



IDRU 2017 Junior Rugby Plan

DRAFT

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Target Statement

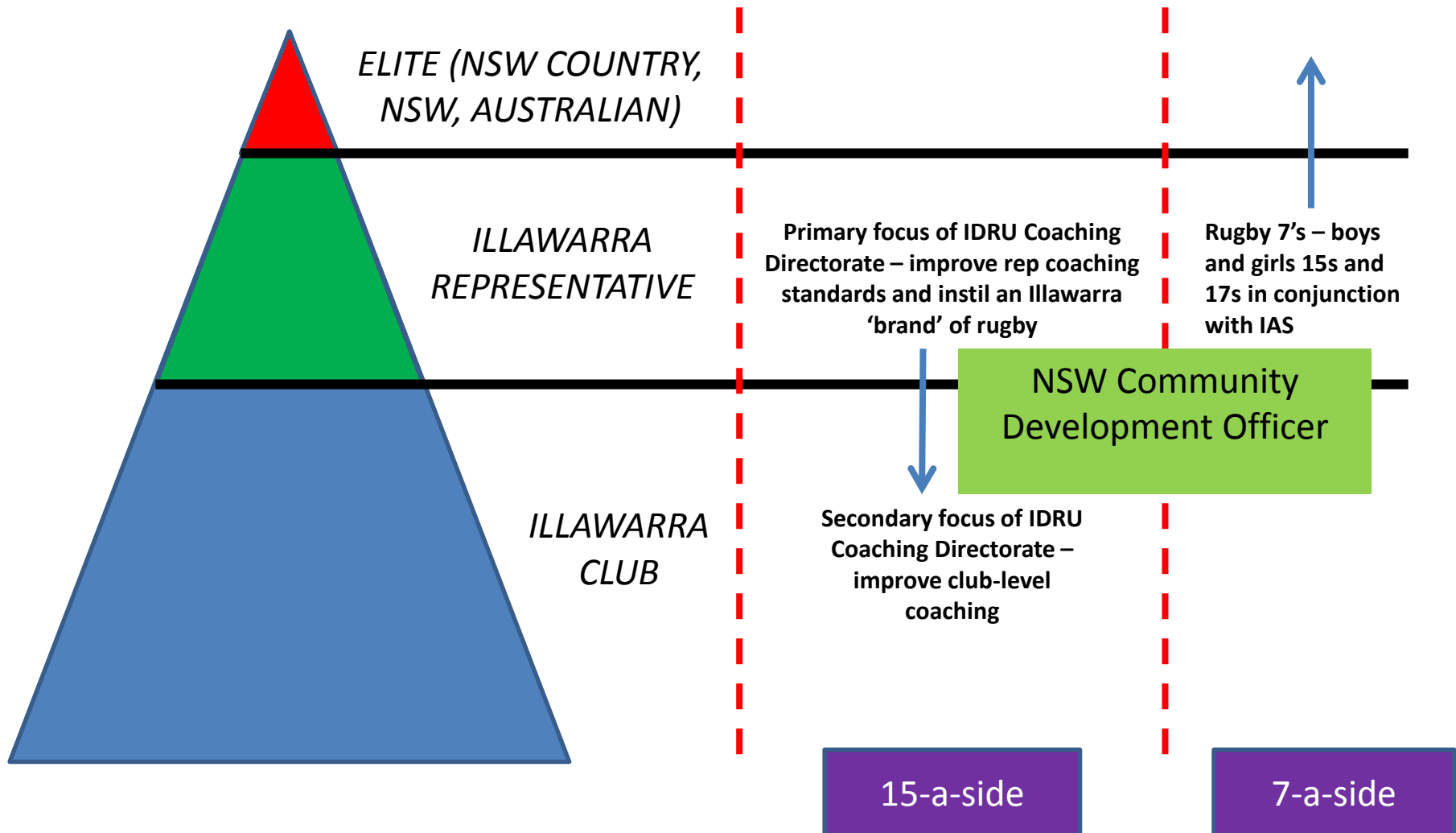
Three Pillars

1. User Experience - RESPECT RUGBY
2. Attract - strong, professionally-run competition
3. Retain – Coaching Directorate, provision of suitable pathways for players

What this means

- A strong and challenging club competition with age groups U7 to 1st XV
- 10 strong clubs participating in the competition
- Zone-based teams where clubs cannot field individual age group teams
- Growth in participation numbers, particularly in the older age groups 2nd XV and 1st XV
- An enjoyable experience for all involved on and off the field
- Provision of appropriate pathways to meet a range of player skills and ambitions
- Skilled coaches and referees that develop players and make the game a professional experience
- **Target:** Illawarra players to have 5 players in each NSWCJRU age group team

Pathways Pyramid



Communication

- **2 levels**
 - District (IDRU) – for competition-wide communications, representative program communications and information from the ARU, NSWRU and NSWCRU
 - Club – for club-specific information
- **4 channels**
 1. IDRU Facebook ([illawarrajuniorryby](http://www.idru.com.au/en/))
 2. IDRU RugbyLink-generated emails to all registered rugby participants
 3. IDRU Website (<http://www.idru.com.au/en/>)
 4. Club communications direct from Junior Presidents/RugbyLink/Facebook etc.

Age Groups

There will be three levels of rugby

1. **Junior Rugby** (Under 7, Under 8, Under 9) – competitions in every age group
2. **Development Rugby** (Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 13) – competitions in every age group
3. **Competition Rugby** (Second XV (Under 14 and Under 15) and First XV (Under 16 and Under 17))

Draw

The 2017 Draw is being finalised but will in concept be:

- 14 Competition Rounds
- Allowing for April and July School holidays
- Two Gala Days for Under7s to Under 9s
- Designated spare weekend
- Finishing on the same weekend as IDRU Seniors
- Played on Sundays as per the following schedule

2017 Draw

Date	Event
Sunday, 26 March	Gala Day style trials for all age groups
Sunday, 2 April	Round 1
Sunday, 9 April	Round 2/School Holidays/ Rep trial game weekend
Sunday, 16 April	School Holidays
Sunday, 23 April	School Holidays
Sunday, 30 April	Round 3/ Rep trial game weekend
Sunday, 7 May	Round 4/ NSW Country Champs U15 and U16
Sunday, 14 May	Round 5/ NSW Country Championships U17 and U18
Sunday, 21 May	Round 6/ NSW Country Championships U12, U13 and U14
Sunday, 28 May	Round 7
Sunday, 4 June	Round 8 and Gala Day for Under 7 to Under 9s inclusive
Sunday, 11 June	Queens Birthday Long Weekend/ State Rugby Championships
Sunday, 18 June	Round 9
Sunday, 25 June	Round 10
Sunday, 2 July	Round 11/School Holidays
Sunday, 9 July	School Holidays
Sunday, 16 July	School Holidays
Sunday, 23 July	Round 12
Sunday, 30 July	Round 13
Sunday, 6 August	Round 14
Sunday, 13 August	Spare weekend for washout games; Deferred games for Country Champs, Gala Day for Under 7s to Under 9s inclusive
Sunday, 20 August	Major and Minor Semi finals
Sunday, 27 August	Finals
Sunday, 3 September	Grand Finals

Representative Program

- Eligibility is to play in Illawarra Competition
- Pathway is Illawarra > NSW Country > NSW State
- a structured rep program that has the first four musters at a common location with all teams participating
- at the selection musters, teams of independent selectors will be available to assist, and specialist coaching staff will be available for skills development stations
- at the musters, clothing sizings will be available
- a district coaching directorate will help with coach support and development - initially for rep coaches and then for coaches at club level to raise the standard across the district as a whole
- more funding and a structured fundraising program
- an U13 (NZ) and an U16 (Japan) tour
- appointment of an 'advisory roundtable' consisting of older players, parents, staff and administrators to act as a think tank and help us steer and improve rugby in the Illawarra
- Work with the UOW around securing preferential ATAR treatment for Illawarra rugby players
- Assistance with pathways into Shute Shield
- Develop and grow girls sevens rugby particularly in the U14 and U16 age groups
- Develop Sevens via tournaments and Illawarra age group Sevens teams

Respect Rugby – Behavioural Standards

- Respect Rugby principles will be fully applied in 2017. This includes not just on-field behavior, but covers team staff and spectators as well
- The competition will promote and reinforce the rugby tradition of camaraderie with team mates and opponents. The aim of the program is not only to produce good rugby players, but players who are generous in victory and dignified in defeat.
- **As such, the overarching principle underpinning the competition is fair play and respect for others both on and off the field**
- It is also our intent to run competition games under the same match day management procedures as the finals series are played under

Referees

- Referee qualifications, clothing and equipment, and administration to be more centralised and standardised
- Training to include Judiciary procedures and Report writing for Red Cards
- Judiciary to apply minimum standards across all age groups
- Recommend having specific junior input to Judiciary