



# **NRL Victoria Pathways Guide**

## Contents

Male .....	3
<b>RISE</b> .....	3
<b>Victorian 15's Schoolboys (RISE)</b> .....	3
<b>U16's &amp; U17's Development Squad</b> .....	3
<b>Victorian 18's Schoolboys</b> .....	3
<b>Melbourne Storm 19's &amp; 21's</b> .....	4
FEMALE .....	5
<b>RISE Development Program</b> .....	5
<b>Victorian 16's Schoolgirls</b> .....	5
<b>Lisa Fiaola Gala Day Development Program</b> .....	5
<b>Victorian 18's Schoolgirls</b> .....	5
<b>NRL ROOKIE RISE ACADEMY</b> .....	5
<b>Women's National Championships</b> .....	6

# Male

## **RISE**

The RISE Rugby League Development Program provides aspirational junior rugby league players (13-14 years) and coaches with an avenue to obtain specialised training and education through a holistic Rugby League development experience.

The program is the introduction into an aspiring players rugby league pathway and this is the first step in their journey to NRL.

## **Victorian 15's Schoolboys (RISE)**

The 15's Schoolboys program is a development program for boys currently enrolled in a Victorian Secondary School. The program is the next step in a player's development, with the program offering selected students the opportunity to further enhance their skill and physical development.

Each player selected will have to go through the RISE U15s development program.

Trial → RISE five session development program → Final squad selection → ASSRL championships Pool B (play against WA, NT, SA & Invitational teams).

The final squad plays at the ASSRL championships during the September school holidays. Coaches and support staff applications are selected from within the Storm Junior league, with preference given to schoolteachers.

All players wishing to be selected must attend high school within Victoria.

## **U16's & U17's Development Squad**

Selected players from Storm Junior League are split across two squads: Southeast and West / North regions.

Players are given the opportunity to develop their skill and physical attributes over two training blocks, while also participating in touring games and intra league squad (SE and WEST/NORTH) games.

U16 aged players are given future training and game opportunities throughout 2023, while U17 players progress through to the Victoria U18s Schoolboys program.

## **Victorian 18's Schoolboys**

Selected players from Victoria are invited into a Combined Affiliated States Camp. The squad will consist of 34 players from across Victoria, WA, SA and the NT. The squad will be split into two teams that will play off against each other in order to earn selection for the Combined Affiliated States Schoolboys final squad that will participate in the ASSRL Under 18 National Championships.

These players are identified through Storm Junior League, previous selection in Victoria pathway programs, U16 & U17 development squad and Melbourne Storm SG Ball team. Pre-requisite for selection in the camp and final squad is enrolment in Victorian Secondary School.

## **Melbourne Storm 19's & 21's**

### **SG BALL (19's)**

The Melbourne Storm U19s play in the NSWRL governed SG Ball competition. It is a nine-week competition with finals and involves interstate travel against other NRL affiliated clubs.

Players are selected from performances within the Storm Junior League, pathway programs, open trials as well as eligible contracted Melbourne Storm Academy players. Players must be born in 2004 and 2005 to be eligible.

### **JERSEY FLEGG (21's)**

The Melbourne Storm U21's play in the NSWRL governed Jersey Flegg competition. It is a twenty-five-week competition with finals and involves interstate travel against other NRL affiliated clubs.

Players are selected from performances within the Storm Junior League, pathway programs, open trials and eligible contracted Melbourne Storm players. Players must be born in 2002 and 2003 to be eligible.

# FEMALE

## **RISE Development Program**

### **13-16 YEAR OLD GIRLS**

The RISE Rugby League Development Program provides aspirational junior rugby league players (13-16 years) and coaches with an avenue to obtain specialised training and education through a holistic Rugby League development experience.

The program is the introduction into an aspiring players rugby league pathway, this is the first step in their journey to NRLW.

### **Victorian 16's Schoolgirls**

ASSRL host U16s Schoolgirls tournament in September School holidays. Victoria will be entering a team in this tournament.

Girls will trial for selection in the squad. There will be a development training program undertaken in the lead-up to the championship.

Girls need to be enrolled in a Victoria Secondary school to be eligible.

### **Lisa Fiaola Gala Day Development Program**

The Lisa Fiaola Gala Day development program offers girls aged 16–17-year-old the chance to represent Victoria at the annual Lisa Fiaola Gala Day. The Gala Day sees NRL Affiliated teams from around the country come together to play four round robin games and offers a key steppingstone in their development pathway to NRLW.

### **Victorian 18's Schoolgirls**

ASSRL host U18s Schoolgirls tournament in June/ July School holidays. Victoria will be entering a team in this tournament.

Girls will trial for selection in the squad. There will be a development training program take in the lead up to the championships.

Girls need to be enrolled in a Victoria Secondary school to be eligible.

## **NRL ROOKIE RISE ACADEMY**

The **RISE ROOKIE ACADEMY** is a Talent Development Program delivered in partnership with NRL Victoria that targets talented Female Rugby League Players aged 17 years and above. There have been 50 players identified across Victoria.

The aim of the RISE Rookie Academy is to increase the amount of talent available to the NRLW by equipping more players with the necessary physical, technical, tactical, and socio-emotional skills required to perform in a High-Performance environment.

## **Women's National Championships**

The Women's National Championships is the final stage of the female Victorian pathway program, with players from across Australia selected to represent their state, territory or region at the open aged tournament held in the Gold Coast each year.

Players must go through the NRL Rookie Rise Academy in order to gain selection for the state side that travels away to represent Victoria at the Women's National Championships.