

# **WOMEN & GIRLS ADVISORY GROUP: TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Women and Girls Rugby League Advisory Group (WGAG) has been mandated by International Rugby League to coordinate international activities for women and girls rugby league.

### 2. PURPOSE & OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 Liaise with IRL members on the women's international calendar.
- 2.2 Identify strategic objectives and activities germane to members administering female rugby league programmes to recognise commonality and, where possible, promote those objectives and activities globally.
- 2.3 Encourage the increase of women leaders in rugby league and create a pipeline to promote women leaders.
- 2.4 Seek to establish parity for the women's game at all decision making levels and establish equity in opportunity for all participants

#### 3. OPERATING GUIDELINES

- 3.1 IRL will appoint an independent Chair appointed by IRL for a period of up to two years,.
- 3.2 In addition to the Chair WGAG will consist of eight additional Representatives, with one Representative from the following organisations:
  - a) Americas Rugby League
  - b) Asia Pacific Rugby League
  - c) Australian Rugby League Commission
  - d) International Rugby League
  - e) Middle East Africa Rugby League
  - f) New Zealand Rugby League
  - g) Rugby Football League
  - h) European Rugby League
- 3.3 The term of office for Representatives shall be a period of up to two years, subject to review by the Chair and/or IRL. Any change to a Representative before the end of a two-year term can only be effected by a Representative's nominating organisation or a majority vote of the other Representatives, other than the IRL Chair and Representative, who cannot be removed other than by IRL.
- 3.4 WGAG, at its discretion, will strive to stagger the re-appointment of Representatives, to ensure stability and continuity are balanced with a regular inclusion of fresh ideas and new perspectives. Each nominated Representative, who should possess a working understanding of English, must be approved by IRL and must sign a code of conduct.
- 3.3 The number of terms of each Representative shall be determined by the relevant nominating organisation in clause 3.2.
- 3.4 Each Representative shall each have one vote, although, in the event of a tie, the Chair will have the casting vote.
- 3.5 Quorum of meetings will be four representatives.
- 3.6 Meetings will be called by the Chair, with a notice period of not less than ten working days.



- 3.7 WGAG shall also appoint a secretary to the panel to co-ordinate meetings, circulate agendas, record minutes and tend to any administration arising from the advisory group decisions. The secretary shall be a non-voting member, although it is permissible for a Representative to concurrently assume the position of secretary.
- 3.8 From time to time, and upon invitation by the WGAG, other representatives of the IRL, its members, international competition organisers or other experts may attend the committee in a non-voting capacity.
- 3.9 Meetings will take place as and when required, using technology such as video and conference calling.
- 3.10 All Representatives shall abide by the Code of conduct, which they shall have read and signed and breaches of the code may lead to removal from the group.

#### 4 PRINCIPLES

- 4.1 To allow expertise from within the community to shape the advisory group's activities which shall focus on those listed in section 2, above.
- 4.2 Recognise the business, ethical and societal importance of women and girls rugby league to the future of the sport.

#### **5 ORGANISATION**

- 5.1 WGAG will be responsible for the organisation and administration of meetings.
- 5.2 Minutes from the meetings shall be taken and circulated to the group in a timely fashion after the meeting.
- 5.3 Presentations and reference papers discussed in a meeting will be circulated immediately following the meeting if not already circulated.
- 5.4 An action log will be created and presented at each meeting to record the progress against identified actions arising from previous meetings.

#### 6 SCOPE

- 6.1 WGAG shall conduct its business in line with the IRL constitution.
- 6.2 Any funding required to support WGAG recommendations will be identified by WGAG and then accessed according to a joint approach agreed with IRL management.
- 6.3 WGAG will limit its activity to areas agreed by the IRL Board.
- 6.4 WGAG is an advisory body without executive power. WGAG will propose recommendations to IRL, initially to the Executive and then the Board, which shall determine either to adopt them without amendment or make such amendments it deems fit. The Board will seek to interact directly with WGAG on matters concerning the women & girls strategy.

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