

# General Regulations

Suomen Rugbyliitto

# **NATIONAL LEAGUE COMPETITION**

# **GENERAL REGULATIONS**

2026 Review



## Foreword

These regulations have been written to be as comprehensive as possible, but it is inevitable that situations will arise that are not covered by the precise wording of this document. Where possible, solutions to these events should be inferred from the current regulations as outlined and/or by common practice. It is also important to remember that SRL is a member of external organisations whose regulations may also apply to the governance of Finnish rugby.

It is hoped that following these regulations will give Finnish Rugby the balance it needs between development and growth of rugby up and down the country on the one hand, and the need for well-governed competition on the other.

## Abbreviations

FRRA	Finland Rugby Referees Association
HC	Head of Competitions (prev National League and Competitions Manager)
TD	Technical director
NT	National team
SRL	Suomen Rugbyliitto (Finnish Rugby Federation)
XVs	Fifteen-a-side
7s	Seven-a-side

1. Administration.....	5
1.1. Components.....	5
1.2. Scope.....	5
1.3. Interpretation and amendments.....	5
1.3.1. Interpretation of the regulations.....	5
1.3.2. Amending the regulations.....	5
1.4. Appealing regulatory decisions.....	6
2. Ethical Principles.....	7
2.1. Fair Play and the spirit of the game.....	7
2.2. Anti-Doping.....	7
2.3. Participating in betting and ban on game-manipulation.....	7
2.4. Ban on substance abuse.....	8
3. Team eligibility.....	9
3.1. Entering competitions.....	9
3.2. Combined teams.....	9
3.3. Line ups.....	9
4. Player eligibility.....	11
4.1. Definition.....	11
4.2. Licences and insurances.....	11
4.3. Licence transfers.....	11
4.4. Age restrictions.....	12
4.5. Investigation of eligibility and sanctions.....	12
4.6. SRL Eligibility Committee.....	13
4.6.1. Definition.....	13
4.6.2. Formation and composition.....	13
4.6.3. Sanctions.....	13
5. Disciplinary matters under World Rugby Regulation 17.....	14
5.1. Principles.....	14
5.2. General obligations.....	14
5.3. Disciplinary panel.....	15
5.3.1. Definition.....	15
5.3.2. Formation and composition of the disciplinary panel.....	15
5.3.3. Use of video.....	15
5.3.4. Publication of reports.....	16
5.4. Incidents occurring outside of SRL competition.....	16
5.5. Lengths and type of suspension.....	16
5.5.1. Right of appeal.....	18

6. Disciplinary matters outside World Rugby Regulations 17.....	19
6.1. Disciplinary Committee.....	19
6.1.1. Definition.....	19
6.1.2. Formation and composition.....	19
6.1.3. Reporting of violations and disciplinary process.....	19
7. Contacts.....	20

# **1. Administration**

## **1.1. Components**

The national rugby competitions are managed by the Head of Competitions who is supported by the Technical Director.

The national competitions consist of the sevens series and the XV's season.

## **1.2. Scope**

The scope of this document is to outline the regulations that govern the national competitions.

## **1.3. Interpretation and amendments**

### **1.3.1. Interpretation of the regulations**

In case of ambiguities in this document, or disagreement about the interpretation of these regulations, the HC in consultation with the Technical Director will be the sole adjudicator whose interpretation is final.

The request for interpretation must be submitted in writing to the HC using the official *@finland.rugby* email addresses.

### **1.3.2. Amending the regulations**

HC may make minor amendments to these regulations, such as clarifications and additions of existing common practices, without board approval.

Amendments to these regulations may be proposed by the clubs registered to the SRL, FRRRA, SRL board members, and the disciplinary officer. The amendment proposals must be submitted in writing to the HC using the official *@finland.rugby* email addresses.

Proposed amendments may be further refined with the help of the HC and/or SRL board members into a format compatible with these regulations and to check for contradictions with any other existing regulation.

Proposed amendments will be then discussed at an SRL board meeting. SRL board may:

- reject the proposal
- return the proposal for further refinement
- accept the proposal to be added to the competition regulations
- accept the proposal to be discussed and voted on at an SRL general meeting

## **1.4. Appealing regulatory decisions**

Only clubs registered to the SRL, the FRRRA, and SRL board members may lodge a complaint about decisions made based on these regulations.

All appeals will be handled case by case. After a complaint has been lodged, a panel will be formed by the HC to review the case. The panel will consist of two assigned SRL Board Members and one member assigned by the FRRRA.

The complaint must be submitted in writing to the HC using the official *@finland.rugby* email addresses.

Complaints rejected by an appeals panel may be further appealed to the Finnish Sports Arbitration Board.

## **2. Ethical Principles**

### **2.1. Fair Play and the spirit of the game**

All parties involved in Finnish rugby will follow the spirit and values of rugby in their actions and behaviour, both on and off the rugby field and at any time where they may be construed as representing or being associated with rugby in Finland. The SRL competitions follow the Fair Play ideals and goals of the Finnish Olympic Committee. By taking part in SRL competitions, a person commits to the ethical principles of the sport and the general principles of Fair Play, which include the respect and equal treatment of other people, honesty, openness, integrity, democracy, advancement of health and wellbeing, responsible upbringing and sustainability, and respect of the environment. Any individual or organisation deemed to have breached this general code of conduct or who has been found to have brought the game into disrepute may be subject to sanction by the SRL.

### **2.2. Anti-Doping**

The Finnish Rugby Federation commits to following the current Finnish Anti-Doping Code and has delegated the disciplinary jurisdiction for breaches of the Code to the disciplinary body mentioned in the Finnish Anti-Doping Code.

All who participate in SRL competitions agree to commit to follow both the Finnish Anti-Doping Code and World Rugby Anti-Doping Regulations. The responsibility of a club is to monitor that all its players, coaches and other personnel follow the anti-doping code.

Participating clubs accept that the Finnish Anti-Doping Agency has full rights to perform doping tests in SRL competitions and that competition bans based on the guidelines of the aforementioned bodies may be imposed on those found to have breached these anti-doping codes.

### **2.3. Participating in betting and ban on game-manipulation**

Any person belonging to the board, steering group, section or similar body of a club, or an employee or other personnel in a club, may not themselves or via an intermediary take part or influence betting in such competitions or series in which the club takes part.

A player, coach or other member of a team, as defined by competition regulations for rugby, may not themselves or via an intermediary take part or influence betting in such competitions or series in which the team takes part.

A match official, assistant referee, touch judge, match commissioner, announcer or other officiating party may not themselves or via an intermediary take part or influence betting in such competitions or series in which they take part.

Any official whose duty includes processing matters relating to eligibility of players or other members of teams may not themselves or via an intermediary take part or influence betting in such competitions or series in which the eligibility may have importance.

Employees of SRL may not themselves or via an intermediary take part or influence betting in national rugby competitions. Influencing betting includes publicising such information, regardless of the means of publication, that may affect betting (“insider information”) before official publication of the information.

Agreeing on the score of the match before or during the game or otherwise fixing or attempting to fix the score, regardless of whether the score is for full time or extra time, is forbidden.

Any person participating in the activities of SRL, a club or a team must inform the SRL and the club if they have been proposed an agreement or fixing of a game or otherwise been contacted for such a purpose.

## **2.4. Ban on substance abuse**

It is forbidden for all participating players, coaches and other team members as well as for the referees and other officials to use tobacco products or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs on the pitch or in its immediate vicinity during a game or a training session. The clubs must ensure that in sports related situations, such as victory celebrations and in statements by players and coaches, the use of alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco products or their connection to the sport is not positively portrayed to the youth.

# **3. Team eligibility**

## **3.1. Entering competitions**

To enter teams into SRL competitions, the club must be a member of SRL, or otherwise have explicit permission from the SRL to enter the competitions.

A team is ineligible to enter into SRL competition if they have outstanding fees to the SRL from the past season(s).

Each team must send an email to the HC indicating the name of the team or teams, home and away playing kit colours, information and email address of the team manager.

## **3.2. Combined teams**

Combined teams, consisting of representatives of one or more clubs, may enter SRL competitions if they have explicit permission to do so from the HC. In such cases, the name of the team must be such that it is clearly differentiated from any single existing club.

Combined teams must send an email to HC indicating the name of the team, home club, home and away playing kit colours (including rendering and/or photos of kit(s)), information and email of the team manager.

## **3.3. Line ups**

Each club will ensure completion of their Line up in full, this means all players and pitch-side personnel (coach, physio, team manager, water person and others).

The Line up must be entered into the competition management system at least 15 minutes before kick-off in printed format. Failure to do so will result in the kick-off being delayed and, when kick-off does occur, the non-offending team will be awarded a penalty on the halfway mark. If the line up is not updated and delays the scheduled kick-off by more than fifteen minutes, then the non-offending team will be entitled to claim a forfeit win if they choose to do so.

By naming an individual on the line up, the club assures that

- the information provided is correct
- all players and other participants have a valid license to participate in the match,
- when required by these regulations, players have insurance that covers them in the event of injury sustained in the match,
- all have successfully obtained valid certification from the WR Rugby Ready and Concussion Management for the General Public courses,
- all players have received Clearance if required by WR or domestic regulations, and
- all players are eligible to play under SRL regulations.

Clubs must comply with these regulations regarding the use of loan players in each competition and division.

In XV competitions, teams must enter the front-row eligibility of players and replacement players in the competition management system.

## 4. Player eligibility

### 4.1. Definition

A player is considered eligible when they fulfil the appropriate conditions to be part of a match.

In addition to the general conditions established in this section, the conditions stated in [Seven's](#) and [XV's](#) format-specific regulations must be fulfilled (e.g. NT players and loans must fulfil certain conditions).

### 4.2. Licences and insurances

Unless otherwise stated in these regulations or explicit permission has been granted by the HC, a club may only field players whose license is attached to them in SRL competitions .

All players fielded in any SRL competition must be fully licensed and insured for the match in question. By entering the field of play, a player acknowledges that they have a valid licence. By naming a player on the line up, a club acknowledges that they have checked and validated this claim.

A sporting insurance policy covering competitive rugby is compulsory for players who are not covered by the Finnish social security system or are under 18 years of age.

Any player or club unclear of what constitutes a valid licence or necessary level of insurance should contact the SRL Technical Director.

The SRL, members of the SRL board, the HC or match officials cannot be held accountable for any legal or medical repercussions if a player and/or club disregard this regulation and/or for the consequences of participating in any rugby activities.

### 4.3. Licence transfers

If a player wishes to change their club after already purchasing a licence, they may send a request to the HC to have their licence transferred.

During an ongoing season changes on the licence between clubs playing in different divisions are not allowed in cases where the player is already a loan for any club.

In situations where an individual holds valid licences for two clubs, the licence that was first purchased will be considered the sole valid licence until its expiration. In situations where an individual holds two different types of licences, the more extensive license is considered to be the valid one.

#### **4.4. Age restrictions**

A player is considered an adult on their 18th birthday. An adult may play senior rugby in all SRL competitions. Male players who have reached their 17<sup>th</sup> birthday and female players that have reached their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday may play with adults provided that they are considered competent to do so by their club, the relevant club coach has provided a written summary of the player that clearly highlights their ability to play senior rugby, and the club has obtained written permission from the player's parent(s) or guardian(s) for them to participate. The written assessment and approval must be sent to the HC and TD before the player takes part in competitions.

When playing or training with adults, a player who has not reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday (male or female) may not play or train in the front row of the scrum, regardless of any permission granted.

No players of an age below those outlined above may play senior full-contact rugby, regardless of mitigating circumstances. In all cases where documentation is necessary it is the responsibility of the player's club to organise, collect, and archive such paperwork.

#### **4.5. Investigation of eligibility and sanctions**

If a club is found to have fielded an ineligible player, all matches where the ineligible player was fielded are deemed forfeited, with the exception of results more beneficial to the opposing team than a forfeit, which shall stand.

The federation validates a player's eligibility either on its own accord or on request from an opposing club or a match official. Requests from opposing clubs and match officials must be submitted at latest by 23:59 on the day following the end of the match in question and the request must refer to a specific player or players.

The request of an opposing club must be submitted via the club's official @finland.rugby account.

Repeated or deliberate offences may result in additional [sanctions](#) against the club at the discretion of the SRL Eligibility Committee.

## **4.6. SRL Eligibility Committee**

### **4.6.1. Definition**

The SRL Eligibility Committee is the body responsible for handling cases of ineligible individuals in the team sheet and deciding on the sanctions and other consequences.

### **4.6.2. Formation and composition**

The SRL Eligibility Committee is formed when a case of ineligible player calls for it and is specific to a single case and will have jurisdiction in accordance with these competition regulations. It is made up of the HC, Technical Director and one assigned SRL board member.

### **4.6.3. Sanctions**

In principle all sanctions corresponding to the ineligibility of a player will reside with the club, however, an ineligible player may also be subject to a personal sanction if the committee considers they knowingly played without a license.

See [Appendix 1](#) for further details on sanctions and fees.

# 5. Disciplinary matters under World Rugby Regulation 17

## 5.1. Principles

[World Rugby Regulation 17](#) provides the foundation for the procedures for the handling of the following disciplinary matters:

- When a player is sent off (“red card”)
- When a player is cited for an act or acts of foul play
- Where a player has been cautioned and suspended (“yellow card”) three times in the same season

All red cards, citing requests and accumulated yellow cards will be automatically referred to the disciplinary panel.

Other disciplinary issues outside World Rugby Regulation 17 will be handled according to the [SRL Disciplinary Code](#) in a separate disciplinary committee.

In addition, in serious ethical disciplinary cases the jurisdiction will be with the ethical judicial board of sport (Urheilun Eettinen Kurinpitolaikunta).

## 5.2. General obligations

Participating clubs are responsible and accountable for the conduct of their players, team members and other persons in attendance in any official capacity during SRL competitions and must ensure that their conduct is of the highest standard in accordance with the [World Rugby Code of Conduct](#) and that matches are played in accordance with disciplined and sporting behaviour.

Each participating club and team member agrees to be bound by and comply with the provisions and requirements of the SRL regulations, competition regulations and disciplinary code and any decisions made based on them.

## **5.3. Disciplinary panel**

### **5.3.1. Definition**

The Disciplinary panel is responsible to evaluate disciplinary issues under the World Rugby Regulations 17, meaning issues during a XV's match and inside the field.

### **5.3.2. Formation and composition of the disciplinary panel**

A disciplinary panel is formed when a disciplinary case calls for it and is specific to a single case and will have jurisdiction in accordance with these competition regulations.

The panel will consist of the disciplinary officer, and two other members who are either:

- A fully certified World Rugby Level 2 Match Officials, with at least three years of experience in SRL competition, or,
- A fully certified World Rugby Level 3 Match Official, or,
- A Rugby Europe or World Rugby qualified Match Commissioner, or,
- A fully certified World Rugby Citing Commissioner, or,
- A fully certified World Rugby Judicial Officer.

It is the responsibility and right of the disciplinary officer to form the panel. No member of the disciplinary panel shall have taken any official part in the match where the citing took place, nor have any conflict of interest. If the disciplinary officer played any official part in the match in question or has a conflict of interest, then they must recuse themselves and appoint a suitable alternative.

### **5.3.3. Use of video**

When reviewing video evidence against the specific player(s), the disciplinary panel may only consider evidence from one minute before the incident and only until the incident and any immediate reaction to it has finished. Any additional players found to have committed foul play during this period may be cited by the disciplinary panel. If the disciplinary panel elects to make any additional citing(s), proceedings against those additional player(s) will begin, and clubs will be given two days from the notification of citing to submit any evidence that they wish the disciplinary panel to consider when hearing that case.

#### **5.3.4. Publication of reports**

The disciplinary panel will write a report on all incidents referred to it, clearly outlining the basis behind the decision and the length of suspension awarded.

The publication of reports allows for SRL compliance with World Rugby Regulation 17.4.6.

Disciplinary reports under World Rugby Regulation 17 are made available at [SRL website](#). Disciplinary reports under any other World Rugby Regulation will be made available to all when asked from the SRL.

### **5.4. Incidents occurring outside of SRL competition**

In the event that a red/ yellow card or grounds for a citing occur outside of an SRL competition, the disciplinary panel may also convene provided that the incident in question occurred in Finland. In such cases, the regulations with regard to timings and other fixed procedures will be applied with more flexibility in the reasonable discretion of the disciplinary officer, but all parties will be expected to act in a timely manner.

In the event that a player is found guilty of the alleged offence, a ban will only be imposed if the severity of the offence is deemed to be high-end or if the type of offence is sensitive in nature.

### **5.5. Lengths and type of suspension**

Imposed lengths of suspension where red cards are upheld or awarded retrospectively will be determined by using the World Rugby model modified to Finland, given that the Finnish season is typically much shorter than average. These guidelines are viewable in [Appendix 2](#).

Any player receiving 3 yellow cards in the season, including playoff matches, will receive an automatic 1-week ban, carried over to the following season where appropriate.

All suspensions will be given in weeks and will bar the player under suspension from competing in any competition during this time. The suspension period will begin the day before the next match any team of the player's club is due to play for which the player would be eligible. A player waiting for a suspension period to start may not

represent any other club in competition during this time. The relevant dates will be included in the report of the disciplinary panel. Suspensions may carry across seasons if necessary.

The disciplinary panel has the authority and autonomy to evaluate how suspensions should be managed in exceptional circumstances. These include but are not limited to suspensions carried across seasons, and suspensions incurred in XVs competitions affecting 7s and vice versa.

With respect to cancelled or postponed matches, the following application of playing suspensions shall be applied:

Match schedule	Disciplinary panel action	Sanction
Match schedule unknown/unclear on date of suspension – e.g. league suspended and return to play date not yet known	Disciplinary panel should express the sanction in weeks (e.g. a 3 week suspension), note that the schedule is unknown and require an update from the player/his club/Union and tournament organiser once matches are scheduled.	Sanction applies as normal when play resumes (e.g. the first 3 matches on return to play).

Match schedule	Disciplinary panel action	Sanction
<p>Match schedule known on date of suspension but matches subsequently postponed/cancelled</p>	<p>Disciplinary panel should express the sanction as clearly as possible (i.e. set out the scheduled matches) but noting that where any of the scheduled matches are cancelled/ postponed, the panel must be notified and the sanction will be adjusted accordingly.</p>	<p><b>Match postponed:</b> sanction adjusted to apply to the matches that are played next in time rather than to the postponed matches.</p> <p><b>Match cancelled and points awarded:</b> match was scheduled to take place at time of sanction and for the purposes of the tournament in question, has “taken place” in that points were awarded. The match can therefore count towards the player’s suspension.</p> <p><b>Match cancelled but no points awarded (e.g. standalone warm-up match):</b> match was scheduled to take place at time of sanction but has not “taken place” for the purposes of the team, tournament or otherwise so cannot count towards player’s suspension.</p>

Suspensions incurred within SRL competition also apply to international fixtures.

**5.5.1. Right of appeal**

The disciplinary panel will not accept new evidence or re-hear the same incident unless exceptional new evidence is brought to light with a clear reason why it was not provided by the deadline. Barring the introduction of such evidence, the disciplinary panel’s decision is final although further appeals may be made to the Finnish Sports Arbitration Board according to its rules for appeals..

# 6. Disciplinary matters outside World Rugby Regulations 17

In the event that a SRL-licensed person commits misconduct contrary to the [SRL Disciplinary Code](#), the body responsible will be the Disciplinary Committee.

## 6.1. Disciplinary Committee

### 6.1.1. Definition

The Disciplinary Committee is responsible for disciplinary issues outside the World Rugby Regulations 17, meaning issues under the SRL Disciplinary Code.

The committee's disciplinary scope applies to the SRL member clubs, member clubs' boards and governing bodies, member club members, all licensed persons, and as otherwise specified in the Disciplinary Code.

### 6.1.2. Formation and composition

The members of the disciplinary committee are elected by the SRL autumn general meeting as per SRL constitution. The committee is a permanent body of the SRL independent of the board.

### 6.1.3. Reporting of violations and disciplinary process

Information on who can report violations and how this is done as well as details on the disciplinary process can be found in the [Disciplinary Code](#).

# 7. Contacts

## Head of Competitions (HC)

competitions@finland.rugby

## Technical director (TD)

Anssi Jukka

technicaldirector@finland.rugby

## Disciplinary officer

Palemia Field

discipline@finland.rugby

## Disciplinary Committee

disciplinarycommittee@finland.rugby

## Finland Rugby Referees Association

FRRRA@finland.rugby

## Clubs

All addresses are *@finland.rugby*:

Espoo@    Helsinki@    Hameenlinna@  
Joensuu@    Jyvaskyla@    Kalev@    Kiuru@  
Kuopio@    Lahti@    Oulu@    Pori@  
Porvoo@    Saimaa@    Seinajoki@    Tampere@  
TRA@ Turku@    Vaasa@    Warriors@  
Wizards@

Sevens

Suomen Rugbyliitto

# **NATIONAL LEAGUE COMPETITION**

# **SEVEN'S REGULATIONS**

2026 Review



1. Foreword.....	3
2. Match structure.....	3
2.1. Squad size.....	3
2.2. Replacements.....	3
3. Format.....	4
3.1. General.....	4
3.2. Championship format.....	4
3.3. Scoring.....	4
3.3.1. Scoring within an individual match.....	4
3.3.2. Scoring within an individual tournament.....	5
3.3.2.1. Pool Phase.....	5
3.3.2.2. Playoff.....	5
3.3.3. Scoring the 7s SM Series.....	6
4. Forfeits, abandoning and withdrawals.....	7
4.1. Forfeits.....	7
4.2. Abandoning an ongoing tournament.....	7
4.3. Withdrawal from a tournament.....	7
4.3.1. Teams Registered for the Championship.....	7
5. 7s Eligibility and loan players.....	8
5.1. General.....	8
5.1.1. Men's 7s Series.....	8
5.1.2. Women's 7s Series.....	8
5.2. Loan players.....	8
5.3. Fielding more than one side and combined teams.....	9
6. Disciplinary Matters under World Rugby Regulation 17.....	10
6.1. Foreword.....	10
6.2. Discipline Processes in a Sevens context.....	10
6.2.1. Red Cards.....	10
6.2.2. Yellow cards.....	10

# 1. Foreword

This section pertains to men's and women's 7s series. Unless otherwise stated later in this section, the separate 7s competitions referred to herein follow the same regulations.

The individual tournaments in the 7s series are hosted by clubs.

## 2. Match structure

### 2.1. Squad size

Unless otherwise stated, every match shall be played 7-a-side and teams may name up to 12 players in their [team sheet](#) and 15 players in the tournament day squad.

### 2.2. Replacements

A team can make a total of 5 replacements in a match irrespective of the number of replacement players on the match day [team sheet](#).

## **3. Format**

### **3.1. General**

Clubs can enter teams to the 7s series. The number and location of tournaments within the 7s series will be decided in advance of the season.

In order to compete in the SM Series a Club must register at least one team for all tournaments. Clubs can also enter teams to individual tournaments if there is an open position, these teams can compete to win that individual tournament, but will not accrue any points to be counted for the SM series.

The men's or women's 7s rugby coordinator will be responsible for deciding the number of pools and the draw for each men's or women's 7s rugby tournament, respectively. The host club together with the 7s rugby coordinator will be responsible for determining the order of play in the tournament hosted by them.

Any disputes on match day should be settled by the match official. Disputes in advance of match day should be mediated by the HC.

### **3.2. Championship format**

In the Men's and Women's 7s Finnish Championship, teams will collect series points based on their rankings at each Championship tournament and the team with the most cumulative points over the series will win the Men's and the Women's 7s Finnish Championship, respectively.

### **3.3. Scoring**

#### **3.3.1. Scoring within an individual match**

If the tournament venue has goal posts, scoring will follow the Sevens variations of World Rugby Law 8.

If the tournament venue is missing goal posts, scoring methods and points value of scoring are:

- 7 points from a try scored in the middle of the in-goal area, width of this area is the same as the football field's goal box (18.32 m)
- 5 points from a try scored on other areas of the in-goal area.

- No conversions, penalty goals or dropped goals.

### **3.3.2. Scoring within an individual tournament**

Tournaments will have a pool phase and playoffs.

#### **3.3.2.1. Pool Phase**

During the pool phase of a tournament, teams will receive four points for a win, two points for a draw, and zero points for a loss. There will be no bonus point system. After the pool phase of a tournament, playoff matches may be played to determine the final rankings within the tournament.

If two teams are tied on points during the tournament (e.g. before playoffs) then the rankings will be decided as follows:

- The points difference throughout the tournament
- The results in matches played between the tied teams during the tournament
- The number of tries scored by each of the tied teams throughout the tournament
- The number of red cards received throughout the tournament
- A coin toss (or other random method supervised by the HC)

If more than two teams are tied, then the above criteria are used until one team is 'the winner'. The criterion then starts again from number 1 for the remaining teams.

#### **3.3.2.2. Playoff**

Playoff matches may be played after the pool phase of a tournament to determine the final rankings within the tournament.

If a playoff match finishes in a draw, sudden-death extra time will be played until a winner is determined. Extra time will be in periods of five minutes. After each period the teams will change ends. The team that first kicked off will do so again in the first period of extra time, and subsequent kick-offs will alternate between the two sides. In extra time, the team which scores first will immediately be declared the winner without further delay.

### 3.3.3. Scoring the 7s SM Series

In Men's and Women's 7s Finnish Championship, teams will score:

- 10 points for a Championship tournament win,
- 8 points for coming second,
- 6 points for coming third,
- 4 points for coming fourth,
- 3 points for coming fifth,
- 2 points for coming sixth,
- 1 point for coming seventh, and
- Zero points for finishing eighth and lower.

To participate in the Finnish Championship series (SM-sarja), a club must enter its team in all official Championship tournaments. Only teams participating in the Championship series collect ranking points from the tournament, which are used to determine the order of the teams in the Finnish Championship series.

Clubs can also enter their teams in individual tournaments. By participating in individual tournaments, a team does not collect ranking points from the tournaments and thus does not participate in the Championship statistics, but competes for tournament positions in an individual tournament equally with other teams.

If lower division levels are formed alongside the Championship, the ranking points for these division levels are determined on a season-by-season basis.

Where an insufficient number of playoff matches are held to make these distinctions, teams may be tied for a place and be awarded the corresponding points, e.g. if 5th and 6th places are not contested both teams will score three points.

If two teams are tied on series points, then the rankings will be decided as follows:

- The results in matches played between the tied teams during the tournaments
- The number of tries scored by each of the tied teams throughout the tournaments
- The number of red cards received throughout the tournaments
- A coin toss (or other random method supervised by the HC)

If more than two teams are tied, then the above criteria are used until one team is 'the winner'. The criterion then starts again from number 1 for the remaining teams.

## **4. Forfeits, abandoning and withdrawals**

### **4.1. Forfeits**

In the case of a forfeit, the non-forfeiting team will be awarded a 21 – 0 win. No financial penalty will be imposed and no competition point will be deducted. A team that forfeits a match may continue to play in the rest of the tournament.

### **4.2. Abandoning an ongoing tournament**

If a team abandons a tournament in progress, all of their remaining matches will be forfeited. In that case, tournament organisers will be responsible for assessing the impact of abandonment to the tournament schedule and make adjustments, as the time constraints placed on tournament events require flexibility.

### **4.3. Withdrawal from a tournament**

A team is not obligated to attend all tournaments within a series.

#### **4.3.1. Teams Registered for the Championship**

Teams that are due to compete at a tournament but withdraw within 2 weeks of the event (i.e. after 23:59 on Saturday 2 weeks prior to the tournament to be played on Saturday), will be liable to pay a [fee](#) payable to the SRL.

Any team that withdraws from a 7s tournament during the season will not be entitled to a refund of any fees previously paid (e.g. 7s series registration fees).

If a team chooses to withdraw from a tournament, that team's position will be left open for another team registered in 7s competition to attend in said tournament. The visiting team will not get league points from the tournament.

# **5. 7s Eligibility and loan players**

## **5.1. General**

### **5.1.1. Men's 7s Series**

Teams that are the only male team representing their club in an SRL 7s competition may field players registered to their club without restriction.

A player who has played for second teams in 7s competition, may therefore not play for their club's other 7s team without being governed by the rules on loaning players during an event.

Male players that are registered to an SRL-registered club with no team competing in men's 7s competitions covered by these regulations may also represent a club to which they are not registered. Any player making use of this exemption will be considered registered to the first club they play for in the 7s competition by default and may therefore not represent another club unless permitted to do so under the relevant 7s competition regulations outlined in this document. Any such player wishing to be considered registered to a different club should contact the HC.

### **5.1.2. Women's 7s Series**

Teams that are the only female team representing their club in an SRL 7s competition may field players licensed to any club without restriction. If a club has more than one team in an SRL 7s competition, the teams may use players licensed to other SRL-registered clubs without restriction and players licensed to their own club with restrictions outlined later in this section. If players are fielded from other clubs, there is no need to be an official combined team with a name differentiated from other clubs.

## **5.2. Loan players**

Once a player has been named to a team's tournament day squad, they may not represent any other team during the same event. However, the exception to this is that if a team has incurred injuries that would jeopardise their ability to field a competitive team (this may extend beyond the starting XII), they may loan players from other teams attending the same tournament or event. A player can change teams only once during a tournament or event and will not be permitted to return to their original team or be loaned to any other team for the rest of the tournament or

event. A team must get permission from the Captain and Coach/Team Manager of the opposition for every individual match where a loan player is to be fielded.

When a player is loaned to another club, it needs to be taken into account that one player can only play a maximum amount of 6 matches in one day due to player safety reasons.

The purpose of the loan player regulation is that teams struggling for numbers can still field a side, not to help clubs put out a stronger team and it is hoped that teams respect this aim.

### **5.3. Fielding more than one side and combined teams**

Clubs may field up to two teams in each tournament. One of these teams may be a combined team, such as a regional or collaborative squad, but not both.

If two teams are entered by a club, these will be considered distinct and separate from each other throughout the whole 7s series.

# 6. Disciplinary Matters under World Rugby Regulation 17

## 6.1. Foreword

In recognition of the unique structure of Sevens Tournaments and the timelines within which the Sevens Game operate, in case of foul play the disciplinary matter will be managed as follows.

## 6.2. Discipline Processes in a Sevens context

### 6.2.1. Red Cards

A player being shown a red card must leave the playing area including the technical area. The Match Official will complete a Red Card report and submit it to the SRL Disciplinary Officer.

Any player that receives a red card in a 7s tournament will be suspended from the next two matches in that tournament. If there is only one match left in the tournament, the player receiving the red card will be prevented from playing in the next match in the next 7s tournament they participate in. Any player, who receives a direct red card, may also be subject to subsequent disciplinary procedures based on the red card report submitted by the officiating match official.

### 6.2.2. Yellow cards

The Match Official will complete a yellow card report and submit it to the SRL Disciplinary Officer.

Any player that receives three yellow cards in a 7s tournament will be suspended from the next match in that tournament. If there are no matches left in the tournament, the player receiving the third yellow card will be prevented from playing in the next match in the next 7s tournament they participate in.

Any player that accumulates five yellow cards over the course of the entire 7s series will be automatically suspended from playing in the next match in the tournament they receive the fifth yellow card. If the yellow card is received in their final match, the suspension must be served at the next opportunity as per [World Rugby Regulation 17](#).

XVs

Suomen Rugbyliitto

# **NATIONAL LEAGUE COMPETITION**

## **XV'S REGULATIONS**

2026 Review



1. Foreword.....	4
2. Match Structure.....	4
2.1. Squad size.....	4
2.2. Replacements.....	4
3. Schedule.....	5
3.1. Intention to Compete.....	5
3.2. Draft Schedule.....	5
3.3. Definitive Schedule.....	5
4. Formats.....	6
4.1. Finnish Championship.....	6
4.1.1. Regular Season.....	6
4.1.1.1. League points.....	6
4.1.2. Playoffs.....	6
4.1.2.1. Semi-finals.....	6
4.1.2.2. Finals.....	7
4.1.2.3. Drawn playoff matches.....	7
4.2. Division 1 Format.....	7
4.2.1. Men's Division 1.....	7
4.2.2. Women's Division 1.....	8
4.3. Division 2 Format.....	8
4.4. Promotion and Relegation.....	8
4.4.1. Men's competitions.....	8
4.4.2. Women's competitions.....	9
5. Forfeiting, reschedule, abandon or withdrawal.....	10
5.1. Forfeits.....	10
5.2. Rescheduling or delaying.....	10
5.3. Abandoning a match in progress.....	11
5.4. Withdrawal from a league.....	11
6. Eligibility and loan players.....	12
6.1. General.....	12
6.2. Loan players.....	12
6.2.1. General.....	12
6.2.2. Championship Teams and Men's Division 1.....	13
6.2.3. Women's Division 1 and Men's Division 2.....	13
6.3. Fielding National Team (NT) players.....	13
6.3.1. Definition.....	13
6.3.2. Fielding NT players in Championship.....	13
6.3.3. Fielding NT players in Division 1 or Division 2.....	14
6.4. Playing in multiple matches during the same weekend.....	14

7. Responsibilities of the home team.....	15
7.1. Pitch and match day requirements.....	15
7.2. Informing the visitors, match officials and SRL.....	15
7.3. Non-appointed Match Officials.....	15
7.3.1. General.....	15
7.3.2. No match official appointed.....	15
7.3.3. No assistant referees appointed.....	16
7.4. Match Commissioner.....	16
8. Disciplinary Matters under World Rugby Regulation 17.....	17
8.1. During the Match.....	17
8.1.1. Ordering Off (“Red cards”).....	17
8.1.2. Temporary Suspension (“Yellow cards”).....	18
8.2. Citing Foul Play in SRL Competitions.....	18
8.2.1. Citing Process.....	18
8.2.2. The cited player.....	19
8.2.3. Video footage.....	20
8.2.4. Forming the Disciplinary Panel.....	20

# 1. Foreword

This section pertains to the Men's Finnish Championship, Women's Finnish Championship, Men's Division 1, Men's Division 2 and Women's Division 1. Unless otherwise stated later in this section, the separate XV competitions referred to herein follow the same regulations.

Men's Division 2 and Women's Division 1 are not bound to these regulations as strictly as the other competitions in order to maximise the number of matches in these divisions. If both teams in any match are happy for any part of these regulations to be waived, then sides may be permitted to do so at the discretion of the HC, provided it does not create a safety risk.

## 2. Match Structure

### 2.1. Squad size

Unless otherwise stated, every match shall be played XV-a-side and teams may name up to 23 players in their match day [line-up](#) provided that [World Rugby Law 3.8](#) is adhered to.

Teams outside the Championship League may request the opposition to play a match with less than 15 players. However, there is no obligation on any team to agree to play a match with less than 15 players.

If a team has 11 or less eligible players available for a XV-a-side match, then the opposing team will be given the option to declare a win by forfeit without the match being played. This option must be enforced before kick-off.

If both teams have 11 or less players, then the match may be abandoned, and the score will be recorded as a 0 – 0 draw if the teams are unable to arrange a mutually agreed date for the match to be played.

### 2.2. Replacements

Replacements in a match are made in adherence to [World Rugby Law 3](#). In all divisions (Championship, Division 1 and Division 2), a team can make a maximum of 8 replacements in a match irrespective of the number of replacement players on the match day [line-up](#).

## 3. Schedule

### 3.1. Intention to Compete

The Intention to Compete is a survey sent to clubs by HC to know how many teams they will sign for the XVs season and in which divisions.

This survey must be sent at the end of the previous year or the 1st two weeks of January.

### 3.2. Draft Schedule

In base of the *Intention to Compete* results the HC prepares a draft of the schedule to be delivered in January, to give enough time to the clubs to discuss changes and reserve the pitches.

Clubs may agree on changes to the schedule. All clubs affected by the changes must agree. Notification of the agreed upon changes must be made to the HC by e-mail from one of the clubs' officials @finland.rugby email address with a copy sent to the official @finland.rugby email address (cc'd) of all the affected clubs.

In order for the changes to be applied on the draft, all clubs involved must have agreed. These changes will be reflected on the tab Record of Changes.

Clubs have 2 months counted after the delivering date of the draft to request changes.

By the end of March all clubs should have certainty on their venues and kick off, to be able to deliver the definitive Schedule to everyone and assign the referees to each match.

### 3.3. Definitive Schedule

Since the season is expected to begin during the last weekend of May or the 1st of June, the definitive document should be published for everyone during the first week of April.

Once the definitive schedule has been published details on matches cannot be changed, unless a request of rescheduling is made per [Section 5.2](#) on this document.

# 4. Formats

## 4.1. Finnish Championship

### 4.1.1. Regular Season

The Men's Finnish Championship and Women's Finnish Championship will follow a round-robin league-style format where each team will play other teams in the division twice: once home and once away. At the end of the regular season, the top three teams will advance to the playoffs.

#### 4.1.1.1. League points

During the regular season, teams will receive:

- 4 points for a win,
- 2 points for a draw,
- and 0 points for a loss.

Teams will also score a bonus point for scoring four or more tries in a match or by losing a match by seven points or less. A losing team may earn two bonus points from one match. If two or more teams are tied on league points at the end of the regular season before any playoff matches are to be played, then the rankings will be decided as follows:

- Points difference at the end of the season
- The results in matches played between the tied teams during the season.
- The number of tries scored by each of the tied teams throughout the season.
- The number of red cards received throughout the season.
- The number of yellow cards received throughout the season.
- A coin toss (or other random method supervised by the HC)

### 4.1.2. Playoffs

#### 4.1.2.1. Semi-finals

In the Men's Finnish Championship and Women's Finnish Championship, the playoffs will be contested between the top three teams of the regular season. The first-ranked team will advance directly to the final, whereas the second-ranked side will host the third-ranked side in a single-leg semi-final. The winner of the semi-final will then play the final against the first-ranked team.

#### 4.1.2.2. Finals

All finals will be played in a predetermined venue on *Finals Day*. If there is a promotion and relegation playoff match between divisions, the promotion and relegation playoff match will be played on the *Finals Day* and the potential final of the lower division will be played before the *Finals Day*.

Home side in a final match will be considered to be the team that finished higher than the other during the regular season (applicable only in competitions in which the two teams were scheduled to play against each other). However, the exception to this is that the higher ranked side will also be awarded the benefit of first choice of match day kit colours in case both teams might wear similar colours.

The home side in the promotion and relegation playoff match will be considered to be the Championship team.

#### 4.1.2.3. Drawn playoff matches

If a playoff match finishes in a draw, then a mandatory 10 minutes of extra-time will be played. In such case, all 10 minutes must be played, plus any additional stoppage-time incurred during this period. Whichever team scores the most points during this period will be declared the winner of the match. If the scores are still tied, then an additional 10 minutes of sudden death extra-time will be played with the first team to score being the winner. If neither team scores during this period, then the winner of the match will be determined by a [Place-Kick Competition](#), the details of which shall be enforced by the match official using the SRL tie break protocol .

## 4.2. Division 1 Format

### 4.2.1. Men's Division 1

Will follow a round-robin league-style format where each team will play other teams in the division twice: once home and once away.

At the end of the regular season, the top two teams will advance to play a final match.

Obs. During 2025 the finals will be played in 2 matches (home and away) to warrant more game time to the finalists.

For the 2026 season, it is mandatory for the 1st teams to play against each other. All matches must be carried, if a forfeit is sent prev the 15 days to the match a barbarians team must be formed to fulfill the match and allow the home team to have their rugby day. In the case that the Barbarians team cannot be assembled, the team that forfeited will be sanctioned as per [Appendix 1](#).

#### **4.2.2. Women's Division 1**

Women's Division 1 is a development division. It will follow a round-robin league-style format where each team will play other teams in the division twice: once home and once away. At the end of the regular season, no playoffs will be played.

### **4.3. Division 2 Format**

Men's Division 2 is a development division, the format is decided by the participating teams before the season. Generally it will follow a round robin format and no play off will be played.

For the 2026 season the teams in Division 2 were allocated in Division 1 for the lack of teams in that division.

### **4.4. Promotion and Relegation**

#### **4.4.1. Men's competitions**

All divisions in the men's competitions will be subject to promotion and relegation.

Promotion and relegation for the Championship and Division 1 is decided by a playoff match between the team finishing bottom of the Championship and the team finishing top of Division 1. However, if the team winning the Division 1 final is not eligible or does not want to be promoted to the Championship, then the team which lost the Division 1 final will be offered the chance to contest the playoff match and be promoted in the place of the team which won the Division 1 final. If the team which lost the Division 1 final confirms it is not willing to replace the team which won the Division 1 final, the playoff match will be cancelled, and no promotion or relegation will occur.

Promotion and relegation between Division 1 and Division 2 will be automatic with no separate playoff match and, unless they decline promotion, the team finishing top of Division 2 will replace the team finishing bottom of Division 1.

A club which would be entitled to promotion must confirm to the HC via e-mail within 2 months of the end of the season that it will take its place in the higher division the following season. If a club declines promotion, its place in the higher division may be offered to a club in the same division which would be willing to be promoted and, in the reasonable opinion of the HC, has the player numbers and performance to compete in the higher division.

Teams are eligible for promotion unless:

- The team is a club's 2nd XV team and promotion would result in the 2nd XV team being placed in the same division as the club's 1st XV team.
- The team has forfeited a match at any point during the season.

If a team has cancelled two or more matches in a season or they request that 3 matches or more are played with less than 15 players, such team will be automatically relegated to the division below for the next season irrespective of such team's final league position. Under these circumstances, the promoted team from the lower division will replace that relegated team rather than the team that finished bottom in the higher division.

#### **4.4.2. Women's competitions**

Women's competitions are not subject to promotion and relegation due to Women's Division 1 being a development league. Any promotion or relegation will be handled separately case by case by the discretion of the HC and SRL.

# 5. Forfeiting, reschedule, abandon or withdrawal

## 5.1. Forfeits

A forfeit is produced when a team does not show the match day or cancels .

In the case of a forfeit, the non-forfeiting team will be awarded a 24 – 0 win and the team that forfeited will be deducted two league points. No bonus points will be awarded for a forfeit win.

If a team is unable to fulfil a fixture, then they must notify their opposition, all appointed match officials, FRRRA, the HC and the Technical Director as soon as possible. If a team does not turn up for a scheduled match or does not notify their cancellation at least 5 days prior to the match (i.e. before 23:59 on Monday if the match is to be played on Saturday), then said club will be responsible for reimbursing the opposing team and the FRRRA, the costs related to the cancellation. Such costs could include, but are not limited to, pitch reservation and travel.

If any side cancels a match during the 15 days prior to the match, the cancelling side will be charged a [forfeit fee](#) payable to the SRL.

If the cancellation is done more than 15 days prior to the match, there will not be any charges to the team.

In force majeure cases (e.g. city cancelling the pitch reservation), no fee will need to be paid if the match needs to be cancelled less than 2 weeks before the match. In such cases, costs incurred to the FRRRA or the opposition will be handled case by case.

## 5.2. Rescheduling or delaying

If any side reschedules the *date* of a match under 15 days prior to the match, they will be liable to pay a [rescheduling fee](#) to the SRL.

If any side changes the *kick off* of a match under 5 days prior to the match or without notifying the affected parties (opposition, appointed officials, FRRRA) and the HC, they will be liable to pay a [kick off fee](#) to the SRL.

If a team is unable to arrive in time for the scheduled kick-off due to factors outside of their control (as agreed by the HC) then there is no forfeit provided that they contact the opposing team once the delay is realised, give the reason for the delay, and keep them informed of their estimated time of arrival. If possible, the match should be played after the delayed team's arrival, otherwise a replay will be organised on a date mutually agreed by both teams. If no new date can be found, the result will be recorded as a draw.

### **5.3. Abandoning a match in progress**

If a match is abandoned while in progress, then the outcome is dependent on when and why it was abandoned.

If play is halted after the first half or if the point difference is 30 or more, the match score stands.

If play is halted during the first half and the point difference is less than 30, there are three options depending on the circumstances:

- If the play is halted due to circumstances out of the teams' control (as adjudged by the match official or HC), the teams can agree that the score stands or the match is ordered to be played again.
- If the play is halted due to mutual agreement of the teams, the teams can agree that the score stands or the match is ordered to be played again
- If the play is halted due to one side's decision to abandon the match, the other side gets to choose that the score stands or that they will receive a forfeit win.

### **5.4. Withdrawal from a league**

If a team chooses to withdraw from a competition after the set date for season schedule changes, they may apply for permission to do so from the HC. If granted, they will immediately be removed from the calendar and the results of any previously scheduled matches will be erased. If the withdrawal would have significant bearings on a league table toward the end of the regular season, an alternative scenario may be enforced by the HC. Any team that withdraws from any competition during a season will not be entitled to a refund of any fees previously paid (e.g. FRRRA fees).

Players of that withdrawn team will be eligible to play for other clubs, provided that eligibility and loan player regulations are adhered to. Such players will be considered registered to the first club that they represent for the remainder of the season.

# 6. Eligibility and loan players

## 6.1. General

Male and female players that are registered to an SRL-registered club with no main team competing in men's or women's XV competitions covered by these regulations, respectively, may also represent a club to which they are not registered. Any player making use of this exemption will be considered *registered to the first club they play* for in the XV competition by default and may therefore not represent another club unless permitted to do so under the relevant XV competition regulations outlined in this document. Any such player wishing to be considered registered to a different club should contact the HC.

Championship teams may field players registered to their club without restriction.

Division 1 and Division 2 teams that are the *only team* representing their club in an SRL XV competition may field players licensed to them without restriction. Restrictions to [fielding national team players](#) will apply in the case of second teams.

Teams may additionally field players licensed to any other SRL-registered club with restrictions to [fielding national team players](#) outlined later in this section. If players are fielded from other clubs, there is no need to be an official combined team with a name differentiated from other clubs.

Clubs are expected to use the loan player system in the spirit of the game and with the intention of all clubs fulfilling fixtures and playing as much rugby as possible to further the development of rugby in Finland.

Any issues or disputes regarding player eligibility and loan players are to be referred by email to the HC.

## 6.2. Loan players

### 6.2.1. General

A loan involves a particular player being able to temporarily play for a club other than the one to which they are currently registered as a member.

Loan players may not play as loan players for a team in the same division as the team they usually play for. And cannot play for another club in the same division on any

occasion unless written consent from the HC has been obtained in advance in exceptional circumstances.

Loan players will be notified by the club to which they will be loaned. Notification must be made to both the technical director and the HC by e-mail from the club's official @finland.rugby email address.

### **6.2.2. Championship Teams and Men's Division 1**

Any club may name up to eight players from another club or clubs to be designated loan players available to the specific other club to which they are registered as loan players, restrictions to [fielding national team players](#) will apply in the case of second teams and the Division 1.

In any individual match, a maximum of five of these appointed loan players may be named in the team sheet as a player. However, named loan players can be named in the team sheet as a player in *playoff matches* only if the loan player has been named in the team sheet as a player in at least two regular season matches.

### **6.2.3. Women's Division 1 and Men's Division 2**

In recognition of the developmental nature of Women's Division 1 and Men's Division 2, the HC will adopt more flexible regulations regarding the use of loan players compared to the higher divisions. This approach is intended to enhance player development opportunities and ensure a greater number of matches are played within these divisions.

## **6.3. Fielding National Team (NT) players**

### **6.3.1. Definition**

For the purpose of these regulations, is considered a national team player, the one that has played more than 2 matches for the 1st team in the previous 24 months.

A player of the Development National Team, is not considered as a national team player and won't be affected by this section to be fielded by any team.

A player is considered to have played for a national team if they have been chosen for the XV match day squad and have been fielded in official or friendly matches between

nations as an official national team. Being chosen for a 7s tournament squad for a national team counts as one playing event in this context.

The coaches of the national teams (7s and XVs) will provide a list of players that fulfill this requirement, this list will be shared with clubs to avoid lack of knowledge.

### **6.3.2. Fielding NT players in Championship**

A team may field national team players licensed to their club without limitations. However, a national team player listed for the Championship league is prohibited from participating in lower divisions during the same season unless a prior agreement is reached between the clubs and the HC is notified via email.

### **6.3.3. Fielding NT players in Division 1 or Division 2**

If a club does not have a team competing in the Championship, it may field national team players licensed to the club without restriction. However, a national team player may be assigned to a second team or loaned to lower divisions under specific exceptions, including:

- When a national team player is returning from a long injury.
- When a national team player cannot play for the Championship team during the entire season.
- When is agreed by the teams involved in the match or division.

When any of these exceptions apply, the team fielding the player must:

- Notify the opposing team and HC by email, prior to kick-off.
- Record the player's inclusion on the official team sheet.

If there is a dispute regarding a player's eligibility under these exceptions, it must be resolved by the match official or the HC before kick-off. If no agreement is reached, the player will be deemed ineligible to participate in the match.

If a NT player is found in violation of these regulations, while playing under any exemption for a lower division, the player and the clubs involved could be subject to a disciplinary sanction under the inspection of the [SRL Eligibility Committee](#).

## **6.4. Playing in multiple matches during the same weekend**

A player may be named in more than one team sheet as a player during the same weekend, e.g. if they play for their club's first and second XV, or they play for another club as a loan. However, such a player may not be fielded for more than around 80 minutes in total, i.e. one full match.

# 7. Responsibilities of the home team

## 7.1. Pitch and match day requirements

The home club is responsible for reserving a pitch that conforms as close as possible to the standards set by World Rugby. A pitch below this standard may also be used if they have either been accepted by SRL or is accepted by the match official (provided it is safe to play on). Any disputes on match day should be settled by the match official. If the pitch is below the standard required to play on, then the home team will forfeit the match. Disputes in advance of match day should be mediated by the HC.

In Men's Championship, Women's Championship and Men's Division 1, clubs should also conform to the match day requirements set out in [Appendix 5](#) (goal posts, goal post protection, pitch flags, benches for substitutes, and technical zones). From 2023 onwards, the requirements are checked prior to the match by nominated match commissioners.

## 7.2. Informing the visitors, match officials and SRL

The home club is responsible for informing the visitors, HC and FRRRA of any changes on the preliminary kick-off times and venues of the home matches at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the XV season. See the section about [rescheduling or delaying](#) for more information.

If the information is not provided by the home club or if the schedule changes are not handled in a timely manner, then the visiting team may be awarded a forfeit win by the HC in addition to the sanctions already stated in the section [5.2](#) of the XV's Regulations.

## 7.3. Non-appointed Match Officials

### 7.3.1. General

Match Officials are appointed by the FRRRA, and listed in the Schedule Spreadsheet shared with all clubs.

### **7.3.2. No match official appointed**

In the event that no match official has been appointed by FRRRA, it is the responsibility of both clubs to provide a suitable alternative. Such a match official may be a member of either club.

In the event that more than one match official is nominated, and teams cannot agree on which should officiate, the dispute should be settled by the HC, a senior FRRRA representative, or suitable alternative. If no match official is provided, then teams will be given the opportunity to postpone the match to a mutually agreed date. If no date can be found, the match will be marked as a draw.

### **7.3.3. No assistant referees appointed**

If one assistant referee has been appointed by FRRRA, it is the responsibility of the home side to provide one assistant referee or touch judge. If the home side cannot find an assistant referee or a touch judge, then the away side will be given the opportunity to provide one. If neither side can find an assistant referee or a touch judge, then the match will be played with just the one FRRRA appointed assistant referee.

If no assistant referees have been appointed by FRRRA, it is the responsibility of both clubs to provide one touch judge per team. If the sides cannot find touch judges, then the match will be played without assistant referees or touch judges.

## **7.4. Match Commissioner**

The Match Commissioner will be a senior member at the match venue and will be responsible for matters related to the playing enclosure, the conduct of the match and the elements related to teams in the organisation of each match. This role applies for Championship and Men 1st Division.

The main tasks of the Match Commissioner are:

- Manage the match day
- Review that all elements, needed to ensure the well development of the match, are in place (flags, posts, protections), match officers. See the [Requirement checking process](#).
- Will be in contact with the HC to send a report about the actual state of the pitch.
- The day of the match will be the person responsible to keep the live score.

One person must be named for the entire season as responsible, however the day of the match someone else can perform responsibilities that this role entails. The absence of 3 or more reports during the season can result in a [fine](#) payable to the SRL.

# 8. Disciplinary Matters under World Rugby Regulation 17

[World Rugby Regulation 17](#) sets out the procedures for dealing with the following disciplinary matters:

- When a Player is Ordered Off the playing enclosure (Red Card);
- When a Player is cited for an act or acts of Foul Play (Citing); and
- Where a Player is Temporarily Suspended (Yellow Card) and/or issued with a Citing Commissioner Warning multiple times in accordance with Regulations 17.9.4 and 17.9.5.

The purpose of these regulations is to provide detail in the context of SRL competitions.

## 8.1. During the Match

### 8.1.1. Ordering Off (“Red cards”)

A player being shown a red card must leave the playing area and play no further part in the match (including, but not limited to, carrying water onto the pitch or the kicking tee). All red cards received during a match will automatically be referred to a disciplinary panel.

The team which the player sent off must submit any evidence they wish the disciplinary panel to consider to the disciplinary officer by the end of the second day after the match (i.e. before 23:59 on Monday if the match was played on Saturday). The submission is done via email to [discipline@finland.rugby](mailto:discipline@finland.rugby). The email must originate from the club’s official [@finland.rugby](mailto:@finland.rugby) email address.

If a video of the match was taken by the club (or club member, or affiliated individual) then an unedited version of the video must be submitted by this deadline. Clubs that do not submit such video in their possession may be subject to separate sanction unless a valid reason for its delay is provided.

Once the deadline for submission of material has passed, the disciplinary officer will form a disciplinary panel.

### **8.1.2. Temporary Suspension (“Yellow cards”)**

Any yellow cards received during a XV match will automatically be referred to the disciplinary officer for record-keeping purposes. Players who receive three yellow cards during the season will be immediately suspended and referred to a disciplinary committee. Disciplinary panels formed as a result of this accumulation are to refer to [World Rugby Regulation 17 Appendix 4](#) for Sanctions Guidance.

The team which the player belongs must submit any evidence they wish the disciplinary panel to consider to the disciplinary officer by the end of the second day after the match in which the player received their third yellow card (i.e. before 23:59 on Monday if the match was played on Saturday). The submission is done via email to [discipline@finland.rugby](mailto:discipline@finland.rugby). The email must originate from the club’s official @finland.rugby email address.

## **8.2. Citing Foul Play in SRL Competitions**

Citing requests will only be accepted from either of the two teams, or their clubs, that are participating in the Match that the alleged Foul Play was committed. For teams that are formed from multiple clubs, a “lead” club is to be determined as part of this process and it is wholly their responsibility to complete this process.

### **8.2.1. Citing Process**

The SRL does not appoint Citing Commissioners for Matches. Instead, [World Rugby Regulations 17.10.8 and 17.10.9](#) apply. Citing Commissioner Warnings (CCWs) are not used. Clubs are strongly recommended to check the eligibility of any citing request against these regulations.

The following “team citing” procedure shall apply:

- a. Each team participating in a Match may cite:
  - i. A Player(s) for an act(s) of alleged Foul Play committed during that Match provided that such act(s) have not been detected by the Match Officials;
  - ii. A Player for more than one incident of alleged Foul Play in the same Match; and
  - iii. More than one Player in any Match.
- b. The following procedure for a team citing shall be followed:

- i. Citings by teams or their Clubs shall be in writing and sent by an authorised member of the Club or management of the team from the club's official @finland.rugby email address to [discipline@finland.rugby](mailto:discipline@finland.rugby) and [competitions@finland.rugby](mailto:competitions@finland.rugby). A copy must also be sent to the official @finland.rugby email address ("cc'd") of the club to which the Player being cited is registered.
- ii. The citing email must include:
  - Details about the match in which the incident occurred.
  - The identity of the player(s) being cited.
  - Specific reason for requesting disciplinary action be taken against the player being cited referencing the applicable law
  - A receipt demonstrating a successful [deposit](#) to the SRL account.
  - Evidence supporting the citing request, without concrete evidence i.e. video the citing will not be upheld.
- iii. Such citing, to be effective, must be made as soon as practicable and in any event **no later than 36 hours** of the conclusion of the Match in which the Foul Play is alleged to have occurred.
- c. The responsibility for obtaining information and reports in relation to the citing shall rest with the Club or team management making the citing complaint. The Club or team management shall liaise with the HC and Disciplinary Officer to ensure that relevant information and reports are circulated to the appropriate parties in advance of the hearing. Evidence typically consists of player statements and video/photographic evidence.
- d. Players who are the subject of a "team citing" shall not be provisionally suspended pending the hearing of the case.

Should the initial citation request not meet the requirements laid out in Section 8.2.1 (b), then the citation is to be immediately dismissed by the disciplinary officer and the deposit shall be forfeited to the SRL.

### **8.2.2. The cited player**

Upon receiving notification that a player has been cited, the cited player's Club may submit their evidence to the Disciplinary Officer in response.

- a. This response must be as soon as practicable but in any event no later than **24 hours** of the citing notification being delivered to the cited player Club's @finland.rugby email address.

- b. Responsibility for ensuring that the cited player's Club receives the notification is on the Club submitting the citing as required in 8.2.1 (b)(ii). Failure to do so will result in immediate dismissal of the citing and the deposit shall be forfeited to the SRL.

### **8.2.3. Video footage**

The video/photographic evidence taken by a club (or club member, or affiliated individual) must be submitted unedited.

If a club indicates that they have video evidence, but fail to submit it in time, a [fine](#) payable to the SRL may be imposed for every day the video is not submitted without a valid reason for the delay in the video being submitted.

### **8.2.4. Forming the Disciplinary Panel**

Once the deadlines for submission of material have passed, the disciplinary officer will form a disciplinary panel.

# Appendices

Suomen Rugbyliitto

# **NATIONAL LEAGUE COMPETITION**

## **APPENDIXES**

2025 Review



A1 - Sanctions and fees applied to the clubs

# **A1 - Administrative sanctions and fees**

## **1.1 In the case of ineligibility of a player**

Sections [3.3](#) and [4.5](#)

- For the first offence, the club will receive a 50€ fine and for each subsequent offence (one team sheet with ineligible person(s) counts as one offence) the fine is increased by 50€ up to 250€.
- Repeated infringements may be referred to the SRL Eligibility Committee for additional sanctions.

## **1.2 Seven's sanctions and fees**

Section [4.3](#): **Withdrawal from a tournament**

Teams that are due to compete at a tournament but withdraw within 2 weeks of the event (i.e. after 23:59 on Saturday 2 weeks prior the tournament to be played on Saturday), will be liable to pay a fee of 200 € payable to the SRL.

## **1.3 XV's Sanctions and Fees**

Section [5](#): **Forfeiting, reschedule, abandon or withdrawal**

- Forfeit fee: 250€
- Rescheduling fee: 200€
- Changes on the kick-off fine: 50€

Section [7](#): **Match Commissioner**

During the season the Match Commissioner is responsible for sending to the HC a MC report after each match, this will be done by a formulary that should be filled in the next 48 hours.

In the case that 3 or more reports are not sent on time, the club will be accountable for a fine of 200€.

## Section [8.2](#): Citing Foul Play in SRL Competitions

- Citing Deposit: 200 €
- Failing to submit video evidence: 50€/ day video isn't submitted. Maximum 250€

## A2 - Sanctions for Foul Play

## A2 - Sanctions for Foul Play

Note: Any act of foul play which results in contact with the head and/or the neck shall result in at least a mid-range sanction<sup>1</sup>.

The [World Rugby Coaching Intervention Programme](#) is not applicable to SRL competitions.

Sanctions are given in weeks. A week is as defined in [World Rugby Regulation 17](#). The calendar length of a sanction will depend on the number of eligible matches.

In respect of offences not referred to in Appendix 2 below, appropriate sanctions may be imposed at the discretion of the relevant Judicial Officer, Disciplinary Committee, Appeal Officer and/or Appeal Committee (as the case may be).

Notwithstanding the Sanctions in Appendix 2 and/or the provisions of [World Rugby Regulation 17.19](#) in cases where the player's actions constitute mid-range or top end offending for any type of offence which had the potential to result and, in fact, did result in serious/gross consequences to the health of the victim, the Judicial Officers and/or Disciplinary Committees may impose any period of suspension including a suspension for life.

---

<sup>1</sup> The note does not apply to the following:

(i) Laws whose low-end entry points already take into account head contact being a potential feature or consequence of such breach reaching the red-card threshold: 9.12 (biting, contact with eye(s)/eye area and, striking with head and tripping), 9.18 and 9.27 (hair pulling).

(ii) Where the Disciplinary Committee or Judicial Officer having completed steps 1-3 of Regulation 17.17-17.20 inclusive, and having taken into account the application of the Coaching Intervention Programme where relevant, considers that the sanction would be wholly disproportionate to the offending player's fault and the consequences thereof.

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Low-end</b>	<b>Mid-range</b>	<b>Top-end</b>	<b>Max</b>
9.11	Players must not do anything that is reckless or dangerous to others including leading with the elbow or forearm, or jumping into, or over, a tackler.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.12	A player must not physically abuse anyone. Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to:				
	Biting	6 w/m	10 w/m	12+ w/m	208 w/m
	Intentional Contact with Eye(s) [i]	6 w/m	10 w/m	12+ w/m	208 w/m
	Reckless Contact with Eye(s) [i]	4 w/m	6 w/m	10+ w/m	208 w/m
	Contact with Eye Area [i]	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
	Punching or striking with hand, arm, elbow or shoulder	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
	Striking with head [ii]	2 w/m	6 w/m	8+ w/m	104 w/m
	Striking with knee	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
	Stamping or Trampling	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
	Tripping	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
	Kicking	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.12	A player must not verbally abuse anyone. Verbal abuse includes, but is not limited to, abuse based on: religion, colour, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation.	4 w/m	6 w/m	10+ w/m	52 w/m
9.13	A player must not tackle an opponent early, late or dangerously. Dangerous tackling includes, but is not limited to, tackling or attempting to tackle an	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m

Rule	Description	Low-end	Mid-range	Top-end	Max
	opponent above the line of the shoulders even if the tackle starts below the line of the shoulders.				
9.14	A player must not tackle an opponent who is not in possession of the ball.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.15	Except in a scrum, ruck or maul, a player who is not in possession of the ball must not hold, push, charge or obstruct an opponent not in possession of the ball.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.16	A player must not charge or knock down an opponent carrying the ball without attempting to grasp that player.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.17	A player must not tackle, charge, pull, push or grasp an opponent whose feet are off the ground.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.18	A player must not lift an opponent off the ground and drop or drive that player so that their head and/or upper body make contact with the ground.	4 matches	6 w/m	8+ w/m	52 w/m
9.19	Dangerous play in a scrum a. The front row of a scrum must not form at a distance from its opponents and rush against them. b. A front-row player must not pull an opponent. c. A front-row player must not intentionally lift an opponent off their feet or force the opponent upwards out of the scrum. d. A front-row player must not intentionally collapse a scrum.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.20	Dangerous play in a ruck or maul:				
	a. A player must not charge into a ruck or maul. Charging includes any contact made without binding onto another player in the ruck or maul.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
	b. A player must not make contact with an opponent above the line of the shoulders. c. A player must not intentionally collapse a ruck or a maul.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Low-end</b>	<b>Mid-range</b>	<b>Top-end</b>	<b>Max</b>
	d. A player may remove the jackler from the tackle area by pushing/driving them backwards (including by grabbing the knee/leg), but must not roll, pull or twist an opponent.	2 w/m	4 w/m	8+ w/m	52 w/m
	e. A player must not drop their weight onto an opponent or target the lower limbs.	2 w/m	4 w/m	8+ w/m	52 w/m
9.25	A player must not intentionally charge or obstruct an opponent who has just kicked the ball.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.27	A player must not do anything that is against the spirit of good sportsmanship including but not limited to:				
	Hair pulling or grabbing	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
	Spitting at anyone	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
	Grabbing, twisting or squeezing the genitals (and/or breasts in the case of female players)	6 w/m	10 w/m	12+ w/m	208 w/m
	Other	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.28	A player must not disrespect the authority of a Match Official.	2 w/m	4 w/m	6+ w/m	52 w/m
9.28	A player must not verbally abuse a Match Official. Verbal abuse includes, but is not limited to, abuse based on: religion, colour, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation.	4 w/m	6 w/m	10+ w/m	52 w/m
9.28	A player must not make physical contact with Match Officials.	4 w/m	6 w/m	10+ w/m	52 w/m
9.28	A player must not use threatening actions or words towards Match Officials.	6 w/m	12 w/m	24+ w/m	260 w/m
9.28	A player must not physically abuse Match Officials.	12 w/m	24 w/m	48+ w/m	Life

- i** The “eye” involves all tissues including the eye lids within and covering the orbital cavity and the “eye area” is anywhere in close proximity to the eye.
- ii** Head-on-head contact arising out of a tackle situation should ordinarily be sanctioned under Law 9.13 below.

# A3 - SRL Tie Break Protocol

## A3 - SRL Tie Break Protocol

SRL tie break protocol is a penalty shoot-out between the two teams and it shall take place as follows:

1. All players and Match Officials will remain in the playing enclosure. The referee will call the captains of the two teams to the centre of the pitch and will conduct a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss then may either choose which team kicks first (in which case the loser chooses the end at which all kicks will be taken) or choose the end at which all kicks will be taken (in which case the loser chooses which team kicks first).
2. Each team captain must nominate 5 players to participate in the kicking competition. Only the 5 players nominated by the captains and present in the playing enclosure at the time of the completion of the extra time may take part in the kicking competition. No injured, substituted or dismissed player may take part at any time. The order in which the players kick does not have to be predetermined.
3. The Match Officials and team members will assemble on the halfway line. Team members must remain behind the halfway line in the side of the playing area not used for the kicking competition. No one except the referee, two assistant referees or touch judges and two ball boys/girls is allowed in the part of the playing area being used for the competition.
4. The five players from each team will place kick from three different points, all on the 22-meter line, as follows:
  - a. First point: directly in front of the posts
  - b. Second point: on the 15-meter line on the left-hand side facing the posts
  - c. Third point: on the 15-meter line on the right-hand side facing the posts
5. The referee will start the competition by calling the first player selected from the team kicking first to the first kicking point. Once the player has taken the kick, the referee calls a player from the opposing team to kick from the same point
6. The next two players (one from each team) will kick from the second point in turn. This will continue until all five players from each team have kicked (the next players kicking respectively from the third point, first area and finally the second point), or until one team is unable to equal the score of the other team within the remaining number of kicks.

7. If there are an equal number of successful kicks once each team has completed its five kicks, the competition continues on a “sudden death” basis, following the same order of kickers used in the first five kicks.
8. The competition will continue two kicks at a time (one from each side), going progressively through the three kicking areas stated above (and repeating the process if necessary) until one player succeeds with a kick and the player from the other side taking the same kick misses it. Once this occurs, the team of the player who succeeded with the kick will be declared the winner. Each of these additional kicks shall be taken by the same 5 players in rotation.

Throughout the kicking competition:

- Once a player has been handed the ball by the referee on the kicking point, they must take the kick within one minute. Should they take longer, the referee shall declare the kick void and therefore a miss.
- After each kick, the referee records the number of the player and whether or not the attempt was successful.
- Whether or not a goal is scored from each attempt is the sole decision of the referee, who may at sole discretion rely on the assistance of assistant referees or touch judges. The Match Official’s decision shall be final and binding.
- Once a player has completed their kick, they shall return to stand with their team behind the halfway line in the side of the playing area not used.

A4 - Line Up

## **A4 - Line up**

### **Seven's Season 2025 - Team Sheets**

The team sheet must be printed or filled in a legible handwriting, referees reserve the right to request a new team sheet in the case that it is not presented in the correct format or cannot be read.

A legible (non pixelated or blurry) picture of this paper must be sent to [teamsheets@finland.rugby](mailto:teamsheets@finland.rugby) before the start of the match or tournament. In the case that the picture sent is not valid on repeated occasions, the club could be sanctioned.

The HC or the TD, will check the validity of licences in every team sheet after the match has ended. In case an individual in the team sheet does not hold a valid licence or the number is not stated in the sheet, the case will be passed to the [SRL Eligibility Committee](#).

### **XV's Season 2025 - Team Sheets**

From 2025 the team sheets will be done by the line-up in the [APPIS web](#).

The line ups will be open until 15 min before the match.

No paper will be delivered to the referees or sent to the usual address.

Team Managers will have a specific user to be able to update the line-ups.

### **Form Season 2026**

All line-ups will be set and done in the [APPIS web](#).

The line ups will be open until 15 min before the match.

No paper will be delivered to the referees or sent to the usual address.

Team Managers will have a specific user to be able to update the line-ups.

A5 - Match Day

# A5 - Match Day Requirements

Suomen Rugbyliitto implemented league improvements in competitions for 2020 onwards. For the XV season in 2022, the addition to last year is a commentator for Championship level matches.

For the XV season in 2023, the scoreboard and commentator were left out of the mandatory requirements as well as the previously planned pitch side cafe. In 2023, the Match Commissioner system was first introduced to check the match day requirements.

The purpose is to find ways to improve the standard of our leagues as we try to market ourselves to potential sponsors and partners along with a view to getting some or all of our leagues sponsored. We need to up our game and levels of responsibility so that we look more attractive to potential sponsors and partners.

SRL's Match Day Guide:

- In English:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VJLaqrseB0HaRj7hDxErCE4gip9vFoAw/view?usp=sharing>

- In Finnish:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13hKehoieKGkCCPEGIZD79dLqw9SFIANB/view?usp=sharing>

All teams / clubs participating in the men's and women's Championship and Men's Division 1 series in XV competitions must have the following items in place during match days:

- Goal posts
- Proper goal post protection
- 14 pitch flags
- Benches – for substitutes
- Technical Zones – where only those on the team sheet are allowed.

Nominated match commissioners will, during the pre-match procedures, note whether the home team has fulfilled the requirements. The match commissioner will mark down on the match report card if any of the criteria is missing. Each criteria missing incurs 1 point. Result of the pre-match check is sent to the HC.

Points are registered on the data sheet seen by those responsible for leagues and competitions.

**Once a limit of 3 points has accrued the team loses a league point.**

One exception to fulfilling the criteria is the goal posts. If the goal posts do not meet the criteria, e.g. they are seated on the dead ball line or use feet to stand upright, they can be approved if documentation is provided from the city confirming valid reason for not complying. The posts must however be stable, proper goal posts and equipped with post protectors.

## **Mandatory items to be placed for the Match Day**

### **Goal Posts**

These are of the correct variety and dimensions and should be inserted into the ground on the try line with no risk of them falling over (e.g. football goal posts with extensions are not sufficient).

If feet are needed to keep the posts upright, the feet must be sufficiently covered (e.g. a thin layer of astro turf is not sufficient).

### **Post protectors.**

Of the approved variety and securely wrapped to the post (e.g. mattresses wrapped around the posts is not sufficient).

### **Pitch marking flags.**

There must be 14 flags (dead ball, try line, 22, halfway, 22, try line, dead ball) of the correct variety – as in safe to be placed in the correct position with no risk of metal bases causing injury. The pitch flags do need to be approved as safe, but they do not need to have padded posts or hinged shafts.

### **Benches**

Enough seating area, a bench or a substitute box, for the team substitutes. Should no benches be available then all substitutes are required to sit in the stands.

### **Technical Zones**

A box as close as possible to 10 m wide by 3 m deep, marked in pitch paint or by cones. The box should be situated 2 m from the pitch and in between the 10-metre line and 22-metre line starting from the 10-metre line. All those on the team sheet should reside in the technical zone.

# Checking process for Match Commissioners

Before the kick-off of the match:

- Check that all requirements are met and record them by taking a picture (you can use the table on the other side if you want)
- If a requirement is not met, communicate this to the host club:
  - The host club can either fix the issue or,
  - If the issue is not fixable or the host club wishes not to fix the issue, then the issue will be marked down as a minus point.

After the match (or already after checking):

- Ensure the [Match Commissioner Report](#) is completed within 48 hours after the match. In the case that 3 or more reports are not sent on time, the club will be accountable for a [fine](#).
- Send the pictures taken of the requirements to the HC email.

After the report has been sent:

- HC will check the report and keep a score of the possible minus points
- HC will check the pictures if there is something to note
- HC will not modify the reported result but will give advice based on the pictures if some of the requirements have anything to improve

If there are uncertain cases, the MC's word will stand but we can have a look together on how to improve or what to fix for the club to be able to match the requirements

Example of the match officials' checklist:

Item	Criteria fulfilled	Date
Goal posts		
Post Protectors		
Pitch Flags		
Benches		
Technical Zones		
Scoreboard		



# Control Changes

Date	Changes	Responsible
03.2026	<p>Replacing in the entire document: National League and Competitions Manager for Head of Competitions (NLCM &gt; HC)</p> <p>General Regulations Section:  <a href="#">2.2</a> Replacing “<i>accepts that the disciplinary jurisdiction is held by the disciplinary body mentioned in the Finnish Anti-Doping Code</i>” with “<i>has delegated the disciplinary jurisdiction for breaches of the Code to the disciplinary body mentioned in the Finnish Anti-Doping Code</i>”.</p> <p>2.4 Adding <i>tobacco products</i> in general.</p> <p>3.3 Team Sheets are now called Line Ups, and the procedure to fulfill is located in A4 - Line Ups</p> <p><a href="#">5.5.1</a> Replacing: “<i>governing body of sport in Finland and be heard under the rules of that association</i>” with “<i>Finnish Sports Arbitration Board according to its rules for appeals</i>”.</p> <p>Other changes: Other changes have been signed with a vertical line in the right margin of the text.</p>	Alejandra Vargas Tuomas Tiihonen
05.2025	<p>Inclusion of the XV regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· New section concerning the schedules.</li> <li>· Changes on the number of loans.</li> <li>· Adjustment on the fees.</li> <li>· Changes on the loaning or use of NT players in Div 1 or 2.</li> <li>· Added titles and links to better understanding of the document.</li> </ul>	Alejandra Vargas Palemia Field
05.2025	New Citing process deadlines	Palemia Field
04.2025	Update sanction times: Appendix A2	Alejandra Vargas Palemia Field
02.2025	Restructuration of the whole Disciplinary processes under World Rugby 17	Alejandra Vargas Palemia Field

---

11.2025 Changes on the entire structure of the Alejandra Vargas document.  
Created a section for the sanctions and fees  
Created a section for team sheets procedure and format.

---

05.2024 1.4.1 Disciplinary matters: Principles Alejandra Vargas  
2.2.2 XVs Competitions: Match structure, Replacements.  
2.3.1 XVs Competitions: Format, Regular season  
2.5.3 XVs Competitions: Eligibility and loan players, Fielding national team players  
4 Contacts  
Appendix 2: Sanctions for foul play

---