



Rugby League 9s Sports Technical Manual Version 1.0





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1.

**WELCOME AND
INTRODUCTION**

Talofa lava and welcome to Beautiful Samoa – home of the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games.

We are excited to host the Pacific Region's largest quadrennial games here in our country, with more than 4000 Athletes and Team Officials from 24 countries competing in 27 sports.

Samoa is honoured to host you for the Games. We are proud of the work that has been accomplished to produce a world-class event for everyone in such a short period of time. Our motto from the beginning has been to “put our best foot forward” and we hope you will agree that we have done just that.

We put athletes and sport at the heart of our work and want to create a stage where you can excel. We are excited to provide an opportunity and platform for athletes to show their potential and create sporting memories at the Games here in Samoa. We admire your dedication to your sport and acknowledge and appreciate all your efforts in preparing your team to compete at the XVI Pacific Games from 7–20 July 2019. We are also eager to give you the best facilities, organisation and support that the people of Samoa can provide so your athletes can compete at their best.

As a nation, we know that to deliver a successful Games for our Pacific athletes, we will all need to be One in Spirit. Faafetai tele lava to each of the teams for the invaluable assistance provided to the Games Organising Committee. We could not have done this without your support.

We are delighted to present the Sport Technical Handbook for the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games.

This publication contains details of the technical arrangements for your Sports and the various aspects of the Games that affect you. Please treat this as your source of reference during the Games.

Our dedicated Games staff and volunteers are here to assist you if you have any questions or issues. You can also seek further guidance from our Sport Information Centre located at the Games Village and Sport Information Desks at every venue.

We believe that the Pacific Games is not only about sports but also about building bonds between our Pacific nations. Therefore, we wish you a fantastic time at the Games. We hope you enjoy our warm Samoan hospitality as well as the camaraderie of the 24 nations from the Pacific that are participating in this year's Games.

One in Spirit!

Hon. Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio
Chairperson
Samoa 2019 Pacific Games

Falefata Hele-Ei Matatia
Chief Executive Officer
Samoa 2019 Pacific Games

2.

ORGANISATION

2.1 International Federation (IF – Rugby League International Federation (RLIF)

President: Graeme Thompson

2.2 Regional Rugby League Association – Asia Pacific Rugby League Confederation

Chairman: Tagaloa Faafouina Su'a

Secretary: Brian Canavan

2.3 National Rugby League Association – Rugby League Samoa

President: Tagaloa Fa'afouina Su'a

Secretary: Tuimatafele Masuisui Fritz Tuiavii-Savaiinaea

Treasurer: Puga Fata Talalelei Puga

2.4 Rugby League Technical Committee – Pre Games

Sports Competition Manager: Tuimatafele Masuisui Fritz Tuiavii-Savaiinaea

IF Technical Delegate: Tas Baitieri

Rugby League Technical Committee – Games Time

International Federation (IF)

- RLIF and Pacific Games Council (PGC)
- Technical Delegate (TD): Tas Baitieri (Email: tbaitieri@nrl.com.au)

Organising Committee (OC)

- Sports Competition Manager (SCM) Tuimatafele Masuisui Fritz Tuiavii-Savaiinaea

2.5 Key Competition Management

Sports Competition Manager: Tuimatafele Masuisui Fritz Tuiavii-Savaiinaea
(Email: fritz.fotoeyeland@gmail.com)

Assistant Competition Manager: Tuugatiti Leauanae
(Email: leuanaetl2017@gmail.com)

2.6 International Technical Officials (ITO)

A full list of ITOs will be published in the next edition of the Technical Handbook in June.

2.7 National Technical Officials

A full list of NTOs will be published in the next edition of the Technical Handbook in June.

2.8 Technical Meeting Date

The Technical Committee Meeting will be held no more than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the competition. This meeting will provide the most current sport specific information.

The Technical Committee shall ensure that the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Rugby League 9's competition is conducted in accordance with the technical rules and regulations of AIBA. Updated information will be distributed at this time.

The Rugby League 9's Technical Committee meeting has been scheduled as follows;

Date: 6 July, 2019

Time: 1700hrs

Venue: Apia Park Stadium

3.

**COMPETITION
MANAGEMENT**

3.1 List of Events

The Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Rugby League 9's competition shall consist of the following events:

Men's team

Women's team

3.2 Competition Schedule

Monday 8 July

Time	Game	Teams	Round
1000-1023Hrs	1.	2 V 1	1
1025-1048Hrs	2.	3 V 6	1
1050-1113Hrs	3.	4 V 5	1
1115-1138Hrs	4.	1 V 2	1
1140-1213Hrs	5.	3 V 4	1
1215-1238Hrs	6.	6 V 1	2
1240-1313Hrs	7.	2 V 5	2
13:15-1338Hrs	8.	3 V 4	2
1340-1413Hrs	9.	1 V 3	2
1415-1438Hrs	10.	2 V 4	2
1440-1513Hrs	11.	1 V 5	3
1515-1538Hrs	12.	6 V 4	3
1540-1613Hrs	13.	2 V 3	3
1615-1638Hrs	14.	1 V 4	3
1640-1713Hrs	15.	2 V 3	3
1715-1738Hrs	16.	4 V 1	4
1740-1813Hrs	17.	5 V 3	4
1815-1838Hrs	18.	6 V 2	4
1840-1913Hrs	19.	1 V 3	5
1915-1938Hrs	20.	4 V 2	5
1940-2013Hrs	21.	5 V 6	5

Tuesday 9 July

Time	Game	Teams	Division
1300-1323Hrs	1.	Place 1 v Place 4	Female
1325-1348Hrs	2.	Place 2 v Place 3	Female
1350-1413Hrs	3.	Place 1 v Place 4	Male
1415-1438Hrs	4.	Place 2 v Place 3	Male

1440-1513Hrs	5.	Loser game 1 v Loser game 2 (bronze medal)	Female
1515-1538Hrs	6.	Winner game 1 v Winner game 2 (gold/silver medal)	Female
1540-1613Hrs		Presentation of medals – 20 minutes	
1615-1638Hrs	7.	Loser game 3 v Loser game 4 (bronze medal)	Male
1640-1713Hrs	8.	Winner game 3 v Winner game 4 (gold/silver medal)	Male
1715-1738Hrs		Presentation of medals – 20 minutes	

3.3 Entries, Seeds and Draws

All athletes must comply with entry requirements as specified in the PGC Charter; Protocol 7.

3.4 Entry by Name (Protocol 7.10 – 7.15)

Entries by name containing the names of competitors and the events in which they wish to compete, shall be forwarded electronically, to reach the Organising Committee at least forty-five (45) days before the date of the opening of the Games. Thirty percent of the Pacific Games Authority's estimated per diem obligation shall be payable at this time. A further confirmation of entries by name shall be required from PGAs no later than 30 days before the opening of the Games, from which the official and final per diem obligation will be calculated. A further 30% of this official per diem obligation shall be payable at this time. PGAs shall pay the remaining per diem obligation no later than the Delegation Registration Meeting (DRM) upon arrival and no Games Accreditations shall be issued to PGAs until the full per diem obligation is discharged. (Protocol 7.10)

A pre-DRM in person, or through the use of technology, shall occur within five days after the further confirmation of entries 30 days before the Games. (Protocol 7.11)

Each PGA shall pay at the DRM such sum as the Executive Board may prescribe for each competitor and official entered, which shall be paid into a separate account in the name of the Council. (Protocol 7.12)

Entries shall be completed electronically, and shall be forwarded to the OC via the Sporting Pulse provided Games Management System website. A PGA may also, simultaneously, submit a signed spreadsheet of athlete entries as an additional step to confirm its entries. The OC shall forward the entries to the Council and the relevant International Federations. (Protocol 7.13)

The OC shall send to PGAs copies of "Entry and Eligibility Conditions form" in English and French to be signed by each competitor and to be countersigned by the appropriate PGA and duly affiliated National Federation (NF). Completed forms for each athlete must be returned to the OC no later than the DRM. The Council shall approve the text to this form based upon the guidelines contained in Regulation 20. (Protocol 7.14)

As per Article 26 (5), late entries by name will not be accepted. (Protocol 7.15)

3.5 Final Entries (Protocol 7.16 – 7.21)

The names of competitors finally entered for each event shall be confirmed to the Organising Committee at the Delegation Registration Meeting (DRM) at least 48 hours prior to the official opening of the Games (Protocol 7.16)

Only those competitors whose names appear on the individual entry forms shall be eligible for final confirmation of participation. (Protocol 7.17)

When a competitor is injured after being included in the Final Entries Forms, a substitute may be nominated on production of a medical certificate established by the Doctor designated by the Games Organising Committee provided this information is made before midnight preceding the opening event of the tournament in which the injured competitor would have taken part. (Protocol 7.18)

The substitute's name must have been entered in the Individual Entries Forms of that sport. (Protocol 7.18)

Each Pacific Games Association shall be required to ensure that Article 8 is observed with regard to the selection and management of its team. (Protocol 7.19)

The Executive Board may require the Organising Committee to reject an entry, which does not comply with the requirements of the Charter, or for any other good sufficient reason. (Protocol 7.20)

3.6 Conditions of Entry

For Pacific Games and in respect of all activities of the Council and events under its control, there shall be no discrimination against any member country or persons on any grounds whatsoever, including race, gender, religion or politics.

3.7 Maximum Entries

The maximum number of athletes per Country who may compete in the Pacific Games League 9's competition is as follows;

Men's team: 15 players

Women's team: 15 player

3.8 Draws

The draw will be conducted in accordance with IF Rules. Further details will be provided at the Technical Committee Meeting.

3.9 Competition Rules and Regulations

The competition will be conducted under the rules of RLIF.

3.10 Protests, Appeals and Arbitration Procedures

3.1.1 Code of Conduct

It is generally acknowledged that participating countries are responsible and accountable for the conduct of their players and other persons having an official capacity with the participating country during the period of this tournament.

3.1.2 Misconduct

All players, coaches and officials acknowledge that their behaviours shall at all times be of the highest standard. All participating countries shall ensure that their players, coaches and officials are bound by the provisions of this tournament regulations relating to misconduct.

A player, coach or official may be guilty of misconduct if he/she:

- (a) commits a serious or persistent breach of the tournament regulations;
- (b) without limiting para (a) above, commits a breach of any of the rules listed below;
- (c) engages in conduct which is prejudicial to the interests of the RLIF. (This includes negative comments regarding the Games in the media);
- (d) is convicted of a criminal offence by any court of competent jurisdiction;
- (e) fails within any time allowed, to comply with any decision of the 2015 RL 9's

Tournament Technical Director or Disciplinary Committee.

In any case where a team, player or official has failed to comply with a provision of these regulations, proceedings may be taken against that team, player or official for that failure, and a penalty imposed.

If any person reasonably believes that any player or official is guilty of misconduct he must immediately inform the Tournament Technical Director in writing setting out all relevant details of the alleged misconduct. The Director (or their representative) will decide on the course of action required.

The Director (or their appointed representative) shall investigate or appoint a delegate to investigate any allegation of any breach. The Director (or their representative) will investigate or have the power to appoint investigators to investigate all allegations of misconduct and decide whether there is a case to

answer. If he or she believes there is a case to answer, they will forward the case to a Misconduct Panel.

The Tournament Technical Director shall be entitled to appoint a representative to present the case for the tournament. In every case, the Director (or their appointed representative) bears the onus of proof on the balance of probabilities.

3.1.3 Hearing

The hearing shall take place in accordance with such procedures that the PG's RL 2015 Director (or their appointed representative) shall think fit. However any person appearing before the Director (or their appointed representative) may be accompanied by such other person as he or she may require.

The Director (or their appointed representative) shall decide whether the case is proven and if so may impose a penalty which may involve a caution of a player, official and/or team or the suspension or expulsion of a player or official.

3.1.4 Appeals

Any player, official or team who is found guilty of misconduct shall have the right of appeal, such appeal to be made in writing and to be lodged with the PG's RL 2015 Director within 12 hours of the decision.

An Appeals Committee shall hear and determine appeals by way of a review.

A hearing before the Appeals and Disputes Committee shall not proceed de novo.

The Appeals and Disputes Committee will be appointed by the PG's RL 2015 and will consist of a Chairman who will be appointed by the Director (or their appointed representative) and two side members with experience in the game (no individual who initially considered the case shall be entitled to sit on the Appeals and Disputes Committee).

On the hearing of an appeal, the Appeals and Disputes Committee may:

- Affirm the original determination;
- Set aside the original determination;
- Vary the original determination.

Any decision of the Appeals and Disputes Committee shall be final and conclusive.

4.

**COMPETITION
VENUE**

4.1 Apia Park Stadium

The Rugby League 9's competition of the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games will be held at the Apia Park Stadium.

4.2 Travel time

The Apia Park Stadium is approximately 30 minutes journey time from the hotels where the athletes and officials will be accommodated.

4.3 Facilities

The venue will provide the following facilities:

- Warm-Up Area
- Athletes' Area
- Officials Area
- Competition Management Room
- Sport Information Desk

4.4 Technical Details

All competition will be conducted in one rugby league field in accordance with RLIF specifications.

4.5 Sport Information Desk

Each competition venue will have a Sport Information Desk (SID). This will be your main point of contact during your stay to provide you with additional information you may require, as well as being the main collection point of relevant competition information.

The main Sports Information Centre (SIC) will be located in the international zone at the Games Village, Faleula.

5.

TRAINING VENUE

Training for Rugby league 9s will take place at the Congregational Church of Western Samoa (CCWS) Pesega, Saint Joseph College (SJC) Alafua, and Wesley College Faleula. .

5.1 Travel time

These venues are located approximately 30 minutes journey time from the Games Village, Faleula.

5.2 Facilities

The venue will provide the following facilities:

- Toilets and changing rooms

5.3 Availability

The training venues in Apia will be available from 4th July, 2019.. A detailed training schedule will be drawn up for all teams.

5.4 Amendment and Booking of Training Venues

Upon arrival in Apia, each team will receive a detailed schedule of the slots they have been allocated before and during the event.

Amendments to and the booking for additional training times should be done at the Sports Information Centre in the Games Village.

5.5 Media Access to Training Venues

Media will not be permitted at any Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games Non-Competition Training Venues.

However, nominated PGA team photographers will be permitted.

Media access at all Samoa XVI Pacific Games Competition Training Venues will be at the discretion of the Sports Competition Manager.



INFORMATION

6.1 Information before 4 July, 2019

PGAs requiring any information or clarification should contact the relevant Sports Competition Manager.

6.2 Information from 4 July, 2019

The main Sport Information Centre (SIC) is located in the Games Village in Faleula.

There will also be a Sport Information Desk (SID) at each of the Competition Venues.

6.3 Sports Information Centre at the Games Village

The SIC at the Games Village will be open from 4 July, 2019. It will open from 0700hrs until 2200hrs and will provide Chefs de Mission, Team Managers and Team Officials with critical information relating to specifically to training and competition for each of the 26 Sports. Athletes will not have access to the Sports Information Centre.

The SIC will be staffed by personnel who can liaise directly with relevant Sports Competition Managers, to provide a one-stop sport, transport information and troubleshooting service to Team Officials and their technical staff.

The Sports Information Centre will provide all sports information and results. Other general services offered by the information centre are:

- Distribution of technical information, such as results, start lists, competition schedules etc.
- Distribution of information regarding Technical meetings, seedings and draws, Technical Officials appointments, training sessions, transport arrangements, etc.
- Procedures for PGAs to book/amend training sessions.
- Procedure for PGAs to declare training sessions open to the media and for advising media on a daily basis of any "open" training sessions.
- Providing communication links between competition venue, Competition Management and Teams.
- Receipt and authorisation of requests for Athlete Venue Meals.
- Co-ordination of sports and other information for PGAs.

6.4 Results

Results will be available for publication and online between 30 and 60 minutes after the conclusion of competition.

7.

MEDICAL

7.1 Games Polyclinic

The Village Medical Centre at the Games Village will provide primary medical care services from 4–22 July, 2019 to all Athletes, Team Members and Officials.

The Games Polyclinic will be open daily between 0700hrs and 2200hrs. Emergency medical, dental and pharmacy advice and dispensing services will be provided on a 24-hour basis.

7.2 Technical Officials

Technical Officials will be able to use the facilities at the Games Polyclinic, during the stated times of operation. Technical officials can access all of the services provided, including the stated 24-hour emergency services.

7.3 Competition Venues

Medical services will be provided for athletes at each of the Competition Venues. The service will be available from one hour prior to start of competition until all athletes have been treated. Where required by the sport, paramedic ambulances will also be on standby at the venue.

7.4 Training Venues

Medical services provided to the Training Venues shall be on an on-call basis. Referrals from team doctors requiring further attention can be attended to at the Polyclinic.

Where required by the sport, paramedic ambulances will also be on standby on an on-call basis.

7.5 Prosthesis Repair

Prosthesis repairs will be carried out at the Games Polyclinic, at the stated daily operating times of 0700hrs to 2200hrs.

7.6 Doping Control

The Athletes are informed that drug testing will be organised for the duration of the Pacific Games, in close collaboration with the World Anti-Doping Association, WADA.

It is the responsibility of supervisors and Athletes to refer to the list of prohibited substances and to abstain from consuming them.

The list can be downloaded from the World Anti-Doping Association website:
<https://www.wada-ama.org>

Any Athlete that tests positive to a prohibited substance will be disqualified from the Pacific Games.

8.

TRANSPORT

8.1 Athletes and Team Officials

Athletes and Team Officials from each country will use dedicated private vehicles for their movement through Games locations, including the Games Village, the competition venue, the training venue and the dining halls. These vehicles will come with a dedicated driver. Each team is responsible for the driver. The vehicles will be available from the date of arrival of the team to the end of competition.

8.2 Technical Officials

Technical Officials will use a Technical Official Shuttle Service for their movement to and from their accommodation to the Competition Venues. This service will run from date of arrival through the day after competition. As different sports are accommodated at different hotels, the service will be dedicated to each group of Technical Officials. Technical Officials will use a pool vehicle service to access the dining halls on an individual technical official basis.

8.3 Competition Venues

Shuttle Bus Services to Competition Venues will cease upon completion of that venue's competition. Note the shuttle bus service does not stop at every competition venue.

Bus services to all Sporting Venues cease by 1900hrs, on 20 July, 2019.

9.

GENERAL REFERENCE INFORMATION

9.1 Technical Committee

The Rugby League 9s Technical Committee will meet on 6 July, 2019 Apia Park Stadium.

Please note that the date, time and place of the meeting will be confirmed on 25 June, 2019 at the latest.

Role of the Technical Committee

The Technical Committee will abide by the following rules enacted by the Pacific Games Council Charter amended on 17 June, 2018.

Protocol 15 of the Pacific Games Charter:

Organisation of the Different Sports Competition Committees.

15.1 The Council has complete control of the policy of the Games.

15.2 The OC shall set up its own sports division and also one such sports competition committee for each sport. Each National Federation of the Host PGA affiliated to the relevant International Federation whose sport is included in the programme of the Games shall appoint one of its representatives to serve on the sports competition committee. Each representative shall keep his /her governing body informed on progress made. The governing body shall maintain close liaison with the sports competition committee of its sport and be initially responsible, within the overall policy of the OC, for the arrangements of its sport.

15.3 Under the direction of the Council, the Organising Committee shall convene meetings of a PGC Technical Committee for each sport. The PGC Technical Committee will supervise and assume complete control of the technical arrangements for the sport, and ensure that the sport is conducted in accordance with the relevant International Federation's regulations unless as varied by the PGC Executive Board.

15.4 Membership of each PGC Technical Committee shall consist of two representatives from the Host country/territory, one representative from each of the other competing countries/territories and the International Federation representative (or their nominee), all with voting rights. Other members maybe co-opted, but without voting rights.

15.5 The date, time and place of the meeting of a PGC Technical Committee for each sport will be communicated to all PGAs at least one month prior to the opening of the Games. The meeting itself will be held not more than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the sport.

15.6 Each PGC Technical Committee shall elect its own Chairman and have an officer of the Council as an ex-officio member.

15.7 No PGC Technical Committee can validly meet without at least 50% of participating PGAs (excluding the Host) in that sport being present.

15.8 The PGC Technical Committee may alter the order and timing of events during and

between each day of competition on the programme, but it may not alter the detailed programme and/or dates of sport competition without the approval of the PGC Executive Board.

9.2 International Rules

The events will be organised in conformity with the regulations of the international rules of Rugby League

9.3 Medals

Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded in the Pacific Games Rugby League in accordance with the PGC Charter; Protocol 26.

- Four (4) or more contestants: Gold Silver and Bronze
- Three (3) contestants: Gold and Silver only
- Two (2) contestants: Gold only
- One (1) contestant: No Event, No Medal

9.4 Medal Ceremonies

In conformity with Protocol 23 of the Charter, the Medal Ceremonies will be held after the finals.

Each Athlete is requested to wear the official sports uniform of her/his delegation to attend the Medal Ceremony.

Athletes should attend all medal ceremonies in their official PGA team tracksuit and appropriate footwear, even where the medal ceremony is scheduled for a different day to the day of competition.

9.5 Personal Clothing and Personal Equipment

As per the Pacific Game Charter:

Regulation 17 Part II Rules Relating to Identification of Personal Clothing and Personal Equipment.

There shall be no advertising or publicity on personal equipment and competition clothing used or worn at the Games. Subject to the International Federations rules identification of the manufacturer (Name and/ or Logo) of the equipment and clothing may appear, if not marked conspicuously for advertising purpose as follows;

1. **Manufacturer's Identification:** The identification of the manufacturer shall not appear more than once per item of Clothing and equipment.

2. **Equipment:** Manufacturer's identification shall not exceed 10 percent of the surface area of the equipment that is exposed during competition and shall not be more than 60 square centimetres.
3. **Head gear (hats, helmets, sunglasses, goggles etc.) and gloves:** Any identification of the manufacturer shall not exceed 6 square centimetres.
4. **Clothing:** One identification of the manufacturer (Logo, Name or combination) may appear on each article of clothing worn by athletes, officials or judges (vest, shorts, track-suits, etc.) the maximum height of 4 centimetres. No other form advertising or sponsorship on clothing shall be permitted.
5. **Shoes:** The normal distinctive design pattern of the manufacturer is permitted. The manufacturer's name and/ or logo may also appear, up to a maximum of 6 square centimetres, either as part of the normal distinctive design pattern or independent of the normal distinctive design pattern.
6. Variation of the above rules shall be subject to approval of the Executive Board.

9.6 Eligibility

All athletes wishing to compete in the XVI Pacific Games must comply with current requirements for representing a Country and participating in the Games according to the PGC charter: Article 26.1

In the event of a challenge to a competitor's eligibility, the Executive Board shall immediately refer the challenge to the Disputes Tribunal in accordance with PGC Charter: Article 26.8

The Tribunal's decision shall be final. No further challenges shall be considered thereafter.

Pacific Games Association delegation entries are required to be finalised, confirmed and posted on the Pacific Games Council and Organising Committee websites 20 days prior to the commencement of the Games. PGC Charter: Article 26.10.

9.7 Mixed Zone

On each competition site a zone dedicated to exchanges between the Athletes and accredited journalists will be reserved near the exit from the competition area (mixed zone). Athletes and team supervisors are requested to cooperate with the media.

9.8 Charter of the Games

The events will be organised in conformity with the Pacific Games Council Charter which should be referred to whenever technical information does not appear in the international regulations.

The Pacific Games Council Charter can be downloaded from the Samoa 2019 XVI Pacific Games' website (www.samoa2019.ws) in the "About Us" section.

10.

MAPS AND PLANS

Detailed venue maps will be released in the next edition of the Technical Handbook in June.