



IVY LEAGUE RUGBY COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE (ILRCC)

REGULATIONS & PROTOCOLS

1. Ivy League Competitions Committee (ILRCC) Purpose & Responsibilities

ILRCC oversees all aspects of the match experience in the Ivy League Rugby Championship Series. It reports to the Ivy League Rugby member teams and governing body.

2. Ivy League Rugby (ILR) Code of Conduct

ILR expects all of its teams and their members to abide by the following code of conduct:

Rugby players and team officials represent themselves, their team, their university, the ILR, the Northeast Rugby Union and the United States Rugby Union. Each Rugby Player, Coach, Referee, Team Official, and Fan is expected to be a lady or gentleman, both on and off the pitch. Rugby players and team officials shall not exhibit, nor tolerate actions or behavior that would adversely affect the image of yourself, your Team, Ivy League Rugby, the NRU, USA Rugby, or the Game.

3. General Requirements

To be a member in good standing with ILR, every team must be compliant with the following items.

- a. All Ivy League Rugby Teams must pay all ILR dues as billed by the ILR Treasurer and set by the ILR Finance Committee. Teams that have not paid their dues will not be afforded ILR membership rights until all dues are current, as certified by the ILR Treasurer. Dues will be prepared and sent in August and payment must be received or an arrangement must be made no later than September 1.
- b. All member teams must also pay all their local union dues as billed by their local union Treasurer (NERFU, Met NY, NY State & EPRU).
- c. All member teams must be in good standing with USA Rugby. All team, player, and coach CIPP registration must be up to date for the current season.

4. Ivy League Rugby Competition Schedule

- a. The Ivy League Rugby Competition Schedule will occur in the fall of each year and matches will be scheduled with all eligible Ivy League Rugby teams playing each other once during the months of September and October. The schedule will be crafted by the Ivy League Competitions Committee to work within the framework of the Ivy League Universities' academic calendars and to conclude so that the top eligible schools are able to compete for a chance to be play into the USA Rugby National Championships.
- b. The schedule will be presented to the Ivy League Rugby member teams in the first quarter of each calendar year for final approval. Specific school and team requests must be made to the Ivy League Competitions Committee by November 30 of the previous year to be considered in the schedule for the next fall season.

5. League Standings, Points system & Tie Breaking Procedure

- a. Determination of Final Standings
 - i. Points will be awarded as follows:
 - 4 for a win
 - 2 for a tie*
 - 0 for a loss
 - 1 point for 4 or more tries scored in a game
 - 1 point for a loss by 7 points or less
 - 0 for forfeit and the match is played
 - 1 for forfeit and the match is NOT played
 - 3 for game day no-show**
 - ii. * There is no overtime in divisional play matches. A forfeited match will be credited with a score of 14-0.
 - iii. ** A minimum of one-day (approx. 24 hours) notice (by email to ILRCC and opponent) prior to day of match is required in the case of a game not being played, otherwise the game is considered as a no-show on game day. Even with this notice, game is still considered a forfeit and subject to ILRCC Disciplinary action (see Rule ?).
- b. Tie Breaking Procedure in Final Standings and Playoff Ranking (in order of priority)
 - i. Results between tied teams
 - ii. Cumulative point differential in all division games (points for minus points against = differential)
 - iii. Number of tries scored in division games (tries must be recorded on form)

6. Medical Requirements

- a. All Ivy Teams must adhere to their own institution's athletic department medical coverage policy. It is expected that each Team develops and maintains a risk management program fully compliant with the rules and requirements of their own university.
- b. In addition each Team is required to comply with USA Rugby medical guidelines: <http://www.usarugby.org/information/default.asp?NavPageID=58334>
- c. It is required that each home team has a Certified Trainer (ATC), or other certified medically qualified individual to cover the match, such as an Emergency Medical Technician ("EMT"), if an ATC is not available. Ensuring access to a properly equipped medical kit during play is essential. Each Ivy Team is required to have a first aid kit.
- d. Teams hosting a match involving other Ivy teams are **required** to have either an EMT or ATC present who is permitted to treat visiting team players for the duration of all matches (should the other Ivy Team request this support on the day of the match).
- e. Teams hosting a match are asked to have printed copies available that are given to the visiting teams before the game that contain the following information to the nearest hospital: *NAME; ADDRESS; PHONE NUMBER; DIRECTIONS FROM THE FIELD BEING USED.*
- f. Should an injured player require more treatment than can be provided by on-site trainers or professionals, transport to the nearest emergency facility will be necessary. Under these circumstances, it is important for someone from the home team to be familiar with directions to the closest hospital equipped with an emergency room. Emergency phone numbers for professional medical transport companies should be in the medical kit

7. Field Requirements

- a. Field must be at least 75 yards X 110 yards - try line to try line – with a minimum 10 yards for each in-goal area.
- b. Field must be properly lined and goal posts padded as set forth by the North East Rugby Referees Society.
- c. Spectator Ropes must be erected goal line to goal line on at least one side of the field. Only coach(es), touch judges and trainer will be permitted inside rope.
- d. If exceptional circumstances (such as weather) prevent a team from playing on a field with required minimum dimensions, the team must submit in writing 24 hours before the game to the ILRCC the exact dimensions of the field to be used and an explanation of the circumstances preventing the use of a larger field. The ILRCC will review the situation and make a decision on suitability.
- e. Unless a waiver is granted by the ILRCC, failure to comply with the Field Requirements are grounds for protest and may result in forfeit by the offending team (see Protest Procedure).

8. Alcoholic Beverage & Regulated Substance Policies

- a. All teams must adhere to and recognize USA Rugby guidelines and any and all applicable local laws and regulations (including federal, state, university, union etc.) regarding alcohol consumption and distribution.
- b. At ILR matches the serving or selling of alcoholic beverages is forbidden for one hour before the match/event, during the match/event, and for one hour after the match/event. Campus policy on alcoholic beverages must be adhered to strictly.
 - i. A waiver may be granted by the university and ILRCC if requested in writing 14 days before the event. Waivers may be granted, with university agreement, based on alumni functions and events enclosed in areas removed from the playing surface.
- c. Disciplinary action will be utilized to censure teams, event hosts, and others who fail to take the necessary action to enforce these regulations.
- d. Web site and playing field policy: All ILR member sites come under the Code of Conduct and Alcohol & Tobacco policy. College teams cannot have any reference in either words or pictures to alcohol or tobacco on their web site, or anywhere on or around their fields (including goal post pads, advertising etc.)

9. Player Eligibility Requirements

- a. All Players must be in good standing with USA Rugby.
- b. All Players must be eligible for collegiate rugby under the USA Rugby “Eligibility Regulations for National Collegiate Championships”. These Regulations can be found at: www.usarugby.org/membership/eligibility/guidelines.html
- c. All Players must be in good standing with their respective university.
- d. Each team captain or match-day referee has the right to request a CIPP roster of the opponent before or after a league match if concerns about eligibility exist.
- e. The ILRCC may request team rosters at any time including verification of eligibility of players for league or playoff play.
- f. Only Full Member Teams in good standing may represent the ILR in matches that lead to the USA Rugby National Championships.

10. 1st XV, 2nd XV, and Development matches

- a. A 1st XV regular season schedule will be determined as set forth in Article 4.
- b. A 2nd XV (also known as Reserve-Grade) is scheduled to follow all 1st XV matches.
 - i. At the end of regular season there will be a 2nd XV champion named.
 - ii. This schedule and point system will follow the same rules for the 1st XV as set out in Article 5.

- iii. 2nd XV matches will be two halves of 25 minutes unless otherwise agreed to by the 1st XV captains.
 - c. A 3rd side match (also known as a Development or Frosh/Soph match) will also be scheduled.
 - i. At the end of regular season there will be a 2nd XV champion named.
 - ii. Development matches will be two halves of 20 minutes unless otherwise agreed to by the 1st XV captains.
 - iii. If a team is unable to play this match, the team is responsible for notifying the opponent before the start date of the regular season. If the match needs to be cancelled after this time, then the team that is cancelling will forfeit this match in the Development standings.
 - d. It is recognized that in some season schedules, with the need to play back to back games on a Saturday and then a Sunday twice during the season, some teams may struggle with players numbers due to injuries, availability due to exams, mid-term breaks etc. As such, 2nd XV and Development games are strongly encouraged and it is requested by the ILRCC that every effort is made to ensure some form of reserve-grade matches. Forfeited 2nd XV and Development matches will show in the 2nd XV & Development league standings as per the points system outlined in Article 5.

11. Referees

- a. All ILR matches will need to be officiated by a certified referee who is in good-standing with the local area Referee Society.
 - i. If the Society is unable to provide a referee for the 1st XV match, every effort shall be made to re-arrange the match time to accommodate the referee society.
 - ii. If the Society is unable to provide a referee for the 2nd XV or Development matches, the home team is responsible for providing a certified referee.
- b. All ILR teams will be required to have a team certified referee on their roster. A "Team Referee" is a person who meets the Referee Society's requirements and is available to referee matches. Team referees can be exclusively assigned to their home teams 2nd or 3rd side matches. To qualify for assignment by the Referee's Society, a person or persons must meet the following standards:
 - i. Attend a level 1 Referee training class and pass the test
 - ii. Be CIPP registered
 - iii. Be a member of a recognized Referee's Society
- c. Both the home and away teams in a ILR 1st XV match are required to provide a referee evaluation with 7 days of the match

12. Kit Requirements

- a. All A-side players must play in matching jerseys, shorts and socks. Jerseys must be clean, free from holes and tears. Jerseys may be short-sleeved but must not be "cut-offs" or sleeveless. Short-sleeved, hemmed jerseys must cover the bicep. Shorts must be clean and free from holes and tears. Socks must be clean and free from holes and tears. Numbers on jerseys (for the correct positions) are mandatory for 1st XV teams.
- b. In the event of a lack of contrast in jersey colors, the home team is responsible for providing alternate kit to the satisfaction of the referee.
- c. It is required that all teams have two full sets of shirts with one set being very different in color to the other set.
- d. Teams cannot have any reference to alcohol or tobacco related products or companies displayed on any part of their kit.
- e. Failure to comply with the Kit Requirements is grounds for protest and may result in forfeit by the offending team (see Protest Procedure).

13. Video Requirements

- a. Home teams are required to film the 1st XV match. This video should be available to the ILRCC if / when disciplinary issues or other liability purposes arose for a 1 month period following the match.
 - i. A copy of the film should be provided to the referee by the home team within 7 days of the match
- b. Home teams should provide an area where visiting teams are also allowed to film on their own equipment.

14. Match Requirements

15. Minimum number of players

16. Match Dates

17. Time of Matches

18. Team late to Kickoff

19. Failure to Play Match

20. Forfeits

21. Protest Procedure

22. Notification of Results

23. Adjudication of Protests

24. Coaches

- a. Each team is required to have a USARFU Level 1 certified coach. Teams without a certified coach are subject to exclusion from conference play.

25. Disciplinary Committee

- a. **Overview** The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for reviewing and administering disciplinary action within the ILR. ILFU adheres to the *USA Rugby Disciplinary Regulations and Procedures* set by the United States of America Rugby Football Union (USARFU). A full and up to date outline of these policies is available on line at:
<http://www.usarugby.org/media/EDocs/DisciplinaryRules1.pdf>
- b. The ILR Disciplinary Committee is comprised of (TBD) members. The IRFU Disciplinary Committee reviews all referee send-offs, referee sin bins, and written complaints from the community at large regarding the behavior, on or off the field, of ILR Teams and their members.
- c. **Disciplinary Action upon Infraction:**
 - i. Immediately following a send-off (red card), a player is suspended until the Disciplinary Committee reaches a decision, with a minimum suspension of 1 week or one match (whichever is greater) for any sendoff.
 - ii. The receipt of two yellow cards in a game by a player is equivalent to receiving a red card. The player will be ejected from the game and will receive an automatic minimum suspension of one match or one competitive game, whichever is greater.
 - iii. The receipt of two or more yellow cards in a competitive league season is equivalent to receiving a red card. The player will receive an automatic minimum suspension of one match or one competitive game, whichever is greater.
 - iv. Detailed rules and regulations regarding receipt of multiple yellow cards are located in the USA Disciplinary policy.
 - v. ILFU Policy does not allow the appeal of a minimum suspension.
- d. **Incident Review and Disciplinary Action:**
 - i. Complaints must be filed with the Disciplinary Committee Director.
 - ii. The written complaint must be received within seventy-two hours of the incident.
 - iii. The Committee is responsible for notifying all affected parties and gathering all relevant and available data.
 - iv. Upon receipt of all available data, the Committee will review, discuss and render a decision of action or no action.
 - v. Disciplinary Action taken by the Committee will be in accordance with the guidelines established in the USA Rugby Disciplinary Regulations and Procedures.
 - vi. The Committee's written decision is then sent to the involved Team(s), Player(s) and the New England Referee's society as applicable.
 - vii. The Committee has a standard to complete the investigation and issue a decision within ten days of receipt of the written complaint.

e. Disciplinary Committee Decision Appeal Process:

- i. Players and teams may appeal a suspension by responding in writing to the Disciplinary Committee within one week of receiving the Disciplinary action notification.
- ii. The Disciplinary Committee will hear initial Appeals.
- iii. Players and teams may appeal the Disciplinary Committee's initial and subsequent appeal decisions to the Executive Committee of the IRRU by written request within one week of the Disciplinary Committee appeal.
- iv. Players and teams have the right to appeal the decisions to the Northeast Rugby Union as outlined in the USA Rugby Disciplinary Regulations and Procedures.

26. University Relations & Policies

27. Media & Mass Market Communication/Trademark Rights etc.

28. Sponsorship

29. Ivy Select Side