



Australian Under 19 Variations

This document is the Australian Under 19 Law Variations and Guidelines for players, coaches and referees. These Law Variations and Guidelines must be read in conjunction with World Rugby's U19 Law Variations.

Both sets of Variations are applicable to all matches at Under 19 level played in Australia (except International U19 matches), including those games played by visiting touring teams.



LAW 3 NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- 3.14** Unless an exemption has been sought from and approved by the ARU, all games of age group U14 and below will play with rolling substitutions that are unlimited in number, and all games of age group U15 and above will play with rolling substitutions that are limited to 12 movements. The implementation of rolling substitutions must adhere to the guidelines provided to all Unions by the ARU.

LAW 5 TIME

- 5.1 *Add:*** The maximum playing time for a team is to be 90 minutes in any one day, no matter what the games are called (trial, knockout, carnival or tournaments).

Comment

- This Law protects players from excessive playing time during carnivals and championships by preventing teams from engaging in numerous games on any one day.
- Individual players standing by as a replacement for another team may play more than 90 minutes on one day, so long as a proper duty of care is exercised by his or her coaches in relation to the position they play, the environmental conditions, the age group played, and common sense is exercised in regard to total playing time.
- It is expected that due care is taken by coaches with regards to replacement of players and that the amount of time a player has played should always be the coach's over-riding consideration.

LAW 10 FOUL PLAY

- 10.4 (t)** At age groups U15 and below, lifting of a team-mate on the legs in open play is not permitted.

Sanction: Free Kick

- 10.5 (c)** Players who punch or stamp other players must be sent-off (red card).

- 10.6 (d)** If a player is temporarily suspended, he shall remain with his team coach and shall not enter the playing area until permitted to do so by the referee.

- 10.6** (e) At age groups U14 and below, Member Unions may adopt provisions in their Competition Rules to reduce the time of a temporary suspension (yellow card) to 5 minutes playing time at age groups U14 and below.

LAW 16 RUCK AND LAW 17 MAUL

Comment

- It is dangerous for players to enter a ruck or maul at speed. Players should sight an entry position, slow down and be sure that the shoulders are above the hips with the head up. The referee needs to manage this phase of play diligently.

LAW 19 TOUCH AND LINEOUT

- 19.10** (d) **Add:** At age groups U15 and below, lifting and/or supporting players must not support the jumping team-mate below the shorts. There is to be no lifting on the legs.

Sanction: Free Kick on the 15m line.

- 19.10** (e) **Add:** At age groups U15 and below, players who are going to lift or support a team-mate jumping for the ball may not pre-grip below the shorts.

Sanction: Free Kick on the 15m line.

LAW 20 SCRUM

- 20.3** (f) **Add:** Binding between the legs of either prop by either lock is illegal.

Sanction: Penalty Kick

Comment

- In 2016, ARU will sanction certain specific competitions to play without applying Australian U19 Law Variation 20.3 (f). Advanced warning should be given to all coaches, players and referees taking part in such games, and ARU will be providing dedicated training resources for coaches regarding correct technique.