

Club's Non-Participation in the 2025 Get into Rugby Program

An Overview of Engagement Strategy

Our club, the Wyndham City Rhinos Rugby Union football Club Inc, decided not to engage in the 2025 'Get into Rugby' program designed for children aged 4 to 7 years old as presented by Rugby Australia in conjunction with Rugby Victoria.

Instead, the club opted to merge the 7-age group, allowing 7-year-olds to play alongside and compete with the 8-year-olds. This approach is intended to enhance the skill acquisition, teamwork, and overall rugby experience for these young athletes. By integrating the 7-year-olds into the play dynamics of the 8-year-olds, we aim to foster a more competitive environment that encourages growth, resilience, and a deeper understanding of the game.

Strategic Decisions

The club's decision not to participate in the 'Get into Rugby' program for 4 to 6-year-olds was carefully considered. The key reasons for this decision include:

- The desire to streamline age group categories for better management and focus.
- To provide a more challenging and stimulating environment for 7-year-olds by allowing them to play with older peers.
- *To concentrate resources and coaching efforts on a more impactful age group where skill development can be maximized.*

Benefits of the New Approach

Allowing 7-year-olds to play in the 8-year-old category brings several benefits:

- Enhanced skill development through exposure to more competitive play.
- Improved teamwork and social integration among different age groups.
- Greater opportunities for mentorship and learning from older players.
- Creation of a more cohesive and unified team structure.

Future Plans.

The club is committed to continuously evaluating the effectiveness of this approach and making adjustments as necessary to ensure the best outcomes for all players involved. Feedback from players, parents, and coaches will be considered to refine our strategies and enhance our programs. In conclusion, while the club has chosen not to participate in the 'Get Into Rugby' program for younger children, we believe that our alternative strategy will provide significant benefits in terms of skill development, teamwork, and overall rugby experience for our young athletes.

Ean Drummond – President
On behalf of the Committee
WCRRUFC Inc
April 2025.