



PENRITH AND DISTRICTS
JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

2026 BY-LAWS

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PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

INTRODUCTION

This handbook incorporates the rules and By-Laws for the Penrith and District Junior Rugby League Competition for Clubs participating.

These By-Laws should be read in conjunction with the NSWRL Community Rugby League Policies and Procedures Manual. Note: All correspondence regarding any Competition matter is to be directed through your local League Administrator.

The Penrith and Districts Junior Rugby League Club Limited, NSWRL and NSW Community Rugby Leagues Association reserves the right to make changes and / or amendments to any Policy, Procedure or Appendix, or add new policies to the NSWRL COMMUNITY RUGBY LEAGUE POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL and Penrith and Districts Junior Rugby League Club Limited by-laws at any time as they see fit.

Any changes will be notified to District Administrators and Zone / Regional Managers in a timely manner for distribution to Clubs.

Blake South
General Manager
Penrith and Districts Junior Rugby League Club Limited



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

CHANGES & ADDITIONS

This manual is a living document and the policies and procedures contained within may change from time to time.

Each year the Manual, and any changes required to Policies, Procedures and Appendix that were identified within the previous year, will be reviewed and approved by the Penrith and Districts Junior Rugby League Board. This review will be undertaken in September of each year. The approved Manual will then be distributed to the District by way of upload to the Panthers Juniors website and via email, and will be a live document from the 1st November each year.

The Penrith and Districts Junior Rugby League Association reserves the right to make changes and / or amendments to any Policy, Procedure or Appendix, or add new policies to the Penrith and Districts Junior Rugby League Association POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL at any time as they see fit. Any changes will be notified to Club Executives in a timely manner for distribution to members.

APPLICATION OF POLICIES & PROCEDURES & SITUATIONS NOT COVERED IN THIS MANUAL

For the avoidance of any doubt, it is intended that this Policies & Procedures Manual shall apply to all rugby league matches played under the auspices of the NSWRL, the District Clubs and the NSWRL Regional Members for the 2026 Rugby League season and beyond. Each club that participates in these matches, and its registered players and officials, shall comply fully with the provisions of this Policies & Procedures Manual.

If there is a situation not covered within this Policies & Procedures Manual, please refer to other current documents including:

- International (13s+) Laws
- Junior League Laws (5-12s)
- www.playrugbyleague.com
- Referees Laws and interpretations manual
-

Should the situation still remain 'not covered' then the situation should be referred to the Panthers Juniors General Manager for determination.

SITUATIONS NOT COVERED IN THIS MANUAL

If there is a situation not covered within these Policies and Procedures, please refer to:

NSWRL POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

<https://www.nswrl.com.au/about/documents/>

Should the situation still remain 'not covered' then the situation should be referred to your Junior League Administrator for determination. If the Junior League Administrator is unable to resolve the situation, please refer to the NSWRL Junior League Association for determination.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 1 – COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

1.1 NSWRL & PDJRL COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

At all times, Clubs should follow the protocol below when initiating contact with the PDJRL. All contact between a Club should be made through the Secretary of the Club involved. Initial contact should be made by email to junior.league@panthers.com.au. The appropriate PDJRL staff member will respond to the email in a timely manner.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

For all media enquiries please contact NSWRL Head of Public Affairs Tracie Edmondson tedmondson@nswrl.com.au

IN THE CASE OF A COMPLAINT BY AN INDIVIDUAL AGAINST A CLUB / DISTRICT OR REGION

In the first instance please contact your Community Rugby League District or Region, contact should be made by email to junior.league@panthers.com.au. If you cannot resolve the issue at a District or Regional level, please contact NSWRL with evidence of your attempts to resolve through your District or Region.

ALL CONTACT BETWEEN A CLUB AND THE PDJRL SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH THE SECRETARY OF THE CLUB INVOLVED.

Initial contact should be made by email to the appropriate PDJRL staff member where they will respond to the email in a timely manner.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY ISSUE

Contact the PDJRL General Manager Blake South by email to junior.league@panthers.com.au

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT IF THE CORRECT COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL IS NOT FOLLOWED, CLUBS AND INDIVIDUALS WILL BE ASKED TO FOLLOW THE PROTOCOL AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

1.2 LICENSING & SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

1. To participate in all PDJRL and NSWRL Community Rugby League Competitions, on-field team apparel must include the current PDJRL logo and current NSWRL logo, as advised by the PDJRL by end of November each year.
2. New PDJRL sponsors that may come on board may have a requirement for logo placement on some of, or all playing and off field apparel and as such clubs must adhere to the direction given anytime to them by the PDJRL. If a club fails to support or comply with the required logo placement, they may not receive any financial rebates, equipment, or other benefits from the PDJRL.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 1 – COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

1.3 CLUB CONSTITUTION & FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

All Rugby League clubs must be Incorporated and have a current Constitution.

1. Clubs may only alter their Constitution either at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary Meeting and in accordance with the rules of the Constitution and all applicable laws.
2. Each club shall forward a copy of its Constitution to their League and advise when alterations are made.
3. A copy of the clubs Constitution must be available at all meetings of the club.
4. Clubs may attach a set of By-Laws to the Constitution. Such By-Laws may be altered, deleted, or established at any General Committee Meeting of the club.
5. Clubs must always observe and support the rules of the Constitution-
6. If a rule/policy cannot be found in a club Constitution, the PDJRL Constitution should be adhered to.
7. The Clubs constitution must be presented at the affiliation meeting each year along with AGM minutes showing no changes, or AGM/Extraordinary Meeting minutes stating the changes and passed by the clubs' members.

CLUBS GENERAL MEETING

8. All clubs must hold a general committee meeting as set out as per the club's constitution requirements. If a club is unable to conduct a meeting, the Junior League General Manager must be notified in writing with a valid reason. The clubs Constitution to be presented at the PDJRL Affiliation meeting each year.
9. Clubs must inform the General Manager the dates scheduled for general meetings for the following year at the Affiliation meeting

CLUBS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10. Club Annual General Meetings should be held as per club constitution
11. Clubs shall advise the date of their AGM to the PDJRL office at least 14 days prior to the AGM date.
12. A clubs AGM will not be held unless the Annual Financial Report is available after 31st October each year

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND REQUIREMENTS

13. A copy of the balance sheet, auditor's report if required by the PDJRL, following season budget and the T12 fair trading lodgment form along with the income and expenditure accounts of each club should be forwarded to the PDJRL before December 20th of each calendar year.
14. It is the responsibility of the President of each club to overview the financial management of the club and any breaches of the financial management rules or any movement of club funds, other than prescribed by the committee must be reported to the PDJRL.
15. The PDJRL does not support 2 members of the same family releasing club funds including signing club cheques.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 1 – COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

16. The Treasurer must make regular deposits to the bank and should not retain possession of cash collected on behalf of the club.
17. Clubs are required to forward the following documents to the PDJRL before the 28th of the following month: A full monthly financial statement, all club accounts bank statements and any other documentation requested.
18. A loss of one (1) competition point per team if submission of club documents is not delivered on time. If submission of club documents is not received within 48hrs of follow up, a \$500 document fee is applied. After three (3) submission failures in a season a club will receive a show cause notice, unless exceptional are conveyed to the Junior League General Manager.
19. The NSWRL & Penrith Health Check is required to be completed by 1st Feb for the calendar year or teams will not be accepted for the season.

1.4 ADJUDICATIONS & RESPONSIBILITY OF JUNIOR CLUBS

1. A PDJRL club may with reasonable cause disqualify, fine or take other action against any player, official or other person who is convicted of a breach of the club or NSWRL Codes of Conduct.
2. The club may invite the person concerned and conduct a proper hearing into the incident if warranted
3. The minutes of the hearing shall be forwarded to the PDJRL within seven (7) days of the hearing and provided the clubs actions have been endorsed by the Junior League General Manager, the adjudication of any person so dealt with, will apply throughout all clubs in the PDJRL.
4. Should any member of a PDJRL club holding an official position have allegations or a complaint made against them regarding criminal or indictable offence or activity (stealing, assault etc.) the Junior League General Manager shall be advised as a matter of urgency for investigation.

1.5 MANDATORY REPORTING

It is a requirement for Junior League Clubs and Districts and Regions to report to PDJRL any of the following incidents that may occur:

1. The need to engage any emergency service (Police, Ambulance or Fire) at any game day or training (exceptions being non-life-threatening game related injuries attended by Ambulance)
2. Any financial impropriety by any office bearer within the Junior League Club, District or Region that is officially reported to Police
3. Any registered participant that is charged with an offence that is related to child abuse or child endangerment
4. Any registered participant that is listed as BARRED from working with children by the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 1 – COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

1.6 FEES & FINES

INFRINGEMENT & PENALTIES MATRIX			
INFRINGEMENT	FIRST OFFENCE PER SEASON	SECOND & SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE PER SEASON	REMARKS
Late Fees	\$200	\$400	A fine will apply to clubs who ignore closing dates. The fee is paid to the PDJRL.
Playing an unregistered or unqualified player or invalid PPIS	\$750	\$1500	The match will be considered a forfeit. The fee is paid to the PDJRL. A \$2000 bond to the offending club will also apply after the first offence
Not obtaining appropriate clearances at the time of registration	\$400 Per Offence	\$800 Per Offence	The player will not be eligible to train or play until appropriate clearances have been obtained. The fee is paid to the PDJRL.
Playing a player who exceeds the age in any grade	\$750	\$1500	The match will be considered a forfeit. The fee is paid to the PDJRL. A \$2000 bond to the offending club will also apply after the first offence
Registration irregularity occurring after July 1 with the exception of initiated transfers prior to July 1	\$100 Per Offence	\$200 Per Offence	Depending on the breach, there may be a loss of competition points and / or deregistration of the player/s concerned. The fee is paid to the PDJRL.
Playing a player in two (2) teams in the same division	\$150 Per Match	\$300 Per Match	Loss of competition points for each breach. The fee is paid to the PDJRL
Not notifying the League of a forfeit by 9.00am on the Friday prior to the match	\$400 Per Offence 2-Point Deduction	\$800 Per Offence 2-Point Deduction	The fee is paid to the PDJRL.
2 nd forfeit regardless of time	\$800 and will result in mercy rule and loss of 2 points deduction from the ladder		The fee is paid to the PDJRL.
A team forfeits on gameday	\$1000 2-point deduction	\$1000 Removal from the competition	The fee is paid to the PDJRL. 25% rebate to the opposition 25% to the hosting club if mutual
Forfeit of scheduled fixtures at Katoomba	\$400 2-Point Deduction	\$800 2-Point Deduction	The fee is paid to the PDJRL in addition to any other forfeit breaches.
Appeal against a Decision/Transfer	\$500/\$250 Per Appeal	N/A	This fee is paid to PDJRL. If your appeal is successful you will receive a full refund.
Protest of a rule or regulation	\$500 Per Protest	N/A	This fee is paid to PDJRL.
Player Training or playing with club on denied Clearance	\$400 Per Offence	\$800 Per Offence	This fee is paid to PDJRL.
Withdrawal or removal of player(s) and/or team staff from the field of play	\$1000 Per Offence 2-Point Deduction	\$2000 Per Offence Team removed from the competition	The fee is paid to the PDJRL.
Poaching of players under the age of 18 years old	\$500 Per Offence	N/A	The fee is paid to the PDJRL The case is referred straight to the PDJRL for review
Failure to enter team lists on My Sideline by the nominated day and time each week	Warning email	\$200 Per Offence 2-point deduction	Multiple offences will result in the team being removed from the competition
Teams failing to have all players in the current seasons registered club approved uniform	\$100 Per Offence	\$250 Per Offence 2-point deduction	The fee is paid to the PDJRL
Promotion of scores on club social media by the club, or non-monitoring of comments on the club's social media pages with regard to the PDF competitions. This includes single season awards for 5s to 8s	\$100 Per Offence	\$250 Per Offence Show Cause Issued	This fee is paid to the PDJRL Show Cause will be issued as to why the team that has been advertised either by the club, or comment (That isn't monitored) shouldn't be removed from the competition.
Internal Transfers – U5-U8 competitions	\$50 per transfer		The fee is paid to the PDJRL



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 1 – COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Internal Transfers – U9-U18 competitions	\$30 per transfer		The fee is paid to the PDJRL
Club Non-Attendance at General Meeting	\$250 per offence	\$500 per offence Show Cause Issued	This fee is paid to the PDJRL Show Cause will be issued to the executive as to why they shouldn't be removed from their positions due to non-compliance
Club Non-Attendance Extraordinary Meeting, Annual General Meeting	\$500 per offence \$1000 for AGM & Show Cause Issued	\$1000 per offence Show Cause Issued	This fee is paid to the PDJRL Show Cause will be issued to the executive as to why they shouldn't be removed from their positions due to non-compliance
Failure to comply with Talent Equalisation in U5-U8	Warning Email to Age Group Coaches (All) and Club Executive Sides must be corrected immediately	\$250 per player Final Warning to Age Group Coaches (All) & Club Executive	This fee is paid to the PDJRL A 3 rd offence will see a Show Cause Issued to all Age Group Coaches and Club Executives as to why teams shouldn't be removed for the remainder of the competition and suspension of coaches
Clubs Game Change Submitted after the cut off, 10 Business days prior to the round	\$500 per offence	\$1000	Fee is paid to PDJRL and 50% to the PDRLRA

ALL AFFILIATION TEAM FEES MUST BE PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING TIMELINE:

1. An affiliation payment is due prior to December 1st each year
2. 50% payment of affiliation fees due before prescribed date in PDJRL Calendar
3. Final payment of affiliation fees due before prescribed date in PDJRL Calendar
4. Unpaid monies invoiced to a club will constitute all team's ineligible for finals
5. If you withdraw a team after the cut of date set in the PDJRL Calendar you will be charged the full team fee.
6. Any Additional players either dispensated or carried extra in squads exceeding team player limits clubs will be charged per player with a fee set by the PDJRL

1.7 CREATING POSITIVE CULTURE CONFERENCE

1. The Creating Positive Culture Conference is a Pre-season education program that changes yearly. **PLEASE NOTE:** Completion of the Positive Culture Conference is compulsory by those who need to attend yearly to take the field in round 1 of the PDJRL Competition is Compulsory each season.



1.8 PLAYER BEHAVIOUR MONITORING REGISTER

The Player Behaviour Monitoring Register (“the Register”) is established by the Board of Management under Clauses 11(d), 11(e), 11(i) and 11(l) of the PDJRL Constitution to identify and monitor participants whose conduct requires heightened oversight. Sanctions under this By-Law apply in addition to any NSWRL, NRL or club penalty (Constitution Clause 11(l)).

This By-Law applies to all participant’s in international football. The Board may extend it to other competitions by resolution.

QUALIFYING TRIGGERS

A player will be placed on the Register following any of the triggers below, once the trigger has been sustained through PDJRL Match Review:

QUALIFYING TRIGGER	DESCRIPTION
Match Official Abuse	Any send-off, sin-bin, charge or sustained finding for verbal abuse, dissent, threatening conduct or contact with a match official.
Contrary Conduct	Any sustained PDJRL Match Review determination for foul play, striking, dangerous contact or contrary conduct, where the conduct is identified as intentional or reckless. Accidental or careless contact does NOT trigger placement.
Game-into-Disrepute	Any sustained PDJRL Match Review determination that the player’s conduct (on or off field, including social media) brought the game into disrepute.
Repeat Sin-Bin / Send-Off	Three (3) or more sin-bins OR two (2) or more send-offs in the same season arising from intentional or reckless conduct. Accidental or technical infringements (offside, ball-strip, ten-metre, professional foul) do NOT count.
Crowd-Linked Conduct	Any sustained finding under By-Law 3.16 where the player is identified as the participant associated with the offender.

The characterisation of conduct (intentional, reckless, accidental or technical) is determined by PDJRL Match Review. Where a PDJRL Match Review determination exists, that determination is determinative for the purposes of this By-Law. Where no PDJRL Match Review determination has been made, the referee’s report stands as the relevant finding.

PLACEMENT, DIRECTION NOTICE & STAND-DOWN

1. On placement, the General Manager notifies the Club Secretary in writing within seven (7) days. The Club is responsible for notifying the player. The PDJRL does not communicate directly with players on this matter. Placement remains in force for 2026.
2. If a player on the Register is the subject of a further qualifying trigger during the placement period, the General Manager issues a written Direction Notice to the Club. The Direction Notice requires the Club to stand the player down from all PDJRL competition matches for the remainder of the season. The Club has seven (7) days to lodge written submissions on behalf of the player through the Club Secretary. Where the next match falls within that window, the Club must give effect to the stand-down immediately. The General Manager’s confirmed decision is final.
3. If the Club fails to comply with a confirmed Direction Notice within seven (7) days, the Board of Management, after giving the Club an opportunity to be heard, will stand the



team down for the remainder of the season and issue a Show Cause Notice in respect of the Club's participation in the competition the following season.

FINALITY

All determinations made by the Board of Management and the PDJRL Match Review Committee under this By-Law including placement, Direction Notice issue and confirmation, conduct characterisation, team stand-down and Show Cause outcomes are FINAL and NOT subject to review, reconsideration or appeal. The submissions pathway provided to the Club is the sole opportunity for representations.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

2.1 REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

1. All registrations that require a clearance (where a player has played previously for another club) must be initiated before 30th June.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYER REGISTRATIONS PER TEAM	
UNDER 5 – UNDER 7	10
UNDER 8 – UNDER 9	12
UNDER 10 – UNDER 11	15
UNDER 12	17
UNDER 13 – UNDER 18	20
UNDER 19	23 (25)
OPEN AGE	25 (30)

2. Open's will be maximum of 25 with the option for a dispensation to hold an extra 5 players (30) players (on application to the PDJRL General Manager)
3. Under 19's will be maximum of 23 with the option for a dispensation to hold an extra 2 player (25) players (on application to the PDJRL General Manager)

2.2 PLAYER CLEARANCE POLICY

PROCESSING OF CLEARANCE/TRANSFER AND PERMITS

1. A player cannot train/play with a club if their clearance for whatever reason has been denied online with a full explanation. The coach/club will be held responsible for such breach and disciplinary action and a fine per incident may apply. Refer to Fees & Fines table.
2. A permit is required when a player is registered in one club and permitted to play with another club on an interim basis and can be initiated any time after the player has been registered in their primary club until the completion of the season, where an agreement exists between two clubs which has been approved by the governing body.
3. All movements of players must be completed in full online, approved or denied within set date in the calendar or the district will automatically apply the by-law and points to the movement of the player.
4. Players must be fully cleared in the MySideline online platform, prior to being active in the new club.
5. It is the responsibility of the club the player is clearing/transferring to, to ensure the clearance/transfer is fully approved online prior to their registration.
6. All transfer appeals are governed by the PDJRL Transfer Appeals Procedure as adopted by the Board of Management

CLEARANCE/TRANSFER – GENERAL RULES

7. A clearance/transfer is required when a player moves from a club or district to another and can only take place from 1st February to 30th June in the same season.
8. A player who had been a Rugby League registered participant, who has not registered to play Rugby League in the previous 2 seasons will be subject to all clearance / transfer rules pertaining to the movement of the player.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

9. Clearance requests that cross district borders, either coming into the PDJRL or out of the PDJRL will be at the full discretion of the NSWRL by-laws, top 4 teams' restrictions may apply due to the PDJRL bylaws. If a player who was a PDJRL the previous season, transfers to play out of district for a season and transfers back the following season (1 season total) may be restricted to PDJRL restrictions with top 4 teams.
10. A player's clearance/transfer will be adjudicated on in accordance with these rules and the players year of birth, not the age group the player may play.
11. Transfer restrictions for Division 1 teams:
 - Any team that had competed in a Division 1 (a) competition from ages 8 - 18 and is recognised as:
 - A) One of the top two teams, or at the discretion of the PDJRL
 - B) A Grand finalist
 - Cannot Transfer or clear any Division 1 players in the following season.
 - A Division 1 player is any player who:
 - A) Was registered and participated as their primary team in a division 1 match in the previous two seasons.
 - B) If a player missed a season within the PDJRL, they are still classified as a division 1 player based on last active season within the two previous seasons.
 - Any Division 1(b) player will also be classified as a Division 1 player for all transfer purposes
 - Any player within a Grand Final Division 2 Cup team will also carry the Division 1 points.
 - Transfer Allowance for 3rd and 4th Ranked Teams:
 - A) Any team recognised as the 3rd or 4th team in Division 1 (a) by the PDJRL may transfer in one division 1 player for the following season.
12. The appeal fee is \$250 upon completion of the 'Cognito form', after both the club the player is leaving from and the club the player is applying to transfer too are notified via email by the PDJRL of a declined transfer. The fee is refundable if successful. No second appeal will be considered.
13. No Transfer's will be considered if the player has participated in a competition match for their existing club in the current season, however if a team folds during the season all transfers will be at the discretion of the Junior League.
14. Any Additional players exceeding the allocated points cap or top 4 restrictions to the relevant age group and division will be denied.
15. If a player participated in a game in the 2025 season they will carry the points to the relevant division they played in for their primary team.
16. If they didn't play in 2025 but played in 2024, they will carry the points and conditions for where they played for the 2024 season with their primary team.
17. If a player is new or did not play in the previous 2 seasons, they will be 0 points



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

18. Transfer Policy for Under 5s to Under 8s

U5-U8 TRANSFER POLICY		
TEAMS PER AGE GROUP IN 2025	TRANSFERS IN FOR 2026	MAX TRANSFERS FROM SAME CLUB
5+ Teams	1	1
4+ Teams	2	1
3+ Teams	4	1
2+ Teams	4	1
1+ Teams	6	2
No Teams	6	2
U5 Policy Transfers	2	1

COMMENTS

- Internal transfers only
- Transfer fee payable by club after 30th June for all approved transfers in.
- If any club exceeds the maximum number of players transferred in based on their total numbers in the age group prior, those transfers will be declined.

19. Transfer Policy Under 9s to Under 16s Males

U9-U16 MALE TRANSFER POLICY			PLAYER POINTS	
DIV 1			12 PTS	DEVELOPMENT PLAYER
1ST	0	15 PTS TOTAL PER AGE GROUP	7 PTS	DIVISION 1
2ND	0	15 PTS TOTAL PER AGE GROUP	5 PTS	DIVISION 2
3RD	ONE D1	15 PTS TOTAL PER AGE GROUP	3 PTS	DIVISION 3
4TH	ONE D1	15 PTS TOTAL PER AGE GROUP	1 PTS	ANY OTHER DIVISION
5TH	21 PTS FOR REST OF AGE GROUP			
6TH	21 PTS FOR REST OF AGE GROUP			

UNLESS SPECIFIED 21 POINTS PER AGE GROUP

COMMENTS

- Internal transfers only
- Development Cap of 4
- Grand Final rule applies unless a team lose players
 - 4 Players leave means 1 can come into the Division 1 team, points still apply
 - Must be proven via completed transfer
- Transfer fee payable by club after 30th June for all approved transfers in
- 0 & One D1 - refers to how many division 1 players allowed to transfer in to the relevant club



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

20. Transfer Policy for Under 17s Male

U17 MALE TRANSFER POLICY

DIV 1

1ST	0	UNLIMITED PLAYERS
2ND	0	UNLIMITED PLAYERS
3RD	ONE D1	UNLIMITED PLAYERS
4TH	ONE D1	UNLIMITED PLAYERS
5TH	UNLIMITED PLAYERS	
6TH	UNLIMITED PLAYERS	

THERE WILL BE NO MASS EXODUS RULE IN U17S AGE GROUP

COMMENTS

- Internal transfers only
- Development Cap of 4
- All U17s are subject to the top 4 restrictions set by the PDJRL
- Grand Final rule applies unless a team lose players
 - 4 Players Leave means 1 can come in to the Division 1 team, points still apply
 - Must be proven via completed transfer
- Transfer fee payable by club after 30th June for all approved transfers in.
- 0 & One D1 - refers to how many division 1 players allowed to transfer in to the relevant club

21. Transfer Policy for Female Teams

FEMALE TRANSFER POLICY

	DIV 1	DIV 2	DIV 3	DIV 4
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1ST	0	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED
2ND	0	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED
3RD	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED
4TH	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED
5TH	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED
6TH	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED	UNLIMITED

COMMENTS

- 2 Player Rule if needed
- Development Cap of 4
- Internal transfers only
- External transfers - refer to NSWRL Policy and Procedures
- Grand Final rule applies unless a team lose players
 - 3 Players leave means 1 can come in to the Division 1 team, points still apply
 - Must be proven via completed transfer
- Div 1(B) is treated as Division 1 player

22. All females where the PDJRL do not offer Female Competitions ages 5-7s will carry points from their primary team in 2025. If they didn't play in 2025 but played in 2024, they will carry conditions for where they played for the 2024 season with their primary team.
23. All females within the ages that are eligible to play in a female competition age 8-18 offered by the PDJRL with carry 0 points and will be limited to two (2) players per division per age group within the PDJRL district, unless a club is willing to release additional players.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

TRANSFERS – DEVELOPMENT AND REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

24. If the club currently has four (4) Panthers Juniors Development protection list players for their age group, the clearance/transfer of protection list will be refused.
25. All Panthers protection list players may not transfer out of the team they were selected from; these transfers will be denied. Extreme circumstances may be applicable and will need to be submitted through the appeals system and a decision will be made by the appeals committee in conjunction with Pathways.
26. Any player who is identified as an external representative player or Non-Panthers internal player (Harold Matthews, SG Ball, Harvey Norman Womens, Tarsha Gale, Lisa Fiaola, Jersey Flegg and NSW Cup) will be adjudicated on within the four (4) player team cap by the Panthers Pathways Manager and the Pathways team in conjunction with the JL General Manager and appeals committee. Any decision will be communicated to clubs.
27. If a PDJRL player is NOT selected for Panthers Juniors Development and Representative squads in the current season, however, is successful in obtaining a representative position with another NRL district club in the same current season, the player can return to the PDJRL and not be included in the Panthers Juniors Development and Representative player quota if the player returns to the original club, they transferred from in the previous season.
28. Any player who is named in any Panthers Juniors Development Squad OR up until Harold Matthews Train on Squads and declines an offer to play or train for Penrith and accepts an offer to play in another NRL District, will not be permitted to return to the Penrith District to play Junior Rugby League for the remainder of that season or until such time that their contract/JRA with the other District expires.
29. Any transfer of a 17-year-old into Sydney Shield or Ron Massey cup team will not be given portability back to a 17-year-old team, they will only receive portability back into Opens men's competition.
30. Any situation not covered regarding development player transfers will be adjudicated by the Junior League General Manager and the Pathways Manager.

LOCAL CONDITIONS IN RELATION TO CLEARANCE/TRANSFER /TRANSFERS AND PERMITS

31. If a player requests a transfer to a club, all transfer rules will apply. The Board of Management will have discretionary power to approve or deny a transfer on any players coming from a team that have folded only.
32. If the PDJRL becomes aware of a mass movement of players by way of clearance out of a club or district, irrespective of the reason, the clearance of such players will be reviewed, Including If any club becomes aware that players from another club team have refrained from registering because of encouragement from another club or official to transfer, the matter will be investigated, and appropriate action will be taken.
33. There will be a transfer fee on every approved internal transfer, this will be payable by the club after June 30. Refer to fees and fines table.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

2.3 PLAYING IN MORE THAN ONE CLUB

1. Once a player is registered and plays a competition match (or portion of a match) with a club they are unable to play with another club in the same season.

2.4 PLAYING WITH MORE THAN ONE TEAM

1. Once a player is registered and plays their first competition match (or portion of a match) with a team, this becomes their primary team within that club.
2. A player may play in any age group for which they are eligible, but not more than (1) year above their age or as may be defined otherwise in these rules.
3. No player shall be compelled to play a higher age group or more than one (1) year above the player's age as the PDJRL does not support it and it is a serious breach of the PDJRL rules.
4. Should a player take the field in an age group more than one (1) year higher than the players age, the team officials will be in breach of our PDJRL rules and will be asked to show cause why their accreditation should not be suspended and will be stood down pending an investigation and/or hearing. Competition points and points scored by the team in the match in which the player took the field will be confiscated and Approval must be obtained from the NSWRL.
5. For the competitions U8-U19, within the same age group, a player may play in a higher DIVISION a maximum of four (4) matches. On the fifth occasion, a player will be considered to be part of the secondary team (the higher division team) and are no longer permitted to play in their primary team. If a team requires players to play up a division, the limit is three (3) players per match and any player may not participate for a secondary team at the expense of registered players to that team as their primary team.
6. If a team requires players to play up an age, the limit is Five (5) players per match and any player may not participate for a secondary team at the expense of registered players to that team as their primary team, should a team require more than 5 players, this will need approval from the Junior League prior to Thursday 9pm. A player may play up unlimited times if they are playing 1 year above their natural age group. Semifinal qualification rule still applies. Within the ages affected by the PDF, those players may play up 1 year from their natural age for a maximum of four (4) matches only in the regular season. Players are not permitted to play up throughout the semifinal series in any scenario, unless approved through dispensation by the PDJRL General Manager. This rule is to be applied in conjunction with PDJRL by-law 2.3.7
7. A player who plays in a higher age group than their birth age group, the player must only move to a division that is no lower than 2 divisions from the division of the team they are registered in. Only two players are permitted to move. IE Under 10 division 2 can't go below Under 11 Division 4, otherwise there is no restriction. Further, a division 1 player wanting to play in a higher age group than their birth age group, must not play in a match in a division lower than division 2.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

8. A player who registers in a higher age group than their birth age group is NOT permitted to return to the lower age group at any time during the season. Competition points and points scored by the team in the match in which the player took the field will be confiscated and fined or other penalty. This is a serious breach of the PDJRL rules, and the player will be declared unqualified and/or be suspended.
9. A player that qualifies for a final's series in their registered team, and the age group above is higher and not more than 1 year above their actual age group, the player automatically qualifies for the older age group or division finals series without playing a competition match.

2.5 PLAYING A PLAYER ABOVE THEIR NATURAL AGE GROUP

1. Under 5 to Under 12 participants are to play in their natural age group, however a player dispensation in these age groups can be requested with the PDJRL General Manager for approval providing it is not a direct conflict with the Player Development Framework (PDF).

2.6 PLAYING A PLAYER BELOW THEIR NATURAL AGE GROUP

1. Players who are granted approval for dispensation based on 18-month window, are unable to trial for a representative team.
2. Refer to NSWRL Policies and Procedures
3. In female competitions players may request to play down and will be granted on discretion of the general manager and NSWRL

2.7 NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON THE FIELD

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS REQUIRED ON FIELD FOR EACH AGE GROUP

AGE	MINIMUM NUMBER TO TAKE FIELD	MAXIMUM NUMBER TO TAKE FIELD	MAXIMUM TIME LIMIT TO TAKE FIELD
UNDER 5 – UNDER 7	4	6	Half-Time
UNDER 8 – UNDER 9	6	8	Half-Time
UNDER 10 – UNDER 11	8	11	Half-Time
UNDER 12	11	13	Half-Time
UNDER 13 – UNDER 18	9	13	Full-Time
UNDER 19	9	13	Full-Time
OPEN AGE	9	13	Full-Time



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

2.8 MAXIMUM NUMBER OF TEAM REGISTRATIONS

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF TEAM REGISTRATIONS PER AGE GROUP		
AGE	MALE & MIXED	FEMALE
UNDER 5	UNLIMITED	
UNDER 6	UNLIMITED	
UNDER 7	UNLIMITED	
UNDER 8	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 9	UNLIMITED	
UNDER 10	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 11	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 12	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 13	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 14	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 15	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 16	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 17	UNLIMITED	ONE
UNDER 18		ONE
UNDER 19	UNLIMITED	
OPEN AGE	TWO*	ONE

*Applies to Don Feltis Cup Only (Unless Barry Nicol Shield Clubs can nominate enough teams for their own Reserve Grade)

2.9 NOMINATIONS AND GRADINGS

In localised Community Rugby League Competitions, the League Administrator (in consultation with their board) will make determination on the following points.

1. Closing date for team Nominations are as per PDJRL calendar each year
2. Distribute a nomination form and a Team Grading Sheet to each club, which contains the terms and conditions on which a club may apply to nominate a team, with the corresponding participants for each team to participate in a competition, noting that a club which enters a team or teams in any competition in a particular season shall not be entitled as of right to enter any team or teams in any competitions in any subsequent season, and that the League Administrator and their board shall be entitled to refuse the application of any club to enter team(s) in its competitions.
3. Team Grading Sheets must meet the minimum player requirement per team nominated and registered.
4. Following completion of the forms, the clubs will return the form prior to the date determined
5. Grading of teams will take place in 3 phases and clubs will be advised of those gradings on each occasion for reassessment, then prior to the commencement of competitions
6. The competition rules and by-laws will determine late nomination of teams and may make adjustment to those already nominated if required.



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7. Clubs may make representations to the Junior League General Manager regarding to any nomination or grading matter.
8. At the end of the season the Junior League will advise clubs of the proposed grading's for the following season (if applicable).
9. At the time of the next seasons nomination of teams, clubs have the opportunity to advise any matter associated with grading of teams (i.e. loss of players, number of first year players) to meet club Development Strategies.
10. In line with the competition rules and by-laws teams will be regraded in the event that there are two teams from the same club in the same Division, those teams will be drawn to play each other in accordance with normal draw allocations.
11. Any regrading that maybe required for any competition throughout the season will be done at the discretion of the Junior League General Manager, at any time, without notice. There is no limit on how many times regrading may occur, to a competition, or any one team.
12. Clubs that make requests for teams to go down a division after the advertised regrade time is completed, they will not be permitted to participate in the final's series that they are going down to. Teams that are regraded down at the discretion of the Junior League however will still be eligible to participate in the final's series.
13. Teams being promoted to a higher-grade competition will take an average for/against of that competition they are entering, and the average competition points of that same competition.
14. Teams being relegated to a lower-grade competition will take their current for/against and competition points into that competition.

2.10 TRIAL MATCHES

1. Clubs wishing to play trial matches may do so only with the prior permission of the relevant Community Rugby League District or Region.
2. Match officials for PDJRL trial matches will be appointed to matches where 2 PDJRL teams are competing only
3. Trial matches shall be controlled by appropriately qualified match officials.
4. Senior Teams may request certain games and must be approved by the General Manager.

2.11 FORFEITS

1. Any team that has forfeited twice in succession or three times in total will face elimination from the respective competition.
2. When a team forfeits to another, that match shall count as a match played and be declared in favor of the club forfeited to.
3. When a team/club is aware it is going to forfeit the Junior League Administrator should be advised immediately.
4. The competition by-laws will determine the for and against points allocated when there is a forfeit:
 - a. 1st forfeit score to become mercy rule, if the forfeit is before 9am Friday no fine or loss of points will occur, if the forfeit is after 9am Friday please refer to fine table.



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- b. 2nd forfeit regardless of time will result in mercy rule as well as a \$800 fine and loss of 2 points deduction from the ladder
 - c. In the non-competitive age's fines will be implemented subject to the PDJRL and 50% of the fine will go to the hosting club
 - d. Forfeits after 9am in the competitive age groups fines will be implemented subject to the PDJRL and 50% of the fine will go to the hosting club
 - e. Forfeits that occur on game day – refer to the fine table
 - f. Forfeits that occur with scheduled fixtures at Katoomba, refer to fine table
5. If a team forfeits the last round of a competition or a Finals match, all the registered players and officials in that team will have an immediate 12-month calendar suspension imposed unless there are proven exceptional circumstances

2.12 COMPETITION STRUCTURES

For PDJRL competitions, the competition structure, by-laws and method of conducting the competitions each season, includes but is not limited to:

1. A Divisional competition must be identified and sustainable for any competition to proceed into a new season. There is a requirement to have a minimum of six (6) teams in a specific age group/division to form an official competition
2. The Junior League General Manager in conjunction with the Board may at time approve of competitions outside the minimum number of 6 teams where applicable
3. The top two (2) teams in each division or the two (2) teams that contested the previous season's Grand Final will be elevated one (1) division in the following season
4. Where a female aged competition is formalized from U5 to U12s, a female participant may only play in one (1) gender-based competition in a season. i.e. A female players primary team is denoted by playing their first game in a particular gender-based competition and may not participate in another gender-based competition in the same season
5. Clubs with more than 2 teams in nominated in the ages 5s to 8s may have multiple teams in the same pool, and required to structure the team in a fair and honest manner so that teams/players of similar ability.
6. PDJRL reserves the right to change the competition name of any competition, should it need to as part of a sponsorship package.
7. There will be 2x Trials this season through the NRL, No goal Kicking for under 8s and 9s and there will be 2x FR vest for the under 12s age group only. Vest rotation rules will apply.

The Female Competition structure will be as follows:

8. U8 – U10 – U11 – U12 – U13 – U14 – U15 – U16 – U17 – U18
9. Open Women, WFA, League Tag

The Male and Mixed Competition structure will be as follows:

10. U5 to U12 in Mixed in consecutive age groups & WFA
11. U13 to U17 Male Only in consecutive age groups & WFA
12. U19 – Open Mens



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 2 – COMPETITION

2.13 COMPETITION POINTS

THE FOLLOWING POINTS SYSTEM CAN BE ADOPTED FOR COMPETITIONS IN NSWRL.

1. PDJRL Points system
 - WIN** – Two (2) points for the winning team
 - DRAW** – One (1) point for each team
 - LOSS** – Nil points awarded to losing team
 - FORFEIT** – Two (2) points awarded for the non-offending team
 - BYE** – Two (2) points for the team that has the Bye

2.14 PLAYER DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK GUIDELINES

Guidelines for players in Under 5 to Under 12 under the Player Development Framework (PDF)
Competitions inclusive are as follows:

13. Competition ladders and scores are not published.
14. Clubs, parents, spectators and any users of Social Media are prohibited in displaying or advertising the scores of any game under to PDF. Clubs are responsible to monitor and maintain their own social media pages. Fines will apply for disregard of this by-law.
15. Scores will no longer be recorded for U5 to U8 age groups, however, the My Sideline Manager app requirements still apply.
16. In the competitions from the ages of U9 to U12s, scores will still be recorded on the My Sideline app and printed scoresheet.
17. All teams **MUST** utilise the interchange sheet.
18. No finals series.
19. No premiership trophies.
20. In the U5 to U8 age groups, players can only receive a participation award at the end of season. No end of season singular awards are to be given.
21. All teams play an equal number of games across the competition where possible.
22. Teams are divided into “pools” rather than “Divisions” and is displayed as such on Play Rugby League.
23. The General Manager under advice through Sub Committee have the power to move players from teams if talent equalisation has not been followed correctly.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 3 – GAME DAY

3.1 GAME MANAGEMENT – DURATION / PERIODS / BALL SIZE

In localised Community Rugby League competitions, the League Administrator (in consultation with their board) will make determination on the following:

GAME DURATION			
AGE	NUMBER OF PERIODS	DURATION PER PERIOD	BALL SIZE
UNDER 5 – UNDER 7	4	8 MINS	MINI
UNDER 8 – UNDER 9*	2	15 MINS	MINI
UNDER 10 – UNDER 12	2	20 MINS	MOD
UNDER 13 – UNDER 15	2	25 MINS	INTERNATIONAL
UNDER 16 – UNDER 18	2	30 MINS	INTERNATIONAL
UNDER 19	2	35 MINS	INTERNATIONAL
OPEN AGE (WOMEN)	2	30 MINS	INTERNATIONAL
OPEN AGE (MEN)	2	40 MINS	INTERNATIONAL

* Refers to Under 8 and Under 9 competition - Game times are to be played as per national laws of the game in the under 8s and under 9s competition. Where scheduling restrictions apply with the draw matches can be adjusted to two (2) x 15-minute halves.

3.2 TIME OFF DURING A MATCH

1. For competitions administered by PDJRL, time off shall NOT be allowed in both halves during regular season competition matches for ages 5 – 15.
2. There will be time off from Under 16s through to Open Age Competitions with a 30-minute cap on those age groups per time off called.

3.3 HOSTING VENUE RESPONSIBILITIES

The hosting venue is responsible to ensure the following matters are provided to the satisfaction of a Junior League match day:

1. Correct size footballs and at least 2 of each (Only PDJRL Balls are to be used for any fixture and the correct balls for Seniors must be used).
2. For international fields the correct size corner posts (1.25m tall) and correct size goal post pads (min 35cm Wide) – agility poles and short corner posts (E.G.: Orange HART) cannot be used as corner posts. Any goal post pads under 35cm in thickness can no longer be used.
3. Correct ground/field markings in accordance with the Laws of the Game, any other applicable rules or regulations under which the applicable matches are played, and any directives of NSWRL/NSWCRLA. A red line for the 20m and 40m lines is to be marked.
4. Ensure there is a line marked 'Interchange Box' designated for the 2 x Benches, for all International fields, and stand alone Mini & Mod Fields.



5. Competition rules match day procedures manual.

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6. Time keepers table and 5 chairs, 1 for ground manager, 2 for opposing managers and 2 for sin bin.
7. 1 x bell or hooter to signal players to field, half time and end of play.
8. Working Pens.
9. HIA and Injury form Pads.
10. Match sign on sheets.
11. Interchanges sheets for all grades.
12. 2 x Full Sets of Interchange Cards (1-10, Blood & HIA) per International Field.
13. First aid box and bags of Ice.
14. Receptacle for blood soiled dressings etc.
15. Clean dressing rooms and toilets.
16. Canteen facilities for spectators.
17. Easy access for ambulance and prompt medical contact.
18. Keep unauthorised persons outside spectator fence.
19. Only use approved Kicking Tee's.
20. Inspect playing field and surrounds to ensure all safety measures are in place and there are no foreign or dangerous articles or implements protruding or evident.
21. Must supply one medical per field as per the on-field policy.
22. Ground managers must not have two roles at once i.e. Ground manger and a sports trainer.

VISITING CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

To support and assist the home club in relation to the provision of the above (if possible) and the following:

23. Control of their own spectators, supporters and parents.
24. Good behaviour of their players and team support staff.
25. Provide a time keeper (team manager).
26. Assist home club to keep unauthorised persons outside spectator fence.
27. Proper medical procedures for care of own players.

3.4 PLAYER EQUIPMENT

1. Jerseys may not be beaded or knotted and makeshift numbers are prohibited (i.e. tape or drawn on numbers)
2. All registered players must be in the correct club apparel including playing shorts, socks and jersey.
3. Any equipment deemed dangerous by a referee and/or ground manager, must be removed before entering field of play for e.g hair clips, piercings.
4. Players not in the correct apparel must not take the field.
5. Refer to NSWRL Policies and Procedures



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SECTION 3 – GAME DAY

3.5 TEAM COACH

1. Clubs shall arrange a meeting of all team coaches prior to the commencement of the competitions and shall advise the date of such meeting to the PDJRL office well in advance.
2. All under 5's to 7's coaches are required to referee their own fixtures each week. No other person is to referee these games i.e. trainers.
3. If a coach is not wearing their Junior Club attire, a coach will not be permitted inside the fence or allowed to enter the playing field.
4. If a coach is removed from the game for any reason the game will result in a forfeit, unless a qualified coach is available to step in. The clock will continue to run. Fines also apply, refer to the fine table.
5. If a game is played without an accredited coach it will result in a forfeit and fines will apply. Refer to the fine table.
6. In Open Ages where a captain coach is applicable an accredited coach must be present on the scoresheet and sideline during game day, failure to provide this will result in a forfeit.
7. Refer to NSWRL policies and procedures.

3.6 TEAM MANAGER

1. If a manager is not wearing their Junior Club attire, a Manager will not be permitted inside the fence or allowed to enter the playing field.
2. If a manager is removed from the game for any reason, fines also apply, refer to the fine table.
3. Refer to NSWRL policy and procedures.

3.7 TEAM TRAINER

1. If a trainer is not wearing their Panthers Juniors accredited team official shirt, a trainer will not be permitted inside the fence or allowed to enter the playing field.
2. If a trainer is removed from the game for any reason, fines also apply, refer to the fine table.
3. No trainers are allowed on the field in Under 5s, Under 7s and 8s to 'assist' in coaching.

3.8 TEAM STAFF AT EACH MATCH

The following officials will be required to have the compulsory accreditation to access the field of play. No accreditations will be handed out on the day:

1. Coach / Manager – to ensure they have an identifiable club polo or hoodie on
2. Trainers – to ensure they have the correct trainers accreditation shirt on
3. If your official is NOT compliant – No Entry.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 3 – GAME DAY

TEAM BENCH ONLY:

- 1 x Coach – 1 x Manager.
- 1 x Trainer for U5 to U8 – No on field access unless injury/break in play Minimum League Safe as Host Venue must supply medical. Please refer to the on-field policy
- 2 x Trainers for U9 to U12 (Minimum League Safe as Host Venue must supply medical) No on field access in U9 – U12 only unless injury/break in play. Please refer to the on-field policy
- 3 x Trainers for U13 to Open age (Minimum Green to 15s – Minimum Blue 16s and above per team).
- On Field access in ages 13 to 18 below process below. Please refer to the on-field policy.

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TRAINER FIELD ACCESS RULES

REFER TO NRL ON FIELD POLICY

NOT NEGOTIABLE

U6-12s	U13s-U18s
<p>Maximum of ONE (1) LeagueSafe Trainer permitted on the field of play at the following times only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">During a break in play;During a timeout called by the referee;In the event of an injury — trainer may attend until the First Responder arrives.	<p>Trainer permitted on the field of play at the following times only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">After a try has been scored (2 trainers), however a 3rd trainer can run the tee out;During a timeout called by the referee (2 trainers)In the event of an injury — trainer may attend until the First Responder arrives;When their team is in possession — for interchange and to provide water only. No messages must be carried. The First Responder can access these roles, however, if the First Responder is treating another player and occupied the LeagueSafe Trainer may partake.

MUST NOT ENTER THE FIELD OF PLAY

- At A Scrum or drop out.
- During a fight or melee.
- When a team is attempting a penalty goal (one trainer can run the kicking tee out)

EJECTED COACH = TEAM FORFEIT

- No Injured players, No Assistant Coach (under 5- under 18), No Physio, No Stats Person etc.

COMPLIANCE GUIDLEINES:

- Team Staff have a designated box – stay within it or be ejected
- Team Staff are NOT to comment on, question or abuse match officials or their decisions



12. Trainers are not to sledge, use unseemly language, walk or coach at any time on field during play
13. Team Staff are not to yell or coach from the bunker under any circumstances

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14. The minimum requirements for on-field safety personnel for each match are prescribed by section 1.2 of the NRL On-Field Policy. These vary for each age range and from the under 13 age group upwards require there to be a currently accredited and registered sports trainer at the venue for each team playing in the match.
15. No match will start under any circumstances whatsoever without, as a minimum, the on-field safety personnel prescribed by the NRL On-Field Policy present and available at the match venue. Reference must be made to the NRL On-Field Policy, where these requirements are specified.
16. A team staff member cannot act in multiple roles within the 1 match.
17. For the avoidance of any doubt, it shall be considered an egregious and extremely serious breach, by each club participating in a match, to allow or be involved in allowing a match to commence or continue under any circumstances, where one or more of the people required by this Policy 4.8 and the NRL On-Field Policy to be in attendance at the commencement of and for the duration of that match is not in attendance or present, regardless as to the reason for the absence or non-attendance of that person. Without limiting the sanction that might be imposed on a club, the match will be deemed as a forfeit by any team that does not have the required personnel present.
18. For the avoidance of any doubt, the minimum qualification requirements for sports trainer and other roles specified in these rules are as set out in the applicable NRL Policies incorporated into this Policies and Procedures Manual, including in particular the NRL On-Field Policy.

3.9 APPOINTMENT OF MATCH OFFICIALS AND PAYMENT

Referees and touch judges will be allocated by the PDJRLRA. The use of unqualified touch judges is not allowed.

AGE GROUP	COMMENT
UNDER 5-7	Coaches are responsible to facilitate these matches.
UNDER 8-9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Host clubs are responsible to supply at the start of each season referees that will be allocated to their home venue only. 2. These will be appointed by and paid by the PDJRLRA in line with their current procedures. 3. For every 3 teams nominated (combined) in these age groups, 2 referees must be supplied. 4. Team nominations will not be accepted if a referee isn't nominated and does not complete their accreditation in time for Round 1.
UNDER 10-OPENS	This is the responsibility of the PDJRLRA



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SECTION 3 – GAME DAY

3.10 ABANDONED MATCHES DUE TO INJURY, WEATHER OR FOUL PLAY

INJURY

1. Regular Competition matches abandoned with less than one full half of a game being completed will need to be replayed at PDJRL discretion.
2. In the event of an injury during the second half of play the clock should continue to run. If the injury has not been cleared by the full-time bell, then the result shall stand as the start of each half had occurred.
3. The result of matches abandoned due to falling below the minimum players on the field after half time shall result in favor of the non-offending team 60 nil.

FOUL PLAY

4. In the event that a match is discontinued due to foul play the match will be considered abandoned.
5. Competition points will not be awarded to either side if evidence from the referee or the Ground Manager proves that both teams participated in foul play which lead to the match being abandoned.
6. Penalties for games abandoned due to foul play will be at the discretion of the relevant judicial/Code of Conduct Review Processes.

WET WEATHER

7. PDJRL hosting venues for each round must notify the Junior League each Friday Before 10am and officially communicate their venues playability for that weekend.
8. If communication is NOT received prior to 10am each Friday the hosting club's venue is deemed playable.
9. If communication is NOT received prior to 10am each Friday that club's venue will only have the following options and outcomes available to them:
 - a. Council closes their venue usually after 2pm or 4pm each Friday – each team will receive 1 competition point for both Junior and Senior Competitions.
 - b. If a venue is deemed unplayable from 8am each Saturday morning, each team will receive 1 competition point for both Junior and Senior Competitions or be replayed at the discretion of the Junior League General Manager.
 - c. If a Hosting venue deems their venue unplayable between 10am Friday and 8am Saturday – the non-hosting team will receive 2 competition points and all neutral venue fixtures will be replayed at the discretion of the PDJRL for both Junior and Senior Competitions.
10. In the event majority of councils' close venues where no games are to be played the round will be deemed abandoned.
11. The only person authorised to abandon a PDJRL game is a 3-part vote with the Referee in conjunction with the hosting Club Executive Member and PDJRL General Manager.

In conclusion, regardless of the number of fixtures played each round all matches will be deemed



validated. Naturally, our Junior League office will attempt to transfer games from one venue to another where both time, referee availability and venue capacity allows us to do so.

PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 3 – GAME DAY

3.11 MAKING CHANGES TO THE DURATION OF A GAME

PROCEDURES FOR GAMES DELAYED DUE TO OR INJURY OR OTHER MATTER NORMAL PROCEDURES

1. If an injury or incident occurs in the first half or period of a match, clocks do not stop during periods of play and continue until the end of play. (Exception to this is Under 16s to opens–Maximum 30 min time).
2. At the end of a period of play the break clock starts and continues until the end of the break.
3. After the break, the clock starts for the next period of play and continues until the end of the match.
4. All players are to remain on field until the end of the scheduled match time.
5. If an injury or incident occurs in the second half or period of a match, clocks do not stop during periods of play and continue until the end of play. If the match is unable to resume, as the match official commenced 2 periods of play, this will constitute a match being played and the result deemed valid.
6. If an injury or incident occurs from the previous match and the next match is unable to kick off at the scheduled start time, the match official will start the clock at the scheduled time and wait until the match is safe to start.
7. If the match kicks off before the end of the first half of play (or 2 periods of play for U7's or below age groups) and the match restarts for a second half of play (or 2 periods of play for U9's or below age groups) this will constitute a match being played and the final result valid.
8. If a match does not kick off before the scheduled break, the match will be deemed abandoned. A match is abandoned when two (2) periods of play are not started by a match official.

EXTRAORDINARY SITUATION PROCEDURES

9. If the second half of a match is commenced but due to unforeseen circumstances which includes, but is no limited to, injury or weather conditions, the-Match maybe replayed, or the game will be declared as 'played' and points awards accordingly. This decision is at sole discretion of the Junior League General Manager.

3.12 INTERCHANGE

U5's TO U7's JUNIOR LEAGUE

1. Each player is to play a MINIMUM OF TWO UNBROKEN PERIODS of eight (8) minutes.
2. A player, having played an UNBROKEN period of play and been replaced, may be used at a later period as a replacement for a player who has also completed TWO (2) unbroken periods of play and not been replaced, or, for a player who has been injured or sent off.
3. A player may NOT be temporarily replaced if injured – the PDJRL does not adopt the three (3) minutes at any one-time rule. The replacement of a player is permanent, unless a player has completed two (2) unbroken periods of play.
4. The interchange sheet must be completed for all fixtures.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 3 – GAME DAY

U8'S TO U12'S JUNIOR LEAGUE

5. Each player is to play a MINIMUM OF ONE UNBROKEN HALF of a match (i.e. Fifteen (15) or twenty (20) minutes).
6. A player, having played an UNBROKEN half of a match and been replaced, may be used in the next half of a match to replace a player who has also completed an unbroken half or for a player who has been injured or suspended.
7. A player may NOT be temporarily replaced if injured – the PDJRL does not adopt the three (3) minutes at any one-time rule. The replacement of a player is permanent, unless a player has completed an unbroken period of play.
8. The interchange sheet must be completed for all fixtures.
9. There will be an NRL trial for all competitions within the U12s age group to have 2x FR vest and they must be rotated at half time with players who did not wear a vest in the first half.

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL (U13'S TO OPENS)

Interchange rules are as per the Laws of the game. In International Rugby League matches:

9. Teams may sign on nineteen (19) players and use up to seventeen (17) players only in all divisions in international games only. Coaches who do not support this rule do not have to use the additional players if they prefer not to do so. Players 18 and 19 may be activated in accordance below point.
10. Each team will be allowed to use additional players as the "Concussion Sub". This must be identified to the opposition manager at time of incident, and marked as such on the printed score sheet as 'Concussion Sub' (CS). This player can be activated, under the following conditions:
 - a. When a player has been ruled out of the match under Community Rugby League HIA Protocols
11. For age groups U13's to Open Age, in all divisions and competitions other than DFC U19s & Open Age, only 10 interchanges are allowed each game per team.
12. For the DFC U19s and Open Age (not including reserve grade), only 8 interchanges are allowed each game per team.
13. In the event of a head injury or concussion, a free interchange will be given for the player leaving the field however, that player will not be permitted to return to the field of play for the remainder of the match.
14. The interchange sheet must be completed for all fixtures.

RULES WHEN INTERCHANGING PLAYERS

15. Interchange may only occur during general play (i.e. when the ball is in motion), after any scoring has been completed, or if play has been temporarily suspended by the Referee (e.g. injury or caution)
16. Maximum of two (2) interchange of players may take place at any one time
17. A replaced player MUST cross the touchline or dead ball line prior to his replacement taking the field



18. Interchange must not be made after the referee has ordered a scrum and cannot be made until the scrum has been completed, unless it is to replace a bleeding player and the referee has signaled blood bin

PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 3 – GAME DAY

3.13 SIN BIN

1. Players sent to the sin bin by the Referee should immediately leave the field without comment, must report to the official table and obey all reasonable directions and remain there under supervision until they are authorised to re-enter the field of play.
2. The sin bin clock will commence when the player reports to the official table.
3. Players who leave the sin bin without permission face substantial penalty.
4. MINI & MOD players dismissed by the Referee for any misconduct, may be replaced immediately, any may return at the Referee's discretion. The dismissed player may be required to attend a meeting with the PDJRL after a match report is submitted from the match official and review process has taken place.

3.14 SEND OFF

1. Any player who has been dismissed from the field of play please refer to NSWRL policies and procedures.

3.15 BLOOD BIN

1. The Referee may direct a player who is bleeding to leave the field for attention and if necessary change any part of their playing uniform.
2. When a player leaves the field for the Blood Bin, the letters BB should be endorsed in the replaced player's column on the sign on sheet.
3. If a player is replaced because of the Blood Bin rule, provided the player who replaced the affected player is in turn replaced by the Blood Bin player when they return to the field, it will not count as a replacement
4. Only the Referee can determine whether a player should be put in the Blood Bin. If a player is taken off without the knowledge of the Referee it will be deemed as a normal replacement
5. Any player returning to the field of play after being in the Blood Bin must exchange places with the player that replaced them. If a different player comes off, they shall be deemed to be a replacement.
6. Clubs are expected to provide proper receptacles for the collection of blood soiled bandages.

PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS



SECTION 3 – GAME DAY

3.16 SITUATIONS NOT COVERED

DETERMINATIONS

1. PDJRL Determination shall be final should any situation arise that is not covered under these rules including adjusting these rules where applicable.

ADDITIONAL CHARGERS

2. If a person is charged by NSWRL in relation to crowd/spectator contrary conduct/code of conduct breaches and is found guilty after investigation, the below charge in 3.16.3 sanctions may be applied to the participant associated with the offender found guilty.
3. Refer to below graphic

Grading Level	Participant Suspension
Low	No Suspension
Medium	2 weeks
High	3 weeks
Serious	TBC BY PDJRL BOARD

PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

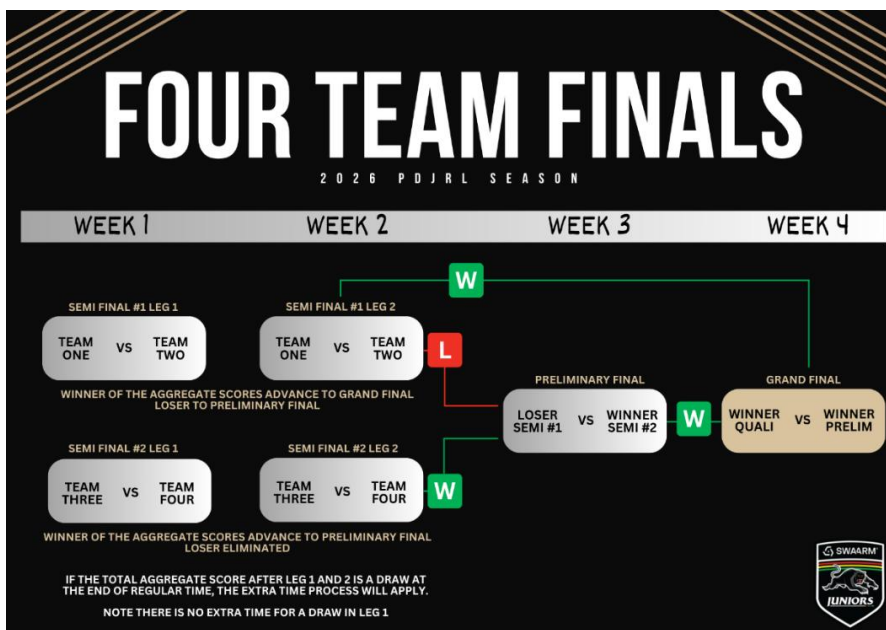
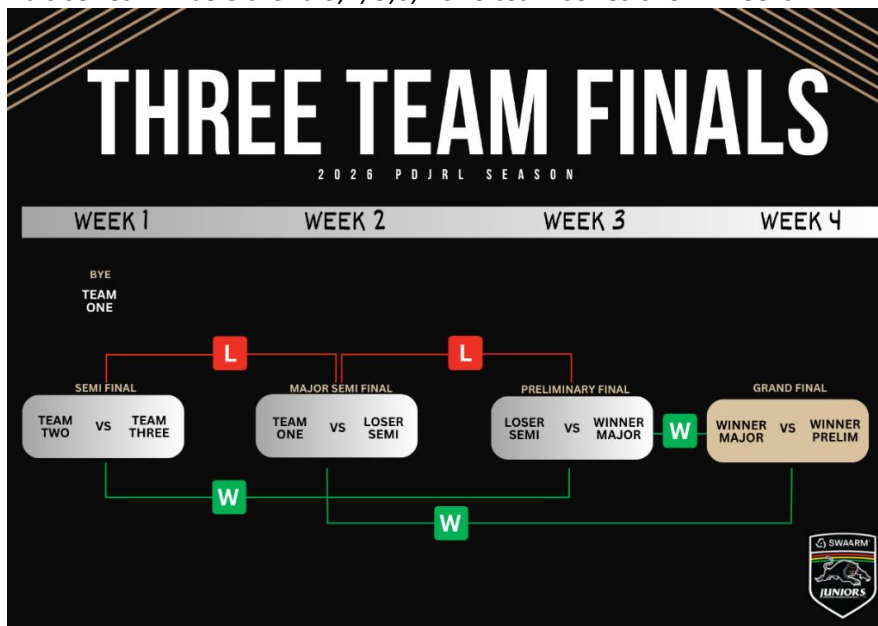


SECTION 4 – FINALS

4.1 FINALS SERIES MATCHES

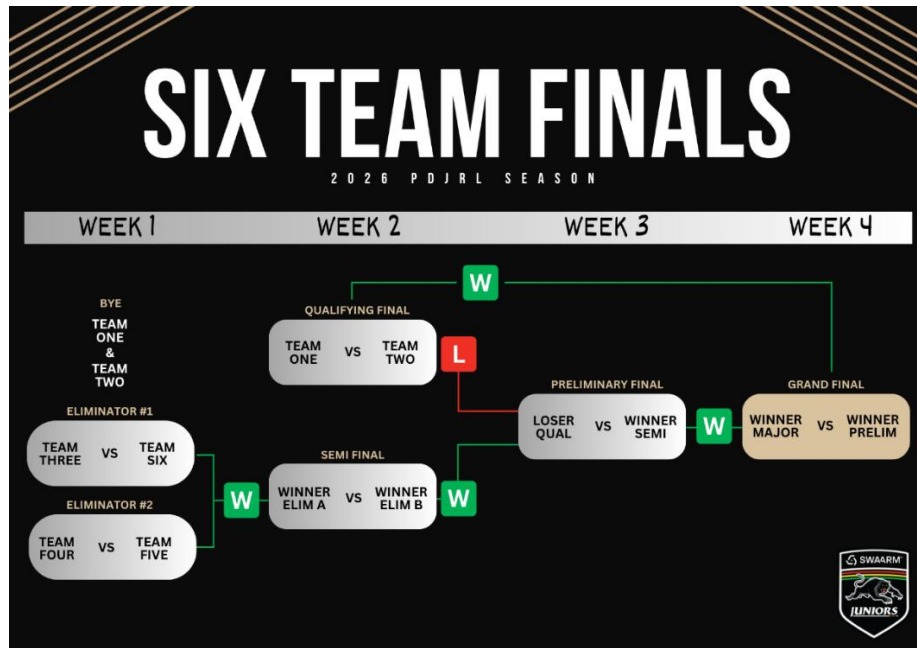
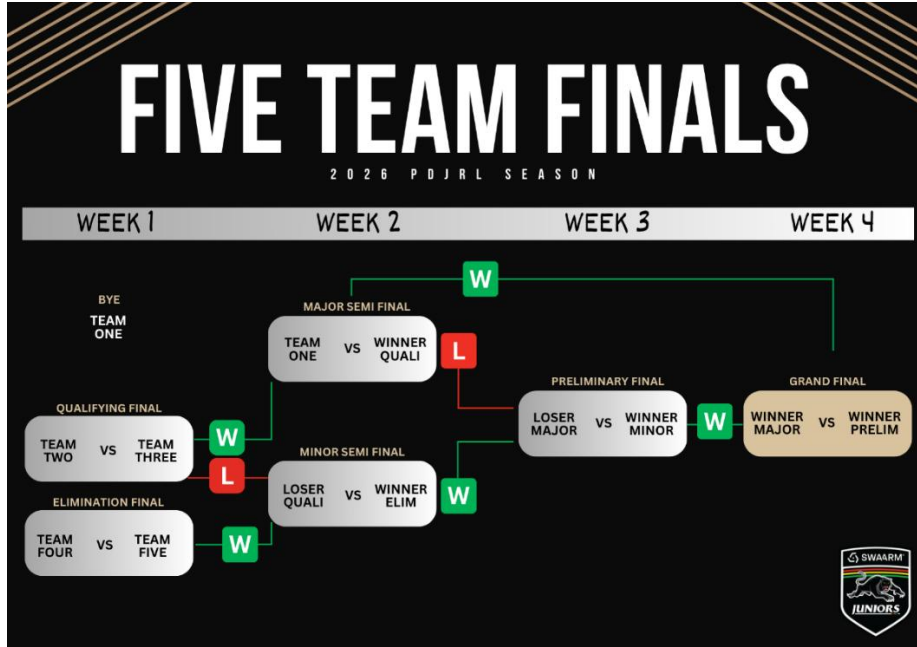
FINALS SERIES MATCHES

1. For competitions administered by PDJRL, time off shall be allowed in both halves during finals series matches
2. The finals series will be either a 3,4, 5,6,7 or 8 team series over 4 weeks:



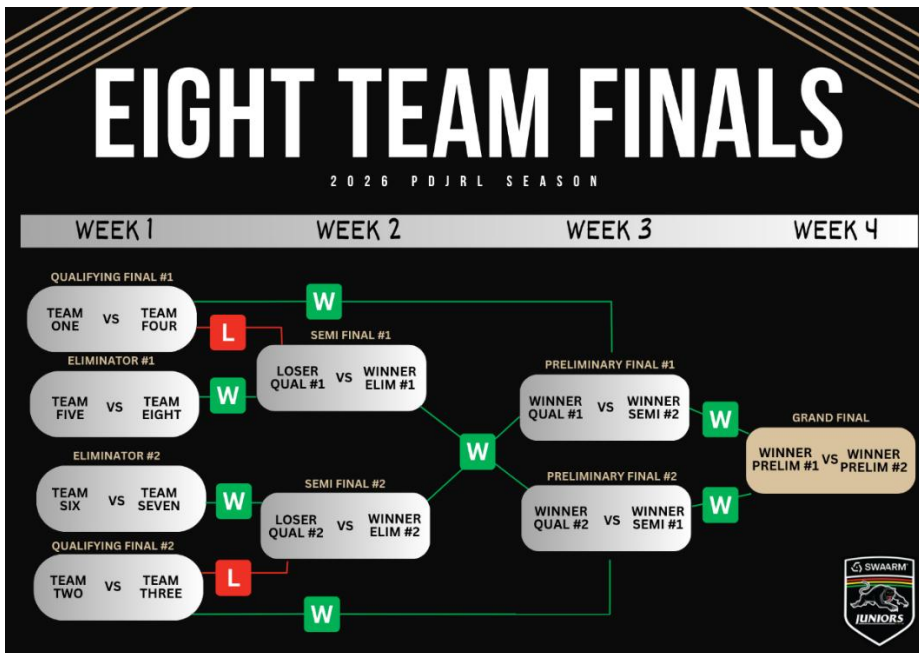
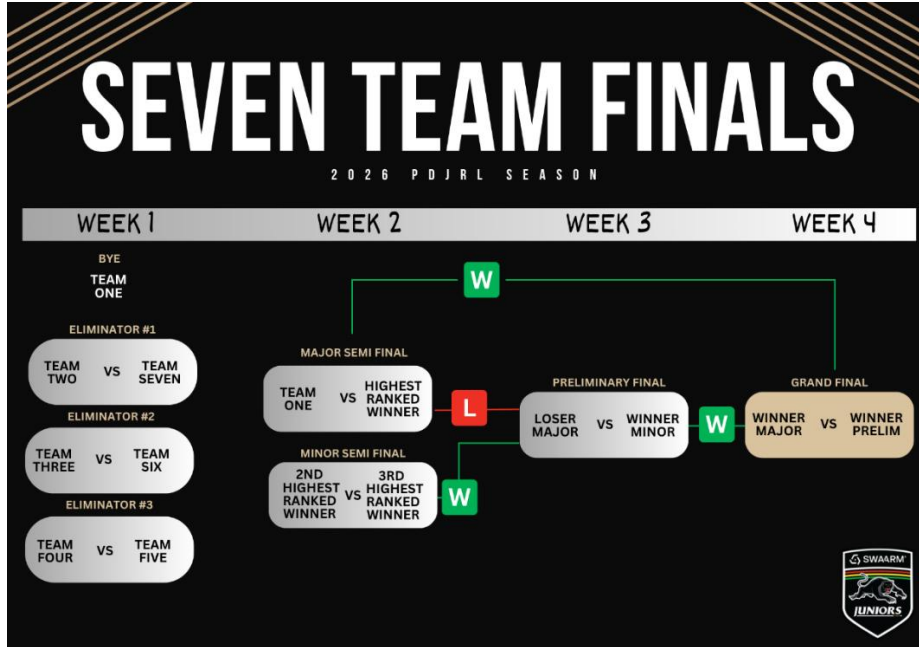
PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 4 – FINALS



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 4 – FINALS



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 4 – FINALS



THE FOLLOWING WILL NOT BE COUNTED AS A GAME TOWARDS A PLAYER'S FINALS QUALIFICATION:

2. A team giving a forfeit cannot claim a game played
3. A Bye
4. Wash Out, however special circumstances may apply

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

5. To be eligible to participate in semi-finals, finals and Grand Finals in competitions administered by PDJRL, a player must have played a minimum of five (5) competition games with the club team you are registered with.
6. In the case of a player not being able to play the required five (5) matches as indicated above due to injury sustained during the season or other incident outside of a match, upon investigation of medical evidence by the General Manager, such player may be permitted to take part in a final's series match. Adequate medical proof (medical certificate) is required to be submitted to the General Manager.
7. Team Managers are expected to make themselves aware of player availability well prior to the finals series and take the necessary action to ensure all players are qualified.
8. Any player that qualifies for a final's series match in their registered age group, and the age group above is not more than 1 year above their actual age, automatically qualifies for the older age groups finals series without playing a competition match.
9. Playing an unregistered or unqualified player will result in the match being deemed a forfeit.
10. Any player who participates (all 17 players) in a higher grade, i.e. Jersey Flegg Cup, Canterbury Cup NSW, Ron Massey Cup, Sydney Shield, Jersey Flegg and Harvey Norman Women's Premiership shall NOT be permitted to return to play and Junior League competitions on that same weekend (this included regular competition matches)
11. Jan Cameron Finals Eligibility you need to play 3 of your last 5 games in the Jan Cameron competitions to qualify, the player will still need to play 5 games total across the season. If the clubs Don Feltis team is still alive players may still have portability across the two teams.

THE ONUS IS ON CLUBS TO PROVE ELIGIBILITY OF GAMES PLAYED IF REQUIRED BY A JUNIOR LEAGUE.

4.2 FINALS SERIES TIME KEEPING

1. During all finals series matches, all team managers will continue to fulfil their role at the official table and time keep as you would as per any competition round.
2. In Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals for competitions administered by PDJRL, time off shall be allowed in both halves.
3. In Semi-finals, Finals and Grand Finals, should thirty (30) continuous minutes of play be lost due to injury or for any other reason (foul play will be at the discretion of the General Manager and may result in the match being forfeited), the venue manager in consultation with the General Manager will determine to continue with the schedule or have the game(s) replayed.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 4 – FINALS

4.3 ABANDONED END OF SEASON FINALS MATCHES

1. Should a play-off, semi-final, final or Grand Final be abandoned, due to the pressing need to conclude an investigation before the following weekend, the PDJRL shall obtain reports from both teams, match and ground officials and other appropriate persons and cause an immediate investigation to be carried out into the reasons that caused the game to be abandoned.

4.4 DRAWN FINALS SERIES MATCHES

1. If scores are equal at the conclusion of normal time in any final series match, then in such matches, including the Grand Final a period of extra time will follow.

EXTRA TIME

2. There will be a 2-minute break between full time and extra time commencing
3. The commencement of the period of extra time shall be determined by the toss of a coin as described under the laws of the game
4. Extra time shall be 2 x 5-minute periods, after the initial 5-minutes of play the referee will cease play and teams shall immediately change ends. The team that did not kickoff to commence the initial period of extra time, will kick-off to recommence the second period.
5. If scores are equal at the conclusion of extra time, play shall stop
6. There will be a 1-minute break
7. Gold Point Extra Time will commence with a toss of a coin.
8. Then play will continue on an unlimited basis until the first point or points have been scored (e.g., field goal, penalty goal or try to determine the winner of the match. If a try is scored to determine the winner, the conversion kick will not be permitted.
9. Each team will receive two additional interchanges during extra time, interchange cards 1 and 2. These are in addition to any remaining interchanges a team may have. These are issued once only, prior to beginning of extra time half 1.
10. The normal interchange process will apply for any interchanges that are made during the break (including the two additional interchanges).

4.5 PROTESTS DURING DRAWN FINALS SERIES MATCHES

1. Should a protest occur during or immediately after a play-off, semi-final, final or Grand Final every effort will be made to resolve the issue at the venue as soon as possible.
2. Should a protest be unable to be resolved at the venue, all protests will be heard if possible on the day of the match, at a time and venue to be advised by the General Manager. Any protest shall be immediately referred to the General Manager who will arrange an urgent hearing.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 4 – FINALS

3. For a protest to be accepted from Clubs involved in the final series matches it must be lodged in writing online, no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the completion of the game. The General Manager may institute action regarding a breach of PDJRL rules at any time.
4. The General Manager is authorised to investigate all protests, complaints and other concerns and make adjudication. This may be done by involving a match review committee should that be desired.

4.6 TEAM STAFF FOR FINALS

1. Before the finals series begins, each team will be required to submit a dedicated staff list. The nominated staff should be the same individuals who have fulfilled these roles for the majority of the season. If a team is unable to provide the majority of their allocated staff, they must submit a reason for approval prior to participating in finals matches.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 5 – SENIOR BY-LAWS

5.1 CLUB CRITERIA & FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

1. Clubs are required to meet all criteria and financial criteria outlined in the Senior Football criteria document.

5.2 VENUE CHANGES

1. If a change is necessary PDJRL will make the ultimate decision on where and when the game is played, this will be final.
2. If there is an allocated off weekend this is to be used as a washout weekend, no exceptions the game must be replayed.
3. In the case that neither club can provide a suitable venue, the PDJRL will reschedule the match to an alternative venue selected by the PDJRL

5.3 ADMISSION CHARGES AND TICKETS

1. Adults: to a maximum of \$10
2. Concessions: to a maximum of \$5
3. Children 15 and under: to a maximum of \$5
4. Finals admission will be charged by the PDJRL and will be adjusted where applicable.

5.4 BALL PERSONS

1. Ball persons must have at least 10 years of age
2. Each hosting club must supply at least 2 ball persons for each competition match
3. Identified in-a specific shirt/vest

5.5 FEES, FINES & FORFEITS

PLEASE REFER TO 2026 PDJRL BY LAWS FOR FEES AND FINES TABLE EXCLUDING BELOW.

1. Sanctions to be handed out for withdrawal of teams, after nomination are as follows:
2. Prior to draw commencement, forfeit of team nomination fee only
3. During draw construction after the date set by the junior league in calendar, forfeit of team nomination fee, plus a fine of \$1,000.00
4. Should a team be withdrawn from time draw is completed, through to any stage of the season, a forfeit fee of \$1,000/\$500.00 per game will be issued for the remaining games of the season that are missed, applicable from time of draw competition
5. A mercy rule score line will be awarded to the non-offending team for each game missed
6. Any prior fixtures played, these score lines will also be adjusted (up or down) to mercy rule, to keep the integrity of the competition for +/- differential



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 5 – SENIOR BY-LAWS

7. A show cause will be issued to the offending club as to why they should be granted a license for the corresponding competition for the following season
8. No refunds will be given for team nominations
9. The General Manager may impose further penalties as per the Panthers Juniors By-Laws & Constitution, over & above the sanctions listed here within.
10. The General Manager may seek council with the Board of Management for further penalties over & above the sanctions listed here within, in line with the Panthers Juniors By-Laws & Constitution
11. The decision issued from the General Manager will be final, and no right of appeal may be entered into
12. The club maybe able to apply for the other competition for the following season. This application needs to be in writing to the General Manager
13. Standard forfeit sanctions apply for Under 17s and down
14. Don Feltis 19s & 1st Grade will be granted 1 forfeit only at a cost of \$1,000.00, and loss of 2 competition points. A 2nd forfeit will activate team withdrawal process.
15. Barry Nicol & Jan Cameron 19s & 2nd Grade will be granted 2 forfeit only at a cost of \$1000 each, and a loss of 2 competition points. A 3rd forfeit will activate team withdrawal process.

5.6 GROUND SIGNAGE AND FIELD REQUIRMENTS

1. All clubs are required to make advertising and signage space available to the PDJRL at their respective venue as per PDJRL participation agreement and criteria

5.7 MATCH FOOTAGE

1. Where possible, all PDJRL competition matches from under 16s – Opens will be filmed throughout the season by BarTv
2. Match footage is available to club executives and referees
3. Where applicable venues may be required to supply platforms for viewing within the NSWRL guideline specifications
4. Platform measurements = 3mx3m
5. Platform height – 3m is recommended, minimum accepted will be 2m
6. Safety rail must be as a minimum 1m above platform deck
7. A covered roof of a minimum height of 2m above the safety rail. Roofing scaffold should protrude a minimum distance of 1m out from the front edge of the platform.
8. Platform entry must be by secured ladder or staircase
9. Minimum carry weight of the platform is four people (500kg)
10. Any games in a NSWRL conference competition will not be guaranteed to be filmed.
11. SAFETY - Any platform erected for use by cameramen to record NSWRL sanctioned competition matches must conform to all WH&S, statutory authorities and Work Safe Codes of Practice and Regulations. It is the responsibility of the club having the platform erected to ensure that it meets all of the above requirements.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 5 – SENIOR BY-LAWS

5.8 MATCH REVIEW/ JUDICIARY

1. In PDJRL competitions 16s to Open age where matches are filmed by Bar TV. The option for placing players on report will be available. The referees will have the ability to place players on report for any reason applicable in the laws of the game.
2. When placed on report the players will be required to show their jersey number to the camera. This will be lodged by Bar Tv.
3. All footage will be reviewed by PDJRL in conjunction with NSWRL and will hand out breach notices where applicable.
4. All ground managers and team managers will be required to mark the time and jersey number on the scoresheet.
5. If teams are seen to be not following the procedure will result in forfeit.

5.9 SENIOR TEAM TRAINER'S REQUIREMENTS

1. All Sports trainers (blue, yellow and orange) must register with their club via MySideline.
2. All Blue shirt Sports Trainers must, as a minimum, hold a current NRL Level 1 Sports Trainers qualification and complete the yearly mandatory updates as per the NRL On Field Policy.
3. All Orange shirt Sports Trainers must hold a current NRL Level 2 Sports Trainers qualification and complete the yearly mandatory updates as per the NRL On Field Policy.
4. All Yellow Shirt trainers must hold a valid League safe accreditation complete the yearly mandatory updates as per the NRL On Field Policy.
5. Minimum team requirement for U19s – Opens Competitions:
 - a. Each team will require an Orange shirt Sports Trainer

5.10 TRAINERS ACCESS TO PLAYING FIELD

YELLOW SHIRT TRAINER – League safe Is allowed access to the playing field:

1. When a try has been scored to administer water and kicking tee responsibilities.
2. During a time-out called by the referee for an injury.
3. If the orange shirt and blue shirt is occupied with an injury, yellow shirt can administer water and on-field interchange process whilst in possession with the ball, and has access to the injured and ill players, however must not treat an injury. Until the first responder is made available.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 5 – SENIOR BY-LAWS

BLUE SHIRT TRAINER – LEVEL 1 Is allowed access to the playing field:





1. When a try has been scored.
2. During a time-out called by the referee.
3. If the orange shirt is occupied with an injury, blue shirt can administer water and on-field interchange process whilst in possession with the ball, and has access to the injured and ill players. Until the orange shirt is made available.

ORANGE SHIRT TRAINER – LEVEL 2 (Minimum Requirement) Is allowed access to the playing field:

1. Access to the field is unlimited to attend to an injured/ill player and to administer water.
2. Must not carry messages.
3. Can be involved in the on-field interchange process.
4. The 'Orange Shirt' will make the final decision on the player's welfare in the absence of a medical professional.
5. Coaches, administrators and players must comply with the decision of the 'Orange Shirt' at all times.
6. The 'Orange Shirt' is the only person of the training team who may approach the referee or touch judge in relation to player welfare. This should be done in a respectful manner and only occur during technical stoppages of play.
7. If a 'Orange Shirt' requests that the referee stop play due to an injury, the player that play was stopped for must either be replaced via the interchange process (and be recorded within the interchange count) OR move off the field of play for a full defensive set of 6 (once the injured player' team has completed a defensive set of 6 and are in attacking possession the player may re-enter the field of play from an on-side position)



PENRITH & DISTRICT JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE TRAINERS FIELD ACCESS – 2026 SEASON

 BLUE SHIRT (LEVEL 1) LIMITED FIELD ACCESS	 ORANGE SHIRT (LEVEL 2) MINIMUM REQUIREMENT UNLIMITED FIELD ACCESS	 YELLOW SHIRT (LEAGUE SAFE) LIMITED FIELD ACCESS
<p>ACCESS ALLOWED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  When a try has been scored  During a time-out called by the referee  If the Orange Shirt is occupied with an injury. Blue Shirt can administer water and on-field interchange process whilst in possession with the ball, and has access to the injured and ill players.  Must not carry messages 	<p>UNLIMITED ACCESS FOR INJURED/ILL PLAYERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Unlimited access for injured/ill players  Must not carry messages  Can manage on-field interchange  Final decision on player welfare (in absence of medical professional)  Only person of the training team who may approach the referee or touch judge in relation to player welfare – done respectfully and only during technical stoppages of play  Coaches, administrators & players must comply with Orange Shirt decisions  Can administer water during play to a player and then head off the field 	<p>ACCESS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  When a try is scored – water and kicking tee only  During a time-out called by the referee for an injury  If the Orange Shirt and Blue Shirt are occupied with an injury. Yellow Shirt can administer water and on-field interchange process whilst in possession with the ball, and has access to the injured and ill players, however must not treat an injury. Can wait with player until the First Responder is made available.  Must not carry messages

STOP-PLAY RULE (ORANGE SHIRT)

When the Orange Shirt requests the referee stop play for injury, the player must either:

<p> OPTION A: Be replaced via interchange (counts toward interchange)</p>	OR	<p> OPTION B: Leave the field for a full defensive set of 6, then re-enroll from an onside position when the team is in attacking possession.</p>
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EVERY TEAM MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE ORANGE SHIRT (LEVEL 2) TRAINER PRESENT FOR EVERY MATCH. THE ORANGE SHIRT'S DECISION IS FINAL. PLAYER SAFETY COMES FIRST – EVERY TIME.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 5 – SENIOR BY-LAWS

5.11 PLAYER POINTS INDEX SYSTEM (PPIS)

1. The Player Points Index System (PPIS) is used for teams in the Open Mens Feltis Cup, Nicol Shield and Cameron Trophy.
2. A Player will have only their playing history for previous 4 seasons considered for categorisation purposes
3. A Player will be categorised at the highest level they have played in Seasons 2022 – 2025
4. A Player must play not less than ten (10) competition matches (in any one season) at any level to be correspondingly categorised at that level. However, if a player has an accumulative total of 10 games over the 4-year period they will be categorised at that level.
5. For the purposes of categorisation, a Player need only take the field in a competition match for such to count as having played the whole competition match.
6. The squad management section maximum registrations of My Sideline Admin are still applicable. However, in the instance of using essentially (2 x Squads) plus the potential of Under 19s (Still maximum 23), these 3 x Squads will be locked your administrator can move players in/out of squads as you need them and select them on the My Sideline Manager app as required with all players. All age groups/squads will be Required to have the maximum numbers by rule by the Panthers Juniors.
7. Players may move freely between divisions without penalty, provided the team does not exceed the applicable competition points cap of 100/60 points. For example, a player returning from a long-term injury may return through the club's Jan Cameron side before being promoted back into the Don Feltis side when deemed ready.
8. In Open Men's competitions, where a club fields multiple teams on the same day, player movement is subject to the following restriction:
 1. If the club's second-grade side is scheduled before the first-grade side, players may participate in the second-grade match and then back up into the first-grade match.
 2. If the club's first-grade side is scheduled before the second-grade side, players who participate in the first-grade match are not permitted to back up into the second-grade match on the same day.
- 9. ONUS ON CLUB TO MANAGE PPIS**
10. Each participating club shall attribute a point's value to each player and submit same at the time of registration of such player. It is the responsibility of the club and player to ensure that the assessment sheet is properly completed and signed.
11. Not less than 7 days prior to Round 1 of Season 2026, and on Friday by 11am prior to each Round if a new player is registered, before 30th June
12. Each player whose name appears on any official match sheet for Feltis Cup, Nicol Shield and Cameron Trophy, must have their individual points allocation recorded where indicated in such match sheet.
13. Any player that does not have points allocated to them cannot take the field, this includes U19 players.



14. The subject team must have their total points allocation recorded where indicated in the relevant match sheet.
15. Any enquiry by any Club regarding the points allocated to a Player from another Club must be submitted through the same process as a match dispute before the due time.
16. Any Club determined by the PDJRL to have exceeded their total point's allocation for any given match shall automatically be forfeited and be liable to pay a forfeit fine refer to fine table 2026 PDJRL By-Laws.
17. It is a breach of the PPIS policy to supply false or incorrect information. Convictions may result in possible suspension from the PDJRL for the individual, player &/or administrator who signed off on the PPIS form (up to 2 years), loss of competition points (no limitation) for the team and fines for the offending club, or any other action against the club that the BoM deem necessary.
18. Auditing will take place on all teams/clubs throughout the season
19. Any clubs with a link to a NSWRL Major Competition team (Sydney Shield, Jersey Flegg, Ron Massey Cup and Harvey Norman Women's Premiership) are only permitted to play five (5) players from that higher-level team on the one weekend.
20. A player will be considered a 'Major Competition' player once they have played four (4) or more combined matches in any Major competition in that season. In reference to section 11, if a player on portability has played less than four 'Major Competition' matches, they will not be considered as part of the five (5) player quota when playing in PDJRL.
21. When a higher-grade team has a BYE, players can only participate for the non-bye team if they have previously participated for the same team prior to the BYE. If they have never played for that team, then they cannot play. This includes teams from NSWRL Major Competitions (Sydney Shield, Ron Massey Cup, Jersey Flegg and Harvey Norman Women's Premiership).
22. A 'Major Competition' player will qualify for finals in the team where they have played the majority of matches during the regular season. If the combined majority of matches played are in a Major Competition a player has played equal amount of games, they may not play in PDJRL finals.
23. If a 'Major Competition' player has played an equal amount of games, they will be deemed they may not play in PDJRL finals.
24. If a 'Major Competition' player plays in more than one NSWRL Major Competition throughout the season (For example, a player who plays in both Ron Massey and Sydney Shield matches in the same season), the accumulated total of matches played across these competitions will count as matches played in a Major Competition.
25. Players who participate in any higher level NSWRL Major Competitions (Sydney Shield, Ron Massey Cup, Jersey Flegg and Harvey Norman's Women's Premiership) or Junior Representative Competitions, shall not be permitted to return and play in the PDJRL on that same weekend.

CLUB JUNIOR DEFINITION

26. Any Player who is registered in a minimum of 4 seasons of junior international (under 13s – 17s) level rugby league with the subject Club.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 5 – SENIOR BY-LAWS

GUIDELINES

27. Player to be indexed at the highest level at which they have played in the last 4 years. (e.g.: John Doe played NSW Cup in 2018 & 2019. He then played RMC in 2020, 2021 & 2022. He would be indexed as Category B – 20 points. However, because he only played for 2 years at the NSW Cup level, and 3 at RMC level, he is entitled to three (3) discount points off the indexed number of twenty (20), meaning his new points index is seventeen (17)
28. If a local junior who has played the last four (4) international rugby league years with the same club they are playing Open for now is selected to play at higher level (NSWRL Major Competitions) for up to two (2) years (but not exceeding) (e.g.: Jersey Flegg competition) and returns to their junior club, they will not be assessed at the higher level they participated in, the following year. (e.g.: Steve Smith has played at St Clair for four (4) consecutive years, at 19 years of age is playing Jersey Flegg. After two (2) seasons with Jersey Flegg, at the age of 21, he returns to St Clair to play Opens, he would be indexed as Category G as a first year Open Age player)
29. No player shall be assessed below one (1) point
30. Points are not cumulative i.e., only one level per player.
31. Discounts are not cumulative, this means a maximum of 5 points discount.
32. Clubs must fill out each player's points with name and NRL ID number and send to the PDJRL Via Spreadsheet sent by PDJRL
33. The Player Assessment Document is valid for one (1) season only, and is to be submitted each year
34. Anything outside these guidelines that you need clarification on, please address this in writing, via email to the Panthers Juniors General Manager

EXTREME TEAM CIRCUMSTANCES

35. In situations where a player has local player status and has registered with their club for the upcoming season and that club is subsequently unable to field a team in that grade, 50% of the player's points value will be deducted at the player's new club.



PANTHERS JUNIORS BY-LAWS

SECTION 5 – SENIOR BY-LAWS

SCALE

Don Feltis Cup		Barry Nicol Shield & Jan Cameron Trophy	
POSITION	2026 POINTS	POSITION	2026 POINTS
Grand Finalists (1 & 2)	80 Points	Grand Finalists (1 & 2)	50 Points
Finalists (3-6)	85 Points	Finalists (3-6)	55 Points
Non-Finalists	90 Points	Non-Finalists	60 Points

PLAYER POINTS INDEX

CATEGORY	CRITERIA	POINTS
A	Player has appeared in 10 games or more in the NRL or Super League OR If player hasn't played at Category A level in the last 4 years, player is assessed as Category B	25 (Max discount 5)
B	Player has appeared in 10 games or more in QLD or NSW Cup or overseas equivalent OR If player played less than 10 games in Category B or hasn't played at Category B level in the last 4 years, player is assessed as Category C and will remain in that category	20 (Max discount 5)
C	Player has appeared in 10 games or more in Ron Massey Cup OR If the player played less than 3 games in Category C in the year the player played, they are assessed as Category E will remain in that category OR If the player has played 3 or more but less than 10 in Category C or hasn't played in Category C in the last 4 years, the player is assessed as Category D will remain in that category	15 (Max discount 5)
D	Player has appeared in 10 games or more in Jersey Flegg OR If the player played less than 10 games in Category D or hasn't played in Category D level in the last 4 years, the player is assessed as Category E will remain in that category	8 (Max discount 5)
E	Player has appeared in 10 games or more in Sydney Shield OR If the player played less than 10 games in Category E or hasn't played in Category E level in the last 4 years, player is assessed as Category F will remain in that category	6 (Max discount 5)
F	Player has played in any Open Age competition for one year or more	2

PENRITH AND DISTRICTS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB LTD
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