

DRAFT PROPOSAL  
FOR THE  
NRL INDEPENDENT  
COMMISSION

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# THE NEW RUGBY LEAGUE CONCEPT

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The idea behind this concept is to create a competition that doesn't disadvantage teams during the State of Origin, reduces the wear and tear on representative players, and excites fans. It is also designed to create maximum tv revenue with fresh ideas, a new competition, options for more advertising revenue, and still maintaining tradition in the greatest game of all.

## The Main Competition Draw: 20 Rounds

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The competition will consist of 18 teams. The current 16 NRL teams plus 1 team from the central coast of NSW, and a 2nd team from Brisbane possibly Redcliffe (B2). This amount of teams will create 17 rounds of playing each other once. These games will be held from round 2 through to round 18, with home and away held over 2 seasons. Therefore, the draw will last for 2 years.

Rounds 1 and 19 will be the RIVALRY rounds on a home and away basis. Starting the season off with a bang and a return rivalry round towards the end of the season will excite the passions of the fans.

Round 20 will be the WILD CARD round. The Wild Card round will be drawn at half time of the Round 19 Sunday TV game. This will create intrigue and excitement among fans, about who will play who in the last game before the finals.

Between Rounds 10 and 11 the competition will be suspended for: State of Origin; one off Test with New Zealand; and the Origin Cup Series. This will reduce representative players' commitments allowing their bodies to recover. Origin teams will have an uninterrupted season giving them a better chance to improve combinations, making for even better games. The halt to the main season will not disadvantage teams with representative players, and will give fans a chance to see their team compete for another title in a new and exciting competition, while the main competition maintains its true integrity – ie a 20 round competition where each team has a chance to have all players available for every round.

## RUGBY LEAGUE CALENDER – Based on 2009 calendar

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February 28 – March 1	World Club Challenge
March 6	World Club Challenge Final
March 13–15	Trial Matches, NRL Indigenous All Stars
March 20–23	Round 1: Rivalry Round # 1
March 27–30	Round 2
April 3–6	Round 3
April 10–13	Round 4
April 17–20	Round 5
April 24–27	Round 6
May 1–4	Round 7
May 8–11	Round 8
May 15–18	Round 9
May 22–25	Round 10

### Competition suspended for Origin Cup Series

May 29 – June 1	Origin Cup Series Round 1
June 3 (Wed Night)	STATE OF ORIGIN Game 1
June 5–8	Origin Cup Series Round 2
June 10 (Wed Night)	STATE OF ORIGIN Game 2
June 12–15	Origin Cup Series Round 3
June 17 (Wed Night)	STATE OF ORIGIN Game 3
June 19–22	Origin Cup Series Round 4
June 26 (Fri Night)	Origin Cup Series Semis 1 and 2
June 28 (Sun Arvo)	ANZAC TEST
June 29 (Mon Night)	Origin Cup Series Final

### Competition resumes

July 3 – 6	Round 11
July 10 – 13	Round 12
July 17 – 20	Round 13
July 24 – 27	Round 14
July 31 – August 3	Round 15
August 7 – 10	Round 16
August 14 – 17	Round 17
August 21 – 24	Round 18
August 28 – 31	Round 19: Rivalry Round # 2
September 4 – 7	Round 20: Wild Card Round
September 11 – 13	Quarter Finals
September 18 – 20	Preliminary Finals
September 25 – 27	Semi Finals
October 4	Grand Final
October 25 – November 15	Biennial 4 Nations International



# ORIGIN CUP SERIES



## THE ORIGIN CUP SERIES

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The Origin Cup Series is a 4 round competition plus 2 semi finals and the final held over a 5 week period during the State of Origin between Rounds 10 and 11 of the main competition.

The teams will be split into 4 conferences of 5 teams. The extra 2 teams will be made up by a NSW under 20's and Qld under 20's. Points will be obtained by a victory, losing by less than 7 points, and tries scored. Conference winners will also be determined by for and against.

Conference winners will meet in semi finals on the Friday of week 5, and the final will be held the following Monday night.



# **SYDNEY CONFERENCE**



# **PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE**

## CONFERENCE SET UP

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### Provincial Conference North

North Qld Cowboys  
Brisbane Broncos  
Redcliffe (B2)  
Gold Coast Titans  
Qld U20's

### Provincial Conference South

Newcastle Knights  
Central Coast Bears  
Canberra Raiders  
Melbourne Storm  
New Zealand Warriors

### Sydney Conference East

Manly Sea Eagles  
Easts Roosters  
South Sydney Rabbitohs  
St George Dragons  
Cronulla Sharks

### Sydney Conference West

Penrith Panthers  
Parramatta Eels  
Wests Tigers  
Canterbury Bulldogs  
NSW U20's

## Origin Cup Points Table

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VICTORY	4 Points
LOSS by less than 7	2 Points
TRIES scored	1 Point

# ORIGIN CUP DRAW

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**N S E W** in front of the team name denotes North South East West

## Provincial Conference Rd 1

S Knights v S C.C Bears  
S Raiders v S Storm  
S Warriors v N Qld U20's (XCG)<sup>1</sup>  
N Cowboys v N Broncos  
N Redcliffe (B2) v N Titans

## Sydney Conference Rd 1

W Panthers v W Eels  
W Wests v W Bulldogs  
W NSW U 20's v E Sharks (XCG)  
E Manly v E Roosters  
E Dragons v E Souths

## P.C Rd 2

S Knights v S Raiders  
S C.C Bears v S Storm  
S Raiders v N Redcliffe (B2) (XCG)  
N Cowboys v N Qld U 20's  
N Broncos v N Titans

## S.C Rd 2

W Panthers v W Wests  
W Eels v W NSW U20's  
W Bulldogs v E Dragons (XCG)  
E Manly v E Sharks  
E Roosters v E Dragons

## P.C Rd 3

S Knights v S Storm  
S Raiders v S Warriors  
S C.C Bears v N Broncos (XCG)  
N Cowboys v N Titans  
N Qld U 20's v N Redcliffe (B2)

## S.C Rd 3

W Panthers v W Bulldogs  
W NSW U 20's v W Wests  
W Eels v E Roosters (XCG)  
E Manly v E Souths  
E Sharks v E Dragons

## P.C Rd 4

S Knights v S Warriors  
S C.C Bears v S Raiders  
S Storm v N Titans (XCG)  
N Cowboys v Redcliffe (B2)  
N Broncos v Qld U 20's

## S.C Rd 4

W Panthers v W NSW U 20's  
W Bulldogs v W Eels  
W Wests v E Souths (XCG)  
E Manly v E Dragons  
E Roosters v Sharks

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<sup>1</sup> XCG denotes Cross Conference Game

## Origin Cup Semi Finals

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### Game 1

Provincial Conference North # 1 Seed

v

Provincial Conference South # 1 Seed

### Game 2

Sydney Conference West # 1 Seed

v

Sydney Conference East # 1 Seed

### Origin Cup Final

Provincial Conference Winner

v

Sydney Conference Winner



## THE G220

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The idea behind this concept is to have a genuine 2nd grade competition incorporating the current Toyota cup under 20 competition with the remaining contracted players who aren't selected for the NRL squad of 17. An option for a further 3 open age players could also be created.

The bonuses of this competition are that the complete NRL squad of 25 can stay, train, and play together for the whole season. Team continuity will be improved, and expenses will be reduced for the clubs on transporting players. The under 20 players will gain experience playing with and against fringe and returning NRL players. Fans will be able to have a link to the main game watching: up and comers, returning injured players, and out of form players regaining form.

The gap in player performance between the Toyota Cup and the NRL is just a bit too big. G220 will bridge that gap by having the under 20 players playing with and against a few older 1st graders, tightening defence and toughening them up for the rigours of the NRL without being thrown to the wolves. The G220 also gives the NRL team an in-club opportunity to have contracted players numbered 18 to 25, and injured and out of form players, to play and train at the same venue as the selected squad.

During the Origin Cup Series the G220 will be suspended. U20 Qld and NSW representative teams will be selected to compete in the Origin Cup Series, while the remaining U20 players will undergo compulsory tertiary or trade training (to play G220 under the age of 20 it will be compulsory to be enrolled in some form of tertiary or trade training program). The remaining contracted players will return to the NRL squad for the Origin Cup Series.















## INTERNATIONAL FIXTURES

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### World Club Challenge

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To be held at the beginning of the season during trial matches, this competition will be held one year in England, then one year in Australia. The competition will be contested by 4 club teams, 2 from the English Super League, and 2 from the National Rugby League.

The English Super League Teams will be the Premiers and the Challenge Cup Champions. The National Rugby League Teams will be the Premiers and the Origin Cup Champions. The competition will be held over 2 weeks.

Game 1 – ESL Premiers v Origin Cup Champions

Game 2 – NRL Premiers v Challenge Cup Champions

Final – Winner Game 1 v Winner Game 2

### Anzac Test

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To be played as a one-off game after the State of Origin.

### Four Nations Trophy

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To be held biennial at the end of the season (October/November) between Australia, England, New Zealand, and a fourth team. The fourth team will be decided by a Sub International Competition with the winner taking the fourth spot in the Four Nations Trophy.

Each team will play each other once, with the 2 best performing teams to meet in the final.

## TV COVERAGE/ MARKETING BREAKDOWN

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3 x World Club Challenge Games	Channel 9
1 x All Stars Game	SBS
180 x NRL Competition Games	Channel 7/ Fox
180 x G220 Games	Fox
43 x Origin Cup Series Games	One HD
3 x State of Origins	Channel 9
1 x Trans Tasman Test	Ten
9 x Finals	Channel 7/ Fox

**Total Games = 420**

### Examples

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Gillette World Club Challenge  
Qantas All Stars  
Telstra NRL  
Toyota G220  
XXXX Gold Origin Cup Series  
Harvey Norman State of Origin  
VB Trans Tasman Test  
Nokia Finals Series  
Virgin 4 Nations Series

