

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What happens if there is a parent/supporter on the sideline that is making others uncomfortable by what they are saying about players or the ref?

The best approach is for the Manager or Coach of the team that person is "supporting" to approach that person and ask them to please ensure they are encouraging the children or ref by applauding.

It is important that you deal with the coach or manager of the team that person is supporting. The message will have more impact if it comes from one of their peers rather than an opposition coach or supporter.

What if they don't listen?

Take out your Smartphone and take a video of the person and their behaviour, send it to your JRC delegate on Monday following the game. They will forward this onto the WRFU.

Are we playing quarters or halves?

All Small Blacks games should be played in quarters. At quarter time the ref should stop the game for a brief substitution break, this is where changes can be made; this isn't an opportunity for teams to have a huddle and a team talk. The same will happen at three-quarter time. These stoppages are only to put reserves on to ensure everyone plays two quarters of a game.

Who should ref the game?

A coach or manager from each team should ref one half of the game; all coaches and managers should have completed a Small Blacks Course or Associate Referee Course.

What grades should have Referee Bibs?

All matches in all grades should have the Green Referee Bibs.

If we don't have a scorecard in our grade, what should I do with the score?

The WRFU and JRC don't keep a record of scores on their database for teams in non-competition grades (all grades below U13), however it is useful for all teams to submit their true scores to the convenor of their club so that the WRFU are aware of any teams who may be winning by significant amounts or losing by significant amounts.

What should I do if my team is losing by a lot?

Once the points difference gets to 30 or more in favour of one side, the game should stop. Players should be mixed up between the teams, **regardless of whether coaches want to or not**. Then the game can continue and no score is kept. We need to keep in mind it is about the kids and ensuring they have a quality experience, **which means a close game**.

FAQ's tab

The following questions can be answered by referring to the Small Blacks Development Model in your Small Blacks age grade manual or by going to www.smallblacks.co.nz

What ball size does my grade use?

What size field do we use?

Who kicks off if we score?

Where do we take conversions from?

Number of players per team?

How many Rips do we have?

How many players should be in a lineout?

How many players should be in a scrum?