



Section 5. HIGH SCHOOL

5.1. Team Eligibility

- a) Team must be based on a state- or nationally-accredited school that issues High School Graduation Diplomas.
- b) Team must be represented by a Roster that is limited to: players that are registered students at the High School upon which the team is based.
- c) Teams may carry an unlimited number of players on its Roster.

5.2. Player Eligibility

- a) Players are eligible if they have not reached their 19th birthday by the September 1st that occurs at the start of the competitive season.
- b) Players, except those that have graduated, must be attending class full time, as defined by the High School registrar.
- c) Players must have certified High School transcripts either for two consecutive semesters including the semester that falls during the Competition Season, or, for players that have graduated, the final semester prior to graduation during the current academic year.
- d) If the competition season extends beyond the end of the school year, then the players may continue to participate in the competition provided that the players were otherwise eligible at the end of the school year.
- e) Players must be within four (4) years of the moment the player first enrolled in ninth grade, regardless of when that player started playing rugby or had the ability to start playing rugby.
- f) Player must have played for the team in at least two (2) Qualifying Matches or second-side match associated with a Qualifying Match during the competitive season at least a week apart from each other prior to participating in a USA Rugby Championship or Invitational Event. For the purposes of Section 5, a Qualifying Match is defined as regular season league matches as defined through SBRO or LAU local competition structures.
- g) Players must not play in a Qualifying Match for any other club in a fifteens match, including the High School team or club, College Club, or Senior Club competitions, while those players' High School Qualifying Match season is in progress.
- h) Players must meet and remain in compliance with all applicable amateur standards.
- i) See Section 13.5 for additional information about Waivers.

5.3 State and Other Championship Eligibility

USA Rugby has neither the compelling interest, nor the practical ability, in enforcing eligibility regulations at State High School Championship events. The regulations are more properly determined by the organizer of the State event, be that a State Based Rugby Organization, a Local Area Union, or a Territorial Union. However, USA Rugby recommends that, in determining the requirements, the organizers first consider the model used by the High School Athletic Governing Organization within the state; then consider the model that USA Rugby has established for the National High School Championship or Invitational.