



By-Laws of

**Canterbury Rugby League
Incorporated**

2018 Season

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Section 1 By-Laws Object:

1. Canterbury Rugby League Incorporated By-Laws are developed in line with Section 3 - Objects and Powers, of the Canterbury Rugby League Incorporated Constitution.
2. The intent of the By-Laws is to set in place policies, practices, processes and structure for the administration and delivery of the game of rugby league in a fair and unbiased manner.
3. The By-Laws are developed with the intent of looking after the best interest of the game of rugby league in the Canterbury district. Where issues arise that are not covered in these By-Laws Canterbury Rugby League retains the right to make decisions based on this principle.

Section 2 By-Law Review:

The following process shall be applied for the adoption or alteration of these By-Laws:

4. The By-Laws will be reviewed formally once a Year and any approved changes shall apply to the following season.
5. The process to request an adoption or alteration of a By-Law is as follows:
 - a) An application can be made during the season via the completion of an Application for By-Law Review Form, which may be forwarded to Clubs for feedback prior to the annual By-Law Review Meeting.
 - b) At the end of the season Clubs and interested parties will be invited to make additional submissions in relation to the By-Laws which will be presented and discussed at the Annual By-Law Review Meeting.
6. The Annual By-Law Review meeting will traditionally be held in the September / November period. Parties involved in this review are the clubs (via their Presidents or a Club Delegate), Referees, the Football Committee, Canterbury Rugby League and a representative from the CRL Board.
7. Any amendments, additions or deletions to the Canterbury Rugby League By-Law(s) following the Annual By-Law review will be presented to the Presidents/Delegates Committee for further discussion, clarification or recommendations.
8. A final draft of recommendations will be presented to the CRL Board for ratification.
9. The adoption of the CRL By-Laws is approved by the CRL Board as per Section 19 of the CRL constitution.
10. Any amendments to the By-Laws are required to be endorsed by Southern Zone Rugby League.

Section 3 Definitions and Interpretations:

Definitions and Interpretations in this document, unless the context requires or indicates otherwise, the following definitions will apply:

Affiliate – shall mean a person or group officially attached to Canterbury Rugby League.

Appeal Committee – shall mean The Southern Zone Appeal Committee appointed under the jurisdiction of the Southern Zone Rugby League Constitution.

Appointed Referee – shall mean a Canterbury Rugby League referee appointed to officiate a rugby league match by CRL.

Board - shall mean the Board of Directors of Canterbury Rugby League as constituted under Rule 17 of the Canterbury Rugby League Incorporated Constitution.

Bring The Game Into Disrepute – shall mean actions, behaviours or activities that harm or dishonour the game of rugby league.

Canterbury Rugby League – shall mean: the District body incorporated under the Canterbury Rugby League Incorporated Constitution to execute the Objects and Powers for Rugby League in the Canterbury region. Canterbury Rugby League will be referred to as CRL throughout the course of this document.

Clearance - shall occur when a player who has not played Rugby League in the previous season but has previously played Rugby League. A clearance does not count towards the transfer of a player rules under these By-Laws.

Club - shall mean any Rugby League Club that is a member of CRL as approved and defined in the Canterbury Rugby League Incorporated Constitution.

Club Delegate – shall mean the President or other club representative notified to CRL in writing from the Club Secretary to represent the Club at the President / Delegates meetings.

Constitution – shall mean the Canterbury Rugby League Incorporated Constitution.

CRL – shall mean Canterbury Rugby League Incorporated

Be A Sport Champion - shall mean a club appointed official whose responsibility is to monitor crowd behaviour and enforce the CRL Safety Plan policy for their club.

Football Committee - shall mean an independent committee delegated by the Board of Directors to provide CRL and its staff with advice on administrative matters relating to competition structure and enhancements to the overall delivery of rugby league in Canterbury. The committee has authority to make decisions on disciplinary matters relating to automatic player suspension pursuant to Appendix B.

Fully Registered - shall mean having completed the NZRL online registration process and the registration has been approved by CRL.

In Order - shall mean the players on the team list are fully registered and the team does not have an Out of Order Player.

Judicial Committee – shall mean a group of persons vested with the responsibility of adjudicating on judicial matters involving fixtures and matches or disputes between members. The Judicial Committee is formed under section 26 of the Canterbury Rugby League Incorporated Constitution.

Junior Club – shall mean a club not fielding a team in the premier grade.

Junior Player – shall mean a player that is aged 17 years or younger.

LeagueNet – NZRL online registration system

Match – shall mean a rugby league match in which two teams compete against each other.

Match Manager – shall mean a CRL appointed person who holds the responsibility of overseeing the operations of premier games and the associated environment.

Match Officials - shall mean any CRL appointed personnel's involved in the running of the game i.e. Referees, Touch Judges, Match Managers, Be a Sport Marshal.

NZRL - shall mean the New Zealand Rugby League Incorporated.

Out of Order Player – shall mean any unregistered player, any player playing for a club other than the club they are registered to, any player serving a period of suspension, any player holding a debt with CRL, any player not in possession of a player ID card, any player deemed medically unfit to play rugby league for any medical reason, any player not meeting the criteria for player eligibility for any finals series.

Permit – shall mean a CRL approved application enabling a junior player to temporarily transfer between Clubs.

Person – shall mean any member of a Club or any person associated with CRL, the Southern Zone Rugby League or NZRL for the purposes of playing, coaching, refereeing or administering the Game in New Zealand and who are deemed to have subscribed to and be bound by the Rules and Regulations of CRL.

Playing Area – shall mean the area enclosed by the safety rope, or other such line of demarcation, which prevents the encroachment of spectators.

Player Misconduct – shall mean a player who has breached the CRL code of conduct, NZRL Rules of the Game and Policy, Southern Zone Rules and Regulation or CRL Regulations and By-Laws

Presidents/Delegates Committee – shall mean a committee consisting of the Presidents of the member Clubs or Affiliates.

Referees Committee – shall mean a committee consisting of persons assigned to look after the affairs of referees under CRL jurisdiction.

Senior Club – shall mean a club that has met the criteria for entry into the premier grade and is fielding a team in the premier competition.

Social Member - shall mean a person who is recognised as a social member in line with the Clubs constitution and is not a team official, player or committee member.

Team Misconduct – shall mean actions, behaviours or activities of a team or individual(s) within a team that are deemed to bring the game of rugby league into disrepute.

Team Official – shall mean the coach, the manager, the trainer and any other person officially aligned to a team in any volunteer capacity.

Transfer - shall mean a player who has made application to register or has been approved to play for another club other than the club they were registered to and played for in the previous season

Unregistered Person - shall mean a player who has not completed the NZRL online registration process. A

new player completing the registration process will be considered Unregistered until such time as their registration has been approved by CRL.

Volunteer Member - shall mean a person (other than a team official) who fills a role in the club in some type of official capacity, e.g. committee member, bar person, gear person etc.

General Definition - For the purposes of these Rules:

- a. Words importing the masculine gender include the female; and
- b. When reference is made to Club this shall also be referenced and read in conjunction with Affiliate.
- c. For the purpose of these By-Laws, a Match shall include any pre-season match, any match administered by CRL or any match played in a CRL sanctioned tournament or event.

Section 4 Registration of Members

11. Clubs shall keep a record of the names of all players, coaches, managers, trainers, referees, social members and volunteer member who are members of any Club or Affiliate of CRL. The Secretary or administrator of each Club or Affiliate shall furnish CRL with sufficient particulars to enable such register to be kept up to date.
12. Every Rugby League Player, coach, manager, trainer, referee, social member and volunteer member must be registered.
 - a) Registration is to be completed via LeagueNet.
 - b) All questions completed in the registration process are to be answered truthfully by the Member.
 - c) All new registrations must be accompanied by ID which is to be attached to the Members online registration.
 - d) Accepted ID Documents are:
 - i. Birth certificate
 - ii. Drivers licence.
 - iii. Passport.
 - iv. Under 18 School Identification Card.
 - v. Any identification verified by a government agency using a certified copy of ID listed above.
13. A new registration will not be approved until the required identification is attached.
14. A Player must be showing as fully registered in LeagueNet before they can take the field for the Club they have registered for.
15. An Unregistered Player is not entitled to play for any Club in any CRL competition and shall be deemed to be an Out of Order player as soon as they take the field.
16. Out of Order Players:
 - a) Any Club/team found to have played an Out of Order Player will forfeit any points gained from the game(s) and a win will be awarded to the non-offending team(s) with a score line of 20-0.
 - b) If both Clubs are found to be in breach the match result will be cancelled.
 - c) Any club found to be playing an Out of Order Player will incur a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) and not more than one thousand dollars (\$1000) depending on the severity of the breach.
 - d) The decision on the level of monetary penalty will be made under the Judicial and Disciplinary Process and Policy.
 - e) The offending team will remain suspended from playing in the competition until the fine is paid in full to CRL.
 - f) Any Team Official found to allow an Out of Order player to play in a team under their responsibility will have the matter referred to the Football Committee or Judicial committee for possible further action.

17. All players must be registered with the club or affiliate for which they are playing. Any player once registered with a club shall remain so until they request a transfer to another Club and it is approved.
18. Each club or affiliate is responsible for the identification and discipline of its members.
19. In the event of name controversy, CRL may require three nominated officers of the club or affiliate to verify the details on the appropriate form as understood at the time of acceptance.
20. Registration of new players to a Club can be processed at any time during a calendar year.

Section 4 Transfers/Clearances/Permits

21. Transfer/Clearance Periods

Between Canterbury clubs -1 November to 30 November and 1 February – 31 May
Overseas (Australia) & provincial transfers 1 January to 30 June as per NZRL rules

22. Any player intending to play for any Club other than the one they are currently registered to will be required to complete a transfer, clearance or permit application via LeagueNet.
 - a) A **transfer** is required for a player who has played in the previous season for another Club, province or played overseas.
 - b) A **clearance** is required when a player has not played Rugby League in the previous season. A clearance does not count towards the 3 in and 3 out transfer restrictions
 - c) Players aged 17 years and under are considered Junior players any approved transfers do not count towards the 3 in – 3 out transfer restrictions, regardless of the grade they are playing.
 - d) Junior players may be granted a **permit** to play for another Club if their Club cannot provide them age-grade football for their age grade. There will be no fees claimed for players on permits – either going to a club or returning to their original club. A player approved a permit will be automatically returned to their original club at the conclusion of the season.
23. All online transfer, permit and clearance requests, require the relevant documentation to be forwarded to CRL to complete the transfer/clearance approval process.
24. Inter-Club season transfer restrictions.
 - a) A Club may transfer between other Canterbury Rugby League clubs a maximum of three (3) male players in, and three (3) male players out per season.
 - b) A Club may transfer between other Canterbury Rugby League clubs a maximum of three (3) female players in and three (3) female players out per season.
 - c) Junior players (aged 17 years or younger) and players transferring in or out of a Club not affiliated to CRL are exempt from the above player transfer restrictions.
 - d) Presidents Grade will have their own player transfer restriction policy detailed under section 9. Presidents Grade.
25. A player cannot take the field for their new club until the transfer, permit or clearance has been

approved by CRL and they are fully registered with their new club.

26. In the event of a junior team withdrawing or being withdrawn from a competition during any round of the competition:
 - a) the remaining players may make application to CRL for a **Permit** to play at another Club for the remainder of the season provided:
 - i. The player is a full financial member of the Club they are registered to.
 - ii. The Club does not have another team in which the player could play.
 - iii. The date of application is made outside of the 31-day window for the completion of the round robin section of the competition.
27. All transfers must be on forms issued by CRL and must be applied for via LeagueNet. The form is then to be forwarded to CRL for approval. No transfer/clearance will be finalised by the CRL without the fully completed and signed form.
28. For all **transfers**, the club from which the player is transferring has 14 days from the date submitted via LeagueNet to respond approving or declining the transfer.
29. For all **clearances**, the club from which the player is transferring has 5 days from the date submitted via LeagueNet to respond approving or declining the clearance.
 - a) If a transfer or clearance is declined. The former club must advise, on LeagueNet, the reason for the decline. The only conditions for the decline are outlined below:
 - i. Financial – annual subscriptions.
 - ii. Club Property – trophies, playing gear.
30. If no response has been received from the club in which the player is transferring/clearing, the transfer/clearance will be automatically approved by CRL.
31. Under no circumstances can a player be denied a transfer/clearance if the club to who they are transferring/clearing pays the requested transfer fee.
32. A player who transfers out of the CRL District, and returns within 12 months from the date of transfer, must return to their club of origin.
33. A **“Grade A”** player is defined as one who has taken the field (in the immediate past season) for:
 - a) The South Island Senior Representative team i.e. Canterbury Bulls, playing in any sanctioned Representative fixture
 - b) Any NZ Representative Team 15 years and over.A **“Grade B”** player is defined as one who has taken the field (in the immediate past season) for:
 - a) The Canterbury Development Representative team
 - b) The South Island 17-year-old team
 - c) The South Island 15-year-old team

34. A “Graded” players transfers will be subject to the payment of a transfer fee of:
 - a) For a “Grade A” player: \$2,000. 25% of the fee is to be paid to CRL
 - b) For a “Grade B” player: \$1,000. 25% of the fee is to be paid to CRL
35. All transfer fees are to be paid in full to CRL before a transfer can be fully completed.
36. On receipt of full payment, CRL will forward the balance of the transfer fee to the players former Club.
37. A \$20 administration fee applies to all transfer/clearance applications with the exception of transfers where Graded representative player fees have been paid.

Section 5 Grade Eligibility

38. For age group grades the player must be under the age of the grade they are playing in as at 1 January. For example, 14 Years – the player must be under the age of 14 as at 1 January (he can turn 14 during that year).
39. NZRL protocol allows for an age grade player to play up a maximum of 2 years above their age, but they can not play down.
40. Mixed Gender – Females may participate in mixed gender rugby league played under mini and mod rules up to and including the 12 years grade. NZRL Policy state the maximum age for a girl to play in a mixed gender team is 12 years of age.
41. NZRL Policy states the minimum age for participation in Senior Grade’s – Players playing in senior grades must have attained at least seventeen (17) years of age by the 31st of December in the year preceding the commencement of the competition. They must turn 18 during the current year. This policy shall apply equally to male and female rugby league players.
42. Any player registering to play in the Presidents grade must be 35 years of age or older, as at 1 January in the year of competition.
43. If a Men’s Premier team is scheduled for a Bye, cancelled or postponed on the same weekend that other Senior teams for their Club are playing regular round robin games, the Premier team will be restricted to a maximum of three (3) players listed on the team card from the previous match who can play in the lower graded competition for that weekend.
44. Criteria for entry into **Premier Grade** - A Club must meet the following conditions for entry into the Premier grade:
 - a) The Club must have played in the premier competition in the previous season.
 - b) The Club must have 25 Fully Registered players assigned to the Premier grade.
 - c) The Club must have 25 Fully Registered players assigned to the Canterbury Cup grade.
 - d) A Premier Club not meeting the criteria stated in paragraphs above may make written application to CRL for 12-month dispensation and exemption from one or all of these paragraphs. This application must include a plan defining strategies the Club will implement to meet the criteria within the 12 month period. If CRL grants an exemption this will be for a maximum period of 12 months.

45. Criteria for entry into the **Canterbury Cup Grade** - A Club must meet the following conditions for entry into the Canterbury Cup grade:
- a) Should a Club have a team registered in the Premier Grade the criteria for entry into the Canterbury Cup Grade will be aligned to the criteria set out in paragraph 42 of these By-Laws.
 - b) If a Club has only one senior men's team registered for a Club, the Club must have a minimum of 25 Fully Registered senior men's players for that Club.
 - c) If a Club has two or more senior men's teams registered for a Club, the Club must have in place:
 - i. A minimum of 25 Fully Registered players assigned to the Canterbury Cup Team and;
 - ii. A minimum of 25 additional senior men's players Fully Registered for the Club.
 - iii. A 12-month reprieve may be granted by CRL if it is in the best interests of the competition.
46. The criteria for entry into the Premier and /or the Canterbury Cup grades, as defined in paragraphs 42 and 42 shall also require the Club to have a minimum of seven (7) junior teams registered to the Club. Two (2) of these teams must be registered in 10 years and above age grade.
47. Transgender Player
- CRL will follow the guidelines of the International Olympic Committee Stockholm Report 2003 for any Fully Registered player who elects to be recognized as a transgender person. This report can be viewed on the CRL website and is summarized as follows:
- a) Any "individuals undergoing sex reassignment of male to female before puberty should be regarded as girls and women" (female). This applies as well for a female to male reassignment, who should be regarded as boys and men (male).
 - b) Individuals undergoing sex reassignment from male to female after puberty (and the converse) be eligible for participation in female or male competitions, respectively, under the following conditions:
 - i. Surgical anatomical changes have been completed, including external genitalia changes and gonadectomy.
 - ii. Legal recognition of their assigned sex has been conferred by the appropriate official authorities.
 - iii. Hormonal therapy appropriate for the assigned sex has been administered in a verifiable manner and for a sufficient length of time to minimise gender-related advantages in sports competitions.
 - iv. Eligibility should begin no sooner than two years after gonadectomy.
48. Team officials must hold the relevant NZRL certification for their specific role.
- a) A copy of their certification must be included on their registration details in LeagueNet.

49. All Players, Coaches, Managers, Trainers and Team officials must be financial with CRL and not have in their possession any CRL trophies or CRL property to be eligible to play for any affiliated CRL Club.

Section 6 Grand Finals Series Eligibility

50. To be eligible to play in any Grand Final Series, a player must have played a minimum of 5 weeks for his club during the season of the finals series.
51. Where a player has been subject to a judicial stand-down period during the round-robin competition, a player will be eligible to play in the Grand Final Series provided the player meets the criteria specified in paragraph 48. The player has completed their period of stand-down and any fine or outstanding debt has been paid in full to CRL. A player under this criterion will only be eligible to play in the Grand Final Series for a team he has appeared in during that season.
52. Where a player has been subject to conditions outside of his control, e.g. injury, consideration will be given to dispensation from the finals eligibility regulations. The appropriate paperwork, as requested by the CRL, must accompany the application. As per the example in the event of an injury application, Doctors certificates would be the minimum requirement. All dispensations must be applied for 5 working days prior to the Grand Final Series starting.
53. A player who requires a clearance in order to play does not qualify for a dispensation for the grand finals series.
54. Once a player has been named on the team card for a match during the Grand finals series then they will be ineligible to play in a lower graded game.
55. Clubs may forward their team lists to CRL to be checked prior to a Grand Final to validate eligibility, requests must be received no later than 4 pm two days before the match the players have been selected to play in. Clubs will remain responsible for ensuring all players listed on team cards, for any CRL match, meet the eligibility criteria.

Section 7 Grand Finals Rules

56. No Club team or Affiliate team shall be permitted to participate in any game of the Grand Final Series unless that Club is completely financial with CRL, 7 days prior to the commencement date of the Grand Final Series.
57. In the event that a team is disqualified from participating in the Grand Finals Series, the next highest placed team, at the end of the round robin series, will be promoted to the Final Series as the lowest ranked qualifying team, and where necessary, adjustments will be made to the rankings of the other qualifying teams.
58. The appointment of Referees to matches during the Finals will be managed by CRL in consultation with the Southern Zone Referee Development Officer and the Football Committee. Allocation for these matches will be based on independent assessments performed by referee assessors during the season.

Section 8 Competitions

59. The number of grades provided for each year will be dependent on the number of team nominations received from clubs and affiliates.
60. Grades offered by CRL shall be: Men's and Women's Premier, Canterbury Cup, Division 1,

Presidents, 20 years, 18 years, 17 years 16 years, 15 years, 14 years, 13 years, 12 years, 11 years, 10 years, 9 years, 8 years, 7 years, 6 years, Nursery

61. By entering any a team into a CRL competition each club will agree to abide by the NZRL rules, laws of the game and code of conduct, Southern Zone rules and regulations and CRL Code of Conduct, CRL By-Laws and CRL Regulations.
62. Where a Club enters two (2) or more teams into any competitive grade (i.e.9 Years and above), the teams will be treated as separate identities and no interchange of players between the teams will be permitted.
63. Criteria for Premier and Canterbury Cup status shall be at the discretion of the Board.
64. Premier status will not be granted to any new club or affiliate where sufficient rugby league clubs with premier status already cater for that geographical area.
65. Queen’s Birthday weekend will be recognised in the main as a weekend when no round robin games will be scheduled unless a specific competition requires teams to play or a rescheduled match from earlier in the season are required to be played on that weekend.
66. In the event of a team withdrawing or being withdrawn from a competition during any round, points and scoring statistics will be adjusted as though the team never existed and all remaining teams reflect the same result for games scheduled.
67. Should a team withdraw or be withdrawn from a competition after the completion of round 3 of the competition the club will be required to pay full competition entry and player levies for that team.
68. Should a referee prematurely terminate a game for any reason CRL will investigate and take any appropriate action as outlined in the CRL rules and policy. This policy does not prejudice any other further action considered necessary.
69. Premier and Canterbury Cup players may play up and down within the two grades during the round robin games, except when the Premier team is not scheduled to play on any given weekend. Refer to paragraph 41.
70. Interchange – Premier and Premier Reserve grades will be limited to a maximum of 10 (ten) interchanges per game. In all other grades, interchanges will be unlimited.
71. Match Managers – All attempts will be made by CRL to provide CRL appointed Match Managers for all Premier games. In the event of a CRL Match Manager not being available the home club will be required to provide a Match Manager for these games.
72. Judicial – Automatic send-off penalties will be applied to all Competition grades. See By-Law Appendix B.
73. Matches requiring “Extra-Time”
 - a) Extra time will be required in the event of a draw at full time in the grand final series and shall be as follows:

“Immediately following the end of normal time, the referee shall toss a coin to decide which team shall restart two spells of 5 minutes each way will be played in full. Should the score still be equal then further spells will be undertaken until the game is terminated immediately after the first point/s are registered.
 - b) However, in the interest of player’s safety the maximum playing time including extra time

should not exceed 100 minutes.

- c) Should the match still be drawn after the maximum minutes have elapsed, the winner shall be the team that scored the first points in normal time.
- d) For 9-a-side competitions, games are of 9 minutes each way duration, and if scores are equal captains will again toss for ends and undertake to play 2-minute spells until the game is terminated when first point/s are registered.
- e) Extra time should also be played to achieve an outright winner in the finals of knockout and 9-a-side competitions.

Section 9 Points & Tables

74. In deciding competition winners in each grade, points will be awarded for a Win, Draw, Loss or Bye as follows:

Win	-	2 points
Draw	-	1 point
Bye	-	2 points
Loss	-	0 points
Default (win)-		2 points

CRL may use these points as a penalty for serious cases of Team Misconduct.

75. At the conclusion of the round robin competition, the top four (4) teams shall be ranked in order according to the number of round robin points awarded to them in accordance with the preceding clause and shall take part in a Championship Grand Finals Series of matches to determine the winner of the Championship for that season.

Subsequently, further sections for teams placed 5th to 8th etc. in the Premiership may be introduced to determine a section finals winner.

76. If at the conclusion of the round robin, two (2) or more teams are equal in competition points, then for the purpose of determining the order of placement of teams for the Finals Series, the Teams who are equal in competition points 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 it with a team with the greater difference being ranked ahead of a team with the lesser difference. In the event of that difference being equal then the relative position shall be determined by ascertaining the relationship between points scored for and against expressed as a percentage to 2 decimal points, i.e.

Points Scored For	100
	x
Points Scored Against	1

with a team with the higher percentage being ranked ahead of a team with the lower percentage.

If, after the application of the above procedures, two or more teams are still of equal ranking for any of the top four positions, then those teams shall take part in a series of play-offs to determine the team to take part in the Finals Series in the order established in accordance with the following:

- a) Where two teams are involved they shall play each other and the winner shall occupy the higher place of the two.

b) Where three teams are involved, the order of play-offs shall be:

MATCH A	Team2	v	Team 3
MATCH B	Team1	v	Winner of MATCH A

and the winner of MATCH B shall occupy the highest position, the loser the next highest and the loser of Match A the next highest.

77. Notwithstanding the paragraphs above where two (2) or more teams are equal in competition points and any of those teams has been subject to one or more defaulting teams, then the team(s) defaulted against to the greatest extent shall be ranked above those others on equal competition points without recourse to the procedure outlined in sub-clause 3 above unless two (2) or more of them have experienced an equal number of defaulters.

78. When the four (4) teams to take part in the Finals Series of matches have been determined, the order of play for the Finals Series shall be as follows:

Match A	Team 1	v	Team 2 - Winner to Grand Final
Match B	Team 3	v	Team 4
Match C	Loser Match A	v	Winner Match B
Grand Final	Winner Match A	v	Winner Match C

79. Notwithstanding the paragraphs above which shall have effect according to their tenor, CRL may for the Premier competition conduct a ten (10) team competition where the top five (5) qualifiers compete for the Pat Smith Trophy and the remainder for the Gore Cup or alternatively named trophy. Where a nine (9) team competition is conducted the first five (5) qualifiers shall compete for the Pat Smith Trophy and the remainder for the Gore Cup or alternatively named trophy.

When the five (5) teams to take part in the final series of matches has been determined, the order to play for the finals series shall be as follows:

Round 1 Qualifier # 1 - proceeds directly to Round 2

Match A	Qualifier # 2	v	Qualifier # 3
Match B	Qualifier # 4	v	Qualifier # 5

Round 2

Match C	Qualifier # 1	v	Match A Winner
Match D	Loser Match A	v	Winner Match B

Loser Match B departs from series

Round 3

Winner Match C - to Grand Final Match F			
Match E	Loser Match C	v	Winner Match D

Loser Match E departs from series

Round 4

Grand Final			
Match F	Winner Match C	v	Winner Match E

Section 10 Presidents Grade

80. No player under the age of 35 years as of 1 January of the year of competition will be permitted to play.

81. The Board may permit an underage player under exceptional circumstances (disabilities etc.).
82. No points shall be awarded in a Presidents Grade competition.
83. Player transfer restrictions for the Presidents Grade
 - a) The Presidents grade shall have a separate 3 in 3 out quota from other affiliated CRL Clubs.
 - b) Once a player transfers to the Presidents Grade at another Club they are can only play Presidents Grade for the remainder of the season in which the transfer was approved.

Section 11 Team Cards

84. Team cards must be completed and handed to the Referee or Match Manager (if one is provided) at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the game and at least 30 minutes for Premiers and Canterbury Cup games.
85. Full names of the players must be printed and legible – ensure the name is spelt correctly as per name registered in LeagueNet.
86. The number on the card must correspond to the number on the player’s jersey.
87. Only the names of the players present and participating in the match on the day are to be recorded on the team card.
88. A players name must be recorded on the team card prior to taking the field.
89. Referees and Match Managers are to note on the team card anything that requires further action by CRL – sin- bins, abusive behaviour, poor crowd behaviour, ordering off, the number of players stripped and available etc.
90. Referees and Match Managers must check the team card for completion of all entries before signing it and handing it back to the Team Manager at the completion of the game.
91. Team Cards to CRL.
 - a) All clubs must enter the score and the players into LeagueNet by 10 pm the Tuesday following the game for all grades where tables are published.
 - b) All team cards – must be received at the CRL office no later than 4 pm of the Friday post the game.
 - c) It is acceptable to scan or take photos of both sides of the team card and email these images to CRL. If a club elects to use this option they will be required to retain the original team card for 12 months.
 - d) Non-compliance will result in a fine of \$10 per week per team, being imposed on the club.

Section 12 ID Cards/ ID Process

92. Player ID process:

The following process must be applied prior to the commencement of a match:
Premier Grade:

- a) The completed team card must be handed to the Match Manager 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the game.
- b) Teams must be on the field 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the game to enable the identification check process to be completed.
- c) The Match Manager and opposing team manager will check the ID card against the player.
- d) The opposing team manager, team manager and Match Manager (3 signatures per team card) will sign the team cards to acknowledge the information on the team card as true and correct.
- e) The team manager is to raise any matters of dispute relating to the match with the Match Manager and the opposing team manager.

All other grades where ID Cards are in place:

- f) Teams must be on the field 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the game to enable the identification check process to be completed.
- g) The team manager and opposing team manager will check the ID card against the player.
- h) Both managers will sign the cards acknowledging the team entries as being true and correct identification.

93. Player with No Player ID Card

Should a player not be able to produce their Player ID card that player will be deemed to be an Out of Order Player and will not be entitled to have any involvement in the game as a player.

94. Player Eligibility Dispute On Game Day

Each Club is responsible for ensuring their players are correctly registered as per section 4 of these By-Laws and the players have valid ID cards. On an occasion where a coach or team manager wishes to protest the eligibility of an opposing player the coach or team manager must:

- a) Verbally register this objection with the opposing team manager and/or Match Manager, where one is provided and not sign the card.
- b) The Match Manager or team manager will:
 - i. Request the player identification card to be viewed (if the objection is in a grade where player ID cards are provided)
 - ii. Request the player to print their full name, address and date of birth on the reverse side of the team card.
- c) Should a player refuse to furnish details including a valid ID card, they will not be permitted to participate in the game.
- d) Take a photo/copy of the card and attach this information to the protest form.
- e) Should occasion occur where there are concerns relating to the eligibility of a player to

play a game after a period of absence from the game, because of concussion, the team manager is to make contact with CRL Operations Manager prior to the commencement of the game.

- f. CRL will check the validity of the player and contact the team managers advising them of the medical status of the player.

95. Non-compliance will result in a fine of \$10 per week per team, being imposed on the club.

Section 13 Defaults

96. Any Premier team who fails to field a team and/or defaults a scheduled fixture will be fined \$1000 regardless of notice given for the default.

97. Any other senior team who fails to field a team and/or defaults a scheduled fixture shall be fined \$200. On an occasion where more than 36 hours written notice is given to CRL from the defaulting club, the fine will be reduced to \$100.

98. Any junior team who fails to field a team and/or defaults a scheduled fixture shall be fined \$100. On an occasion where more than 36 hours written notice is given to CRL from the defaulting club, the fine will be reduced to \$50.

99. Any fine incurred because of a default must be paid in full to CRL within 7 days of the default.

100. Any team defaulting a game will be suspended from competition until the imposed fine is paid in full to CRL.

101. Any monies received because of an imposed fine for a default will result in the club defaulted against receiving 50% of the fine.

102. For all grades where a points table is administered, a game result score of 20 – 0 will be recorded in favour of the team defaulted against.

103. Where a default has been registered the non-defaulting team must record their playing roster in LeagueNet. This action is required to ensure a team is not disadvantaged by eligibility criteria because of the default.

104. In the event of a team being unable to play a scheduled match due to reasons beyond the teams control e.g. tangi for a fellow team member. The team

- a) May negotiate the rescheduling of the fixture with the opposing team to a time that will not exceed four (4) days from the day of the scheduled match.
- b) The opposing team retains the right to decline a request to reschedule a game and should this right be applied, the team making the request will be deemed to have defaulted the game.
- c) The decision of this opposing team will be considered full and final and is not open to appeal.
- d) The outcome of this request is to be communicated, in writing, to CRL by the respective Club secretaries on the day of the decision.

105. Any team defaulting for two consecutive matches, or three matches during the course of the season, will be withdrawn from the competition. Any remaining team members can be allotted for the remainder of the season, solely by CRL, to other teams within the Club or Affiliate.

106. Any Team defaulting or choosing to default any game or match during the Grand Final Series will be eliminated from this competition and shall take no further part in it.

Section 14 Coaching/Team Officials Qualifications

107. Each club should appoint a Coaching Educator who should ensure all coaches attend coaching schools in order to gain NZRL qualifications.
108. NZRL regulations state all coaches must hold a current first aid certificate. In order for Coaches, managers and trainers to hold a position in a team they must hold an applicable NZRL accredited certificate as follows:

Coaches

- Mini-Mod Coach- Nursery-12 years
- Developing Community Coach -13-Upwards
- Senior Club Coach – Premiers and Canterbury Provincial teams
- Senior Club Coach – Provincial, Zone and National teams
- First Aid

Trainers

- First Aid Officer – all club grades
- National Trainer – Senior and Representative Grades
- International Trainer – National teams

Managers

- Level 1 Manager – all Club and Representative grades
- First Aid

109. A coach of club teams must have attended an NZRL fundamentals course and the approved course (as above) for the grade the coach is coaching. Failure to attend the appropriate course may mean the exclusion of the team the coach is coaching from the competition.
110. A copy of any NZRL accredited certificate must be added to the member's registration in LeagueNet.

Section 15 Club Colours / Playing Strip

111. Each team playing in Canterbury Rugby League competitions will play in the colours registered to their Club
112. Only one set of colours per club will be permitted.
113. CRL will keep a register of authorised club colours, as recorded in the clubs constitution.
114. The register will be available to all Clubs and will be added to the CRL By-Laws (Appendix A)
115. Any alteration to Club colours or a clubs playing strip and design must be submitted to CRL for sanctioning and approval.
116. In the event of a clash of colours in a senior match, the team travelling away must change their playing shirts – in the event of the away team not complying, a fine of \$100 will be imposed. If the referee, in their opinion, cannot officiate owing to the clash of colours, the away team will also forfeit the game and default the game and the appropriate fine as specified in section 12 above will be applied.

117. Clubs may make an application to CRL during the season, for a special event, to wear an alternative Colour or design of the shirt. An application must be made 21 days prior to the event in which an alternate jersey will be worn and requires approval from CRL before the event.

Section 16 Changing rooms

118. It is the responsibility of the Club, Team Officials, Players and Referee's to ensure they leave their changing rooms and shower facilities in a clean and tidy state.
119. Any Canterbury Park changing facility not adequately cleaned by the Team Officials responsible shall result in the Club or Affiliate being fined a sum of \$100.00.
120. The decision of the CRL shall be final.

Section 17 Representative

121. To be eligible for representative selection a player must:
- a) have played for his Club or school in the season in which the player gains selection
 - b) be fully registered as per section 4 of this By-Law
 - c) be a financial member of their club
 - d) be a secondary school player who has played five (5) games for their school in a sanctioned CRL competition and be a Fully Registered Financial member of a club.
122. Any player making themselves unavailable for a representative fixture after selection will not be permitted to play for their club, whenever the others selected are excluded from playing for their respective Clubs or Affiliates.
123. Canterbury Representative Players are not permitted to be available for Club or Affiliate matches during the whole of three days preceding a representative fixture.
124. Coach, manager, trainer positions for all Representative teams will be circulated to all Clubs and Affiliates and advertised on the CRL website/social media site.
125. Applications for the vacancies will be submitted to CRL by the due date on the prescribed form. These applications will then be considered by a panel selected by CRL.
126. Three Selectors shall be appointed for each Provincial Grade, one of whom will be the Convener/Manager. One of the remaining two elected will be appointed Coach.
127. Where two (2) teams are required in the one (1) grade and the appointed coach for the second team is not already a Selector, that Coach shall be added to the Selection Panel for the purpose of selecting the second team.
128. All successful applicants must consent to a Police check prior to the completion of the appointment process.
129. No player in football competitions shall be a Manager, Selector or Coach of any team under the direct jurisdiction of CRL, be it representative, trial or club or affiliate team representing the province, except by permission of the Board.

Section 18 Discipline

130. Clubs or Affiliates are expected to enforce discipline and control on all teams in the promotion of the game.
131. A Club or Affiliate is responsible for its' Players, Officials and financial members. Any player ordered from the field of play and found guilty (except in the case of Age Group and Schoolboy Players) of Players Misconduct will be subject to a penalty of \$50.00, for the first game suspension and \$50.00 per game suspension thereafter up to a maximum of \$150.00.
132. Any Club, Affiliate or Team found guilty by the Board of bringing the game into disrepute can have a monetary penalty imposed not exceeding \$2,500.00. Such penalty is to be paid by the time stipulated. Other penalties such as non-team travel, removal of competition points, game forfeiture or any other appropriate penalty may be applied.
133. Any player found guilty of players misconduct and receiving a severe caution will be subject to the minimum penalty of \$50.00 except in case of age group and Secondary School players.
134. All penalties will be charged to the player. An account will be sent to the respective club, the player will be de-activated until such time as payment/penalty has been received in full by CRL.
135. All penalties are payable to Canterbury Rugby League Inc.

Section 19 Code of Behaviour

136. For Coaches, Managers and Trainers and Team Officials.
137. A Coach, Manager, Trainer or other Team Official must not during the course of or after a match under the jurisdiction of CRL, abuse or address a referee or touch judge in insulting, racial, derogatory or threatening terms or act in a provocative manner toward a referee or touch judge.
138. A Coach, Manager, Trainer or other Team Official must not use crude or abusive language or engage in any conduct detrimental to the sport or image of the game.
139. On the occasion of a Coach, Manager, Trainer or other Team Official being reported for a breach of this By-Law, a fine of \$100 will be imposed on the club concerned and the offending official will be suspended. On subsequent occasions, the fine will double \$200.00 and a further period of suspension will be imposed.

Section 20 Protests

140. A club involved in the match may protest against the eligibility of a player.

Note: Any club or affiliate which lodges a protest on behalf of a team against another should first ensure that their team is in order, as failure to do so may result in dismissal of the protest and loss of the protest fee.
141. The Club or Affiliate protested against is to be notified by CRL of the details of the protest as soon as possible after it is received.
142. Any appeal against the decision made by CRL will be heard by the Zone Appeal Committee and must be accompanied by a \$1,000.00 administration fee which shall be returned if the appeal is successful.
143. CRL will not entertain any protest or dispute that relates to a player's misconduct as defined in the

International Laws of the game of Rugby League until and unless that matter has first been heard by a Judicial Committee(s).

144. Any coach or manager who has reason to doubt the eligibility of an opposition player may request the player to print their full name, address and date of birth on the reverse side of the referee's card. If applicable produce his ID card. This may only be done in a reasonable manner and in the presence of the referee. Should a player refuse to furnish details they will not be permitted to participate in the game.

Section 21 Disqualification From Playing

145. When a player is sent from the field of play, a Referee's Report, outlining the alleged offence committed by the player, will be sent to the CRL Office within 3 days of the match.
146. When a player is ordered from the field, the player will be automatically under suspension until the judicial process is completed.
147. On receipt of the Referee's Report, CRL will decide whether the matter can be dealt with under the provisions of the "Automatic Suspensions" schedule, or needs to be dealt with by the Judicial Committee.
148. If it is decided that the offence can be dealt with by way of an "Automatic Suspension", the player's club will be contacted and advised of the automatic suspension to be imposed on the player (see Appendix B);
 - a) If the Club accepts the penalty on the player's behalf, the suspension shall be imposed and the fine will be issued to the Club (senior competition players will be fined \$50 per game suspension).
 - b) If the Club does not accept the proposed automatic suspension, the matter will be referred to the Judicial Committee for disposition.
149. If the Club requests a judicial hearing, such request must clearly state the reasons for the hearing.
 - a) The player may be accompanied by an official of their Club at the judicial hearing.
150. Where a player has been found guilty of Player's Misconduct and is suspended, he shall not be permitted to play in any game until the suspension has been served. Should a player under suspension play during that time, they will automatically be subject to a further suspension and fine (\$50 per day) equal to the original penalty.
151. Should any player or team official who has been summoned to, or has requested a Judicial hearing, fail to attend that Judicial hearing, that person(s) will be suspended until the matter is dealt with by the Judicial Committee.
152. All suspensions from playing the game of Rugby League imposed pursuant to these rules will apply to any game of Rugby League played under the auspices of the NZRL, a Zone or District League or any game subject to the jurisdiction of the International Board.
153. At the conclusion of the season, all sin-bins accumulated by any player shall be cancelled.
154. Any period of suspension, which remains outstanding at the conclusion of the season, shall be served in the Division it was obtained at the commencement of the following season.
155. For the purposes of this By-law, the words "conclusion of the season" shall mean all competition matches of the club team for which the player normally plays have been completed.

Section 22 Appeals

156. All appeals on decisions by CRL or the Judicial Committee shall be heard by the Zone Appeals Committee.
157. Any appeal of any decision made in the first instance by the CRL or the Judicial Committee shall be in writing, on the Club's letterhead, and be accompanied by an administration fee of \$1,000. It should set out clearly the grounds of the appeal and the argument supporting those grounds. Should the appeal be denied, the fee is not-refundable. Any player who appeals a CRL's or Judicial Committee decision which involves a period of suspension shall be suspended until such time as the appeal has been heard and adjudication determined.
158. Any appeal must be lodged with the Zone General Manager no later than 10 days from the time of the original decision being advised to the parties concerned.

Section 23 Finance

159. Competition Fees and Affiliation Fees. Competition and affiliation fees are payable each year and payment shall be as follows:
160. Competition Fees:
 - a) Competition fees will be payable and due by the last business day of May of that year.
161. Any club who pays the total amount due by the last business day in April will be entitled to a 5% discount (including GST)"
162. Any club failing to make payment of the total amount due by 20 June shall be automatically disqualified from taking part in any further matches until payment is made in full
163. Affiliation Fees (per player fee):
 - a) Affiliation fees will be payable and due by the last business day of July of that year
 - b) Any club failing to make payment of the total amount due by 20 August or the Grand Final series (whichever falls first) shall be automatically disqualified from taking part in any further matches until payment is made in full.
164. Any monies remitted to the CRL shall be applied in payment of the oldest debt to the CRL.
165. The Board shall have the power to charge penalty interest on outstanding accounts.
166. Any club entitled to monies payable by CRL will be held until that club is fully financial to CRL.

Section 24 Travelling Teams

167. Where a team wishes to travel outside Canterbury, whether or not to play a game, a written application must be made to the CRL for permission and approval.
168. The Team Manager must submit a written report on the trip within fourteen days of the team's return.
169. All teams wishing to travel outside of Canterbury are to deposit a security bond of \$100 payable to CRL.
170. Any team known and proven to have travelled without CRL permission will be fined the sum of

\$300.00 and the Club or Affiliate a similar sum.

Section 25 Health and Safety

171. CRL is committed to ensuring the health, safety and well being of all its members and as such CRL requires:
- a) all Clubs adhere to and administer the CRL Match Safety Plan.
 - b) all Clubs have in place appropriate Health and Safety practices and procedures for the effective management of Health and Safety related matters for their facilities, fields, car parks and the surrounding environment.
 - c) all Clubs and their members to abide by the Health and Safety practices applied at Canterbury Park and all other venues under CRL control.
 - d) all Clubs and their members to abide by NZRL Mouth Guard Policy. (a copy of this policy is available on CRL website www.canterburyrugbyleague.co.nz)
 - e) all Clubs and their members to abide by NZRL Concussion Policy. (a copy of this policy is available on CRL website www.canterburyrugbyleague.co.nz)

Section 26 Banned Substances

172. CRL follows the Drug Free Sport Clean Sport protocols. All players playing under the jurisdiction of the CRL are subject to the NZRL regulations and by-laws and Drug Free Sport NZ policy in relation to the illegal use, trafficking and possession of illegal substances.
173. Persons found to be in breach of these protocols will be subject to Drug Free Sport judicial process.

Section 27 NZRL Concussion/Head Injury Policy

174. All clubs, team and players must abide by the concussion guidelines set by the NZRL these can be found on the NZRL and CRL websites

Appendix A – Club Colours

Club Colours

Addington Magpies - white/black	Marist Western Suburbs Saints - White/Green
Aranui Eagles - navy blue/sky blue/white/red	Northern Bulldogs - blue/white
Ashburton Barbarians - green/red	Papanui Tigers - orange/black/white
Burnham Chevaliers - maroon/blue	Riccarton Knights - red/black/white
Celebration Lions - purple/yellow/white	Rolleston Warriors – green/white/grey
Halswell Hornets - red/black/gold	Shirley Hawks - cambridge blue/black/gold
Hornby Panthers - black/white	Sydenham Swans - red/royal blue/white
Linwood Keas - green/black/red/white	Woolston Rams - blue/gold

Appendix B – Automatic Player Suspensions

Schedule illustrating Minimum Entry Point Automatic Suspension for players or team officials ordered from field of play

Offence	Entry Point Match Suspension Guidelines	
	Grade 1 Judicial Committee	Grade 2 Football Committee
Tripping	3 weeks	1 week
Kicking	6 weeks	3 weeks
Striking	3 weeks	1 weeks
Head High Tackle (Intentionally)	8 weeks	4 weeks
Reckless Tackle	6 weeks	3 weeks
Careless Tackle	2 Weeks	1 weeks
Dropping Knees	6 weeks	3 weeks
Dangerous Throw	6 weeks	3 weeks
Persistent Law Breaking	2 weeks	1 weeks
Offensive or intimidating language towards match officials	6 weeks	3 weeks
Dissent towards match official	4 weeks	2 weeks
Re-entering Field of Play without permission.	6 weeks	3 weeks
Dangerous Conduct	4 weeks	2 weeks
Grass cutting	Discretionary	Discretionary
Contrary Conduct	Discretionary	Discretionary
MANDATORY JUDICIAL ATTENDANCE		
Game Called Off	Discretionary	Discretionary
Citing's	Discretionary	Discretionary
Non-mandatory ordering off offences	Discretionary	Discretionary
Bringing the game into disrepute charge	Discretionary	Discretionary
Side-Line Eviction	Discretionary	Discretionary
Second offence or more in a playing season	Discretionary	Discretionary

GRADES

Grade 1 – offences are those incidents of foul play deemed by CRL to be deliberate or reckless in nature.

Grade 2 – offences are those incidents of foul play deemed by CRL to be careless in nature but sufficiently serious in the context of the match to warrant dismissal from the field of play.

NOTES

1. The grading of the offence shall be at the sole discretion of CRL or their representative and is based on information provided by Match Officials and by any other supporting material lodged within the specified or agreed time frame.
2. Any offences deemed to constitute Misconduct shall be referred by CRL management direct to a hearing before the judiciary tribunal for determination. Any player or Team Official facing such an allegation shall have the right to attend such a judiciary hearing and present evidence and/or submissions on his or her behalf as to culpability or mitigation.
3. The period of times listed above serve as a guideline for the minimum period of suspension. The Football Committee and Judicial Committee reserve the right to extend the period of time a player is suspended from the game under the categories listed above.
4. Any player or Team Official who is ordered from the field of play for an offence listed in the schedule shall be entitled to request a hearing of the CRL Judiciary Tribunal to dispute culpability only. If the player or Team Official establishes to the comfortable satisfaction of the CRL judiciary that he or she is not guilty of the alleged offence that resulted in his or her ordering from the field, the CRL judiciary shall have the ability to rescind the ordering off and quash the applicable automatic suspension. Likewise, should the judicial panel deem the original penalty as insufficient it has the right to impose further penalties as deemed appropriate.

5. Any player or Team Official who wishes to appeal a decision of the CRL management or judiciary is bound by the constitutional and By-Law requirements of CRL, Southern Zone and NZRL.
6. Any player sent to the sin bin on three (3) occasions during one season shall automatically be suspended for the two (2) competition matches immediately following the match in which he or she incurred his or her third sin bin.
7. The Club of any player or Team Official who is ordered from the field of play shall incur an automatic fine of \$30.00 for each match of the automatic suspension period imposed for the offence. Such a fine must be paid by the Club before the player or Team Official is eligible to play or participate in any subsequent competition match.
8. CRL will publish a list of player sanctions on a regular basis.

Appendix C – Fine Sanction Structure

Grade	Sanction	Additional Action
First Offence - Out of Order Player <i>Not registered to the club, No player ID, Owes Debt to CRL, Does not meet finals eligibility criteria</i>	\$100 per player Loss of points	Reminder by club to team officials about the criteria
Second Offence – Out of Order player <i>Not registered to the club, No player ID, Owes Debt to CRL, Does not meet finals eligibility criteria</i>	\$200 per player Loss of points	Letter of warning to the club regarding possible suspension of team officials
3rd Offence – Out of Order player <i>Not registered to the club, No player ID, Owes Debt to CRL, Does not meet finals eligibility criteria</i>	\$300 per player Loss of points Suspension of team officials	Meeting with Club Committee
First Offence – Out of Order player <i>Player temporarily/permanently suspended on RL judicial matter.</i>	\$500 per player Loss of points	CRL Letter of warning to the club regarding possible suspension of team officials
Second Offence – Out of Order player <i>Player temporarily/permanently suspended on RL judicial matter.</i>	\$750 per player Loss of points Suspension of team officials	Meeting with Club Committee
First Offence – Out of Order player <i>Player deemed medically unfit for any reason</i>	\$1000 per player Loss of points Suspension of team officials.	Meeting with Club Committee
Incidents Involving to Match Officials		
First Offence – Offensive Language towards a match official	\$250	CRL Letter to the player
Second Offence – Offensive Language towards a match official	\$500	CRL Letter to the player
First Offence – Dissent towards a match official	\$100	CRL Letter to the player
Second Offence – Dissent towards a match official	\$200	CRL Letter to the player