

## ASRU PLAYER ELIGIBILITY POLICY

### Player Eligibility

1. This policy applies to eligibility for representative teams of the ASRU and for teams from States and territories participating in ASRU Championships.
2. A player must be Under 18 on the first of January of the current year. That is a player who turns 19 or older in the current year is not eligible.
3. The Term State in this policy includes all States and Territories of the Commonwealth.
4. When the term eligibility is used in this policy it covers both eligibility by age and by schooling.
5. A Secondary school is a school that is registered and/or accredited by the State Department of Education, or the appropriate agency of the Department
6. A student who is in full time attendance at a secondary school and is undertaking a course leading to the appropriate school based Year 12 exit credential (e.g. HSC, VCE, etc.) is eligible.
7. A student who is engaged in home schooling is eligible if he is registered with the State Department of Education and is undertaking a full time course leading to a Year 12 exit credential.
8. A student who is repeating a year and who otherwise fulfils the above requirements is eligible.
9. A student who is doing a pathways course (e.g. as in NSW) and who is still in full time attendance at a secondary school and who otherwise fulfils the above requirements is eligible.
10. A student is in full time attendance as so defined by the school or the state department.
11. This would not preclude him having work experience or part time employment outside school hours. However his attendance at school must constitute the significantly largest part of his school hours.
12. An equivalence to attendance at secondary school occurs when he is undertaking a full time course that is leading to an appropriate exit credential for Year 12—or the equivalent of that credential.(see point 6 above)
13. This could occur where a student undertakes a full time TAFE, or similar, Year 11 and 12 course that fulfils the above requirements.
14. A student who has completed Year 12 and then undertakes another course which is not leading to the appropriate Year 12 exit credential( see point 6 above) is not considered to be undertaking an equivalent course. This applies to tertiary, TAFE or other courses e.g. those offered by a private provider.
15. Where a student has completed Year 12 and is not repeating to attempt the Year 12 exit credential course again, he is not eligible.

## **Process**

1. It is the responsibility of the State Schools Rugby Union in affiliation with the ASRU to verify that any player selected by it for their State team complies with the above eligibility requirements.
2. The State Schools Rugby Union must verify in writing immediately following the team selections, before the Championships, that all selected players are eligible and must obtain and include with this verification any necessary evidence of attendance in cases where the player is not in attendance at a recognised secondary school.
3. The State Schools Rugby Union must obtain verification of the age of the player either by the sighting and noting of a birth certificate or passport or from a written and signed verification from the Principal of his school.
4. This written verification and any appropriate accompanying documentation/ evidence must be submitted to the ASRU Executive prior to the Championships.
5. A "pro forma" for this verification will be supplied to the State Schools Rugby Union by the Championships Director together with a copy of the eligibility policy.
6. The ASRU Executive may carry out further enquiries if there is any doubt about the eligibility of a player.
7. State Schools Rugby Unions are advised to consult with the ASRU Executive in advance in the case of any doubts about eligibility.
8. The decision of the ASRU Executive is normally final on matters of eligibility.
9. An appeal from the decision of the ASRU Executive can be made to an ASRU Appeals Committee as constituted by the ASRU Committee.

## **Exemptions**

1. Exemptions for a player to participate in the Championships if otherwise not eligible can be made by the ASRU Executive.
2. Any player so exempted is eligible only to play in the Championships and is not eligible to be selected in any ASRU Representative Team, e.g. Combined States, Australia A, or Australia.
3. Exemptions will normally be considered for reasons of safety where an appropriately skilled player is not available for a position that requires particular skills related to safety, e.g. a prop.
4. The appropriate State Schools Rugby Union must supply evidence to support these considerations.
5. Exemptions will only be considered from those states where the level of playing numbers is such as to justify a possible exemption.