



Joint Statement from the General Committee of the Associated Schools of NSW and the Board of the Independent Sporting Association

The General Committee of the Associated Schools of NSW (CAS) and the Board of the Independent Sporting Association (ISA) wish to announce that there will be a new competition format for the 2025 Rugby season. This format change is the result of significant feedback and consultation with schools, with a view to creating the best possible environment for our rugby players. The new format will see CAS and ISA schools compete for their respective association competitions throughout Term 2 and will then combine to play in a graded inter association competition during Term 3. ISA Schools that were previously Div 2 were amalgamated into the ISA Div 1 Competition in 2024 across the B or C competition for each age group, aligned with a Div 1 school. In 2025, the intention is for that to continue.

Once the CAS / ISA competitions have been completed in Term 2, the results from the 1st and 2^{nds} XV's, along with U13-U16 age group A's teams, will determine the placing of schools into two competition pools. The intention of the inter association competition during Term 3 is to provide the best possible experience for the final matches of the season for all players as we work towards creating the best Schoolboys Rugby competition in Australia.

As an example, using the 2024 season's results the two competition pools would be.

RED POOL	BLACK POOL
Barker College	St Pius X College
St Augustine's College	Trinity Grammar School
Waverley College	St Patrick's College
Oakhill College	Cranbrook School
Knox Grammar School	Kinross Wolaroi School
St Stanislaus College	St Aloysius' College
	St Gregory's College
	Central Coast Grammar School

During Term 3, the fixtures will be done in a 2 year block. In 2025, CAS schools will host the first week of fixtures and ISA Schools will host the second and third weeks of fixtures*. The following year in 2026, the CAS schools will host two home fixtures and ISA schools will host one home fixture.

* Where appropriate, schools will discuss the sharing of age groups during these fixtures, as has happened in the past

To determine the winner in each of the Pools, the 1st XV win / loss results from each Association's matches in Term 2 will carry over to the Inter Association Competition. The results from the Inter-Association matches will be added to the Inter Association Competition ladder, to determine a winning School.

We have the full support of NSW Rugby Union in making this change and look forward to this exciting new competition format.