

## **2017 Participation Policy and Procedure summary** (separate pdf page linked to page above)

A policy and procedure framework for 2017 designed to: 'Make Rugby as safe, inclusive and fair as possible.'

A new base framework built from:

- World Rugby Weight Consideration Guidelines
- Australian Rugby research undertaken to date
- Best practice from other Unions
- Based on sound fundamentals of existing Policy and Procedure

### **Background to Policy Framework**

#### [World Rugby Weight Consideration Guidelines](#)

- Gradings based on age is still the most efficient method but not without difficulty.
- Issue: what to do with minorities who don't fit within the 'general rule of age'?
- World Rugby States: No single solution. Need to consider the physical and mental development of the individual child in question.

Recommendations from Australian Rugby Mismatches in Adolescent Rugby research 2014#:

- Dispensation criteria should be based on Rugby specific standards (not growth charts)
- Variability within age group support the 2-year window concept
- Grading within competition to address mismatches in size and performance
- Decision should be player focused – not team / club / school

*#Understanding Mismatches\* in Body Size, Speed and Power Among Adolescent Rugby Union Players  
Mr. Lyndon Krause, Prof. Geraldine Naughton, Associate Professor Tim Gabbett, Dr Tim Hartwig, Mr Declan Patton,  
Mr Greg Denny*

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*Mismatch = Marked size and or, performance variability within age levels*