



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.

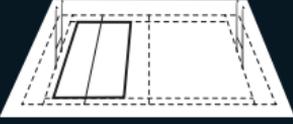
Help us keep kids in sport by creating a positive rugby environment in schools and clubs.

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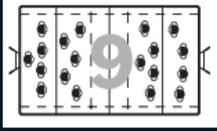
FIELD SIZE

60m x 35m maximum.



NUMBERS PER TEAM

8-a-side. Numbers are maximum. 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.



LINEOUT

No lineout.



BALL SIZE

Size 3 balls.



KICKING

Encourage running and passing.



REFEREE

If no Learning Rugby referee, no tackling.



KICK-OFF

Tap and pass. Kick-offs 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.



TACKLE

A 'Tackle Clinic' must be carried out by all U8 coaches before the season kicks off. No fending. Tackle must be below the sternum.



CONVERSION

No conversions.



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.



SCRUM

No scrums.



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.