

Addendum 5



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HAWAII YOUTH RUGBY SAFETY POLICY

Hawaii Youth Rugby was formed in 2002 to increase participation in youth rugby through a positive culture based upon honoring the game in a safe and fun environment. Today HYR is one of 14 USA Rugby recognized state-based organizations.

While we have seen significant growth success within our organization, safety remains our number one priority. This document outlines the policies enforced by Hawaii Youth Rugby to promote safety and provide a positive environment in which our athletes can safely participate.

For the Coach:

- All HYR head coaches are required to have completed the USA Rugby Coaching Certification Program. This program is aligned with the International Rugby Board and is a combination of online modules and a face-to-face workshop. Coaches are assessed online for understanding and then in the workshop for competency. Online modules include the National Center for Sports Safety Exam, the Positive Coaching Alliance, Foundations of Rugby Coaching, and specific modules that correspond to the desired workshop.
- All coaches are required to register with USA Rugby. USA Rugby conducts a background check on every youth and high school coach through this registration process.
- A coach is required at every match and practice.
- Coaches are required to have a cell phone at all practices and matches.
- Coaches receive important player information through the Hawaii Youth Rugby registration process: parents' names, addresses, phone numbers, doctor's name and phone number, insurance information and any medical conditions, allergies, drug reactions and previous illnesses/injuries or surgeries relative to the athlete, as well as a signed consent form giving authorization to HYR to obtain medical treatment for a minor.
- Coaches are required to possess parent/legal guardian waivers and authorization forms to consent to treatment for a minor for every athlete, at every practice and match. This information includes parents' phone numbers, Dr.'s name and phone number, insurance information, and any medical conditions, allergies, drug reactions, and previous illnesses, injuries or surgeries relative to the athlete.

For the Player:

- Players are required to participate in at least four tackling practices, supervised by a certified coach before participating in their first game. The focus on this instruction is to teach safe tackling techniques and how to be tackled safely.

- Athletes are required to have a medical insurance policy in their name with a minimum of \$100,000 in medical coverage with no restrictions for accidents while participating in sports.
- Athletes must always wear appropriate safety gear and equipment that fits properly. Protective gear is sport-specific and includes mouth guards and cleats. Additional equipment such as shin pads, scrum caps and shoulder pads, while optional, must meet the approval of the iRB.
- Every athlete must register with USA Rugby. Membership provides athletes 3rd party liability coverage.
- Every coach, athlete and parent/legal guardian signs the HYR code of conduct during the registration process.

For the Game

- Emergency plans are issued for every field used. Plan must include; address of venue, quickest route to and from nearest hospital/ER, hospital/ER address and contact information.
- Every match is officiated by USA Rugby certified referee.
- Every match is attended by a Certified Athletic Trainer or EMT who is stationed in a clearly visible tent or other communicated field side area.
- Coaches and referee's check athletic grounds for hazards (rocks, holes, water, etc.). Also consider current and potential weather conditions (e.g. lightning, hurricanes, etc).
- Referee inspects players for proper equipment and removal of jewelry before game.
- Parents, players and coaches agree to follow good sportsmanship guidelines as described by the Positive Coaching Alliance.

Liability Coverage:

- A \$1 million per incident liability insurance policy covers Hawaii Youth Rugby and all affiliates of USA Rugby, its registered members, coaches, referees, volunteers, committee members and administrators. The policy provides 3rd party liability insurance to cover the owners of practice and game facilities. For more information go to <http://www.usarugby.org/membership/insurance.html>.

For additional information contact a HYR official at www.hawaiiyouthrugby.com .