
Getting Appointed to Referee Junior Rugby Matches

Some background information

There are many different rugby competitions played across Sydney and each has its own organising committee. It is the responsibility of the competition's organising committee to appoint a referee to each game played in that competition. However, in most instances (but not all) the organising committee will delegate that responsibility to a Referees' Association.

In the case of the Shute Shield and "subbies", the responsibility to appoint referees has been delegated to the NSW Rugby Referees Association (NSWRRA). There are three other associations providing services to the Sydney metropolitan area:

- Sydney West Rugby Referees Association;
- Sydney South Rugby Referees Association; and
- Sydney North Rugby Referees Inc (SNRR).

Weekend junior rugby between village clubs for the ages U10 through to U18 is played mostly on Sundays with a small number also played on Friday nights and Saturdays.

The responsibility for referee appointments to junior rugby has NOT been delegated to a Referees' Association. Sydney Junior Rugby Union (SJRU) has the organisational responsibility for the competition and all appointments are made centrally by a dedicated Appointments Officer employed by SJRU. Appointments to over 200 matches are made in a typical weekend. The Officer also appoints to some mid week and weekend interschool matches.

Weekend junior rugby between village clubs for the ages U6 through to U9 is usually played on Saturday mornings. Historically, there has been no delegation of appointments to any referees' association. More recently, dedicated local individuals have filled that role.

Refereeing U8 to U18 matches

If you want to referee an U8 or U9 match, you will need to

- 1) have a current RKR accreditation or Level 1 accreditation and
- 2) then contact one of the following to ask to be appointed to those games:
 - a. In the Manly & Warringah JRUs: Chris Hedge hedgeys@optusnet.com.au
OR 04 0514 9365
 - b. In the Gordon & Norths JRUs: Michael Green wahroonga.referee@gmail.com
OR 04 2230 0295
 - c. At Hunters Hill: Ben Gregory bengregory1@bigpond.com
OR 04 3315 6652
 - d. At Mosman: Rob McKay rob.mckay@mjrc.com.au
OR 04 1740 8440

If you want to referee an U10, U11 or U12 match, you will need to

- 1) have either
 - a. a current RKR accreditation (including successful completion of the "open book" Law Exam); or
 - b. current Level 1 or Level 2 Referee accreditation; and then
- 2) become a member of SNRR.

If you want to referee an U13 to U18 match, you will need to

- 1) have a current Level 1 or Level 2 Referee accreditation; and then
- 2) become a member of SNRR

Special Note

A referee must be at least two full years older than the players in the age group that the referee is to be appointed to. For instance, if you want to referee an U10 match in 2017 then you must have been born in the year 2004 or earlier; to referee an U13 match in 2017 then you must have been born in the year 2001 or earlier.

Rugby Referee Associations

To become a member of a rugby referees association, you will need to hold a current referee accreditation issued by the Australian Rugby Union (ARU). This will be one of:

1. Refereeing Kids Rugby (RKR)
2. Level 1 Referee (the vast majority of rugby referees hold this accreditation)
3. Level 2 Referee
4. Level 3 Referee (usually only held by Super Rugby and International referees)

Many accredited rugby referees belong to more than one referees' association. By doing so, they are able to be appointed to a wider variety of matches.

NSWRRA is the largest referees association in Australia. NSWRRA appoints to only a small number of junior rugby matches and those matches are all high school matches, so referees holding only the RKR accreditation cannot be appointed by NSWRRA to any matches.

SNRR is also a large association and currently has over 120 active members. Its website address is <http://www.snrr.org.au> and it contains a lot of information and resources for referees (especially in the "Resources" section of the website).

On behalf of SNRR, the SJRU Appointments Officer now appoints to many high school matches and some primary school matches in northern Sydney during the week and on the weekend. As a result, SNRR is the referees' association with the greatest number of opportunities for new referees who hold only the RKR accreditation to be appointed to matches.

How to join SNRR

1. Visit the website <http://www.snrr.org.au>
2. Click on the icon **Become a Referee**
3. Skip down to the section **Referee Membership**
4. Download the **Registration Form**
5. Complete the form
6. Return the form to the SNRR registrar at rego@snrr.org.au