

National Registration Policy

TYPE OF POLICY	Participation
EFFECTIVE DATE	3 November 2025
POLICY OWNER	ARLC
POLICY CONTACT	General Manager Player Safety & Research

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A. REASON FOR POLICY

To ensure all Participants of the game of Rugby League have a current registration each Season.

B. POLICY STATEMENT

The intent of this policy is to ensure that Participants have an awareness of the obligations of their registration and that the game of Rugby League can communicate with those Participants.

C. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Participants registering to play, officiate, coach or participate as safety personnel and/or volunteers at all Clubs/Divisions/Groups/Leagues/Associations.

D. DEFINITIONS

ARLC	Australian Rugby League Commission Limited
NRL	National Rugby League
PARTICIPANTS	Players, match officials, sports trainers, coaches, safety personnel and volunteers
NATIONAL ONLINE REGISTRATION PLATFORM	NRL registration platform that facilitates the registration of Participants (currently known as "MySideline")
SEASON	The period of time where a rugby league competition (including trials and other pre (and post) season games) is conducted each year
Terms	Any NRL/ARLC/state league terms, conditions, policies, codes, guidelines (and similar) that apply to the Participant from time to time
Privacy Laws	Means the <i>Privacy Act 1988</i> (Cth)

E. POLICY HISTORY

PARTICIPATION POLICY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	VERSION	RELEASE DATE	AUTHOR
P004	2.4	5 th February 2019	National Participation Policy Committee

P004	3.0	1 st December 2019	National Participation Policy Committee
P004	4.0	3 rd November 2025	General Manager Player safety & Research

1. PURPOSE

The ARLC has implemented a registration platform that facilitates the online registration of Participants. The purpose of the National Online Registration Platform is to:

- Achieve consistency and accuracy of data collection of registered Participants.
- Ensure compliance in reporting statistics.
- Improve communication between the national body (NRL), the state bodies and Participants.
- Deliver a national registration system for Participants.
- Provide an efficient mechanism to assist Club volunteers to have data collected in a specified timeframe.
- Ensure acceptance of any applicable Terms for every Participant within the National Online Registration Platform.

2. REGISTRATION PERIOD

A Participant must be registered to a Club/Division/Group/League/Association on the NRL Online Registration Platform (subject to Club/Division/Group/League/Association availability):

- Prior to participating in training and games.
- Notwithstanding 2.a above, prior to June 30 in each given Season for existing players.
- At any time during the current Season for players new to the game.
- Clubs/Divisions/Groups/Leagues/Associations may set a time period, notwithstanding 2.c above.

3. DE-REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

A registered Participant can be de-registered, in addition to 9 below, in a Season if they:

- Do not take part in any game or any part of a game in that Season (including trials, pre-season or in-season games).
- Are convicted of a criminal offence that renders their participation inappropriate.

4. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

A player must be registered on the National Online Registration Platform before they can participate in a trial or competition game for a Club. In registering as a player, the player accepts the Terms. The registration is completed as follows:

- a. A player returning to the Club with whom they were registered in the previous Season must use the National Online Registration Platform to complete the self-registration process prior to June 30.
- b. A player registering for the first time with a Club may use the National Online Registration Platform to self-register at any time. The player's registration will remain in a 'pending' status until:
 - i. The player provides confirmation of the details entered on the National Online Registration Platform by producing a birth certificate or current/valid passport or driver's licence to the Club (which must occur prior to participating in matches); and
 - ii. The Club is satisfied with the player's identification, at such time the system administrator will approve the pending player as a Participant for the Season.
- c. A player seeking a clearance from a Club from which they were registered in a previous Season must authorise the Club to initiate a clearance on their behalf or complete the online clearance process prior to June 30:
 - i. The player must provide the new Club with evidence of their name and age by producing a birth certificate or current/valid passport or driver's licence.
 - ii. The player will receive notification of approval by email. The email will contain a link to the National Online Registration Platform, which must be completed by the player accepting all applicable Terms.
- d. Other manual options for registration may be implemented by state leagues in remote and regional areas where access to online forms is limited. These registrations must be entered on the National Online Registration Platform by the relevant governing body according to designated timelines.

5. REGISTRATION OF COACHES & TEAM STAFF

Registration of a coach and team staff (team manager, assistant coach, trainers) is mandatory once they have been appointed by the Club regardless of whether the person holds a current accreditation or not. By registering and accepting the applicable Terms, a coach and team staff agrees to abide by all Terms as amended from time to time.

- a. Registration must be completed through self-registration via the National Online Registration Platform.
- b. The system administrator must assign the registered coach and team staff to the relevant team/s.
- c. If a coach or applicable team staff are unaccredited or their accreditation has expired, a course must be completed (for coaches refer to National Coach Accreditation Policy) by no later than June 30 in the year in which they are registered. Failure to complete the training to become accredited in the relevant role may lead to sanctions by the appropriate governing body.

- d. Coaches and team staff (18 years and over) directly involved with, or in an environment that includes, people under the age of 18 will be required to provide current Working with Children Check/Clearance (**WWCC**) details upon registration.
- e. Coaches and team staff (18 years and over) directly involved with, or in an environment that includes, people under the age of 18 will be required to complete the NRL Patrons of the Game Child Safety Module (as made available from time to time).

6. REGISTRATION OF SAFETY PERSONNEL

Registration of all safety personnel (including LeagueSafe Trainers and First Responders) is mandatory. By registering and accepting the applicable Terms, all safety personnel agree to abide by all Terms as amended from time to time.

- a. A First Responder or LeagueSafe Trainer must have completed an accreditation prior to engaging in any Community Rugby League matches (refer to the NRL On-Field Policy).
- b. Registration must be completed through self-registration via the National Online Registration Platform.
- c. Safety personnel (18 years and over) directly involved with, or in an environment that includes, people under the age of 18 will be required to provide current WWCC details upon registration.
- d. Safety Personnel (18 years and over) directly involved with, or in an environment that includes people, under the age of 18 will be required to complete the NRL Patrons of the Game Child Safety Module (as made available from time to time).

7. REGISTRATION OF MATCH OFFICIALS

Registration of all match officials is mandatory. By registering and accepting the applicable Terms, all match officials agree to abide by such Terms as amended from time to time.

- a. A match official must have completed an accreditation prior to registering and officiating in a match.
- b. Registration must be completed through self-registration via the National Online Registration Platform.
- c. Match officials (18 years and over) directly involved with, or in an environment that includes, people under the age of 18 will be required to provide current WWCC details upon registration.
- d. Match Officials (18 years and above) directly involved with, or in an environment that includes, people under the age of 18 will be required to complete the NRL Patrons of the Game Child Safety Module (as made available from time to time).

8. REGISTRATION OF VOLUNTEERS

The purpose of registering volunteers is to record and understand the volunteer workforce within Rugby League. Knowing who our volunteers are allows the game to provide benefits such as insurance, communication, improved retention, education and rewards. By registering and

accepting the applicable Terms, a volunteer agrees to abide by all Terms as amended from time to time.

- a. Registration of volunteers is compulsory for the following office bearers:
 - President
 - Vice President/s
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Registrar
- b. Registration is strongly recommended for all other volunteers who are defined as non-accredited (unpaid workforce) office bearers of a Club/League/Association.
- c. Registration may be completed through self-registration via the National Online Registration Platform.
- d. Volunteers (18 years and above) who are directly involved with, or in an environment that includes, people under the age of 18 will be required to provide current WWCC details upon registration.
- e. Volunteers (18 years and above) who are directly involved with, or in an environment that includes, people under the age of 18, will be required to complete the NRL Patrons of the Game Child Safety Module (as made available from time to time).

9. REVOCATION OF REGISTRATION

The NRL reserves the right to deny or revoke any registration in cases where the individual fails to meet the necessary criteria, or their behaviours and conduct breaches any applicable Terms (including established codes and expectations), compromising the game's values and standards. The grounds for revocation of a registration include, but are not limited to, the below.

Grounds for Registration Revocation

- a. Breach of [National Code of Conduct](#).
- b. Failure to uphold the principles of fair play (as determined by the ARLC/NRL).
- c. Criminal misconduct.
- d. Best interests of the game (as determined by the ARLC/NRL).
- e. Child safety breach (see [Child Safeguarding Policy](#)).
- f. Investigation under the [Member Protection Policy \(MPP\)](#).

Notification of Revocation of Registration

In the first instance the ARLC/NRL will enact the recommendation from any relevant governing body in relation to a registration. Upon a decision to revoke a registration, the individual in question will be promptly notified in writing by the relevant governing body.

The notification will include:

- The specific grounds for the revocation of a registration;
- The effective date of revocation; and
- Information about the appeals process.

Appeals Process

The individual whose registration has been revoked has the right to appeal the decision (the **Appellant**). The appeals process includes the following steps:

a. Submission of Appeal

The individual must submit a written response to their relevant governing body within 5 business days from the date of notification of revocation. The response should include a detailed statement outlining the grounds for appealing the decision to revoke the registration and any supporting evidence.

The individual will only be eligible to appeal if one of the following grounds is made out:

- i. **New Evidence:** In the event of new or newly identified, relevant evidence that was not formerly available at the time of the revocation decision.
- ii. **Bias or Prejudice:** If there is good evidence that the revocation decision was influenced by bias or conflict of interest on the part of the relevant decision maker.

b. Appeals Review

The relevant governing body is to forward the written response to the NRL Integrity and Compliance Unit at integrity@nrl.com.au who will review the appeal request, including the stated grounds for appeal and determine, in their absolute discretion, whether the appeal shall proceed. If an appeal is approved, the NRL will convene a committee consisting of up to three members nominated by the NRL Integrity and Compliance Unit (**Committee**). If required, an appeal hearing may be held either in-person or virtually.

The Appellant is entitled to have a representative or support person present during any such hearing. However, it is the NRL's intention that all disciplinary processes are conducted without involving lawyers (and legal costs). Therefore, legal representatives are not permitted to appear before or attend an appeal hearing, except with the prior consent of the Committee which consent may be withheld by the Committee in its absolute discretion.

c. Decision

The Committee should make a determination within 30 days of receipt of the brief from the NRL Integrity and Compliance Unit. The decision of the Committee will be communicated in writing to the Appellant, including the reasons for the decision.

If the appeal is successful, the Appellant's registration will be reinstated effective from the date that it was initially revoked. The NRL should then take steps to update relevant records and communicate the reinstatement to relevant stakeholders.

If the appeal is unsuccessful, the revocation remains in force and the Appellant is prohibited from applying for registration for a period of 12 months starting on and from the date of initial revocation or for such other period of time as determined by the Committee.

d. Re-instatement of Registration after Revocation

After completing the registration revocation period and addressing any requirements associated with the revocation, participants seeking reinstatement must initiate the process by contacting the relevant governing body. This involves transparent communication, submitting comprehensive documentation detailing corrective actions taken and demonstrating compliance with the game's standards.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

All information related to the registration process (including revocation and appeals) will be treated confidentially, in accordance with applicable Privacy Laws.

Disclaimer: The NRL reserves the right to update its policies and procedures to align with best practices and evolving regulations. It is the responsibility of all Participants to ensure they are familiar with the most current versions of NRL policies. The NRL will make reasonable efforts to communicate any policy changes, but it remains the duty of Participants to stay informed of the latest updates.