



2027 Competition Guide & Policies

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as of September 16, 2026

CLUB ADHERENCE

By registering and participating in the SCYR league, all clubs, high schools and its members (coaches, players, administrators) agree to adhere to SCYR's Competition Guide and Policies. SoCal governs in framework by the [SCYR ByLaws](#)

- List [of SoCal Youth Rugby Member Clubs and High Schools](#) and Member Representatives as well as the Member Rep's responsibilities.

CULTURE & CONDUCT

Clubs are accountable for the behavior of their coaches, administrators, players and supporters. It is the responsibility of each club to maintain and promote a positive culture that upholds compliance with [SCYR's Code of Conduct](#).

SCYR, along with World Rugby and USA Rugby, has zero tolerance to harassment or abuse by coach to player, player to player, or coach/player/spectator to referee or opposing spectators. Any abuse/harassment that occurs can be shared via this [SoCal Youth Feedback Form](#) and via [SafeSport](#).

Referee process for dealing with Verbal Abuse during a match [per USA Rugby 2027 Game Management Guidelines](#):

- VERBAL ABUSE Verbal abuse directed at rugby participants should not be tolerated and the following process should be followed:
 - The referee will walk to the sideline on the halfway line. Call the head coach to the halfway line, and instruct them to ask the identified person to refrain from their behavior. If the identified person is the head coach the referee addresses them directly or may ask the team captain to assist.
 - On the second occasion the referee will request the identified person to be removed from the grounds.
 - A zero tolerance approach should be applied and if the person refuses to leave the referee should request that team's captain to assist.
 - Failing compliance the referee abandons the match.
 - The referee restarts the game according to the latest stoppage and does not award a penalty due to the sideline behavior.
 - Red and Yellow Cards must not be shown to non-players (coaches, water carriers, medical staff, etc.).
 - The referee should report the incident to their local governing body.
 - Players/persons in the technical area must only enter the field of play as permitted by Law. They must not field or touch the ball while it is in live play, including while in the technical area.

Players on suspension due to a red card or other violations may not suit up in a uniform, may not warm-up, or be on the sidelines with the team.

PLAYER DIVISIONS: AGE & WEIGHT PARAMETERS / COMPETITION OUTLINE

[SoCal Youth Rugby: Age/Weight/Divisions 2027](#)

Players in an age division with weight restrictions are required to provide a video weigh-in in order to be fully verified and therefore, rostered.

Video Weight Requirements: [Submit HERE](#)

- Weight must be taken only on the [Patient Aid Medical Grade Floor Scale, 12"x12.5"](#)
- Video must show 1) player head to toe on the scale and 2) the player showing the handheld digitized weight (which confirms scale brand as well)
 - o Player must be in at least shorts and t-shirt or in rugby kit. Cleats are NOT required / no shoes required for the weigh in.
- There are no re-weigh-ins. The certified weight is valid through all 2027 seasons of play.
- Any falsities discovered in the video weights will be addressed with the Club President.

2027 COMPETITION

- U10 and U12 girls will weigh as well (two year pilot complete)
- NEW! Girls only U14, yet still Coed U14 available. Girls U14 will play 7s for 2027.
- NEW! [Video weight submissions](#) available for all.
- Not all 14 yr old Middle Schoolers can play U14 anymore; however there is now a HS option given age eligibility - NEW!
- NEW! HS 15s will be one pool of teams separated in conferences by geography
- NEW! HS 15s channeling towards Single School, but options for current rostered players
- NEW! Removal of the Minimum Player Registration Deadline.
- NEW! All 2027 Winter Club, HS, and Spring Club schedules will be posted November 2

2027 ONBOARDING

Step 1: COMPETITION COMMITMENT: DUE Oct 19, 2026.

[2027 SoCal Youth Rugby Competition Commitment Form](#)

- Signed Commitment of divisions for Winter Club, Spring Club and High School
 - Removal of "Minimum Registration deadline"
 - The Commitment Form, which includes the number of squads, serves as the confirmation rather than player registrations. Clubs know how many players they need to compete for a full, successful season.
 - Staff will watch player registrations as per normal and connect with clubs/teams that are at a lighter pace.

Step 2: SCHEDULE RELEASE: Nov 2, 2026 posted

- Posted November 2, 2026: 2027 Schedule, all seasons – Wtr Club, HS, Spring Club per October 19 Commitment Agreement. Schedules are created by members of the Board of Directors/Staff.

Step 3: TEAM REGISTRATION in MATCHFACTS: DUE Nov 16, 2026

Step 4: FIELDS CONFIRMATION: DUE Dec 4, 2026

- Copy of field reservation confirmation must be shared with SoCal

Step 5: HOSTING details: DUE Jan 4, 2027* (*except Jan 9 host details are due earlier- date tbd)

- 2027 Weekly Hosting schedule
- Standardized schedule (tba) will oblige the recommended minutes of play per USA Rugby and ensure common experience at each hosting
- SoCal will post the hosting details for easy accessibility by families

Resources:

- [Competition Calendar](#)
- CHART: [Quick Rules](#) & Variations per Season/Division
- Player [Fees](#)

WINTER CLUB:

1. U8 coed: [U8 Flag Rugby Handbook](#); [U8 Quick Reference](#)
2. U10 coed: Girls weigh as well
3. U12 coed: Girls weigh as well
4. U14 coed **
 - D1 and D2 will be evaluated based upon the Commitment Form submission and details below:
D1 = 8 spots:
Eligible for D1 2027:
 1. Belmont, Raptors, Mustangs, LARC as top ranking in 2026 season.
 2. Rebels, Back Bay, Dragons and could request to move to D2 based upon 2026 outcomes.
 3. Thunder and Spartans could elect to request to move up to D1 based upon EOS outcome.
5. Girls U14** 7s (7s for this first pilot year of girls only and will be reevaluated for 2028)

** The 2026 rule of all 14-year-olds in Middle School can play U14 has been adjusted per member feedback and Board Vote:

- Sept 1 is the normal age based cutoff date for U14 -- however those born June, July and August can elect to play U14 if they are in middle school. [APPLY HERE](#)
- As well, those in middle school born prior to September 1 can elect to play high school rugby within their district (if allowed at that school) given they are of HS freshmen age.
[APPLY HERE](#)

HIGH SCHOOL:

*Assumptions

-- if rugby is offered at the school where enrolled, must play for that team -- MS or SS; 7s or 15s. If there is a unique situation where there is a 7s or 15s specialty, please contact Valory Reed for discussion at valory@socalyouth.rugby.

1. Boys SS 7s: 100 percent single school for Boys 7s; no exceptions
 - Postseason is one week of play for Top 4 teams.
2. Girls MS 7s:
 - Postseason is one week of play for Top 4 teams.

3. Boys 15s: For 2027, a blended schedule of MS and SS
 - Schedule will have conferences based upon geography; not type such as MS or SS
 - The Top SoCal SS team will play for State vs NorCal
 - SS State qualification format and geographics conferences will be determined once Competition Commitment forms are received as of Oct 19.
 - NOTE: - The Board voted to create parameters that channel high school teams towards 100% single school.
 - 2026 is the Baseline year from which all SS 15s channeling stems. Teams new to 15s for 2027 will use that as their baseline.

2026 baseline to SS	
75-100%	1 yr
60-75%	2 yrs
45-60%	3 yrs
30-45%	4 yrs
0-35%	5 yrs

- NOTE: In 2028, districting will begin for multi school students. New rugby students must play for a rugby program within their school district. If there is not one, the player/family will work with staff for placement.
 - Students that have been previously rostered for a school turning SS are allowed to play through their Senior Year at that school. This list of players must be provided to SoCal for verification and approval.

SPRING CLUB:

DIVISIONS: All division placements are reviewed by the Board for which they have discretion to update and change.

1. Premier U18/U16 = Five teams.

Qualifications (1 of 3 required)

- Nationally recognized via top level tournament win/participation like Nationals in prior season
- Ranked by Goff Rugby
- Is the Gold Bracket winner prior season and/or if the 5th place Premier team is deemed to move down.

Premier for 2027: Mustangs, Thunder, Raptors, Belmont, Back Bay.

* Assumptions:

- Premier U16 will be scheduled to play alongside Premier U18 teams.
- Postseason is playoffs for Top 4 and then Championship for Top 2.
- If the 5th place team remains in 5th for two consecutive years, they will move down to Gold U18 the following year and the Gold Bracket winner will move up as of 2027
- Players can roster at Premier U18/U16 only. Premier playing down to Gold U18/U16 is not allowed.
- Players can roster up from Premier U16 to Premier U18.

2. Gold U18/U16

- U18 squads that are not Nationally ranked, but growing and developing
- Gold U16 will be scheduled to play alongside Gold U18 teams
 - * Assumptions:
 - Postseason is two weeks of play for Top 4 teams at Gold U18 and Gold U16.
 - Players can roster up from Gold U16 to Gold U18 as well as to Premier U16 and U18.

3. Girls U18/U16

- U18 and U16 squads will play 15s, not 7s. This could be SoCal combined regional teams, if necessary in this inaugural Spring.
- U16 will be scheduled to play alongside U18 teams
 - * Assumptions:
 - Postseason is Championship for Top 2 U18 and U16 teams.
 - Players can roster up from U16 to U18.

MATCH SANCTIONING & SANCTIONING LAWS

USAR Rugby insurance coverage is only valid for matches involving SCYR teams that are sanctioned by SCYR. Insurance does not apply to games played against non-sanctioned teams.

Sanctioned Match = All insurance applies for rostered players, coaches, and admins.

Matches on the posted SoCal Youth Rugby schedules per season and thus in MatchFacts are automatically sanctioned. Matches outside of the schedule require sanctioning request as detailed below in #2 and #3.

1. SCYR Sanctioned Match

A match between two SCYR teams where the match is listed on MatchFacts, scheduled during the season, and released by SCYR. No steps are needed by the club for the match to be sanctioned:

Scheduled by	SCYR
Referee & AT	SCYR allocates and covers the cost for referee(s) and an athletic trainer.
Disciplinary	Full disciplinary measures apply.
Insurance	All insurance coverage applies to eligible players and coaches.
Game Results	Game results will be reflected in the league standings.

2. Friendly Sanctioned Match -

A match between two SCYR teams, not scheduled during the posted competition season. If approved, the match is scheduled in MatchFacts as a friendly so SCYR teams can roster players. Clubs must apply for sanctioning via the form on the left of this page.

APPLY here:

Approval	Application and approval required
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**SCYR FRIENDLY
SANCTION
REQUEST FORM**

Scheduled by	Teams
Referee & AT	Teams cover the cost for referee(s) and an athletic trainer. If time allows, SCYR may assist with allocation of ref and AT, but this is not guaranteed.
Disciplinary	No disciplinary measures are afforded.
Insurance	All insurance coverage applies to eligible players and coaches.
Game Results	Game results will NOT be reflected in the league standings.

**3. Incoming Tour
or Match Against a
Non-SCYR Team**

A match between a SCYR team and an incoming tour or non-SCYR Team. The SCYR club or incoming team is responsible for ensuring the team/tour is approved by SCYR. If approved, match is scheduled in MatchFacts as a friendly so SCYR team can roster players. Includes:

APPLY here:

**NON-SCYR
SANCTION
REQUEST FORM**

Approval	Application and approval required
Scheduled by	Teams
Referee & AT	Teams cover the cost for referee(s) and an athletic trainer. If time allows, SCYR may assist with allocation of ref and AT, but this is not guaranteed.
Disciplinary	No disciplinary measures.
Insurance	Insurance coverage applies if all players and coaches are registered with USA Rugby.
Game Results	Game results will NOT be reflected in the league standings.

**4. Unsanctioned
Match**

A match between teams handling details on their own with no application and no approval.

Scheduled by	Teams
Referee & AT	No allocated ref and AT.
Disciplinary	No disciplinary measures.
Insurance	No insurance coverage.

World Rugby Regulation 16.2.8

Any Match, Series of Matches, tour or tournaments which does not fully comply with the requirements of the By-Laws, Regulations and Laws of the Game shall be deemed unofficial. The Union within whose territory such an unofficial event takes place (and the visiting Union or Unions) and/or the Union or Unions of participating Provincial, County, District, Clubs or Rugby Bodies will be held responsible and will be liable to sanction in accordance with the Regulations and/or Bylaws.

USA Rugby

Any rugby activities held without the sanction of USA Rugby will be considered non-compliant with World Rugby regulations. As such, any certifications or qualifications tied to World Rugby would be considered invalid, and no tie would exist to the World Rugby rules of the game or disciplinary standards. A sanction for a non-member team to play a member team will not be unreasonably withheld if certain criteria are met. USA Rugby is happy to provide this information per request; however, it is important to note that sanctioning does not provide accident or liability insurance to a non-member team for the match, nor does it confer any other member benefits beyond allowing the match to occur.

ELIGIBILITY / REGISTRATION / ROSTERS

Player Eligibility & Registration

Players are eligible to play if they are registered and their documents are verified, playing within their proper division, and have no medical or disciplinary notations. Once the player is eligible, the player can be rostered.

[Registration in Rugby Xplorer](#) (RX) requires:

- Close, clear headshot of player
- [Age Verification](#)
- High School Verification for HS play (must include notation of 2026-27 school year, name of school, and grade level)

Registration is age-based. Players will be placed into proper division based upon age eligibility and weight (if applicable).

Registration categories in RX:

- Rookie Rugby = ages 4-8 to play Winter Club U8 Flag
- Youth = ages 8-14 to play Winter Club U10, U12 or U14
- High School = ages 14-19 to play Winter High School
- SoCal Club U16/18 = ages 14-19 to play Spring Club GU16, BU16, GU18, BU18

1. Athletes must be attending high school to play High School Rugby; unless a Middle School student born August or earlier and applying to play for a participating High School. [APPLY HERE](#)
2. Players who are 14 years old who wish to play in or be involved in training/playing for BU16/GU18/BU18 Rugby are permitted only if the U15 Waiver was signed during registration.

3. Players may not play for different clubs during the SCYR competition season. Players wishing to move clubs in season must request a transfer. In season transfers will be judged on the merit of the situation and approved or denied accordingly. Pre-season transfers are automatic. During the season, each transfer request is reviewed by SCYR and the clubs and coaches involved.
4. Athletes who have played with an adult rugby club in a given season are not permitted to play with a SCYR club or HS team that season. Refer to USA Rugby for restrictions regarding athletes playing with an adult rugby club.

Per USA Rugby, youth athletes should not exceed [these recommended minutes of play](#). Coaches are responsible for tracking the amount of play per day for their athletes.

If the opposing team is found to be complicit in agreeing to field ineligible players and/or adults, they too will incur disciplinary review.

First violation for fielding ineligible player:

- Coach receives a one-match suspension (if 15s) or one-round robin suspension (if 7s)
- The club/hs (all divisions within that organization) placed on a 1-year probation
- All matches with ineligible player or coach are deemed a forfeit

Second violation for fielding ineligible player:

- Forfeit of the remainder of the season for the team in question
- The club/hs (all divisions within that organization) extended to a 2-year probation
- Head Coach banned from SoCal Youth Rugby for 2 years

First violation for fielding ineligible coach/admin:

- Coach receives a one-match suspension (if 15s) or one-round robin suspension (if 7s)
- The club/hs (all divisions within that organization) placed on a 1-year probation
- If a coach is found compliant with SoCal and USAR the day of the match, then a warning is issued. If the coach is found non-compliant with SoCal and USAR, all matches with the ineligible player or coach are deemed a forfeit.

Second violation for fielding ineligible coach/admin:

- Forfeit of the remainder of the season for the team in question
- The club/hs (all divisions within that organization) extended to a 2-year probation

- Head Coach banned from SoCal Youth Rugby for 2 years.

Member Eligibility

Member Clubs/HS must oblige the [SoCal ByLaws](#) to retain membership.

1. Academy Programs per US Youth & High School “do not compete at state or local levels in club or school competitions. Academies may not operate teams or clubs in a SYRO” thus are not permitted members of SCYR. Academies are paid training and development programs, not club side rugby. SoCal does permit Associate Membership for academies if application is approved, but they may not play competitively as they are not Club members.
2. Geography - Clubs must uphold the SCYR requirement they are not in competition or operate within an existing club's geography. Newer clubs that are competing with an existing club for the same practice/game fields and therefore players, run against the mission of growing the game and will be under disciplinary review. Concerns should be addressed to valory@socalyouth.rugby, which will be reviewed by the Board President and/or Board of Directors. The President and/or Board has the ultimate decision on new club applications.
3. SoCal prohibits club representatives and especially coaches from “raiding” or “poaching” players from another club and/or encouraging their players to recruit or poach a player(s) from another club. Poaching is considered any attempt by a club representative or attempt by others to coerce or lure a player away from their current club, e.g. offering a hardship scholarship or the potential of college scholarship. Raiding is considered any attempt by a club representative or attempt through others to coerce or lure more than one player away from their current club at a time, e.g. soliciting a group of players so that we can win a championship is an example of Raiding. Concerns should be addressed to valory@socalyouth.rugby, which will be reviewed by the Board President and/or Board of Directors.

Roster Deadline

Rosters must be submitted by Friday 10:00 am each week. Bring a printed roster to the match.

Registration Verification Schedule

PLAN AHEAD -- Registration verification is a multi-step process, so it is recommended to allow several days for the registration clearance in order to roster the player.

Compliance

Only MatchFacts ROSTERED players and adults are allowed to take the field and be in the Tech Zone. All rostered adults must be accompanied by at least one (1) Level 1 Certified USA Rugby Coach for U10-U18/HS. Ineligible players or adults

in the tech zone nullifies USA Rugby Insurance for all and will be reviewed for disciplinary measures.

COACH RESOURCE:

- [2027 Adult Registration Fees & Requirements Quick Glance](#)
- [List of Coach Compliance Requirements & Links](#)

MATCH NOT PLAYED FORFEIT POLICY: All ages / All divisions

Though forfeits may occur for unique/extreme cases, they are a detriment to the game. Everyone loses when kids don't get to play. Not playing a scheduled match must be communicated with the Executive Director of SoCal Youth Rugby immediately as well as to the opposing team/host.

1. First forfeit = Warning
2. Second forfeit = Board Review on a case-by-case basis. Outcome could include Not in Good Standing, which could affect the coach, the age division and/or the entire club or high school.

MEMBER NOT IN GOOD STANDING

Divisions and/or Clubs incurring a "Not in Good Standing" moniker as deemed by the Board of Directors could include probation, fines, or other outcomes.

- The Team is noted on the [SoCal Disciplinary Outcomes](#) Not in Good Standing section.

MATCH REQUIREMENTS

When SoCal match requirements are not met by a team, club or high school, ramifications will occur.

Examples of Non-Compliance of Match Requirements:

- Roster is not submitted by 10:00am Friday.
- A home team does not have an appropriately marked Technical Zone at their pitch.
- Home Team does not fulfill hosting requirements (see Hosting Requirements section)
- No Field Monitor/Aide. The Field Monitor role is to protect the culture of the game by supporting positive behaviors, by addressing negative ones with a warning and possible removal from the premises. See [Code of Conduct](#). The Field Monitor should be viewable and sitting with parents/spectators, not a part of the Technical Zone.

The following outcomes will be applied for infractions of these requirements. Note, the progressive nature of these sanctions will be applicable across requirements. Therefore, a team that fails to submit their roster will receive Strike 1. If that same team subsequently fails to have a marked TZ, they will receive Strike 2.

SANCTIONS

Strike 1 - Warning

Strike 2 - \$150 fine

Strike 3 - Board Review for Disciplinary outcome such as Not in Good Standing, which could affect the coach, the age division and/or the entire club or high school

Failure to comply with the Match Requirement Sanctions may incur further disciplinary measures by the Board or Board President.

HOSTING REQUIREMENTS

Following release of the Season Schedule, designated hosts are required to oblige:

- FIELD DIMENSION
- All field hosting must fit the rugby dimensions as listed on the [SoCal Variations/Quick Rules](#). If a host realizes this can't be obliged three weeks in advance (as per hosting deadlines), the host must find a new field and/or release their host designation and contact SoCal immediately or receive sanctions noted below. If SoCal is notified after the fact of extreme non-compliance (provided with clear evidence) such as distinctly smaller field, no posts for U14-BU18, etc. and SoCal also finds non-compliance, the host team will receive: First Offense = Match Forfeit(s); Second Offense = Not in Good standing designation and another match(es) forfeit; Third Offense = Board review for possible fine and loss of hosting.
 - Resource: [The Ground; Guidelines from USAR Rugby for Rugby played on a Football Field](#)

- CHECK-IN
- Host checks in via printed Rosters from MatchFacts. As well, the host checks-in the player on MatchFacts (if connection/WiFi available. If not, do so following the match). This is a record of an athlete's participation.
 - Mark each player on the hand for the division of play such as U12, U14 D1, HS 7 Varsity. All items of differentiation need to be marked such as JV, Varsity.
 - Mark each rostered adult on the hand for their eligible division.

- FIELD MONITOR/AIDE
- The host will ensure and identify each team's field monitor(s).
1. The field monitor must be easily seen by the referee.
 2. The field monitor is required to enforce proper spectator behavior (per [World Rugby Code of Conduct](#)) as they pertain to the fans and crowds around the field.
 3. The field monitor may be called on by the referee to control rowdy fans, move obstructing items, or reposition fans/coaches that may be viewing from an unauthorized location. This may include but are not limited to anything inside of the 5m barrier (baby strollers, pets, chairs, etc.). The Field Monitor role is to protect the culture of the game by supporting positive behaviors, but addressing negative ones

with a warning and possible removal from the premises. See [Code of Conduct](#).

4. The Field Monitor should be viewable and sitting with parents/spectators, not a part of the Technical Zone.

FIELD OF PLAY / GAME DAY

For play to commence,

- [USA Rugby Technical Zone](#) is set
- Athletic trainer/medical personnel on site
- Athletes hands marked as checked in (see hosting requirements)
- Coach/admin hands marked as checked in (see hosting requirements)
- Field Monitors/Aides identified
- Teams must wear matching kits. Jerseys must have numbers, so referees can ID athletes during play, and shorts should be rugby shorts.
 - Mouthguards are required. Referees are required to check for mouthguards during the pre-game boot check.
 - [Approved Protective Equipment & Clothing](#)- NOTE Eyewear.
 - Rugby approved Raleri Goggles are available for purchase from SoCal – contact Valory@socalyouth.rugby
- No markings or paint on the face.

In the event that a certified Referee is not available for a SoCal match, it is the prerogative of both Head Coaches to determine whether a suitable replacement referee can officiate the match. Both Head Coaches must agree prior to the match and cannot withdraw that approval, except in the case where safety is concerned during the match itself.

SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY: U8-U12, U14D2, High School JV

Applies to U8-U12, U14D2 and High School JV (Does not apply U14D1, HS Varsity)

The SCYR Sportsmanship Policy comes into effect when the margin score becomes 40 points or more. Coaches of either team may notify the referee that the Sportsmanship Policy will be invoked.

When the Sportsmanship Policy is invoked:

- The score at the point the Sportsmanship policy is invoked becomes the recorded final game score.
- Once the Sportsmanship rule is invoked, the winning team is recorded as a 5-point winner in the standings. The losing team may only record 1 bonus point for 4 tries, if earned.

Recommendation for playing rest of match once Sportsmanship Policy has been invoked: The coaches of the team leading in the score should remove dominating players and field their second-string field players. Coaches may also consider possible player swaps. If there are fewer players on the field for the losing team, players shall be brought on to replace players sent off or players removed from the team

that is ahead in the score. Scrums and lineouts become uncontested, if there is significant disparity between the teams.

RECORD OF THE MATCH

All High School and U16-U18 matches must be videotaped by the Home Team. It is recommended to record U14 as well. In the event of a dispute, the unedited video must be made available for use in any hearings or proceedings as required. SoCal member clubs may wish to purchase a camera from partner, [Veo](#), at discount.

The Host check-in of players and coaches in MatchFacts is a record of the match.

POST SEASON PARTICIPATION

The date(s) on the publicized [Competition Calendar](#) for that season's Playoffs and Championships must be obliged.

- Teams with a date conflict must advise SoCal ASAP or at least four weeks in advance. SoCal will assist clubs in communication for a reschedule either 24 hours prior or 24 hours post the scheduled date.
 - Once the recognition of conflict has been shared with SoCal four weeks in advance, a resolution must be met seven (7) days in advance of the match.
 - Any team not having contacted SoCal four weeks in advance of a playoff/championship conflict -- and therefore not able to play the scheduled match; will receive a forfeit. Any team receiving/taking a forfeit due to schedule conflict and inflexibility in rescheduling will be ceding their slot to the team they beat.

The Board reserves the right to cancel due to extreme or unique unforeseen circumstances such as weather.

PLAYER WELFARE

SoCal will assign a Certified Athletic Trainer to every match. The minimum medical personnel requirement is a certified first responder or Certified Athletic Trainer with current year credentials from the California Athletic Trainers Association. All medical personnel must have current First Aid, CPR, and AED certifications. If SoCal is challenged with allocating an Athletic Trainer to a SoCal scheduled match(es), the host will be reimbursed for up to \$70 per hour for the AT they secure. SoCal communicates with clubs during the allocation process, if there are challenges.

Player Welfare

[Suspected Concussion/Concussion Return to Play Process and Required Paperwork](#)

[Emergency Action Plans](#) for hosts

[SafeSport](#)

The safety of members is of paramount importance to SoCal Youth Rugby and USA Rugby. There is zero tolerance for abuse and misconduct. This includes not only on-pitch safety, but also off-pitch safety in any part of USA Rugby's programs.

- USA Rugby and the US Center for SafeSport require the reporting of sexual misconduct by or of any member of USA Rugby to the US Center for SafeSport Response and Resolution Office.
- USA Rugby strongly encourages reporting of both sexual misconduct and any other misconduct or abuse.

Christine Mitchell, SoCal Player Welfare Manager: christine@socalyouth.rugby

- Christine solely clears injured players for re-rostering.

DISCIPLINARY

The referee is the sole judge of fact and of law during a match - World Rugby 6.5a

PROCESS:

On Monday/Tuesday following Saturday's play, red carded players' families (as listed in registration) and coach/club are emailed with their Wednesday hearing time and explanation of the hearing process.

- Hearings for Red Cards and Misconduct occur on Wednesday evenings.
- The athlete is not required to attend the hearing. The Club, nor the Coach is required to attend the hearing. The hearing will occur regardless.
 - However, the intent is to hear all sides and for all parties to learn and connect, so attendance by at least the player is highly recommended.

List of [SoCal Youth Rugby Disciplinary Outcomes](#)

- Youth names are not posted.

Foul Play / Red Card World Rugby Regulation 17, Appendix 3 for the Underage game – click for sanction timing parameters. Note: SoCal may calibrate for length of its own season.	- Foul play is for athletes only and pertains to actions during the match. - Red cards are adjudicated prior to play the following weekend when possible. Every red carded athlete is afforded a hearing to be handled by the Judicial Officer and/or Disciplinary panel. - Red carded players are provisionally suspended from rugby until the card is resolved. - The burden of proof is on the athlete/team to demonstrate that the foul play did not rise to the level of a red card. ○ Foul play appeal – The player has 48 hours from receipt of the hearing documentation to file an appeal. Appeals requires an Appeal Officer to determine if the case is deemed to move forward. The Appeals Officer
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	has no participation in the original case.
Misconduct Submit Misconduct World Rugby Regulation 18	- Misconduct may pertain to coaches, spectators, refs, and players for actions beyond the game itself (in essence, before or after the whistle) - A Designated Disciplinary Officer (DDO) is appointed to determine if the case is warranted to move forward, thus the burden of proof is on the DDO. The DDO writes a summary to be shared with parties involved. - If the DDO recommends moving forward, a hearing will be held and conducted by a Disciplinary panel. The hearing will occur as schedules allow; typically on Wednesday evenings. The party in question may participate in play in the interim – they are not withheld from competition. ● Misconduct appeal – The accused has 72 hours from receipt of the hearing documentation to file an appeal. Appeals requires an Appeal Officer to determine if the case is deemed to move forward. The Appeals Officer has no participation in the original case.
Team Citing of Missed Foul Play Submit Team Citing World Rugby Regulation 17, Appendix 3 for the Underage game	- A team has to submit a citing/request for review of missed foul play within 48 hours of the match. - The burden of proof is on the citing team to demonstrate that there was foul play rising to the red card level. Video evidence is highly recommended. - A Citing Commissioner or Independent Reviewer will review and write a summary if the citing met the Red Card Test. If so, it will move to the DC or JO for adjudication.