

## **Regulations relating to Player Eligibility and Registration of Youth Players 2016/2017**

### **A. Youth Players (16 years to 19 years old)**

- A1 To be eligible to play for a Club's Youth Team a Player must be:-
- A1.i At least 16 years old but no older than 19 years of age on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016, that is a player must be born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> September 1997.
  - A1.ii Registered with the WRU as a playing member of that team, or
  - A1.iii Granted a permit by the Club for which he is registered as a Youth player
- A2 To register a youth player a Club must complete the prescribed registration form. This form must be lodged with the Welsh Rugby Union by post, fax or email at least 48 hours before the player becomes eligible to play for the Club.
- A3 If a player has been registered previously as a Junior, Youth or Senior player with:-
- A3.i A Club in Wales, the Club wishing to register the player must obtain the approval of the Club from which the player is transferring and lodge a completed transfer form with the WRU. The completed transfer form must be lodged before the WRU is able to finalise the player's registration with this new Club.
  - A3.ii A Club in another Union, the Club wishing to register the player must obtain the approval of the Union from which the player is moving in accordance with IRB Regulation 4.6 and lodge this approval with the WRU before the registration of the player is finalised.
- A4 If a player transfers after 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 he will not be eligible to play for his new Club in National Youth League, National Youth Play Off matches or District Cup Competitions after that date.
- A5 A youth player who is registered by a Club after 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017, but is not transferring from another Club, will be eligible to play for that Club in National Youth League, National Youth League Play Off matches or District Cup Competitions.
- A6 When registered by a Club as a Youth player the player will not be eligible to play for a Senior team of that Club when he attains the age of 18 years unless he is registered by that Club as a senior player.
- A7 If a Club wishes a player who is registered with another Club to appear for it on permit it must obtain a permit from the player's Club, signed by duly authorised representatives of both Clubs and lodged with the WRU before the match in which the player appears. If a player is registered with one Youth team in a Club he may only play in a competitive fixture for the other Youth team in a Club if he is granted a permit. This permit must be lodged with the WRU before the match in which the player plays.
- A8 No more than 2 players, including those players who are registered by WRU Regional Academies as "tracked players" and another Youth team in the same Club may appear on permit for a team in the National Youth League or National Youth League Play Off match. A player who is registered only as a Senior player

with a Club will not be eligible to play on permit for that Club's Youth team, or the Youth team of another Club. A player will not be eligible to play on permit in the National Youth League for one Club on more than 5 occasions.

- A9 WRU Regional Performance Manger will register players who designated as tracked players and these players will not be eligible to play for a Club in a National Youth League match or a National Youth League play off match unless the Regional Performance Manager grants that Club a permit using the prescribed permit form and that form is lodged with the WRU is compliant with regulation A7 above. A tracked player will NOT be limited to playing on no more than 5 occasions for a Club in National Youth League matches.
- A10 Before a Club is accepted as a member of a District Youth Rugby Union it must register with the WRU a minimum of 15 players. None of the players being so registered may transfer from another Club in Wales other than by mutual agreement. When a Club is accepted as a new member of a District Youth Rugby Union it will serve a probationary period of three months before enjoying the rights and benefits of full membership of the District Youth Rugby Union. During this three month probationary period no players may transfer into the probationary Club unless by mutual agreement of the two Clubs. The period of three months will be calculated from the date that a Club is accepted into membership of the appropriate District Youth Rugby Union.
- A11 The maximum number of Youth players that a Club which runs one youth team may register at any time in the season is 30, except if prior permission to exceed this number is obtained from the Rugby Operations Manager.
- A12 The maximum number of Youth players that a Club which runs two Youth teams, that are both affiliated to the appropriate District Youth Rugby Union, may register is 60 players, 30 players with each team, provided that those players graduate from the Club's Junior Teams and have not transferred into the Club. A Club that runs two teams may not transfer in players from other Clubs.
- A13 A Club may transfer in from other Clubs no more than 3 players in a year, that is in the period before the start of the season and the season itself. A Club that runs 2 Youth teams may transfer more than 3 players from one team to another team in the Club but to be eligible to play in competitive matches for one team in the Club the player must be registered with that team. If a player has not played for the Club with which he is registered for at least 12 months he will be deemed to be a "free agent" and will not be counted as one of the three allowed transfers into a Club if he registers with another Club. Before he may register with a new Club the player must show to the satisfaction of the WRU's Rugby Operations Manager that he has not played for his previous Club for at least 12 months. In cases where Clubs mutually agree that a player may transfer notwithstanding that by transferring his transfer will exceed the three player transfer limit for the Club with which he registers such a transfer will be allowed provided that the transferring Club indicates that it knows that the transfer will exceed the three player limit on the transferee Club and that the transfer has received the prior approval of the WRU's Rugby Operations Manager. In exceptional circumstances, and after full investigation the WRU's Regulatory Committee may agree that more than three players may transfer into a Club's Youth team in a season.
- A14 A player who is selected for a District or Regional squad should not be allowed to transfer during the season from the Club with which he was registered when first selected for the District or Regional squad to another Club unless that transfer is agreed by the Club with which he was registered when selected for the District or Regional squad and the District Youth Rugby Union supports the transfer.

B. **De-Registration**

- B1 During the course of a season a Club may de-register players if they are no longer available to play for a Club.
- B2 When a player has been de-registered by a Club he will not be allowed to re register with that Club within two months of the de-registration..