



GRADING & RE-GRADING POLICY

Version	Date	Changes	Author
V1.0	24/10/2023	Creation of Policy	Adam Fairley
V1.1	01/11/2023	Agreed changes at PJRL Board Meeting on 31/10/2023	Adam Fairley
V1.2	06/12/2023	NSWRL determination concerning Combined Central West Conference Competitions	Adam Fairley
V1.3	31/01/2024	Under 6 & Under 7 Development Competitions to be graded in colours as opposed to location. Approved at PJRL Board Meeting on 30/01/2024	Adam Fairley
V1.4	21/02/2024	Under 10s to move from Competitive Competitions to Development Competitions in line with the Laws of the Game.	Adam Fairley
V1.5	23/04/2025	The PJRL withdrew from the Central West Conference, hence all reference to same was removed. Under 11s to move from Competitive Competitions to Development Competitions in line with the Laws of the Game.	Adam Fairley



GRADING & RE-GRADING POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Junior League formally referred to By-Laws with respect to Grading & Re-Grading, the Junior League no longer uses By-Laws and are required to formulate a Policy for the Grading and Re-Grading of Teams.
- 1.2 Grading and Re-Grading is an exceptionally important process as it is undertaken to ensure that teams of equal ability are playing in a Competition against one another. Frequent close games improve players skills and resilience, keeps everyone involved in the team motivated and provides the best competitive experience, which aims to retain players in future seasons.
- 1.3 This Policy will state the process undertaken to Grade and Re-Grade Age Divisions.
- 1.4 At a meeting to discuss the Central West Conference Competitions for the 2024 season on 12 October 2023, the NSWRL proposed that Division 1 Competitions remain combined between the PJRL and the CBDJRL, while where possible, Division 2 and lower Competitions would be conducted by the individual Junior Rugby League. The PJRL Board of Management endorsed this proposal at it's 31 October 2023 meeting, notwithstanding that if there was an individual Age Group and Division where the CBDJRL could not conduct their own Competition, those teams would be welcome to play in a PJRL Competition.
- 1.5 The NSWRL advised that the PJRL would not be able to conduct their own Competitions for Under 13s and above and all such Competitions would remain as Central West Conference Competitions (i.e. if U13/2 consists of all PJRL teams it will still be a Central West Conference Competition, if U13/3 is a combined PJRL/CBDJRL competition it will be a Central West Conference Competition).
- 1.6 At the PJRL Forum conducted on 5 November 2023 it was discussed and agreed by Clubs that the Under 6 and Under 7 Competitions be conducted in line with the Under 8 and Under 9 Competitions (Red, Yellow, Blue, Green) as opposed to North and South.
- 1.7 After the 2024 Season the PJRL Board decided to withdraw from the Central West Conference, as such all references to the Central West Conference were removed from the Policy.
- 1.8 Pursuant to the Laws of the Game, Development Competitions will progress as follows: U11 and below 2025, Under 12 and below 2026 and beyond. This Policy was amended to reflect the changes.



2. GRADING & RE-GRADING POLICY

Team Grading Sheets and Club Nomination Forms

- 2.1 Nomination of teams for each season shall close on a date determined by the NSWRL for Metropolitan and Conference Competitions and by the Board for PJRL Competitions.
- 2.2 Parramatta Junior Rugby League Operations will forward Team Grading Sheets, Club Nomination Forms and Grading Request Forms to each Club.
- 2.3 Every Team Grading Sheet must list all players that are intending to play in a Team (registered or unregistered) as at the due date for submission, inclusive of their playing experience over the prior two (2) seasons.
- 2.4 Clubs must advise on the Team Grading Sheet their preferred Division based on the previous season's team performance, and the player losses and gains for the current season.
- 2.5 Clubs must complete the Club Nominations Form listing the number of Teams in each age group and their preferred divisions.
- 2.6 Clubs must submit a detailed Grading Request Form if a Team is applying to:
 - a) go up a Division (i.e. won lower Division in previous season, have recruited players, want to test themselves)
 - b) stay in the same Division (i.e. won same Division in previous season, finished towards bottom of ladder and have recruited players or want to test themselves)
 - c) go down a Division (i.e. finished towards the bottom of the ladder in previous season, have lost players of the previous seasons standard)

Grading Process

Metropolitan Competitions

Girls and Women's – U12 to Open Age Women Gold Competitions, League Tag, Open Age Men's and any other Competition that the NSWRL declares is a Metropolitan Competition

- 2.7 The PJRL will represent Clubs at the NSWRL Grading Meeting which relates to Metropolitan Competitions.
- 2.8 The PJRL will rank their Districts' teams based on the previous season's team performance, and the player losses and gains for the current season and will take into consideration the Club's preferred Division and Grading Request Form.
- 2.9 The main aim of the PJRL will be to ensure that their teams are graded in Competitions where they will be competitive and are playing against teams of equal ability.



Parramatta Junior Rugby League Competitions

U13 to U21s Male and U12 to Open Age Women

(excluding Competitions that the NSWRL declares a Metropolitan Competition)

- 2.10 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will conduct the Grading of PJRL teams in Competitions where only PJRL teams are participating.
- 2.11 Prior to the Grading Meeting the PJRL will rank all nominated teams based on the previous season's team performance, and the player losses and gains for the current season.

For Example:

There are 16 nominations for the Under 14s Age Group. The PJRL will rank the nominated Teams 1 to 16.

- 2.12 At the Grading Meeting the PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will take into consideration any Grading Request Form submissions which states the Club's preferred Division and in detail provides the reasons why. Based on the Grading Request Form submissions the PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee may increase or decrease a Teams ranking in an Age Division.
- 2.13 When the Teams final rankings are agreed, the nominated teams are to be split into Divisions. Each Division will aim to ensure that teams of equal ability are playing in a Competition against one another.
- 2.14 The PJRL will advise all Clubs of the grading's 14 days prior to the commencement of all such Competitions.

U12 (Competitive) in 2025

- 2.15 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will conduct the Grading of PJRL Competitions.
- 2.16 Prior to the Grading Meeting the Parramatta Junior Rugby League will rank all nominated teams based on the previous season's team performance, and the player losses and gains for the current season.

For Example:

There are 20 nominations for the Under 11s Age Group. The Parramatta Junior Rugby League will rank the nominated Teams 1 to 20.

- 2.17 At the Grading Meeting the Qualifications Sub-Committee will take into consideration any Grading Request Form submissions which states the Club's preferred Division and in detail provides the reasons why. Based on the Grading Request Form submissions the Qualifications Sub-Committee may increase or decrease a Teams ranking in an Age Division.



- 2.18 When the Teams final rankings are agreed, the nominated teams are to be split into Divisions. Each Division will aim to ensure that teams of equal ability are playing in a Competition against one another.
- 2.19 The PJRL will advise all Clubs of the grading's 14 days prior to the commencement of all U12 competitions.

U8, U9, U10, U11 (Non-Competitive) in 2025

- 2.20 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will conduct the Grading of PJRL Competitions.
- 2.21 The aim of U8, U9, U10 & U11 Competitions is to:
- a) provide high quality early and ongoing engagement
 - b) attract and retain participation
 - c) foster personal development
 - d) transition and nurture performance
 - e) offer high amounts of deliberate play
 - f) learn the technical aspects of the game (catching and passing, running in possession, play the ball, falling and landing safely, tackling & kicking
 - g) understand the basic attacking and defensive principles
 - h) gain a further understanding of the laws of the game
- 2.22 Prior to the Grading Meeting the PJRL will rank all nominated teams based on the previous season's team performance, and the player losses and gains for the current season.

For Example:

There are 28 nominations for the Under 9s Age Group. The Parramatta Junior Rugby League prior to the Grading Meeting will rank the nominated Teams 1 to 28.

- 2.23 At the Grading Meeting the PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will take into consideration any Grading Request Form submissions which states the Club's preferred Division and in detail provides the reasons why. Based on the Grading Request Form submissions the PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee may increase or decrease a Teams ranking in an Age Division.
- 2.24 When the Teams final rankings are agreed, the nominated teams are to be split into Divisions. Each Division will aim to ensure that teams of equal ability are playing in a Competition against one another.
- 2.25 U8, U9, U10 & U11 Competitions will be known as:

Age Group	Division	Competition Name
U8	1	U8 Red
U8	2	U8 Yellow
U8	3	U8 Blue



Age Group	Division	Competition Name
U8	4	U8 Green
U9	1	U9 Red
U9	2	U9 Yellow
U9	3	U9 Blue
U9	4	U9 Green
U10	1	U10 Red
U10	2	U10 Yellow
U10	3	U10 Blue
U10	4	U10 Green
U11	1	U11 Red
U11	2	U11 Yellow
U11	3	U11 Blue
U11	4	U11 Green

2.26 The PJRL will advise all Clubs of the grading's 14 days prior to the commencement of all U8, U9, U10 & U11 Non-Competitive Competitions.

U6 & U7 (Non-Competitive)

2.27 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will conduct the Grading of PJRL Competitions.

2.28 The aim of U6 and U7 Competitions is to:

- a) provide high quality early and ongoing engagement
- b) attract and retain participation
- c) foster personal development
- d) teach awareness of game rules
- e) learn basic attacking and defensive concepts
- f) learn how to catch and pass
- g) learn how to play the ball
- h) learn how to run in possession
- i) put smiles on faces

2.29 Teams will be graded based on:

- a) Capability
- b) Experience (number of years played)
- c) Physical attributes – agility, coordination & balance (as advised by Clubs)

2.30 U6 & U7 Competitions will be known as:

Age Group	Division	Competition Name
U6	1	U6 Red
U6	2	U6 Yellow
U6	3	U6 Blue
U6	4	U6 Green



Age Group	Division	Competition Name
U7	1	U7 Red
U7	2	U7 Yellow
U7	3	U7 Blue
U7	4	U7 Green

- 2.31 The PJRL will advise all Clubs of the grading's 14 days prior to the commencement of all U6 & U7 Non-Competitive Competitions.

Re-Grading Process

Metropolitan Competitions

Girls and Women's – U12 to Open Age Women Gold Competitions, League Tag, Open Age Men's and any other Competition that the NSWRL declares is a Metropolitan Competition

The PJRL will represent Clubs at the NSWRL Re-Grading Meeting which relates to Metropolitan Competitions.

- 2.32 The PJRL will request teams move up or down a Division based on their teams' performance in the current season and will take into consideration any Club Re-Grading Request Forms.
- 2.33 The main aim of the PJRL will be to ensure that their teams are graded in Competitions where they will be competitive and are playing against teams of equal ability.
- 2.34 When moving between Divisions teams will enter the new Competition pursuant to the NSWRL Metro Conference Competition By-Laws clause relating to Grading / Re-Grading.

Parramatta Junior Rugby League Competitions

U13 to U21s Male and U12 to Open Age Women (excluding Competitions that the NSWRL declares a Metropolitan Competition)

The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will consider if teams are to move up or down a division based on their performance in the current season and will take into consideration any Club Re-Grading Request Forms.

- 2.35 When moving between Divisions teams will enter the new Competition as below:
- a) Teams moving up a Division will enter the new Competition in 5th position with an equal number of Competition Points, Points For, Points Against and Points Differential to the team sitting 5th on the ladder at the time of the Re-Grade.
 - b) Teams moving down a Division will maintain their Competition Points, Points For, Points Against and Points Differential at the time of the Re-Grade.

U12 (Competitive) in 2025

- 2.36 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will meet with respect to the Re-Grading of U12 Competitive Competitions.



- 2.37 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will consider if teams are to move up or down a Division based on their performance in the current season and will take into consideration any Club Re-Grading Request Forms.
- 2.38 When moving between Divisions teams will enter the new Competition as below:
- a) Teams moving up a Division will enter the new Competition in 5th position with an equal number of Competition Points, Points For, Points Against and Points Differential to the team sitting 5th on the ladder at the time of the Re-Grade.
 - b) Teams moving down a Division will maintain their Competition Points, Points For, Points Against and Points Differential at the time of the Re-Grade.

Parramatta Junior Rugby League Competitions – U8, U9, U10 & U11 (Non-Competitive)

- 2.39 While U8, U9, U10 & U11 Competitions are Non-Competitive, the age groups are graded.
- 2.40 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will meet with respect to the Re-Grading of U8, U9, U10 & U11 Non-Competitive Competitions.
- 2.41 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will consider if teams are to move up or down a Division based on their performance in the current season and will take into consideration any Club Re-Grading Request Forms.

Parramatta Junior Rugby League Competitions – U6 & U7 (Non-Competitive)

- 2.42 While U6 and U7 Competitions are Non-Competitive, the age groups are graded.
- 2.43 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will meet with respect to the Re-Grading of U6 & U7 Non-Competitive Competitions.
- 2.44 The PJRL Qualifications Sub-Committee will consider if teams are to move up or down a Division based on their performance in the current season and will take into consideration any Club Re-Grading Request Forms.

Definitions:

PJRL Parramatta Junior Rugby League

NSWRL New South Wales Rugby League