

## RUGBY STAFF CERTIFICATION COURSE OUTLINE

1. Eligibility requirements for participation: All **SENIOR** campers are eligible to participate in rugby unless (a) health concerns deem it appropriate for the nurse to exclude them or (b) the instructor excludes them due to behavioral difficulties or an inability to handle equipment safely.
2. Camper/staff supervision ratios: Kingswood recognizes the American Camping Association's required ratio of on duty staff to campers in cabin groups as well as to campers in camp activities: For boys age 6-8 years, one staff to 6 campers; for boys age 9-14, one staff to 8 campers; for boys age 15 and up, one staff to 10 campers. Additionally, at least 80% of the staff must be 18 years of age or older with no one under age 16. Younger counselors must be two years older than the campers they are assigned. There are no exceptions to these ratios and the Program Director will take them into account when assigning staff to all camp activities throughout the summer.
3. Identification of appropriate protective equipment: We do not use protective equipment for rugby. Rugby coaches, however, need to remain vigilant regarding the suitability of their gear throughout the summer, taking precautions to withdraw from circulation any gear found to have deteriorated through constant use. Withdrawn gear is to be placed in a different location from in-service gear or stockpiled gear in the War Room.
4. Safety Regulations:
  - All rugby games at Kingswood are of strictly "touch" or "flag" variety, with **NO TACKLING**. Scrimmages adapt a modified format of Rugby Union rules. Modifications as follows:
  - No scrums. Penalties to be enforced by change of possession, granting of advantage, or a 10 yard penalty.
  - Following a two-handed touch, the running player lies prone and presents the ball. The instructor/referee immediately gives both teams a three-second countdown: "Three, two, one, RUCK." Following the countdown, players of opposing teams may ruck with contact. Instructor should take care that rucks begin with stationary parties, not begin at speed. The "tackling" player may not participate in this. Even so, beware of size mismatches.
  - Again, **NO TACKLING**. Players must be instructed to ruck without a running start. More than one player may ruck at one time. Players who violate the rules of safe rucking should be warned or removed from the activity as the instructor sees fit.
  - In some week-long Rugby Clinics, the instructor may see fit to cover aspects of proper tackling form. This is acceptable, though must be both very closely monitored and adjusted to the fact that we use no safety equipment- i.e. it is ok to demonstrate proper tackling form or walk through steps in slow-motion, but not acceptable to practice full speed.
5. Emergency Procedures: Each activity listed above has written procedures regarding emergency situations which are binding at all times. These procedures may be found in the Clinic Manual. As a general rule, however, the same procedures outlined in the Staff Manual pertain to specialized activities: The infirmary is kept locked whenever the nurses are away from this facility. A note is tacked to the door giving her on-grounds location or advising seekers of in-charge person during their absence. In the event of an accident or other emergency, the first adult on the scene dispatches any other person to the infirmary to locate the nurse. The nature of the incident dictates whether the three whistle blasts over the PA are required or if the nurses need only be paged. The senior adult nearest the incident makes this call. The same considerations are made in paging the directors. Community emergency services may be summoned at the discretion of the nurses, or, in her absence, the person in charge as indicated by the note on the infirmary door.

6. Equipment maintenance procedures: All equipment should be regularly checked for safety, maintained in good repair, and stored in a manner to safeguard its effectiveness. Leaders do not condone any misuse of the equipment. A simple procedure governs this rule: The first person to arrive and the last person to leave the clinic site is the activity head. He is to submit maintenance requests in writing whenever he deems it necessary.
7. Identification of safety concerns related to the use area. We look upon this rugby certification course as a work in progress. We assume that never will we truly have thought of everything necessary to guarantee a 100% safe activity. Therefore, whenever you, as a certified rugby coach, come upon a situation not covered in this course, please submit in writing, any suggestions for its improvement. Most significant are safety issues which we might have overlooked. Please do not delay even one day if you stumble into something new and uncertain.
8. Safety Orientation: The camp requires that all participants be provided a safety orientation before engaging in any sort of rugby game, regardless of formality. This certification course packet should be in your possession on the first day of each new clinic week and be used to review plans for upcoming games with other camps.
9. Required study materials: Prior to taking the rugby staff certification test, you must study and become competent with the following documents: (1) This rugby staff certification outline, (2) The rugby clinics from the Clinic Manual, photocopied, (3) Kingswood Coaching Primer, a compendium of ideas from those before you who have contributed to the Kingwood way of doing things. The test itself will vary from person to person, depending on factors such as age and experience.
10. Competency Demonstration: Once you pass the final test, you will be certified to coach rugby at Kingswood. Thereafter, expect and indeed, look forward to having a continuing dialogue with the camp administrators regarding your competence and overall abilities as a rugby coach.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ has been certified to coach rugby  
at Kingswood Camp.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_