



SUNDAY MAY 29TH

TIMBERLAWN LOCAL PARK * BETHESDA * MD

8AM ONWARDS

RULES AND REGULATIONS

2016 * SRI LANKAN SCHOOLS

TAG RUGBY





The 2016 Schools Rugby Tournament is a private event organized by the Trinity College Kandy Alumni Association Washington D.C (TCKAA) and District of Columbia Thomians (DCT). The names of the teams must be of a school in Sri Lanka and the majority of the players in a team must have attended the school they are representing. Furthermore, the team representative must be alumni of the school he/she is representing.

The game is to be played and enjoyed in the joyous spirit and camaraderie that is unique to the sport of Rugby where ever in the world it is played in. It is the hope of the Tournament Organizing Committee (TOC) that this rugby carnival will re-ignite old school ties, bring together old friends and new, and revive glorious old rivalries we once left behind on the rugby fields of Sri Lanka. Let us play in the highest traditions of this great game and let us play to the highest traditions of those great institutions that once taught us how to play.

1. The Game

Consisting of two teams of seven (7) players each, the game of 7s Tag-Rugby as practiced in the above referenced tournament will be in keeping with the generally accepted rules of International Seven-a-Side Rugby Union as outlined in the International Rugby Board (IRB) unless otherwise stated herein.

2. The Rules

When playing Tag Rugby, all players shall wear a tag belt, which has two ribbons (tags) attached to it with Velcro. The belt is worn around the waist and on the outside of the clothing. Jerseys must be tucked under the shorts. The tags are positioned on **either side** of the hips. No clothing can cover the Tag Belt or the ribbons. Tags must be clearly visible at all times. Only the “ball carrier” with the ball can be tagged, by simply removing one of two ribbons. Ball carriers can run or dodge potential taggers but cannot fend them off or guard or shield their tags in any way. Such intentional shielding of the ball carrier’s tag will result in a tap being awarded against the team.

When a player in possession of the ball is tagged by an opposing defender, it shall constitute a tackle and play will be brought to a halt by the referee. If the referee feels that the removal of the flag was illegal then play will be allowed to continue.

If a ball carrier has one or both flags missing, a defender may simply ‘tackle’ (tag) the ball carrier by tapping the ball carrier and appealing to the referee. At times it is possible for players to get entangled with each other, hold on to the opponent player by his shorts/jersey for a second or two in the process of pulling the tag. The referee will make the call according to his best judgment. It is illegal to intentionally tackle a player. The object is not to be 'tagged' when in possession. All other rules and regulations as stated in Rule 1, above.

2(a) All belts, Velcro-tags, Rugby Balls, Time keeping devices and Referees are the responsibility of the TOC.

2(b) All matters related to the timely filling of applications, entry fees, documents to verify eligibility and medical liability waivers are the responsibility of the individual



teams.



2(c) It is the absolute responsibility of each team to be ready and present to take the field of play before the scheduled start. Failure to do so in a timely manner will be cause for a forfeit or even debarment from the tournament.

2(d) Each team will provide one Touch Judge competent in the generally accepted rules of International Rugby Union.

3. Team Participation

Each school team shall consist of seven (7) starters who take the field of play. A team may also carry 3-5 additional reserves.

3(a) The TOC retains the absolute right to make all decisions with regards to the registration and rejection of teams, number of teams allowed and other matters related to participating teams.

3(b) The deadline for submitting applications is May 01, 2016. The application packets must contain a completed and signed Tournament Entry Form, a check for \$250.00 (made to Trinity College Kandy Alumni Association) and a Medical Liability Waiver Form.

3(c) The non-availability of a signed medical liability waiver is grounds for any player/s to be immediately debarred from taking (further) part in the tournament.

4. Team Composition & Player Eligibility

Of the seven (7) players on the field, a minimum of four (4) should be at all times from the school represented and is expected to play the entire duration of the game including any and all over-time play. Failure to do so would constitute a forfeit of that game. Players from the school represented will be given an arm-band to wear during the game.

4(a) It is the obligation of the participating team to substantiate the eligibility of its players. Before a team is accepted to participate in this tournament the TOC reserves the right to challenge a player's eligibility and subsequently a team's legitimacy to represent a particular school in Sri Lanka.

4(b) Completed entry forms of each team will be available for review on the official web site and/or through the TOC. A Team Representative has the right to challenge a player's eligibility to play for a particular school by appealing to the TOC by May 19, 2016. This written appeal must include the reason/s for the protest and should be justifiable.

4(c) If a player's eligibility is challenged, the TOC/Tournament Marshall will give an opportunity for the challenged player's Team Representative five calendar days (5) to respond and substantiate the eligibility of the particular player with acceptable evidence listed in 4(d).

4(d) Acceptable evidence to validate a player's eligibility from a particular school are:



- i. A copy of the school leaving certificate
- ii. An official school certificate showing individuals name
- iii. A copy of the school ID
- iv. A letter from the school validating dates attended
- v. Any Sri Lankan newspaper article or school magazine showing players attendance at school

4(e) Any forgery of documents or intentional misrepresentation will be grounds for that player and the school representative to be bared from this tournament for up to three (3) years.

4(f) The TOC/Tournament Marshal will inform the decision on the challenge following the review of supporting documents (4d) provided by the responding Team Representative. The TOC will deliver a decision within three (3) days of receiving the response, to both parties.

4(g) All players must bring a valid photo identification card to the tournament.

5. Post-Application Player Additions

In extreme circumstances a team may submit additional players to the tournament head table on the day of the tournament **only** under following conditions:

5(a) If a new player has to be added to the team roster after the application filing deadline, that player is **required** to provide evidence of school affiliation (as per section 4d) by 8 am, Sunday, May 29, 2016.

5(b) The Tournament Marshal reserves the absolute right to deny entry to players whose names have not been submitted with the original entry form, and to take appropriate action unless Rule 5(a) is satisfied.

5(c) In the event that a scheduled player has informed the team, on tournament day, that he is unavailable to participate, the teams reserve the right to replace this player with another from the respective school. In such situations Rule 5(a) shall apply.

5(d) In the event an ineligible player takes the field without prior approval from the Tournament Marshal; Rule 5(e) shall suffice.

5(e) The TOC and the Tournament Marshal has the right to deny any appeals, and have the final authority on all disputes arising from player eligibility challenges and decisions will be final. Failure to validate the eligibility of a player will result in that player's immediate debarment from the tournament.

5(f) Challenges to players added to the roster on tournament day and the 'minimum' number (threshold) of players on the field, of a particular school must be immediately brought to the attention of the Tournament Marshal. This challenge is possible **only** through the authorized Team Representative.



6. Multiple Team Participation

A school team may choose to enter multiple teams aptly distinguished.

6(a) In the spirit of having multiple participation of schools the TOC will accept a maximum of 3 teams from one school.

6(b) Teams from the same school in Sri Lanka but from different geographical areas are considered different teams with regard to this tournament. i.e. S.T.C. DC and S.T.C. California are considered as two separate teams.

6(c) A school team fielding multiple teams may not swap starting players or reserves that have played. This may not apply to reserves who have not played.

7. Draw

Preliminary Round:

All captains and team representatives shall be made aware of the date, time and place of draw by the TOC prior to the tournament date. Preceding years' champions and runners-up shall be seeded and head Groups A and B, respectively. If there are additional groups (i.e. C, and D) other teams shall be placed to head those groups based on previous year's rankings. In determining subsequent group leaders (i.e. rule 9 (c), (d), and (e) may apply).

Elimination Round:

The structure of the elimination round will solely depend on the number of teams participating in the tournament. TOC will send out a tournament structure detailing the elimination round once all applications have been submitted and accepted.

8. Time Duration

There will be two (2) time durations for preliminary and elimination round games. Participating teams shall be notified of the duration before taking the field:

8(a) Preliminary-round games will consist of five (5) minute halves, with one (1) minute for a half time break.

8(b) Elimination-round games will consist of five (5) minutes and a maximum of seven (7) minutes each half, with one (1) minute for half time.

8(c) In the event of injury during play, injury time shall be tagged to the end of each half upon the discretion of the referee.

9. Ties

Preliminary Round Games

No extra time will be played during the preliminary rounds for tied games. Tournament specific ranking system will be developed and provided to all team representatives after the tournament



application deadline.

Elimination/Knock-Out Round Games

In the event of a tie at the end of regulation time between two teams in the knock out stages, there will be 5 minutes of extra play time. A sudden-death outcome shall persist, with the first team to score winning the game. Only blood substitutions are allowed during extra-time play.

9 (f) All 14 players remaining on field at the end of regulation time shall remain for all periods of extra-time.

9 (g) In the event of the score remaining tied at the end of the 5-minute extra time, the Tournament Marshall shall implement a drop-kick at goal, with three (3) different players from each team who were on the field at the end of the over time period.

9 (h) If still tied, the match shall be decided on the toss of a coin.

10.Substitution

Up to three (3) tactical substitutions per team are allowed per game, during the entire tournament. The referee on the field of play reserves absolute right to allow or refuse any tactical substitutions as he sees fit.

10(a) There maybe unlimited blood substitutions.

10(b) There will be no tactical substitutions during any extra time of play.

11.Playing Field

The entire tournament will be conducted on an 80-meter x 50-meter field.

11(a) All ground markings i.e. line markings, corner flags and goalposts are the responsibility of the TOC.

12.Disputes

The referee shall be the sole arbitrator on all **on-field** disputes and his decision shall remain final and may not be challenged. The final ruling on all other disputes and matters of concern will be the prerogative of the Tournament Marshall, and the TOC, where needed.

12(a) The referee shall, as he sees fit, has full authority amongst other things to order a player into the sin bin, eject (throw-out) for rest of the game, award a penalty try, suspend a game before its final conclusion or take action deemed necessary to rectify a situation within the generally accepted referees guidelines of the IRB.



12(b) A player that is ejected will face an automatic suspension from his team's next game.

12(c) Violent or unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated and grounds for immediate suspension from the 2016 Tournament as well as future tournaments.

12(d) It is the responsibility of participating teams to ensure their fans stay outside the play area. Any entrance of fans into the playing area may result in their team being suspended from the tournament.

13. Tournament Organizers

The Tournament Marshals and the TOC reserves the absolute right to disqualify a team or ban a player/team from participating in this tournament for violating any of the rules and regulations of the tournament or for unsportsmanlike conduct.

13(a) The above applies for before, during or after the tournament.

13(b) Any question arising with regards to matters not covered herein maybe brought to the immediate attention of the Tournament Marshall and the Organizing Committee, prior to, during or after the tournament for a timely clarification and/or answer.

Good luck to all participating teams!