

POLICY ON SPECIAL MEMBER STATUS FOR EMERGING CLUBS

Adopted by Executive Committee December 2021

NCRFU Bylaws require New Clubs to apply for Full Membership and to be accepted by a majority of current Full Member clubs at the Annual General Meeting (pursuant to New Club policy). Clubs that wish to participate in the union's competitions must join the union through that process.

In the interests of supporting growth of the game, the NCRFU Executive Committee wishes to exercise its authority to foster emerging clubs as Special Members of the union.

By successfully petitioning for special membership, a newly forming club will be allowed to register itself and its players, coaches, referees, and administrators with the NCRFU and USA Rugby. This will allow participation in "friendly" matches and social and other tournaments and preparation for application as Full Members.

Special Membership will be considered on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of the Executive Committee and will be reviewed annually. Ongoing Special Member status is dependent on compliance with the minimal USA Rugby membership requirements such as USA Rugby club registration, minimum of 15 registered players and registered Level 1 coach.

NCRFU Bylaws – relevant passages

ARTICLE II MEMBERS

Section 2.01 MEMBERS

(a) FULL MEMBERS

... additional member clubs shall be elected to the Union by a majority of full members at a general meeting (Annual General Meeting) upon nomination by a member club and a second by another member club.

(d) SPECIAL MEMBERS.

"Special Members" are organizations that are affiliated with the Union in an administrative relationship whose characteristics are not covered in other specific membership categories. This class of membership does not vote in Union matters unless specifically authorized by the Union membership. Special Members may be created from time to time by Executive Committee.

Section 2.02 VOTING MEMBERS

Each full member has one vote at any Union meeting and shall be represented at any meeting by no more than two persons. Honorary, Patron and Special Members are always welcome at Union meetings and may join in any discussion, at the discretion of the chair; however they have no vote in Union matters.