

The Rugby Cohort

There is considerable variation in the Rugby cohort by age:

ACTJRU HEIGHT AND WEIGHT DATA BY AGE										
as of 7 April 2017										
Age	Turning Number	Mean Height	Shortest	Tallest	Variance	Mean Weight	Lightest	Heaviest	Variance	
5	9	113.9	109.0	120.0	11.0	20.9	15.0	25.0	10.0	
6	40	115.6	100.0	180.0	80.0	22.7	14.0	70.0	55.0	
7	60	123.8	105.0	150.0	45.0	27.6	20.0	50.0	30.0	
8	51	124.4	90.0	141.0	51.0	26.9	20.0	41.0	21.0	
9	84	134.7	42.0	150.0	118.0	38.1	18.0	62.0	44.0	
10	89	135.4	25.0	188.0	163.0	42.0	22.0	120.0	98.0	
11	109	148.3	110.0	180.0	70.0	43.9	25.0	110.0	85.0	
12	134	150.6	115.0	193.0	78.0	48.3	30.0	105.0	75.0	
13	128	158.1	135.0	180.0	45.0	53.7	35.0	90.0	55.0	
14	125	168.1	51.0	187.0	138.0	61.0	34.0	108.0	74.0	
15	118	171.9	65.0	198.0	133.0	71.2	45.0	144.0	99.0	
16	117	175.5	63.0	200.0	137.0	74.4	45.0	110.0	65.0	
17	80	175.4	85.0	195.0	110.0	76.4	45.0	115.0	70.0	
18	49	181.0	152.0	203.0	51.0	80.3	58.0	145.0	87.0	

Key Points

- What are the relevant state and national bodies doing in relation to this weight disparity and the discouraging impact it has on participation?
- How does the weight differential impact on the issues of concussion and injury?
- Would allowing these weight differentials to continue receive endorsement from the Australian Medical Association, if not are the relevant national and state rugby bodies happy to continue without this endorsement?
- How does allowing these weight differentials impact on insurance costs of relevant bodies and do insurers endorse a continuation of these differentials?
- How does allowing these weight differentials impact on the personal liability of Directors and Officials involved in Junior Rugby and do they consider they have fulfilled their duty of due care?
- Have they considered mirroring the weight grading's and policies that are followed in junior rugby New Zealand, which allow a focus on skill development, which has had spectacular flow on effect to its senior rugby performance? An example of which is provide below;

<http://www.harbourrugby.co.nz/media/files/2015%20Junior%20Club%20Rugby%20Rules.pdf>

- Will mirroring New Zealand junior rugby weight and participation strategies allow for a quick time frame to roll out changes with limited cost?
- What are their time frames for implementing any changes?

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission to the Inquiry and I look forward to outcomes that will increase participation in junior rugby.