

Add Rugby to the Canon

Packet by Min Curtis

Note to moderators: Due to the lack of canonicity and general lack of knowledge of the sport in the US, the pyramidity of these questions is most likely lacking in quality.

1. The Canadian governing body of amateur gridiron football officially contained this term in its name until it was renamed in 1967 due to the sport being very distinct from rugby by that point. The need for the use of this term stems from siding against professionalism in a dispute known as the “Great Schism.” The international governing body for the version of the sport associated with this term is World Rugby, which finally lifted the formal restriction on paying players in 1995. This code of rugby was originally known as simply “rugby football.” This code contrasts another which has the aim of being a faster and more spectator-friendly sport. For 10 points, name this code of rugby, contrasted with “league,” whose name was present in both the RFU and the NU, the two opposing sides of the “Great Schism.”

Answer: **Union**

Bonuses

1. Rugby Union and Rugby League have a number of differences in rulesets. For 10 points each, answer the following about some of these differences.

[10m] In Rugby Union, there are many different ways for the defending team to contest possession of the ball, and there is no limit on how long a team can remain in possession of the ball. In Rugby League, however, there are far fewer opportunities to contest possession, but a team is only able to hold onto possession of the ball for this number of tackles.

Answer: **Six**

[10e] One obvious difference between the two codes is the number of players on each team. In Rugby League, each team is allowed 13 players actively on the field at a time, while in Rugby Union, a team is traditionally allowed this number of players.

Answer: **Fifteen**

[10h] *Two Answers Required* While tries are present in both Rugby League and Rugby Union, there are some subtle differences between them. The most obvious difference, however, is their point value. Give the point value associated with a try in each of the two codes.

Answer: **Rugby Union: 5** and **Rugby League: 4**

[10vh] *Two Answers Required* While both Rugby League and Rugby Union have similarly sized fields, both of them allow for a range of field sizes. Rugby Union generally but not always has larger fields and have a larger range of acceptable lengths. A Rugby League field has a length between 112 and 122 meters long, while a Rugby Union field has a length within these two distances (answer must be given in meters).

Answer: **106 meters** and **144 meters**

2. For 10 points each, answer the following about “tries” in rugby.

[10e] A try is analogous to this play in gridiron football

Answer: **Touchdown**

[10h] *Description Acceptable* This is the main difference, regarding contact, between a try in rugby and a touchdown in gridiron.

Answer: **A try requires continuous contact between the ground, ball, and player,** while a touchdown simply needs to enter the endzone in possession of the player. [Accept any equivalent description of the underlined part]

[10m] *Description Acceptable* A try may be scored anywhere in the try zone (analogous to the gridiron end zone). Name the reason why players will usually attempt to score in the middle of the try zone anyways.

Answer: **The conversion kick is taken in line with where the try was scored,** at any point in

the field along the line to the kicker's choice. [Accept any equivalent description of the underlined part]