



SOUTH AFRICAN RUGBY UNION

SECTION 1: COMPETITION FORMAT 2012

1. ABSA CURRIE CUP COMPETITION

From the 2012 season the fourteen (14) provincial teams will play in two Divisions i.e. **Currie Cup Premier Division**, six (6) teams and the **Currie Cup First Division**, eight (8). This format will include Promotion/ Relegation matches at the end of each season in order to determine the teams for the following season as fully described in 1.1.4 below. The Divisions for the 2012 Season will be as follows:

CURRIE CUP PREMIER DIVISION

**Blue Bulls
Free State
Golden Lions
Griqualand West
Natal Sharks
Western Province**

CURRIE CUP FIRST DIVISION

**Boland
Border
Eastern Province
Griffons
Leopards
Mpumalanga
SWD Eagles
Valke**

Each division will play a double round (home/away), against each other within each division i.e. **Currie Cup Premier Division** – five (5) home and five (5) away matches and the **Currie Cup First Division** – seven (7) home and seven (7) away matches.

1.1 SEMI-FINALS

1.1.1 CURRIE CUP PREMIER DIVISION

After completion of the double round during the season the two teams with the most log points will play at home against the two teams with the third and fourth most log points in a semi-final as follows:

Team 1 versus Team 4
Team 2 versus Team 3

1.1.2 CURRIE CUP FIRST DIVISION

After completion of the double round during the season the two teams with the most log points will play at home against the two teams with the third and fourth most log points in a semi-final as follows:

Team 1 versus Team 4
Team 2 versus Team 3

1.2 FINALS

1.2.1 CURRIE CUP PREMIER DIVISION

The winners of the respective semi-final matches will play in a final match and the winner of the final match shall be awarded with the ABSA CURRIE CUP.

1.2.2 CURRIE CUP FIRST DIVISION

The winners of the respective semi-final matches will play in a final match and the winner of the final match shall be awarded with the ABSA SA CUP.

1.3 PROMOTION /RELEGATION

As from 2012, two promotion/relegation matches will be played at the end of the each season, the team with the lowest number of log points in the **Currie Cup Premier Division**, will play two promotion/relegation matches, home and away, against the team with the most number of log points in the **Currie Cup First Division** as follows:

Premier Division 6 versus First Division 1 (home & away)

The first round match will be played at the venue of the team from the Premier Division and the second round match at the venue of the team from the First Division. These matches will be played in accordance with paragraph 8 of Section 2 - **Log Points Format** - of the Rules of the Competition. After completion of the promotion/relegation matches, the team with the most log points accumulated during these two matches will play in the **Currie Cup Premier Division** in the following season. In the event of an equal number of log points, the winner will be determined as follows:

- a) the best nett points difference i.e. points for minus points against, and if equal,
- b) the team who scored the most tries, and if equal,
- c) the status quo will remain.

1.4 REMUNERATION

The provinces hosting the semi-final and/or final matches of the CURRIE CUP PREMIER DIVISION shall pay the visiting province the following amounts within 14 days from the date of the semi-final and/or final matches

Final:	R500 000
Semi-Final:	R250 000

For the semi-final and final matches of the CURRIE CUP FIRST DIVISION **no levy** shall be payable by the hosting province to the visiting province.

1.5 REPRESENTATION

SA Rugby has adopted a comprehensive Transformation Charter that will guide SA Rugby and its Provinces on this critical aspect of the game. Quotas no longer apply to the Currie Cup Competition.

However, it is expected of each Province to take serious cognisance of the issue of representativity of players on the field of play, to support our broader transformation objectives.

2. VODACOM CUP COMPETITION

The fourteen (14) provincial teams and a team from Argentina will play in two sections, i.e North with seven teams and South with eight teams in each section. Namibia has withdrawn from this competition. In 2012 each section will play in a single round within the section as follows:

NORTH SECTION

Blue Bulls
Golden Lions
Griffons
Griqualand West
Leopards
Mpumalanga
Valke

SOUTH SECTION

Boland
Border
Eastern Province
Free State
Kwa-Zulu Natal
South Western Districts
Western Province
Argentina

Section NORTH will play in a single round of six (6) matches within their section, i.e. three (3) home and three (3) away matches. Section SOUTH will play seven (7) matches within their section, i.e. 4/3 home and 3/4 away matches.

2.1 QUARTER FINALS

After the completion of the single round in each section, the four teams with the most log points in each section will play against each other in the quarter-final matches as follows:

North 1 versus South 4	Winner A
South 1 versus North 4	Winner B
North 2 versus South 3	Winner C
South 2 versus North 3	Winner D

2.2 SEMI-FINALS

The winners of the quarter-final matches will play in the semi-final matches as follows:

Winner A versus Winner D
Winner B versus Winner C

2.3 FINALS

The winners of the respective semi-final matches in 2012 will play in the final match at the home venue of the South Section and will then rotate annually between the North and South i.e.

2011 at the venue of the South team
2012 at the venue of the North team
2013 at the venue of the South team

Should two teams from the same section be in the final match, the match will be played at the venue of the team with the most log points at the completion of the pool matches.

The winner of the final match shall be awarded with the VODACOM CUP.

2.4 REMUNERATION

No levies shall be payable by the host Provinces to the visiting Province for the quarter, semi-final or final matches.

2.5 REPRESENTATION

SA Rugby has adopted a comprehensive Transformation Charter that will guide SA Rugby and its affiliate Provinces on this critical aspect of the game. Quotas no longer apply to the Vodacom Cup..

However, it is expected of each Province to take serious cognisance of the issue of representativity of players on the field of play, to support our broader transformation objectives.

The Vodacom Cup is seen as a development competition to give opportunities to disadvantaged players.

3. ABSA UNDER 21 CUP COMPETITION

The fourteen (14) provincial teams are divided into two sections with seven (7) teams each on a strength versus strength basis as follows:

SECTION A

**Blue Bulls
Border
Free State
Golden Lions
Kwa-Zulu Natal
Leopards
Western Province**

SECTION B

**Boland
Eastern Province
Griffons
Griqualand West
Mpumalanga
South Western Districts
Valke**

The teams in Section A will play a double round within the section - six (6) matches at home and six (6) matches away. Section B will play a single round within the section - three (3) matches at home and three (3) matches away.

3.1 SEMI-FINALS

3.1.1 SECTION A

After completion of the double round the four teams with the most log points will play against each other in semi-final matches as follows:

Team 1 versus Team 4
Team 2 versus Team 3

The two teams with the most log points (Teams 1 and 2) will play at home.

3.1.2 SECTION B

After completion of the single round the four teams with the most log points will play against each other in semi-final matches as follows:

Team 1 versus Team 4
Team 2 versus Team 3

The two teams with the most log points (Teams 1 and 2) will play at home.

3.2 FINALS

3.2.1 SECTION A

The winners of the respective semi final matches will play in a final match which will be played as a curtain-raiser to the ABSA Currie Cup (Premier Division) final match or such other date and/or venue as determined by SA RUGBY.

3.2.2 SECTION B

The winners of the respective semi final matches will play in a final match which will be played as a curtain-raiser to the ABSA SA Cup (First Division) final match or such other venue as determined by SA RUGBY.

3.3 PROMOTION / RELEGATION

The team at the bottom of the log in SECTION A, after completion of the double round, will play only one promotion/relegation match against the winner of the final of SECTION B. The match will be played at the venue of the team from SECTION A.

3.4 ELIGIBILITY

A player is eligible to play under 21 up to and including the year in which he turns 21.

3.5 TROPHY

3.5.1 SECTION A

The winner of the final match shall be awarded with the ABSA UNDER 21 CUP.

3.5.2 SECTION B

The winner of the final match shall be awarded with the ABSA Under 21 SHIELD.

3.6 REPRESENTATION

SA Rugby has adopted a comprehensive Transformation Charter that will guide SA Rugby and its affiliate Provinces on this critical aspect of the game. Quotas no longer apply to the Under 21 Competition.

However, it is expected of each Province to take serious cognisance of the issue of representativity of players on the field of play, to support our broader transformation objectives.

3.7 GENERAL

Certain matches may be televised and may also be played as curtain raisers to matches in the ABSA CURRIE CUP Competition.

4. ABSA UNDER 19 CUP COMPETITION

The fourteen (14) provincial teams are divided into two sections of seven teams each on a strength versus strength basis as follows.

SECTION A

**Blue Bulls
Free State
Golden Lions
Kwa-Zulu Natal
Leopards
South Western Districts
Western Province**

SECTION B

**Border
Boland
Eastern Province
Griffons
Griqualand West
Mpumalanga
Valke**

The teams in Section A will play a double round within the section - six (6) matches at home and six (6) matches away. Section B will play a single round within the section – three (3) matches at home and three (3) matches away.

4.1 SEMI-FINALS

4.1.1 SECTION A

After completion of the single round the four teams with the most log points will play against each other in semi-final matches as follows:

Team 1 versus Team 4
Team 2 versus Team 3

The two teams with the most log points (Teams 1 and 2) will play at home.

4.1.2 SECTION B

After completion of the single round at the end of the season the four teams with the most log points will play against each other in semi-final matches as follows:

Team 1 versus Team 4
Team 2 versus Team 3

The two teams with the most log points (Teams 1 and 2) will play at home.

4.2 FINALS

4.2.1 SECTION A

The winners of the respective semi-final matches will play in a final match who will be played as a curtain-raiser to the ABSA Currie Cup (Premier Division) final match or such other date and venue as determined by SA RUGBY.

4.2.2 SECTION B

The winners of the respective semi-final matches will play in a final match who will be played as a curtain-raiser to the ABSA SA Cup (First Division) final match or such other date and/or venue as determined by SA RUGBY.

4.3 PROMOTION / RELEGATION

The team at the bottom of the log in SECTION A, after completion of the single round, will play one promotion/relegation match against the winner of the final match of SECTION B. The match will be played at the venue of the team from SECTION A.

4.4 ELIGIBILITY

4.4.1 A player is eligible to play under 19 up to and including in the year in which he turns 19.

4.4.2 An under 19 player may participate in the UNDER 19 CUP competition (including the semi-final and final matches) notwithstanding the fact that he has participated in a senior competition (including the semi-final and final matches of such senior competition) during that particular year.

4.5 TROPHY

4.5.1 SECTION A

The winner of the final match shall be awarded with the SA RUGBY UNDER 19 SECTION A CUP.

4.5.2 SECTION B

The winner of the final match shall be awarded with the SA RUGBY UNDER 19 SECTION B CUP.

4.6 REPRESENTATION

SA Rugby has adopted a comprehensive Transformation Charter that will guide SA Rugby and its affiliate Provinces on this critical aspect of the game. Quotas no longer apply to the Under 19 Competition.

However, it is expected of each Province to take serious cognisance of the issue of representativity of players on the field of play, to support our broader transformation objectives.

4.7 GENERAL

Certain matches may be televised and may also be played as curtain raisers to matches in the ABSA CURRIE CUP Competition.

5. WOMEN'S RUGBY COMPETITION

The fourteen (14) provincial teams are divided into two Sections on a strength versus strength basis with the ten (10) top teams in Section A and the remaining four (4) teams in Section B as follows:

SECTION A		SECTION B
<u>Group 1</u>	<u>Group 2</u>	
Border	Boland	Blue Bulls Limpopo
Blue Bulls	Free State	Griqualand West
Eastern Province	Golden Lions	Leopards
South Western Districts	Griffons	Mpumalanga
Western Province	KwaZulu-Natal	Valke

The teams in section A are divided into two groups 1 & 2 of five (5) teams in each group and will play a single round within the groups with two (2) home and two (2) away matches. The teams in section B will play a single round within the section B with two (2) home and two (2) away matches.

5.1 SEMI-FINALS

5.1.1 SECTION A

After completion of the single round in Section A the two (2) teams with the highest number of log points in each group will play against each other in semi-final matches as follows:

Semi Final 1: Team 1 Group 1 versus Team 2 Group 2

Semi Final 2: Team 1 Group 2 versus Team 2 Group 1

The teams with the most log points (Teams 1 and 2) will play at home.

5.1.2 SECTION B

The teams in this section will not play semi-finals

5.2 FINALS

5.2.1 SECTION A

The winners of the respective semi-final matches in each group will play against each other in the final matches.

5.2.2 SECTION B

After completion of the single round in Section B the two (2) teams with the highest number of log points will play against each other in final matches.

The venue of the two finals (section A and Section B) will be determined by SA RUGBY.

5.3 PROMOTION / RELEGATION

At the end of each rugby season, the Games and Policies Committee of SARU will determine which teams shall be promoted and/or relegated.

5.4 TROPHY

5.4.1 WOMEN'S RUGBY COMPETITION

The winner of Section A shall be awarded with the SA RUGBY Women's League Trophy and the winner of Section B will be awarded the SA RUGBY Women's B Section Cup

5.4.2 WOMEN'S RUGBY TOURNAMENT

The winner of the tournament shall be awarded with the SA RUGBY Women's Tournament SHIELD

6. TOURNAMENTS

The following Tournaments will be hosted by a Province and under the auspices of SARU:

6.1 AMATEUR PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT (SENIOR & UNDER 21)

All fourteen (14) provincial Amateur teams and their Under 21 Amateur teams and nine (9) regional Amateur and the Under 21 Amateur Under 21 teams from Border, Blue Bulls, Eastern Province, Falcons, Griffons, Griqualand West, Leopards, Mpumalanga and Natal are divided into three sections, North, Central and South, as follows:

NORTH [8]	CENTRAL [8]	SOUTH [7]
Blue Bulls	Free State	Boland
Blue Bulls (Limpopo)	Free State Rural	Border
Falcons (East)	Griffons	Border Rural
Falcons (South)	Griffons Rural	Eastern Province
Golden Lions	Griqualand West	EP Rural
Leopards Amateur	Griqualand West Rural	SWD
Mpumalanga	Kwa-Zulu Natal	Western Province
Mpumalanga Rural	KZN Rural	

From the 2012 season, the three sections of the APC will be played as three separate tournaments (similar to the Sub-Union Tournaments) held over a one week period i.e. North, Central and South Tournaments, with eight Senior Amateur teams and Eight Under 21 Amateur teams , i.e. 16 teams per Tournament. Where there are less than eight teams in a section(s), the Province Hosting the tournament will have first option to enter an additional Amateur team and an additional Under 21 Amateur to make it an even number, but should they not take up the option, the Games and Policies Committee will decide who the extra teams will be.

6.1.1 ELIGIBILITY

Players who have not entered into written Contract with a Province, irrespective whether the player receives material benefit, are eligible to play in this competition. An Amateur Under 21 player is eligible to play under 21 up to and including the year in which he turns 21.

6.1.2 WINNER OF THE TOURNAMENTS

After the tournaments, the winner of each Amateur Provincial Tournament will play two matches against the winner of the other tournaments to determine the National Amateur Champion, i.e. (a total of three matches)

2011 / 2013 / 2015

North v South
South v Central,
Central v North,.

2012 / 2014 / 2016

South v Central
Central v North
North v South

The first mentioned team as above will play at home.

6.1.3 SA AMATEUR TEAM

If possible a SA Amateur Team will be selected annually by a Selection Committee, from member selected from their own ranks, to play a match against an appropriate opponent, i.e. Namibia, Zimbabwe, Kenya etc.

6.1.4 TROPHY

The winner of the tournaments shall be awarded the Amateur Provincial Cup Trophy

6.1.5 REPRESENTATION

SA Rugby has adopted a comprehensive Transformation Charter that will guide SA Rugby and its affiliate Provinces on this critical aspect of the game. Quotas no longer apply to the Amateur Provincial Tournament.

However, it is expected of each Province to take serious cognisance of the issue of representativity of players on the field of play, to support our broader transformation objectives.

6.1.6 AMATEUR PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

6.1.6.1 A player moving from one province to another has to play

- a) At least three league matches for any club in his new province to be eligible for the Amateur Provincial team of his new province and
- b) At least three league matches for the Amateur Provincial team of his new province prior to a semi-final match in order to be eligible for the semi-final or final match in that competition.

6.1.6.2 Not more than (3) officials shall be appointed for each squad of which at least one (1) official shall be black.

6.1.6.3 The CEO of the Province, the club and the player is equally responsible for adhering to the rules and regulations of this competition

6.1.6.4 When a complaint is received pertaining to the ineligibility of a player for the Amateur Provincial Competition, the matter will be referred to the Manager Legal of SARU who will investigate the matter, or appoint a nominee for this purpose, and if found that there is a possible breach of this regulation, refer the matter to the Chairman of the National Judicial Committee who will appoint a Judicial Officer who will adjudicate the matter in accordance with the Judicial Regulations of SARU. If found guilty, the province, club and / or the player may be.

6.1.6.5 fined a minimum of R30 000; **and**

- a) may be suspended for a period as determined by the Committee; and / or
- b) have log points deducted as determined by the Committee

6.1.6.6 Should a province or club allegedly breach any other of the above regulations, the matter will be referred to the Manager Legal of SARU who will investigate the matter, or appoint a nominee for this purpose, and if found that there is a possible breach of this regulation, refer the matter to the Chairman of the National Judicial Committee who will appoint a Judicial Officer who will adjudicate the matter in accordance with the Judicial Regulations of SARU. If found guilty, the province, club and/or player may be:

- a) given a warning; or
- b) fined an amount as determined by the Disciplinary Committee but not exceeding R30 000; and/or
- c) suspended for a period as determined by the Disciplinary Committee.

6.2 PROVINCIAL SUB-UNION

The fourteen (14) provincial teams and a regional team from Blue Bulls are divided into two geographical sections, with seven (7) teams in the North section and eight (8) teams in the South section, as follows:

NORTH (7)

Blue Bulls
Golden Lions
Griffons
Leopards
Mpumalanga
Valke
Limpopo Blue Bulls

SOUTH (8)

Boland
Border
Eastern Province
Free State
Griqualand West
Kwa-Zulu Natal
South Western Districts
Western Province

The Province Hosting the North Section of the Sub Union Tournament have first option to enter an additional team to this tournament, to make it an even number, but should they not take up the option, the Competitions Committee will decide who the eighth team will be.

6.2.1 ELIGIBILITY

Only players registered to Junior Clubs, 2nd league clubs or country league clubs qualify to participate in this tournament.

Contracted players and / or players registered to clubs in the premier leagues of the provinces are **NOT** eligible to play in this tournament. This includes players playing in the first -, second -, third - or lower teams of that particular club.

6.2.2 HOSTING OF TOURNAMENTS

Provinces interested in hosting the tournament must apply to the Competitions Committee by not later than 31 October of the year immediately preceding the year in which the tournament takes place.

6.3 NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sixteen (16) teams, consisting of the fourteen (14) Provincial Club Champions, the winner of the previous year's National Club Championship and the Club Champion from the Blue Bulls regional area, i.e. Limpopo will participate in the National Club Championships. Should the previous year's winner of the National Club Championships also be a current provincial club champion, the Executive Committee of SARU, after recommendation of the Games and Policies Committee, will decide which club will be invite to the National Club Championships.

6.3.1 FORMAT

The format of the National Club Champions will be determined by the Competitions Committee.

6.3.2 ELIGIBILITY

Players have to be registered with a club and had to play at least three (3) official league matches for that particular club during the current season in which the tournament takes place.

6.3.3 HOSTING OF TOURNAMENTS

The Club Championships shall rotate annually between the north and the south. Provinces intending to host the tournament must apply to the Competitions Committee by not later than 31 October of the year immediately preceding the year in which the tournament takes place. Should no host be available from the relevant region that is in line to host that year's tournament, the tournament will be awarded to the other region by the Competitions Committee.

6.4 INTERPROVINCIAL SEVENS TOURNAMENT (MEN & WOMEN)

Sixteen (16) teams, consisting of the fourteen (14) Provincial Sevens teams and two (2) teams invited by the Competitions Committee will participate in the Inter-Provincial Sevens Tournament. The two tournaments, one for men one for women, will be held jointly at the same venue.

6.4.1 FORMAT

The format of these two tournaments will be determined by the Competitions Committee.

6.4.2 ELIGIBILITY

Only players registered with the province will be allowed to represent the province.

6.4.3 HOSTING OF TOURNAMENTS

The Inter-Provincial Sevens Tournament shall rotate annually between the north and the south and provinces intending to host the tournament must apply to the Competitions Committee by not later than 31 October of the year immediately preceding the year in which the tournament takes place.

6.5 NATIONAL YOUTH WEEKS

The following Provincial Junior/Schools week will annually be held during the June/July school holidays:

- Coca-Cola Under 18 Craven Week
- Academy Under 18 Week
- Grant Khomo Under 16 Week
- Coca-Cola Under 13 Week
- LSEN Schools Week
- Girls Under 16 Week

The SA Girls Under 16 Week will fall under the direct jurisdiction of SARU and not the jurisdiction of the SA Schools Rugby Association. Sixteen (16) teams, consisting of the fourteen Provinces, Border Rural (former Transkei) and Blue Bulls - Limpopo will participate in the week, which will be organized on the similar format as the Coca-Cola Craven Weeks.

6.5.1 HOSTING OF NATIONAL YOUTH WEEKS

The SA Schools Rugby Association must advise the Competition Committee by not later than 31 October of the year immediately preceding the year in which the tournaments are held who will host the tournaments

6.6 COMMUNITY TOURNAMENTS - EASTER CLUB FESTIVAL

Three (3) Easter Weekend Tournaments will be held over the Easter Weekend period.

Club Rugby is the responsibility of the Provinces and any Club Tournament being organised in a Province must have the blessing or approval of the province under whose jurisdiction the Host/Organising Club falls.

SA Rugby financially assist these Easter Weekend tournaments, therefore all clubs wishing to host such tournaments must submit their application to their Provincial Union, who will then recommend it to the Competitions Committee by not later than 31 October of the year immediately preceding the year in which the tournament takes place. The provincial unions are ultimately responsible for the hosting of these tournaments.

No financial assistance must be paid direct to the club, but to the Club's Province, who will ensure that the money is correctly spend.

.6.6.1 FORMAT

The format of these three tournaments will be determined by the Competitions Committee.

6.6.2 ELIGIBILITY

Provinces must ensure that these tournaments are open to all clubs. and not just to certain entities.

6.7 VARSITY CUP COMPETITION

A sponsorship agreement was signed with FNB to sponsor a Students competition. This Competition will be run and administered by a Varsity Cup Committee.

6.7.1 FORMAT

From 2012 five additional University teams will be included in to the FNB Varsity Cup Competitions. The competition will be played in two sections, i.e. Section A with eight teams playing for the FNB Varsity Cup and Section B with five teams playing for the FNB Varsity Shield.

The format of the competition will be:

- a) Single round (consider to make it a double round later)
- b) Eight teams from the following Universities: Pretoria, Stellenbosch, Bloemfontein, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Potchefstroom, Johannesburg and Tshwane
- c) Matches will be played on Mondays with possible matches being televised by Supersport.

6.7.2 FINALS

The Varsity Cup committee will decide where the finals will be played.

6.7.3 ELIGIBILITY

Players have to be *bona fide* students of the tertiary institution they represent and under the age of 25 years on 1 January of the year in which the tournament is held.

6.8 USSA UNDER 23 WEEK

The annual USSA Week will be held during the 1st week in June, which consists of 24 teams from various tertiary institutions in South Africa, with three pools of eight teams each.

6.8.1 FORMAT

The format of the USSA Week will be determined by the USSA Committee.

6.8.2 ELIGIBILITY

Players have to be *bona fide* students of the tertiary institution they represent. and under the age of 25 years on 1 January of the year in which the tournament is held.

6.8.4 HOSTING OF TOURNAMENTS

The USSA must advise the Competitions Committee by not later than 31 October of the year immediately preceding the year in which the tournament takes place as to who will host the tournament.

6.9 WOMEN'S RUGBY TOURNAMENT

The Women's Rugby Tournament will not be held during the 2012 season.



SECTION 2: GENERAL COMPETITION RULES 2012

These rules will apply in all SA Rugby Competitions i.e. ABSA Currie Cup Competition, Vodacom Cup Competition, ABSA Under 21 Competitions, SA RUGBY Under 19 Competition, Womens Rugby Competition and Amateur Provincial Competition.

1. EQUAL POINTS: POOL MATCHES

In the event of teams having equal log points after completion of the pool matches, the log positions will be determined in the following order:-

- 1.1 Best nett points difference (points for minus points against), and if equal,
- 1.2 The team who scored the most tries, and if equal
- 1.3 The team who scored the most points in away matches, and if equal
- 1.4 The team with the least number of red cards during the competition, and if equal,
- 1.5 The winner shall be decided by the toss of a coin by SA Rugby.

2 TO DETERMINE A WINNER IN QUARTER- FINALS, SEMI-FINALS AND FINALS

2.1 QUARTER-FINALS

If scores are level after the scheduled time, the team that will proceed to the finals will be determined as follows:

- 2.1.1 the team scoring the most points within a 20 (twenty) minute extra time (10 minutes each way with a one (1) minute break), and if still level
- 2.1.2 the team scoring the most tries in the quarter -final, including extra time; and if still level
- 2.1.3 the team with the highest log position immediately prior to the semi-final match.

Note: Paragraph 2.1.1 will not apply to Under 19 Rugby

2.2 SEMI-FINAL MATCHES

If scores are level after the scheduled time, the team that will proceed to the finals will be determined as follows:

- 2.2.1 the team scoring the most points within a 20 (twenty) minute extra time (10 minutes each way with a one (1) minute break), and if still level
- 2.2.2 the team scoring the most tries in the semi-final, including extra time; and if still level

2.2.3 the team with the highest log position immediately prior to the semi-final match.

Note: Paragraph 2.2.1 will not apply to Under 19 Rugby

2.3 FINAL MATCHES

If scores are level after the scheduled time, the winner will be determined as follows:

2.3.1 the team scoring the most points within a (20) twenty minute extra time (10 minutes each way with a one (1) minute break); and if still level

2.3.2 the team with the highest log position immediately prior to the semi-final matches in that competition during the current season shall be the winner.

Note: Paragraph 2.2.2.1 will not apply for Under 19 Rugby

3. RATING OF SOUTH AFRICAN TEAMS

The rating of South African Rugby Teams (Men and Women) will be as follows:

1. National Seniors
2. National Under 20
3. National Sevens
4. Emerging Springboks
5. Super Rugby
6. ABSA Currie Cup
7. National Amateur
8. SA Universities
9. Vodacom Cup
10. ABSA Under 21
11. ABSA Under 19
12. Provincial Amateur
13. Provincial Sevens
14. Provincial Sub-Union

4. KICK-OFF BEING DELAYED AND/OR MATCH UNABLE TO START DUE TO ACT OF GOD OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANY OF THE PARTICIPATING TEAMS OR A MEMBER(S) AFFILIATED TO THE CLUB / PROVINCE OF THE PARTICIPATING TEAMS

4.1 Should circumstances, due to an act of God, warrants a possible delay in a kick-off on the day of a match during the pool stages, semi-finals, or final, the referee, in his sole discretion, will have the following options:

4.1.1 to continue with the match as scheduled; or

4.1.2 to delay the kick-off for a reasonable time in order for the match to be played on the same day at the venue as scheduled; or

4.1.3 to determine the venue unplayable.

- 4.2 Should circumstances, due to an act of God, warrants a possible rescheduling of a match, within 3 (three) days of a scheduled match (excluding match day), the CEO of SARU in his sole discretion and after consultation with all relevant stakeholders, will determine whether circumstances warrant the match to be rescheduled.
- 4.3 Should the referee in 4.1.3 or the CEO in 4.2 above determines the venue unplayable, the following will apply:
- 4.3.1 The host province, after consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall determine a venue within its jurisdiction provided that such venue is within a radius of 100 km from the original venue; or
- 4.3.2 The host province, in consultation with the visiting province and SA RUGBY, may determine a venue outside the jurisdiction of the host province, subject to the following:
- 4.3.2.1 it shall not be at the venue within the jurisdiction of the visiting province; and
- 4.3.2.2 should the parties in 4.3.2 above not agree on such venue, the match shall be played at the venue as in 4.3.1 above.
- 4.3.3 Should it be necessary to reschedule the match to another date and time, it shall be done in consultation with the host province, the visiting province and SA RUGBY. If no agreement can be reached, the CEO in his sole discretion shall determine the date and time of the match at a venue as determined by the host province.
- 4.3.4 Should a match in the pool stages for whatever reason not be able to be rescheduled in accordance with this clause, the match will be declared a draw.
- 4.3.5 Should a semi-final match for whatever reason not be able to be rescheduled, the team with the highest log points immediately prior to the semi-final match shall proceed to the final match.
- 4.3.6 Should the final match for whatever reason not be able to be rescheduled, the team with the highest log points immediately prior to the semi-final matches shall be declared the winner.

5. ABANDONMENT OF MATCH AFTER KICK-OFF DUE TO ACT OF GOD OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANY OF THE PARTICIPATING TEAMS OR A MEMBER(S) AFFILIATED TO THE CLUB / PROVINCE OF THE PARTICIPATING TEAM

- 5.1 Should the referee during a match in the pool stages, semi-final - and final match decide to abandon the match during the **first half**, the match will be rescheduled and 4.3.1 – 4.3.6 above, mutatis mutandis shall apply.
- 5.2 Should the referee decide to abandon a match in the pool stages, semi-final match or final match at half time or during the second half, the result at the time of the abandonment shall stand and in the event of a semi-final match, the team with the most points at the time of abandonment will proceed to the final. In the event of a final match, the team with the most points at the time will be declared the winner.
- 5.3 Should the scores be level at the time of abandonment of the match, paragraph 2 above shall apply.

6. MEMBERS OF THE PARTICIPATING TEAM OR A MEMBER(S) AFFILIATED TO A CLUB OR PROVINCE OF THE PARTICIPATING TEAM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DELAY OF THE START OF THE MATCH / MATCH UNABLE TO START OR ABANDONMENT OF THE MATCH

- 6.1 A member(s) of a team or member(s) affiliated to a club / province of such team shall not
- 6.1.2 delay the kick-off time of a scheduled match by more than 5 (five) minutes; or
 - 6.1.3 cause a scheduled match not to take place at all; or
 - 6.1.4 a team shall not abandon a scheduled match already in progress for whatever reason.
- 6.2 Any action referred to above shall be regarded as a breach of the Code of Conduct of SA RUGBY / SARU and dealt with in terms of the SARU Judicial Regulations, mutatis mutandis.
- 6.3 The sanctions to be imposed against a province of a team or a member(s) of a team affiliated to a club / province of such participating team delaying the kick-off time of a scheduled match by more than 5 (five) minutes shall be as follows:
- 6.3.1 Pool matches – a fine of R10 000 payable to SA RUGBY.
 - 6.3.2 Semi-final and final matches – a fine of R50 000 payable to SA RUGBY.
- 6.4 The sanctions to be imposed against a province of a team or a member(s) of a team affiliated to a club / province of such participating team causing a scheduled match not to take place or to abandon a scheduled match already in progress for whatever reason shall be as follows:
- 6.4.1 Pool matches – a fine of R50 000 payable to SA RUGBY. The non-transgressing team shall be awarded four (4) match points in respect of the match not having taken place. Bonus points shall not be awarded. The transgressing team will receive no points whatsoever.
 - 6.4.2 Semi-final matches – a fine of R75 000 payable to SA RUGBY. The non-transgressing team shall be declared the winner and will progress to the final.
 - 6.4.3 Finals match - fine of R100 000 payable to SA RUGBY. The non-transgressing team shall be declared the winner and awarded the trophy.
- 6.5 In all the above instances, transgressing provinces shall be suspended from participation in SA RUGBY competitions, domestic matches and/or international matches until the fines have been settled in full.

7. HOME GROUND ADVANTAGE

SEMI-FINAL MATCH

- 7.1 The teams with the highest number of log points immediately prior to the semi-final matches will have home ground advantage, and if equal, 1.1 to 1.5 shall apply.

FINAL_MATCH - ABSA Currie Cup and Vodacom Cup Competitions

7.2 The team with the highest number of log points immediately prior to the semi-final matches will have home ground advantage, and if equal, 1.1 to 1.5 shall apply.

8. LOG POINT FORMAT

The following log point format will apply in all SA RUGBY's competitions:

Win:	4 points
Draw:	2 points
Loss:	1 point for loss with seven (7) points or less
Loss:	No points for loss of more than 7 (seven) points
Try bonus:	1 point for a team that has scored 4 (four) or more tries in a match.

9. FIXTURES AND CHANGING FIXTURES

9.1 SA RUGBY, in consultation with the Broadcaster, shall determine:

- 9.1.1 which matches shall be broadcasted; and
- 9.1.2 the kick-off times of such matches, and
- 9.1.3 the venue of the matches

9.2 All matches not being broadcasted shall be scheduled for Saturdays.

9.3 Should a host province wish to change either the venue, date or kick-off time of a match scheduled to be televised and the opposing province and the broadcaster consent thereto, it shall apply in writing to the CEO, supported by the following documentation, at least 30 days prior to the scheduled date of the match:

- 9.3.1 written application by the province requesting the change; and
- 9.3.2 written consent of the opposing province; and
- 9.3.3 written consent of the broadcaster.

The CEO shall consider the approval of the application and inform the provinces accordingly in writing.

9.4 Should a province wish to change the venue, date or kick-off time of a match not scheduled to be televised and the opposing province consents thereto it shall apply in writing to the CEO of SA RUGBY, supported by the following documentation at least 14 days prior to the scheduled date of the match:

- 9.4.1 written application of the Province requesting the change; and
- 9.4.2 written consent of the opposing Province.

The CEO shall consider the approval of the application and inform the Provinces accordingly in writing.

- 9.5 Should a host province wish to change the venue, date and kick-off time of the match (scheduled to be televised or not) and the opposing province or the broadcaster objects thereto or withholds its consent thereto for a period of 5 days after having been requested thereto, the applicant Province may apply in writing to the CEO at least 14 (fourteen) days prior to the scheduled date of the match. The CEO shall consider the application after consultation with the stakeholders. After careful consideration, the CEO shall decide on the matter and his decision shall be final.

10. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 10.1 SA RUGBY determines a fixed financial allocation in respect of travel and accommodation for the away matches in respect of the following competitions:

ABSA Currie Cup (Premier and First Division)
Vodacom Cup
Amateur Provincial Competition
ABSA U/21 Competition
Women's Rugby Competitions
ABSA Under 19 Competition

- 10.2 The number of persons for which S A RUGBY will compensate Provinces are:

Super Rugby	27
ABSA Currie Cup (Premier & First Division)	27
Vodacom Cup & Vodacom Shield	27
Women's Rugby Competitions	26
ABSA Under 21 Competition	25
ABSA Under 19 Competition	25
Amateur Provincial Competition	25

11. CURTAIN RAISERS

SA RUGBY has the sole right to determine the curtain raisers to local international matches, semi – final matches and final matches of all SA RUGBY competitions.

12. CLASH IN THE COLOURS OF THE PLAYING STRIP

- 12.1 On or before 15 January provinces shall forward to the CEO a sample of their actual and alternative playing kit displaying all the marks on the jersey which will be used for the Vodacom Cup competition.
- 12.2 On or before 15 May provinces shall forward to the CEO a sample of their actual and alternative playing kit displaying all the marks on the jersey which will be used for the Absa Currie Cup competition.
- 12.3 SA RUGBY will:
- 12.3.1 do an audit to determine any possible clash of colors amongst the playing kit of participating teams and the jersey of the referee., and:

12.3.2 determine whether the Provinces have complied with the applicable provisions of the IRB Regulation 11: Advertising within the Playing Enclosure

12.4 In the event of a possible colour clash, the visiting team shall wear their alternative playing kit.

12.5 Any changes to the playing kit subsequent to the audit in 12.1 and 12.2 above shall only be made with the written approval of the CEO.

13. MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS ON LOAN BETWEEN PROVINCES

13.1 The Player Status, Player Contracts and Player Movement Regulations (www.sarugby.co.za) should be read in conjunction with clause 13.

13.2 A player registered with province A, and who was part of the team of 22 players of province A in a competition and thereafter loaned to province B to play in the same competition, may not be loaned further to another province(s) or return to play for province A during the same year to represent province A or another province in the same or different competitions.

13.3 A player who is registered with province A without having been part of the team of 22 players of province A and loaned to province B **may not be further loaned by province B to another province participating in the same or different competitions. The player** may not be further loaned by province B to another province participating in the same or different competitions. The player may return and play for province A but may not be loaned again to province B or to another province(s) participating in the same or different competitions.

13.4 There is no restriction on the movement of players on loan between province A and province B participating in two different competitions during the same period, subject thereto that such player may not be loaned further to another province participating in the same or different competitions.

13.5 A player may not represent more than one province during the same weekend (which includes the Friday, Saturday and Sunday), whether in the same competition of different competitions.

13.6 The Premier Division and the First Division of the Absa Currie Cup are regarded as two different competitions.

14. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS FROM ONE PROVINCES TO ANOTHER PROVINCE

14.1 The Player Status, Player Contracts and Player Movement Regulations (www.sarugby.co.za) should be read in conjunction with clause 14.

14.2 A player may not be transferred more than once during a specific competition.

15. QUALIFICATION FOR PROMOTION/RELEGATION, SEMI- AND FINAL MATCHES

- 15.1 The Player Status, Player Contracts and Player Movement Regulations (www.sarugby.co.za) should be read in conjunction with clause 15.
- 15.2 A player who is in the 22 man squad for a semi-final - or final match of a SA RUGBY Competition, shall be permitted to participate in the semi-final - or final match of a lower or higher graded SA RUGBY competition during that period within the same province, either as part of the starting line-up or as a substitute player.
- 15.3 A player transferred to a new province has to be available for selection for the new province for at least the last 5 (five) pool matches **of the competition** immediately prior to a semi-final -, final -or promotion / relegation match, as the case may be, in order to be eligible to participate in a semi-final-, final -or promotion/relegation match for the new province.
- 15.4 A player loaned to a new province has to be loaned and be available for selection for the new province at least the **last 5 (five)** pool matches **of the competition** immediately prior to a semi-final -, final -or promotion/relegation match, as the case may be, in order to be eligible to participate in a semi-final -, final - or promotion / relegation match for the new province.
- 15.5 **An overseas registered player transferred or loaned to a new Province has to be available for selection for the new Province at least the last 5 (five) pool matches immediately prior to a semi-final -, final -or promotion/relegation match, as the case may be, in order to be eligible to participate in a semi-final -, final - or promotion / relegation match for the new Province.**
- 15.6 A player may not participate in the semi-final -, final -, or promotion / relegation match of more than 1 (one) province during the same period, whether in the same competition of different competitions.
- In the absence of an agreement between the province where the player is registered and the new province, the province where the player is registered has preference to a player to play in a semi-final -, final -, or promotion / relegation match.
- 15.7 A player registered with a province prior to the start of a competition, and who remained registered with the province is available for selection for the semi-final -, final -or promotion/relegation match.
- 15.8 A player who was part of a **22 man** Super Rugby Franchise team on 3 (three) or less occasions shall be eligible to play in a semi-final and / or final match of a Vodacom Cup team of the Province who is part of that Franchise.

16. QUALIFICATION FOR PROMOTION/RELEGATION, SEMI- AND FINAL MATCHES

- 16.1 The Player Status, Player Contracts and Player Movement Regulations (www.sarugby.co.za) should be read in conjunction with clause 15.

- 16.2 A player who is in the 22 man squad for a semi-final - or final match of a SA RUGBY Competition, shall be permitted to participate in the semi-final - or final match of a lower or higher graded SA RUGBY competition during that period within the same province, either as part of the starting line-up or as a substitute player.
- 16.3 A player transferred to a new province has to be available for selection for the new province for at least the last 5 (five) pool matches immediately prior to a semi-final -, final - or promotion / relegation match, as the case may be, in order to be eligible to participate in a semi-final -, final -or promotion/relegation match for the new province.
- 16.4 A player loaned to a new province has to be loaned and be available for selection for the new province at least 5 (five) pool matches immediately prior to a semi-final -, final -or promotion/relegation match, as the case may be, in order to be eligible to participate in a semi-final -, final - or promotion / relegation match for the new province.
- 16.5 A player may not participate in the semi-final -, final -, or promotion / relegation match of more than 1 (one) province during the same period, whether in the same competition of different competitions.

In the absence of an agreement between the province where the player is registered and the new province, the province where the player is registered has preference to a player to play in a semi-final -, final -, or promotion / relegation match.

- 16.6 A player registered with a province prior to the start of a competition, and who remained registered with the province is available for selection for the semi-final -, final -or promotion/relegation match.
- 16.7 A player who was part of the Super rugby franchise team on 3 (three) or less occasions shall be eligible to play in a semi-final and / or final match of a Vodacom Cup team of the Province who is part of that Franchise. .

17. UNDER 19 AND UNDER 21 PLAYERS

Provinces are requested to submit a list of their Under 19 and Under 21 squads and players profile forms to SA Rugby's Offices at least 21 days prior to the first provincial Under 19 and Provincial 21 teams' match and that certified copies of each players' birth certificate or Identity Document (ID Book) must accompany the squad list. SA Rugby must be advised in writing, at least 72 hours prior to kick-off of their team's provincial match of any new player/s joining the squad, with a certified copy of each new player/s' birth certificate or Identity Document (ID Book).

17. SAFETY AT SPORT AND RECREATIONAL EVENTS ACT

Each Province, Rugby Body or Club is under the obligation to ensure that all Stadiums and Venues hosting matches which fall under their jurisdiction do comply with the SAFETY AT SPORT AND RECREATIONAL EVENTS ACT as published on 2 August 2010.

18. WARM-UP AREAS AND TIMES – DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS

Where teams require warm-up sessions immediately prior to their match and no field other than the playing field is available for this purpose, a maximum period of 30 minutes will be allowed for warm-up sessions on the main field immediately after the curtain raiser and prior to the start of the next match.

19. BREACH OF COMPETITION RULES

An alleged breach of the Competitions Rules shall be dealt with in accordance with the Judicial and Disciplinary Regulations of SARU.

20. LOGO'S ON JERSEYS

In accordance with Regulation 11.5.5 no restriction is placed on the number and size of logos/marks on the playing kit of teams participating in SARU Competitions subject to the following:

The province's logo shall appear on the left chest of the jersey, and

- a. The manufacture's mark shall appear on the right chest of the jersey, and
- b. The competition mark shall conform with the size and placement as per the agreement between SARU and the sponsor, and
- c. The design shall not detract from the essential character and integrity of the provincial playing kit, and
- d. The design and actual marks shall not be offensive or defamatory, and
- e. The Playing Kit shall conform with statutory regulations of South Africa; and
- f. SARU has to approve the final design of the provinces playing kit and alternative kit (where applicable) in writing prior to manufacturing thereof to ensure that the Playing Kit complies with 4, 5 and 6 above and SARU's decision in this regard shall be final and binding."

21. MATCH MANAGER

21.1 The Host Province will appoint a Match Manager at each venue where Provincial Competition matches, referred to in SARU's Competition Format and General Rules.

21.1.1 Duties and Responsibilities of a Match Manager: *(Some of these tasks can be delegated to the match day officials, however the Match Manager is ultimately responsible for ensuring all tasks are completed)*

- a) Must have a copy of SARU's Competition Format and General Rules at hand.
- b) Check with the Match Official that the playing area safe to play a match on
- c) Check all dressing rooms and facilities before the teams arrive at the venue, as per SARU's minimum requirements.
- d) Check the medical facilities and that all the medical staff is presents before kick-off.

- e) check with the match official to ensure that the field markings are correct, according to the IRB Laws of the Game.
- f) Check drug testing room and be present at draw.
- g) Monitor the 30 minutes warm-up prior to kick-off and ensure that the playing field is clear at the appropriated times for the team warm-up sessions.
- h) Attend the coin tossing.
- i) Control the movement at sideline (teams, match officials, broadcasters, media and photographers)
- j) Check for bibs distinguished bibs for water carriers and medical staff.
- k) Manage the operational issues as they arise on the day
- l) Get a final copy of the signed team lists from the Officiating Referee at least one (1) Hour) before kick-off.

22. MINIMUM MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

22.1 Minimum Medical requirements at Match Venues.

For guidelines regarding the minimum medical requirements at a match venue; refer to the “Safety in the Playing Environment” document with can be found on the BokSmart website: www.boksmart.com

Please note the requirements indicated in the document are the very MINIMUM requirements for each level of play that should be in place for a rugby match to take place. One should however, where possible continuously strive to improve on the medical support available at THESE matches to ensure player safety at all times.

22.2 The Duties of the Match doctor

(This is applicable to those levels of play referred to in the “Safety in the Playing Environment “document that require a match doctor. At venues where a match doctor is not indicated the host venue doctor will assume these responsibilities).

The duties of the Match doctor are:

- (a) to ensure that the prescribed medical requirements at the Match venue are met;
- (b) to facilitate, with the official team doctors, prompt field-side management, referral to hospital (if necessary) and the replacement of injured Players during the Match;
- (c) to enforce the guidelines pertaining to bleeding control, ensuring that:
 - (i) any suturing is carried out in the designated medical room; and
 - (ii) all blood-stained apparel and dressings are removed and replaced before the Player returns to the field.
- (d) to support the team doctor in ensuring the removal from the field of players suffering concussion or other injury; and

For any queries regarding the minimum medical requirements or the duties of a match doctor please contact SARU’s medical manager, Clint Readhead: clintr@sarugby.co.za or (Cell) 071 6044 641or (Office) 021 659 6700.

23 MATCH REPORT AND STATISTICS

- 23.1 The Team Managers shall forward their team list (SAR44.2009) at least **48 hours** before kick-off time of their team’s match to SA RUGBY’s Offices by fax at 021 685 3055 or 021-413 0757 or by e-mail to **Karen Nell** at karenN@sarugby.co.za

- 23..2 Team Managers shall also hand their certified team list (SAR44.2009) at least **one hour** prior to the start of the match to the officiating referee, who will hand it to the appointed referee official entrusted with the capturing of the match statistics.
- 23.3 The referee official entrusted with the match statistics shall fax the team list (SAR44.2009) and the completed Match Statistic form (SAR05.2009) to SA RUGBY's Offices **immediately** after completion of the match (Fax 021-683 2068 or 021 413 0757)
- 23.4 SA RUGBY's Referees Department appoints the Referee officials for a match. Venue Provinces are therefore requested to appoint one of the referee officials to capture the match statistics.
- 23 .5 Team Managers are requested to check their team's match statistics for correctness on SA RUGBY's website: www.sarugby.co.za on the Monday following their match and e-mail the attached form (SAR03.2009) it to Eddie Grieb, Statistician SA Rugby Annual at griebstats@absamail.co.za

Fines of up to R500 will be imposed on those Provinces not complying to these deadlines, as stipulated in Para. 2.19.1 to 2.19.5, of the Rules of the Competition

Copies of these forms i.e. Team Lists and Referees Match Stats Forms are available for download on SA RUGBY's website, under the Heading, 'The Game'.

24. FIRST CLASS FIXTURES AND APPEARANCES

To assist the Statisticians when awarding the number of official match "Caps" played by a player for a Province, it was decided that the following criteria would be used to determine a First Class match:

- 24.1 To qualify as a first class fixture, a match must firstly be played strictly according to the Laws of the Game, as stipulated by the IRB (i.e. only 7 substitutes are allowed). Matches where more than seven (7) players are used as substitutes, it will be regarded as trial matches and NOT First Class Matches.
- 24.2 The following categories of matches qualify for first class status if the above is fulfilled:
- 24.2.1 All matches featuring the Senior or Next Senior National representative team of South Africa.
 - 24.2.2 All matches involving senior teams as part of the official SA RUGBY competitions fixture as sanctioned by SA RUGBY (i.e. Super 14, Currie Cup, Vodacom Cup)
 - 24.2.3 All matches against touring international teams
 - 24.2.4 All matches between senior provincial teams and touring teams of the same or higher status
 - 24.2.5 All matches involving senior provincial teams / S14 franchise teams outside of official SA RUGBY competitions fixture where the strongest possible teams are fielded (i.e pre-season or friendly matches) *
 - 24.2.6 All matches played by teams carrying the name of a South African National team (namely South Africa A, Emerging Springboks, SA Under-23's, SA Universities, SA

Students, SA Defence Force, SA Agricultural Colleges, SA Police Services, Junior Springboks and SA Under-21's) All matches played by composite teams in IRB approved competitions.

- 24.4.7 Any player taking part in one of the above matches will be deemed to have made a first class appearance if he either
- (a) starts in the original XV or
 - (b) appears as a permanent replacement at any time in the match or
 - (c) as a temporary replacement (Blood Bin) at any time in the match.

(* Notes: First class status will only be granted to matches outside of the official SA RUGBY fixtures if:

- SA RUGBY grants the match first class status on written application by the CEO of any of the provinces involved.
- The province making the application must notify the province of the opposing team in writing of their intentions.
- The match is played in accordance with the Laws of the Game, as stipulated by the IRB.
- Correctly completed team sheets of both teams with replacements and scorers are received by SA RUGBY within three days after the match.)

25. TECHNICAL AREA

25.1 DIMENSIONS OF THE TECHNICAL ZONE

- 25.1.1 Two Technical zones shall be provided within the playing enclosure on the same side of the pitch, each on either side of the half-way line and outside the field of play
- 25.1.2 These technical zones must be marked on the ground
- 25.1.3 The line nearest to the touch line must be parallel to the touch line.
- 25.1.4 The technical zone commences a minimum of five metres from the half-way line. The technical zone must not exceed 10 (ten) metres in length and 3 (three) metres in width. **SA Rugby propose the size to be 3 (three) metres in length and 2 (two) metres in width.**
- 25.1.5 Wherever practically possible the zones should be behind advertising hoardings with easy access to the field of play
- 25.1.6 No advertising within the technical zone. No grass signage permitted

25.2 PERSONNEL PERMITTED IN THE TAECHNICAL ZONE

- 25.2.1 No more than **2 (two) medically trained persons (certified doctors or physiotherapists only) and 2 (two) water carriers (who may not be the Head Coach)** per team are permitted to operate from the technical zones.
- 25.2.2 No replacements of these four persons are allowed during the match unless it is signed off by the Match Manager
- 25.2.3 No other person (**including players**) is permitted in the technical zones
- 25.2.4 The two medically trained personnel permitted to operate from the technical zone, as listed in 2.1. above, may be positioned alongside the playing area – **one on the far side and one of the near side** on the touch line. The two medically trained personnel may not be together on one touch line (i.e. one on either side of the field)
- Where practically possible the medical personnel must stay outside the advertising hoardings. They may keep up with play, but must pay due regard to the needs and rights of players, match officials, spectators, broadcasters and commercial partners.
- 25.2.5. The medical personnel may enter the field of play in accordance with the Laws at any time a player is injured. They must not obstruct, interfere or aim comments at match officials.

25.3 ROLES OF PERSONNEL IN THE TECHNICAL ZONE

- 25.3.1 Water may only be taken on the field during stoppages in play for injuries in the playing area and when a try has been scored
- 25.3.2 The two Water Carriers are not permitted in the playing area during penalty kicks at goal
- 25.3.3 The two Water Carriers must remain in the technical zone at all times unless they enter the playing area to provide water or when ONE enters to provide a kicking tee to the kicker at a penalty kick
- 25.3.4 Players may come to the touch line adjacent to the technical zone to receive water
- 25.3.5 Water bottles must not be thrown on the field of play

25.4 MANAGEMENT OF THE TECHNICAL ZONE

- 25.4.1 ALL PERSONNEL PERMITTED IN THE TECHNICAL ZONE WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR BIBS TO CLEARLY IDENTIFY THEM and their role when in and around the field of play.

These bibs must be clearly marked, i.e. WATER on the front and back of the bibs of the water carriers and MEDIC on the front and back of the bibs of the medically trained personnel

To be clear, non-medical personnel must not wear a Medic bib

Players on the bench are not allowed to wear Medic bibs or Water Carrier bibs

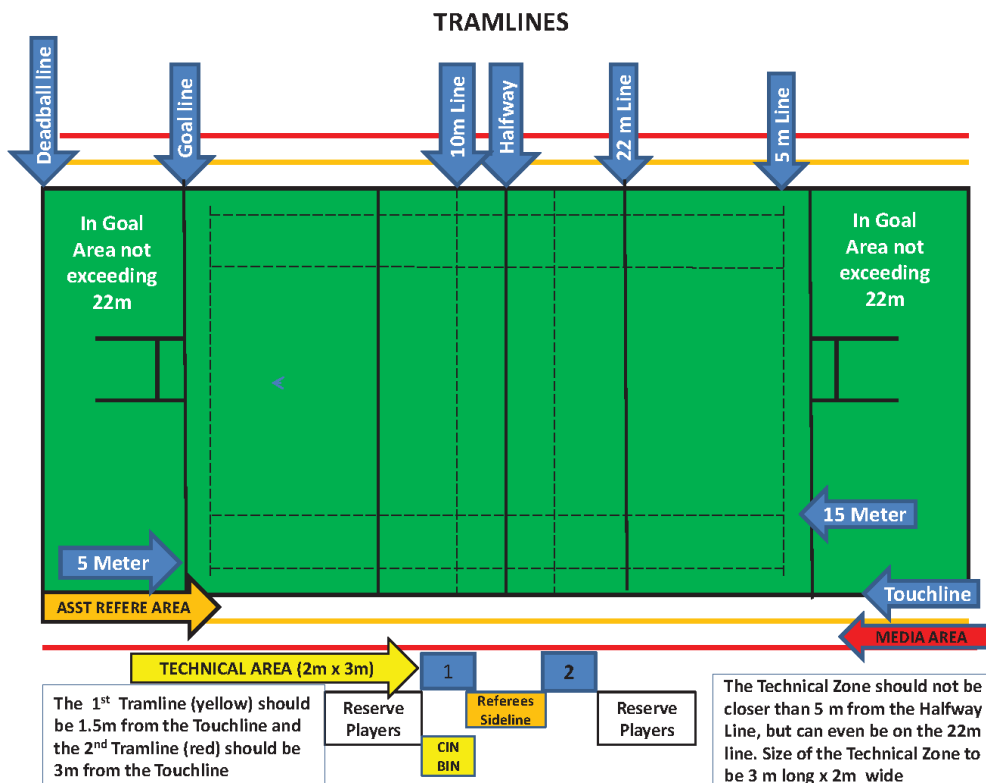
25.4.2 The Match Manager or in his absence the fourth and fifth officials, or designee, will manage the Technical Zones. If there is a transgression of the protocol, the matter will be reported to the fourth and/or the fifth match official who will report the transgression (if the transgressor/s does not respond) to the Match Referee.

25.4.3 The match referee may caution any offender or at his discretion expel the person(s) from the playing enclosure for any breach of the protocol

25.5 PERSONNEL OUTSIDE THE TECHNICAL ZONE

25.5.1 The replacement bench and the location of the coaches should, wherever possible, be outside the playing enclosure

25.6 TECHNICAL ZONE



REQUIRE ARE AVAILABLE ON SA RUGBY'S WEBSITE: www.sarugby.co.za

SAR03.2009

Match Report

SAR05.2009

Referee's Match Score Sheet

SAR44.2009

Team Sheets