

# OPERATIONAL POLICY



**RUGBY  
UNION SA**

## GENERAL INFORMATION\*

Lead Area:	RUGBY SERVICES
Lead Procedure Title:	MERCY RULE – Junior Competitions
Date last modified:	June 2020

## SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

The policies herein are intended to bring focus to the participation nature of community Rugby Union in South Australia.

The Junior Competition will focus on competing until a points differential is reached.

All Clubs and Teams in the Junior competitions are responsible for adhering to these policies, and upholding the premise of participation in our community game.

## JUNIOR COMPETITION MERCY RULE

This policy is introduced to standardise the process of points capping within the RUSA Junior Competition (specifically U12, U14, U16 and U18) during the regular competition rounds.

STEP	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
1	The referee will call full-time if the score reaches a points difference of 60 or in the process of reaching the 60 point differential.	Referee
2	If the points differential in one act of scoring exceeds 60 points the score will stand accordingly (a 66-point differential is the maximum that can be attained).	Referee/managers /coaches
3	The Match shall be declared a victory to the winning team - with the appropriate competition points and for and against points awarded to both teams accordingly.	Referee/managers
4	Once the points differential is 60 points (Maximum 66 points) - competition scoring ceases.	Referee/team managers
5	When the referee has called full-time and enacted this mercy rule policy, the opposing coaches, in consultation with the referee, will decide if the game will continue in the same format (same teams), or in a modified format (mixed teams) “friendly match” initiative. Any option taken will now be non-competition points. <b>In any case – the maximum allotted game time must be used</b>	Referee/coaches
6	During the non-competition/friendly initiative - Tries, conversions, penalty goals and drop kicks are still recorded in the Matchday app for record keeping. The official Points differential in Rugby Xplorer will be capped at the points differential.	Referee/team managers
7	During any modified format/friendly match initiative or non-competition game-play - yellow, red and blue cards are still valid and hold as much value and consequences as in regular competition formats.	Referee/manager/ coaches

\* This procedure has the effect of a Rule under the Competition Rules issued by the Union and terms used in this procedure and defined in the Competition Rules have the same meaning in this procedure and the rule of interpretation set out in the Competition Rules also apply to this procedure.