

# Allegheny Rugby Union

## TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

1. **Sanctioning:** The Executive Committee of the ARU shall have the responsibility for sanctioning all tournaments held within the jurisdiction of the Union. A "tournament" shall include all festivals, invitationals and competitions where six (6) or more teams participate. Only Full Members of the ARU can host tournaments. ARURS referees will not officiate at unsanctioned events.

2. **Notification:** Clubs desiring to host a tournament must notify the Executive committee prior to the season in which the tournament is to be held. Requests received after the competitive season has begun may be rejected. All financial obligations to the ARU must be current and hosts MUST be fully enrolled in the current USA Rugby CIPP Program.

3. **Insurance:** All tournaments must carry liability insurance coverage. ALL players and reserves must carry at least \$100,000 medical coverage and clubs must have liability coverage for a minimum of \$1,000,000.

4. **Medical:** A healthcare professional must be present for the duration of the tournament.

5: **CIPP COMPLIANCE:** All players must be CIPPed. The Tournament host is responsible for checking CIPP status and not allowing anyone to play who cannot provide proof of enrollment in CIPP. All players must be enrolled in CIPP prior to the start of the tournament. The tournament host is responsible for checking the USA Rugby CIPP database and not allowing anyone to play that is not CIPP enrolled. Teams must have viable number of CIPP registered players (15) to participate in tournaments. This policy holds for non-ARU affiliated teams.

CIPPed players may band together for tournament play as a "Motley" side. Such a team need not be CIPPed as a team, but each player on that team must be CIPPed.

6. **REFEREES:** The hosting club/Tournament Director, after obtaining sanction from the Executive Committee, must contact the Referees' Society regarding the number of referees requested. The Referees' Society will appoint a Head Referee for the tournament. The Head Referee and the Club's Tournament Director will decide on how to best schedule referees' at the tournament. Clubs CANNOT invite outside referees without contacting the Referees' Society first.

7. **Grounds:** Tournament grounds must have adequate toilet facilities available. Adequate parking must be available. The hosting organization must have the permission of the owners of the grounds and/or of the local municipality to host an event on the property.

7. **PITCHES:** The Host Club is responsible for securing at least one pitch of reasonable size and condition for the tournament. This pitch is to be designated the Feature pitch. Unless both captains of a given match agree otherwise, all Finals/Championships/Feature matches must be played on the Feature Pitch.

Each pitch MUST be properly lined.

Each pitch MUST have two sets of goalposts

Each pitch MUST be properly roped as described by the Midwest Directives.

8. **DISCIPLINE:** The ARU Disciplinary Committee shall have the responsibility for taking appropriate action against individuals and/or teams that:

- a. Do not honor tournament commitments
- b. Act in any manner that is detrimental to the tournament or the spirit of rugby
- c. Attempt to play any ineligible players

It is the responsibility of the Club's Tournament Director or Committee to invite only members in good standing from any Union. There will be NO recourse through the ARU should a club allow non-CIPPed players or teams designated "not in good standing" to participate in their tournament and an incident, or incidents, occur that would normally warrant disciplinary action. Any player sent off the field (issued a Red Card) during a tournament is ineligible to play for the rest of the tournament.

11. **Scheduling conflicts:** If a scheduling conflict arises, it is the responsibility of the teams in conflict to resolve any differences. If the issues cannot be resolved the involved parties, then the issue will be decided visa binding arbitration by the Executive Committee.

7. The following suggestions are recommended to help ensure the success of a tournament:

- USA RUGBY offers an excellent guide for hosting a tournament. While it is geared towards collegiate sides, it is applicable for all levels of competition. To view the guide, visit:  
<http://www.usarugby.org/collegiate/uploads/TournamentHandbook.pdf>
- A meeting of tournament officials, referees and team captains should be held prior to the start of the tournament (usually about an hour before the first kick-off). All questions about rules, pairings or any other concerns should be answered at that time. Proof of insurance and CIPP can also be verified at this meeting.
- All participating clubs should be asked (in prior communications between them and the host club) as to the availability of any of their players or associates as referees. The Head Referee should be kept informed, as the information is known.
- All participating clubs should be advised that they must be prepared to provide a competent touch judge for each game they play.
- All participating clubs are to be reminded to bring proof of medical insurance for all of their players, player rosters with a listing of individual CIPP numbers and proof of club CIPP.
- The host club should line all fields in accordance with The Plan found in Law 1 of the Laws of the Game. The lines should be re-lined as necessary, especially during the occurrence of inclement weather.
- The host should provide high quality game balls for use at each field. The finest quality ball should be held from use until the championship game.
- All participating clubs should be advised, in advance, of how many games (win or lose) they are expected to play in. They should also be advised that failure to play in any of these games (especially in the consolation bracket) may subject them to ARU disciplinary action.
- All efforts must be made to have the tournament start on time; games during the tournament should be scheduled with enough space in between each match to allow an even flow of games during the day. Participating clubs should be informed in advance of penalties for tardiness.
- All participating clubs should be advised, in advance, of how adverse weather may affect the tournament structure (i.e. pitches may be unplayable, games shortened, tournament canceled, etc.).