



Dear Club Members,

As the excitement of the new season commences, we wanted to provide you with a reminder of 2 important areas that may help you in your role when working with your players, families, coaches, and volunteers.

Concussion Management

The safety and welfare of participants is paramount. When playing sport there is a risk a participant may suffer the effects of a concussion and it is important First Responders are equipped and familiar with the latest available resources and practices regarding:

- signs and symptoms,
- management, and
- the graduated return to sport (following a return to school/learn) process where a concussion has been diagnosed.

Effective immediately, the following conditions apply to anyone who has suffered a confirmed case of concussion;

- **Adults:** If a player wishes to return to play in the **following rounds'** **match** (or any available match within less than an 11-day period following the injury) they must be cleared in writing by a specialist

concussion Doctor ie. Neurologist, Neurosurgeon, Sport & Exercise Physician

- **Children and Adolescents:** If a player wishes to return to play in less time than the GRTS stipulates (less than 14 days) from the time of injury, they must be cleared in writing by a specialist concussion Doctor ie. Neurologist, Neurosurgeon, Sport & Exercise Physician

The following link will provide you with all the relevant information regarding concussion, including an on-line education module - [Concussion Resources](#)

Laws of the Game

Following a number of rule changes to be implemented in the NRL and Major State Competition's, the ARLC recently confirmed three of these rules will be implemented across all levels of the game.

- ***Premature Breaking from the Scrum***

Where a player(s) break from the scrum before the referee's call of 'break', a full penalty will be awarded to the non-offending team.

- ***Play-the-Ball Restarts after ball or player finds touch***

Where play is stopped because the ball or a player in possession of the ball has entered touch in general play, other than a restart (kick-off, goal-line drop-out, 20-metre drop-out or 20-metre optional restart), a 40/20, play will restart with a Play-the-Ball by the non-offending team.

- ***2 Point Field Goal***

Two points will be awarded for a successful field goal kicked during general play from outside the opposition 40-metre line.

Thank you for the valuable contribution your making to our great game and good luck for the season ahead.

National Rugby League