



# **SMALL BLACKS DEVELOPMENT MODEL**

**YEARS 4 / UNDER 9**

# **APPLAUD**

Together we can create a great experience for everyone in rugby by role modelling good sideline behaviour and calling out bad sideline behaviour. Applaud is a New Zealand Rugby programme that outlines the expectations for all parents, caregivers, and spectators of rugby.

These are:

- be a good role model
- calmly call out any bad behaviour when you see or hear it
- remember children play sport for their enjoyment, not yours
- respect officials' and coaches' decisions even if you don't agree
- applaud good play and performances by both teams
- give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort
- thank the coaches, officials, and other volunteers
- assist when asked by a coach or official
- respect the rights and dignity of everyone in the game and
- behave appropriately at pre- and post-match functions.

Help us keep kids in sport by creating a positive rugby environment in schools and clubs.

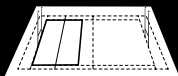
# SMALL BLACKS DEVELOPMENT MODEL

## YEAR 4 / UNDER 9

### FIELD SIZE

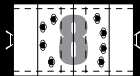
Goal to 10m (across the field). Portable goalposts recommended.

Full size posts on sideline need bolsters.



### NUMBERS PER TEAM

9-a-side. If a team doesn't have enough players to start a game, it should then be played with equal numbers.



### GAME LENGTH

2 x 25 minutes maximum.



### REFEREE

If no Learning Rugby referee, no tackling.



### BALL SIZE

Size 3 balls.



### KICKING

Encourage running and passing.



### TACKLE

No fending to the head, face or neck regions. Tackle must be below the sternum.



### RESTART

Tap and pass to be rotated through all players.



### PENALTY

Tap and pass.



### TRY

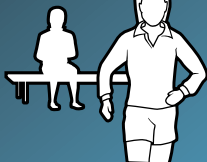
If score blow-outs are occurring (ie 35+ at halftime), both coaches **MUST** meet and come to an agreement as to how they can generate a more even contest.

Try = 5 pts.



### SUBS

All players must play a minimum of half a game (this is to include at least two full quarters). Rolling substitutions are not permitted. Substitutions may be made at half or quarter time.



FUN ACHIEVE BELONG SAFE

# FABS

- Fun is a key component of success in sport and life.
- Every player and coach are capable of achieving.
- Rugby brings people together.
- Safety is keeping all participants in our game safe physically and mentally.