



Saturday Metro League 2021 Competition Handbook



NSWRL CONTACTS

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1. Competitions

9s Competition

An Invitational 9's Competition on Saturday, 17th April 2021.

Regular Season Competition

There will be a 7 team competition consisting of 14 rounds including 2 byes.

Teams

Asquith Magpies
Berowra Wallabies
Carlingford Cougars
Macquarie University
Sydney University
TAFE NSW Polecats
UTS Leichhardt Wanderers

Game day will involve a squad of up to 20 players with unlimited interchange.

Games will be played 35 minutes each half with time out for all game stoppages.

Current Covid rules require:

- 4 quarters
 - Q1 = 18 minutes
 - 1 minute drink break
 - Q2 = 17 minutes
 - 10 minute half time
 - Q3 = 18 minutes
 - 1 minute drink break
 - Q4 = 17 minutes.
- Trainers only allowed on ground after a try is scored.
 - Water bottles to be individually marked in a tray
- From time to time change rooms may not be usable.

The Saturday Metro League is an amateur competition – players are not permitted to be paid.

Player Registration

All players must be registered and cleared prior to their participation in any competition match.

No player can play without being cleared.



The method of registration will be via My Sideline online.

Player audits will be conducted over the course of the season.

North/South Representative Match

The North/South Representative match will be played on Saturday 17th May.

Players from all teams will be eligible to be selected, provided they have played at least two competition matches.

Team selection will be conducted by a panel comprising a representative from each Club and the appointed North/South coaches.

Players selected will be required to pay a participation levy of around \$100.

Clubs will be divided as follows:

North – Asquith, Berowra, Macquarie, TAFE NSW Polecats

South – Carlingford, Sydney Uni, UTS

The North/South match would normally be used as the selection trial for a combined team to play a further representative match. As a result of the late start to the competition, this representative match will not go ahead in 2021.

Regular Season Competition Points Structure

The following points structure will be used in the competition:

- Win – 3 points
- Bye – 3 points
- Forfeit – 3 points non-forfeiting team, 0 points forfeiting team (+21 to 0 for and against for the non-forfeiting team / 0 to -49 for and against for the forfeiting team)
- Draw – 2 points
- Washout – 2 points (games will not be rescheduled)
- Loss – 1 point



Final Series

Finals will be a 3 week, top 4 finals system.

The Finals Series will be made up of the teams ranked 1 to 4 in the regular competition. The competition rankings are determined by competition points (and if necessary points for and against).

Top four finals series involves Major and Minor Semi Finals (week 1) followed by a final (week 2) and then a Grand Final (week 3).

In week one of finals, teams ranked 1st and 2nd will play in the Major Semi Final. Teams ranked 3rd and 4th will play in the Minor Semi Final. The highest ranked team will host semi-finals unless it is a club who is unable to host. The winner of 1st and 2nd will have the following week off and the loser of 3rd and 4th will be eliminated. In week 2, the loser of 1st and 2nd will play the winner of 3rd and 4th. The winner of this match will play the winner of 1st and 2nd in the Grand Final.

Grand Final venue TBC.

For finals matches, in the event of a drawn game after regular time, 10 minutes extra time will be played (5 minutes each way). There will be a one minute break and teams will change ends with the team that kicked off to start the match to kick off in the first extra time period. If the match remains drawn after extra time the match will immediately go into 'Golden Point'. The teams will not change ends with the team to kick off decided by a toss of the coin. The Golden Point period will continue until one team scores a point, that team immediately being declared the winner.

Player Finals Qualification

In order for a player to participate in the NSWRL Metro Rugby League Final Series, he must:

- Play a minimum of three games by the final round of the regular competition
- If the inability to play a washed out or forfeited against game has affected a players eligibility to qualify for the finals series, a club may request permission. The player must also have actually played in at least two games in competition rounds.
- A signed team sheet for any non-played washed out / forfeited match must be submitted with a request to qualify the player.



2. Game Day Procedures

Ground Manager

A Ground Manager will be appointed by the home team to oversee procedures for game day, including ground set up, COVID protocols, and HIA protocols.

They will be responsible for ensuring both teams provide signed team sheets to the game table 15 mins before kick-off.

The appointed official should report any relevant matters arising to the NSWRL for review.

Ground Set Up

The home team is expected to complete the following ground tasks

- Inspect the ground, including the playing surface and ensure that it is both of a satisfactory playing standard, and free of debris.
- Ensure that the field is adequately marked and also where possible, ground markers are placed on the sidelines to help indicate 10 metre / try lines.
- Ensure the playing area is fenced / roped off from the crowd.
- Ensure the goal posts are fitted with Open Age quality post pads.
- Set up the scorer's / timekeeper table on the halfway line and provide an appropriate timepiece and hooter device.
- A bench or chairs must be provided either side of the scorer's table for team interchange players or officials.
- Have an area dedicated for both teams and the match officials to get changed and ready for the game.
- Allocate a First Aid officer for the game, and make him / her known to all the match officials.
- Ensure players and officials remain a safe distance from the playing field.
- Ensure that each team has a minimum Level 1 Sports Trainer.
- Ensure the ambulance access point is kept clear and available in case of emergency.
- Have a First Aid Kit available on the sideline of the field.
- Provide two (2) Size 5 quality match balls for all games.
- At least one official to sit on the scorer's table and keep score during all matches.

The away team is expected to provide the following for games:

- Two (2) Size 5 quality match balls for all games as a backup.
- Back up timepiece and hooter device.
- At least one official to sit on the scorer's table and keep score during all matches.

Delays Caused by Serious Injury or Other Extraordinary Game Interruption



When a serious injury stops play or for some other reason play must be stopped for an extended period (e.g. electrical storm, lights failure if night match etc.) the following procedures will apply:

- The result of matches abandoned after half time shall be recorded as the final score at the point of abandonment.
- In the case of double and triple headers, should the stoppage that occurred in an earlier cause delay to the scheduled starting time of the next match (3pm match), then the Ground Manager in consultation with both team and match officials must ensure the later match can commence at NO LATER THAN 30 minutes late.
- If an incident or extraordinary event in the first match causes the second match to be delayed past the 30 minute deadline, the second match must be abandoned (draw).

Mercy Rule

In any game, regular competition or finals, as soon as the differential in the score of the match reaches 50 points, then the match result must be declared to the leading team and full time blown, regardless of how much game time remains on the clock. Ground Manager to notify referee are consultation with team managers.

In the context of this rule, should the winning team score a try that brings its points differential to 50 points or more, it will be entitled to take a conversion attempt of that try. Accordingly, the maximum point's differential possible under this rule will be 55.

Sign On / Score Sheets

Both teams must have a scorer / timekeeper available at the game table for every match.

Care should be taken in completing the score sheet with all information clearly legible.

At completion of the match, team officials will agree on the score, ensuring all details are completed, including best player points, referee / touch judge information.

The ground manager should take a photo of the team sheets and email to Matt Olsen and to Rob Weisback for social media at scores@metroleaguerl.com.au, no later than 30 minutes after the competition of the match.

The team sheets should be retained by the team official in case required at a later time.



Send off Reports

Any relevant send-off forms / Code of Conduct reports will need to be submitted to lcallaghan@nswrl.com.au by a team official before Monday 9am.

Concussion Reports

Any concussion reports will need to be submitted to lcallaghan@nswrl.com.au by a team official before Monday 9am.

Washed Out Games

Draw points will be allocated for washouts (no games replayed).

A washed out match is one in which the scheduled venue has been closed by the Council, University or other relevant ground owners because of wet weather (or some other extraordinary cause / event) and an appropriate alternative venue is not available, or because of extremely heavy rain during the day of play causing match officials to deem the ground unsafe for play.

Team managers should ensure xxx is kept informed of these events in order to notify all interested parties including referees.

Deferred Games

Games cannot be deferred.

Moving Games

Games may be moved to other venues or even other dates provided both Clubs, the Saturday Metro League Secretary and referees agree to the proposed change.

3. Club Affiliation Fees - TBC

The Ex-Tertiary Teams

Pay an affiliation fee directly to the NSWRL, and a separate fee for home game referees and touch judges.

District Affiliated Teams

Pay an affiliation fee to their district which includes insurance and referees.



4. Player Injury Insurance

Registered players will be covered by the NSWRL injury insurance policy.

Claim forms and information can be obtained online at Gallagher's Insurance.

https://sport.ajg.com.au/make-a-claim/?_ga=2.40948578.1939615876.1620601178-1910669430.1620601178

Claims can be made online.

If you or the players need any assistance please contact Kath Lansdown.

5. Judiciary and Code of Conduct

All Judiciary and Code of Conduct matters will be conducted by NSWRL as per the process as outlined in the NSWRL Policies and Procedures Manual (2021).

Judiciary is usually held on the Wednesday following the match at a venue to be advised (the venue will be based on team location). When a player is sent off, at the conclusion of the match he will receive a copy of the Referee Dismissal Charge Sheet that will be lodged with the NSWRL Judiciary. The players Club Secretary will then be contacted by the NSWRL Judiciary Secretary with details of the action required for the player to respond to the charge/s made against them.

If it is considered a person has breached the NRL Code of Conduct at any match, the matter should be referred to the Ground Manager who will need to complete a Code of Conduct Incident Report, which will need to be lodged in accordance with the instructions on the form. The NSWRL Code of Conduct Panel Secretary will then advise how the matter will be actioned.

Three Sin Bin Rule

During the course of the season, either in competition round matches or in any finals matches, should a player be sin binned three times, he will automatically be suspended for one match.