

# You and the ELVs: a WRU Age Grade Guide



The WRU has embraced ALL the 13 new Experimental Law Variations. Here is a brief guide to how they will affect your team this coming season.

LAW	Discussion	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14 +
<b>Law 6 - Match Officials</b>								
<b>1</b> Assistant referees are able to assist the referee in any way that the referee requires.	No effect	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
<b>Law 17 - Maul</b>								
<b>2</b> Remove reference to head and shoulders not being lower than hips.	No real effect	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>3</b> Players are able to defend a maul by pulling it down.	Yes, at all contact levels. The pull down has to be made between hips and shoulders.	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>Law 19 - Touch and Lineout</b>								
<b>4</b> If a team puts the ball back into its own 22 and the ball is subsequently kicked directly into touch, there is no gain in ground.	At all levels above TAG because there is kicking allowed inside the 22m.	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>5</b> A quick throw in may be thrown in straight or towards the throwing team's own goal line.	Quick throw ins are allowed from Under 11s onwards.	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>6</b> There is no restriction on the number of players from either team who can participate in the lineout.	Affects under 11 and onwards. At U10, both teams must have 4 each in the lineout.	No	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>7</b> The receiver at the lineout must be 2 metres away from the lineout.	For most teams the scrum half is in the receiver position and must be 2m back from the lineout. Makes it easier for the referee to see who is in and out of the lineout for offside purposes.	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

# You and the ELVs: a WRU Age Grade Guide



LAW	Discussion	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14 +
<b>8</b> The player who is in opposition to the player throwing in the ball must stand in the area between the 5-metre line and the touch line but must be 2 metres away from the 5-metre line.	The hooker must be 2m back from the front of the lineout.	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>9</b> Lineout players may pre-grip a jumper before the ball is thrown in.	Lifting and pre-gripping only allowed from U14 upwards.	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES
<b>10</b> The lifting of lineout players is permitted.	Tidies up what was already happening before BUT remember players cannot be lifted until the ball has left the hands of the hooker.	No	No	No	No	No	No	YES
<b>Law 20 - Scrum</b>								
<b>11</b> Introduction of an offside line 5 metres behind the hindmost feet of the scrum.	Applies to U10 and above where scrums are introduced.	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>12</b> Identification of scrum half offside lines.	The scrum half has to stay in close proximity to the scrum. Otherwise he must retire 5m.	No	No	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>Law 22 – Corner Posts</b>								
<b>13</b> The corner posts are no longer considered to be touch-in-goal except when the ball is grounded against the post.	Applicable to all levels.	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Note that for this year the WRU has introduced the following new law for age grade rugby:

**At Under 9, Under 10 and Under 11 levels to restrict tackling to the waist and below.**

*Also note that at all age groups from Under 9 to senior, it is prohibited to swing a player around by his jersey. Fending off and handing off is allowed from Under 12s upwards.*