



## **Varsity Initiative Rugby Team**

### *Process of registering with USA Youth and High School Rugby and USA Rugby*

USA Youth and High School Rugby and USA Rugby have a strong commitment to developing Varsity Initiative Rugby Teams throughout the United States and its outlying Territories. To this end, there is a membership tier for schools that have adopted rugby as a school sponsored sport. This tier of membership is designed to make it easier and more effective for schools to add a rugby team(s) to their school's athletic department. Most importantly, this tier of membership allows for these teams to play traditional rugby club programs without conflict of insurance and liabilities.

### **Varsity Initiative Membership Tier FAQ:**

- This is a *per team* membership, not for individual players. The membership per team is \$200, payable when the team registers through USA Youth and High School Rugby's membership registration system. *If your school has more than one team submitted to compete in the SGB's sanctioned rugby events (i.e. a Varsity Side and a JV Side), then each team qualifies as a separate team (ex. 2 teams will each have to pay \$200 for a total of \$400).*
- *Each player must register with their team through USA Youth and High School Rugby's membership registration platform at no charge. Players will have a unique member identification number however, they will not be a full member of USA Youth and High School and/or USA Rugby.*
- This membership is active only for the designated team within the membership cycle from September 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>. It applies to all USA Youth and High School and USA Rugby sanctioned rugby activities, including but not limited to training sessions, friendly matches, league matches, playoffs, state, regional, national championships and tournaments.
- If a player wants to play with a select side/travel team, that player will need to *upgrade* their membership to either an at-large member within their state or USA Youth and High School Rugby.
- *All coaches and admins* for the team must register through USA Youth and High School's membership registration platform and pay applicable membership fees.
- *All coaches must be a current USA Rugby Certified Level 200 Coach.*
- Membership does not include insurance of and kind. Schools must cover their players, coaches and administration as part of this status.

### **Varsity Initiative Team Application Process:**

- Varsity Initiative Teams are encouraged to apply beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> for the next registration cycle that begin September 1<sup>st</sup> of every year.
- The application can be downloaded from USA Youth and High School Rugby's website (<http://usayhsrugby.org/>)
- Complete the application and submit to your local SGB according to the instructions on the application.
- The SGB will confirm receipt of your application and confirm the submitted information with your school's Athletic Department.
- **Once all the information is verified by the SGB, the application and supporting documents will be submitted to USA Youth and High School Rugby for Board approval.**
- If approved the documents will be submitted to USA Rugby for their records.