





## **APPEALS AND PROTESTS POLICY**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Appeals and protests were written into the Parramatta Junior Rugby League Club Constitution.
- 1.2 Upon a review of the Parramatta Junior Rugby League Club Constitution a decision was made to remove disciplinary items and the appeals and protests clauses and to make them into Policies.

### **2. POLICY**

- 2.1 All Conference Competition protests and appeals will be handled by the NSWRL pursuant to the NSW Community Rugby League Policies and Procedures Manual.
- 2.2 All Parramatta Junior Rugby League (PJRL) Competition protests and appeals and/or appeals against sanctions determined by the PJRL will be conducted as follows:

#### PROTESTS

- 2.3 Any decision made by the Grading Committee in relation to competition grading's are final cannot be protested.
- 2.4 Provided all rules and regulations have been observed and followed, a Club may lodge a protest against a breach of the Competition rules in relation to the outcome of a match.
- 2.5 All protests should be in writing and addressed to PJRL – Junior League Operations and be lodged or delivered to the League by 4.00pm on the Tuesday following the match.
- 2.6 If a Club decides to protest while a match is in progress (or immediately before or after), a brief account of the protest should be submitted on the Score Sheet with the name of the Club, official and position.
  - a) For the protest to be heard it is still necessary for the Club Secretary to forward a letter of protest to Junior League Operations by 4.00pm on the Tuesday following the match.
  - b) If the required follow up protest letter from the Club Secretary is not received by Junior League Operations by 4.00pm on the Tuesday following the match, no further action will be taken by the PJRL.
- 2.7 The protest letter may be emailed to Junior League Operations, however, the Club submitting the protest should ensure that it has been received.



- 2.8 Upon receipt of the protest and the prescribed Protest Fee of \$200 plus GST, the PJRL will advise brief details of the protest/complaint to the Club complained against and arrange for the matter to be investigated and adjudicated upon. Non-receipt of that notice will not be a defence at any subsequent hearing.
- 2.9 The PJRL has the authority to deem a protest frivolous and dismiss the complaint.
- 2.10 Should a Club or an Official lodge a frivolous or groundless complaint or fail to proceed with a complaint in such a way it is considered an inconvenience or an embarrassment, disciplinary action against the Club or Official lodging the protest may follow.
- 2.11 The PJRL is empowered to adjudicate on any protest, compliant or issue felt is appropriate.
- 2.12 The PJRL may institute action regarding a breach of the Competition Rules at any time.
- 2.13 The PJRL is authorised to investigate all protests, complaints and other concerns and make adjudication. This may be undertaken by a Match Review Committee should it be required.

#### **Protests during the Finals Series**

- 2.14 For a protest to be accepted from Clubs involved in the final series matches it must be lodged in writing at the timekeepers table no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the completion of the game.
- 2.15 Any protest shall be immediately referred to Junior League Operations by the host Club Ground Manager.
- 2.16 Junior League Operations will make a determination of merit and if required will refer the protest to a Match Review Committee for hearing.
- 2.17 All protests during the Finals Series will be heard, if possible, on the day of the match, at a time and venue to be advised by the PJRL.
- 2.18 Protest Fee:
  - a) If a protest is upheld by the Match Review Committee, then the Protest Fee will be refunded in full.
  - b) If a protest is dismissed by the Match Review Committee, then the Protest Fee will be forfeited.



## APPEALS

- 2.19 An appointed Parramatta NRL Appeals Committee shall deal with all appeals.
- 2.20 Appeals:
- a) Any appeal against a decision of the Parramatta Junior League Board of Management or a Sub-Committee shall be made in writing to the Chairman of the Parramatta NRL or their nominee through the Junior League General Manager and must be must be lodged within seven (7) days of notice of the decision.
  - b) A Club cannot appeal on behalf of a member, all such appeals must be made by the person concerned.
- 2.21 Each appeal or protest must be accompanied by an Appeal Fee as set by the Junior League Board of Management. The Appeal Fee is \$200 plus GST.
- 2.22 Pending the determination of any appeal or protest, any decision which is the subject of that appeal or protest shall continue in operation.
- 2.23 In dealing with any appeal from a decision of the Junior League or a Sub-Committee, the Parramatta NRL Appeals Committee may either quash or uphold that decision or vary the penalty imposed by the Junior League or a Sub-Committee.
- 2.24 The appeal will be dealt with ex-parte unless otherwise advised by the PNRL Appeal Committee.
- 2.25 PNRL Appeals Committee may dismiss the matter immediately if it believes:
- a) The appeal has no merit
  - b) The appeal is frivolous or vexatious
  - c) Where the committee believes the penalty is appropriate
- 2.26 The decision of the PNRL Appeals Committee shall be final.
- 2.27 Appeal Fee:
- a) If an appeal is quashed by the Parramatta NRL Appeals Committee, then the Appeal Fee will be refunded in full.
  - b) If an appeal is not quashed by the Parramatta NRL Appeals Committee, then the Appeal Fee will be forfeited.