

Rugby League Ireland New Club Requirements

New club requirement

The following are the list of requirements that a new club needs to meet to be considered for entry to any of the Rugby League Ireland provincial leagues.

1. The club must fully complete and submit an RLI club audit form before the 28th February. Any club that gets in contact with RLI prior to February 28th and requests more time may be granted one month extension to complete the form in full.
2. The audit form must have a full committee named including Club Contact, Club Treasurer, Club Secretary, Club MM and PR and Club Coach.
3. The club must show some form of financial aid that will ensure they can meet the fees charged by RLI to cover referees, insurance and admin.
4. The club must meet a minimum standards for training facilities, match day venue and appropriate changing and showering facilities for travelling teams
5. The club must submit a minimum player list of 25 players.

Clubs can contact RLI for assistance via info@rli.ie

Existing Domestic club requirements

Each clubs must be reviewed against the below criteria and must sign up to these items as an attempt to implement minimum standards.

In lieu of this, RLI will cover costs towards referee payments and insurance to the value of €13,000. This should reduce the club financial obligations to a more manageable sum.

A central funding model is proposed in order to retain focus on the overall competition. Each club is to advise what from the below is currently not available and a cost for each. RLI can then look at funding the areas based on priority and can target these areas from sponsorship of the overall league. The approach is to look at the clubs and the organisation holistically and improve all levels, rather than teams having to look after all aspects from their own sponsors.

- Match Day minimum standards
 - A documented hosting agreement including the term and cost per game
 - Changing facilities including hot showers at the pitch
 - Pitch markings to rugby league standard, flags, post pads
 - After match food provision if both teams request this
 - Bar facilities including ice to treat injuries
 - Match balls x 4 and linesmen's flags where appropriate



- Match kit with 20 numbered jerseys, same shorts and socks
- Substitute bibs
- Correctly qualified medical personnel if appropriate as well as directions to nearest hospital with A&E facilities
- Directions for travelling team available online
- Referee kit to include issued jersey, shorts and socks. All referees to have a whistle, red card, yellow card and scorecard. Ideally referees to have polo shirt and wet weather jacket also.
- Water bottles and carrier and access to drinking water
- Result to be sent by the referee to the media contact within 60 minutes of the final whistle
- Training facilities
 - A documented hosting agreement including the term and cost per week or session
 - Access to a full size pitch including posts and post pads
 - Changing facilities including hot showers
 - Training balls x 10, cones z 20 and bibs x 30 (2 sets of 15)
 - Training kit – suggestion for costing purposes of tracksuit, jersey, t-shirt, polo shirt, shorts, socks, wet weather jacket, hoodie and beanie
- Administration requirements for the domestic league
 - Referee allocation needed prior to the season and then changes managed within the week as opposed to allocation within the week
 - All results to be posted on the website same day
 - Facebook and twitter update on results same day
 - Results to all local radio stations same day.
 - Press release of results on Sunday of each round. Full list of media contacts to be centrally maintained and backed up
 - News story and results for each club to all local newspapers and free papers each week and is the responsibility of the club contact
 - Weekly update to all members, which includes each domestic club, match officials, board, representative team managers and coaches
 - Monthly update to ISC, SportNI, RLIF, RLEF, RFL NRL and Super League
 - Player details grid for all clubs to include the name, phone number, email address and Facebook details. Example to be shared to track games played and players involved
 - Match officials database (excel) to include name. phone number, email address, Facebook details, games officiated (referee/TJ, 4th official) and qualification level
 - Coaches database to include name, phone number, email address, Facebook details and involvement in any representative teams





- Operational procedures to be updated and based on the RFL documents that covers
 - Match rules
 - Disciplinary process (on and off field) and appeals process
 - Club protocol for club formation, minimum standards and resolution
 - Financial procedures to cover spending commitments for RLI and Sponsorship process
 - All above to be posted on the RLI website and to also include the constitution and the AGM minutes.
 - Audited accounts are available on request but not posted online

RLI will also draft the communication approach with rugby union clubs to drive participation from clubs in the immediate area of a rugby league club. This will state that we as an organisation are not targeting first team players but are aiming to expose rugby league to players who may have had limited opportunity at senior level or that are returning from injury. We also recommend rugby league for players that are high potential but require additional focus on the core skills or tackling and ball carrying.

