**PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM (PPS) RATIONALE (by Bob Brenton - PPS Auditor Dec-17)**

***Background***

* After consultation with NHRU Clubs a PPS was introduced for the 2015 season
* This was in response to concerns that the competition was becoming lopsided with fewer clubs being competitive at the top level
* Significant among the causes for this development was the trend from clubs with the greater financial resources to actively recruit/import players from overseas
* Concurrently clubs in the lower half of the competition complained about poaching of their key players by the stronger clubs. Incentives offered included (but were not limited to) potential premiership participation, future representative selection and financial incentives.
* Consequences of these practices included the neglect of the lower grades, the neglect of junior programs and the poaching of other clubs better junior players.

***Preamble***

It is considered that the participation of locals and the successful pathway for juniors is vital to the sustainability of rugby and clubs within the region. Historically it has been the ‘locals’ who have longevity with a club, that are most likely to become coaches and take on volunteer roles once their player careers are at an end. They are potentially future club sponsors or at least the Saturday afternoon spectators/supporters. Generally their association with their club is not fleeting.

***Aims***

* The growth of a broad base of highly competitive clubs generating a strong and growing competition
* Recognition that that a successful and competitive local competition overrides the success and self-interest of individual clubs
* Nurturing of juniors to ensure the growth base is local and not dependent on the import of players
* Limitation on the import of players from outside the region, but not exclusion, as it is recognized that often the players ‘value-add’ to the quality of the competition
* Restrict the poaching of players from clubs within the completion.

***Methodology***

The three pillars of the PPS are: -

* **LIMIT THE IMPORT OF PLAYERS** The intent is to control the number of players from outside the region
* **LIMIT THE INTER CLUB TRANSFER OF PLAYERS** The intent is to deter the poaching of players from within the completion
* **PROMOTE JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT** The intent is for clubs to develop juniors and grow their club from within its own organization