



PART 5

RULES, REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS OF QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL
LEAGUE LIMITED RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION
OF

TRIBUNALS

QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED

ACN 009 878 013



Contents

5.1	ESTABLISHMENT OF TRIBUNALS AND MATCH REVIEW COMMITTEES.....	4
5.2	MATCH REVIEW COMMITTEE.....	6
5.2.1	PROCEDURES FOR MATCH REVIEW COMMITTEES	7
5.2.1.1	Decision of Match Review Committee.....	8
5.2.1.2	Penalties – Demerit Points.....	9
5.2.1.3	Demerit Points	9
5.2.1.4	Grading’s	10
5.2.1.5	Base Penalties	10
5.2.1.6	Early Plea Incentive	10
5.2.1.7	Loading for previous convictions	10
5.2.1.8	Increase for Other Cases Involving One or More Previous Convictions	10
5.2.1.9	Rounding Down.....	11
5.2.1.10	Calculation of Period of Suspension.....	11
5.2.1.11	Service of the Period of Suspension.....	11
5.2.1.13	Participation in the Game of Rugby League.....	12
5.2.1.14	Suspensions – Fixture Matches/Weeks	12
5.2.15	Decisions Final and Binding.....	13
5.3	JUDICIARY TRIBUNALS	13
5.3.1	REFERRAL TO JUDICIARY TRIBUNAL.....	14
5.3.2	PROCEDURE FOR JUDICIARY TRIBUNAL HEARINGS	15
5.4	EVIDENCE BY PLAYER FROM OPPOSING TEAM	16
5.4.1	CONDUCT OF JUDICIARY TRIBUNAL HEARINGS.....	17
5.4.2	DECISIONS FINAL AND BINDING	17
5.5	DISCIPLINARY REVIEW COMMITTEE	17
5.6	DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL.....	17
5.6.1	PROCEDURES BEFORE DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL HEARINGS	20
5.6.2	COMPLIANCE WITH NRL CODE OF CONDUCT AND QRL STANDARD REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING VILIFICATION.....	22
5.7	RIGHTS OF APPEAL	23
5.7.1	JUDICIARY AND DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS	23
5.8	APPEAL PROCEDURES FROM JUDICIARY AND DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS.....	24
5.8.1	AFFECTED PERSONS	25
5.9	DISPUTES TRIBUNAL.....	26



5.10 STATEWIDE COMPETITIONS	27
MATCH REVIEW COMMITTEE - BASE PENALTIES.....	28
MATCH REVIEW SUMMARY SHEET	28
JUDICIARY RESULT SUMMARY SHEET	32
SAMPLE ON FIELD INCIDENT REPORT TO BE USED BY CHAIRPERSON OF A REGION OR LOCAL LEAGUE	33
SAMPLE LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF A CHARGE TO APPEAR BEFORE A HEARING OF A DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL	35
SAMPLE LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF OUTCOME OF DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL HEARING.....	36
TRIBUNALS FLOW CHART.....	37
TRIBUNALS/COMMITTEE TIME FRAME.....	39
DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL TIME FRAME	39



5.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF TRIBUNALS AND MATCH REVIEW COMMITTEES

The following Tribunals, Match Review Committees and Disciplinary Review Committees shall be appointed annually by the directorate of each relevant Administration Unit, as set out below, at its first meeting after the Annual General meeting or such later date as the QRL may determine/approve (but in any event prior to the commencement of any Rugby League Competition for that year):

QRL Board

- a) Judiciary Tribunals;
- b) Disciplinary Tribunals;
- c) Appeals Tribunals;
- d) Disputes Tribunals; and
- e) Drug Judiciary Tribunal.

Regional Board of Delegates

- a) Disciplinary Tribunals;
- b) Disputes Tribunal; and
- c) Appeals Tribunals.

Local Leagues

- a) Judiciary Tribunals;
- b) Disciplinary Tribunals; and
- c) Match Review Committees.
- d) Disciplinary Review Committees



Each of the above Tribunals shall be where possible, be made up of at least three (3) members and may include employees of an Administration Unit, the ARLC, or the NRL and their affiliated bodies. The Match Review Committee and Disciplinary Review Committee shall be made up of at least one (1) member with a discretion in the Chairperson of the League to appoint further members. However, where any of those members have been involved directly or indirectly or are in a position to give evidence in respect of an incident which gives rise to a referral to a Tribunal, Match Review Committee or Disciplinary Review Committee then that member shall be deemed to have a conflict of interest and must be disqualified from the Tribunal or Committee for that particular incident. In such circumstances the relevant Local League, Regional Board of Delegates or QRL Board shall appoint a replacement member for the hearing. Such further appointment shall also occur where a member of the relevant Tribunal or Committee is temporarily unable to sit. It is noted that members of the local league DRC can also be appointed to the local league MRC and vice versa.

A member of a Tribunal referred to above shall be ineligible to sit as a member of any other Tribunal for a particular matter where a potential conflict of interest may arise. By way example - A Person appointed as a member of a Judiciary Tribunal shall not sit on an Appeal from that Tribunal. Similarly, a Match Review Committee or Disciplinary Review Committee member shall not sit on a Judiciary Tribunal hearing or Disciplinary Tribunal Hearing or any appeal from that hearing in respect of the original decision of the Match Review Committee or Disciplinary Tribunal Hearing.

Notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in the role of any of such Tribunal/Match Review Committee Member/Disciplinary Review Committee or persons acting as aforesaid or that any of them were disqualified or had vacated the position of Tribunal/Match Review Committee Member/Disciplinary Review Committee, all acts done at a meeting of a Tribunal, Match Review Committee convened in accordance with these Rules or by any person acting bona fide as a Tribunal Member or Match Review Committee member shall be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed or had duly continued in their role as Tribunal/Match Review Committee Member and was qualified and had continued to be a Tribunal/Match Review Committee Member.

Tribunal/Match Review Committee/Disciplinary Review Committee members may meet together in person or by electronic device provided that at all times the members shall be able to hear and may be heard by all other members at the meeting, for the determination of matters referred to that Tribunal/Match Review Committee/Disciplinary Review Committee. They may also adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they see fit.

Where the members are not all in attendance at one place and are holding a meeting using an electronic device and each member can hear and be heard by all other members at the meeting then:

- a) The participating members shall, for the purposes of every provision of these Rules concerning meetings of Tribunals/Match Review Committees, be taken to have assembled together at a meeting and be present at that meeting.
- b) The chairman shall ensure that any member participating electronically has received all reports and other evidence which may be relied upon or referred to at the meeting.



- c) All proceedings of those Tribunals/Match Review Committees conducted in that manner shall be as valid and effective as if conducted at a meeting at which all of them were present.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Part 5 relating to Disciplinary charges, in the case of alleged offences which do not fall within a literal interpretation of Off-field Disciplinary charges and in the event of a Local League or a Region not taking appropriate action, the supervising Region or the QRL may at their absolute discretion take action to address the alleged offence.

All acts done at a meeting of the Committee Members, including all Tribunals, or by any person acting bona fide as a Committee or Tribunal member shall be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed or had duly continued in office and was qualified and had continued to be a Committee or Tribunal Member, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any of such persons acting as aforesaid or that any of them were disqualified or had vacated office.

5.2 MATCH REVIEW COMMITTEE

Background

The purpose of the following Background is to assist Local Leagues (noting that State-wide Competitions apply the adopted NRL Judiciary Code of Procedure) with an understanding of the role of the Match Review Committee and shall not be used in substitution of any Rule. In the event of any inconsistency occurring between the background and the Rules, the Rules prevail.

A Match Review Committee of a Local League has delegated authority to deal at first instance with the alleged misconduct of a player involved in an on-field incident in a match under that Local League's control.

To avoid any uncertainty, the provisions of this Part 5 relating to player misconduct do not apply to Junior players participating in mini and mod football who are dealt with by the referee directly by way of rotation rather than send off. If further action is required, this will be taken at the discretion of the match's controlling body.

All Match Review Committees must apply the description of player misconduct as set out in the NRL Rugby League Laws of the Game relating to on-field incidents (as published from time to time on www.qrl.com.au) in all proceedings before them.

All Match Review Committees must ensure that allegations of player misconduct are dealt with expeditiously and in accordance with the Rules set out below.

The role of a Match Review Committee is to consider and impose charge/s against a player who has been either placed on report by a referee or sent from the field by a referee. A Match Review Committee may, however, have a case referred to it by the Chairperson of the Local League or a Club Chairperson through the Chairperson of the local League. For example, a complaint may be lodged with the Local League Chairperson regarding the On-field behaviour of any player. The Chairperson of the Local League will make a decision as to whether or not the complaint requires further investigation and, if so, the Chairperson would forward the complaint to the Match Review Committee



to deal with. It is advisable for a Local League to state clearly in its Local League competition rules if it permits the citing of a player on the basis of video evidence.

A player who has been reported for player misconduct shall not be required to appear before a Match Review Committee.

All Match Review Committee decisions shall be based on one of the following: -

- a) the written On-Field Incident Report;
- b) a written complaint received by the Chairperson of the Local League relating to an alleged incident and also any such further evidence (e.g. video evidence of the incident) as determined by the Match Review Committee; or
- c) a written complaint received by the local League Chairperson from the Chairperson of an affected player's Club which is supported by video evidence.

5.2.1 PROCEDURES FOR MATCH REVIEW COMMITTEES

All Match Review Committees are required to apply the demerit point penalty judicial system originally set out in the Schedules to this Part and/or published on the website www.qrl.com.au from time to time and in so doing shall adhere to those principles set out below.

For purposes of this Part 5 of the Rules: -

- a) a reference to an "On-Field Incident Report form" means the form published on the website www.qrl.com.au from time to time (the On-field Incident Report);
- b) a reference to player misconduct means such conduct as is set out in the NRL Rugby League Laws of the Game International Level relating to On-field Incidents (as published from time to time on the website www.qrl.com.au).

Circumstances giving rise to referrals to the Match Review Committee for adjudication: -

- a) Player misconduct - All allegations of player misconduct relating to On-field Incidents including those resulting in dismissal from the field of play must be reported in writing in a Referees On-field Incident Report by the referee.
- b) In cases where a player has been dismissed from the field or placed on report video evidence may be considered by the match review committee to charge to the player in the absence of the on field incident report.
- c) Referral by Chairperson of Local League – Where a written complaint is received by the Chairperson of the Local League relating to an alleged incident involving On-field player misconduct, the Chairperson of the Local League may in his or her discretion refer a copy of the complaint and any such further evidence provided (e.g. video evidence of the incident). The report and supporting video evidence must be provided to the relevant Match Review Committee within two (2) business days of the player's alleged misconduct.
- d) Referral by Chairperson of competing Club – Where a Chairperson of a competing Club considers that a Player is guilty of On-field player misconduct then that Chairperson can refer the incident



to the local league Match Review Committee direct by way of a written report of the incident together with supporting video evidence. The Match Review Committee considers if there may be a case to answer, then the report and supporting video evidence must be provided to the relevant Match Review Committee within one (1) business day of the player's alleged misconduct.

- e) Charging a player not referred to in Referees On-field Incident Report - Based on information before it, the Match Review Committee may charge a player/s not named in the referees On-field Incident Report or in the referral by the Chairperson of a Local League with alleged misconduct and shall then apply the appropriate reporting and referral procedure referred to above in respect of the player charged.

By way of example - Video evidence provided to the Match Review Committee in respect of a particular On-field Incident identifies another unreported player involved in that On-field Incident or a separate On-field Incident involving another player which the Match Review Committee deems to be player misconduct.

For purposes of this Part 5.2, a reference to either a Chairperson of a Local League or a Chairperson of a competing club includes a delegate of the relevant Chairperson who has been duly accepted at the League's AGM.

5.2.1.1 Decision of Match Review Committee

The written report of the Incident and other evidence shall be considered by the Match Review Committee. The Match Review Committee shall then determine whether the charge has been made out and if so apply the appropriate demerit points as per the Base Penalty Schedule to this Part 5.

If the Match Review Committee is of the opinion that a charge should be referred to the Judiciary for the determination of an appropriate penalty whether because the Match Review Committee is of the opinion that the offence charged is more serious than the maximum grading for that offence in the Base Penalty Schedule or otherwise, then the Match Review Committee will advise the Chairperson of the Local League or competing club accordingly for subsequent referral to a Judiciary Tribunal.

Alternatively, where in the opinion of the Match Review Committee the sending off of the player during the match is deemed sufficient penalty then no demerit points or suspension will apply.

Decisions of the Match Review Committee may be made by simple majority and where a player is found to have a case to answer then their Club is to be notified in writing of the decision by way of the Match Review Summary Sheet sent to all competing clubs, the findings upon which the decision is based and the penalty imposed within two (2) business days of the making of the decision by the Match Review Committee. The Club shall be responsible for formally notifying the player of the finding within the time specified.

Within two (2) business days of receipt of the committee's decision the player shall, through his or her Club, either: -

- a) elect to accept the decision of the Match Review Committee in which case the player must notify the Club of this decision and sign and submit via the Club in writing;
- b) notify the Local League via the Club that he or she does not accept the decision of the Match Review Committee and/or wishes to challenge the severity of the grading applied then the Local



League shall refer the matter to a Judiciary Tribunal before which the Player can contest the charge and/or the severity of the grading.

In the event that the player does not adopt either of the options set out above, then the player shall be deemed to have adopted option a) above and the early guilty plea discount applies. In such cases the Club is authorised in writing on behalf of the player.

Written notification from the Local League of the outcome of either option above shall be given to the Club within two (2) business days of receipt of the player's election.

Where a player is found not to have a case to answer he or she shall be notified accordingly of that decision by the Match Review Committee. The player's Club shall be notified also.

Notwithstanding the above timelines, all relevant parties must ensure that the process referred to above is completed within three (3) business days of the On-field Incident Report being received by the Match Review Committee.

If the On-field Incident Report is **NOT** received by the Match Review Committee by 3:30pm on the first business day following the Game, then the player shall be deemed to have no case to answer. Extenuating circumstances will be at the discretion of the Local League Chairperson.

5.2.1.2 Penalties – Demerit Points

100 demerit points shall equal one (1) match suspension and shall be calculated as one (1) fixture match of the regular competition. This is to include representative matches, State Junior Carnival, Mal Meninga Cup matches, State Wide 20's, Preliminary Finals, Semi Finals and Finals or other QRL sanctioned matches. However, this does not include where a team has a bye as indicated by the Local League draw, or the forfeiture of a match or when the team for which the player plays has not qualified for the Final Series.

A player's team (grade) will be determined from the grade which he or she was given the suspension and such suspension will count regardless of the grade in which the player is signed on for.

5.2.1.3 Demerit Points

The only penalty which may be imposed on a player for the commission of an offence is the allocation to that Player of demerit points and the consequences flowing from that allocation as provided for by the provisions of this Part 5 and the Base Penalty Schedule.

Demerit points allocated to a player shall be taken to be allocated on the day when the offence was committed and subject to any reduction arising out of serving a suspension, shall remain so allocated for one (1) year from that day.

The allocation of demerit points to a player or the accumulation of demerit points by a player shall automatically have the consequences set forth in the Base Penalty Schedule.

In any case where greater than 99 demerits points are allocated to a player such that a period of suspension is imposed, the allocation shall, once that period of suspension has been served, be reduced by the number of demerit points specified in the Base Penalty Schedule.



5.2.1.4 Grading's

For the purposes of calculating the penalty for an offence, the offences set forth in the First Schedule are each divided into five (5) grading's (Junior Base Schedule) and into three (3) grading's (Senior Base Schedule), with Grade one (1) representing the lower end on the scale of seriousness for the offence and Grade five (5) (Junior Base Schedule) or Grade three (3) (Senior Base Schedule) representing the higher end on the scale of seriousness for the offence.

5.2.1.5 Base Penalties

The Base Penalty for each grading of an offence shall be the number of demerit points specified in the Base Penalty Schedule. Different base penalty schedules are applied in junior rugby league and senior rugby league as well as a Pro Rata Schedule for shortened season which enables the base penalty schedules to be more equitable applied. These schedules are included as an appendix to these rules.

5.2.1.6 Early Plea Incentive

A player shall receive a twenty-five percent (25%) reduction of the Base Penalty applicable to the charge and grading when calculating the Early Plea Incentive. This will also apply where the original charge has been agreed but the severity of the grading of the offence has been lessened by the Judiciary Tribunal to the grading nominated by the player. The player will be entitled to the Early Guilty Plea discount for this lesser charge accepted by the Judiciary Tribunal.

If the Early Plea Form is NOT received by the Match Review Committee within two (2) business days following notification of the decision by the Match Review Committee, then the Player shall be deemed to have accepted the decision of the Match Review Committee.

5.2.1.7 Loading for previous convictions

Where a player charged with an offence has previously been convicted of a Grade one (1) charge/s and that conviction was entered more than one (1) year prior to the offence giving rise to the charge, the conviction shall be ignored for the purposes of calculating the penalty.

5.2.1.8 Increase for Other Cases Involving One or More Previous Convictions

Subject to Rule 5.2.1.7 where a player charged with an offence has been previously convicted of an offence in the two (2) year period immediately preceding the incident giving rise to the charge, the Elective Penalty shall be the number of demerit points calculated in accordance with the following:

- a) All similar offences Grade 2 or higher within a 2-year time period will attract a 50% loading;
- b) All non-similar offences Grade 2 or higher within a 2-year time period or higher will attract a 20% loading.

For the purposes of this provision, a player shall be taken to have been previously convicted of the "same offence" if he or she has previously been convicted in the period referred to of an offence of the same description.

In the case of a player charged with making the following:

- a) an Intentional High Tackle



- b) a Reckless High Tackle
- c) a Careless High Tackle

that player shall be taken to have been convicted of the “same offence”.

Where a player is charged with more than one offence in the same match loading shall only apply to convictions prior to this match.

5.2.1.9 Rounding Down

After the calculation referred to in the provisions above, the figure thereby obtained as the penalty shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number.

5.2.1.10 Calculation of Period of Suspension

Points are determined from the classification and grading of offences in the Base Penalty Schedule. The Match Review Committee will decide the grading of any charge the player is found guilty of. The base points are then determined from the Schedule. Any increase relating to a player’s history for similar or non-similar offences is then added. This total may then be subject to discounts for Early Plea and good conduct. The total is then added to any carry over points. The total points then determine any suspension for the player.

After all rights of appeal and review have been exhausted and the following demerit points have either been allocated to a player or accumulated by a player then the following periods of suspension apply:-

- a) One (1) to ninety-nine (99) demerit points – the player is not suspended from playing but carries the allocated points for one (1) year from the date of the offense or until any further allocation produces by accumulation a total number of points in excess of ninety-nine (99);
- b) Greater than ninety-nine (99) but less than two hundred (200) – the player is forthwith suspended from one (1) Match; his or her total points reduced by one hundred (100) when the suspension has been served, but he or she carries the balance of points (if any) for one (1) year from the date of the offense until any further allocation produces by accumulation a total number of points in excess of ninety-nine (99);

5.2.1.11 Service of the Period of Suspension

Where a player has been suspended from playing in a forthcoming Match or Matches, his or her period of suspension shall be calculated in accordance with the following:

- a) The player is suspended from playing until after the forthcoming match or matches have each been played and concluded;
- b) When each forthcoming Match has been played and concluded, the player’s allocated or accumulated demerit points shall reduce by one hundred (100) demerit points for each such Match;
- c) The period of suspension shall be taken to have been served when the player’s allocated or accumulated demerit points have been so reduced to less than one hundred (100) demerit points;



- d) If the player had been actually selected to play in a Representative Match at the time when the suspension was imposed, the Representative Match in which he would have participated but for his suspension shall be taken into account and, once played and concluded, shall reduce the player's allocated or accumulated demerit points by one hundred (100) demerit points;
- e) In the case of a player who, at the time when the suspension was imposed, has been or is subsequently actually selected as a playing member of a Touring Team, the Matches played by the Touring Team shall be taken into account and, once played and concluded, shall reduce the player's allocated or accumulated demerit points by one hundred (100) demerit points.
- f) A maximum of 200 demerit points can be reduced in any calendar week with sufficient evidence that competition fixtures or representative fixtures have been missed.
- g) In cases where a player is suspended they are prohibited from participating in any capacity within the League of which the offence occurred for the period of the suspension. Players are also suspended from playing in any competition for which they are dual registered.

5.2.1.13 Participation in the Game of Rugby League

Any registered player participating in any competition under the jurisdiction of the QRL (including those Games sanctioned by the QRL) who is suspended by a Match Review Committee or Judiciary Tribunal must serve out the number of fixture Games imposed upon that player/s in accordance with the Base Penalty Schedule.

Any suspensions not completed within their current season will carry over to the following season and in this case any player who is suspended or disqualified from playing Rugby League.

A player serving a suspension for Grade 1 or 2 offences can participate in preseason club trials and must serve their suspension in competition fixtures only.

A player serving a suspension for Grade 3 or higher offences cannot participate pre-season club trials and must serve their suspension in competition fixtures only.

Any residual suspension that carries over to the next season will commence once the player has registered in that subsequent season.

5.2.1.14 Suspensions – Fixture Matches/Weeks

A one (1) week suspension shall be calculated as one (1) fixture match of the regular competition. This is to include representative matches, State Junior Carnival, Mal Meninga Cup matches, State Wide 20's, Preliminary Finals, Semi Finals and Finals or other QRL sanctioned match. However, this does not include where a team has a Bye as indicated by the Local League draw, or when the team for which the player plays has not qualified for the Final Series. In the case of the player's team winning on a forfeit that match shall count as part of the suspension. Any match which is officiated by a QRL Registered and affiliated Referee appointed by the QRL to that match shall be deemed to be sanctioned by the QRL.

A player's suspension shall be served in any QRL competition in which the player is eligible.

If a player is sent off during any match the player is provisionally suspended and cannot participate in further matches until the match review has considered and graded the incident.



Suspensions imposed by Local League Match Review Committees can only be applied in competitions governed by the relevant Administration Unit.

These Rules are not applicable to suspensions imposed by Schools or School Sport Bodies.

5.2.15 Decisions Final and Binding

Subject to any rights of appeal or review all decisions of the Match Review Committee shall be final and conclusive and shall be given effect to by the parties and the proceedings of the Match Review Committee into that particular incident are thereby concluded.

5.3 JUDICIARY TRIBUNALS

If the Judiciary Tribunal becomes aware of any other misconduct by that player, then it shall notify the player accordingly and convene a further hearing in accordance with these Rules to determine that further charge.

The Judiciary Tribunal will determine the player's guilt or otherwise and will then determine the appropriate penalty for the offence/s based on the evidence presented at the hearing and shall apply the penalties set out in the Judiciary Charge (No Early Plea and Found Guilty Form as published on the QRL website www.qrl.com.au).

By way of example - In the case of a high tackle, a player may enter a plea of guilty to the charge and take the suspension as detailed on the early plea sheet. However, should the player successfully argue the severity of the grading of the charge before the Judiciary Tribunal, then the suspension will be based on those listed on Early Plea Form (as published on the QRL website www.qrl.com.au). If, however, the Tribunal reduces the grading but not to the player's nomination then the suspension will be based on those listed in the Match Review Summary Sheet.

The following Background does not form part of the Rules and is for the purpose of assisting an understanding of the Judiciary Rules and shall not be used in substitution of any Rule. In the event of any inconsistency occurring between the Background and the Rules, the Rules prevail.

Background

A Judiciary Tribunal of an Administration Unit has delegated authority to deal with findings of player Misconduct and applicable penalties as set out in the Schedules to this part including any grading's relating to such player misconduct. Where there is no opportunity for a player to be offered or accept an Early Plea then the matter must be referred to a Judiciary Tribunal.

The delegated authority vested in each Judiciary Tribunal pursuant to the Rules of this part must be rigorously applied and shall ensure that Match Review Committees act accordingly and do not conduct their own judicial proceedings or promulgate and adopt their own rules regarding player Misconduct.

The Directorate of each Administration Unit referred to above shall appoint three (3) persons to exercise the judiciary powers granted to that Unit under these Rules. Whenever the appointed persons are exercising that power they shall be called a "Judiciary Tribunal".



5.3.1 REFERRAL TO JUDICIARY TRIBUNAL

Where any of the following circumstances apply:

- a) The Match Review Committee elects to refer the matter to the Judiciary Tribunal; or
- b) The player elects to have the matter referred to the Judiciary Tribunal (i.e. enters a plea of not guilty to the charge); or
- c) The player accepts the charge but elects to refer the severity of the grading to the Judiciary Tribunal; or
- d) The Manager or Chairperson of a relevant Region decides that the matter warrants a referral to a Judiciary Tribunal for determination;
- e) The Player has previously been found guilty of a charge/s relating to three (3) similar offences with the previous two (2) Football Years;
- f) All charges considered by MRC to be higher than grade 3 are directly referred to Judiciary.

then in each such circumstance the matter shall be referred to the Judiciary Tribunal for determination.

All Judiciary Tribunals shall adopt the demerit point judicial system set out in the Base Penalty Schedule to this Part and shall ensure that referrals from their associated Match Review Committees have adopted the same system.

If the Judiciary Tribunal is of the opinion that the offence charged is more serious than the maximum grading for that offence in the Base Penalty Schedule or otherwise, then the Judiciary Tribunal will allocate what it deems to be an appropriate penalty including an extended period of suspension, disqualification or expulsion.

The Match Review Committee shall provide the Judiciary Tribunal with the following documents: -

- a) a copy of its decision together with the information/evidence that it has relied upon in reaching its decision;
- b) a copy of the player's written notice to the Local League that he or she does not accept the decision and/or wishes to challenge the severity of the grading applied.

Where a player has entered a plea of not guilty or wishes to argue the severity of the grading of the charge then that player must submit to the Local League, a brief outline of the grounds on which he or she wishes to rely together with such further evidence (e.g. video evidence of the original incident) which is directly relevant to the appeal and which has not been considered/available by or to the Match Review Committee. Such summary must be included with the written referral to the Judiciary Tribunal together with all further relevant evidence.

Where a representative match (including a trial match) which has been sanctioned by the relevant Administration Unit is played between teams from Local Leagues or Clubs within the same or different Regions, a Judiciary Tribunal established for the match may deal with any player misconduct on the day using the Base Penalty Schedule. The relevant Judiciary Tribunal may at its absolute discretion



suspend the time limitations stated in these rules but must in any event hear the matter within ten (10) business days.

A player who is required to appear before a Judiciary Tribunal shall not participate in a Game until the matter has been considered by that Judiciary Tribunal.

A Junior player (as defined in Part 5) appearing before a Judiciary Tribunal (including a Junior player competing in a Senior Competition) who has been charged with an offence occurring in a match which has been referred under Rugby League Rules must be accompanied at the Tribunal by a member of the player's Local League or Club who has the authorisation of the Local League or Club.

5.3.2 PROCEDURE FOR JUDICIARY TRIBUNAL HEARINGS

Where a player has elected to contest a Match Review Committee decision then a Judiciary Tribunal will be convened.

Judiciary Tribunal hearings will be held at a venue, time and place as determined by the relevant Administration Unit for all contested offences. In the event that all parties agree a hearing may be conducted by electronic device provided that at all times the participants shall be able to hear and may be heard by all other participants at the hearing.

At the Judiciary Tribunal hearing the player charged: -

- a) must appear in person or by electronic device where agreed prior to the hearing;
- b) may be accompanied by either: -
 - i) a non-legally qualified Person appointed by the player charged e.g. coach/manager/club representative; or
 - ii) a Person who is legally qualified if in his or her absolute discretion the Chairperson of the Judiciary Tribunal considers it appropriate to represent the player charged before the Tribunal.

Please note that a Person that has participated in a Judiciary Tribunal is unable to advocate for a player charged and appearing before any Judiciary Tribunal in the same football year.

In the event that the player charged fails to appear at the hearing without the prior written consent of the Tribunal to an adjournment of the hearing then the Tribunal may either: -

- a) proceed with the hearing in the absence of the player charged; or
- b) at its absolute discretion adjourn the hearing until such time as the player charged does appear.

In the event of the Judiciary Tribunal adjourning the proceedings under these circumstances above the player shall be suspended automatically from participating in any sanctioned match until such time as the adjourned hearing is held.

Where any adjournment arises as a result of the inability of the Tribunal to convene a Hearing e.g. members of the Committee are unavailable then the player charged shall be entitled to participate in sanctioned matches until such time as the adjourned Hearing is held.



An adjourned Judiciary Tribunal hearing must be reconvened no longer than ten (10) business days from the original hearing date.

No Person may record Judiciary Tribunal hearing proceedings by any recording device without the permission of the Chairperson of the Tribunal.

It is a condition of the granting of permission to record Judiciary Tribunal hearing proceedings that the use of any information recorded is limited to the following purposes: -

- a) Appeals pursuant to these Rules;
- b) Court proceedings; or
- c) The provision of legal advice.

If a person records Tribunal hearing proceedings or uses a recording of same for other than the abovementioned purposes the relevant Administration Unit may institute appropriate disciplinary proceedings against that Person.

The Judiciary Tribunal will determine the player's guilt or otherwise and will then determine the appropriate penalty for the offence/s based on the evidence presented at the hearing and shall apply the penalties set out in the Judiciary Charge (No Early Plea) Form as published from time to time on the QRL website www.qrl.com.au.

Decisions of the Judiciary Tribunal may be made by simple majority.

Where a player is found guilty of a charge/s then the following parties are to be notified in writing by way of Judiciary Result Summary Sheet of the decision, the findings upon which the decision is based and the penalty imposed within two (2) business days of the making of the decision by the Tribunal: -

- a) the player;
- b) the players' Club;
- c) the Local League; and
- d) any third party who initiated the referral (if any).

Where a player is found not guilty of a charge/s he or she those parties referred to above shall be notified accordingly within two (2) business days of the making of the decision by the Tribunal.

5.4 EVIDENCE BY PLAYER FROM OPPOSING TEAM

If a player (A) seeks to have another player, player (B), give evidence on his or her behalf then the Chairperson of player A's Club must seek the prior written approval of the Chairperson of player B's Club.

There is however no obligation that compels player (B) to give such evidence.



If player (B) is contacted by player (A) by any medium including a direct approach, then player (A) may be charged with contrary conduct. If found guilty, a penalty of up to twelve (12) weeks may be imposed.

5.4.1 CONDUCT OF JUDICIARY TRIBUNAL HEARINGS

The conduct of the parties to any hearings convened by Judiciary Tribunals shall be determined by the Chairperson of that Tribunal at his or her absolute discretion.

In making its decision, a Judiciary Tribunal shall be entitled to accept the material and findings of fact of the Match Review Committee and admit or reject any other relevant material at its discretion. Each Judiciary Tribunal shall determine, at its absolute discretion, whether and to what extent it shall have regard to the rules of evidence applicable in the State of Queensland.

5.4.2 DECISIONS FINAL AND BINDING

Subject to any rights of appeal or review all decisions of the Judiciary Tribunal shall be final and conclusive. All such decisions shall be binding, and shall be given effect to by the parties and the proceedings of the Judiciary Tribunal into that particular incident are thereby concluded.

5.5 DISCIPLINARY REVIEW COMMITTEE

A local league shall establish a disciplinary review committee to deal with matters of complaint which do not involve on field player misconduct. This committee shall be delegated authority to suspend an individual to a maximum of eight weeks on evidence available without convening a disciplinary tribunal of a local league.

In issuing a suspension the league must provide the charge person/s with all evidence consider by the committee.

The charged person/s shall have the right to enter a plea of guilty or not guilty. In the case of a not guilty plea the local league must convene a local league disciplinary tribunal as per QRL Rules 5.5. In applying suspension, the local league disciplinary tribunal must reference QRL Circular 350. Following this process all rights of appeal shall be applied as per QRL Rules 5.6.

Timelines for completing Disciplinary Review Committee processes should be consistent with those applied under QRL Rules part 5.2 Match Review Committee

5.6 DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

The following Background does not form part of the Rules and is for the purpose of assisting with the understanding of the disciplinary Rules only and shall not be used in substitution of any Rule. In the event of any inconsistency occurring between the background and the Rules, the Rules prevail.

Background

In general terms a Disciplinary Tribunal is established to hear matters in respect of the Game of Rugby League which do not involve on-field player misconduct. Accordingly, complaints received in respect



of Clubs, players, team officials, referees, spectators and the public generally which relate to off-field incidents received by an Administration Unit shall be investigated by that Unit and if considered appropriate a notice of charge shall be issued to the Person involved and referred to a Disciplinary Tribunal. In these circumstances, the Administration Unit will then convene a hearing of a Disciplinary Tribunal to determine the matter in accordance with these rules.

The delegated authority vested in each Disciplinary Tribunal must be rigorously applied by all such Tribunals to the exclusion of any other bodies established by an Administration Unit.

For example - A Disciplinary Tribunal established by a Local League must comply strictly with the Rules and Regulations set out in this Part 5 and has no authority to act otherwise or promulgate their own rules and regulations in respect of Disciplinary matters.

The directorate of each Administration Unit referred to above shall appoint three (3) Persons, one of whom must be a member of the Directorate, to exercise the disciplinary powers granted to that Unit under these Rules. Whenever the appointed Persons are exercising that power they shall be called a "Disciplinary Tribunal".

A Disciplinary Tribunal has jurisdiction to deal with the following conduct of a Person: -

- a) Failure to comply with any Rule, policies, procedures or directions of the QRL or an Administration Unit (including the NRL Code of Conduct);
- b) Offering or receiving a bonus or inducement to win, lose or draw a match;
- c) Conduct which is or is likely to bring the Game into disrepute;
- d) Using any form of media including social media, radio broadcasts, newspapers and otherwise to publish a personal opinion which is detrimental to the Game, players, officials or any other "Sub-Ordinate" (as defined in these Rules).
- e) Disorderly, insulting or objectionable conduct by a club member, coach, team official, spectator or member of the public generally at a match under the control of an Administration Unit, including on-field incidents involving such persons e.g. an on-field coach who is sent from the field by the referee for disorderly conduct or a spectator/parent who enters the field of play;
- f) Allowing any player not registered or under suspension or disqualification to take part in any match;
- g) Arranging or taking part in any match with any Club, team, representative team or Region not affiliated with the QRL without the QRL's written consent;
- h) Knowingly allowing an unqualified Person or an unregistered player to take part in an Administration Unit's competition without the necessary approval; or
- i) Breaching any material terms of the NRL Code of Conduct.

For purposes of this Rule 5.6, Person includes but is not limited to natural Persons, incorporated and unincorporated bodies, Clubs (including their members and teams), representative teams, coaches and managers and such other like parties as the relevant Disciplinary Tribunal may determine from time to time.



The Disciplinary Tribunal of a Region may take disciplinary action in respect of the conduct of a Sub-ordinate of a Local League where the Local League/Club has failed to do so.

Notwithstanding any other Rules in this Part, the Disciplinary Tribunal of the QRL Board:

- (i) may take disciplinary action in respect of the conduct of a Sub-ordinate of any other Administration Unit of the QRL where no other Administration Unit has taken disciplinary action or further disciplinary action;
- (ii) has exclusive jurisdiction to deal with the conduct of a referee in respect of a match under the control of an Administration Unit.

A complaint under this Rule must be made with the relevant Administration Unit within seven (7) days of the incident which is the subject of the complaint occurring or within seven (7) days of the identity of the alleged perpetrator being ascertained by the relevant Administration Unit, whichever is the later. A complaint may be made orally but must be confirmed in writing within forty-eight (48) hours thereafter.

If the identity or contact details of the perpetrator is unknown at the time of the incident the Administration Unit will be allowed a maximum of ninety (90) days to identify the alleged perpetrator and take immediate Disciplinary Action under these Rules.

Clubs that refuse to provide contact details of the identity of the perpetrator may be sanctioned.

Upon receipt of a complaint under this Rule by the relevant Administration Unit, it shall make all enquiries it deems necessary to determine whether or not the alleged perpetrator should be the subject of a disciplinary charge. Written notification of the outcome of the enquiries shall be given as soon as practicable and notice of any hearing shall be given within seven (7) business days of the date set for the hearing.

Whenever the relevant Administration Unit decides to charge an alleged perpetrator it must provide that Person with a written notice ("the Notice") stating:

- a) details of the nature of the complaint alleged;
- b) the evidence that the Administration Unit has had regard to in determining to charge the alleged perpetrator;
- c) the date, time and place of the Disciplinary Tribunal meeting to hear the charge;
- d) that the Person may present oral and/or photographic and/or video evidence and/or written submissions or any of them to the Tribunal at the hearing on the date specified;
- e) that the Person, if a Junior (under eighteen (18) years of age), must have a Parent or Primary Care Provider or their Club representative accompany him or her at the hearing.

Where a disciplinary charge relates to the failure to comply with any Rule, policies, procedures or directions of the QRL Board or any other Administration Unit then the Rule, policies, procedures or directions alleged to have been breached must be specified in the notice.



The Person charged may seek and be granted an advancement of the hearing date if the Person so requests and the Disciplinary Tribunal so agrees.

If the Person charged is a registered referee/match official, Junior player, Senior player, Junior coach, Senior coach, sports trainers, League safe officer or other team official the Person is not allowed to participate in a Game until the Person appears before the Disciplinary Tribunal.

If at a Disciplinary Tribunal hearing evidence is produced of a complaint or complaints not previously disclosed in the Notice, or alternatively the identity of another alleged perpetrator is revealed, the Administration Unit may, within seven (7) days of such hearing, issue a further Notice to the original Person or to another Person. Requirements as to form, content and period of notice for such further Notice shall be the same as the notice described in the Rule above.

5.6.1 PROCEDURES BEFORE DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL HEARINGS

At the Disciplinary Tribunal hearing the Person charged:

- a) must appear in Person unless otherwise determined by a Local League Chairperson having regard to distances to travel and severity of charge.
- b) May appear via electronic means with the prior approval of the tribunal
- c) may be accompanied by either:
 - (i) a non-legally qualified Person appointed by the Person charged e.g. Coach/Manager/Club Representative;
 - (ii) a Person who is legally qualified if in his or her absolute discretion the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Tribunal considers it appropriate to represent the Person charged before the Tribunal.
- d) may also lodge relevant written submissions with the Disciplinary Tribunal at or prior to the hearing.

In the event that the Person charged fails to appear at the hearing without the prior written consent of the Tribunal to an adjournment of the hearing then the Tribunal may either: -

- a) proceed with the hearing in the absence of the Person charged; or
- b) at its absolute discretion adjourn the hearing until such time as the Person charged does appear.

In the event of the Disciplinary Tribunal adjourning the proceedings under these circumstances the Person charged shall be suspended automatically from participating in the Game until such time as the adjourned hearing is held.

An adjourned Disciplinary Tribunal hearing must be reconvened within ten (10) business days from the original hearing.

No Person may record Disciplinary Tribunal hearing proceedings by any recording device without the permission of the Chairperson of the Tribunal.



It is a condition of the granting of permission to record Disciplinary Tribunal hearing proceedings that the use of any information recorded is restricted to the following purposes: -

- a) Appeals pursuant to these Rules;
- b) Court proceedings; or
- c) The provision of legal advice.

If a Person records Tribunal hearing proceedings or uses a recording of same for other than the abovementioned purposes the League may institute appropriate disciplinary proceedings against that Person.

Where the Tribunal is satisfied that a charge is proven, the Person shall be subject to one or more of the following:

- a) reprimand;
- b) a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000) only where the Person involved is not a natural Person (fines shall not be applied to natural Persons nor should they apply to non-natural Persons other than in exceptional circumstances where no other penalty is considered appropriate);
- c) suspension from participating in the Game of Rugby League;
- d) disqualification from participating in the Game of Rugby League;
- e) expulsion from an Administration Unit or any Sub-ordinate;
- f) loss of premiership points or forfeiture of premiership;
- g) making an order suspending a penalty (in whole or in part) imposed above for such a period of time and on such conditions as the Disciplinary Tribunal thinks fit; and
- h) such further orders or penalties as may be deemed appropriate by a Disciplinary Tribunal at its absolute discretion and inclusive of increased fines for repeat offences.

Decisions of the Disciplinary Tribunal may be made by simple majority.

Where a Person is found guilty of a charge/s then the following parties are to be notified in writing of the decision, the findings upon which the decision is based and the penalty imposed within two (2) business days of the making of the decision by the Tribunal: -

- a) the Person;
- b) the Club (where the Person involved is a natural Person);
- c) the Local League; and
- d) any third party who initiated the referral (if any).

Where a Person is found not guilty of a charge/s those parties referred to above shall be notified accordingly within two (2) business days of the making of the decision by the Tribunal.



Subject to any rights of appeal, all decisions of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall be final and conclusive, are binding on, and shall be given effect to by the parties.

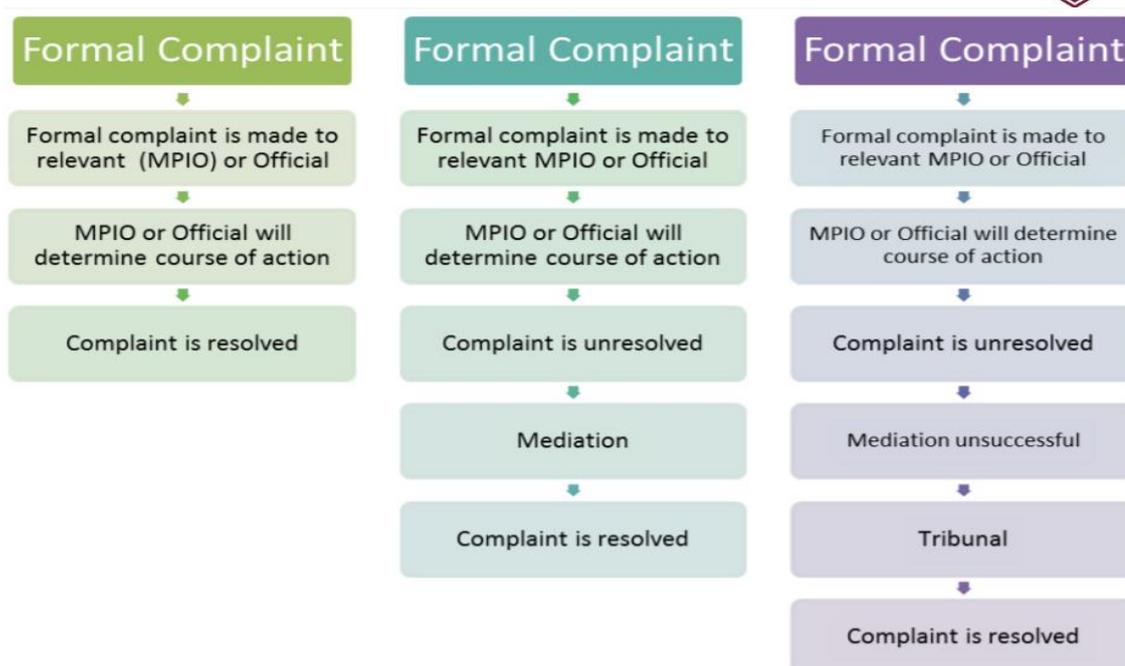
The procedures to be adopted and the conduct of the parties at any hearings convened by Disciplinary Tribunals shall be determined by the Chairperson of that Tribunal. In making its Decision, a Disciplinary Tribunal shall be entitled to admit or reject any evidence, submissions or other material submitted by the parties at the Tribunal's discretion.

Each Disciplinary Tribunal shall determine, at its absolute discretion, whether and to what extent it shall have regard to the rules of evidence applicable in the State of Queensland.

5.6.2 COMPLIANCE WITH NRL CODE OF CONDUCT AND QRL STANDARD REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING VILIFICATION

- a) Administration Units and their Sub-ordinates are responsible for the conduct of their registered players (both on and off field), Parent or Primary Care Provider of players, coaches, officials and spectators and breaches of the code can result in the relevant Sub-ordinate being charged with a breach of the NRL Code of Conduct. All such breaches shall be referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal of the relevant Administration Unit which shall consider such purported breaches in accordance with the Rules above.
- b) Vilification
 - (i) Vilification is defined in the NRL Member Protection Policy July 2015,
 - (ii) "means behaviour that occurs in public which incites hatred towards, serious contempt for, or revulsion or severe ridicule of a person or group of people because that person or persons have a particular personal characteristic. Anti-discrimination laws in Australia make it unlawful to vilify a person or group of persons on the basis of race, religion, homosexuality, transgender status and HIV/AIDS status".
 - (iii) the QRL Managing Director or Delegated Officer is defined as the Member Protection Information Officer in terms of this provision.
 - (iv) that allegation must be reduced to writing and referred to both the relevant Administration Unit referred to above and the Managing Director of the QRL on the same day that the written report of the allegation occurs.
 - (v) the Managing Director of the QRL shall cause a disciplinary tribunal to be convened to consider the allegations. The provisions set out above in this Part 5 relating to disciplinary tribunals shall apply, save and except that the tribunal may make appropriate recommendations relating to formal written apologies, educational programs and like reconciliation processes in the event that the allegations are proven to be true.

The below flowchart details the complaints procedure in relation to vilification matters



5.7 RIGHTS OF APPEAL

The QRL Board and each of the Regions shall appoint three (3) Persons one of whom must be a member of the relevant Administration Unit to deal with appeals from decisions of Judiciary and Disciplinary Tribunals.

5.7.1 JUDICIARY AND DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS

A Person who wishes to dispute a Tribunal Decision from a Judiciary/Disciplinary Tribunal of an

Administration Unit shall adopt the following appeal procedures: -

- a) from a decision of a Local League Judiciary/Disciplinary Tribunal to the Appeals Tribunal of the relevant Region; and
- b) thereafter by way of final appeal to the Appeals Tribunal of the QRL in the event that: -
 - (i) the Appeals Tribunal of the relevant Region grants leave to appeal from its decision because it considers, in its absolute discretion, that the subject of its decision is worthy of referral; and/or
 - (ii) the Appeals Tribunal of the QRL has given its consent to hear the Appeal.

The only grounds upon which the Person who has been found guilty by a Local League Judiciary/Disciplinary Tribunal may appeal to the Appeals Tribunal of the relevant Region are:

- a) In the case of a Judiciary Tribunal decision: -
 - (i) the player has obtained new or further evidence of which he/she did not know before the conclusion of the hearing before the Judiciary Tribunal, and



- (ii) he/she could not have become aware before the conclusion of the Judiciary/Disciplinary Tribunal hearing after having made all reasonable investigations and enquiries; or
- (iii) the penalty includes a suspension from playing of more than eight (8) competition matches and is considered by the player to be excessive.

b) In the case of a Disciplinary Tribunal decision: -

- (i) the Person is dissatisfied with the decision and is able to provide written grounds of appeal which are neither frivolous nor vexatious.

An appeal is to be commenced by lodging a written notice with the relevant Administration Unit within ten (10) business days of a Tribunal Decision. In all cases the Region Chairperson has the authority to extend the closing date for exceptional circumstances.

5.8 APPEAL PROCEDURES FROM JUDICIARY AND DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS

A notice of appeal from a decision of a Judiciary/Disciplinary Tribunal Rules shall contain a statement of each and every ground upon which the appellant wishes to rely and any fresh evidence which the appellant proposes to call at the appeal.

Any statement of fresh evidence by a witness shall be made by way of a Statutory Declaration and shall be lodged with the relevant Appeals Tribunal with the Notice of Appeal within ten (10) business days.

Where the appeal relates to the severity of the sentence imposed upon a player then the appellant shall provide written reasons why the sentence is considered to be excessive.

In making its decision, an Appeals Tribunal shall be entitled to accept the material and findings of fact of the Judiciary/Disciplinary Tribunal, as the case may be, being appealed against and admit or reject any other relevant material at its discretion. Each Appeals Tribunal shall determine, at its absolute discretion, whether and to what extent it shall have regard to the rules of evidence applicable in the State of Queensland.

Any notice of appeal by a guilty Person shall be accompanied by the following appeal fee;

- a) in the case of an appeal to the relevant Region - \$500.00
- b) in the case of an appeal to QRL - \$1000.00

The Appeals Tribunal will determine whether the appeal fee stands in whole or in part in the event of the appeal being successful.

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No party who is subject to proceedings before a Judiciary/Disciplinary Tribunal shall be entitled to institute legal proceedings until such time as they have exhausted all avenues of appeal applicable under these Rules and the decision of the appellate body has been notified to all parties in writing.

5.8.1 AFFECTED PERSONS

A natural Person adversely affected (hereinafter called the "Affected Person") by the actions of the guilty Person shall be entitled to obtain the findings of the Judiciary/Disciplinary Tribunal decision as soon as practicable after the decision is made known and may, within two (2) business days of receipt of such findings, appeal against the gross inadequacy of the Tribunal's findings only when all the following related circumstances occur: -

- a) The guilty Person has in accordance with the Rules of this Part 5 a right of appeal from a duly convened tribunal;
- b) The Affected Person has given written notice to the relevant Appeals Tribunal setting out the grounds under which the affected Person considers the punishment to be grossly inadequate; and
- c) The Chairperson of the relevant Appeals Tribunal, at his or her absolute discretion, advises in writing within seven (7) business days of receipt of such written notice, that he or she consents to such appeal being heard (hereinafter called "Consent to Appeal").

If Consent to Appeal is given, then such appeal cannot be heard until any appeal lodged by the guilty Person is heard or the time for such appeal has expired.

In addition to the Consent to Appeal granted above, a further right of appeal by the guilty Person shall arise in the following circumstances: -

- a) The Appeals Tribunal imposes or increases a penalty following the appeal by an Affected Person; and
- b) The guilty Person did not appeal against the original decision.

Such further appeal shall be heard by the relevant Region Appeals Tribunal unless the decision appealed against is made by a Region Appeals Tribunal in which the case the appeal will be heard by the QRL Appeals Tribunal, if it so consents.

A further appeal by the guilty Person under this Rule is to be commenced by lodging a written notice with the relevant Appeals Tribunal. Time for lodging further appeals and circumstances in which appeals are allowed are as set out above.

At the hearing, the guilty Person and the Affected Person are to be given the opportunity to make oral or written submissions or both.

The guilty person and the Affected Person may be represented at the hearing provided the representative shall not be a legally qualified Person, unless the Tribunal, in its absolute discretion, considers it appropriate.



5.9 DISPUTES TRIBUNAL

The QRL Board and each of the Regions shall appoint three (3) Persons one of whom must be a member of the relevant Administration Unit to deal with disputes between Administration Units and/or Sub-ordinate Units.

For the purposes of this section a dispute occurs when a Club, Local League or Region (hereinafter called "The Objector") lodges to a Disputes Tribunal a valid written "Notice of Dispute".

To be valid the Notice of Dispute must:

- a) be submitted to the relevant Disputes Tribunal within a period of ten (10) business days of the date on which the objector determines that the dispute cannot be resolved between the parties;
- b) provide details of the disagreement between The Objector and another Club, Local League or Region which the objector states cannot be resolved without the intervention of the relevant Disputes Tribunal;
- c) be accompanied by written submissions as to why it is considered the decision was wrong and detailing the relief sought;
- d) be accompanied by a disputes fee of \$1,000.00; and
- e) The Disputes Tribunal will determine whether the appeal fee stands in whole or in part in the event of the matter being found in favour of the Objector.

Upon receipt of a valid Notice of Dispute the Region Manager or the Managing Director of the QRL as the case may be shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, forward the Notice of Dispute to the Administration Unit who made the disputed decision (hereinafter called "the Decision Maker") requesting a reply within seven (7) business days to the contents of the Notice of Dispute outlining the reasons why the initial decision was made.

After receipt of the Decision Maker's reply, or ten (10) business days after the request to the Decision Maker, whichever is the earlier, the Disputes Tribunal shall meet and either:

- a) Rule on the dispute without further reference to any party; or
- b) Set a date, time and place for a meeting where the parties can attend in Person, without legal representation, to make further oral submissions to resolve the dispute.

If the relevant Tribunal is satisfied that there is a genuine disagreement between the parties which is capable of resolution, it may refer the matter to an accredited mediator appointed by the Managing Director of the QRL to resolve the dispute by mediation. The costs of mediation shall be borne by the parties equally or as otherwise determined by the mediator.

If mediation fails to resolve the dispute, the Disputes Tribunal is empowered to make a final and binding ruling and both parties to the dispute shall take whatever steps are necessary to give effect to that ruling and there shall be no further right of appeal against the decision of the Tribunal.



5.10 STATEWIDE COMPETITIONS

Those Clubs participating in State-wide Competitions shall abide by the National Rugby League Judiciary Code of Procedure – QRL Edition and the State-wide Operations manual with the below penalty schedule and other documents only applicable to Local League Competitions.



MATCH REVIEW COMMITTEE - BASE PENALTIES

MATCH REVIEW SUMMARY SHEET

BASE PENALTIES – JUNIORS SCHEDULE (applies to Junior International players)

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE	DEMERIT POINTS				
	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
Tripping	175	225	275	325	375
Kicking	200	300	400	500	600
Striking	225	325	425	525	625
Intentional High Tackle	550	650	750	850	950
Reckless High Tackle	300	350	400	450	500
Careless High Tackle	75	125	175	225	275
Dropping Knees	200	300	400	500	600
Dangerous Throw	125	325	525	725	925
Law Breaking	75	100	125	150	175
Offensive Language*	175	200	225	250	275
Disputing Decision	175	225	275	325	375
Re-entering Play	275	375	475	575	675
Contrary Conduct	225	325	425	525	625
Obstructing	75	125	175	225	275
Shoulder Charge	200	350	500	650	800
Detrimental Conduct	225	325	425	525	625
Dangerous Contact	100	250	400	550	700
* The use of Offensive Language against an Official shall invoke a minimum of a Grade 3 charge					

BASE PENALTIES – SENIORS SCHEDULE (applies to Senior International players)

Note: Offences giving rise to gradings higher than Grade 3 should be referred to Judiciary Tribunal.

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCE	DEMERIT POINTS				
	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
Tripping	100	200	300	400	500
Kicking	200	300	400	500	600
Striking	200	300	400	500	600
Intentional High Tackle	Mandatory referral to Judiciary Tribunal				
Reckless High Tackle	300	400	500	600	700
Careless High Tackle	100	150	200	250	300
Dropping Knees	200	300	400	500	600
Dangerous Throw	100	300	500	700	900
Contrary Conduct	100	200	300	400	500
Shoulder Charge	200	350	500	650	800
Detrimental Conduct	100	200	300	400	500
Dangerous Contact (Head/Neck)	100	250	400	550	700
Dangerous Contact (Other)	100	200	300	400	500



Shorten season Pro rata base Penalty Schedule

Base Penalties	1/3									2/3									3/3															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Rounds									Finals															
100	11	22	33	44	56	67	78	89	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
125	14	28	42	56	69	83	97	111	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	
150	17	33	50	67	83	100	117	133	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	
175	19	39	58	78	97	117	136	156	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	
200	22	44	67	89	111	133	156	178	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	
225	25	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	225	
250	28	56	83	111	139	167	194	222	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	
275	31	61	92	122	153	183	214	244	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	
300	33	67	100	133	167	200	233	267	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	
325	36	72	108	144	181	217	253	289	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	
350	39	78	117	156	194	233	272	311	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	
375	42	83	125	167	208	250	292	333	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	375	
400	44	89	133	178	222	267	311	356	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	
425	47	94	142	189	236	283	331	378	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	425	
450	50	100	150	200	250	300	350	400	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	
475	53	106	158	211	264	317	369	422	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	475	
500	56	111	167	222	278	333	389	444	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	
525	58	117	175	233	292	350	408	467	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	525	
550	61	122	183	244	306	367	428	489	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	
575	64	128	192	256	319	383	447	511	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	575	
600	67	133	200	267	333	400	467	533	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	
625	69	139	208	278	347	417	486	556	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	625	
650	72	144	217	289	361	433	506	578	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	650	
675	75	150	225	300	375	450	525	600	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	
700	78	156	233	311	389	467	544	622	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	700	

Notes for Consideration
 The intention of this proposed calculation is to maintain the grading system and to prorate the demerit points according to the season length of the shorter competition

The penalty schedule is based on a 27 week season which includes finals
 Agreement is also required that the 27 rounds are broken into three(3) with demerit points multiplied by 2/3 for rounds 1 to 9 and by 2/3 for rounds 10 to 18.



MATCH REVIEW SUMMARY SHEET - 2016

Competition:

Round: T1

Player	Club	Number	Incident Min Half	Charge	Grade	Base Demerit Points	Prior Similar Offences	Prior Non- Similar Offences	Points - this Charge		Prior Carry- Over Points	TOTAL POINTS	Games to Serve	Carry- Over Points
									Early plea	Guilty				
					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
												0	0	0

Player	Club	Number	Incident Min Half	Charge	Grade	Base Demerit Points	Prior Similar Offences	Prior Non- Similar Offences	Points - this Charge		Prior Carry- Over Points	TOTAL POINTS	Games to Serve	Carry- Over Points
									Early plea	Guilty				
					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
												0	0	0

Player	Club	Number	Incident Min Half	Charge	Grade	Base Demerit Points	Prior Similar Offences	Prior Non- Similar Offences	Points - this Charge		Prior Carry- Over Points	TOTAL POINTS	Games to Serve	Carry- Over Points
									Early plea	Guilty				
					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
												0	0	0

Player	Club	Number	Incident Min Half	Charge	Grade	Base Demerit Points	Prior Similar Offences	Prior Non- Similar Offences	Points - this Charge		Prior Carry- Over Points	TOTAL POINTS	Games to Serve	Carry- Over Points
									Early plea	Guilty				
					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
												0	0	0

Player	Club	Number	Incident Min Half	Charge	Grade	Base Demerit Points	Prior Similar Offences	Prior Non- Similar Offences	Points - this Charge		Prior Carry- Over Points	TOTAL POINTS	Games to Serve	Carry- Over Points
									Early plea	Guilty				
					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
												0	0	0

Player	Club	Number	Incident Min Half	Charge	Grade	Base Demerit Points	Prior Similar Offences	Prior Non- Similar Offences	Points - this Charge		Prior Carry- Over Points	TOTAL POINTS	Games to Serve	Carry- Over Points
									Early plea	Guilty				
					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
												0	0	0



JUDICIARY RESULT SUMMARY SHEET

[INSERT LOCAL LEAGUE]								
Judiciary Results								
For Round [insert #], [insert date]								
Player	Club & Grade	Time Minute of Incident	Charge / Incident	Charge Grade	Result - Guilty or Not Guilty	Matches to serve	Points Calculation	Carry-over Points
<i>Example SMITH Sam (15)</i>	<i>Bay Coast C Grade</i>	<i>1/28</i>	<i>Dangerous Throw</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Guilty Early Plea</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>40</i>

Suspensions expire at midnight on the Sunday of weekend fixtures, or if a public holiday midnight on the Monday.



SAMPLE ON FIELD INCIDENT REPORT TO BE USED BY CHAIRPERSON OF A REGION OR LOCAL LEAGUE

This form must be used by the Chairperson of the Region or Local League having jurisdiction over a sanctioned game and must be lodged with the Match Review Committee **within two (2) business day** of the player's alleged misconduct.

The Match Review Committee

Date ___/___/___

I _____ in my capacity as Chairperson of the _____ Region/local League, wish to complain about an on field incident (as detailed below) and request the Match Review Committee to review the incident.

This incident took place during the **(specify game)** game between

_____ Club

And:

_____ Club

On ___ / ___ / ___ (date)

(Details of person involved in incident – i.e. Player's club, number and name)

Video Evidence Enclosed: Yes/No Recorded Frame Number or which Half and Time: _____ (if known)

Description of the Incident (details to include time during the game the incident occurred – if insufficient space is available please continue on reverse of this form)

Date of Incident ___ / ___ / ___ **Venue:** _____

Signed: _____ (Signature)



SAMPLE LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF OUTCOME OF JUDICIARY TRIBUNAL HEARING

[Insert date]

[Insert Name and Address of Chairperson of Club]

Dear [Insert Name]

I wish to inform you that the Judiciary Tribunal hearing on [insert date of hearing] found your player [insert name of offender] guilty of Player Misconduct as a result of an on-field incident during [insert details of match including date]. Specifically, [insert name of offender] was found guilty of the following offences (suspension period shown):

Misconduct – [Insert charge including Grade] [insert demerit points]

Misconduct – [Insert charge including Grade] [insert demerit points]

Misconduct – [Insert charge including Grade] [insert demerit points]

The penalty imposed on [insert name of offender] by the Judiciary Tribunal is as follows:

[Insert total demerit points including accumulated points]

Your player [insert name of offender] is hereby suspended for [insert number of matches].

Under the provisions of QRL Rule Part 5.7 [insert name of offender] may have a right of appeal against the decision of the Judiciary Tribunal. In accordance with QRL Rule Part 5.7 where such right of appeal applies, a written notice of appeal must be lodged **within ten (10) business days** of receipt of this letter and must contain such further supporting evidence as stipulated. [Insert name of offender]'s notice of appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of \$500.00. If the appeal is upheld the deposit shall be refunded in full.

You must ensure that [insert name of offender] is made aware of the content of this letter and a copy should be forwarded to him or her immediately upon receipt.

Yours sincerely

[Insert Name]

[Insert Title]



SAMPLE LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF A CHARGE TO APPEAR BEFORE A HEARING OF A DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

[Insert date]

[Insert Name and Address of Chairperson of Club]

Dear [Insert name]

We seek your assistance in assuring [insert name of offender] attends our Disciplinary Tribunal.

The [insert name of League] has received a complaint dated [insert date] from the [insert name of complainant] regarding [insert name of offender]'s behaviour at [location/venue] on [insert date of alleged incident] where it is alleged that [insert brief details of alleged incident]. A Hearing of the [insert name of Local League] Disciplinary Tribunal will be held at [insert venue of Hearing] on insert date and time of Hearing] to investigate the complaint further and to determine if [insert name of offender] should be found guilty of such conduct.

[Insert name of offender] is required to attend the Hearing and may present oral and/or written submissions together with photographic and/or video evidence and may be represented by one (1) other person. If [insert name of offender] wishes to have legal representation at the Hearing, then he or she must seek the prior written approval of the Chairperson of the Tribunal whose decision shall be final and binding.

The evidence which has been considered by the Local League is attached to this letter.

[Insert name of offender] should also note that where the Tribunal is satisfied that the charge is proven he or she may be subject to one or more of the following:

- (a) Reprimand;
- (b) A fine if [insert name of offender] is not a natural person;
- (c) Suspension from participating in the game of rugby league;
- (d) Disqualification from participating in the game of rugby league;
- (e) Expulsion from [insert name of offender]'s Region, Local league or Club where relevant;
- (f) Loss of premiership points or forfeiture of premiership, where relevant; and/or
- (g) Making an order suspending a penalty (in whole or in part) imposed above for such a period of time and on such conditions as the Tribunal thinks fit.

[Insert name of offender] may, if he or she wishes to, apply to have the Hearing date brought forward.

Yours sincerely

[Insert Name]

[Insert Title]

[Insert Name of Region/Local League]



SAMPLE LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF OUTCOME OF DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL HEARING

[Insert Date]

[Insert Name and Address of the Chairperson (or Delegate) of relevant Club]

Dear [insert name]

We seek your assistance in assuring [insert name of offender] attends our Disciplinary Tribunal set for [date/time/venue].

I wish to confirm my verbal advice to [insert name of offender] that the [insert name of Local League] Disciplinary Tribunal, on [insert date of hearing], found [insert name of offender] guilty under QRL Rule 5.7 of [insert relevant Misconduct].

The Tribunal has imposed the following penalty:

[Insert details under QRL Rule Part 5.4]

Under the provisions of QRL Rule Part 5.6, [insert name of offender] may have a right of appeal against the decisions of this Disciplinary Tribunal. In accordance with QRL Rule Part 5.7 where such right of appeal applies, a written notice of appeal must be lodged **within ten (10) business days** to the relevant Region of receipt of this letter and must contain such further supporting evidence as stipulated. The notice of appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of \$500.00. If the appeal is upheld the deposit shall be refunded in full.

Yours sincerely

[Insert Name]

[Insert Title]

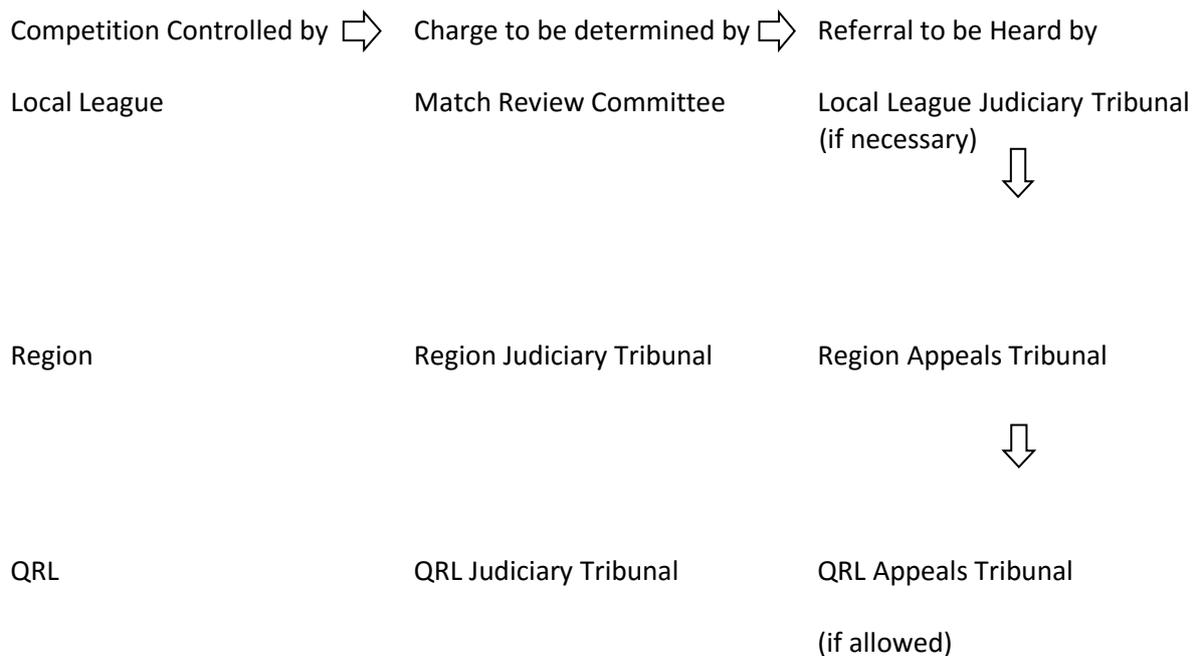
[Insert Name of Region/Local League]



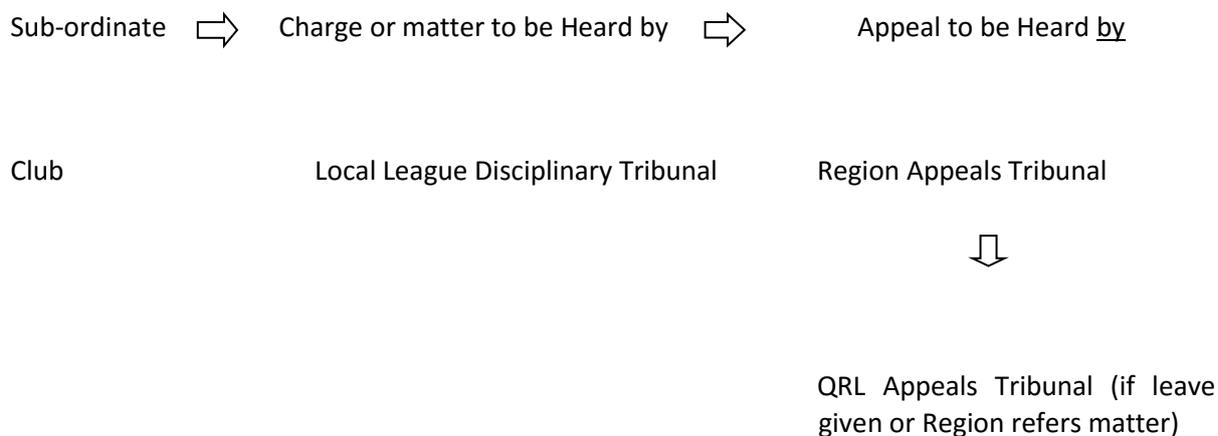
TRIBUNALS FLOW CHART

(A simple explanation of the Rules relating to Tribunals (both Judicial and Disciplinary) and Match Review Committees but not to be read as Rules or a substitute for the Rules in this Part 5).

- A.** Where a player is dismissed from the field of play by a referee, reported or cited in respect of an on-field incident -



- B.** Other alleged off-field offence/s by a player, sub-ordinate, spectator or other person/s involved in the alleged offence/s - other decisions, Disputes





Local League	Region Disciplinary Tribunal	QRL Appeals Tribunal (if leave given or Region refers matter)
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Region	QRL Disciplinary Tribunal	NIL
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NOTE 1

Sub-ordinate is defined in Part 1 of the QRL Rules.

NOTE 2

In the case of Other Offences and in the event of a Local League or a Region not taking action, the supervising Region or the QRL may take action.



TRIBUNALS/COMMITTEE TIME FRAME

ON-FIELD INCIDENT REPORTS

For timeframe purposes, Local League Rules may stipulate timelines agreed by all relevant League members provided that all such agreed timelines are consistent with QRL timelines as set out in this Part 5 of the QRL Rules.

1. Referees report to be referred by Match Official to player/Club representative - **prior to end of match day.**
2. Chairperson's referral to be referred to Match Review Committee, Club and player – **within one (1) business day.**
3. Match Review Committee citing - **within one (1) business day.**
4. Match Review Committee to review report and advise player/Club of outcome - **within two (2) business days.**
5. Player to either accept Early Guilty Plea or refer decision to Judiciary Tribunal – **within two (2) business days.**
6. Written notification of outcome – **within seven (7) business days.**
7. Judiciary Tribunal to notify player/Club of time and place for hearing – **within ten (10) business days.**
8. Judiciary Tribunal to notify player/Club of its decision – **within two (2) business days.**

DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL TIME FRAME

1. Complaint to Administration Unit – **within seven (7) business days of the incident** or the identity of perpetrator being identified. Ninety (90) days allowed to identify perpetrator.

(Verbal complaint may be made verbally but **MUST** be confirmed in writing - **within 48 hours.**)
2. Written notification of outcome of enquiries – **within seven (7) business days.**
3. Written notification of date set for hearing – **within seven (7) business days.**
4. Written notification of outcome – **within three (3) business days of decision.**





QUEENSLAND RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED

QRL/JR

REFEREE'S/ ON FIELD INCIDENT REPORT

Player dismissed from field Player placed on report On field incident

Name of Player _____ Jersey No. _____

Division _____ Local League _____ Club _____

Grade _____ Ground _____ Date _____

Match _____ v _____ Referee _____

PLAYER'S MISCONDUCT

Place an X in respective definition box of charge(s) that apply

- | | |
|---|---|
| 15.1.(a) <input type="checkbox"/> Trips, kicks or strikes another player. | 15.1.(h) <input type="checkbox"/> Re-enters the field of play without the permission of the Referee or a Touch Judge having previously temporarily retired from the game. |
| 15.1.(b) <input type="checkbox"/> When effecting or attempting to effect a tackle makes contact with the head or neck of an opponent intentionally, recklessly or carelessly. | 15.1.(i) <input type="checkbox"/> Behaves in any way contrary to the true spirit of the game |
| 15.1.(c) <input type="checkbox"/> Drops knees first on to an opponent who is on the ground. | 15.1.(j) <input type="checkbox"/> Deliberately obstructs an opponent who is not in possession. |
| 15.1.(d) <input type="checkbox"/> Uses any dangerous throw when effecting a tackle. | 15.1.(k) <input type="checkbox"/> Uses a shoulder charge on an opponent |
| 15.1.(e) <input type="checkbox"/> Deliberately and continuously breaks the Laws of the Game. | 15.1.(l) <input type="checkbox"/> Applies any unnecessary pressure or twists, including grapples, crushers or performs a "chicken wing" style hold on a player in possession. |
| 15.1.(f) <input type="checkbox"/> Uses offensive or obscene language. | 15.1.(m) <input type="checkbox"/> Forcefully spears at the legs of a player in possession, exposing him to unnecessary risk of injury. |
| 15.1.(g) <input type="checkbox"/> Disputes the decision of the Referee or Touch Judge. | |

Indicate Time of Incident (eg. First half – 10th minute is 1/10) _____

Brief Summary of events leading to charge/s (Please attach a written report if insufficient space)

Referee's Signature _____

Touch Judge's Signature (if applicable) _____

Player's Signature (if applicable) _____

FOR JUDICIARY ONLY	
Hearing Date	_ / _ / _
Tribunal Decision	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Indicative Penalty	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Penalty	_____
Tribunal Member	Tribunal Member
Tribunal Member	Tribunal Member

Original to League Body, Duplicate (yellow copy) to Club/ Player , Triplicate (pink copy) to Match Official