

GENERAL INFORMATION

Lead Area:	RUGBY SERVICES
Lead Policy Title:	TEAM COACH POLICY
Date last modified:	February 2023

Age Grade Rugby ensures that every player is able to enjoy rugby in a safe environment where they can develop their personal and social skills as well as a wide array of transferable multi-sports skills. This results in their holistic development as well as their life long involvement in rugby and other sports.

Age Grade Rugby is the game for all players aged 6 – 18 in clubs, schools, colleges and within the representative pathway and it incorporates the rules of play, regulation, competition formats and the structure of the season.

It is based on the principles of player centred, development driven and competition supported with the wants and needs of young people at its heart.

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

Each team competing in a Rugby Union South Australia (RUSA) sanctioned match or event is required to have a Smart Rugby qualified Coach present at every match.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

There are a variety of online courses available on the Rugby Learning Centre. Coaches are required to at the minimum to complete the Smart Rugby Safety course.

Before filling the position

STEP	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
1	Smart Rugby Completion Smart Rugby Safety Course is available as an online course through the Rugby Australia online learning centre. This will take an average of 90 minutes to complete. This is a compulsory coaching requirement.	Coach
2	Working With Children Check Before engaging with minors, all adults must ensure they have a valid WWCC. This can be acquired through the club or via https://screening.sa.gov.au/applications This is a compulsory coaching requirement.	Coach/ Club
3	Member Protection Awareness of the Rugby Union South Australia Member Protection Policy, this can be found under the heading Member Protection Document - SA Member Protection Document at https://sa.rugby/about/codes-and-policies/child-safety	Coach
4	Code of Conduct Awareness of the Rugby Australia Code of Conduct and adhering to this. Document can be found under the heading Code of Conduct at https://sa.rugby/competitions/seniors/judiciary	Coach
5	Values of Rugby Union Awareness of the Rugby Union South Australia Values and adhering to these: Respect, Discipline, Integrity, Passion, Teamwork and Inclusion.	Coach

Once position is filled, before the start of fixtures

STEP	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
1	Match Day App Coaches are to be proficient with the use of the app, with regard to team selection, match scoring, and closing the matches once complete.	Coach
2	Coaching within the Laws It is important that coaches firstly know the Laws of the game, and their implication and then coach to those Laws. Coaching outside the Laws may be found as a breach of the Code of Conduct and may create a risk with players. Coaches should attend Rugby AU coaching accreditation courses so that he or she is exposed to best practice procedures. Accreditation last for four years, after which time every coach, who wishes to continue to coach a team should re-accredit. The re-accreditation process can be gained from the Rugby AU website or from your State Union office.	Coach/ Club

Throughout the Competition/Season

STEP	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
1	Communication Coaches should communicate consistently with the club/coaching director/secretary with regard to any issues to do with the team, players, competition or anything to do with the club or rugby union. Any issues which require escalation to Rugby Union South Australia personnel will be done through the relevant club appointed person.	Coach/ Club
2	Participation All players are equal and should be treated as such. Players are to have equal opportunity to take the field during competition and as such, every registered player in junior grades will have the opportunity to have a run on start in a minimum of 20% of the regular season fixtures, in addition to this players will also have the opportunity to take the field in a minimum of 50% of regular season fixtures. Where teams have more than 30 players in a squad for a 15 player team the percentage for minimum participation can be calculated by using the following equation. (Number of players on the field/Number of players in the squad) x 100 *Number of players on the field U6/U7 - 7 players U8 - 7 players U10 - 12 players U12 and above - 15 players Issues with/ changes to this process are to be discussed with the club/rugby director.	Coach
3	RA Social Media Policy This Policy aims to support all Rugby AU's codes and policies relating to conduct and inclusion and ensure that the core values, good reputation and positive behaviours are maintained by players, coaches, administrators, volunteers, and parents and spectators. This Policy aims provide a simple set of rules that apply to all Participants in the Game in relation to their use of social media and is designed to ensure that there is an enjoyable, safe, respectful and inclusive social media environment for everyone. https://australia.rugby/about/codes-and-policies/integrity/code-of-conduct	Coach
4	Sideline behaviour Coaches are to adhere to the Values of Rugby Union, and Rugby Australia's Code of Conduct. Inappropriate behaviour with regard to interactions with players, parents, spectators, officials or members of the public will not be tolerated and need to be reported to Rugby Australia. https://australia.rugby/about/codes-and-policies/reporting-a-concern	Coach
5	Coach – Player Recruitment Coaches will not approach players within a RUSA program with the intention to recruit from state or regional rep rugby in to their club programs. Those found guilty of breaching this agreement may be subject to disciplinary action	RUSA