



Wests Bulldogs Rugby Inc.
ABN 67 651 407 580
PO Box 103, Toowong Qld 4066
Ph: 07 3870 7204

Email: info@westsbulldogsrugby.com.au
www.westsbulldogsrugby.com.au

Policies for Junior Players/Parents/Guardians

Wests Rugby endorses and will abide by policies and procedures adopted and designated as applicable to it by the Governing Bodies (being the Brisbane Junior Rugby Union, the Queensland Junior Rugby Union, Queensland Rugby Referees Association, Queensland Rugby Union, Rugby Australia and World Rugby) or as otherwise adopted by the Wests Board from time to time. For full details of policies, refer to the web-sites of BJRU, QJRU, QRU, QRRR, ARU and WR.

World Rugby Code of Conduct and Policies are here. <https://australia.rugby/about/codes-and-policies>

Club Philosophy and Goals

The primary philosophy of Wests for its Junior players is to develop each player and foster in them the enjoyment of playing rugby union in a safe environment.

Wests Juniors goals are to:

- Manage the club in a manner that is fair to all participants,
- Develop players by improving their skills,
- Make individuals into team players,
- Promote team work and friendship,
- Encourage effort and reward good sportsmanship.

Returning Player Policy

Returning players are players that have played in the previous rugby season at Wests. These players will have priority over new players provided returning players register by the 15th February in the same calendar year of the current rugby season.

Team Allocation Policy

The Club Registrar has the sole responsibility to create teams. The Registrar will create under 6 to under 11 teams based on a mixture of children from various schools and not just from one school. Coaches/Managers/Parents cannot create their own teams in these age groups.

From under 12 and above, players will be Graded into teams, please refer to our Grading Policy below.

The maximum number of players per team is currently as per the below table. It may be amended by the Wests Board from time to time. Once the maximum number has been reached in a team, the Club will create a waitlist of players for a new team.

If there are insufficient players to make up a team based on the maximum numbers, the Club will be unable to make a team and will provide a full refund (excluding credit/debit card fees).

If there are insufficient players to form teams (usually under 14 and up) The Club will contact other rugby clubs to create combined or merged teams.



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Game Day and Team Information

| Day | Age | Start Time | Each Half (minutes) | Half Time (minutes) | Ball Size | Number Players on Field | Maximum Players per Team |
|----------|----------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday | Under 6 | 8.20 am | 15 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 10 |
| | Under 7 | 9.10 am | 15 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 10 |
| | Under 8 | 10.00 am | 15 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 12 |
| | Under 9 | 10.50 am | 20 | 5 | 3 | 10 | 16 |
| Sunday | Under 10 | 8.30 am | 20 | 5 | 4 | 12 | 18 |
| | Under 11 | 9.20 am | 20 | 5 | 4 | 12 | 18 |
| | Under 12 | 10.20 am | 25 | 5 | 4 | 15 | 23 |
| | Under 13 | 11.20 am | 25 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 23 |
| | Under 14 | 12.20 pm | 25 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 23 |
| | Under 15 | 1.20 pm | 25 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 23 |
| | Under 16 | 2.20 pm | 30 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 23 |
| | Under 17 | 3.40 pm | 30 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 23 |

- Players should arrive at least 30 minutes before the Game start time

Refund Policy

The Club does not receive refunds from RA or QRU and therefore refunds are only available under the below conditions.

1. If the club is unable to provide a team for a player
2. If a junior player leaves at anytime before the first game they will receive a full refund; and
3. If a player leaves within one month of the first game they will receive a 50% refund,

There are no exceptions for this Policy.

To apply for Refund please fill in the "Refund Application Form" available from the office. Note that refunds may take up to four weeks for approval.

Payment and Play Policy

The Club endorses a "No Pay - No Play Policy". If payment is not received by the first trial game the player will not be allowed to take the field. If a player is deregistered any prior part payments will not be refunded.

Equal Game Time

The BJRU Club Handbook, 4.4 Coach's Code, item 4 states:

Ensure that all players get a game. The "just average" players need and deserve equal time.

Subject to the "No Train Reduced Play Policy", coaches should monitor players' game time each week to ensure this rule is followed. Consideration will be given and allowances made in circumstances where injury or positional requirement (e.g front row) does not allow equal game time for all players.



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No Train Reduced Play Policy

A player that does not regularly train cannot expect to receive equal game time. The coach should keep a record of players that cannot train regularly if requested by the Wests Board.

Parents & Guardians Responsibility

While at the premises and grounds of Wests Precinct and visiting other Club's grounds, parents and guardians are solely responsible for their children. The Club and its Coaches and Officials are not responsible for players before or after training or games. The Club and its officials take no responsibility for children that parents or guardians drop off or leave unsupervised. "Drop and go" at training and games is not condoned by the Wests Board.

Parents and Guardians should note that Wests grounds at Toowong Memorial Park is a Public Park and like most public parks there are undesirable people using this park. The park also has many steep hills where accidents commonly occur. Parents and Guardians need to be aware where their children are at all times.

Grading Policy

Any form of Grading for teams from under 6 to under 11 is not allowed under the Rules of the BJRU.

Grading will occur in age groups from under 12 to under 17. The purpose of grading is to provide an opportunity to players who wish to play in higher divisions and develop higher skill levels in teenage Rugby. The development of players in these age groups can vary greatly and size, weight, strength, skill and emotional maturity are all important considerations for the safety of Wests Juniors players. Grading will assist all players as it is designed to result in players playing at levels most suited to their ability.

In summary:

- Grading will start from under 12. Usually there are three under 11 teams (with 12 players on the field in under 11) merging into two teams in under 12 (with 15 players on field).
- Grading will take place during training in the first four to five weeks at the start of the season.
- The Selectors will be the Director of Rugby and other senior coaching staff.
- The Selectors will not be parents or coaches of the age group being graded.
- The Selectors will consider a player's skill level, fitness, size, attitude, preferred position and alternative position as well as any special consideration that may be relevant.
- The Selectors will make up all teams within an age group based on players' preferred positions and alternative positions, teams' balance and numbers.
- Coaches will be offered coaching roles after players have been graded and teams have been allocated.
- The Selectors team selection will be final, as there is no appeal for grading selections
- Players that register after grading has been undertaken or who do not participate in grading, will be assessed by the Director of Rugby or Selectors. The Director of Rugby will allocate the player to a team.
- Players will be regraded at the start of each season for ages under 12 to under 17.
- Players will not be regraded throughout the season unless directed by the Club President.
- The Club reserves the right to not grade a particular year if there is no clear benefit to teams.



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- The Club has also the option to grade teams based on positional and overall team balance of both teams. That is, two teams can be formed based on overall equal skill balance within the age group. The desired result would be two teams of similar ability, rather than an "A Team" and a "B Team" scenario.

Coaching and Managers

Teams from under 6 to under 17 require volunteer parents to coach and manage the team. The teenage pathway to Colts is an important area for the long term success of the Club and the Director of Rugby and the Wests Board, will seek and appoint the highest qualified, most experienced and most suitable coaches for teams in the under 14 to under 17 age groups (particularly Div 1 teams). Coaches and managers must fully understand and abide by Wests Policies, Code of Conduct, Manuals and Guidelines.

Game Day Management

Each team must provide a Field Marshall, Assistant Referee (Linesperson) and Trainers. All of these persons must wear the correct identifying coloured vest. The Field Marshall must have attended a Club Field Marshall Induction Meeting. Games cannot commence unless these positions have been filled.

Jersey and Equipment Policy

Jerseys in under 15, 16, Jnr Colts will remain the property of Wests. Sponsored Jerseys (under 6 to under 14) can be given to players at the start of the season. The training equipment (hit shields, tackle bags, plastic cones, vests, jerseys bags remain the ownership and are assets of Wests Rugby. The Coach and Manager are responsible for and should be in control of these Assets. All jerseys and equipment must be returned to Wests at the end of each season. The Club reserves the right to charge parents/coaches/managers for the cost of the assets that have not been returned.

Bullying Policy

The Rugby Australia Member Protection Policy reiterates Australian Rugby's commitment to ensuring that every person involved in rugby is treated with respect and dignity, and is safe and protected from harassment, discrimination, bullying, abuse and other unfair or inappropriate conduct.

Everyone involved in Rugby should familiarise themselves with the Member Protection Policy and the standards of behaviour expected of all participants. If you are a victim of Bullying or have witnessed any Bullying, you should immediately contact the age group coordinator or a Board member.



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Photograph Policy

West's follows the Policy of Rugby Australia in regard to "Safeguarding Children Guideline"

<https://australia.rugby/about/codes-and-policies/all-codes-and-policies>