



2019
**KARYN
MURPHY
CUP**
HANDBOOK

playrugbyleague.com



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WELCOME

I would like to thank you for supporting the growth of female participation within Rugby League in Queensland. It is great to see that both teachers and students are part of such a great concept that can provide opportunities to Primary and Secondary school girls to further their Rugby League ambitions.

Personally, I grew up watching and loving Rugby League, but never had the opportunity to play at school level as there wasn't a competition. I started playing in the Brisbane competition in 1998 and since that time I have been fortunate enough to represent and captain my state and country until I retired following Australia's first World Cup win in 2013. I am no fortunate enough to have coaching roles within the QLD and Australian Women's teams.

I wish your school and students the very best in this competition and look forward to having you involved in future programs.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Karyn Murphy'.

Karyn Murphy
Former Jillaroos & Queensland Representative

INTRODUCTION

Female participation is the fastest growing area of Rugby League. The NRL is committed to establishing a clear female player pathway with regional, state and elite representative opportunities.

The NRL offers a wide range of female-specific opportunities and pathways in schools, clubs and at representative levels. The schools offer weekly competitions, school girl challenges, touch transition programs and QSSRL opportunities.

Beyond school there are club competitions and various representative pathways in 14s, 15s, 16s, 18s and Open womens leading onto State and Australian Jillaroos representation.

The Karyn Murphy Cup, which was launched in 2017 and will offer females across Queensland the opportunity to participate in a State Wide competition. The competition will offer Primary school students the Karyn Murphy Challenge and the Secondary School teams will have the opportunity for their school to become State champions.



COMPETITION RULES & CONDITIONS

All matches must be conducted in accordance with the current NRL Laws for Junior League (6-12 yrs) & International Games 13+ and the NRL National Safeplay Code for 6-15 years.

[Junior League 6-12 yrs](#)
[International Games](#)
[Safe Play Code](#)

All teams are directed to the Education Queensland CARA module for Rugby League and reminded that they MUST adhere to these guidelines during the Karyn Murphy Cup competition.

All teams must be accompanied by a teacher from the school, or group of schools where applicable, and if this does not occur, that team will automatically lose the match by forfeit.

COMPETING TEAMS

Competition shall be on a school basis. However, where a school cannot provide a team or where no team exists, schools may combine to form a composite team, provided that their combined relevant age division enrolments do not exceed 150. Combined schools must belong to the same School Sport Region. Other special circumstances, from schools seeking to nominate a composite team, must be submitted in detail to the Regional Convener and/or Competition Coordinator.

FINAL APPROVAL FOR ANY APPLICATION TO NOMINATE A COMBINED TEAM RESTS WITH COMPETITION COORDINATOR SQUAD SIZE & INTERCHANGE

Teams are limited to a squad of 15 players per game (any school disregarding this rule, by including additional players, may be disqualified). Replacement of players may occur at any time throughout the game – unlimited interchange is allowed.

KARYN MURPHY CHALLENGE

In 2019 the Karyn Murphy year 5/6 age division will move away from a state-wide competition and into a localised development competition called the 'Karyn Murphy Challenge'. This is about creating a more inclusive environment where the focus is on developing every member of a team. There is clear evidence the introduction of a 'winner progress' style format too early leads directly to early specialisation and promotes the impact of relative age effects. We also know cognitively, it's not until around 13 that the majority of kids begin to understand the impact that effort, practice and ability has on performance.

It's important to make a clear distinction between competition and finals. This is not about removing the competitive nature of our sport, this is about creating a more inclusive environment where the focus is on developing every member of a team. We know competition structure always determines development outcomes and the shift to a development mentality provides the environment for coaches, parents and teachers to focus more on developing every

member of their team and less on a result. Our research shows the main reason families leave our sport is due to a negative experience associated with an over-emphasis on winning at the expense of a child's enjoyment.

It is Important as a game we have alignment between both school and club environments in order to grow participation into the future. We acknowledge the fantastic work that schools have been doing for many years to incorporate Rugby League into their current programs. In recognition of this in 2019 all teams that register for the Karyn Murphy Challenge will have the opportunity to attend a second KMC Development Day involving teams/schools from outside your local area. Once your school registers for the Karyn Murphy Challenge in 2019 you will be supplied with all the details on this experience.

This change in competition structure was made in line with the NRL Player Development Framework which is to be implemented in a testing phase in SEQ and Victoria in 2019. ***For more information on the player development framework playrugbyleague.com/framework

1. AGE LIMITS AND PLAYER QUALIFICATIONS

The Karyn Murphy Challenge:

- » Year 5/6 born 1st Jan 2007- 31st December 2008

The Karyn Murphy Cup:

- » Year 7/8- Born 1st July 2005- 30th June 2007
- » Year 9/10- Born 1st July 2003- 30th June 2005
- » Year 11/12- Born 1st Jan 2001- 30th June 2003

- 1.1 A player may only represent one school/team in each year of the competition, in their nominated age division of the competition.
- 1.2 Breach of these rules may result in the school being disqualified, the school being declined entry into the Karyn Murphy Cup the following year or other penalties as decided on by a duly formed independent review committee.

2. COACH QUALIFICATIONS

- 2.1 All coaches must be compliant with the Curriculum Activity Risk Assessment.
- 2.2 As a minimum, each team must have a current teacher from the school (involved as a coach, manager, assistant coach or trainer) present at every match played by the school.

3. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 3.1 All matches are played in accordance with the [NRL National Code of Conduct](#). It is emphasised that the strictest standard of behaviour should be observed and followed at all times by players, coaches, officials and spectators at all Rugby League matches.



- 3.2** Spectator groups must be under strict teacher supervision at all times.
- 3.3** Any incidents of unsavoury behaviour either on or off the field should be immediately reported to the Ground Manager and also the State Competition Coordinator.
- 3.4** Strong disciplinary action will be taken against any offender or offending school, including suspension and, possibly, exclusion from participation in any future Rugby League competitions.

4. COMPETITION DRAW

- 4.1** The NRL will be responsible for the draw at an Regional, Inter-Regional and State level. Below that the area GDO or convenor will be responsible for area competition.

The competition draw for your region, prepared in conjunction with the Competition Coordinator, will be provided by your Regional Convener and/or local NRL Game Development Officer. The competition dates as presented must be adhered to.

NOTE: DATES FROM GROUP FINALS ONWARDS ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE.

2019 DATES

SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND

Regions:

Metropolitan East
South Coast
Metropolitan North
Metropolitan West
Darling Downs
South West
Wide Bay

Regional Finals

By end of Term 2

Southern Finals Series

Ipswich and Sunshine Coast

August 6th Ipswich

August 7th Sunshine Coast

CENTRAL/NORTHERN QUEENSLAND

Regions:

Capricornia
North West*
Peninsula
Northern

Regional Finals

By end of Term 2

Northern Finals Series Quad Series

Townsville

August 6th & 7th

Queensland Final – Redcliffe – Friday 6th September

The Finals Series Draw is subject to change. The Competition Coordinator will be responsible for the final determination of host venues for all Finals Series matches. The Coordinator's decision in this matter is final.

The dates shown in the Finals Series Draw **must** be strictly adhered to by all competing schools. Failure to comply may result in that school being withdrawn from the competition.

5. COMPETITION PERIOD

- 5.1** Regions permitted to play anytime through the year providing they adhere to the above play by dates.

6. DRAWN MATCHES

- 6.1** If a match is tied after the normal period of play, the winner will be determined on the following basis:

- (i) First try scored, then (if no tries)
- (ii) Most penalties received, then (if equal)
- (iii) First penalty received

The importance of keeping an accurate penalty count until first points are scored is stressed. A number of matches have been decided by this count-back rule when a draw has occurred.

7. ENTRY

- 7.1** Entry forms for nomination into the 2019 Karyn Murphy Cup must be completed online.

8. FORFEITS

- 8.1** Forfeits, at any time, are not acceptable. It is understood that some schools find it much harder to fulfil commitments when the time arrives than when they entered some months previously. Forfeits not only let down and create problems for the school forfeited to, but also reflect badly on the school that forfeits.





9. INSURANCE

9.1 Please note

The organisers of this event/competition do not provide personal accident/injury and similar type insurances for the participants.

9.2 NRL Insurance Statement

It is the responsibility of each school which participates in the program to acknowledge and inform their students of the risks involved in sporting activities of the nature covered in the activity. The NRL accepts no responsibility for any injury, loss and/ or damage that arises out of a student's participation in the activity. The NRL suggests that schools recommend that parents obtain private health insurance for their child (for things such as general medical expenses and dental) to cover any accident, injury, loss and/or damage which they may suffer as a result of participating in the program. If students have questions regarding the insurance coverage provided by their school in respect of participation in these programs they should contact the school directly.

9.3 Junior Rugby League Insurance

Participants who are registered players in competitions affiliated with QRL may be covered by their relevant participant insurance policies.

9.4 Private Health Insurance

It is recommended that players are also covered under the highest category available in a Medical Benefits Fund.

10. KICKING TEES

- 10.1 Kicking tees may be used provided they are a product which have been officially Licensed by the NRL. Such tees may be used at start and restarts of play from the halfway line.

11. MATCH DURATION

The Regional level of the competition is flexible, however once at Inter-regional level there will be a set format.

- 11.1 At the Regional phase of the competition match duration will be determined by the Regional convenor. All participating schools will be notified.
- 11.2 24min games (12) min halves with five (5) min half time.
* Applicable in finals series
- 11.3 Time off in last 5 mins of state finals

12. MATCH VENUES

- 12.1 Venues will be nominated by the competition convenor in consultation with the participating teams.
- 12.2 The nominated host team will have the responsibility of hosting the match. All matches must be played at venues that have suitable facilities, i.e. clean change rooms for each team, suitable playing surface, and appropriate area for spectators and will, where possible, be arranged by the state competition co-ordinator in conjunction with the participating schools.

13. PENALTIES & DISQUALIFICATIONS

- 13.1** In the event of a school fielding an over-age player, under-age player, an ineligible player or being found guilty of playing with an extra player on the field, the school may be disqualified.
- 13.2** The actual penalties for breaches shall be determined by an independent committee specifically appointed by the Competition Convenor to hear such allegations.

14. PLAY-BY DATES

- 14** All matches are required to be played on or before the date set down in the draw. Play-by dates must be adhered to or the offending school may be deemed to have forfeited.
- 14.1** Only exceptional circumstances for extension (e.g. flood conditions) will be considered.
- 14.2** Extension requests will be arbitrated by the:
State Competition Coordinator in conjunction with the Regional Conveners.
- 14.3** Each request for an extension will be treated on its merits and must be submitted in writing within 24 hours of the event which precipitated the match postponement.
- 14.4** All variations in play-by dates must be forwarded to the Competition Convenor.
- 14.5** Each request for an extension will be treated on its merits. The absence of a player or players will not be accepted as sufficient reason for extension beyond play-by dates.
- 14.6** The decision of the NRL will be final and no further correspondence will be received.

15. TEAM REGISTRATION

- 15.1** All teams must register to the NRL League Net Registration System. Details of how to register will be sent by the Competition Convenor.





16. PROTESTS/CHALLENGES

- 16.1** Any challenges/protests must be lodged in writing by 5.00pm on the first business day following the match. Protests must be on a School letterhead and counter-signed by the school principal.
- 16.2** Protests are to be addressed to: The Competition Convenor – kmcqld@nrl.com.au

17. REFEREES & TOUCH JUDGES

- 17.1** NRL qualified referees and touch judges will be arranged by the appropriate state body for all matches at Regional and State levels.

18. REPLACEMENTS

- 18.1** The replacement rule to be used in all matches is “six (6) fresh reserves with unlimited interchanges”. Any infringement of this rule can lead to a school being disqualified.

19. SEND OFFS & DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- 19.1** Disciplinary Action processes are currently under review between the NRL/QRL and Education Queensland and the QSSRL 10-12 years and 13-18 years committee. In the event of a send-off/serious incident please contact the regional and/or Competition Convenor.

20. SITUATIONS NOT COVERED BY THE RULES

- 20.1** Should any situation or matter arise, not covered by these rules, the matter shall be referred to the NRL for decision, which will be final.

21. STRUCTURE OF COMPETITION

- 21.1 The Regional convenor (NRL Game Development staff/or appointed teacher) will assume responsibility for conducting their own regional draw, as well as the scheduling of games and supply of referees, venues, timekeepers and other officials for each match.
- 21.2 The Regional competition can be structured to suit the area and can be held as round robins, knock outs, gala days or carnivals. The format for each district is to be determined by the NRL GDO or Regional Convenor.
- 21.3 NRL GDOs or Regional convenors will oversee rounds up to the State Finals where the NRL will assume control for the competition. All decisions in regards to venues, playing dates etc. for the State Final Series will be made by the NRL.

22. TEAM COLOURS

- 22.1 In the event of a colour clash, the Convener in attendance will, by the toss of a coin, determine which school will wear alternate colours.
- 22.2 Numbers must be clearly visible on jumpers for all teams competing and there should be no duplication of any numbers (e.g. team set 1-15).

23. TRAINERS

- 23.1 All trainers and water runners are expected to operate under the [NRL On-Field Policy/ NRL National Code of Conduct](#) and it is strongly encouraged that they gain the 'Leaguesafe' qualification as a minimum.
All trainers: -
 - 23.1.1 Must be suitably attired
 - 23.1.2 Must not enter the field unnecessarily. It must be remembered that they are there to treat injured players and not just to run messages for the coach
 - 23.1.3 Must not stand behind play issuing instructions to players
 - 23.1.4 Must not interfere with the run of play
 - 23.1.5 Must return to the player's bench immediately after attending to players and not "walk the side line"
 - 23.1.6 Must follow any reasonable request by the match officials or ground manager
 - 23.1.7 If students are used as water runners then they too are are strongly encouraged that they gain the 'Leaguesafe' qualification as a minimum, be suitably attired, must not interfere with the run of play and must not run messages for the coach
 - 23.1.8 If the trainer/s or water runner/s do not adhere to the trainers roles and responsibilities then they may be asked to remove themselves from the field of play by the official ground manager or NRL representative. They may then take no further part in the match. Further penalties may be imposed by the league after investigation of the incident/s





24. FIRST-AID

As with all sports, there is a risk of injury whilst playing Rugby League. It is vital that should an injury occur the player involved is provided with the best possible first response assistance in order to provide adequate treatment and/or referral.

- » The Education Queensland CARA process is the responsibility of all schools/teachers attending
- » Teachers must attend to minor injuries in the first instance.

In order to ensure this occurs, the competition convener must:

- » Appoint qualified first aid personnel with suitable equipment (first aid kit, ice etc) to the event who will be in charge of handling any injuries that occur during games.
- » Be notified of all serious injuries to players. It is mandatory that the standard Injury Form (electronic copy available on request) is used to document injuries.
- » Consult the National On-Field Policy

MATCH SUBSIDY & COMPETITION FUNDING

The NRL provides funding to the participating school to offset the costs associated with taking part in the State finals series of the Karyn Murphy Cup.

The actual subsidy level will be determined by the Competition Coordinator at the conclusion of the competition and is subject to change.

Schools are asked to contact the Competition Coordinator to discuss accommodation/travel arrangements and expected expenditure prior to finalising bookings (Travel and accommodation subsidies are based on a party of 15). Any request for accommodation subsidy during the Finals Series must be submitted well in advance to the Competition Coordinator for approval.

All claims for travel subsidies will only be paid upon receipt of a 'Match Subsidy Application Form' from the school, covering all match details and with a copy of the paid travel account/invoices attached. This subsidy claim must be submitted within 14 days of the final match in the competition.

LAWS OF THE GAME

Subject to the modifications below, games will be played under the International Laws of the Game & RL Laws 6-12 Year Game Models.

1. THE GAME

24min games: (12)min halves with five (5) min half time.

*Applicable in the finals series

2. FIELD SIZE

Full size Rugby League field brought in 10m either side, length of the field remains the same with width reduced.

LAWS OF THE GAME (continued)

3. PLAYERS

- » The total number of players on the field at any one time in each team shall not exceed nine (9).
- » Each team must nominate a team comprising of a maximum of fifteen (15) players for each event. A total of six (6) Interchange players may be used on an unlimited interchange basis throughout the match.

4. SCRUMS

- » No Scrums
- » In circumstances where play would normally restart with a scrum play will restart with a handover to the non-offending team, including where kicks find touch in general play. The handover in this instance will be taken by the non-kicking team ten metres infield opposite where the ball crossed the touch line.
- » In the event of a successful 40/20 kick, play will recommence with a tap re-start to the kicking team twenty (20) metres in from where the ball crossed the touch line but not closer than 10 metres to the goal line.

5. POINTS

- » A try shall count for four (4) points
- » There will be NO conversions
- » Penalty kicks for goal and field goals are not allowed

6. RESTARTS

- » **In the 11-12yrs age division a restart will be a tap to the non-scoring team from half way.**
- » The kick off to commence each half/period of play shall be taken by a place kick which must travel ten (10) metres in a forward direction and land in the field of play.
- » All kick off re-starts of play ,following a try, shall be taken by the scoring team. This will be by way of drop-kick or place kick which must travel ten (10) metres in a forward direction and land in the field of play.
- » Goal line & 20 metre restarts of play are taken in accordance with the rules of the game.
- » If, in the opinion of the Referee, the re-start is being delayed due to circumstances of the game, the Referee may call time off in finals series only

7. SIN BIN

- » Under 12 – does not apply. Refer Page 30, Law 17 - RL Laws of 6-12 year Game Models.
- » Year 7/8, Year 9/10, Year 11/12- The period of temporary suspension shall be a maximum of three (3) minutes or, in the event that a match is completed within this period, the period of temporary suspension shall be until the completion of the match.

8. PLAY THE BALL

- » Under 12 - FR & DH bibs are NOT to be worn. Therefore no two pass rule in place as this is 9s.
- » Year 7/8, Year 9/10, Year 11/12- as per the International Laws of the Game. Exception one (1) marker required.

Disclaimer: exceptions on the above at regional level permitted as the competition needs to be flexible to cater for area specific situations. Beyond this the above must be adhered to.





2019 SIGN-ON SHEET

FIXTURE			VERSUS	
VENUE				
DATE				
SCHOOL				
NO.	PLAYER'S NAME	D.O.B	SIGNATURE	
TRAINERS				

Teacher/Coach: _____

2019 GAME RESULT SHEET

Date: _____

Venue: _____

_____ V _____

											TOTAL
TRIES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
PLAYER #											
TIME											
GOALS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
PLAYER #											
TIME											
FIELD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
TOTALS											

											TOTAL
TRIES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
PLAYER #											
TIME											
GOALS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
PLAYER #											
TIME											
FIELD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
TOTALS											

NB: Please circle the first TRY Scorer and PENALTY

PENALTIES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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PENALTIES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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First penalty received by: _____

First try scored by: _____

Game won by: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

(Referee)

3 points

2 points

1 point

School

Signed

School

Signed





FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

playrugbyleague.com



NRL Female Participation QLD



@NRL

