

# USA CLUB RUGBY

## USA Rugby Championships - Eligibility Check List

### Eligibility Regulations

#### **Regulation 3.2: Senior Club National Championship Series (NCS) / 3.3. Club Eligibility.**

Clubs participating in the USA Rugby Senior Club NCS may carry a maximum Roster of 28 players per Event Weekend. For purposes of this Regulation, the full Roster is locked for the duration of the Event Weekend.

Clubs participating in the USA Rugby Senior Club NCS must carry a minimum Roster of 20 players per Event Weekend.

The Event Weekend Roster may include a maximum of ten (10) Non-Resident Players.

Match Rosters for USA Rugby Senior Club NCS events may list a maximum of 23 players.

No Match Roster may contain more than five (5) Non-Resident Players.

Clubs fielding multiple sides are subject to additional Regulations (See Section 3.5).

#### **Regulation 3.4. Player Eligibility.**

Player must be registered to the Club and reside in the United States no later than 11:59 pm in the Player's Local Time Zone on April 1.

Any Player who played in a National Championship Qualifying Match for a different Senior Club during the current Competitive Season must receive a Waiver from USA Rugby for eligibility in the USA Rugby NCS.

Player must have played in at least two (2) National Championship Qualifying Matches with the Club. (Play is defined as actually stepping onto the field either as a starter, reserve, or blood substitution for any length of time.)

#### **Regulation 3.5. Senior Clubs Fielding Multiple Sides.**

Any player on a club fielding teams which compete in either contiguous or non-contiguous divisions, who has played in at least 66% of the total National Championship Qualifying Matches for the club's Upper Division side is immediately no longer eligible to play for that club's Lower Division side

Any player on a club fielding teams in three divisions (1, 2 and 3), who has played in at least 66% of the total National Championship Qualifying Matches for an Upper Division side, based on the schedule of the higher division team with the fewer number of Qualifying Matches, is immediately no longer eligible to play for the Division 3 side.

Using the total number of National Championship Qualifying Matches played by a player (when the Upper Division-Only minimum specified in Regulation 3.5-(d) or 3.5-(e) has not been met), if 50% or more were with the Upper Division side, that player is not eligible to play with the Lower Division side in the USA Rugby NCS.

To be eligible to compete in a USA Rugby NCS in the Lower Division, a player must have played in a minimum of two (2) National Championship Qualifying Matches at the divisional (or lower) level entered into the USA Rugby NCS.

To be eligible to compete in a USA Rugby Championship Event in the Upper Division, a player must have played in a minimum of two (2) National Championship Qualifying Matches at any division level with his/her Club.

### Eligibility Documentation

#### **Regulations 7.3. Club Documentation / 7.4. Player Documentation.**

Documentation that should be maintained at all times by a responsible Club official and be available upon demand and/or prior to participation in any USA Rugby Championship Event. Acceptable documentation, original or a legible copy which may be paper or electronic (cell phone, laptop or tablet), includes:

#### **Proof of Identification.**

- ▶ Current government issued photo identification and/or official school-issued ID for students.

#### **Proof of U.S. Residency for Fifteens National Qualifier Eligibility** (any of the following):

- ▶ Government-issued photo ID accompanied by a birth certificate, copy//original, from a U.S. state or territory.
- ▶ Official school-issued ID for students accompanied by a birth certificate, copy/original, from a U.S. state or territory.
- ▶ Original or copy of photo page of U.S. passport. or U.S. passport card/Enhanced Driver's License.
- ▶ Original or copy of Naturalization Certificate accompanied by a birth certificate from a U.S. state or territory.

- ▶ Original or copy of Permanent (Green Card) or Conditional Permanent Resident.
- ▶ Original or copy of Native American Tribal Identification Card.

**Note:** Documentation in reference to the pursuit of permanent or conditional resident status in order to facilitate a player's participation in the Competition is NOT sufficient.

#### **Non-Resident (NR) Players.**

Any player that cannot provide one of the above will be considered a non resident. A Passport Stamp will be used to verify arrival date in country to illustrate eligibility for Non-Resident (NR) players.

#### **Transfer Players.**

All players who transferred from one senior club to a new senior club during the competitive season will require a Waiver from USA Rugby. This includes players who were approved for NCS Qualifying competitions by the local Union.

#### **Proof of USA Rugby Registration.**

Eligibility can be verified with a printout from USA Rugby Website showing valid registration dates.

#### **USA Rugby Waiver (if applicable).**

All players who do not meet the eligibility criteria outright must obtain a Waiver from the Senior Club Eligibility Committee. This includes in-season transfer players who may have been approved at/for the local competitions level.

The Waiver from USA Rugby will be sent to the player by electronic mail and display the player's name, club, official dates of eligibility and the specific Regulation waived.

#### **Match Reports.**

All match reports for your League Matches IF CMS was not used. This will help confirm player eligibility in the event of any eligibility challenge.

#### **USA Rugby Releases / NCS Paperwork.** *(to be distributed to teams before start of the USA Rugby NCS)*

Each form must be completed in full and signed by each player/administrator where requested.

If participant is less than 18 years of age, a signature of parent or legal guardian is required.

Clubs should maintain a binder that includes the forms and player eligibility documentation noted above. These materials must be brought to all USA Rugby NCS competitions to confirm proof of eligibility in the event of a challenge.

For the complete 2021-22 Regulations, see: [2021-22 Eligibility Regulations \(15s & 7s\)](#)

To request a Waiver of an eligibility requirement, use this form: [Senior Club Waiver Request Form](#)