



## **USA Club Rugby Competition Policies**

### *Team Minimum Participation Requirements by Division*

All teams participating towards a USA Rugby Senior Club National Championship Series event must play in a minimum number of required qualifying matches each season.

Qualifying matches are defined as,

“**Qualifying Match** - Any Match in which the result is used to determine official Competition standings and/or to determine qualification for any USA Rugby Championship Event. In the Senior Club division this applies to all matches between teams within the same CR, and which lead to the earlier of either the USA Rugby ‘Round of 8’ or any USA Rugby-required Play-In matches which lead to the USA Rugby ‘Round of 8.’ Jurisdiction of this Competition lies with the Competitive Region Committee.”

Qualifying matches include both local league play and competitive region playoffs prior to the national playoffs.

Competitions that are unable to satisfy the required match count may apply for a waiver to the National Competitions Committee to have recognized cup and/or friendly matches count towards their required minimum. ***Waivers are not guaranteed*** and competitions should always submit such requests well in advance of the competitive season.

#### Minimum Number of Required Qualifying Matches by Division:

Men’s Division I	10 matches
Women’s Division I	6 matches
Men’s Division II	9 matches
Women’s Division II	6 matches
Men’s Division III	9 matches

Forfeits do not count towards the minimum number of required qualifying matches. If a forfeit occurs that disrupts a team’s ability to meet the minimum number of required qualifying matches by division, they may seek a waiver with the National Competitions Committee.

Competitions should endeavor to schedule more matches than the mandatory minimum to promote both player development and minimize eligibility risks associated with forfeits, etc.

All qualifying match data must be entered into the USA Rugby Competition Management System ([usarugbystats.com](http://usarugbystats.com)) no later than 11:59 PM Mountain Time on the Monday following a match.

#### Examples:

10 matches = 8 league matches (5 teams, double round-robin) + regional semi-final/final (2)

10 matches = 6 league matches (7 teams, single round-robin) + local final (1) + regional semi-final/final (2)

9 matches = 6 league matches (7 teams, single round-robin) + regional quarter-final/semi-final/final (3)

9 matches = 8 league matches (5 teams, double round-robin) + regional final (1)

6 matches = 4 league matches (3 teams, double round-robin) + regional semi-final/final (2)



Team Minimum Match Participation Calculator:

$$\frac{\text{League Matches}}{\text{League Matches}} + \frac{\text{Local League Playoffs}}{\text{Local League Playoffs}} + \frac{\text{Competitive Region Playoffs}}{\text{Competitive Region Playoffs}} = \frac{\text{Matches Played}}{\text{Matches Played}}$$

**League Matches** = Matches played in matrix format between teams in a defined competition, e.g. Florida Men's Division III regular (matrix) season

**Local League Playoffs** = Match(es) played between teams from the same competition prior to Competitive Region Playoffs, e.g. Rocky Mountain Men's Division II Championship match prior to Frontier CR Playoffs

**Competitive Region Playoffs** = Matches played as part of a defined playoff pathway within a Competitive Region, e.g. Midwest Women's Division II Eastern Semi-Finals, Midwest Women's Division II Championship, etc.