



# 2024 IAYRA Coaches Meeting

## IOWA YOUTH RUGBY ASSOCIATION

### MISSION

OUR MISSION IS TO GROW THE GAME OF RUGBY AND INSTILL THE CORE VALUES OF SPORT THROUGH PROVIDING A SAFE, ORGANIZED, AND POSITIVE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUTH IN IOWA.

### VISION

TO PROVIDE A PATHWAY FOR IOWANS TO EXCEL IN RUGBY AT A LEVEL OF THEIR CHOOSING.

### GOAL

OUR GOAL IS FOR RUGBY TO BE A SANCTIONED HIGH SCHOOL SPORT IN IOWA.





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In the meeting chat, please share your name and team that you are coaching with!



# 2024 Spring Season Calendar of Events

- Sunday, February 25th, 8pm-9pm: Coaches Meeting
- Monday, February 26th: First official practices may begin. (Preseason training or conditioning is encouraged prior to Feb. 26)
- Monday, February 26th: Host Site Cut-off
- Friday, March 1st: Returning/New Team Confirmation
- Saturday, March 2nd: Coaches Banquet in Des Moines
- Monday, March 4th: Schedule Release Target Date
- Friday, March 29th - Friday, May 3rd: Regular Season Week 1 - 6
- Friday, May 10th: IAYRA State Tournament

# Player Registration



1. Registration fee \$100. There is a \$3.40 processing fee.
2. Players should be registered prior to any regular season practices (Monday, February 25th).
3. Non-registered players may not participate in ANY practices, non-contact or contact.
4. Non-registered players should not be on the practice field.
5. ***Players or coaches not registered jeopardizes insurance coverage for the team AND/OR all teams or the IAYRA.***
6. *Registration is open at IAYRA.org. Players, referees and coaches will use Rugby Xplorer as the new registration system.*

# Coaching Requirements & Registration

1. All coaches must be USA Rugby certified and registered. (\$65.00 + fee)
  - a. Coaches that registered for the 2023 Fall Girls season will not need to re-register.
  - b. Coaches that are registering for the first time in the 2023-2024 year, you will need to register through Rugby Xplorer which is the platform that is linked from IAYRA.org
  - c. Head coaches must be level Level 1 Coaching (formerly L200) certified. All assistants must be level 100 certified. All coaches must have complete the World Rugby Online Coaching Modules (World Rugby Passport Coaching Module).
    - i. All coaches should work to get State of Iowa coaching certification or endorsement.
  - d. Any adult assisting the team must be registered, with USA Rugby, as an Admin/Volunteer and background checked.
2. Any adult not registered and/or passed the background check may not participate in practices or games. (Background checks takes 2 weeks)
  - a. In the case of a failed background check, a coach may appeal the finding with USA Rugby.
3. Coaches must sign the IAYRA Coaches Code of Conduct form.
4. Coach's responsibility to read through the Coaches Manual.  
<https://www.iayra.org/coachescorner>

# Update Coach Information



- Head Coaches
  - Please communicate with Amber to update coaching staff and contact information.

# Coaches League-wide Communication

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- SportsYou All Coaches group
  - Contact IAYRA admin for join code
  - Meant to be informational mode of communication.
  - If there is a concern, reach out to league admin. Refer to IAYRA Organizational Chart for areas of responsibility.
  - Think LinkedIn, not Facebook or Twitter.



# Safesport

- Congress passed law the law in 2017.
- Why does it matter to us?
  - **What does being a Mandated Reporter mean?**
    - According to what the Safe Sport Act says, if you see or hear a report of any form of abuse, whether it is sexual, physical, mental or any other type of abuse you are required to report that abuse within a 24-hour period.
  - **Who in an organization is considered a Mandated Reporter?**
    - The Safe Sport Act expands the list of individuals required to report child sexual abuse. Now, it is any adult who is authorized to interact with youth athletes will be required to report suspicions of abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies within 24 hours.
- Links on the website now to report an issue.
  - If an incident is reported, this will be handled by Safesport from there on out.




- <https://www.iayra.org/page/show/4667478-safesport-resources>
- <https://uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern/>
- **Safe Sport Toll Free+1-833-587-7233**



### NECESSARY TOURNAMENT DOCUMENTS

Below are documents a tournament administrator will need to successfully run an IAYRA sanctioned tournament.

- The Tournament To-Do Sheet includes a checklist of any items that may be needed to successfully run an IAYRA sanctioned tournament.
- The Roster Sheet (filled out for your team) **MUST** be turned into the tournament administrator the night of the tournament with your score sheet, in your team folder.
- The Score Sheet, which will be included in each team's folder, is used by each coach to track the tries, yellow/red cards, and score of each match.
- The IAYRA Fan Roster sheet can be used to give out to parents and fans. This has information explaining points scoring.
- Coaches should also have a copy of their players emergency contact information with them at all times.

 [Tournament To-Do Sheet \(How to run a tournament\)](#)

 [IAYRA Technical Zone Standards](#)

 [IAYRA Official Blank Game Scoresheet](#)

 [Blank Team Roster Sheet](#)

 [Blank Team Roster Sheet PDF](#)

 [IAYRA Fan Roster](#)

 [Tournament Photo Upload Guide](#)

### VIDEO INFORMATION

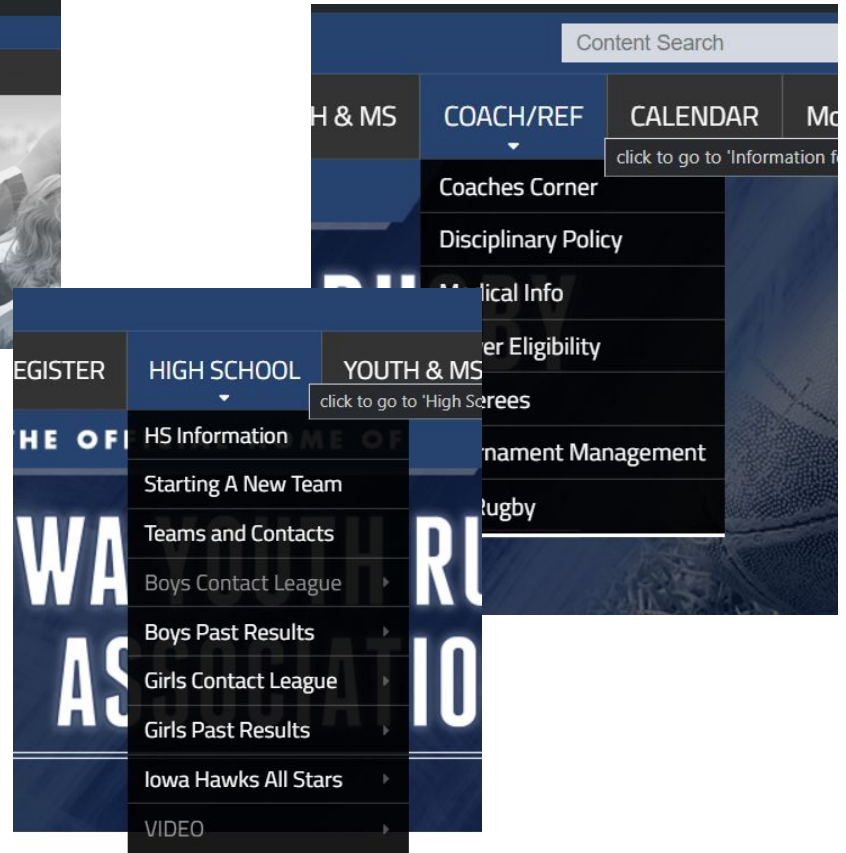
Host sites are responsible for recording the tournament. There are two options for getting the video to IAYRA:

1. (Preferred Method) Upload the video yourself using your own account or IAYRA's YouTube channel. If you have to get that information from an IAYRA administrator, share the link to the YouTube Video Link Sharing Form link below.
2. Follow the **Video File Drop** link below and upload your video file in the folder. No need to combine files. IAYRA will take care of that.

*Please have your video file saved to the folder on YouTube and shared within 24 hrs of the tournament.*

Some tips to follow:

- 720 or 1024 HD quality desired
- Record from the highest vantage point.
- DO NOT record through glass or behind a window.
- Remind camera operator to minimize distractions.



Interested in starting a team at your high school?


Gadbury

# Managing the Tournament as the Host

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- Tournament Director: Assign a person to help run your tournament.
- Soccer lines are the standard lines to be played.
  - Lines must be extended for try zones.
  - If soccer lines are not available, football lines are acceptable.
  - If posts are available, must have post pads.
- **Technical Zones**
  - See “Technical Zones” document on IAYRA.org.
    - <https://www.iayra.org/tournyinfo>
    - Approved Rosters & Field Access
- Gate cash box
- Hosts to collect score sheets and rosters.
  - Maintain this folder until the end of season.
- Record all games. Instruct video personal to record until teams leave the field.
  - Zoom out to full field until next game.
  - Upload to Youtube and share the link with the league so the video can be imbedded to the website.
  - Follow game naming conventions.
- Report scores to the league so they can get posted as soon as possible.
- Will have Tournament Host virtual meeting prior to start of the season.
- Host is responsible for covering cost of referees with gate proceeds. Host will be billed by IAYRA.
- Host keeps the rest of the proceeds from tournament gate.

# Managing a Tournament as the Coach of a Visiting Team

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- Rules meeting 10 minutes prior to kickoff of the evening.
  - Bring your own game folder:
    - Blank score sheets
    - Rosters (2): 1 for tournament host folder, 1 for press box/announcer
      - Pre-fill roster as much as possible.
  - Technical Zones
    - See “Technical Zones” document on IAYRA.org.
      - <https://www.iayra.org/tournyinfo>
      - Approved Rosters & Field Access
  - Tournament host should record all games, but record your games yourself so there is a backup.
  - Coach responsibility to reconcile score sheet with opposing team and **submit to tournament host.**
  - **Submit COMPLETED roster and score sheets to tournament host (Tournament Director).**

# Videos and uploading process



1. Tournament host is responsible for recording all games, uploading to Youtube, and sharing link with the league.
  - a. If host needs assistance, contact league admin.
2. **Each team should work to ensure that their own games are recorded as a backup.**
3. Instruct recording personnel to limit conversation.
4. Try not to record behind glass.
5. Videos should then be uploaded to YouTube.
  - a. IAYRA Youtube Channel
  - b. The video link should be shared to this Google sheet.  
<https://goo.gl/forms/KXOuQpDX6HuFQSV32>
6. The video will then be embedded into game on the IAYRA website.

# Uniform Standards



- Check with other teams and their jersey design.
  - Try to not duplicate a scheme.
- Numbers are needed on the front and back.
- Numbers should be traditional rugby numbers 1-17 or 23.
- Numbers should be large and a contrasting color.
  - This is helpful when keeping stats and announcing purposes.

# Stats

- Stats entered weekly
- Team of the Week
- Stat Leader
- Coaches must enter stats into the IAYRA website for their player to be considered for all-state team selections.
- Coaches must be logged into IAYRA.org to be able to enter the “Coaches” page.
  - “Entering Stats” includes a How-To document.
  - <https://www.iayra.org/coachscorner>
- *As an organization we need to do a better job of stat and record keeping for our own history and player development.*

## Requirements for a tackle

1. For a tackle to occur, the ball-carrier is held and brought to ground by one or more opponents.
2. Being brought to ground means that the ball-carrier is lying, sitting or has at least one knee on the ground or on another player who is on the ground.
3. Being held means that a tackler must continue holding the ball-carrier until the ball-carrier is on the ground.

# Athletic Recognition & Awards



- Team of the Week
- Stat Leaders (weekly)
- All-State
  - All-state teams are comprised of position players (1-7)
  - Elite (1st Team)
  - 2nd Team
  - Honorable mention

# Code of Conduct & Sportsmanship



- Collaboration with Referee Society to eliminate in-match chirping with use of cards.
- Several incidents over the last few years.
  - Racial slurs
  - Trash talk on the field of play and from the sideline
  - Coaches entering the field of play
  - Fighting
  - Rough play
  - Referee abuse/post match professionalism
- Investigating these incidents takes away from managing the sport.
- Emphasize the values of Rugby
- Encourage all coaches and players to take the World Rugby law exam and/or get referee certified. <https://www.world.rugby/the-game/laws/home>

# Team Classification Discussion



- So many variables year to year.
- School size (BEDS count) is the most arbitrary way to organize classes.
  - In instances of shared players, the schools combined BEDS count dictates the class.
  - See shared player policy. <https://www.iayra.org/playereligibility>
- School size hasn't been indicative of competitiveness.

We are looking for the most consistent, competitive, and growth minded model/policy we can have.

# Thank You & Closing



Good luck to all teams this year!

Thank you for all your hard work!

Please share your ideas so that they may be put into practice, organized, and scheduled!