



**YORK REGION ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**  
**BOYS and GIRLS RUGBY PLAYING REGULATIONS**



1. **Season of Play:** Spring Sport

2 **Divisions:** Junior and Senior

All YRAA sports will be offered at two tiers of competition provided the following conditions are met:

- A) The minimum number of teams to run a league will be 4. If less than 4 teams declare for a league, the convenor(s) of the league may appeal to the executive for an exception. Appeals must be heard before the pre-season meeting for that sport.
- B) If a sport declares less than 4 teams three years in a row, the sport will no longer be offered as an option by the YRAA.

4. **Eligibility:**

a) See YRAA transfer form.

b) **AGE DIVISION CATEGORIES**

**Junior** School Year: **2022-23**  
Year of Birth must be no earlier than: **2007**  
Date of Entry to grade 9 must be no earlier than August of: **2018**

**Senior** School Year: **2022-23**  
Year of Birth must be no earlier than: **2003** and no later than: **2007**  
Date of Entry to grade 9 must be no earlier than August of: **2018**

c) A student/athlete must be on the team roster at the proper age group (Jr/Sr) for a specific sport and tier to be eligible to participate in that sport. The team roster must be completed on-line prior to the commencement of the competition.

5. **Governing Rules:**

- a) Refer to the current OPHEA safety guidelines for this sport
- b) YRAA League play will follow the World Rugby U19 Laws
- c) Players must be in grade 10 or higher and have reached their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday by January 1<sup>st</sup> the year in the which the season is held to be eligible for SR boys Tier 1
- d) All players must have numbers on their uniforms so that the referee and coaches can identify individual players.
- e) Players ejected from an individual league game or tournament would be ineligible to play any more games until they have attended a recognized YRAA Board of Reference. Game Sheets must be used for each game with disqualification reports attached, to be used as necessary.
- f) Players can be substituted a maximum of two times per game. I.E. once a player has been removed from play a second time they are no longer eligible to return to play. Exception to this rule is if a player is removed by the Athletic Therapist and then cleared to return to play. In this case, the substitution will not count towards the two substitutions per game for that player



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g) ORU requires that goal posts must be padded and the flag posts must be flexible (e.g. PVC tubing) and one metre back from the touch line for safety.

h) Scheduling:

For league play, all Junior and Senior Tier 2 will play 25 minute halves and will have a scheduled 1 hour time slot for the game. Senior Boys Tier 1 will play 30 minute halves and will have a scheduled 75 minute time slot for the game.

i) Scoring Method:

Try - 5 points Convert - 2 points

Penalty Kick - 3 points

Drop Kick - 3 points

j) League Play and Tie Breaking:

Win = 4 points, Tie = 2 points, Loss = 0

The maximum point differential will be twenty (20) points in any game and any tie breaker. In the event of a tie in total points between two or more teams, after the season is complete, the following will be used to break the tie:

1. Head-to-head
2. most wins
3. point differential between tied teams
4. point differential in all games (percentage used if games played is imbalanced)
5. fewest points against in all games
6. most tries scored (with a maximum of 4 tries per game)
7. most points for in all games

NOTE: in the event of a three-way tie, once the initial tie is broken, the remaining tie is broken going back to tie breaker 1 and proceeding through the tie breakers in order until the remaining tie is broken.

k) Playoff Format:

a) Playoff format will be determined by the Sport Advisory Committee based on the number of teams entered in the league

b) Playoff games will be the same length as regular season games except when two games are played in the same day. When two games are played in the same day, games will consist of two twenty (20) minute halves, with teams are allowed to play a maximum of ninety (90) minutes of rugby per day. When two playoff games are played in the same day, the first game of the day will be decided in the following manner in the case of a tie

Up to three kickers will be chosen from the players on the field at the end of regulation time. A best of three kicks format will be used with the home team kicking first. Kicks may be a place kick or a drop kick. Kicks will take place from the 22m line, the first kick will take place from the left side of the field at the intersection of the 15m line and 22m line, the second kick will be from the 22m line mid-way between the sidelines, and the third kick will be



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from the right side of the field at the intersection of the 22m line and 15m line. If still tied after the best of three kicks, single sudden-victory kicks will be taken in the same order from the same locations as previously outlined until a winner is determined.

- c) When a tie exists in a playoff game that is the second game played in the same day or when a single playoff game is played in one day, overtime will be played. Following a coin toss there will be two five-minute halves played to completion with a two-minute interval between halves with 10 players a side (5 forwards, five backs). If there is a tie at the end of the overtime, the game will be decided by kicks.

**6. Supervision of Teams/Individuals:**

- a) All teams or individuals must have on site supervision by a member of the teaching staff or retired teacher from the school that they represent.
- b) This teacher shall be responsible to the YRAA for the conduct of his/her team and shall be the only person involved in all exchanges with officials, opposing teacher/coaches and members of school staffs.
- c) A non-teacher (community volunteer, parent, etc.) is permitted to assist in the coaching of an individual or team provided that a teacher is present and responsible.
- d) The teacher must be present on the bench for all games for team sports or in the immediate vicinity for all other sports.
- e) Unless the staff member (as defined in Section 1 a) – above) of the competing school is present, the opposing teacher/coach and/or convenor shall not allow the game to begin or an individual to compete and the competition shall be forfeited.
- f) No teacher/coach shall officiate a game involving his/her team.
- g) It is the teacher/coaches' duty to ensure the accuracy of the information provided on the game sheets compared to the team's eligibility list.

**7. Inclement Weather:**

- a) In the event of inclement weather, games may be cancelled and rescheduled if:
  - i) the transportation company (bus) cancels the booking OR
  - ii) the school principal determines that the weather is unsafe for teams to travel OR
  - iii) the host school teacher/coach, in consultation with the Athletic Designate and/or school administration, determines the playing environment to be unsafe (eg standing water on fields, excessive ice).
  - iv) when lightning or thunder is seen or heard in the area, play shall be suspended and participants shall seek appropriate shelter as outlined in the current OPHEA safety document. Play may be resumed once thirty (30) minutes has passed since the last observation of lightning or the sound of thunder. The decision to suspend play shall be made by the game official and/or teacher/coaches of the teams involved in the competition.



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Whenever possible, it is recommended that a decision to cancel a game due to inclement weather be made by 1:00 p.m. the day of the game.

- b) Once this has happened the coach or AD of the school canceling shall:
  - i) notify the school(s) being played that they will not be able to play due to inclement weather
  - ii) contact the YRAA office that the game is being cancelled due to inclement weather
  - iii) make arrangements with the school(s) involved to reschedule the game(s) at a date that is acceptable to all parties and fits within the established master schedule. Should a mutually agreeable date to reschedule not be found within forty-eight (48) hours, the convenor will assign a date that fits in to the master schedule
- c) The YRAA office will:
  - i) keep a record of cancelled games in order to ensure that they are rescheduled
  - ii) notify the referee assigner that the games are cancelled and will be rescheduled so that unnecessary travel by officials can be avoided.

**8. Criteria for Qualification to OFSAA**

Teams wishing to vie for an OFSAA entry must declare and compete in tier 1 for YRAA play. The exception to this requirement will be for schools competing in the A classification.

All teams regardless of classification (A, AA, AAA) will have access to the YRAA championships. Following the championships, the highest placing team from each classification will advance to OFSAA. This may require a head-to-head playoff.

- i) The furthest advancing AA and AAA teams in the YRAA playoffs will be the OFSAA representatives for YRAA
- ii) In the case that the top two teams from the same classification advance to the same level in the YRAA playoffs then an additional match will be played to determine the YRAA representative to OFSAA
- iii) In the case that no teams from the same classification make the YRAA playoffs, a one game playoff will be held between the top two teams in the standings to determine the YRAA representative to OFSAA

**9. Additional Information:**

- a) All games will have qualified Level 1 Rugby Officials, appointed for league and playoff games by the referee-in-chief.
- b) In a rugby game the coach(es) from either school competing cannot referee that game. If the appointed referee does not show up, the game will be cancelled and rescheduled at a later date.
- c) In the event of a major problem erupting in a game, the game will be abandoned and the



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result of the game will be decided by the convenors pending the written reports from both schools and the official, within twenty-four (24) hours of the event.

- d) In the event of spectator interference, the game will be stopped and if the problem cannot be resolved, the game will be abandoned and the result of the game will be decided by the convenors pending the written reports from both schools and the official within twenty-four (24) hours of the event.

**10. Costs:**

The financial cost of the operation of the league (officials, athletic therapy, etc.) and playoffs plus the assignor(s) fee(s) shall be shared equally by all schools participating in the league, regardless of classification (A, AA, AAA) on a per team basis.

**11. Reporting Scores:**

For league games coaches are to report scores through the Sports Admin System. Login as a coach, click on the 'Games' tab, find the game you want to enter the score for then click on the yellow 'Edit' button beside the game and then enter the score beside the corresponding team.

**12. Awards: Tier 1:**

A pennant and a trophy shall be awarded to the Championship team, with gold and silver medallions being awarded to the champions and the finalists respectively (twenty-six (26) gold and twenty-six (26) silver per division).

**Tier 2:**

Gold and Silver medallions shall be awarded to the champions and the finalists respectively, (twenty-six (26) gold and twenty-six (26) silver per division).

**June 2022**