



HANDBOOK

2017

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e. mark@kukri.co.nz m. 021 781 122



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Waikato Rugby Union
Level 3
FMG Stadium Waikato
128 Seddon Road

PO Box 9507
Waikato Mail Centre
Hamilton 3204

B: 07 839 5675

www.moolooocommunityrugby.co.nz

MESSAGE FROM THE WRU General Manager

Welcome to the 2017 Waikato club rugby season.

The continued rise of numbers of people getting involved in club rugby in the Waikato, on and off the field, is a testament to the pride people place in this sport and to help lay the groundwork of our proud union.

The WRU Management and Board believe support and resources are a necessity to ensure the development and growth of the sport at grassroots level in this region. Through our community rugby objectives we have the support and opportunities available to make certain that everyone involved can enjoy and contribute to our national game.

One of the priorities for the game is to guarantee a safe and enjoyable environment to newcomers and the ones who continue to play the game. This means keeping everyone involved whether they are players, coaches, referees or administrators. WRU prides itself on good sportsmanship as one of our key values and we appeal for all those involved in club rugby to be mindful of this.

Finally, a massive thanks to all of the WRU sponsors, in particular those who contribute to our community game, for the tremendous support that you all give to rugby in the Waikato region.

All the best for the 2017 club rugby season, I look forward to seeing all the clubs in action throughout the season.

Regards

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Blair Foote', is positioned above the printed name.

Blair Foote
WRU General Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson

Colin Groves

E: coal@mooloo.co.nz

Michael Talbot

E: michael@talbotlaw.co.nz

David Kneebone

E: davidk@lodgerentals.co.nz

Phil Harris

E: philshorttail@gmail.com

Steve Shale

E: stephen.shale@bayleys.co.nz

Howie King

E: hking@prolife.co.nz

Allen Grainger

E: allen.grainger@foodstuffs.co.nz

PRESIDENT

President

Duane Monkley

M: 027 807 6413

E: duanemonkley07@gmail.com

Vice President

Marty Holah

M: 021 764 376

E: marty@holahhomes.co.nz

WRU STAFF

Senior Management

General Manager

Blair Foote

M: 021 285 1656

E: blairf@mooloo.co.nz

Commercial Manager

David Fox

M: 027 457 2941

E: davidf@mooloo.co.nz

Operations Manager

Bill Heslop

M: 021 589 994

E: billh@mooloo.co.nz

Staff Continued

Community Rugby

Administrator

M: 021 704 944

E: admin@mooloo.co.nz

Logistics

Wayne Bootten

M: 021 245 8865

E: wayneb@mooloo.co.nz

Community Rugby Assistant

Rob Hewitt

M: 027 320 4989

E: robh@mooloo.co.nz

Club Development Officer

Paul Martin

M: 021 401 552

E: paulm@mooloo.co.nz

WRU STAFF cont.

Referee Education Officer

Michael Winter
M: 021 805 890
E: michaelw@mooloo.co.nz

Fan Engagement Executive

April Yorwarth
M: 021 880 937
E: apriy@mooloo.co.nz

Media Executive

Joel Skulander
M: 021 803 478
E: joels@mooloo.co.nz

Commercial/Marketing Executive

Maria Radich
M: 021 353 416
E: mariar@mooloo.co.nz

Rugby Development Coaches:

Team Leader

Andrew Spraggon
M: 021 228 5054
E: andrews@mooloo.co.nz

James Semple
M: 021 801 813
E: james@mooloo.co.nz

Mike Marnewick
M: 021 532 964
E: michelm@mooloo.co.nz

Wayne Maxwell
M: 022 6534920
E: waynem@mooloo.co.nz

Girls Rugby (U18 & below)

Chelsea Alley
M: 027 844 3540

WRU HIGH PERFORMANCE RUGBY CONTACTS

Mitre 10 Head Coach

Sean Botherway
M: 027 248 9180
E: seanb@mooloo.co.nz

Assistant Coaches

Carl Hoeft
M: 021 028 43295
E: carlh@mooloo.co.nz

Roger Randle
M: 021 052 7703
E: rogerr@mooloo.co.nz

Academy Manager

Alf Daniels
M: 021 242 0840
E: alfd@mooloo.co.nz

Mitre 10 Manager

Mike Crawford
M: 021 344 562
E: mikec@mooloo.co.nz

Head of Athletic Performance

Christos Dragus
M: 021 805 314
E: christosd@mooloo.co.nz

Strength & Conditioning Trainer

Todd Barker
M: 021 664 847
E: toddb@mooloo.co.nz

Physio

Teresa Te Tamaki
E: teresa@lifestylephysio.co.nz

LIFE MEMBERS

Bill Goulin
37 Lavender Pl,
Domain Gardens, Papamoa

Brian Clarke
212 North Rd,
Tahuna, Morrinsville

Neil Gray
Ocean Beach Rd, Opito Bay
RD 2, Whitianga

George Simpkin
605 Devonport Towers
72 Devonport Rd, Tauranga

Michael Crawford
67 Poplar Lane
RD 4 Hamilton

WAIKATO RUGBY REFEREES

WRU Referee Appointment Officer

Graham Bowen
M: 021 960 214
E: brogden.lodge@farmside.com

Bill Heslop
M: 021 589 994
E: billh@mooloo.co.nz

WRU Referee Contact

Referee Education Officer
Michael Winter
M: 021 805 890
E: michaelw@mooloo.co.nz

Referee Administrator
Rob Hewitt
M: 021 846 063
E: robh@mooloo.co.nz

FRANKTON RUGBY SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Swarbrick Park, Rifle Range Rd, Hamilton

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 5022, Frankton
Hamilton 3242
B: 07 847 6219
E: franktonsports@xtra.co.nz

Chairman

Greg Schmidt
M: 021 795 125
E: gregs@cdh.org.nz

Secretary

Glennise Head
M: 021 079 937
E: glennise@aheadscreens.co.nz

Treasurer

Carolyn Johnstone
E: carolyn@compliance.co.nz

Rugby Contact

Allen Grainger
M: 021 858 133
E: allen.grainger@foodstuffs.co.nz

Division 1 Coach

Jacob Kelly
M: 021 034 1811
E: jkelly@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz

Division 1 Manager

Allen Grainger
M: 021 858 133
E: allen.grainger@foodstuffs.co.nz

Division 1B Coaches

Greg Schmidt
M: 021 795 125
E: gregs@cdh.org.nz

Division 1B Manager

Denny McLuskie
M: 027 280 2266
E: den.joinery@xtra.co.nz

Colours: Black & Blue



FRASER TECH RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: Norton & Mills Sts, Hamilton

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 5127, Frankton 3242

B: 07 847 9009

E: frasertech1923@gmail.com

President

John Moore

M: 027 494 0384

E: jmoore@kingstons.co.nz

Past President

Craig Foster

M: 027 651 6693

E: craig@lhtgroup.co.nz

Secretary

Michelle Dalton

M: 022 187 6536

E: michelle.dalton13@gmail.com

Presidents Contact

Aaron Clarke

M: 027 363 5117

E: aaronclarke69@hotmail.com

Premier A Coaches

James White

M: 027 290 6536

E: jamesnicholaswhite@gmail.com

Premier A Manager

Brett Caton

M: 027 573 8192

E: brett.caton@anzcofoods.com

Premier B Coaches

Brad Mitchell

M: 021 930 668

E: b.rad.mitch20@gmail.com

U85kg Coaches

Gary Mangino

M: 027 273 1519

E: gary.mangino@hynds.co.nz

U85kg Manager

Collin Laurie

M: 027 474 3942

E: jlaurie@xtra.co.nz

Colours: Blue & White



HAMILTON MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: 147 Old Farm Road, Hamilton

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 4204, Hamilton East
Hamilton 3247
B: 07 856 6668
E: ham.marist@xtra.co.nz
W: www.hamiltonmarist.co.nz

President

Mike Honiss
M: 021 970 998
E: mike.honiss66@gmail.com

Secretary

John Williamson
M: 021 257 6782
E: john.williamson@dairynz.co.nz

Club Manager

Erin Nation
M: 027 314 6411
E: ham.marist@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain

Tua Karalis
M: 021 115 6809
E: tuakaralus@gmail.com

Under 85kg Coach

Jonathan Peachey
M: 021 243 6199
E: peachey90@hotmail.com

Under 85kg Manager

Dan Tasker
M: 027 8913 8857
E: taskiez@gmail.com

Division 2 Coach

John Sklenars
M: 027 490 5331
E: johnshamiltonplumbing@xtra.co.nz

Women's Coaches

Terri Wilson
M: 021 191 0955
E: terri.wilson@police.govt.nz

Kirsten Skudder
M: 027 746 7326
E: kristenskudder@hotmail.co.nz

Women's Manager

Tracy Houppa
M: 021 455 335
E: traci@thcg.co.nz

Premier A Coaches

Ross Filipo
M: 021 0825 3269
E: dr.floss@hotmail.com

Andy Whelan
M: 021 709 046
E: andrew.whelan@tandg.global

Aza Tamaki
M: 021 159 5948
E: ayetee75@hotmail.com

Premier A Managers

Dave Stevensen
M: 027 279 8258
E: dave.yvette@xtra.co.nz

Matt Palmer
M: 021 555 315
E: matt@fivestags.co.nz

Premier B Coach

Mark Waitai
M: 022 050 0552
E: mark.waitai@twoa.ac.nz

Premier B Manager

Graham Kuiti
M: 027 821 4718
E: rug@melville-high.school.nz

Colts Coach

Ryan Gulbrandsen
M: 027 740 2875
E: rgulbrandsen@yahoo.com

Colts Manager

Sean Mulcahy
M: 027 423 3275
E: mulcs@xtra.co.nz

President's Coach

Terry Vette
M: 027 201 8948
E: terryvette@icloud.com

Colours: Green & White



HAMILTON OLD BOYS RUGBY SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Cnr Richmond & Willoughby Streets, Hamilton

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 427, Hamilton 3240

B: 07 847 7560

W: www.hamiltonoldboys.nz

President

Tania Cleland

M: 027 480 9743

E: david.tania.c@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Amelie Sutcliffe

M: 021 0850 4549

E: amelie@hamiltonoldboys.nz

Club Captain

Tony Bell

M: 021 272 3082

E: tojoolsconstruction@gmail.com

Division 2 Coach

Jason Dick

M: 021 709 200

E: jasondick01@xtra.co.nz

Division 2 Manager

Barry Heerdegen

M: 027 493 3165

E: bhcars@xtra.co.nz

President's Coach

Jo Lewis

M: 027 618 5491

Premier A Coaches

Mark McConnell

M: 021 781 122

E: mark@kukrisports.com

Premier A Manager

Ruben Williams

M: 022 412 7115

E: ruben@plateaugroup.co.nz

Colts Coach

Darcy Oates

M: 027 494 0484

E: darcy.oates@licautomation.co.nz

Colts Manager

David Cleland

M: 027 493 5154

E: david.tania.c@xtra.co.nz

Women's Coach

Barrie Jennings

M: 027 263 4578

E: barriejennings@xtra.co.nz

Women's Manager

Rochelle Smiler

M: 022 090 4738

E: Rochelle.smiler@gmail.com

Colours: Red & Black



HAUTAPU RUGBY & SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Memorial Park, Victoria Rd Cambridge

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 38, Cambridge 3450
B: 07 827 4696
W: www.hautapurugby.co.nz

President/Chairperson

Benjamin Sinclair
M: 021 051 5149
E: benjaminsinclair@outlook.co.nz

Secretary

Cathie Shaw
M: 027 442 6113
E: cathie.shaw@waipadc.govt.nz
E: the-shaws@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain

Mike Cochrane
M: 027 608 2081
E: miketracy@xtra.co.nz

Director of Rugby

Phillip Herewini
M: 027 289 9833
E: phil.coralie@gmail.com

Division 2 Coach

Bill Smith
M: 021 0816 8963

Division 2 Manager

Phillip Herewini
M: 027 289 9833
E: phil.coralie@gmail.com

Premier A Coach

Craig Stevenson
M: 027 807 2338
E: cmcmstevenson@xtra.co.nz
E: craig.stevenson@nrm.co.nz

Premier A Manager

Nigel Kewish
M: 027 555 6713
E: nigel@bpmnz.co.nz

Premier B Coach

Barry Schrader
M: 021 191 6273
E: barry.schrader@police.govt.nz

Premier B Manager

Steve Webb
M: 027 490 1107
E: spwebb@xtra.co.nz

Under 85's Coach

Stu Dromgool
M: 027 222 7715
E: lynmorris@xtra.co.nz

Colours: Red, White & Black



HINUERA RUGBY & SPORTS INC

Clubrooms: Highway 29, Hinuera

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 381, Matamata 3440
B: 07 888 1614
E: hinuerarugby@xtra.co.nz

President

Mark May
M: 027 226 2222
E: info@markmayvillas.co.nz

Secretary

Jonathan Brown
M: 027 707 5941

Club Captain

Willie Bird
M: 027 214 4767
E: williebird8@gmail.com

Club Manager

Tash Wharepapa
M: 027 327 7150
E: hinuerarugby@xtra.co.nz



Division 1 Coach

Richard Waru
M: 021 205 3508
E: richardwaru@hotmail.com

Division 1 Manager

Richard Edwards
M: 027 359 2216
E: keefe4547@gmail.com

Division 1B Coach

Jade Morgan
M: 027 270 7990
E: kerrih@xtra.co.nz

Division 1B Manager

Mike O'Connor
M: 027 406 1450
E: mikeoconnor7@gmail.com

Colts Coach

Matt Magill
M: 027 866 4608
E: matris1409@yahoo.com

Colts Manager

Todd Goodwin
M: 027 278 8513

Colours: Black & Gold

HUNTLY COLLEGE OLD BOYS RUGBY CLUB

Clubrooms: Alexandra St, West Huntly, Huntly

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 92, Huntly 3740
B: 07 828 8362
E: elkington_wayne@yahoo.com

President/Chairperson

Wayne Elkington
M: 027 254 9338
E: elkington_wayne@yahoo.com

Secretary

Nicola Maka-Buisson
M: 022 127 1532
E: maka_stylz@hotmail.com

Club Captain

Keiran Maka-Buisson
M: 027 779 6022
E: kezbuissou@gmail.com

Division 1 Coach

Wayne Elkington
M: 027 254 9338
E: elkington_wayne@yahoo.com

Division 1B Coach

Taihuri Wilson
M: 027 666 1005
E: eugenewilson828@gmail.com



Colours: Scarlet with Blue Bands

JARADITES RUGBY SPORTS CLUB

Playing Ground: Swarbrick Park, Frankton

Postal Address/Contact

75 Powells Rd, Fairview
Downs, Hamilton 3214
B: 07 854 9091
E: csunnex@yahoo.co.nz
W: www.jaraditesrugby.hitsrugby.com

President/Club Delegate

Charles Sunnex
M: 027 264 1555
E: csunnex@yahoo.co.nz

Secretary/Treasurer

Priscilla Sunnex
M: 021 160 8990
E: psunnex@hotmail.com

Division 2 Coaches

Aylmer Kenny
M: 021 0277 7519
E: aylmer@newlakemedia.com

Division 2 Manager

Charles Sunnex
M: 027 264 1555
E: csunnex@yahoo.co.nz

Colours: Royal Blue, Red & White



KEREONE RUGBY & SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Campbell Park, Thames Street, Morrinsville

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 143
Morrinsville 3340
B: 07 889 7600

President

Nigel Leeson
M: 027 210 6090
E: nigelleeson@hotmail.co.nz

Secretary

Bruce Mills
M: 027 574 0242
E: bruce.mills@nzfill.co.nz

Treasurer

John Aarts
M: 021 896 072
E: johnjaneaarts@gmail.com

Club Captain

Claude Piggott
M: 027 778 4141
E: claudepiggott@hotmail.com

Division 2 Coach

Bruce Mills
M: 027 574 0242
E: bruce.mills@nzfill.co.nz

Colours: Emerald Green & White



KIHIKIHI RUGBY SPORTS CLUB INC

Clubrooms: Herbert St, Kihikihi

Postal Address

PO Box 15, Kihikihi 3841

President

Alex Phillips

M: 021 0265 8899

E: alexphillips762@gmail.com

Secretary

Mihiwaatara Hohepa

M: 021 0244 6774

E: mihiwaatara@gmail.com

Division 2 Coach

Mitai Tuuta

M: 021 599 9880

Treasurer

Takena Stirling

M: 021 079 6955

E: kihikihirugby@gmail.com

Club Manager

Terri Green

M: 021 230 8468

E: kihikihirugby@gmail.com



Colours: Black & Gold

LEAMINGTON RUGBY SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Carlyle St, Leamington

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 63, Cambridge 3450

B: 07 827 8346

E: leamingtonrugbysportsclubnz@outlook.com

Division 1 Coach

Wayne Bootten

M: 021 245 8865

E: wayneb@mooloo.co.nz

President

David Barnett

M: 027 296 0860

E: barnstorm@paradise.net.nz

Division 1 Manager

Dave Peters

M: 021 274 9113

E: dave.peters@downer.co.nz

Chairman

Dave Peters

M: 021 274 9113

E: dave.peters@downer.co.nz

U19 Coach & Manager

Dean Crampton

M: 027 627 4267

E: turkandtarn@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Cherie Makuch

M: 021 108 6145

E: makuch4@outlook.com

Club Captain

Ian Makuch

M: 027 480 7083

E: makuch4@outlook.com

President's Coach

Jason Cameron

M: 027 271 6045



Colours: Royal Blue & White Stripes

MATANGI HILLCREST SPORTS CLUB INC

Clubrooms: 562 Tauwhare Rd, Matangi

Postal Address/Contact

40 Carroll St, Waharoa

E: matangi.hillcrest@gmail.com

Chairperson

Lance Rapana

M: 027 413 8706

E: lance.rapana@tehauora.co.nz

Club Manager

Donna Mackay

M: 021 767 916

E: donna@veloxsecurity.co.nz

Club Contact

Graham Bowen

E: brogden.lodge@farmside.co.nz

Club Captain

Matthew Hemopo

M: 027 480 0401

E: mahiahemopo@yahoo.co.nz

Division 2 Coach

Shane Raupita

M: 021 330 851

E: shane.raupita@daltons.co.nz

Division 2 Manager

Wayne Barrett

M: 027 431 6156

E: wizac.barrett@gmail.com

Colours: Green, Gold & White



MELVILLE RUGBY & SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: 127 Collins Rd, Melville

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 8011, Hamilton 3245

B: 07 843 6228

E: melvillersc@gmail.com

President

Philip Hassall

M: 021 901 910

E: philip.hassall@hamrad.co.nz

Secretary

Samantha Lee

M: 027 559 9591

E: melvillersc@gmail.com

Club Captain

John Peel

M: 027 664 8369

E: jp_specials@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Linda Rowe

M: 027 720 0800

E: lindarowe28@gmail.com

Director of Rugby

Nigel Hotham

M: 027 819 6753

E: nhotham@hbhs.school.nz

President's Coach

Paul Redfern

M: 027 406 8342

E: sapling3@gmail.com

President's Manager

Tracey Redfern

M: 027 438 5170

E: rosebandit@gmail.com

Premier A Coaches

Ben Paurini

M: 022 132 5421

E: sudz007@hotmail.com

Craig Walters

M: 021 405 294

E: craig.walters@konicaminolta.co.nz

Premier A Manager

Duanne Skipper

M: 021 375 5934

E: archskip@hotmail.com

Premier B Coaches

John Peel

M: 027 664 8369

E: jp_specials@hotmail.com

Matt McKone

M: 021 782 603

E: adelle.r@xtra.co.nz

Under 85kg Coach

Richard Roberts

M: 021 866 072

E: richard.roberts@foodstuffs.co.nz

Under 85's Manager

Cath Starr

M: 021 780 846

E: catherine.starr@evansbailey.co.nz

Colours: Red & Green



MORRINSVILLE RUGBY AND SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Campbell Park, Thames Street Morrinsville

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 182
Morrinsville 3340
B: 07 889 7225
E: morrinsvillerugbyandsports@gmail.com

President

Dean Nicholson
M: 027 572 1338
E: dean@niccars.co.nz

Secretary

Hilary Alsemgeest
M: 027 254 9234
E: halsemgeest@ballance.co.nz

Club Captain

Paul Alsemgeest
M: 027 443 8674
E: palsemgeest@ballance.co.nz

Main Contact for Club

Brett Johnstone
M: 021 300 262
E: brett@uth.co.nz

Under 85kg Coach

Caleb Smith
M: 027 328 7944
E: clebmasmith@gmail.com

Under 85kg Managers

Lucas McIver
M: 021 458 227
E: lucasmciver@gmail.com

Division 1A Coach

Damon McKinnon
M: 021 448 919
E: damon@roofingrenovations.co.nz

Division 1A Managers

Brett Johnstone
M: 021 300 262
E: brett@uth.co.nz

Division 1B Coach

Nathan Chase
M: 021 292 3744
E: ng.chase@gmail.com

Division 1B Manager

Kevin Manuel
M: 027 559 8497
E: kmanuel@agpac.co.nz

Colts Coach

Peter Maisey
M: 021 901 473
E: petermaisey@hotmail.com

Colts Manager

Tony Tissingh
M: 027 494 3466
E: tonytiss@icloud.com

Colours:

Navy, Sky Blue & Scarlet



NGARUAWAHIA RUGBY SPORTS CLUB INC

Clubrooms: Paterson Park, Kent Street, Ngaruawahia

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 14
Ngaruawahia 3742
M: C/- 021 809 643
E: glynisking93@gmail.com

President

Mike Wells
M: 027 248 4018

Secretary

Glynis King
B: 07 850 9317
M: 021 809 643
E: glynisking93@gmail.com

Club Captain

Eddie Tarawhiti
M: 021 232 8460
E: ed.tarawhiti@hotmail.com

Division 2 Coach

Alan Tauranga (Te Akau)
H: 07 825 4747
E: atauranga@farmside.co.nz

Division 2 Manager

Eddie Tarawhiti
M: 021 232 8460
E: ed.tarawhiti@hotmail.com



Colours: Blue & Gold

NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: Main Rd, Tahuna

Postal Address

RD 3
Morrinsville 3373

President

Don Annis
25 Page St, Morrinsville
M: 021 0294 6258

Myles Leeson

E: myles.leeson@epmu.org.nz

Treasurer

Graeme McIntyre
32 Cross Rd, RD 5, Morrinsville
H: 07 889 3498

Secretary

Ray Kett
Ohinewai Road
RD 3, Morrinsville
H: 07 887 7744

Sharon McIntyre

E: sharonmcintyre03@gmail.com



Colours: Black & Red Hoops

OHAUPO RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: Memorial Park, Ohaupo

Postal Address/Contact

C/- Postal Delivery Centre
Ohaupo

B: 07 823 6883

E: ohauporugbysports@outlook.co.nz

President

Dave Kite

M: 027 477 6768

E: daveo11@icloud.com

Secretary

Tina Matthews

M: 027 239 8504

E: tamatthews@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain

Graham Kennedy

M: 029 847 4530

E: graham@thomsonsitm.co.nz

Division 1 Coach

Dave Crump

M: 027 539 7379

E: davecr63@hotmail.com

Division 1B Coach

Pat Coleman

M: 027 4490 7027

E: pat.coleman@calisuzu.co.nz

Division 1B Manager

Brad Finnerty

M:

E: bradfinnerty@gmail.com

Colours: Yellow, Black & Red



OTOROHANGA SPORTS CLUB INC

Clubrooms: Orahiri Tce, Otorohanga

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 87
Otorohanga 3940
B: 07 873 8526

Premier A Coach

Jeremy Iti
M: 021 783 364
E: jeziti82@hotmail.com

President

Paul McConnell
M: 027 290 1922
E: porkykateharrymax@xtra.co.nz

Premier A Manager

Merv Carr
M: 027 333 1942
E: merv@jwn.co.nz

Secretary

Graham Wilshier
M: 027 498 8207
E: wilsh@xtra.co.nz

Premier B Coach

Greg Crum
M: 021 768 712

Club Captain

Jack Poa
M: 027 208 8966
E: jack@otctimber.co.nz

Premier B Manager

Steve Wilshire
M: 027 270 8186
E: steve@otctimber.co.nz

Women's Coaches

Ted Tauroa
M: 022 306 1909

Colts Coach

Hutana Coffin
M: 021 210 7332
E: hutana.coffin@twoa.ac.nz

Nathan Pye

M: 027 294 6660
E: nathan@otctimber.co.nz

Colts Manager

Rozel Coffin
M: 027 478 6775
E: rozelc@sportwaikato.org.nz

Women's Manager

Natasha Smith
M: 027 257 9597
E: merv@jwn.co.nz

Colours: Blue & Gold



PIRONGIA RUGBY & SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Franklin St, Pirongia

Postal Address/Contact

C/- PO Box 34-008
Pirongia 3844
B: 07 871 9898
W: www.pirongia.co.nz

President

Mike Thackray
M: 021 719 047
E: mikethackray@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Brian Johnson
M: 027 232 7720
E: mangapikojerseys@gmail.com

Club Captain

Lee Bennett
M: 021 033 9304
E: pordort@xtra.co.nz

Division 1 Coach

Johnny De Thierry
M: 021 133 5154
E: johnnyde66@hotmail.com

Division 1 Manager

Jason Harrison
M: 027 839 2559
E: jason.harrison@vetent.co.nz

Division 1B Coach

Matt Sandy
M: 027 703 8588
E: matthew.sandy@rabobank.com

Division 1B Manager

Mark Harrison
M: 027 229 6790
E: mark.harrison@vetent.co.nz

Colts Coach

Chris Gibson
M: 027 438 7883
E: bags6@xtra.co.nz

Colours: Black & White Hoops



PUTARURU RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: Nola Lane, Putaruru

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 159, Putaruru 3411

B: 07 883 8020

E: putarururugbyclub@xtra.co.nz

President

Eddie White

M: 027 343 1236

E: thewhites@orcon.net.nz

Secretary

Nadine Stafford

M: 027 513 6870

E: putaruru@laserplumbing.co.nz

Treasurer

Kimberley Crocker

M: 027 275 6082

E: kimberleyc@grahambrown.co.nz

Club Captain

Jeremy O'Rourke

M: 027 214 1039

E: jezao@vandyks.co.nz

Club Manager

Jim Ngati

M: 022 020 5661

E: jamesngati@xtra.co.nz

Division 1 Coach

Rob Rogers

M: 021 234 4967

E: rob.rogers@putarurucollege.school.nz

Division 1 Manager

Mark Hotham

M: 021 626 609

E: mark@kensolly.co.nz

Colours: Royal Blue & Red



Division 1B Coach

Craig Samuels

M: 021 124 9659

E: craigboyz@clear.net.nz

Division 1B Manager

Anna Samuel

M: 021 118 3209

E: craigboyz@clear.net.nz

RAGLAN RUGBY SPORTS CLUB INC

Clubrooms: Cross St, Raglan

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 32, Raglan 3265

B: 07 825 8297

Secretary

Huria Falwasser

M: 021 187 8076

Club Contact

Val Rippey

M: 020 4090 3467

E: jonirip@xtra.co.nz

NO TEAM FOR 2017

Colours: Green & Black



SOUTHERN UNITED RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: Memorial Sports Ground, Mossop Rd, Tokoroa

Postal Address/Contact

P O Box 136, Tokoroa 3444
B: 07 886 9468

President

Greg Pearce
M: 027 640 0022
E: taz_hsv69@yahoo.com.au

Chairman

Graeme Lee
M: 027 491 9660
E: graemeanddeniselee@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Trudy Meszaros
M: 027 480 9560
E: mezcar@xtra.co.nz

Club Captains

Larry Suluva
M: 027 488 1954
E: larry@morrisseys.co.nz

Shon Meszaros

M: 027 474 2790
E: mezcar@xtra.co.nz

Premier A Coach

Darin Costar
M: 027 295 4080
E: dazwenz@icloud.com

Premier A Manager

Graeme Lee
M: 027 491 9660
E: graemeanddeniselee@xtra.co.nz

Premier B Coach

Cedric Wilson
M: 027 247 2701

Women's Coach

A. J. Purnell
M: 027 460 7175
E: kereopa@xtra.co.nz

Women's Manager

Ashleigh Hawera
M: 021 043 4478
E: ashbilly.hawera@hotmail.com

Colours:

Scarlet, Navy Blue & White



SUBURBS COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Flagstaff Park, Commodore Ave, Flagstaff, Hamilton

Postal Address

PO Box 21107
Rototuna, Hamilton 3256
B: 07 854 3347
E: hamiltonsuburbs@xtra.co.nz
W: www.hamiltonsuburbs.co.nz

Chairman

Marty Forster
M: 027 292 6216
E: marty.forster@eidnz.co.nz

Club Captain

Shane Townsend
M: 021 843 593
E: shane@sgtauto.co.nz

Secretary

Amber Maisey
M: 029 973 7711
E: amber76@windowslive.com

Presidents Coach

Graham Bond (Bondy)
M: 021 344 759
E: helenandbondy@gmail.com

President's Manager

Kerry Schaab
M: 021 440 941
E: schaabys1@gmail.com

Division 1 Coach

Waisake Masirewa (Ski)
M: 021 161 6534
E: masirewa_ski@hotmail.co.nz

Division 1 Manager

Sean Stephens
M: 027 478 1669
E: sean.stephens@naiharcourts.co.nz

Division 1B Coach

Tane Buckley
M: 027 434 3241
E: tane@enlighten.co.nz

Division 1B Manager

Duran Walters
M: 021 151 8929
E: dcwalters82@icloud.com

Colts Coach

Chris Tane
M: 021 663 628
E: cyris2001@hotmail.com

Colts Manager

Grant Salisbury
M: 021 883 362
E: grant.salisbury@yahoo.co.nz

Colours: Black & White



TAUPIRI RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB INC

Clubrooms: Murphy Lane, Taupiri

Postal Address/Contact

C/- 503 Henry Road, RD 1
Taupiri 3791
B: 07 824 6660
W: www.pitchero.com/clubs/taupirirfc

Chairperson

Lance McLaggan
M: 027 494 4603
E: l.k.mclaggan@farmside.co.nz

Secretary

Leah Scott
M: 027 686 9499
E: leah5@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain

Thomas Curle
M: 027 511 1052
E: thomasandamy@clear.net.nz

Division 1 Coach

Warren Hodges
M: 027 367 3663
E: warren@hodgee.co.nz

Division 1 Manager

Tony Burgess
M: 021 930 982
E: tonyburgess@xtra.co.nz

Division 1B Manager

Tony Burgess
M: 021 930 982
E: tonyburgess@xtra.co.nz



Colours: Yellow & Black

TE AKAU RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: Te Akau Waingaro, Community Complex

Postal Address/Contact

616 Te Akau Rd, RD 1
Ngaruawahia 3793
B: 07 825 4820

President

Greg Boyd
H: 07 825 4770
E: gregandjamie@xtra.co.nz

Vice President

Dodge Helling
H: 07 825 4497

Treasurer

Laura Geering
H: 07 825 4965

Club Captain

Joshua MacDonald
M: 027 341 7895
E: macastrades@hotmail.com

Division 2 Coach

Allan Tauranga
H: 07 825 4747
E: atauranga@farmside.co.nz

Division 2 Manager

Josh MacDonald & (NGA)
M: 027 341 7895
E: macastrades@hotmail.com

Secretary

Hayley Thorpe
H: 07 825 4480
E: hayleyt78@gmail.com



Colours: Forest Green & Gold

TE AWAMUTU MARIST CLUB INC

Clubrooms: Castleton Park, 1346 Park Rd, Te Awamutu

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 143
Te Awamutu 3840
B: 07 871 4850
F: 07 871 5357

President

Aaron Leppard
M: 027 345 6121
E: leppards@rocketmail.com

Secretary

Catherine Smith
M: 021 511 710
E: teawamutumarist@gmail.com

Colours: Green & Gold



TE AWAMUTU SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

Clubrooms: Albert Park, 420 Albert Park Dr

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 365
Te Awamutu 3840
B: 07 871 3910
E: tasports@paradise.net.nz

Chairperson

Willie Berkers
M: 027 498 8552
E: willieb@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Carol Bain
M: 027 270 9027
E: carol.bain@clear.net.nz

General Manager

Peter Arndell
E: manager@tasports.co.nz

Under 85kg Coach

Hamish Meerkerk
M: 021 262 1017
E: kirkis_001@hotmail.com

Under 85kg Manager

Leith Schwass
M: 021 276 8175
E: atvcity@xtra.co.nz

Premier A Coaches

Maxie Kemara
M: 021 191 3907
E: maxiekelli@hotmail.com

Premier A Manager

Peter Bain
M: 021 0222 9456
E: carol.bain@clear.net.nz

Premier B Coach

Bruce Bain
M: 021 345 476
E: bruce@bainliquids.co.nz

Premier B Manager

Mike Allen
M: 021 817 031
E: mike.allen@gallagher.co.nz

Division 2 Coach

Ollie Ward
M: 027 451 9158
E: programs@tasports.co.nz

Division 2 Manager

Bianca Chapman
M: 021 064 1553
E: biancajade@hotmail.co.nz

Colours: Navy, Emerald & Gold



TE RAPA RUGBY SPORTS CLUB INC

Clubrooms: St Andrews Park, 78 Vickery St, Te Rapa

Postal Address/Contacts

PO Box 10021
Te Rapa 3241
B: 07 849 2282
E: admin@teraparugby.org.nz
W: www.teraparugby.co.nz

Chairperson

Maurice Gredig
M: 027 466 3227
E: admin@teraparugby.org.nz

Secretary

Liz Alderton
M: 027 740 6394
E: alderton.family@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain

Mike Potts
M: 021 067 8566
E: pottsie60@gmail.com

Division 1 Coach

Paul Nathan
M: 021 732 182
E: paul.nathan@pnf.co.nz

Division 1 Managers

Andrew Fairley
M: 027 366 6784
E: andrew07@clear.net.nz

Division 1B Coach

Scott Nicholson
M: 021 438 256
E: scott@durobuilt.co.nz

Division 1B Manager

Jamie Myers
M: 027 757 9544
E: abc_jamie_123@hotmail.com

Colours: Royal Blue & Scarlet



UNITED MATAMATA SPORTS CLUB

Clubrooms: Bedford Park, Tainui St, Matamata

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 277, Matamata 3440
B: 07 888 8018
E: ums.inc@xtra.co.nz
W: www.unitedmatamatasports.co.nz

Secretary

Hazel Lamberth
M: 021 164 9322
E: ums.inc@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain

Allen Pryor
M: 027 441 5276
E: alanpryor@vodafone.co.nz

Women's Coach

Jodie Pryor
M: 021 153 5975
E: jodz11@me.com

Premier A Coach

George Simpkin
M: 021 113 2587
E: george.simpkin@gmail.com

Premier A Manager

Paul Hammond
M: 027 530 0408

Premier B Coach

Stu Wilson
M: 027 472 1814

Colts Coaches

Alex Bradley
M: 027 558 8998

Raymond Tuhakaraina

M: 021 149 0074

Colts Manager

Darren Roa
H: 07 888 4880

Wayne Dickinson

H: 07 888 4220

Colours: Red, White & Black



WAIKATO UNIVERSITY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: The Don Bar, Gate 3b, Silverdale Rd,
University Waikato Campus

Postal Address/Contact

PO Box 4401, Hamilton 3247
W: varisityrugby.waikato@gmail.com

Premier A Coach

Shannon Hockey
M: 021 074 4987
E: shemack@hotmail.com

President

Doug Hawkings
M: 027 458 2185
E: doug@hawkings.co.nz

Premier A Manager

Mike Curran
M: 021 437 582
E: mbcurran@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Gary Buttimore
M: 027 341 0560
E: g.buttimore@xtra.co.nz

Premier B Coach

Matt Ward
M: 021 226 5481
E: matt.ward@ballance.co.nz

Under 85kg Coach

Mark Caldwell
M: 027 632 3227
E: mark_caldwell_nz@hotmail.com

Matt Smith
M: 027 521 6306
E: matthewjsmith90@gmail.com

Women's Coach

Kelly Westgate
M: 021 607 824
E: kelly@noble-lee.co.nz

Women's Manager

Rachel Stratford
M: 027 462 5052
E: rachel.stratford@southerncross.co.nz

Colours: Red, Gold & Black



WHATAWHATA RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Clubrooms: Whatawhata Domain

Postal Address/Contact

Whatawhata Postal Centre
PO Box 4, Whatawhata 3261

President

Morris Rua
M: 027 669 0446
E: wwearthworks@live.com

Secretary

Carmen Hiakita
M: 021 0275 5305
E: carmenhiakita@gmail.com

Division 2 Coach

Ross Rua
M: 027 406 4121
M: 021 117 8886
E: rossrua@hotmail.co.nz

Division 2 Manager

Eugene Henry
M: 021 293 4905
E: etchenry@hotmail.com

President's Coach

Jim Paekau
M: 021 0225 5852

President's Manager

Roi Bishop
M: 021 972 528

Colours: Blue & White



WRU CLUB RUGBY COMPETITION RULES 2017

*(All Club Rugby administered by the
Waikato Rugby Union Club Rugby Advisory Committee)*

For any breaches of the Club Rugby Competition Rules 2017 please refer to the sanctions section #27

1. 2017 Competition format
2. Points
3. Premier
4. Division 1
5. Division 2
6. Colts
7. Under 85kg
8. Venues
9. Game Time Changes
10. Default
11. Results
12. Quarter, Semis and Finals
13. Club Finals Day
14. Rankings
15. Competition Trophies
16. Eligibility for Club Senior Competition Grades
17. Demotion
18. Competition Structure – Premiership / Championship / Division 1
19. Overseas Clearances
20. Registrations
21. Transfers
22. Player Eligibility
23. Protests
24. Club Responsibilities
25. Lighting Standards
26. Judicial - Disciplinary Hearings
27. Sanctions the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee may impose

1. 2017 COMPETITION

The 2017 Premier teams will be:

- Fraser Tech
- Hamilton Old Boys
- Melville
- Southern United
- United Matamata Sports
- Hamilton Marist
- Hautapu
- Otorohanga
- TA Sports
- University

The 2017 1st Division teams will be:

- Frankton
- Huntly
- Morrinsville Sports
- Pirongia
- Suburbs
- Taupiri
- Hinuera
- Leamington
- Ohaupo
- Putaruru
- TA Marist
- Te Rapa

For draws, results and team standings please visit: <http://draws.nzrugby.co.nz/competitions/Fixtures.aspx?Provincial=2530&Name=Waikato%20RFU>

2. POINTS

The competition points for all grades except junior non-competition grades will be:

- four (4) points for a win
 - five (5) points for a default to the opposition
 - two (2) points for a draw
 - one (1) point for scoring four tries or more
 - one (1) point for a loss by seven (7) or fewer points
 - zero (0) points for a loss by more than seven (7) points.
- a) If two (2) or more teams are equal on points the rankings of the teams will be decided by the points differential system, involving the points FOR minus points **AGAINST**, will apply.
- b) If the points differential rule (as per 2.a above) cannot be applied the following will:
- i. If only two (2) teams are involved the team that won when they last met will be regarded as the higher ranked team of the two.
 - ii. If three (3) teams or more are involved the who beat who rule will apply if one team has beaten all the other teams on the same points or if one team has lost to all the other teams on the same points.
- c) If two (2) teams or more in the Premier Division are still equal then the team which scored the greatest number of tries will be ranked highest.
- d) If two (2) or more teams cannot be separated by these rules, a toss of the coin will apply.

3. PREMIER

a) **B Teams are required**

The B teams will follow the same draw as their Senior A team. The draw for the Semi-Finals and Finals will be based on merit, groups of 4 teams with the highest qualifying team having home advantage.

4. DIVISION 1 COMPETITION

a) It is **desired** for Division 1 teams have a B team.

b) **All players must have photographic ID forms completed before the player takes the field.** These are to be taken to every match by team management and be available for opposition management to view before commencement of a match, or by an independent WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee member (or a person nominated by the WRU CRAC) at any time. Players who are re-graded/dispensated will be highlighted. Copies of all player IDs are to be held by the Waikato Rugby Union.

5. DIVISION 2 COMPETITION

Division 2 teams will be recognised as one team, if a club has more than one team.

6. COLTS/AGE GRADE COMPETITION/S

This competition is decided by the number of teams entered.

- a) All players in this grade must be under the age restriction (is age restricted grade) on 1 January of the current year to be eligible to play in this grade. Dispensations maybe granted under exceptional circumstances at the discretion of WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee if applications are received.
- b) **All players to have photographic ID forms completed before the player takes the field.** These are to be taken to every match by team management and be available for opposition management to view before commencement of a match, or by an independent WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee member at any time. Players who are re-graded/dispensated will be highlighted. **Copies of all player IDs to be held by the Waikato Rugby Union.**

7. UNDER 85KG COMPETITION

This competition is decided by the number of teams entered.

- a) **No player must weigh over 85kg to play in this grade.**
- b) Scales must be calibrated and a certificate must be provided when weighing in. It is the clubs responsibility to provide the scales.
- c) Prior to each match, players listed on the team sheet of both teams are to be weighed, using home club's scales, in front of the two team managers, who will be responsible for ensuring that the process is completed to their satisfaction prior to kick-off. Opposition team not to be in weigh-in area. To be completed not later than 10 minutes before kickoff.
- d) If match drawn at neutral ground, then team named first to be treated as the home team and it will be their responsibility to provide the scales.
- e) Teams not having a Manager or Coach will have to nominate a person to take Team Manager's responsibility – Captain and/or Vice-Captain.
- f) Weigh-ins to be one team at a time in front of the Managers of both teams and opposition captain.
- g) Championship round and Semi-Finals and Finals – All teams to be weighed by independent delegate or WRU official – maximum weight – 85kgs.

8. VENUES

a) Changes of venues

Applications for changes to scheduled venues must be made to the WRU Community Rugby Administrator in writing/email by both clubs involved no later than 5 days prior to the match being played. Confirmation of venue change will be notified to clubs.

b) Ground Closures

Requests from the Hamilton City Council and/or other District Councils for venue changes may occur due to inclement weather conditions. These changes will be published on the www.draws.nzrugby.co.nz website as soon as they are approved. Please note that the draw as published in the Waikato Times may not be accurate and it is the responsibility of team management to check for changes of venues.

9. GAME TIME CHANGES

Premier A:	2.45pm
Division 1:	2.45pm
Division 2:	2:45pm
All other grades games:	1.00pm

Games are to be played at the time set by rules of the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee. Should a time change be required the WRU Community Rugby Administrator must be notified in the first instance and both clubs must agree to the change. This must be done by Monday 5pm prior to the game. Host club is to contact the referee's appointments officer.

10. DEFAULTS

- Any team intending to default their game must inform the WRU Community Rugby Administrator at Waikato Rugby Union (via fax/ phone/email) by 9:30pm on Thursday night prior to the scheduled game.
- Any club who fails to notify of their default within the scheduled time will be subject to a fine of \$150. This fine will only be excused in the case of exceptional circumstances.
- A second default by a team after the scheduled time and subsequent defaults thereafter will result in a fine of \$150.
- All matches shall commence at the time and at the venue as per the published draw, unless changed as per rule 8.
- Where a team is unable to provide 15 players (including three trained front rowers) to start the match, this team shall forfeit the competition points. The match may still be played.
- Five (5) competition points will be awarded for a default to the opposition (except junior non-competition grades).
- On the day of the game if the home team is late they must take the field within 5 minutes of scheduled kickoff time and the visiting must take the field within 15 minutes of the scheduled kickoff time before the game shall be defaulted.

11. RESULTS

- a) All team sheets must be fully completed, including results, and must be sent only by email, fax 07 838 1713, text a photo (to 021704944) or hard copy, to the WRU Community Rugby Administrator by midday on the first working day immediately after the match.
- b) Technical default - Front row players must be identified on your team sheet.
 - i. Where a team is unable to provide 15 players (including three trained front rowers) to start the match, this team shall forfeit the competition points. The match may still be played.
 - ii. Each player in the front row and any potential replacement(s) must be suitably trained and experienced.
 - iii. Law 3. 5(e) DSLV Law 2016: If a team nominates 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 or 20 players it must have a minimum of 3 players who are trained to play in front row positions.
 - iv. The replacement of a front row forward must come from suitably trained and experienced players who started the match or from the nominated replacements.

12. QUARTER, SEMIS AND FINALS

In all the Semi & Quarter Finals a winner has to be found.

In the case of a drawn match at full time the following will apply:

- a) 10 minutes extra time each way will be played.
- b) If no winner is found after this time the winner will be found by the team who has scored the most tries in the game.
- c) If no winner is found after this the winner will be the team who scored the first try in the match.
- d) If at this time no winner is found the winner of the match will be the team who won the previous match in the main round.
- e) If there is still no clear winner/decision the winner will be decided by the toss of the coin.

Finals: Rules used in Semi-Finals to find winners will apply in Finals.

Final Round Venues

The venues of the Semi-Finals will be based on the final rankings of the teams at the end of the round robin with the home advantage being given to the higher ranked team.

In age grade rugby groups of four below the championship group, the home advantage may be determined by where games in the regular season were played and the reverse venue being used.

13. PREMIER FINAL

It is the preference of the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee to have the club Finals day at the Waikato Stadium or surrounding grounds if available. The highest ranked team after Semi-Finals has the option to choose to play on these fields if available.

If the Finals are not played at the Waikato Stadium or surroundings grounds the highest ranked team will have the home advantage.

The home team must comply with any WRU sponsorship agreements in consultation with WRU

14. RANKINGS

All final rankings from the 2016 competition will count for the 2017 competition.

15. COMPETITION TROPHIES

Preliminary Rounds

Premiership	Ron Crawford Memorial Trophy
Premiership B	WRU Cup
Division 1A	WRRRA Trophy
Division 1B	WRU Club Trophy
Division 2	NA
Women	NA
Colts	NA
Under 85kg	NA

Main Rounds

Premiership	Haswell Catley Trophy
Premiership B	Waikato Draught Trophy
Championship	NZFP Trophy
Championship B	WRU Club Trophy
Division 1A	TBC
Division 1B	TBC
Division 2	Grassroots Trophy
Women	TBC
Colts	Tom Lithgow Memorial
Under 85kgs	TBC

Finals

Premiership	Breweries Shield
Premiership B	Rowe Cup
Championship	Lion Cup
Championship B	WRU Trophy
Division 1A	Mooloo Shield
Division 1B	WRU Trophy
Division 2	Alpha Hotel Cup
Women's Competition	TBA
Colts Cup	Elliot Shield
Under 85kg Cup	Don Shergold Trophy

Plate Finals

Premiership	Waikato Draught Plate
Premiership B	Club Rugby Plate
Championship	Jubilee Trophy
Championship B	WRU Trophy
Division 1A	Club Trophy
Division 1B	Club Trophy

Challenge Trophies

<i>Premier A</i>	<i>TBC</i>
<i>Premier B</i>	<i>TBC</i>
<i>Division 1A</i>	<i>TBC</i>
<i>Division 1B</i>	<i>TBC</i>
<i>Division 2</i>	<i>TBC</i>
<i>Colts</i>	<i>Club Cup</i>
<i>Under 85kg</i>	<i>Goal Kicking Cup</i>

Challenge Trophy Rules

1. The trophy is only played for when the holder is playing a “home” game.
2. In the case of a draw, the current holder will be deemed to continue to be the holder.
3. The trophy is played for during the entire round robin round.
4. The trophy is not played for in Semi-Finals or Finals.
5. The last holder at the end of the round robin is deemed to be the season winner and can have their name engraved on the trophy.
6. The trophy must be on prominent display when after match speeches are being done.
7. Trophies must stay in each Division.

16. ELIGIBILITY FOR CLUB SENIOR COMPETITION GRADES

- a) Any new team entered or any team which played in earlier years but withdrew for the previous season by the date set for confirmation of entries but which now wishes to re-enter will be placed in a division as decided by the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee.

17. DEMOTION

Premier Ruling:

N/A

All other grades:

Any club who has 3 defaults (Division 1 between its A and B teams, all other grades are considered separate squads) in total in pool play will be demoted to a lower grade in the following season, at the discretion of the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee.

18. COMPETITION STRUCTURE – Premiership / Championship / Division 1

This competition will look like the following:

Month	Date	Day	Premier Round	Division 1 Round
March	18	Saturday		1
	25	Saturday		2
April	1	Saturday	1	3
	8	Saturday	2	4
	15	Saturday	3	5
	22	Saturday	4	6
	29	Saturday	5	7
May	6	Saturday	6	8
	13	Saturday	7	9
	20	Saturday	8	10
	27	Saturday	9	11

From here, there will be:

- Premiership – top 8 Premier teams (P)
- Championship – Bottom 2 Premier teams and top 6 Division 1 teams (top 6 Div.1 teams go up) (C)
- Division 1 – Bottom 6 Division 1 teams. (D1)

Month	Date	Day	Premiership Round	Championship Round	Div 1 Round
June	3	Saturday	1	1	1
	10	Saturday	2	2	2
	17	Saturday	3	3	3
	24	Saturday	4	4	4
July	1	Saturday	5	5	5
	8	Saturday	6	6	Semi's
	15	Saturday	7	7	Final's
	22	Saturday	Semi's	Semi's	
	29	Saturday	Final's	Final's	
	20	Saturday	8	10	
	27	Saturday	9	11	

Notes:

- Round 1 seeding's from 2016 Competition
- Premiership, Championship and Division 1 second round draw at Chairman's meeting 29th May 2017 (as to which teams get more home games due to uneven number)
- Points from Round 1 do not carry over to Premiership, Championship and Division 1.
- The 2 team's competing in the Championship round will be promoted to Premier status for the commencement of the 2018 competition.

19. OVERSEAS CLEARANCES

- Any player, who has played rugby overseas and wants to play rugby with WRU, must first obtain IRB clearance from NZR and register with the new Club as per Rules 19-21. It is the responsibility of the player and the club to ensure that all necessary clearances and registration processes are adhered to; the player shall be stood down from all rugby until the process is complete.**
- Any club that allows a player to be named in the 22 players on the team sheet without IRB clearance and/or registration will forfeit the match.**

20. REGISTRATIONS

Premiership/Championship Ruling:

- No player(s) may take the field in a competition controlled by WRU unless they have completed the registration process:
A player(s) is deemed to have complied with the above when his/her completed NZRU registration form is:
 - All online registrations need to be approved by the authorized club school registration co-coordinator via Sporty. To approve the valid registration click a Tick icon next to the player's name.
 - Has filled out a blank registration form.

This must be completed prior to the player taking the field. The onus is on the sender to ensure that the registration is entered into Sporty. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that the player(s) details are correct. A player(s) shall not be deemed to be registered unless the registration has been approved. No player may take the field in a competition controlled by the Waikato Rugby Union unless they have completed a 2017 NZRU registration form. The manager must show both the EM and the opposition Manager that they have the form for the player before the player takes the field.

b) During Season

Any player(s) can be registered for a team, provided the completed NZRU registration form is:

- i. All online registrations need to be approved by the authorized club/school registration co-coordinator via Sporty. To approve the valid registration click a Tick icon next to the player's name.
- ii. Has filled out a blank registration form.

This must be completed prior to the player taking the field. The onus is on the sender to ensure that the registration is entered into Sporty. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that the player(s) details are correct. A player(s) shall not be deemed to be registered unless the registration has been approved. No player may take the field in a competition controlled by the Waikato Rugby Union unless they have completed a 2017 NZRU registration form. The manager must show both the EM and the opposition Manager that they have the form for the player before the player takes the field.

- c) All registration forms must be received by the Waikato Rugby Union before any player takes the field

All Other Grades Ruling:

- a) No player(s) may take the field in a competition controlled by WRU unless they have completed the registration process:

A player(s) is deemed to have complied with the above when his/her completed NZR registration form is:

- i. Has filled out a blank registration form.
- ii. All online registrations need to be approved by the authorised club/school registration co-coordinator via Sporty. To approve the valid registration click a Tick icon next to the player's name.

Either i or ii must be completed within 1 week of any player arriving at the club and in the exception for the player who "turns up on the day", in that case the hard copy of the registration form must be in Sporty awaiting approval by the club administrator on the first business day following the match. The onus is on the sender to ensure that the registration is entered into Sporty. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that the player(s) details are correct. A player(s) shall not be deemed to be registered unless the registration has been approved. No player may take the field in a competition controlled by the Waikato Rugby Union unless they have completed a 2017 NZR registration form.

b) During Season

Any player(s) can be registered for a team, provided the completed NZR registration form is:

- i. Has filled out a blank registration form.
- ii. All online registrations need to be approved by the authorized club/school registration co-coordinator via Sportsground. To approve the valid registration click a Tick icon next to the player's name.

Either i or ii must be completed within 1 week of any player arriving at the club and in the exception for the player who "turns up on the day", in that case the hard copy of the registration form must be in Sporty awaiting approval by the club administrator on the first business day following the match. The onus is on the sender to ensure that the registration is entered into Sporty. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that the player(s) details are correct. A player(s) shall not be deemed to be registered unless the registration has been approved. No player may take the field in a competition controlled by the Waikato Rugby Union unless they have completed a 2017 NZR registration form.

21. TRANSFERS

- a) Each year, players may register at the club of their choice. Movement between clubs outside of the club rugby competition window, both between unions and within WRU is a player's right and the player may not be prevented from transferring by the club with whom they last played. Arrears of subscriptions and other monies is a civil matter between the club and player and may not be used to prevent a player from changing clubs.
- b) Any players transferring to a WRU club from outside the Union after the first competition game, must complete the NZR registration process as per Rule 19b and the new club must notify the WRU to request the transfer electronically via the NZR database. The WRU Community Rugby Administrator of the WRU will consider the transfer and the player concerned shall be stood down from all rugby until the transfer is approved. It is the responsibility of the player and the new club to facilitate the release from the existing club; otherwise this process can take up to 14 days.

All player transfers to clubs within WRU after the first competition game must gain the approval of the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee. Any player is ineligible for a transfer to another club within WRU after the 3rd week of the competition start date, unless there are extenuating circumstances as approved by the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee.

The WRU will request the transfer electronically via the NZR database.

The WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee will consider the transfer and the player concerned shall be stood down from all rugby until the transfer is approved.

Player Transfers approved by WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee after the 3rd week of the competition start date will have a three (3) week stand down period from all rugby, unless the players current Club agrees on an early release of that player.

22. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

For the sake of this Section “played” means: listed on the team sheet as part of the 22 man squad for any particular week.

Premier Ruling:

- a) To play in Semi-Finals and Finals:
Premier, the player must be seen as a regular member of a team within that club and must have played 3 games for that club in the 2017 season before the semi-Finals.
- b) In the case of a “returning player” from injury that player must have played at least 1 “pool” game to be eligible to play in Semi-Finals and Finals.
- c) Premier and Premier B teams will be recognized as one team.

All Other Grades Ruling:

- b) Any player having six (6) games in a grade in a season may not drop to a lower grade or an age grade unless a re-grade from the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee has been received, except in Snr A & B teams within Premiers and 1st Division. *(This would only be granted in accordance with NZR Safety Law Variations)*
- c) To play in Semi-Finals and Finals:
The player must be seen as a regular member of a team within that club and must have played 3 games for that club in the 2017 season before the Semi-Finals this includes super rugby players.

- d) In the case of a “returning player”, whether it be from Overseas or outside WRU (this includes franchised players) the player must have played at least 1 pool game, if the player has a proven history for that particular club they may be given dispensation for all games at the discretion of the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee.
- e) Division 1 A and B teams will be recognized as one team. All other grade teams are individual teams and not squads. Overseas players must have played at least 1 pool game and have a proven record with a particular club may be given dispensation for all games at the discretion of WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee.
- f) An injured player deemed to be part of the current year’s squad, can return for play-off games, providing they have played a minimum of one pool game.

23. PROTESTS

Any protest must be in writing accompanied by any appropriate documentation to the WRU Community Rugby Administrator by midday Monday immediately after the match.

24. CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

a) **Playing Strip**

Any new playing strip must be applied for through the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee in writing; this will include any of jersey, short, and sock changes.

b) **2017 Playing Strip Clashes:**

Where there is a clash of jersey colours the home team is required to wear an alternative strip.

Fraser Tech	v	Leamington, Pirongia
Hamilton Marist	v	Kereone
Hamilton Old Boys	v	Northern
Hautapu	v	SURF
Hinuera	v	Kihikihi, Ohaupo, Taupiri, University
Huntly	v	Putaruru, SURF, Te Rapa
Kereone	v	Hamilton Marist
Kihikihi	v	Hinuera, Ohaupo, Taupiri, University
Leamington	v	Fraser Tech, Pirongia
Matangi Hillcrest	v	Raglan
Melville	v	SURF
Northern	v	Hamilton Old Boys
Ohaupo	v	Hinuera, Kihikihi, Taupiri, University
Pirongia	v	Fraser Tech, Leamington, Suburbs
Putaruru	v	Huntly, Te Rapa
Raglan	v	Matangi Hillcrest
Suburbs	v	Pirongia
SURF	v	Hautapu, Huntly, Melville
Taupiri	v	Kihikihi, Hinuera, Ohaupo, University
Te Rapa	v	Huntly, Putaruru
University	v	Hinuera, Kihikihi, Ohaupo, Taupiri

c) **EVENT MANAGEMENT**

The WRU is committed to the APPLAUD programme and has put the following protocols in place:

1. **Event Managers**

- Every ground/club should have one. It is currently in our rules but is not being adhered to. The EM must wear a high visibility vest and make him/her self, known to the Referee prior to the game. **NO EM- NO GAME**

2. **Ropes**

- All fields must be roped off for spectators. Ropes must be a decent distance from side-line. **NO ROPES – NO GAME (11th grade and above)**

3. **Pre-match**

- As part of the prematch the referee has a brief discussion with the EM as well as team managers

4. **Position of Coaching staff and Reserve players**

- Each Club has submitted a plan to the WRU. This has to be strictly enforced.
- Only 3 persons from each team allowed on side-line (2 on one side and 1 on the other) this is the medic and 2 water carriers. An assistant coach may be 1 of those 3.
- Sinbinned players may join their own reserves.

5. **ZERO tolerance policy**

- Any coach manager or reserve that joins an on field melee will be dealt with by the WRU judicial.
- On top of that the offending team will lose 5 competition points.

NOTE:

- A position description for an Event Manager is available from the WRU
- It is not for the match referee to make a call as to whether a match should proceed (unless for safety reasons).
- A match report should be filed to the WRU by midday on the first business day after the match.
- It is for the WRU to follow up.

25. LIGHTING STANDARDS

1. Lights must be 15 metres above ground level.
2. Lights must be a minimum of 70 Lux in all parts of Dead Ball Area.
3. Rest of field must average 200 Lux with a minimum of 150 Lux.

For confirmation of grounds eligible for night rugby please contact the WRU Club Rugby Advisory Committee.

26. JUDICIAL – Disciplinary Hearings

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION (“YELLOW CARD”)

A player Temporarily Suspended on two occasions during a playing season shall be advised in writing by the WRU that in the event he is Temporarily Suspended on any further occasion during the same playing season he will be subject to an automatic suspension of one week to be applied from the week immediately following the third Temporary Suspension.

A player Temporarily Suspended on three occasions during the same playing season and having received the notification required shall be automatically suspended to be applied to the next competition match immediately following the match in which the third Temporary Suspension was issued. The WRU will advise of the one week suspension in writing. This automatic suspension is subject to the right of the Player to request a hearing.

If the player and/or his club wish to request a defended hearing, this request must be made within 48 hours after the game following the third sin bin. The process will then follow the same process as for a hearing.

ORDERING OFF (“RED CARD”)

All team members ordered off (red card) in a game for any offence, are automatically stood down for two weeks.

However, the player, his club and/or the referee or the citing officer have the right to request a hearing. This request must be made within 48 hours after the game.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

If a hearing is requested the player is required to attend a disciplinary hearing, held under the authority of the Waikato Rugby Union (WRU).

Hearings will be held at a time and location determined by the WRU General Manager.

All team managers should be instructed to contact their club delegate for advice.

The WRU will send a copy of the Referee's Report and any other supporting documents to the player's club following receipt by the WRU.

APPEAL PROCESS

- a) There shall be an Appeal Committee of the Union appointed by the WRU Board. Members of the Appeal Committee must not also be members of the Judicial Board that heard the original case.
- b) Any Club, player, referee or WRU citing officer may appeal to the Appeal Committee within seven (7) days of the decision they are aggrieved by. Such appeal must be in writing and state the grounds of the appeal. Appeals must be accompanied by a fee which will be determined by the complaints review officer. The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- c) The Appeal Committee shall review the matter or rehear the case in respect of the decision of the Club Rugby Advisory Committee.
- d) The Appeal Committee shall have the power to reduce,

increase or confirm any suspension/penalty imposed by the Competitions Committee.

- e) Decisions made by the Appeals Committee are binding and final.

CLUB BREACHES

The Club Chairmen design and formulate the various competitions in Waikato Club Rugby.

Rules are set by the WRU Club Chairmen to ensure that competitions are run on a fair and equal basis.

If these rules are broken, the WRU may impose sanctions on the respective clubs or players.

If a club or player wishes to appeal against any WRU decision a Competition Appeals Panel, appointed by the WRU board, will conduct a hearing to review any such appeal. The Competition Appeals Panel is separate from the Judicial Board Panel described in section entitled Disciplinary Hearings (above).

Any decision made by the Competition Appeals Panel will be binding and final.

27. SANCTIONS THE WRU CLUB COMPETITION COMMITTEE MAY IMPOSE

1. Written warnings:

A letter of censure, addressed to any or all of a player, team management member or club, advising that the Committee has decided that a breach of the rules has occurred and that no further action will be taken in the present circumstances, but warning that any further breaches of the rules, within a specified time limit, will entitle the Committee to take into account the existing breach, when considering the sanction to be imposed in the subsequent breach.

2. Stand down:

A Player, team, team management member may be suspended from playing or participating in competition games for a time that the Committee deems appropriate, in the circumstances.

3. Fines:

A Player, team management member or Club may be fined an amount that is, in the opinion of the Committee, appropriate in the circumstances. Failure to pay the fine imposed within a reasonable period of time, as decided by the Committee, may result in additional or alternative sanctions being imposed.

4. Points deduction:

Competition points, for one or more games in the current competition may be deducted from a team, by the Committee, as the result of any Player, team management member or club, breaching the competition rules.

Breach	Rule	Sanctions
Colts	5 a	Sanction 4
Colts	5 b	1st offence – Sanction 1 2nd offence – Sanction 3
Under 85kg	6 a	Sanction 4
Defaults	10	As per rule 10
Results	11	1st offence – Sanction 1 2nd offence – Sanction 4
Overseas Clearances	19 a	Please refer to 21 b
Registrations	20 a, b, c	1st offence – Sanction 2 2nd offence – Sanction 4
Transfers	21 a, b	1st offence – Sanction 2 2nd offence – Sanction 4
Player Eligibility	22 a	Sanction 4
Player Eligibility	22 b	Forfeit the match – This does not automatically mean points will be awarded to the other team.
Club Responsibilities	24 a, b, c	1st offence – Sanction 1 2nd offence – Sanction 3

ASSOCIATED CLUBS

Corinthian Rugby Club

President

Bruce Warrender

M: 027 316 9455

E: bruce.warrender@police.govt.nz

Secretary

Jan Jones

H: 07 847 5164

M: 021 297 0172

E: jbcjones@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Brian Scott

M: 027 807 7200

Morrinsville Rugby Football Union

Campbell Park, 355 Thames St, Morrinsville 3300

Fairfield United Old Boys Rugby Football Club

Weka St, Hamilton

Postal Address

Po Box 232, Morrinsville 3340

Postal Address/Contact

P O Box 12059, Chartwell
Hamilton 3248

W: www.yellowbelliesrugby.co.nz

President

Tony Tissingh

36a Allen Street, Morrinsville

H. 07 889 3698

M. 027 494 3466

E: tonytiss@icloud.com

President

Frits Lang

H: 07 854 7724

M: 021 445 264

E: fritsnjude@xtra.co.nz

Chairperson

John Aarts

Piako Rd, RD3, Morrinsville

H: 07 889 6072

Secretary/Treasurer

Peter Manning

H: 07 854 3155

M: 027 490 5162

E: rosieandpete@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

John Willis

38 Coronation Rd, Morrinsville

H: 07 889 6041

E: aandjwillis@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain/Club Delegate

Grant Burness

H: 07 849 3022

E: burnfm4@xtra.co.nz

N.Z. Harlequins Rugby Football Club

P O Box 9195

Hamilton

W: www.nzharlequins.co.nz

Hamilton Rugby Union

121 Aberdeen Drive

Hamilton 3204

President

Tony Tissingh

M: 027 494 3466

E: tonytiss@icloud.com

President

Larry Ferguson

M: 021 294 2292

E: larryf.ferguson@hotmail.com

Club Captain

Hayden Ross

M: 027 447 1590

E: haydenross@hotmail.co.nz

Chairperson

Peter Way

M: 027 474 6942

E: arrandaniels@hotmail.com

ASSOCIATED CLUBS cont...

Waikato Rugby Supporters Club Inc

PO Box 9489, Hamilton

President

Budgie Burgess

M: 027 437 4912

E: budgieburgess@xtra.co.nz

Vice President

Gordon Vernon

H: 07 824 7858

E: jjconsultants@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Lizzie Burgess

M: 021 0829 1882

E: lizzielizard@xtra.co.nz

Tritons Rugby Club

P O Box 482

Tokoroa

Chairperson

Jonny Franklin

M: 027 470 5367

Tainui Waka Rugby Club

Chairman

Arran Pene

M: 021 286 1304

E: admin@speights-hamilton.co.nz



We're here, because accidents can and do happen.

Rugby is a contact sport, as a nation we love it and we play with enthusiasm, passion and pride. And whilst no-one ever wants to consider the unimaginable; to permanently lose their mobility, or suffer head trauma, due to a rugby accident, sadly, it does occur.

The New Zealand Rugby Foundation is an Incorporated Society and a registered charity . The Rugby Foundation was formed in December 1986 by the late Kel Tremain and the late Sir Russell Pettigrew. Initially, the objectives were broad in terms of “supporting rugby in need.” 31 years later, this has become focused on the area of injury in rugby.

The New Zealand Rugby Foundation provides life-long support and partnership to catastrophically injured players and their families, financially and emotionally, through all stages of their injury rehabilitation – for life. We call these players our VIPs, Very Injured Players.

We also work with New Zealand Rugby (NZR) and ACC to communicate the message of safety first, and are strong advocates for safe play.

To continue our life-changing work, we rely on the help and support of our valued donors who so generously support us at events and other fundraising initiatives through the year.

Contacts:

Lisa Kingi - Bon I Chief Executive Officer
(09) 623 7980 / 021 212 7399 | lisa@rugbyfoundation.nz

Ben Sturmfels | Commercial Manager
(09) 6237981 / 021 144 1148 | ben@rugbyfoundation.nz

The NZRF has an outstanding Board of Directors who offer a wealth of experience in business, rugby, medicine, and law.

- Sir Colin Meads (Patron)
- Tane Norton (President)
- Gerard van Tilborg (Chairman)
- Andy Leslie
- John Leslie
- David Latta
- Mark Peters
- Bryan Williams
- Simon Tremain
- Dr John Mayhew
- Graham Mourie
- Anthony Boric
- Kirsten Patterson (to be ratified at AGM 28 March 2017)
- Andrew Golightly (NZR representative)

www.rugbyfoundation.com

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF SERIOUS INJURY

- Do not move the injured player.
- Make them comfortable, keep them warm and call for urgent medical assistance.
- Arrange for an ambulance to take the injured player to hospital.
- Following a “serious injury” the match referee must complete a Serious Injury Report form. NB: a Coach/ Manager or designated person from each team must also complete a Serious Injury Report form.
- The Serious Injury Report must be forwarded to the Waikato Rugby Union within 48 hours.
- The serious injury will be logged by the Waikato Rugby Union.
- Please keep the Waikato Rugby Union fully informed of the status of the serious injury, and the rehabilitation of the player.
- The forms can be found on the WRU website, Community rugby, Referees. Referee Forms, Serious Injury.

GENERAL SAFETY

Coaches of all Junior Grades are required to complete the NZRU coaching courses relevant to those grades each year. All coaches/referees of secondary school teams and above are required to complete RugbySmart 2006.

Selection - Players should be selected for their positions appropriate to their physical build and stature. Front row players need to have clear instruction from experienced coaches to ensure sound technique. All coaches should enlist the support of specialist front row coaches to give their team instruction in this area if they are uncertain of the basic safety techniques. The “Front Row Factory” is an important avenue for this. Please contact the Waikato Rugby Union for details.

Concussion - If a coach is aware that a player has suffered concussion, that player must not participate at any match or training session for a period of at least three weeks from the time of the injury. Returning players should present a Medical Clearance before being allowed to return to play. If a referee suspects a player has been concussed, that player should be instructed to leave the field and not participate further in that game. If a coach or manager has any concerns about a player's health, medical advice must be sought.

Mouth guards - It is compulsory for all players to wear mouthguards during matches and they should do likewise at training sessions. Mouthguards are instrumental in preventing damage to teeth and will also go some way to help prevent concussion.

Re-Hydration - Coaches should ensure that an adequate supply of water is available for players both during training and at game time. Fluid replacement should be encouraged at a rate of 1 litre per hour for 3 hours. Players should also be encouraged to bring their own water bottles to the game, and use them regularly.

Bleeding - A player who is bleeding must leave the field and be attended to immediately. That player may return to the field once the bleeding is controlled and the wound is cleaned and covered.

- * Apply pressure to the wound.
- * Protect yourself and others from contact with blood.
- * Raise the affected body part so that it is above the heart, if possible.
- * Provision should be made for the disposal of blood stained products, plasters and strapping.

Foul Play - Coaches and referees should be severe on players who engage in foul play and any form of retaliation. Players who repeatedly infringe, should be made to stand down by the coach.

Headgear - NZRU approved headgear can be worn by players to prevent cuts and abrasions to the head. Remember, headgear will not prevent concussion.

Suspected Head or Neck Injury - If you suspect a player has a neck or spinal injury, do not move the player at all. If there is no St John officer in attendance, get someone to call an ambulance. Stay with the player and keep them warm until the ambulance arrives.

CPR - If you have been trained in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), remember the DR ABC Rule:

DANGER * RESPONSE * AIRWAY * BREATHING * CIRCULATION

FIRST AID KIT - All teams should carry a basic first aid kit containing the following items:

Dressing Strip	First Aid Scissors	Skin Closures
Dispirin	Crepe Bandages	Betadine
Triangular Bandage	Eye Bath	Swabs
Sterile Pads	Forceps	Micropore
A & E Pack	Safety Pins	First Aid Box
Ice	Water	Rubber Gloves
		Paper Towels

SOFT TISSUE INJURIES - Sprains and bruising can be treated using the method known as PRICED:

PREVENTION

REST

ICE

COMPRESSION

ELEVATION

DIAGNOSIS

- Prevent further injury by ceasing activity as soon as injury occurs.
- Place crushed ice in damp towel.
- Apply for 20 minutes - apply oil if skin is sensitive to stop burning.
- Use bandage to hold ice pack in place and raise limb.

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