

USA RUGBY ELIGIBILITY REGULATIONS

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP

Bold, italicized print indicates new for this season

General

USA Rugby is responsible for the structure of the high school competitions. Territories are responsible for determining the clubs that participate in these competitions.

In addition to meeting all of the General Eligibility Regulations the following eligibility regulations apply for any match that leads to the National High School Championships.

The conduct of all Clubs and individuals must be in accordance with all local, state and federal laws, and exemplify the highest standards of behavior.

Player Eligibility

- a) Players must be 18 years or younger as of September 1 of each respective year.
- b) Players must be enrolled in high school full time or be enrolled full time in an equivalent program leading to a GED.
- c) To participate in any match that in any way leads to any National High School Championship, players must have been enrolled full time in high school or enrolled full time in an equivalent program leading to a GED at the beginning of the current competitive season. ***The dates of the respective competitive seasons are on Page 4 of the General Regulations.*** If a player leaves school before graduation or receipt of their GED they are ineligible to play.
Note: If graduation occurs during the competitive season but prior to the National Championship, the player is eligible.
- d) Players who qualify to play high school rugby, but choose to play, full-time or occasionally, with a college or club side during a competitive season may not participate in high school rugby during that competitive season.
- e) No more than ***four*** GED-enrolled students may play for a club.
- f) No more than four non-resident (***as defined in the National Club Championships section above***) exchange students may play for a club.
- g) The student-athlete must possess medical insurance coverage of \$100,000 or more and/or the maximum amount available through school offered insurance programs.

- h) A student has four years of high school eligibility that commences on the date of his/her enrollment in ninth grade.
- i) A player must be enrolled prior to the start of the competitive season. A player may not change teams within the local area union without the permission of the Local Area Union High School Chairman. In the event there is no Local Area Union High School Chairman, the Local Area Union President can grant a waiver.
Note: Strong consideration should be given to any negative effect that the players departure from the existing team would have on the existing team.
Exception: A player whose family is relocated during the competitive season may apply for a waiver to the USA Eligibility Committee. If a waiver is granted, a player must have played in two games in the competitive season to be eligible for any playoffs.
- j) Each player shall meet and remain in compliance with all amateur standards.

Player Certification Process

To register at local area union, territorial union and national championship events, each player must submit the following documentation to establish student eligibility. The original documentation must be provided for review by the High School Registration Official. Players not able to provide documentation as outlined below will not be eligible to compete.

- a) Current photo I.D. Card such as a drivers license or passport, *and*
- b) Proof of enrollment in the current Club and Individual Participant Program, *and*
- c) Current medical insurance enrollment card.

Team Certification Process

At registration for local area union, territorial union, and national championship events, each club must submit the following items:

- a) The High School Registrar or applicable School Official shall verify individual student-athlete enrollment in High School (using either the High School Team or Individual Eligibility Forms) , *and*
- b) Team Participation Agreement. (form found on the USA Rugby website)
- c) High School Club Eligibility Form (signed by LAU and TU Rep verifying good standing)