



## **Gold Coast Conference of Intercollegiate Rugby, Inc**

26500 Agoura Rd Ste 102-722, Calabasas, CA 91302

### **1. STATEMENT REGARDING COLLEGIATE RUGBY**

In 2012 under a Memorandum of Standing (MOU) Gold Coast Conference of Intercollegiate Rugby (GCCIR) was formed as a DBA of Southern California Rugby Football Union (SCRFU). After several years of successful management Gold Coast Conference of Intercollegiate Rugby, Inc was formed and was successful in its petition with the IRS to be a None Profit 501 (3) (c).

### **2. CONSTITUENT BODIES**

GCCIR can consists of Men's and Women's college age players throughout Southern California, Nevada, and Arizona. These clubs compete in several post season routs and must play their season matches under there declared post season club and player eligibility rules. Teams not declaring a post season rout must play GCCIR club and player eligibility rules.

### **3. REFEREES**

No GCCIR sanctioned rugby matches shall be played without an assigned referee from the Southern California Rugby Referees Society (SCRRS), or a duly accredited referee provided at the expense of a club or clubs.

### **4. FIELD AND KIT REQUIREMENTS**

#### **a. FIELD DIMENSIONS**

All GCCIR clubs must provide a properly marked and lined field for league matches. The field must be regulation (70 meters wide by 100 meters long with 22 meter in goals) or as close as possible within at least 65 yards wide by 100 yards long. If club is unable to meet these standards, they shall notify GCCIR

#### **b. FIELD ENCLOSURE**

- i. All goal posts must be padded, and side lines must have a buffer area of a minimum of five (5) meters from line of touch. This protection includes

beyond the dead ball line area where enough space permits spectators. This retainer shall be a minimum of three feet from the ground. Any such retainers that are “fence-like” material must be such that it will not endanger the player if they are driven into it.

- ii. Only the two touch judges, the referee, and the players then participating in the game will be allowed within this playing enclosure during match play. Reserve players will be considered spectators until they are ready to substitute for an injured player.
- iii. A “technical area” will be provided for within the five-meter buffer area, but must be provided for both teams, and only medical staff, coaches and reserve players who are about to enter the game, may be within the “technical area”.
- iv. The referee will not start the match unless all these requirements are met.
- v. At the time any club applies for membership in GCCIR, the GCCIR EC Board shall be informed of the club’s proposed nickname and shall approve any such nickname.

c. KIT

- i. All clubs must have their club color and jersey design registered with the GCCIR.
- ii. At the time any club applies for membership in GCCIR, the GCCIR EC Board shall be informed of the club’s proposed nickname and shall approve any such nickname.
- iii. If there is a conflict in jersey colors for any match, the traveling team gets to wear their choice of jersey, and the “home” team must change. In the case of a tournament where both teams have traveled to the match, the team that traveled farthest is the “traveling” team, and the other team is the “home” team for the purpose of jersey conflicts

## 5. COMPETITION

a. COMPETITION COMMITTEE

i. The purpose

The purpose of GCCIR Competition Committee (hereafter known as CC) shall oversee all competition appeals from its member clubs and make recommendations to the GCCIR EC Board for a vote (GCCIR EC Board is not bound to the CC recommendation).

ii. Structure of the CC

- 1. The GCCIR Secretary shall chair the CC.

2. Each division shall have a representative appointed by the Secretary (Player or Coach).
3. The appeal shall be in writing to the Commissioner (Within 48 hours of discovery of the need to appeal, a waiver may be done for the time constraints to the commissioner)
4. The CC recommendation shall be submitted to the commissioner for an email vote by the EC Board. If an GCCIR EC Board member has a conflict of interest, they will have recused themselves from the discussion and subsequent vote.
5. The appeal must be done in a timely manner hopefully within two weeks from the time of the written appeal.
6. Action by the GCCIR EC Board shall be taken by simple majority vote.

b. GCCIR DIVISIONS

The makeup of the GCCIR Divisions for Men and Women is a simple, DI on down to as many as needed. Each division will have an automatic move up and an automatic move down. New teams joining GCCIR will be placed into a division that GCCIR believes is the correct starting division for the incoming team and that division.

c. GCCIR SEASON MATCHES

Each team will make every effort to play each other at least ones before the season end date.

d. GCCIR PLAY OFFS

Prior to GCCIR season each team will declare their post season rout. GCCIR goal is to host the GCCIR tournament on one weekend. Failing GCCIR ability to host, then the highest seed will host. GCCIR will make every effort to take the top two seeds in that division for a playoff. This is done for several reasons:

- i. To make sure GCCIR has a confirmed spot in the post season rout.
- ii. Most times GCCIR only gets one spot in post season, so this gives a playoff experience for 2 members.
- iii. Each year teams hopefully get better during the season so by having a playoff GCCIR typical is sending its best team for that post season.
- iv. To find out who is GCCIR number one seed for that post season. But in those rare times were there is no second seed to play in that division, then at GCCIR discretion they may pick the top seed in the lower division that has played that seasons post season eligibility rout to play the top seed in the upper division. This is done so no team has a guaranteed post season spot prior to the GCCIR season matches.

- v. At GCCIR discretion, in very rare seasons GCCIR may have 4 teams play over the GCCIR Play off weekend. (IE, 1 play's 4 and 2 play's 3 and winners and losers play on Sunday).
- e. POST SEASON STRUCTURE

As the season progresses most teams get a feel for their post season rout possibilities. Clubs need to converse with the post season competition management, and at the earliest time start preparing and fund raising.
- f. SCHEDULING POLICY
  - i. A master schedule is prepared by the division reps and all clubs approve it. All Matches must be completed prior to GCCIR's Declared Play off weekend. Should there not be a unanimous vote then the clubs can appeal to the commissioner for a decision.
  - ii. GCCIR will send the master schedule to the referees, and they will place it on their site.
  - iii. Clubs must then check the referee site for its accuracy as hosting clubs need to reserve fields and make sure there is a referee appointed one week prior to the match.
- g. MAKEUP DATES
  - i. Host cancellation (All Divisions). If a game must be canceled due to weather conditions, the home team shall use its best efforts to notify the visiting team and the assigned referee of the cancellation as soon as possible after the cancellation is determined.
  - ii. Upon cancellation, the visiting team shall have the opportunity to secure a field and host the match on the day originally scheduled (and in most cases the host will not lose any home game matches or home field for the following season against that team). It is suggested that all visiting teams, secure a tentative field location for all away games that can be used as an alternative should the home team cancel due to weather.
  - iii. If the visiting team is unable or chooses not to secure a field in response to the cancellation. The procedure for rescheduling shall be determined by the division makeup date.
  - iv. Division makeup dates (All Divisions). Within 72 hours, both teams must agree to a date and time to reschedule. Failing that both teams must play on the next bye weekend (regardless of schools not in session or exams). If any of the bye weekends has one of the teams playing, then the visiting team will host at their practice sessions mid-week within two weeks of the concealed match, and before the GCCIR Play offs. The date, time and location communicated to GCCIR and SCRRS for the scheduling.

h. SEASON MATCHES NOT PLAYED

All un-played season matches will be considered a loss for both teams unless otherwise determined by GCCIR EC Board.

i. FORFEITS OR DEFAULTS, MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- i. First forfeiture of a match will result in possible being barred from the playoffs and possible advancement within the current competitive season.
- ii. A second occurrence in the competitive season will warrant possible fines and sanctions. of the EC Boards choosing.
- iii. The forfeit shall be noted so that if the forfeiting Team were the away Team, they will still be required to travel when they are next due to play the other Team involved.
- iv. The minimum number of players and time a Team may field without default for:
  1. Division One (DI) is Fifteen (15) for A side 40 min each way and Ten (10) for B side playing 20 mins each way
  2. Division Two (DII) is Fifteen (15) for A side 40 min each way and Ten (10) for B side playing 20 mins each way
  3. Division Three (DIII) is Ten (10) for A side 30 min each way no B side.
  4. Any Additional Divisions Will be decided by the EC Board.
  5. All division teams must have full and trained front row. DIII and below may do uncontested scrums.

j. STANDINGS

i. point systems:

1. Win: 4 points
  2. Tie: 2 points
  3. Loss by 7 or less points: 1 bonus point
  4. Loss by 8 or more points: 0 points
  5. 4 or more tries scored: 1 bonus point
  6. Win by forfeit: will count as 28-0 score for 4 points for the win and 1 bonus point.
  7. At the end of the competition, the team with the most points is seeded #1, second most is seeded #2, and so forth.
- ii. Tie-Breaking Procedure. In the event two or more teams have identical point totals, the following procedures will be used to determine placing and/or seeding within a Division:
1. Most wins.
  2. Least losses.

3. Head-to-head competition (this could be the GCCIR Play offs if both teams have the same post season).
  4. Net points in head-to-head competition.
  5. Net points in conference play (if applicable).
  6. Net points in division play.
  7. If still tied, to be determined by GCCIR EC Board.
- k. During Playoff Competition at the end of regulation time, if the score is tied in a playoff match, the following process will be performed until a winner of the match is declared:
- i. Two ten-minute periods. At the end of these two periods, the team with the highest score will be declared the winner.
  - ii. After the first ten-minute period, there will be not more than a five-minute break, the competing teams will switch sides and play the second period.
- l. If the match is still tied, the second tie-breaking procedure will be enacted:
- i. Ten minute sudden-victory periods. The first team to score points in any fashion will be declared the winner.
  - ii. If the score is still tied after the end of this ten-minute period, the competition teams will switch sides, have not more than a five-minute break, and play another period. This process, ten-minute periods with a break after each period, will continue until a winner is determined. (is this allowed for colleges)?

## 6. TOURNAMENTS AND EVENTS

### a. POLICY

The GCCIR EC Board shall have the responsibility to authorize and to regulate all tournaments within the jurisdiction of this conference. Clubs or Teams desirous of establishing and/or hosting a tournament must file an application with GCCIR, not more than twelve (12) months, not less than two (2) months prior to the requested date of the tournament. An application containing the following information:

- i. Dates requested for the event.
- ii. Number of entrants anticipated in participating.
- iii. Eligibility and qualification of entrants.
- iv. Entrance fee to be charged.
- v. Number of referees required.
- vi. Tournament contact point for host.

vii. Liability insurance amount and insurance card review.

b. PROCEDURES

The GCCIR EC Board shall notify the applicant in writing (including by e-mail) of its decision within fourteen (14) days of the applicant's application.

The GCCIR EC Board shall take the appropriate action with regard to those who fail to comply with the rules, interests or spirit of the tournament, i.e. non-payment of fees, ineligible players, damage to property or any conduct which is prejudicial to GCCIR, the game, or the tournament. All tournaments shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Committee.

c. Tournament organizers shall provide adequate notice to GCCIR member clubs with respect to their tournament.

d. The host organization working within the GCCIR shall retain the right to determine the following:

i. Entrance Fees: The host organization should ensure that all entrants pay equal entrance fees. Any increase in entrance fees from the amount specified on the applicant's application must be submitted to the GCCIR EC Board for approval.

ii. Priority of entrants: The host organization should give 80% priority to GCCIR member clubs up to 15 days prior to the entry cut-off date. Lower entrance priority should be given to non-GCCIR members, mixed clubs, and representative dates.

iii. Selection of eligible of entrants.

iv. The rules and regulations as to format, conduct, game assignments, seeding, etc.

v. Concessions to be sold.

vi. How participants CIPP registration will be verified.

e. OBTAINING REFEREES

i. The Southern California Rugby Referees Society ("SCRRS") shall not provide referees to GCCIR none sanctioned events.

ii. SCRRS shall provide an adequate number of qualified referees for the tournament.

iii. GCCIR EC Board shall reasonably cooperate with the SCRRS in approving and scheduling tournaments.

- iv. Each tournament host shall provide a liaison to coordinate referee issues with the SCRRS.
- v. Expenses for the referees are the responsibility of the hosting organization, in accordance with the fee structure set forth by SCRRS (Check their web site for current fees).
- vi. A liaison shall be appointed by the SCRRS to coordinate the activities of the referees at that specific tournament.
- vii. The liaison shall provide a representative of the SCRRS to serve on any Grievance Committee as requested by the Tournament Director or the GCCIR EC Board.
- viii. Tournament committee must contact the SCRRS liaison at least 8 weeks prior to tournament date for purpose of:
  - 1. Establishing a liaison to the SCRRS.
  - 2. Providing an initial estimate for the number of referees required.
  - 3. Obtaining an estimated referee expense from the SCRRS.
  - 4. Notification of accommodation arrangement if they are to be provided by the tournament committee.
  - 5. Notification of any special requests (i.e., specific level of referees, unusual match times, etc.).
- ix. SCRRS shall charge the GCCIR member club, or other entity, hosting a rugby tournament sanctioned by GCCIR. This must be paid prior to the tournament.
- x. The two senior referees plus the tournament liaison and evaluate the tournament and provide a written report to the GCCIR EC Board no later than one month after the completion of the tournament.

## **7. TOURS**

### **a. POLICY**

- i. No Club, Team, or Player governed by GCCIR shall be allowed to arrange or fulfill a fixture or series of fixtures with teams from areas outside the GCCIR membership without previously obtaining the written consent of the GCCIR EC Board.
- ii. In accordance with a ruling of the World Rugby Board, no Club, Team or Player will be permitted to arrange matches with any international team without approval from all governing bodies prior to the match.

- iii. Applications for permission to play outside the GCCIR area, against any club or team from outside of GCCIR, or overseas must comply with the conditions set out in the following paragraphs:

1. OUTGOING TOURS PROCEDURE

- a. Application must first be made through GCCIR (forms are available from the GCCIR Secretary). After approval from GCCIR EC Board by the applicable club or by the Tours Chairman, they will be forwarded to the GCCIR EC Board and USA Rugby for final approval.
- b. When completed, the form should detail all arrangements of the tour, i.e. dates of arrival and departure, matches, size of touring party, financial responsibilities of the applying club and host.
- c. Applications are to be made as far in advance as possible, but clubs must use their best efforts to submit applications at least six (6) months in advance.

2. INCOMING TOURS PROCEDURE

- a. All Incoming Tours must comply with the Tours Policy of USA Rugby (see: <http://www.usarugby.org>) and GCCIR. Applications must include a letter of approval from GCCIR of the touring team.

3. TOURS (GENERAL PROCEDURES)

- a. All applicants must be members-in-good-standing of the GCCIR.
- b. GCCIR Secretary is the Tour Chairman.

4. COORDINATION FOR IN-COMING TOURING TEAMS

- a. Hosting clubs and the Tour Chairman shall cooperate to reasonably ensure that various aspects of the incoming clubs' visit are coordinated to make for an **enjoyable visit to GCCIR, and that GCCIR is reflected positively.**

5. REFEREE MATCH POLICY FOR TOURING SIDES

- a. Tours must be approved by the GCCIR and communicated directly to the Tours Chairman.
- b. Matches involving incoming touring sides are to be communicated to the SCRRS President as well.
- c. The match fee for these matches is negotiated and payable to the SCRRS. This fee may change if a specific grade referee is required, based on travel expenses.

## 8. DISCIPLINARY

a. DISCIPLINARY FUNCTIONS

- i. To record and review all cases of misconduct involving individuals, players, coaches, and clubs connected in any manner with any game played within GCCIR, including any tournament hosted within GCCIR, or

with the sport of rugby football within GCCIR, with respect to the Laws of Rugby, as ratified by World Rugby, USA Rugby and the GCCIR Code of Conduct.

- ii. To review all cases involving referees' recommendations; and any conduct that the GCCIR EC Board may consider detrimental to GCCIR.

b. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

- i. The discipline committee is the EC Board minus the division representatives in which they represent. It will be chaired by the Commissioner (here after known as CC).
- ii. The Appeals DC shall comprise of two appointed coaches and 3 players and will be chaired by the commissioner.

c. PROCEDURE

- i. Consistent with USA Rugby Bylaw 10.1, the GCCIR hereby establishes the following Disciplinary Procedures for assessing the seriousness of Foul Play and Misconduct and for imposing sanctions and/or fines when necessary. All participants in Rugby at all levels within GCCIR are bound by and shall follow these procedures. All decisions regarding, and all suspensions imposed on, players and other individuals shall be accepted and applied universally by all USAR organizing bodies and their Disciplinary Committees and Officials.

These Procedures are established in order to secure and maintain consistency in the way in which discipline is administered and uniformity in the way in which Foul Play and Misconduct are dealt with at all levels of play of the sport of Rugby within the United States of America.

1. **WORLD RUGBY REGULATIONS 17, 18, and 20.** Unless otherwise specified by USAR or modified by these Disciplinary Procedures, World Rugby Regulations 17, 18, and 20, including but not limited to the Sanctions for Foul Play set forth in Appendix 1 of WR Regulation 17, as now in effect and as subsequently amended by World Rugby, shall apply to all play, all rugby individuals, and all entities within the GCCIR. Regulations 17, 18 and 20 are incorporated into the GCCIR Policies and Procedures and can be found at -

<http://www.worldrugby.org/documents/handbook>

2. **PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED WHENEVER A PLAYER IS ORDERED OFF (RED CARD) FROM A MATCH, OR IS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED (YELLOW CARD) FOR FOUL PLAY FROM 3 MATCHES WITHIN A 12 MONTH PERIOD:**

Competitive regular match play during a sanctioned and administered competition: The player is automatically suspended from all further play until the situation is reviewed by the appropriate Local DC.

For all matches, the Disciplinary Committee shall review the player's situation within 4 days of the conclusion of the match, or when the report is filed with the Commissioner in writing, and follow the provisions of WR Regulation 17 to determine if and how to impose further sanctions under WR Regulation 17 Appendix 1.

A written decision shall be promptly issued to all involved, and copies sent to the player's local governing organization (if applicable), the USAR Disciplinary Committee ("USAR DC"), and the Referee Department of USAR.

Notes – a) Yellow Card: As used in these guidelines "Yellow card" refers to those temporary suspensions that result from infractions of Laws 10.1 or 10.4, only  
b) For events or tournaments, the decision of an Event DC is final during the friendly event and not subject to further review as to play during the Event. Regardless of the decision of an Event DC or Competition DC, the information regarding the situation and the DC's ruling shall promptly be forwarded to the player's Local DC to determine what further action, if any, it shall take.

3. **APPEALS:** The GCCIR EC Board shall act as a Disciplinary Appeal Committee or designate an Appeal Officer to consider such matters as may come before the body. Appellate procedures shall comply with World Rugby Regulation 17, especially 17.22.1.

All decisions of the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee are subject to a single appeal as a matter of right. The decision of the DC with initial jurisdiction over the matter may be appealed in the first instance to the GCCIR Commissioner who will appoint 2 coaches and 3 players hear after known as the ACC.

An appeal may be taken from the decision of the GCCIR DC by the player, the player's club/team/organization, the opposing/victim player(s) or that player(s)' club/team/organization, the GU/Conference/ SRO of either the player or the victim player(s), or USA Rugby. Such parties shall lodge an appeal as soon as reasonably practicable but, in any event, no later than 72 hours following receipt by the appealing party of the decision.

**During the appeal, the player remains under whatever sanction, if any, originally imposed by the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee.**

The GCCIR EC Board may affirm, cancel, alter, diminish, or increase any sanction imposed by the DC, following the provisions of World Rugby Regulation 17. The GCCIR EC shall render a written decision within 7 days of the receipt of the appeal to all involved and send copies to the USAR Disciplinary Committee ("USAR DC") and the Referee Department of USAR.

Following the decision of the ADC, the opposing/victim player(s) or that player(s)' club/team/organization, or the GU/Conference/ SRO of either the player or the victim player(s) or USA Rugby may request further review by the USAR DC which may, in its discretion, choose to accept the matter for further review or decline to undertake further review and action. Such parties shall request an appeal as soon as reasonably practicable but, in any event, no later than 72 hours following receipt by the requesting party of the decision.

If the USAR DC declines to accept the matter for further review, the previous decision, and sanctions, if any, stand. If the USAR DC chooses in its discretion to accept the matter for further review the decision, and sanctions, if any, of the GCCIR EC Board remain in effect pending review. If the USAR DC chooses in its discretion to accept the review, it shall render a written decision within 7 days of accepting review.

If it accepts review, the USAR may affirm, cancel, alter, diminish, or increase any sanction previously imposed, following the provisions of WR Regulation 17. The USAR DC shall render a written decision within 7 days of the receipt of the appeal to all involved and send a copy to the Referee Department of USAR.

The decision of the USA Rugby DC is final, subject to the provisions of USAR Bylaws X and XII.

4. CITINGS: For national competitions, as much as possible USAR shall establish Citing Commissioners and Citing Procedures, and allow citing's by teams/clubs, in compliance with WR Regulation 17, particularly 17.9-17.12 and 17.16.

For other matches, particularly local playoff games, the GCCIR is encouraged likewise to establish Citing Commissioners and Citing Procedures, and may allow citing's by teams/clubs, in compliance with WR Regulation 17.

In all instances involving a citation (rather than a referee-imposed sanction), a World Rugby/USA Rugby approved Citing Commissioner, Judicial Officer, or Appeal Officer should be included on, or consulted by, the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee.

Where Citing Procedures have been established, member clubs have the right to cite any player, coach, club official, or other person affiliated with the member club to the DC with jurisdiction for foul play or misconduct, which citation shall be made by written notice given to the Chair of the DC with jurisdiction no later than forty-eight (48) hours after the conclusion of the subject match or other incident in question.

If a club elects to cite a player, coach, official or other person affiliated with a member club, the club has the obligation to provide evidence that supports the citation and this evidence, or a description of the evidence

must accompany the citation. Video evidence is highly recommended. Additional evidence/testimony may be provided to the DC.

d. SPECIAL PROVISION – PITCH INVASION

The safety of all players and officials during a rugby match is of paramount importance. There can be no greater risk to the well-being of players and officials alike than for the unauthorized entry into the playing enclosure from the sideline of reserve players, coaches, supporters, and members of the general public.

As there is no specific language regarding the unauthorized entry onto the playing enclosure contained within the Laws of the Game, it is the policy of the GCCIR to firstly encourage all clubs to make their membership aware of the serious nature of anyone, including reserve players, from entering the playing enclosure without the permission of the match official. Secondly, the club must take responsibility for the actions of all its members. And thirdly, that both individuals and the club could be subject to severe sanctions, should unauthorized persons enter the playing enclosure.

Any breach of this policy will be considered by the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee on a case-by-case basis, with sanctions for both individuals and clubs ranging from probation, forfeiture of match in question, and suspension of individuals and clubs or as determined by the Disciplinary Committee and/or GCCIR Executive Committee.

e. GCCIR SIDELINE CODE OF CONDUCT

i. Statement of Policy

All Gold Coast Conference of Intercollegiate Rugby, Inc. (“GCCIR”) clubs, players, coaches, referees, administrators and supporters are considered to be ambassadors of the sport of rugby who are viewed by members of the general public and media as examples of the sport and those who play it. As such, each club, player, coach, referee, administrator, and supporter in the GCCIR is expected to behave with dignity both on and off the playing field.

Clubs, players, coaches, referees, administrators and supporters should not tolerate rude, profane, threatening or anti-social behavior of any sort which would reflect negatively on the image of their club, the GCCIR, USA Rugby or the sport of rugby in general. Any breach of this Code of Conduct, as specified in Section ii, below, will be subject to disciplinary action by the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the following provisions and the provisions of the GCCIR Policies and Procedures.

ii. Prohibited Conduct

The following actions occurring on the sideline at any match involving a GCCIR member club are prohibited under this Code of Conduct but not limited to:

1. Public drunkenness manifested by anti-social speech or actions.
2. Vulgar language or obscene gestures.
3. Fighting.
4. Throwing objects onto the field of play.
5. Destruction or theft of property.
6. Unreasonable verbal harassment of a referee that goes beyond mere bantering.
7. Public urination on or off any field.
8. Use of alcohol without consent of the club hosting any game or tournament.
9. Any illegal drug use at a game or tournament within GCCIR.

iii. Disciplinary Procedure for Violation of Code of Conduct

1. Reporting of Violations: The referee of the match at which any violation of this Code of Conduct occurs is the correct person who may formally cite the violation. Any individual who witnesses a violation may report the violation to the referee at a stoppage of play. Any person may send a complaint to a member of GCCIR EC Board but if the referee is unable to provide any support to the violation then the burden of proof will be higher.
2. Sideline Warning: Prior to citing any person or club for violating this Code of Conduct, the referee shall first give the person and club a warning regarding the behavior or actions in question. If said behavior continues, the referee may order the person to leave for the remainder of the day ( every hosting facility is different so it is up to the referee to decide the definition of leaving, It can be as simple as go sit in the stands in the case of a stadium, or leave the park)
3. Disciplinary Report: If after the warning is given by the referee pursuant to **subparagraph 2**, above, the behavior or actions in violation of this Code of Conduct continue, the referee shall cite the offending person and/or club by inclusion of a reference of the violation, and the specific conduct that constitutes the violation, in the **disciplinary section of the Match Report**, to be provided to the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee within 72 hours of the match.
4. Use of Alcohol: Upon the complaint of any club hosting a game or tournament in the GCCIR or involving a GCCIR club concerning the consumption of alcohol without the consent of the host club, the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee, notwithstanding **Section D**,

below, shall determine appropriate punishment for the club and any individual players, which punishment may include, but not be limited to, forfeiture of the match or a monetary fine.

- iv. Penalties, GCCIR may enforce sanctions or fines or both, for any violation of code of conduct or any violations. Amount or Sanctions to be determined by GCCIR EC Board unless specified a limit in the P & P's or ByLaws.
- v. First Violation: For the first violation of this Code of Conduct, the offending club will be levied a "two-match forfeiture" penalty, which will be suspended, pending no further breaches to the Code of Conduct. The club will also, be placed on probation for the current competition season or as determined by the Disciplinary Committee.
- vi. Second Violation in Same Season: For the second violation of this Code of Conduct in the same season, which shall include pre-season and tournament matches, the offending club will automatically have the previously suspended sanction of "two match forfeiture" applied, with further sanctions to be determined by the Disciplinary Committee. The club will be placed on twelve (12) months' probation and will be required to present a plan of action to the GCCIR EC Board to remedy the improper sideline conduct in the future, within 30 days of notice of the sanctions.
- vii. Additional Violations. For a third or more violation in the same season, the GCCIR EC Board shall have discretion to determine an appropriate penalty for the improper conduct.
- viii. Notwithstanding any other provision of this **Section D**, the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee and, where applicable, the EC Board, shall have the discretion to impose stricter penalties than those set forth above.
- ix. Any club may contest any violation of this Code of Conduct or any subsequent decision made by the GCCIR Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the provisions of **Article XII(C)** of the GCCIR Policies and Procedures, which are incorporated herein by this reference.

## **9. GCCIR REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS**

### **a. ORGANIZATION**

- i. Each year, the GCCIR EC Board, with input from the GCCIR Griffins Committee, shall appoint a coach for each applicable GCCIR representative team. The coach of each representative team must have obtained, at a minimum, appropriate certification, as determined by the GCCIR EC Board, under USA Rugby's Coaching Certification Program then in effect.

- ii. The coach of each representative team shall assemble a selection panel and shall schedule, in coordination with the GCCIR EC Board, a time and central location for trials for selection to the representative team in accordance with **Section B**, below.
  - iii. The teams selected are chosen for a 12-month period and are subject to confirmation by the GCCIR EC Board and all players selected must be CIPP-registered and in good standing with the GCCIR.
  - iv. Subject to the approval of the EC Board, the coach shall appoint a team manager, trainer and such assistants as needed.
  - v. For any tour, in addition to the above officials, a Tour Chairman may be appointed by the EC Board.
  - vi. Prior to incurring any expenses in relation to any GCCIR representative team, including any expenses for travel and/or lodging, the coach, or manager, of that team shall submit a budget for such expenses to the EC Board, or its designee, for approval. Failure to obtain GCCIR EC Board approval for such expenses may result in the coach and/or manager being held personally responsible for such expenses.
  - vii. All GCCIR-owned uniforms and equipment to be utilized by a representative team shall be fully inventoried prior to being distributed to that team and upon return to GCCIR, when the team's use of such uniforms and equipment is complete. The coach, manager (if one is appointed) and individual players will be held jointly and severally liable for any missing uniforms and equipment. A player's theft of GCCIR uniforms or equipment may result in that player being reported to USA Rugby as "Not in Good Standing"
  - viii. In the event any player is required to pay for any portion of his or her expenses with his or her own funds and such player fails to pay for such expenses, such player may, in the discretion of the EC Board, be deemed ineligible for play in the GCCIR, and/or from future representative team selection until such expenses are subsequently paid.
- b. SELECTIONS
- c. The selectors' primary responsibility is to select the pool (or squad) of players eligible for the final squad selection. The coach has the primary responsibility of selecting the final starting team.
    - i. Griffin Selection Eligibility
      - 1. A player from a club that is in good standing with the GCCIR.

2. A player that is a citizen or has physical evidence of resident status (green card).
3. A player that participates in the GCCIR trials unless a valid written excuse is provided prior to the selection trials. A valid excuse is an injury (signed by a physician), personal family tragedy, or other extenuating circumstances that satisfy the selectors.

ii. Ranking of Players

1. Selectors will rank competent players at each position.
2. Players unranked will be placed on the general pool for consideration in the event that the ranked players are unavailable.

d. FUNCTIONS OF OFFICIALS

i. Home Games

1. Coach - Responsible for physical preparation and practice sessions, match tactics, injury replacement during the match, and selection of the 15 players who start the match. The Coach shall appoint the Captain and Vice-Captain. The Coach shall also be responsible for the organization of team practices and for team discipline.
2. Manager - Responsible for equipment issuing and collection, training supplies, injury contingencies, and expense reimbursements. Also responsible for arranging a venue, referee, flagging and marking of field, line umpire flags, supply of balls, and social activities.
3. Trainer - Customary physical aid to players.

ii. Tours

1. Manager - Responsible for overall team administration, for all travel arrangements, money affairs, equipment, referee affairs, function, and practice arrangements, and for such other duties as delegated by the Coach.
2. Coach – Oversees selection; responsible for conducting all practice sessions, team preparation, match tactics, game preparation, and team morale. The coach shall appoint the captain and vice-captain.
3. Captain - On selection panel and responsible for on-field control and tactics, team unity, speaks at after match functions.
4. Vice-Captain - Takes over if Captain is not on field or present at functions. Serves as ombudsman and spokesman for team. The Vice-Captain shall assist the Captain in on-field control and tactics.

e. COACHING POLICY

GCCIR shall, from time to time, organize and administer appropriate coaching clinics offered through USA Rugby. From time to time, the GCCIR EC Board may establish a Coaching Committee to assist in the development of coaching strategies and techniques on a Union-wide basis.