

GRADED INTRODUCTION TO CONTACT: TACKLE & RUCK PROCEDURE

U11 GAME CARDS



U11 TACKLE Level 1 - Assist to Ground

Ball and tackler make contact, the ball carrier's momentum may or may not be slowed. The coach says "Tackle" and the ball carrier will fall and place the ball to their own team, while the tackler falls with them to the ground and rolls away from the tackle area.

TACKLER

- Makes solid and noticeable contact with the ball carrier BELOW the sternum
- Complete the tackle safely
- Roll away from the tackle area
- CANNOT rip ball from ball carrier

BALL CARRIER

- Secures ball & retains possession
- Place ball properly and safely towards own team

SUPPORT PLAYERS

- Stay out of the tackle -NO tackle assist
- One support player from each team prepare to ruck
- Rest of the team resets for next phase of play

COACH / REF ON FIELD

- CONTROL the Contact Area
- Call "PAUSE" to stop the game, allow tackle to be complete, then continue play Call "TACKLE" when tackle is initiated & allow for successful tackle

U11 RUCK Level 1 - Uncontested, body position focus - 1v1

Uncontested - attack retains possession. No turnovers. One player from each team is in the ruck. No pick and go off the back of the ruck

TACKLER

- Roll away from the tackle area and join the defensive line
- CANNOT rip ball from ball carrier

BALL CARRIER

 Places the ball and remains in the ruck

SUPPORT PLAYERS

- One support player from each team comes into contact over the ball
 WITH shoulders engaged in scrum body position BUT NO PUSH
- NO kneeling/hand touch
- Next attacking player to pass the ball from the back of the ruck
- NO pick and go

COACH / REF

- Ensure safe and correct body positioning
- Players MUST BE IN CONTACT -SHOULDERS TOUCHING (1v1 scrum position)
- Signal return to play if game was paused



U11 TACKLE Level 2 - Controlled Tackle AND Assist to ground

Increased physicality compared to "controlled take to ground" such that the ball carrier's momentum is visibly slowed. Again, the coach calls "tackle" and the carrier is brought to ground and places the ball while the tackler completes the tackles and rolls away

TACKLER

- Stops the ball carrier
 BELOW the sternum - hold up or considerable slow down of momentum
- Complete the tackle safely & roll away
- CANNOT rip ball from ball carrier

BALL CARRIER

- Secures ball & retains possession
- Place ball properly and safely towards own team

SUPPORT PLAYERS

- Stay out of the tackle NO tackle assist
- One support player from each team prepare to ruck
- Rest of the team resets for next phase of play

COACH / REF ON FIELD

- CONTROL the contact area ENCOURAGE
 players to
 complete tackles use PAUSE less
 frequently, instead
 call TACKLE &
 allow successful
 tackle
- Allow the game to be more free flowing

U11 RUCK Level 2 - Semi-Contested, body position focus - 1v1

One support player from each team in contest with correct body position. Ruck contest is increased, players can push against each other but the attacking team retains the ball. No pick and go off the back of the ruck

TACKLER

- Complete tackle
- Roll away from the tackle area and join the defensive line

BALL CARRIER

 Places the ball and remains in the ruck

SUPPORT PLAYERS

- One support player from each team IN CONTEST (both push & "battle") with CORRECT body position BUT attack retains possession
- Next attacking player to pass the ball from the back of the ruck
- NO pick and go

COACH / REF ON FIELD

- Ensure safe and correct body positioning - Call PAUSE if correct body positioning IS NOT present
- RESET body position, resume ruck
- CONTROL the contact area



U11 TACKLE Level 3 - Full Tackle, NO modifications or Pauses

Full tackle. No modifications

TACKLER

- Complete tackle safely BELOW the sternum
- CANNOT rip ball from ball carrier

BALL CARRIER

- Secures ball & retains possession
- Place ball properly and safely towards own team

SUPPORT PLAYERS

- Stay out of the tackle NO tackle assist
- One support player from each team prepare to ruck
- Rest of the team resets for next phase of play

COACH / REF ON FIELD

- Discuss prior to match if previous variations are to be used
- CONTROL the contact area -ENCOURAGE players to complete tackles

U11 RUCK Level 3 - Fully contested - 1v1

Turnovers from clearing the space in the ruck are allowed. No pick and go off the back of the ruck

TACKLER

 Complete tackle, roll away from the tackle area and join the defensive line

BALL CARRIER

 Places the ball and remains in the ruck

SUPPORT PLAYERS

- One support player from each team IN FULL
 CONTEST with
 CORRECT body
 position - players work to clear out the opposition
- Turnovers permitted
 ONLY from CLEARING
 THE SPACE (no poach)
- Next attacking player to pass the ball from the back of the ruck
- NO pick and go

COACH / REF ON FIELD

- **CONTROL** the contact area
- ENCOURAGE body position and CLEARING THE SPACE
- **STOP** the game if unsafe play
- Ensure flow of the game