

Age Group and Grade	Laws	Accreditation	Matches Each Tier is Qualified to Referee					
			6-SNRR	5-SNRR	4-SNRR	3-SNRR	2-SNRR	1-SNRR

Age (≥ 2 years above Age Group)	Link: Laws	Link: Learning	≥ 13	≥ 13	≥ 14	≥ 16	≥ 18	≥ 18
---------------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------------	------	------	------	------	------	------

Juniors	Under 19	World Rugby Laws (incl Australian Under 19 Law Variations) [U13 to U19]	Referee Level 1 or 2 (incl Smart Rugby, Smart Tackle and Game Management Guidelines)						
	Opens (Under 17 and Under 18)								
	Under 16A and 16B								
	Under 16C and below								
	Under 15A								
	Under 15B and below								
	Under 14A								
	Under 14B and below								
	Under 13A and below								
	Under 12A and below	Kids Pathway Law (incl Australian Pathway Law Variations) [U6 to U12]	Ref Ready (incl Smart Rugby, Smart Tackle and Game Management Guidelines)						
	Under 11A								
	Under 11B and below								
	Under 10A								
	Under 10B and below								
Minis	Under 8 and 9 - Tackle		Smart Rugby and Smart Tackle						
	Under 6 and 7 - Tag or Tri Tag								

Suffix	Meaning	RX Tier	SNRR Tier
MOD	Match Official Developer	✓	✓
MOM	Match Official Mentor	✓	✓
SYRA	Sydney Youth Referee Academy	✓	✓
RT	Related Team	✓	
LM	Life Member		✓
RefCord	Referee Coordinator at Club or School		✓

Game Type	B = Boys	B / G / MW
	G = Girls	G / MW
	MW = Mid Week	B / G / MW

Ref Review	
Community Report	Tiers 1, 2 and 3
Game Facilitator Report	Tiers 4, 5 and 6

Other Tiers	0-SNRR	Match Official Developer Only
	7-SNRR	Match Official who is ungraded as their accreditation has lapsed or has not completed the law exam or the field test
	8-SNRR	Associated Members (Referees for Schools only) [membership fee may be payable]
	9-SNRR	Affiliated Members (incl Life Members, Club and School Referee Coordinators and Assistant Referees) [no membership fee payable]

Sydney North Rugby Referees (SNRR) Grading Policy



The Development and Appointments Committee (“**DAC**”) and the Match Official Developers of each of the Sydney Rugby Referee Associations (“**SRRA**”), including Sydney North Rugby Referees (“**SNRR**”), use a Tier system to grade each active Match Official (MO) of Junior matches into one of six groups or “Tiers”.

The Tiers provide guidance to the Juniors MO Appointments Officer and the DACs (“**Appointments Committee**”) to ensure that Match Officials are appointed to the appropriate games. The Appointments Committee take the following factors into consideration when appointing Match Officials to games each week:

- availability of Match Officials and Match Official Developers; and
- anticipated speed and / or intensity of the game; and
- potential that the game may be difficult to control; and
- physical fitness, speed and endurance of the Match Official; and
- age, knowledge, skill, experience and ability of the Match Official; and
- Team and Club affiliations of the Match Official.

Based on all of the above considerations a Match Official may be appointed to a game that is at, above, or below their Tier.

Grading Competencies

The key grading competencies are:

- Game experience (number and type of games refereed)
- Physical fitness, speed and endurance
- Decision accuracy throughout the game
- Law knowledge and application
- Game empathy
- Adaptability of control and communication depending on the age group being refereed
- Age (in accordance with RA Guidelines for Match Officials Under 17 Years of Age [refer below])
- Development requirements

Grading Process

- Any SNRR member whose Smart Rugby accreditation has lapsed will be allocated to Tier 7 until such time as they complete Smart Rugby online. After completing Smart Rugby online, they will be allocated to Tier 6 (if they are in the Under 15 age group or younger) or Tier 5 (if they are in the Under 16 age group or older). The SNRR member will then be considered for regrading after they complete any other re-accreditation requirements and, if necessary, their on-field performance is assessed by a Match Official Developer (“**field test**”).
- New Members who have completed the Referee Ready course will initially be allocated to Tier 6 (if they are in the Under 15 age group or younger) or Tier 5 (if they are in the Under 16 age group or older).
- New Members will then be appointed to a game where they will be watched by a Match Official Developer. The Match Official Developer will assess the on-field performance (“**field test**”) of the Match Official and then grade the Match Official in accordance with the SNRR Tiers and their demonstrated proficiency, fitness level and development requirements.
- A Match Official (in the Under 15 age group or younger) who is assessed as being suited to refereeing the Under 6 to Under 9 age groups will maintain their Tier 6 grading while a Match Official (in the Under 16 age group or older) who is assessed as being suited to refereeing the Under 11 B competitions and lower will maintain their Tier 5 grading.
- A Match Official assessed as being suited to refereeing Under 10s and above will be graded into any of the Tiers from 5 to 1 based on the Grading Competencies outlined above.
- Once a Match Official has been initially graded a number of further grading assessments are undertaken before a Match Official can progress to the next Tier.

RA (Rugby Australia) Guidelines for Match Officials Under 17 Years of Age

RA's guidelines for the appointment of Match Officials who are under 17 years of age are:

No Referee under the age of 17 should be appointed to a XV's match within 2 years below their own age group. (e.g., if a Referee is in the Under 15 age group, then they may be appointed to referee the Under 13s and below)

No Referee under the age of 17 should be appointed to a 7s match at a level above their own age group. (e.g., if a Referee is in the Under 15 age group, then they may be appointed to referee the Under 15s and below)

No Assistant Referee under the age of 17 should be appointed to a match more than 2 years above their own age group. (e.g., if a Referee is in the Under 13 age group, then they may be appointed to be an assistant referee in the Under 15s and below)

Exceptions to the above may be made where a Match Official may benefit from a development experience. Match Officials should not be regularly appointed to games outside of these guidelines.

Field Testing of New Referee Ready Match Officials

New Match Officials will have their first two SNRR appointed matches, where possible, with a SNRR Match Official Developer or Match Official Mentor present.

Usually new Match Officials will initially be appointed to the following matches:

- Match Officials in the Under 15 age group and younger to a Minis game (ie Under 6 to Under 9);
- Match Officials in the Under 16 age group and older to a Juniors game (ie Under 10 and Under 11)

What if I don't agree with my grading tier?

If you think your current grading is not appropriate, or you wish to be re-graded, then please contact the Director of Match Officials and Developers.

Match Official Developers

The primary role of the Match Official Developer is to promote the growth and development of SNRR Match Officials through constructive feedback, guidance regarding areas for improvement and issues to consider.

In addition, Match Officials should approach a Match Official Developer if they wish to discuss issues that have arisen during their games or wish to determine the most appropriate work-ons they should incorporate into their preparation for future games.

Match Official Mentors

The primary role of the Match Official Mentor is the same as that of the Match Official Developer.

The only difference between a Match Official Mentor and a Match Official Developer is that a Match Official Mentor is an experienced Match Official who has not yet qualified as a Match Official Developer. Match Official Mentors provide another channel for guidance of new or young Match Officials.