

Under 14 Competition Regulations

Each coach shall ensure that all players named on the game sheet have at least 15 minutes playing time during each game.

There are no limits on squad size at a game

League games shall be 15-a-side as far as possible. If, in the Blue league, a side has fewer than 15 players, 12 is the minimum number allowable. The side with fewer players shall default the game and forfeit any competition points. If both sides have fewer than 12 players, both sides default and all competition points are forfeited. If a side starts with 12 players and one player has to go off, the league game may continue without default. If the same side again starts with 12 players in a subsequent Blue league game and a player has to go off, the game is defaulted.

If a team defaults a Blue league game, that team is ineligible for the playoffs.

At a Blue league game during the regular season where one or other side has fewer than 15 players, player loans are encouraged. This is up to the two teams involved.

If the side with more players chooses to lend players, then the side with fewer players must accept them.

Please note that the 12-player minimum for a league game to avoid default refers to players registered with each club, before any player loans.

Player loans are not allowed in Blue playoff games.

If players are loaned in a Blue league game, the sides should be made as equal in numbers as possible.

Note: lending is encouraged as the preferable option.

Player Eligibility:

To be eligible for a U14 team in the 2014 season, players must be born in 2000 or 2001. There is a "playing up" procedure whereby an underage boy (a U12) may play on a U14 team. Refer to Rugby Ontario Policy 3.4.2 Appendix D for the steps to be taken to allow an underage boy to compete.

Players must be registered with their club, Rugby Ontario and Rugby Canada, and all fees paid.

Players shall be boys, except that a girl may play if she and her parents and coach have followed the following four-point procedure:

1. State the names, accreditation and NCCP numbers of the coaches who will be coaching these girls. The coaches must also be registered. Rugby Ontario needs to have in writing from the coaches what their individual position is, knowing the position and concerns of Rugby Ontario that these girls participate in the boys under 14 league. The iRB, and by extension, Rugby Ontario does not endorse or support girls participating in the boys under 14 leagues, based on concerns for the safety of the female athlete. The International Rugby Board advised in 2004 that contact in a coed environment should end at age 12. This is observed and practiced by most unions throughout the world.
2. A parent or guardian and the young girl must meet with a member of Rugby Ontario and listen to the inherent risks and concerns set out by the iRB.
3. The member of Rugby Ontario will attend an U14 boys practice or game with the girl and the parent/guardian to see firsthand the risks and concerns inherent in that competition. This may not be a game or practice of the local club but may be one of another competitive club in this age group. Some travel may be required.
4. After acknowledging the player welfare risks and concerns, the player and her parent wish to proceed, then a waiver must be signed in accordance with Rugby Ontario Policy.

Referee:

Minimum accreditation shall be a current iRB Level 1. Referees must be registered and in good standing with Rugby Ontario.

Send-off Reports must be filed with Rugby Ontario as per Rugby Ontario Policy 6.4.1: Appendix I.

Coaches:

Head coaches, at minimum, must have completed their NCCP Introduction to Competition course. It is strongly advised that any assistant coach should have this level of accreditation as well.

All clubs with U14 teams must have at least one coach per team High Five-certified.

Therapists:

Must be a qualified sports trainer or medical doctor/nurse/paramedic or have taken a recognized first aid/CPR course. A therapist must be at any sanctioned Rugby Ontario event. There must be an emergency action plan.

Note: referees, coaches and therapists must be registered with Rugby Ontario and Rugby Canada. There is no charge for registration of therapists.

Note: the home club is responsible for providing the referee and the therapist for the game.

Game Sheet:

A Rugby Ontario game sheet is mandatory, to be filled in and signed by both coaches listing all players competing in the game, verifying their eligibility, and signed by the referee, and faxed into Rugby Ontario by the winning team.