



Registered Participant Policy

Rugby Nova Scotia

Date: March 2025

Registered Participant Policy

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - a. *“Members”* – As defined in Rugby Nova Scotia’s Bylaws.
 - b. *“Registered Participant”* – All refers to all categories of individual members and/or Registered Participants, as defined in the Bylaws of Rugby Nova Scotia, including but not limited to athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, committee members, and directors and officers belonging to Rugby Nova Scotia or a Members who is eligible to be Registered Participant of Rugby Nova Scotia.
 - Athletes – any individual who is a player/member of any Member club, associations, teams, or league team.
 - Coaches – any individual who is a head coach or assistant coach to any such teams above.
 - Administrators – any individual who is a manager, director, board member, administrative staff or any other staff that supports services to any such team and its athletes and coaches.
 - Officials – any individual who is a referee/referee coach of any Member rugby competitions.

Policy Statement

2. Rugby Nova Scotia is committed to creating a unified rugby landscape where every person involved with rugby in Nova Scotia is connected to the sport’s provincial and national governing bodies.
3. Rugby Nova Scotia and its Members acknowledge and agree that all Registered Participants have a right to participate in a safe and welcoming sport environment free from all forms of maltreatment and misconduct.

Purpose

4. The purpose of this policy is to describe the parameters for Rugby Nova Scotia’s Registered Participants.



Scope and Application

5. This Policy applies to all individuals engaged in activities sanctioned by or otherwise associated with a Member or Rugby Nova Scotia.
6. The President and CEO is responsible for the implementation of this Policy.
7. The President and CEO will recommend a membership fee for Registered Participants to the Board of Directors.
8. The approval of the Board is required before revising the policy terms.
9. The President and CEO shall work with the Members to ensure this Policy, and related documentation are understood and communicated.

Provisions

10. Rugby Nova Scotia believes that the organization of competitions, the regulation and officiating of the sport of rugby, the development and accreditations of coaches, and the support and development of individual athletes and teams constitutes the core business of Rugby Nova Scotia.
11. Rugby Nova Scotia believes that the growth of organized rugby is a shared responsibility with its Members, and that Registered Participant growth requires investment in benefits and services and the ability to tailor these to changes in the market.
12. A registered participation strategy should be based on the following key principles:
 - a. Registered Participant growth is the result of retaining existing and attracting new individuals to the sport of rugby.
 - b. Growth requires investment in strategies to develop new Registered Participants.
 - c. Tracking Registered Participants - who stays, who joins, demographics of Registered Participants, patterns of growth, etc. - is essential to evaluating growth and the success of growth strategies.
 - d. Rugby Nova Scotia, Members, and Registered Participants, along with subject matter experts, shall collaborate on strategies and growth to further promote benefits from Registered Participant development.
 - e. Members are fundamentally responsible for developing rugby in their respective community.



- f. Registered Participant fees are critical to ensure Rugby Nova Scotia's capacity to develop the sport provincially and its core business activities.
- 13. To deliver upon its programming and benefits to Registered Participants, Rugby Nova Scotia will levy a Registered Participant fee whereby each person who registers with a Member will also register, and be aware that they are registering, with Rugby Nova Scotia.
- 14. The Rugby Nova Scotia Board of Directors will approve the structure and amount of this fee.
- 15. All Rugby Nova Scotia participant fees will be clearly identified as a Rugby Nova Scotia Registered Participant fee.
- 16. Rugby Nova Scotia understands that it must be able to demonstrate value to its Registered Participants.
- 17. Unless otherwise determined by the Board of Directors, the registration year shall align with Rugby Canada's Insurance Program Calendar.
- 18. A person shall only be considered a Registered Participant for the rugby season they have registered for. A person must re-apply and be readmitted as a Registered Participant according to the applicable policies on an annual basis.
- 19. An individual cannot participate in activities sanctioned or otherwise associated with a Member without being a Registered Participant of Rugby Nova Scotia.
- 20. Rugby Nova Scotia will continue to work with the Members to communicate the benefits of alignment, including:
 - a. Harmonized categories of participants across Nova Scotia and nationally.
 - b. Improved alignment of athlete, coach, and officials' development systems within rugby through affiliation with scholastic, post-secondary and adult recreation in addition to the youth development and competitive segments.
 - c. Alignment of marketing and promotional efforts by communicating and elevating the Rugby Nova Scotia brand and those of its Members.



21. Rugby Nova Scotia will cooperate with Rugby Canada to maintain a national registration system which will contain the aggregate record of all Registered Participants.
22. Rugby Nova Scotia will establish a national Code of Conduct which all Registered Participants are required to follow.
23. Any information collected by Rugby Nova Scotia will be kept according to Rugby Nova Scotia's Privacy Policy, in alignment with applicable privacy laws.

Communications

24. This Policy must be effectively communicated to those who will be responsible for its implementation.

Review

25. This Policy will be reviewed at least once every two years, or as decided by the Rugby Nova Scotia Board of Directors.
26. This Policy should be reviewed by **March 31, 2027**.

Approval

27. This Policy was approved by the Rugby Nova Scotia Board of Directors on March, 25, 2025 and will be effective April 1, 2025.



APPENDIX A: REGISTERED PARTICIPANT FEE STRUCTURE

| Registered Participant Category | 2025 Rugby NS Fee |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Minor | \$20.00 |
| Junior | \$30.00 |
| Senior | \$40.00 |
| Senior Non-Contact | \$20.00 |
| Coach | \$30.00 |
| Match Official | \$30.00 |

i) Competitive Athletes & Coaches

- Defined as all athletes and coaches participating in Member teams, local club/rep/travelling teams, in a league and/or tournament and those who participate in their respective Member club championships.
- Local club/rep/travelling teams are defined as a youth rugby team in which they compete with other teams from another club, organization, school, or company.

ii) Grassroots & House League Athletes & Coaches

- Defined as all athletes and coaches participating in recreational house leagues, and other Member grassroots programs.
- House league is defined as a youth rugby league in which the participants of all teams belong to the same organization, school, or company; teams play only others in the same league and do not travel outside a limited area for competitions.

iii) Referees & Referee Coaches

- Defined as all national, provincial, and local level referees and referee coaches/instructors in all Member jurisdictions.
- Referee membership categories have been bundled as follows:
 - i. Category #1 (rookie, novice, student, probationary, developing)
 - ii. Category #2 (regular, senior)
 - iii. Category #3 (associate, dual): typically, members that are affiliated with more than one LBOA and/or a Member that is not a game official (i.e., LBOA/PBOA executives, assignors, etc.)



- iv. Category #4 (life): a form of recognition for service, which generally includes the LBOA or PBOA paying for the Registered Participant's annual fees.

iv) Rugby Nova Scotia Organized Programs

- Defined as all athletes and coaches participating in programs and events organized by Rugby Nova Scotia.
- These may include but not be limited to:
 - i. Senior Club Leagues
 - ii. University Club Leagues
 - iii. Keltics Provincial Programming
 - iv. Youth Club Tournaments
 - v. Youth Club Jamborees

v) Other

- Defined as all athletes and coaches participating in other "Adult" men's league, women's league, senior league, and other programming that is captured in provincial memberships.