duty Officials in this supervision and control.
- 14 The Duty Officials will provide a written report on any incident that requires further action.
- 15 The Duty Officials are to assist the referee and touch judges as required. They should escort the referee and touch judges from the field at half and full time.
- 16 The Duty Officials are to ensure that no players, team officials or spectators harass the referee or touch judges before, during or after any game.
- 17 The Duty Officials will escort players to the sin bin and remain with them until their designated sin bin time has elapsed. They are to ensure that players are not harassed while they are in the sin bin.

- 18 Players in the sin bin can be treated for injuries and/or given assistance by qualified personnel. Players may return to their teams at half time. Half time, and time off, does not constitute sin bin time.
- 19 When a player has been sent from the field by the referee, the Duty Official shall ensure that the player goes directly to the dressing room. The player must not leave the dressing room in his playing gear and is not permitted to return to the players' enclosure for the duration of the match.
- 20 The Duty Officials will obtain from the referee the charge sheet for any player sent from the field of play and deliver a copy to a team or club official of the player concerned. This should be done approximately 20 minutes after the completion of the match.
- 21 All referees have been instructed not to commence a match unless at least two Duty Officials are in attendance. Where a match is not played for this reason it will be regarded as a forfeit by the home team.

Duty Officials should at all times be approachable. The best way to defuse most situations is to be non-confronting and understanding to the needs of referees, touch judges, players, officials and spectators.