



September 2017

Playing Regulations: Women's Rugby

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1. CHAMPIONSHIP ROSTER

Each championship team can declare up to twenty-five (25) players from their most recently submitted U SPORTS Eligibility Form. At least five (5) or more of that 25 player roster must be designated as suitably trained and experienced Front row. Teams may dress any twenty-five (25) of these players for each championship game. **All ten (10) substitutions may enter the game.**

2. TEAM BENCH

A team can have a maximum of 30 people in the bench (technical) area including athletes, coaches and support staff.

Note: Any team member above the 30 is considered a spectator and will sit in the stands.

3. PARTICIPANTS

3.1 TEAMS

The participating teams shall be as follows:

- Atlantic University Sport Representative
- RSEQ Representative
- OUA Representative
- Canada West Representative
- Host (**University of Lethbridge**)
- **Assigned berth – OUA**
- **Assigned berth – RSEQ**
- **Assigned berth – AUS**

(Refer to Policy **20.20.4.9** for more details.)

3.2 IDENTIFICATION

The Head Official will designate home and away uniforms at the Technical Meeting prior to the championship.

3.3 INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY (N/A)

3.4 INDIVIDUAL ENTRY (N/A)

3.5 INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (N/A)

3.6 TEAM ENTRIES (N/A)

3.7 TEAM RANKINGS (N/A)

4. COMPETITION

4.1 CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

The U SPORTS Championship shall have eleven (11) games taking place over four (4) days. There will be eight (8) teams in a quarterfinal knockout format with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place game as well as a consolation 5<sup>th</sup> place game.



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## 4.2 SELECTION, DRAWS, POOLS, TRIALS AND HEATS

### 4.2.1 DRAW COMMITTEE

1. Chairperson: A non-voting U SPORTS Office staff member.
2. Members: One voting representative from each Sport Conference. Each Sport Conference representative to be appointed by the convener of that Sport Conference and must be a coach not participating in the championship. Representatives must provide emergency contact information and alternative representative contact information.
3. President of the Coaches Executive: The President of the Coaches Executive will take part in the conference call and shall only vote in the case of a tie. Should the President be the coach of a team that has qualified for the championship, the President will contact the U SPORTS Office to notify them of his/her designate.

### 4.2.2 CRITERIA AND COMPLETION OF THE DRAW

1. After the previous year's U SPORTS championship, the 4 conferences will be assigned a draw order of #1 through #4 based on final standing of the highest finishing team from each conference at the championship.
2. Conference champions will be **assigned** in the #1 through #4 spots.
3. The remaining 3 assigned berths and host team will be placed on the opposite half of the draw as the champion from their sport conference.
4. Results of regional playoffs must be respected.
5. The Draw Committee will determine the placement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> conference teams in positions #5 or #8 and in positions #6 or #7. A conference call will be held on the Sunday immediately following the completion of all Regional Association championships.
6. If the Host wins their conference championship they will take the #1 conference spot and the second place finisher in that conference will assume the Host spot for the purposes of the draw.

#### **Final standings from the 2016 U SPORTS Championship:**

1. StFX University (AUS)
2. University of Ottawa (RSEQ)
3. University of Calgary (CWUAA)
4. University of Guelph (OUA)
5. Concordia University (RSEQ)
6. McMaster University (OUA)



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**Seeding of the four Sport Conferences based on the results of the 2016 Championship:**

- 1. AUS**
- 2. RSEQ**
- 3. CWUAA**
- 4. OUA**

**On the Sunday prior to the U SPORTS Championship the Seeding Committee will determine the #2 teams from each regional association in each bracket as listed below:**

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>(1) vs. (8)</b> | <b>AUS #1 vs CWUAA #2 <u>or</u> RSEQ #2</b> |
| <b>(4) vs. (5)</b> | <b>OUA #1 vs CWUAA #2 <u>or</u> RSEQ #2</b> |
| <b>(2) vs. (7)</b> | <b>RSEQ #1 vs OUA #2 <u>or</u> AUS #2</b>   |
| <b>(3) vs. (6)</b> | <b>CWUAA #1 vs OUA #2 <u>or</u> AUS #2</b>  |

**4.2.3 DRAW PROCEDURES**

1. The conference call will be scheduled for the Sunday prior to the Championship following the last Sport Conference championship.
2. Immediately following the conference call, the U SPORTS office will release the final draw and schedule.
3. Any member institution or Regional Association that releases this information prior to the embargo established by the U SPORTS office will be fined \$500.00.

**4.3 FORMULAS AND FORMAT (N/A)**

**4.4 PROCEDURES AND PROTESTS**

If a team wishes to lodge a protest at the end of the game, its team representative must do so in writing and submit the protest to the Discipline Committee within fifteen (15) minutes of the end of the game, having declared her/his intention to do so above her/his signature on the game sheet.

The team representative shall then have a further fifteen (15) minutes to remit to the same Discipline Committee a deposit of \$40.00. If she/he fails to do so, the protest shall be considered void. This protest deposit shall be refunded unless the protest is deemed a futile one by the Discipline Committee. The Host institution keeps any moneys received from protests.

The Discipline Committee shall normally make its decision within one hour of the end of the final game of the day. The decision shall be final.

**4.5 SCHEDULES OR ORDER OF EVENTS**

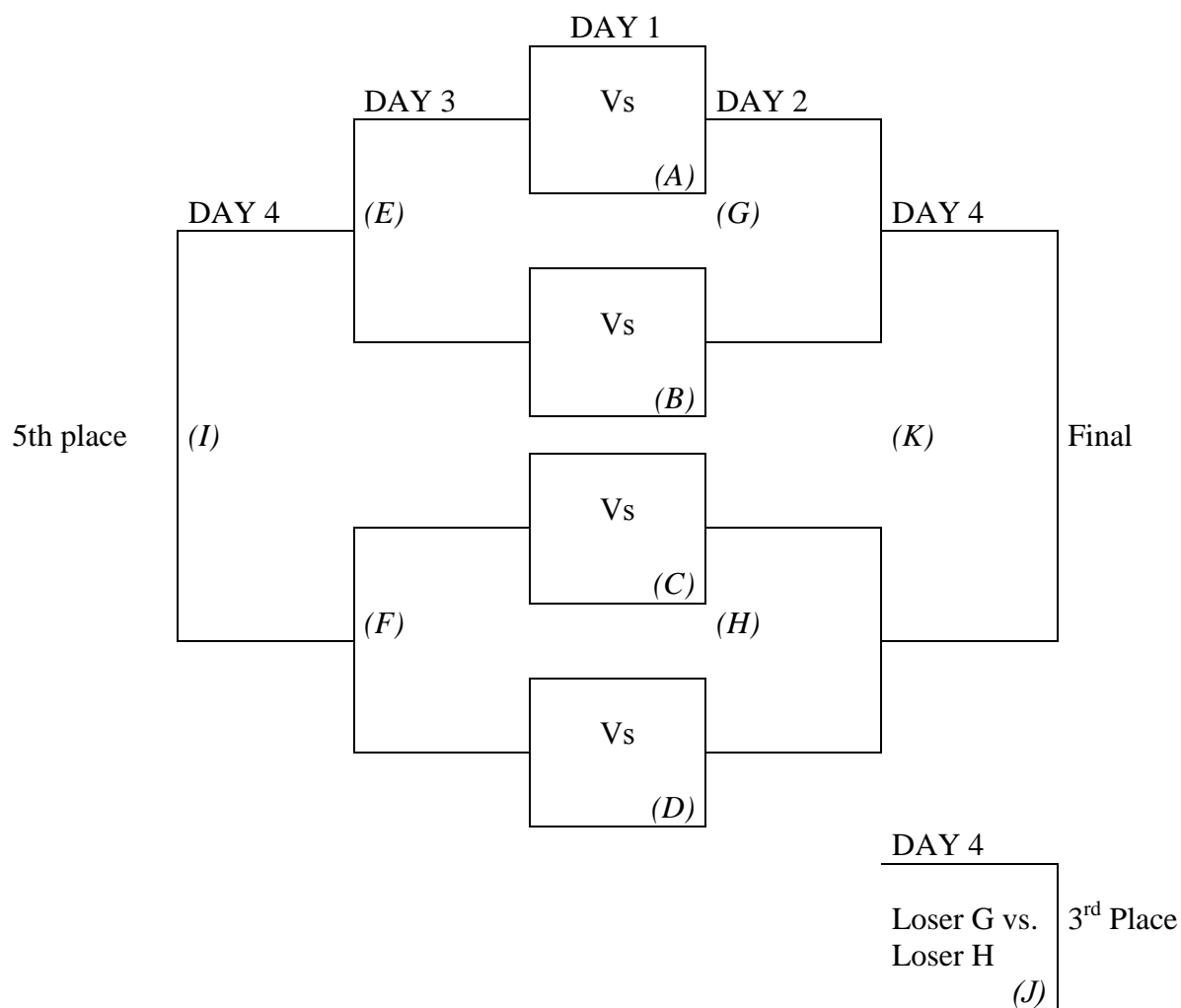


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The final schedule is at the discretion of the Host Committee working in consultation with the U SPORTS Office (minor adjustments can be made to accommodate the marketing opportunities within a host community for example: rest day on day 2 or day 3 to best engage community activities).



Note 1: To ensure the integrity of the draw, the structure of the brackets must be maintained (i.e. Game A and Game B must always stay together and Game C and Game D must always stay together) so that common rest times are protected. Game A and Game B can however be moved to the bottom side of the draw, allowing Game C and Game D to move to the top side of the draw.



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Note 2: Without affecting the integrity of the draw, games in the upper half of the draw can be switched to accommodate travel and time zone adjustment (i.e. Canada West teams traveling east). If the teams playing are not impacted by the time zone change then there can be no switching of game times.

4.6 GAME TIMES

Preliminary Round = 2 x 35 minute halves

Finals (Fifth, Bronze, Gold) = 2 x 40 minute halves

4.7 PRACTICE TIMES / WARM-UPS

Setting up practice times is at the Hosts discretion. Generally times are booked on a first come first serve basis while trying to accommodate teams arrival times.

4.8 OVERTIME AND TIME-OUTS

**See 4.9**

4.9 TIE-BREAKING

Should a tie exist at the conclusion of full time play two 10-minute overtime periods will be played. If still tied, the tie breaking procedures below will be used. NOTE: There will be no overtime in the 5<sup>th</sup> place game. If tied at the conclusion of full time play, move directly to penalty kicks as per **#5 below**.

1. The team scoring the higher number of tries shall be deemed the winner.
2. If a tie still exists, the team scoring the higher number of goals (converted tries) shall be deemed the winner.
3. If a tie still exists, the team scoring the higher number of drop goals shall be deemed the winner.
4. If a tie still exists, the team scoring the higher number of penalty goals shall be deemed the winner.
5. If there is still a tie, each team shall nominate five kickers to kick at goal from the 22-meter line. The kickers from each team will alternate. All kickers will kick. The team that scores the higher(est) number of successful kicks out of five, will be designated a higher(est) place.
6. If there is still a tie, kicks will be taken from a position, a further ten meters from the posts. The competition shall continue until one kicker in the series succeeds where his/her opposition misses. The team whose kicker has recorded the successful kick out of this pair shall be designated the higher(est) place.
7. This shall be repeated until a winner is declared.

4.10 SCORING AND STANDARDS (N/A)

4.11 RECORDS AND STATISTICS (N/A)



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## 5. EQUIPMENT AND FACILITY

### 5.1 BALL

The official ball of the championship shall be a size 5 ball.

### 5.2 RECORDING

#### 5.2.1 FIRST ROUND OPPONENT

**In advance of the championship, each participating team shall ensure that the following game recordings are uploaded to the U SPORTS approved video exchange provider no later than Monday at 5:00pm EST on the week leading up to the championship.**

- 1. Conference championship game**
- 2. Conference semifinal game (where applicable)**

**As soon as the game recordings have been uploaded to the video exchange provider, the two schools will be provided access to the footage. This access will not be granted until both recordings have been uploaded.**

**There will be no video recording of any U SPORTS tournament games/practices or still pictures taken by another team scouting a game/practice for any reason. Coaches may scout games but cannot video record that game or any other game.**

#### 5.2.2 HOST REQUIREMENT

**The Host of the Championship shall video record all games, and make the video recordings available via the U SPORTS approved video exchange provider or USB within 2 hours of the completion of each game.**

### 5.3 UNIFORMS

U SPORTS reserves the right to require participants in a U SPORTS Championship to wear a U SPORTS logo on their uniforms. These logos will be provided to each team in advance of the championship. The logo must be placed on the top, right chest area of each uniform.

### 5.4 BIBS, SOCKS, SHIRT COLOR, TIGHTS AND TOWELS

Players are permitted to wear tights or other warmer weather gear.

### 5.5 HEAD GEAR AND HELMETS (N/A)

### 5.6 CAPTAIN'S IDENTIFICATION (N/A)

### 5.7 DEPTH CHARTS (N/A)

### 5.8 SPOTTER PHONES (N/A)

### 5.9 FACILITY AND MEET REQUIREMENTS (N/A)



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6. RULES

The **World Rugby** Senior Laws as published by Rugby Canada shall govern the U SPORTS Championship, unless otherwise amended by U SPORTS.

- 6.1 The use of **World Rugby** sanctioned surfaces (includes artificial turf) are recognized as approved playing surfaces for U SPORTS competition.
- 6.2 Times served for sin-bin penalties shall be:  
80 minute games = 10 minutes  
70 minute games = 7 minutes

7. MEETINGS

7.1 COACHES TECHNICAL MEETING

A participating coaches Technical meeting will be held prior to the first game at the Championship. Date and time of the meeting is at the discretion of the Host Organizing Committee.

7.2 COACHES ANNUAL MEETING

The Host Organizing Committee should work with the President of the Coaches Executive to determine a date and time for the annual Coaches Executive-meeting.

7.3 COACHES CLINIC (N/A)

7.4 PRESS CONFERENCE

The date and time for a championship press conference is at the discretion of the Host Organizing Committee, working in consultation with the U SPORTS Office.

8. OFFICIALS

8.1 FUNDED OFFICIALS

Rugby Canada will appoint **eight (8)** officials to the U SPORTS Championship. A non-funded head official will also be appointed and this person will not be one of the six funded officials. U SPORTS will be responsible for all transportation costs to the host venue city for the six funded officials.

8.2 ASSIGNMENT

The **eight** assigned officials will be selected by Rugby Canada. Efforts will be made to ensure selections from across the country with the priority being to work towards the assignment of the highest caliber of officials available at the time of the championship.

8.3 NEUTRALITY (N/A)



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8.4 QUALIFICATIONS

As determined by Rugby Canada. Preference will be given to referees officiating regular season U SPORTS matches.

8.5 HOST RESPONSIBILITIES

The Host Organizing Committee shall work with the local Rugby Union to ensure a 4<sup>th</sup> official is provided.

On-site ground transportation, meals, accommodation (double occupancy) and fees.

8.6 NSO'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Rugby Canada will be responsible for all expenses relating to the Head Official.

8.7 FEES

Referee: \$50.00

Touch judge: \$25.00

8.8 STAND BY OFFICIAL (N/A)

8.9 SELECTION PROCESS

Rugby Canada in consultation with the U SPORTS Office will assign 6 referees to the championship. Final selections must be forwarded to the U SPORTS Office no later than 30 days prior to the start of the event.

8.10 ON-SITE ASSIGNMENT

The head official will function as the Appointer and Assessor of officials at the national championship.

9. SEASON AND CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

*\*Please refer to policy 60.20 for more details re standard championship awards.*

***Please note, that video for award nominees is recommended for nominations***

9.1 ALL-CANADIANS

9.1.1 15 First-Team and 15 Second-Team All-Canadians will be selected.

9.1.2 Nominations must be submitted using the U SPORTS Awards online award system if available.

Otherwise all information should be emailed to the Awards Chairperson.

9.1.3 The Selection Committee will be comprised of one representative from each of the Sport Conferences as well as the Awards Chairperson on the Coaches Association Executive for a total of 5 members. The Awards Chairperson will only have voting privileges in the event of a tie.





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- 9.1.4 Each team will comprise of 3 Front Row (2 Props & 1 Hooker); 2 Locks; 3 Back Row (2 Flankers & #8); 1 Scrum Half; 1 Fly Half; 2 Centres; 3 Back Three (2 Wingers & Full Back). Specific Selection Criteria will be circulated annually.
- 9.1.5 Each Conferences nominated 15 Conference all-stars should finalized and listed online (hopefully via the U SPORTS website awards system) by Sunday evening two weeks before the U SPORTS Tournament.
- 9.1.6 All nominations must be accompanied by supporting information, statistics and video.
- 9.1.7 Where possible, each All-Canadian/major award nomination must be accompanied by one (1) video highlight clip per player. The accompanying video is to be made up of a maximum of 8 plays. The film must be uploaded to the U SPORTS approved video exchange provider, upload instructions will be circulated in advance of the deadline. Each film should be labeled with the following information: Candidate's name, position, jersey number, school. Using as few words as possible, describe what the candidate does on the play.
- 9.1.8 The All-Canadian Selection Committee Conference Call must be held within two (2) full days of the deadline to allow at least a full seven (7) days before the presentations at the All-Canadian Banquet the following week.
- 9.1.9 Where possible, each conference MVP will automatically be awarded as a First team All-Canadian.
- 9.1.10 To win the national award, the athlete must have been named to the All-Star team in their Sport Conference, if such as team is named.
- 9.1.11 All Sport Conference representatives will be allowed to vote for any All-Canadian Candidate regardless of Sport Conference origin.
- 9.1.12 The voting and/or rankings of each voting member will be circulated to all U SPORTS Head Coaches AFTER the completion of the process and the Tournament has finished.
- 9.2 **OUTSTANDING PLAYER OF THE YEAR**
  - 9.2.1 Selected, no later than 10 to 12 days prior to the U SPORTS Championship, by the Awards Committee composed of one representative from each Sport Conference.
  - 9.2.2 Selected from the four (4) Sport Conference nominees for Player of the Year.
  - 9.2.3 Athletes nominated for Player of the Year shall automatically qualify for All-Canadian status.
  - 9.2.4 Player of the Year shall be a member of the All-Canadian team.
- 9.3 **ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**
  - 9.3.1 Selection similar to the Outstanding Player of the Year.
  - 9.3.2 Sport Conference nominates one player.
  - 9.3.3 Athlete must be in their first year of eligibility as of September 1st and be a maximum of 21 years of age.
  - 9.3.4 The athlete receiving the most votes shall be named Rookie of the Year.
  - 9.3.5 To win the national award the athlete must have won the rookie of the year award in their sport conference, if such an award exists.



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**9.4 STUDENT-ATHLETE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

- 9.4.1 Selected by the Coaches Executive, following same timelines as the All-Canadian selection process.
- 9.4.2 Recipient who best exhibits outstanding achievements in three (3) areas: rugby, academics and community involvement.
- 9.4.3 Each Sport Conference must include with their nomination a bio outlining the three areas listed above.
- 9.4.4 To win the national award the athlete must have won the award in their Sport Conference, if such an award exists.
- 9.4.5 An athlete may only win the award once.
- 9.4.6 The award recipient will be selected during the U SPORTS All-Canadian Conference call and  
will be announced at the U SPORTS All-Canadian Awards Ceremony.

**9.5 COACH OF THE YEAR (JIM ATKINSON AWARD)**

- 9.5.1 Selected by the Coaches Executive, following same timelines as the All-Canadian selection process.
- 9.5.2 Each Sport Conference must include with their nomination a biography.
- 9.5.3 To win the national award the coach must have won the award in their Sport Conference, if such an award exists.
- 9.5.4 The award recipient will be selected during the U SPORTS All-Canadian Conference call and  
will be announced at the U SPORTS All-Canadian Awards Ceremony.

Note: If the Awards Committee Chair is nominated for the Coach of the Year the Director of Athletics of that institution will serve as alternate for voting purposes for the Coach of the Year award.

**9.6 CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY AND U SPORTS PENNANT**

Awarded to the U SPORTS Champion.

**9.7 CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS**

Awarded to first, second and third place teams.

**9.8 CHAMPIONSHIP MVP**

- 9.8.1 Selected by an Awards Committee established by the Host Organizing Committee and composed of non-participating coaches attending the championship.
- 9.8.2 Selection based on the athletes' performance at the Championship.
- 9.8.3 Must be a member of the Tournament All-Star team.

**9.9 CHAMPIONSHIP ALL-STAR TEAM**

- 9.9.1 Selected by an Awards Committee established by the Host Organizing Committee.
- 9.9.2 15 players will be selected to the All-Star Team (one at each position).



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#### 9.10 CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYERS OF THE GAME

- 9.10.1 One player from each team will be picked as the player of the game.
- 9.10.2 In games that are televised, the primary lead broadcaster will make the selection of the players of the game.
- 9.10.3 In games that are not televised, the Host will work with the Coaches Executive to determine the make-up of the selection committee.

#### 9.11 FAIR PLAY AWARD (R.W. PUGH)

The officials will vote on the team that exhibits the standards of fair play throughout the championship. The selection shall be made by the officials in conjunction with the Host Organizing Committee on the evening prior to the final day of the championship.

### 10. COMMITTEES

#### 10.1 CHAMPIONSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Management Committee shall rule on all matters necessary for the championship to proceed, includes but is not limited to any technical or disciplinary protests/appeals that may arise during the championship. The Management Committee shall apply U SPORTS Rules. The Management Committee may not, nor may any member, make an exception to any U SPORTS Rule or to a sanction imposed by U SPORTS. The Management Committee has no jurisdiction to consider or interpret U SPORTS Eligibility Regulations.

Composition of the Management Committee shall be:

- 1. Convener of Championship - non-voting chair.
  - 2. U SPORTS Delegate.
  - 3. Director of Rugby, Rugby Canada (self-funded) or designate.
  - 4. President of the Coaches Executive, or designate.
- A quorum shall require all of the four members, or their replacement.

If a member of the Management Committee was involved, directly or indirectly, in a decision or an interpretation of a U SPORTS Rule that is being appealed/protested to the Management Committee that member shall be excused from the Management Committee. In this event, the remaining members of the Management Committee have the authority to appoint as a replacement for the excused member an individual who is independent, unbiased and uninvolved in the matter in dispute. The decision regarding whether a member of the Management Committee should be excused and replaced lies solely with the Management Committee.

Notwithstanding the procedures described in U SPORTS policy 90.70.4.1.1 (see below), the U SPORTS Championship Management Committee shall have the power and jurisdiction to take interim on-the-spot measures to address minor code of conduct issues (inappropriate or unsportsmanlike conduct that is not criminal in nature) that arise at U SPORTS



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Championships, in a timely fashion. The record of the incident, including the interim measures taken to address it shall be copied to the Athletic Director(s) of the affected school(s), and the U SPORTS office and Discipline Committee.

It is the expectation of U SPORTS that persons representing Member institutions, and/or U SPORTS, at U SPORTS Championships will behave responsibly, and with propriety, and in accordance with the laws of the land.

90.70.4.1.1 Procedures Regarding Misconduct

Where misconduct occurs at a U SPORTS Championship (including traveling to and from the event, practice days and competition days), the Chief Executive Officer, assisted by the event Convener, shall:

1. Investigate the particulars of the incident that gave rise to the misconduct;
2. Determine the amount and type of damage to property or injury to persons.
3. Identify the persons and institutions responsible for the incident; and
4. Summarize this information in a written report.

*The Chief Executive Officer shall provide a copy of the written report to the President, who may bring a complaint in accordance with U SPORTS Policy 90.40 - Discipline. A copy of the written report shall be provided to the Directors of Athletics of the institutions involved.*

10.3 DELEGATES (N/A)

11. APPENDICES (N/R)