

## **Rugby League Northern Rivers (RLNR) Amalgamation FAQs**

### **1. What is the reason behind the amalgamation?**

The amalgamation is being carried out in line with best practice recommendations from the Australian Sports Commission along with other Government departments, ARLC and NSWRL. It allows for improved governance, accountability, and compliance, while also enabling streamlined communication by working with one unified body in the Northern Rivers region instead of three separate bodies.

### **2. What are the benefits of the amalgamation?**

- Access to larger sponsorship opportunities, with funds to be reinvested directly into local clubs.
- Ability to apply for bigger grants with a stronger, united presence.
- Greater administrative efficiency, reducing duplication across the region.

### **3. Will the competitions change?**

**No.** Existing competitions - Group 18, Group 1, and the Northern Rivers Regional Rugby League (NRRRL) - will remain in place. The structure and identity of each competition will be preserved.

### **4. Will the money from each board be pooled into RLNR?**

**No.** The current funds held by each board will remain with their respective groups. In the future, there may be a shared contribution from each board to help fund a regional secretary. This role would support all groups by easing the workload on current volunteers such as registrars and secretaries. Each group treasurer will have input with the finance subcommittee and also conduct business as normal for their competition with support from RLNR fiancé director

### **5. Is this a takeover of local competitions by a central body?**

**Not at all.** The aim is to support and strengthen local competitions, not control or replace them. Local autonomy will be maintained, while benefiting from regional coordination.

### **6. How will clubs have a say in the new structure?**

Under the proposed model, Clubs will become the members of the Region ensuring **that they always have a say** not only in their respective competitions, but also on regional initiatives and opportunities. General meetings will still be called as and when required.

### **7. Will anything change at club level?**

**No.** Nothing will change at club level other than the additional support being offered to clubs through the amalgamation.

### **8. Will there be job losses due to the amalgamation?**

**No.** This process is not about cutting roles — it's about supporting and streamlining the efforts of our existing volunteers. By centralising certain administrative tasks, we aim to reduce pressure on club and group secretaries, registrars, and committee members.

Additionally, volunteers who are passionate about specific areas are encouraged to become involved in subcommittees, including:

- Female Participation
- Male Participation
- Development Pathways
- Governance & Compliance
- Finance

These subcommittees will help shape the direction of rugby league in our region and ensure that local voices and expertise continue to guide decision-making.