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## **Hawaii Youth Rugby League Rules**

### **Administration**

- a) **Eligibility** – All players must be USA Rugby CIPP registered before participating in any practice or game. U-13 non-contact, mixed gender, USA Rugby Rookie Rugby rules, all players must be born in the period 1997 to 2001. U-15 Boys, iRB Midi Rugby laws (10's), all players must be born in 1995 or 1996. U-17 Boys, iRB Youth Variations (15's), all players must be born in 1993 or 1994. U-19 Boys, iRB Youth Variations (15's), all players must be born in 1991 or 1992. Proof of age is required at registration; the following (4) documents are the only acceptable forms of age verification and identification: (1) Passport, (2) drivers license with picture, (3) state ID with picture, (4) birth certificate with an accompanying photo ID issued by a national, state, or county governmental agency. Players are allowed to play up to a higher age category but players who do so in a game so will not be allowed to play back down during the league season or at the HYR State Championships. HYR Clubs are required to CIPP register their club before January 15, 2010 in order to be eligible to participate in 2010.
- b) **Registration** – As stated above, Club and Individual registration in the USA Rugby's Club and Individual Participation Program (CIPP) is mandatory for all clubs and players participating in the HYR league. Participating clubs are also required to have CIPP registered at least (7) players for U-13, (10) players for U-15, and (15) players for U-17 & U-19 divisions by January 15, 2010 in order to participate in those divisions in the HYR league season and at the HYR State Championships.
- c) **Background checks** - Must be completed for all coaches per USA Rugby policy and all clubs must be in good standing with USA Rugby.
- d) **Dues** – Hawaii Youth Rugby 2010 Individual player dues are \$20 plus the USA Rugby CIPP fee payable on line at [www.usarugby.org](http://www.usarugby.org) . There are no 2010 HYR club dues; however, any past HYR financial obligations must met before 1/15/10 in order to participate in 2010.
- e) **Playing Squads** - Teams will be restricted to squads of (12) players for U-13, (15) players for U-15, and (22) players for U-17 & U-19 in all HYR League matches; 6 of those players must be capable of playing in the front row to provide replacement cover. All reserves and spectators must remain in the designated area and **not roam the sidelines.**
- f) **Injury Prevention** – Players must attend 4 practices where correct tackling technique is taught before they are allowed to play a game of rugby in order to decrease the risk of injury. Coaches need to accurately track practice attendances and keep practice plans as suggested by the USA Rugby Coach Accreditation Plan; avoid fast tracking star athletes. Mouth Guards are required in all contact situations. No jewelry or long fingernails are permitted. (reference HYR safety policy)



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- g) **Discipline** – Swearing, fighting or unsportsmanlike conduct of any kind (including disrespect shown towards the referee or match officials) on the field of play or on the sidelines during a match will result in an immediate penalty against the transgressor or his/her affiliated team. Repeated incidents will result in progressive disciplinary action, up to and including removing offending parties from the premises and or banishment from future matches (reference HYR Code of Conduct & HYR Disciplinary Policy).
- h) **Forms** – the following forms must be completed by all players, and coaches where appropriate;
- USA Rugby CIPP form with age identification for players (sent to HYR Secretary).
  - HYR Code of Conduct with signature of acknowledgment (kept with team manager or coach).
  - HYR Medical Release with parent's signature for minors (kept with team manager or coach).
  - Age Verification and Picture ID required for all players as stated above (sent to HYR Secretary).

## 2) Games, Scoring & Schedules

- a) **Scoring system** – HYR League points are awarded as follows;
- Win = 4
  - Tie = 2
  - Loss by 7 points or less = 1
  - Loss by more than 7 = 0
  - 1 Bonus point awarded for a team scoring 4 tries in a match.
- b) **Tie Breakers** – the HYR League standings will be determined by the following formula:
- Team points total.
  - In the event of two or more teams being equal on competition points, tie-breakers will apply as follows (in order);
    - (1) Head-to-head win-loss
    - (2) Team win-loss record
    - (3) The margin of points scored for and against (point differential). The team with the highest point differential being considered the winning team.
    - (4) If points are still level then teams will be declared joint winners.
- c) **Results** - The home team will email match results, pictures and highlights to the HYR Web Site Administrator as directed at [www.hawaiiyouthrugby.com](http://www.hawaiiyouthrugby.com) within 24 hours following the game.
- d) **Mercy Rule** – comes into effect after one team has an advantage of 35 points at which time the referee will declare the match over and the score at that time will be recorded.



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Coaches can elect to finish the game but the score will not continue to accrue. Teams may then use unlimited subs, try players out of position etc.

- e) **Default** – teams will forfeit a game if they have less than 13 players ready to play 30 minutes after the scheduled start time. Coaches should not lend players to another team until the match is officially declared a default. The score is recorded as 21 – 0 to the non-offending team. If another match is scheduled to follow on the same field the first match will be cut short to finish at the originally scheduled time. Default on any game makes a team ineligible for State playoffs unless a genuine effort, as determined by the President of Hawaii Youth Rugby, was made to play the match. A genuine effort will generally be construed as fielding 10 or more players 20 minutes after the schedule start time.
- f) **Coaches** – a USA Rugby certified coach (minimum Level I) is encouraged to be present on the sidelines at all games and at all practices that involve contact. Only one controlled voice offering players instruction or encouragement from the sidelines is permitted. The coach is responsible to ensure that his sideline is under control at all times.
- g) **A written Emergency Plan** - is required for each game/field as required by the Hawaii Youth Rugby Safety Policy.
- h) **The “3<sup>rd</sup> half”** – Please remember that attendance at after-match functions is strongly encouraged; this is a major component in good sportsmanship and part of what makes our game unique.

### **3) Referees**

- a) All Referees will familiarize themselves with HYR League Rules; USA Rugby Rookie Rugby Rules for U-13, iRB Midi Rugby Laws for U-15, and IRB Youth Variations for the U-17 & U-19.
- b) Referees will be treated with respect at all times. Conversing with the referee while play is ongoing is not permitted. The team captain, and if necessary, the team coach, will initiate appropriate communication with the referee only when play has stopped or at half or full-time.
- c) Every team must endeavor to provide a candidate for the annual USA Rugby Level 1 Referee training course and examination. HYR will advise the schedule of upcoming Referee Clinics.