

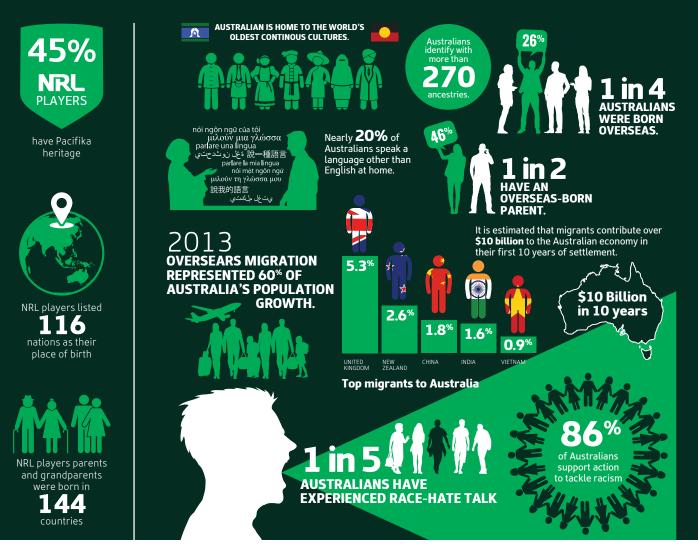
# MULTICULTURAL

The Rugby League community is a multicultural one, reflecting the diversity of modern Australia. Historically, Rugby League attracted players with English, Irish and Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds. Later the code attracted players whose parents and grandparents came from Lebanon, Italy, Greece and Malta. Jump forward to today and NRL registered players listed 116 nations as their place of birth, while their parents and grandparents were born in 144 countries.

### PASIFIKA

In recent times, players with Pasifika backgrounds are increasingly reflected in rugby league ranks. In 2011, 30 per cent of contracted NRL players had cultural backgrounds from Samoa, Tonga, Fiji and the Cook Islands. Today 45 per cent of NRL players have Pasifika heritage. An Independent Pasifika Council provides advice to the NRL on the NRL's Pasifika strategy, with an evolving focus on a range of areas including social and community outcomes.

### THE NUMBERS







## PROGRAMS & EVENTS

The demographic of the Australian community in which Rugby League operates has changed dramatically and will continue to diversify. Future trends suggest that sport will play an important role in promoting social inclusion, community well-being and nondiscrimination. The NRL has developed and implemented a range of programs and events to promote and celebrate inclusion and multicultural diversity in the game. These include:

### In League In Harmony (ILIH) social inclusion program:

This promotes social cohesion by highlighting awareness on issues such as social disengagement, racism, gender equality and bullying. Delivered in mainstream schools and Intensive English Centres by NRL Community Engagement Officers, the program provides students with theory and practical-based lessons designed to improve their interpersonal skills by acknowledging, appreciating and celebrating the diversity among their peers and within the wider community.

ILIH culminates in an NRL Harmony Day Festival with all participating schools. In 2017, 1500 students from 30 schools took part in the ILIH program. In League In Harmony has been delivered for six consecutive years.



For more information visit **In League In Harmony**.

The NRL has partnered with the Australian Human Rights Commission on the "Racism. It Stops With Me" campaign and a range of activities to promote best practice in human rights and to address racism and discrimination in the game.



#### Pacific Test

The Pacific Test commenced in 2013 as part of the NRL's Representative Round. This fixture has played host to Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and the Cook Islands with an invitational format delivered in 2017 with England taking part. Last year's triple header fixture - hosted in Campbelltown City – was attended by over 18,000 fans and watched by half a million viewers across Australia.



The NRL's Pacific Outreach Program is a partnership between the Australian Government (represented by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, DFAT), the Australian Rugby League Commission and the Governments of Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga.

The Outreach program is much more than football. The power of Rugby League is used to engage communities on important issues such as social inclusion, health, governance and education.

Specifically the NRL's Pacific Outreach Program aims are:

- 1. Improve student engagement with education in and out of the classroom via ommunication of positive social messages;
- 2. Increase opportunities for empowerment of females of all ages; and
- 3. Improve organisational and management capacity of rugby league in the Pacific.





45% of leadership positions are filled by females

The flagship program delivered by staff is called League for Life.

League for life is a 3 - 6 session program with both in class and on field sessions. All sessions are inclusive with on field programs promoting equality, ability of all levels and active participation whilst the in class sessions are designed to engage curriculum based outcomes with Rugby League resources.



#### National Multicultural Tournaments

The NRL and State Leagues run a number of harmony and multicultural tournaments across Australia. These tournaments provide opportunities for players and volunteers from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities to participate in teams that represent their community, culture or nation of Origin.





The map below outlines the areas where the NRL and State Leagues run tournaments and offer participation opportunities to CALD Community Participants.

Harmony Cups in Australia		
Harmony Cup - WA		
Under 16: Seniors: Masters:	6 teams (M) , 14 teams (M) , 7 teams (M)	
Harmony Cup - SA		
Seniors:	7 teams (M),	2 teams
Harmony Festival - VIC		
Seniors: Juniors: Touch:	10 teams (M), 2 teams (M) 2 teams	6 teams (F)
Blue Harmony - NSW		
Under 16: Under 18:	18 teams (M) , 12 teams (M) ,	
NRL Cabramatta Nines		
Seniors:	26 teams (M) ,	6 teams (F)

For more information visit Multicultural Tournaments

### RULES & CODES

The NRL's code of conduct require all participants (players, parents, coaches, volunteers, spectators and officials) to maintain high standards of professional conduct and be respectful at all times toward of different race, colour and ethnicity.

NRL SA

Our policies and codes ensure that everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities, and provide procedures to eliminate discrimination, harassment, and other forms of inappropriate behaviour.

There are a number of rules, policies and codes that apply across Rugby League to assist in delivering a safe, positive and inclusive environment to everyone involved in the game. For more information about the NRL's Member Protection Policy, and National Code of Conduct go to the **Rights and Responsibilities** section.

