



APPLICATION FOR A PLAYER TO PARTICIPATE IN A DIFFERENT AGE CATEGORY 2022: LEAGUE/REGULAR SEASON

Application to Participate in:

- Senior Rugby, Higher Age Grade Rugby, Lower Age Grade Rugby*

*Please refer to Appendix B for Lower Age Grade participation eligibility

Section 1 - Player Information (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Full Name: Date of Birth: (dd/mm/yyyy)

Height (cm): Weight (kg): Gender:

Club or Representative Team:

Playing Front Row: Yes No Playing Position:

Current Age Category: Requested Age Category:

Number of Years Playing Rugby: <1 1-3 4-6 6+

Reason for Request:

- Looking for Competition Matched to Skill Set
Looking for Opportunity to Increase Skill Set
Looking for Competition/Games Better Suited to Size

Other:

Rugby Ontario Use Only:

- Approved Not Approved

Date: Signature

Rugby Ontario Abilities Centre 55 Gordon Street, Whitby ON L1N 0J2 Tel: 647 560 4790



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Section 2 – Assessing Coach Information and Assessment (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Full Name: _____

NCCP Comp Intro/WR Lv 2 or Higher: Yes Higher

NCCP #: _____

World Rugby Modules:

Rugby Ready Certified: Yes No

Concussion Management: Yes No

The above coaching qualifications **MUST ALL** be fully met for this application to be valid for the purpose of assessing an exemption for the player to participate in competitions in a different age category. The coach is to assess the player against the following four criteria using the factors for consideration listed in **Appendix A** of this form for guidance.

If the player is a no to any of the criteria, then the player shall not be considered capable of competing safely with players in the proposed age category.

| Criteria | Explanation | Assessment |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Physical Development | Does the player’s level of physical development allow both the applicant and all other players to compete safely in the requested age category? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Skill Level | Is the player’s skill level comparable with other players in the requested age category? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Experience Level | Does the player have similar experience levels to compete with other players at a comparable standard of competition in the requested age category? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Competition Standard | Is the standard of competition in the requested age category suitable to allow both the applicant and all other players to compete safely? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

This is to attest that the player’s physical development, skill level and experience are such that the player is capable of competing safely with players in the requested age group. I have explained to the player and their parent/legal guardian that the player will be competing with and against players in a different age category and this may involve increased risk.

Assessing Coach’s Name

Assessing Coach’s Signature

Date of Assessment

APPENDIX A

The minimum qualification required by a coach to provide a risk assessment of the applicant is a current:

- NCCP Competition Introduction/World Rugby Level 2 certificate; and
- Make Ethical Decisions (MED) Evaluation; and
- World Rugby - Rugby Ready certificate; and
- World Rugby - Concussion Management for the General Public Certificate; and
- Coach registration with Rugby Canada.

In conducting any assessment, the coach should take the following common factors into consideration:

- What is the player's level of physical development (e.g. height, weight, build) when measured against potential playing colleagues?
- Is the player physically equipped to compete on an equal basis with players in the requested age category?
- Will the player's skill level place them on an equal basis with eligible players in the requested age category?
- Is the competition at a level in which the player can compete safely?

In conducting an assessment for a player to participate in a higher age category, the coach should take the following additional factors into consideration:

- Does the player have a sufficiently high skill level specific in relation to both his/her playing position and to the game's fundamentals (e.g. tackle, pass, ruck, maul, scrum)?
- What is the player's level of experience?
- Is the player reasonably experienced and has he/she gained that experience in a comparable standard of competition?
- What is the standard of competition in the requested age group?
- Does the player undertake a regular strength training program? If so, how many times a week does he/she complete strength training and who provided the program?
- What was the nature of the strength program that was completed over the last month?
- For how months/years has the player been doing regular strength training?

In addition to the above considerations, if the player's position is in the front row of the scrum (prop or hooker), then the coach must also consider:

- How many years of front row experience does the player have?
- Was he/she a front row player during the previous season?
- If the player missed a game through injury in the previous season, what was the nature of the injury?
- What coaching qualifications does the player's current coach have?
- Has the player received any specialist front row coaching in the last 2 years?
- If so, what type of coaching was received and who provided it?
- What are the coaching qualifications and experience of the specialist coach?

In conducting an assessment for a player to participate in a lower age category, the coach should take the following additional factor into consideration:

- Does it provide for a possible increased risk of injury to other players?

Once the coach has completed and signed the assessment, it should be explained to the player's parent or legal guardian.



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APPENDIX B

Application to Participate in Lower Age Grade Rugby

In accordance with Policy 3.10.3 in the Rugby Ontario Operations Manual, players who currently play or have previously played rugby at University level or participated in National or Rugby Ontario High Performance age grade programs are not eligible to play lower age-grade contact club rugby.

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