



Dear Randwick Juniors Families,

Re: SJRU Friday Night Competition 2026

As has been since inception, traditionally the Friday Night Juniors Competition has been run as an ungraded competition. This **Ungraded Friday** competition has always been run in parallel to the **Graded Sunday** competition, due to a large crossover of players also committing to rugby league. All Randwick Junior Village Clubs have always been invited to submit teams in either of these competition formats.

In the past few years, there has been occasion where there have been enough teams per age group to run a dual division, or Graded Friday comp. This occurs only when there are 11 or more teams per age group registered to play for the season. This has been run with varying degrees of success. In 2026 however, it looks like the Friday Night Competition, in ALL age groups, will not submit enough teams to warrant a graded competition. This is an unfortunate trend where some traditional Friday night clubs are withdrawing from this format.

In order for the Friday Night competition to flourish long term and encourage all our Randwick Junior rugby players to continue their rugby journey into Warriors and beyond, we **MUST** ensure a fair, enjoyable, and competitive playing environment. We also must ensure a **SAFE** competition, where there is no deliberate disparity of strength or size in any team.

From the SJRU: the expectation for clubs entering multiple teams into an ungraded environment, is that they evenly split their talent. 50-0 scorelines do not help any child's rugby development and results in players leaving the game from both sides of that equation. If the Friday night competition continues to produce highly skewed results, we may look to cease the competition format.

To this, the Randwick Village Clubs, with the support of the Randwick Juniors Committee, have agreed to create a common team selection policy for the Friday Night Competition.

All clubs entering more than one team into any ungraded age group, will not rank their teams and will select their teams based on an equitable division of talent where possible. Although there will always be factors that come into play such as playing with mates, playing positions that need filling, and historical team placement, the overarching policy is that all players will be allocated in a way to make the teams more even – rather than less even.

This especially relates to new players joining any club. Recruitment efforts should always be to the club first, team second.

The future of the Friday night competition depends on it.

If you would like your child to play only with other players at a certain level, then we would encourage you to join the Graded Sunday competition, where this is the format. There is also the opportunity to trial for Randwick Junior Rep teams from U10 and up, where should they make that team, will play against the best in their age in a Statewide Competition. We are incredibly proud of our Randwick Juniors Rep Teams, who consistently perform at the highest standard year on year. We are also proud to offer a competitive winter competition, Rep opportunities and a summer Randwick Academy, unlike other rugby codes and districts.

Randwick Rugby District is regarded as one of the best there is. Let's keep it that way, by developing junior rugby together.

If you have any questions on this, please contact either your Club President listed below, or Randwick Juniors President Jodie Steele on juniorspresident@randwickrugby.com.au.

Up the Wicks!

Jodie Steele

Randwick Juniors – President

Sean Baker

Randwick Juniors – Vice President

Mary Weaver

Clovelly Eagles – President

Ash Taylor

Coogee Seahorses – President

Claire Nunez

Maroubra Missiles – President

Richard Byrne

Randwick Magic – President

Jack Singleton

Randwick Warriors - President

