

**Australian
Rugby League
Commission**



NRL Rules

Guideline No 1 of 2012

TAKE NOTICE that I have today - Friday, 27 April 2012 - decided to publish this Guideline pursuant to Rule 31 of the NRL Rules.

Minimum Contractual Age

As part of a game wide initiative agreed to by its stakeholders including the NRL Accredited Agents Committee, **no agent, Club or other entity or person bound by the NRL Rules shall enter into, or directly or indirectly facilitate the entry into of, a contractual arrangement with a player (or any person or entity on behalf of the player) before 1 January of the year in which that player turns 15 years of age.**

For the purposes of this Guideline, a “contractual arrangement” includes an NRL Playing Contract, Playing Agreement or Third Party Agreement (each of which is defined in the NRL Rules) as well as any other form of agreement, whether oral or in writing, and howsoever recorded.

Despite this Guideline, with the prior written approval of the Salary Cap Auditor Clubs may provide assistance to any player with respect to representative levies, PROVIDED that such assistance does not give rise to any obligation on the part of the player or any other person or entity on behalf of the player (such as a member of his family). No other financial or other benefits may be provided to the player or to any other person or entity on behalf of the player before 1 January of the year in which the player turns 15 years of age.

All Clubs, entities and persons bound by the NRL Rules must comply at all times with the provisions of this Guideline: Rule 31(3) of the NRL Rules.

Any failure to do so may be enforced by the imposition of a penalty or penalties pursuant to Part 2 of the NRL Rules.

In due course, this Guideline will be incorporated in the NRL Playing Contract and Remuneration Rules but, until then, the Guideline has the force of the Rules.

Similar changes will be made to the rules governing all other stakeholders.

Dated at Sydney this 27th day of April 2012.

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'David Gallop', is positioned above the printed name and title.

DAVID GALLOP
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AUSTRALIAN RUGBY LEAGUE COMMISSION LIMITED