
QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION

MOVEMENT BETWEEN AGE GRADE (U19 LAW VARIATIONS) AND SENIOR RUGBY

Policy No: QRU006 – Movement between Age Grade (U19 Law Variations) and Senior

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1. MOVEMENT BETWEEN AGE GRADE (U19 LAW VARIATIONS) AND SENIOR RUGBY

1.1 Policy Statement

Definition: A dispensated (Age Grade) environment is one in which the game is played under the WR Laws of the Game, including Under 19 Variations and ARU Under 19 Law Variations and the ARU Medical and Safety Recommendations.

The purpose of Age Grade competitions is to provide a transitional environment for players from Junior or School participation to Senior Rugby participation, relative to their social and physical maturation, the most significant differences between the Age Grade and Senior Rugby environments occur in the front row and second row positions.

This policy allows for “Tight 5” 18 year olds and eligible 17 year old Senior Rugby Policy exception players to transfer to Senior Rugby and return once to a Age Grade competition at any time rather than at the start of the season therefore better supporting the individual and specific nature of player development and maturation.

Age Grade representative rugby involves a significant screening process therefore is exempt from this policy including the tight 5 positions.

1.2 Policy Coverage

A player of 18 years of age shall be eligible to move between the Age Grade Rugby and Senior Rugby environments freely except where the movement is to a position in the Senior Rugby “tight 5” positions (Front row and Second row).

A player who is 17 years of age shall only be conditionally eligible to move between the Age Grade Rugby and Senior Rugby environments if he/she has received a Senior Rugby Policy exception.

When a player of 18 years of age wishes to move to a “tight 5” position in Senior Rugby environment they will be required to abide by the following conditions which will also apply to players who have received a Senior Rugby Policy exception in any/all position(s).

The above player may move to a competition played within a Senior Rugby environment, if it is believed the player is capable of playing within this new environment. If subsequently, it is believed, that in the best interests of the player, he/she should return to the Age Grade environment, then he/she will be permitted to do so upon application to the competition manager. This will only be permitted once, within the same competition structure, during a calendar year.

The player will be subject to the current requirements for eligibility to participate in finals as set out in the competition rules.

Any player eligible by age, regardless of the environment they are playing within, may be chosen for an Age Grade representative team as long as that team is a recognised team of the controlling union in which the player is registered or a State representative team.