

CRL By Laws 2019 Additions and Amendments

CRL have made some changes to the structure and format of the 2019 By Laws, including wording changes to provide better clarity. Below are the sections that were either a significant change or Clubs wanted to debate and suggest changes.

Section Number & Name	Regulation Number	Page	New/ Amendment	Details
Definition - Sanctioned Event		5	New	New Section added for Clubs to apply formally for a tournament to be sanctioned by CRL if they require Match Officials or CRL to provide assistance.
Section 5 Transfers	5.1.a)	7	Amendment	The transfer window between Canterbury Clubs has been brought in line with the rest of the Country, previously we opened the window for 1 month then closed it until February. There is no longer any reason why we need to do this, so it will be open from the 1st November - 30th June.
	5.2.g)	8	New	We have added the stipulation that a Club who requests a junior permit for a 2nd or subsequent season in a row, will not have the permit approved until CRL have confirmed with the parents that they understand the difference between a transfer and a permit, we have had incidents where Clubs are disagreeing over what the player wants. This will help resolve any misunderstandings.
	5.4	8	New	New regulation to clarify when Clubs can expect that transfers will be actioned.
	5.5	8	New	Further clarification to regulation 5.4 that we may choose to manage our workload outside of normal business hours but this will not be due to Club requests.
	2.1	9	Amendment	NZRL have reduced the number of days a Club has to approve or deny a transfer from 14 days to 7 days.
	5.17.b)	9	Amendment	Have amended A graded players to of senior age, previously it included junior age groups.
	5.18.b)	9	New	Have added the players who play for the Canterbury Women's team as B graded players.
	5.18.d)	9	Amendment	Have reclassified New Zealand juniors age grade players as B graded.
	5.18.e)	9	New	Have added the players who play for the Canterbury 19s team as B graded players.

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Section 6 Grade Eligibility	6.7	10	Amendment	Have further clarified that during a Bye weekend for the Men's Premier League only 3 players from the week before can play down in the Canterbury Cup, previously it allowed them to play down in lower graded teams which wasn't fair for the Men's Div 1 competition.
Section 8 Grand Finals eligibility	8.2	11	New	A players eligibility to qualify for finals is validated by the record of games they have played as entered into LeagueNet. This allows for better transparency to the opposition of the teams participating in the finals.
	8.6.c)	12	New	During the 2018 season we had players who had suffered major injuries which had excluded them from playing for the majority of the season, asking for an exemption from the Grand Final eligibility rules. To ensure CRL can do our own due diligence around whether a player has been properly medically cleared to play Rugby league, we are asking for evidence of the appropriate medical clearance to ensure the player is medically fit to play before an exemption is considered.
	8.8	12	New	Clarification that a player who has registered as a New player to Rugby League does not meet the criteria for circumstances outside of their control.
Competition Rules	9.17	13	New	Recognition that players who have played against a withdrawn team will retain their participation in the matches played in relation to qualification for grand finals eligibility.
	9.25	13	New	
Section 10 Junior Competition rules	10	14	New	We have created a new section specific to junior competitions to document the differences from Senior competition rules.
	10.2	14	New	Due to the new mini rules from NZRL we have reduced the number of substitutes that can be named on a team card to 3 to align teams with the minimum playing time required for these grades.
	10.4	14	New	Plugging a loophole where players who had been playing up a grade all season then dropped down into their correct age group for Grand finals.
	10.5	14	New	Due to Canterbury playing finals in Mod age groups we needed to specify the maximum playing time for relevant to the age group as this is not specified by NZRL.

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	10.6	14	New	In order to facilitate education around the Safe play code and build a referee academy foundation at Canterbury Park, we now require all teams to have at least one person educated to be able to participate in the competition. These people will usually be the person responsible for refereeing each week.
Section 11 Grand Final rules	11.2	15	New	Last season we trialled Semi & Preliminary finals being held at Club grounds depending on who ever was seeded the highest and this appeared to work much better than in previous years using neutral grounds. However we have built in a caveat that CRL may decide that a neutral venue may be in the best interests of rugby league due to social issues or another venue may be beneficial for any number of reasons.
Section 13 Presidents Grade	13.5	17	New	Providing eligibility criteria around the Presidents 10 a side tournament to prevent players from teams no longer playing from dropping down into this grade. The players need to have played 5 games in the Presidents grade to qualify to play in the tournament.
Section 17 Team Cards	17.5	18	New	Clarity added around players who may be delayed on match day and can't get to the ground before kick off being able to play so long as they still meet the identity criteria, it happens but there was no formal rule around it.
	17.10.c)	19	New	Providing the opportunity for teams to leave their team cards at Canterbury Park if their Club doesn't collect them.
Section 18 Team statistics	18.3	19	New	Introducing random team checks during the season to ensure the accuracy of our database and to assist clubs who don't want to 'protest' when Clubs/teams are obviously cheating.
	18.4	19	New	In conjunction with 18.3 we also needed to clarify that if any breaches are identified during random team card checks then CRL will take the appropriate action relevant to the breach.
Section 20 Defaults	20.1-3	21	New	Clarity provided in relation to the number of players required to start a match (10) and if a team falls below (9) players then the game is abandoned by the team with less than 9 players. The NZRL Laws of the game state this but it is difficult to find.

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	20.5.c)	21	New	Added new level of default fine which has been reduced for Men's Div 1. Presidents and Junior competition grades to encourage Clubs to default lower graded teams during the season and push players up, rather than default a Reserve or Premier team and drop players down.
	20.5.d)	21	New	Added new level of default fine for Junior non-competition grades
	20.11	22	New	Providing clarity around a team who cannot start a game due to insufficient players, that both teams need to note the team card to ensure that if they play a friendly game the team who defaulted can't claim they didn't default.
Section 22 Representative	22.2	22	New	Clarity around what representative teams players can be considered for based on their biological age, for the previous two seasons players/parents were trialling for teams due to political reasons and ignoring CRL direction.
	22.4	23	Amended	Districts outside of Canterbury have been approaching players directly to play for other Districts and offering them financial incentives to not make themselves available for Canterbury. So we have added that if a player makes themselves unavailable for Canterbury they have to apply for a dispensation from Canterbury to be considered for another District.
	22.5	23	New	In conjunction with 22.4, we needed a process around the players not selected for Canterbury and making themselves available to play for another District, once again it was to have a formal process around the horse trading for Canterbury players within the Southern Zone.
Section 25 Protest	25.3-5	24	reinstated	Accidentally deleted from the 2018 By Laws, with agreement of the Clubs we proposed to reinstate these rules, which was unopposed.
	25.6	24	Amended	Have added a timeframe to when CRL will notify the Club being protested against, it's only fair they are notified within a reasonable timeframe.
Section 26 Player sent off	26.3	24	New	Clubs felt that if CRL couldn't hold a judiciary hearing that a player shouldn't be disadvantaged by being suspended for admin reasons. There will from time to time be reasons why a judicial committee cannot be convened and to be seen to be consistent we can't allow a player to 'get off' because of an administration anomaly

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Section 27 Appeals	27.2-5	25	Amended	Southern Zone agreed to a reduction in the appeal fee from \$1,000 to \$500 on the condition that the regulations are more prescriptive in relation to the paperwork provided to reduce the amount of work required by the Zone appeals committee and that part of the fee if direct costs are incurred by Southern Zone can be recovered.
Section 30 Sanctioned Events	30	26	New	Incorporating the new NZRL tournament application form to ensure that Clubs are meeting the statutory Health & Safety requirements to minimise any repercussions. Plus to ensure that if CRL are promoting their event that it will meet CRL's minimum requirements for player, match official and staff Health & Safety.