



South Australian Women's
Football League Inc

BY-LAWS



BY-LAWS

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE (SAWFL)

BY-LAWS

1. GENERAL

1.1 The South Australian Women's Football League (SAWFL), hereafter in these By-Laws referred to as "The League" is an affiliated body of the South Australian Amateur Football League (SAAFL) and as such is bound by the Laws of Australia Football, published annually by the Australian Football League (AFL).

1.2 **SAWFL Board**

- a. The SAWFL Board shall consist of a Chairman and Director positions (up to 5 positions). Within the SAWFL Board shall be portfolios that are to be determined by the board. There are to be two (2) compulsory portfolios of Treasurer and Secretary.
- b. Affiliated Clubs are to nominate a Club Delegate that may be requested by the SAWFL Board to attend a Board meeting. The frequency of these meetings will be determined by the Board.

1.3 **Fines:** Breaches of The League's Constitution and By-Laws may attract fines to players and/or Clubs. A list of extant fines is listed at Annex A.

1.4 **Mediation:** In a dispute between any member club, registered player or official and another member club, registered player or official or between any member club, registered player or official and the League, the parties may nominate a preferred mediator or the League may in its absolute and unfettered discretion request mediation through the affiliated State Men's Association/League.

1.5 **Codes of Conduct:** All Members of The League shall adopt Member specific codes as per Annex B and The League fully supports the codes of conduct as introduced by the AFL.

2. ALTERATIONS TO BY-LAWS

2.1 These By-Laws can be altered, rescinded or added to at any time by the SAWFL Board or at an Annual General Meeting. The Constitution may only be amended at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

3. ALTERATIONS TO STATEMENT OF PURPOSES

3.1 The Statement of Purposes can be altered, rescinded or added to at a SAWFL Board Meeting or an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting convened in accordance with the Constitution.

4. AFFILIATION FEES

- 4.1 Playing Membership of the League shall be granted upon the receipt of Club payments and must be received by the 30th June in each year. Any Club who is in default of payment of their fees by the due date, will be fined 10% of the outstanding monies or a fee as determined by the Board.
- 4.2 Fees for supplementary competitions must be played prior to the commencement of that competition.

5. LIFE MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 Any member of The League may submit to the SAWFL Board in writing, before 31 July, a proposal for Life Membership to a member who has given long and continued service to The League.
- 5.2 The SAWFL Board will review such nominations and those accepted will be brought before and presented at the Dutschke Presentation Night.
- 5.3 Life Members of The League, duly appointed in accordance with the By-Laws cannot be required to pay fees or subscriptions (other than fees that are required to be paid by a Participant in her capacity as a player).
- 5.4 A Life Member shall be entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting, and shall be entitled to be heard, vote and receive notices.
- 5.5 Any player who has played more than 200 games for The League is to be considered for Life Membership.
- 5.6 Any non playing member of The League may also be considered for Life Membership, after having served 10 consecutive years of continued and diligent service to The League.
- 5.7 Clubs cannot propose more than two (2) people for consideration for Life Membership in any year. This does not include those persons addressed in By-Law 5.5 above.

6. REGISTRATION

- 6.1 Each player of an Affiliated Club of The League must be registered prior to playing her first game in each season. It shall be the Clubs' obligation to see that all players are registered on the official League form.
- 6.2 Annual Registration Fees will be determined by The Board. Each Club shall ensure any new player is entered on the approved League's data management system prior to commencement of their first (1st) Club match.
- 6.3 A Parent/Guardian's permission form is to be lodged with the SAWFL Board prior to a member aged less than 18 years playing a game in the Open Women's competition.

- 6.4 A player under the age of 18 years playing in the Under 18 Competition will submit the Parent/Guardian's permission form with the Team Manager who will have them to present to the SAWFL Board as requested.

7. PROVISION OF FOOTBALLS

- 7.1 The home team shall provide the ball for the match which is to be approved by the Umpires. Unless the captains agree to a change, the same ball shall be used throughout the match.
- 7.2 Where two teams play each other away from their respective home grounds each team shall supply one match ball which shall be approved by the Umpires.
- 7.3 The League will provide balls for the Finals series.

8. TEAMS

- 8.1 All Clubs intending to affiliate must lodge with The League an approved Affiliation Form for each year they play. This form will include the colour and type of the uniform to be worn for that year.
- 8.2 All players must be registered with the South Australian Women's League to participate in any match organised by The League.

8.2.1 Variation of Team Numbers

- a. For designated competitions and for development purposes The League may reduce the number of players on the field.
- b. On agreement of both coaches, and in the spirit of the AFL, games may be played with even numbers on the field and interchange numbers to suit.
- c. 18-a-side. If a team takes to the field with 14 to 16 players then the opposing side is to take to the field with a maximum of 16 players.

8.2.2 Jumper Number Change

Should circumstances require a player's number to be changed the team runner should advise the field Umpire during the next interval, or at the first available opportunity if the change occurs during the final quarter.

8.2.3 Team Runners

The official runner of a team must wear the uniform determined by The League and be easily identifiable by the Umpire and his/her name shall appear on the team sheet of his/her team.

On-field communication between Runners and Coaches is not to be made by any electronic means.

Team Runners are to deliver their messages to a maximum of two (2) players and then immediately leave the playing arena. They are not permitted to shout words of encouragement to their players or derogatory remarks to opposition players.

Team Runners do not need to pass through the interchange area to enter or leave the playing field.

8.2.4 **Team Trainer**

The official trainer of a team must wear the uniform determined by The League and be easily identifiable by the Umpire and his/her name shall appear on the team sheet of his/her team.

Team Trainers do not need to pass through the interchange area to enter or leave the playing field.

8.2.5 **Water Carriers**

The official water carriers of a team must wear the uniform determined by the League and be easily identifiable by the Umpire and his/her name shall appear on the team sheet of his/her team.

Water Carriers do not need to pass through the interchange area to enter or leave the playing field.

8.2.6 **Team Managers**

Team Managers are not permitted to enter the field of play or engage in conversation in regard to decisions made by the Umpires.

8.2.7 **Match Day Official/Ground Marshall**

Each Club shall appoint a Match Day Official/Ground Marshall who is responsible for the following:

- a. Attend the Umpire(s) Room twenty (20) minutes prior to the commencement of the match and introduce themselves to the officiating umpires.
- b. Escort the umpire(s) onto the field for the commencement of the match and on and off the field at the half time break and at the completion of the match.
- c. Ensure the Captains of the team in the match being played, are the only persons who approach an umpire(s) at quarter, half or three quarter time breaks in regard to any issue their Member Club would like addressed.
- d. Approach person(s) that are using abusive language and advise them that no swearing or abusive language is permitted.

- e. Advise a Member Club Official of the potential for the Member Club to be fined.
- f. Advise the person(s) that the Member Club is reported for bad language, abusive, aggressive or threatening behaviour towards another person(s).
- g. Use an umpire report form to record such report(s).
- h. Ensure that spectators are kept behind the spectator defined line.
- i. Ensure that Member Club coaches and officials are kept within their defined area.
- j. Ensure alcohol is not consumed in the defined non alcohol consumption areas.
- k. Ensure no alcoholic or any drinks in glass are taken onto the playing field at any time.
- l. Ensure no Member Club officials, players or supporters enter the umpire(s) rooms without the umpires permission.
- m. Ensure payment is made to each League appointed umpire(s) an amount prescribed by The League in cash and in a separate envelope within 15 minutes of the completion of the match in a respectful and professional manner and ensure that the Umpire(s) Proof of Payment form is signed by each umpire.

The League may impose a fine to a Member Club found guilty of breaching their responsibilities in relation to any of the above.

8.2.8 Interchange Steward(s) and Rules

- a. A fifteen (15) metre section of the boundary line of the playing field must be marked clearly by the home Member Club as the interchange area and where possible be centralised between the two (2) coach's boxes on the boundary line of the playing field.
- b. The Interchange Steward must record on the interchange card:
 - i. all Category A and/or Category B report(s).
 - ii. an interchange breach (if applicable).
 - iii. a player sent from the playing field under the blood rule or
 - iv. a player removed from the playing field on a stretcher.
- c. A player may leave the playing field while play is in progress and be replaced (interchanged), unless sent off under a 'Category A' offence or for a second 'Category B' offence in the match being played through the interchange area unless:
 - i. The player exits across the boundary line at any area of the playing field on a stretcher.
 - ii. The player exits across the boundary line at any area of the playing field other than the interchange area accompanied by a Member Club official who is officiating the match being played. These officials are either a Match Day Official/Steward or a runner or a member of the training staff, one of whom must signal to the Interchange Steward when the player has exited the playing field by raising their arm while standing alongside the exiting player.

- d. The Interchange Steward must advise an official of the Member Club of one (1) minute prior to when their player is to return to the field if the player is returning from an umpire send off report or from the compulsory stretcher rule.
- e. The interchange area is the only area a player may enter the playing field when play is in progress.
- f. Where a player does not enter the playing field through the interchange area the Interchange Stewart and/or field umpire shall report the circumstances, including the score at the time, to The League. The League may impose a fine and/or penalty as it deems appropriate.

8.3 Clubs entering U18s and U16s into the SAWFL Competition are subject to the AFL Youth Match Program for the age group 13 to 18 years of age. The Laws of Australian Football and SAWFL General Rules and Regulations apply and the Under 18 Sub-Rules and Under 16 Sub-Rules apply.

8.3.1 Under 18 Sub Rules

Age Eligibility

- a. For a player to be eligible to play in the SAWFL Under 18 she must be over 13 years of age as at 1 January in the year of the competition.
- b. A team may play two (2) overage players in a game. These players must be under the age of 19 years as at 1st July in the year of the competition.
- c. These overage players are not eligible if they have previously been registered in an AFL football competition in either South Australia or another state. An overage player is also not eligible if they have appeared in a representative football competition. The SAWFL Board may also make a determination regarding an overage player's suitability in the SAWFL Under 18 Competition.
- d. If requested any players registered in the Under 18 Competition must be able to provide The League evidence of age and identity. Approved methods of proof of age are a photographic form of identity example Drivers Licence, Passport or Student Card. Other forms of acceptable proof of age are a birth certificate or similar.
- e. An Under 18 player is allowed to play in both the Under 18 Competition and Open Women's Competition in the same round.

Game Rules

- a. The Under 18 Competition will be played on a reduced sized playing field which will be approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a full sized oval. If the number of players to take the field is fifteen (15) or above the field will be extended to a full oval.
- b. The game time will be 4 X 15 minute quarters with no time on. Breaks shall be three (3) minutes at quarter time, nine (9) minutes at half time and six (6) minutes at three quarter time.
- c. A minimum of nine (9) players per team must take to the field to constitute a match.
- d. At any time the interchange may have six (6) players.

- e. Each team must play with an equal number of players (9-18 on the field) throughout the competition this includes minor rounds and Finals matches.
- f. If a player leaves the field due to injury and there is no replacement available, at the quarter, half time or three quarter break, the opposing team is required to remove one of their players from the playing field to ensure the number of players on each team remains the same.
- g. This clause shall not apply when a player is sent from the field by an officiating field umpire.
- h. A match will be considered a forfeit if one of the Under 18 Teams cannot field a minimum of nine (9) players at the scheduled time of commencement of the game.
- i. The Under 18 Team which has forfeited will receive a ten (10) goal loss and the opposing Under 18 Team will receive a ten (10) goal win.
- j. In the event of a declared forfeit no player statistics / games played / goals scored / premiership points / Umpires best and fairest votes are recorded.
- k. In the event of a declared forfeit by arrangement with Coaches and Team Managers the teams may supply players to the opposition team to facilitate a friendly/ scratch match for the purpose of playing in the spirit of the game.
- l. SAWFL Under 18's will play the same rules as the Open Women's Competition with the exception of 50 metre penalties. Any penalty for Under 18's will be a 25 metre penalty even on a full oval.
- m. Kicking off the ground is allowed.
- n. For a player to eligible to play in Finals matches – three (3) minor round games must have been played.

Coaching and Support Staff

- a. All coaches of the Under 18 teams must consent to being subject to a police check.
- b. The Coach must also have attended a Level 1 Coaching Accreditation Course and be completing this coaching qualification.
- c. The Support Staff including Team Manager and Trainer must also consent to being subject to a police check.
- d. All persons involved in the SAWFL Under 18 Competition in an official capacity must have knowledge of the relevant Member Protection Policy and Cyber Safety Policy – Annex E to the SAWFL By-Laws.

8.3.2 Under 16 Sub Rules

Age Eligibility

- a. For a player to be eligible to play in the SAWFL Under 16 competition she must be:
 - i. At least 13 years of age.
(Exemptions may apply for underage players, please refer to the SAWFL By-Laws – Annex F Dispensation Policy and SAWFL Dispensation Form – Playing Up.)
 - ii. Under the age of 16 years as at 1 January in the year of the competition.
Overage players are not permitted in this competition.

- b. At the request of The League, any players registered in the Under 16 competition must be able to provide The League evidence of age and identity. Approved methods of proof of age are a photographic form of identity, for example a Proof Of Age card or Drivers Licence (if applicable). Other forms of acceptable proof of age are a birth certificate or similar.

- c. Clubs are required to ensure their players complete the following forms and can provide a copy of these completed forms at the League's request:
 - i. Image Waiver Form
 - ii. Consent Form
 - iii. SAWFL Code of Conduct Form

- d. An Under 16 player is allowed to play in both the Under 18 competition and Open Women's competition in the same round, provided they meet the age requirements of those competitions.

Game Rules

- a. The Under 16 competition will be played as a 9-a-side game and be played on a reduced sized playing field which will be approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a full sized oval.

- b. A size 4 match ball must be used in an Under 16 competition match.

- c. The game time will be 4 X 15 minute quarters with no time on. Breaks shall be three (3) minutes at quarter time, nine (9) minutes at half time and six (6) minutes at three quarter time.

- d. Nine (9) players per team must take to the field to constitute a match during the minor rounds and in a Finals match.

- e. Each team must play with an equal number of players during the minor rounds.

- f. In the event that a team and its opposition both wish to play a game greater than 9-a-side, they must agree upon the number of players per side (no more than 15-a-side) and contact The League 24 hours before the game to seek approval. Please note: the size of the field may be increased to ensure it is appropriate for the number of players per side.

- g. There is no maximum to the number of players on the interchange.

- h. The "no tackling/bumping" rule will be applied to a player who holds a dispensation for playing up. I.e. there are to be no tackles or bumps received or given by this player, and instead a three-second touch rule must be used.

- i. A player who has been dispensated up must identify themselves as per the requirements listed in the SAWFL By-Laws - Annex F Dispensation Policy.

- j. A match will be considered a forfeit if one of the teams cannot field a minimum of nine (9) players at the scheduled time of commencement of the game.
- k. The team which has forfeited will receive a ten (10) goal loss and the opposing team will receive a ten (10) goal win.
- l. In the event of a declared forfeit, no player statistics / games played / goals scored / premiership points / Umpires best and fairest votes are recorded.
- m. In the event of a declared forfeit by arrangement with Coaches and Team Managers the teams may supply players to the opposition team to facilitate a friendly/ scratch match for the purpose of playing in the spirit of the game.
- n. If a player leaves the field due to injury and there is no replacement available, at the quarter, half time or three quarter break, the opposing team is required to remove one of their players from the playing field to ensure the number of players on each team remains the same.
- o. The above clause shall not apply when a player is sent from the field by an officiating field umpire.
- p. Kicking off the ground is not allowed.
- q. While a player in possession of the ball is moving, the player must bounce the ball within 15 metres, irrespective of whether that player is running in a straight line or otherwise. No more than two bounces of the ball are permitted.
- r. Any penalty for Under 16's will be a 15 metre penalty in a game with less than 12-a-side or a 25 metre penalty in a game with 12-a-side or more.
- s. For a player to be eligible to play in Finals matches, three (3) minor round games must have been played. Permits may be applied for to the League in special circumstances where eligibility is not met.
- t. The competition will be played under the same rules as the Open Women's competition with the exception of the above sub-rules.

Coaching and Support Staff

- a. All coaches of the Under 16 teams must consent to being subject to a police check.
- b. The Coach must also have attended a Level 1 Coaching Accreditation Course and be completing this coaching qualification.
- c. The Support Staff including Team Manager and Trainer must also consent to being subject to a police check.

d. All persons involved in the SAWFL Under 16 competition in an official capacity must have knowledge of the relevant Member Protection Policy and Cyber Safety Policy – Annex E to the SAWFL By-Laws.

9. **FORFEITURE OF GAME**

Teams that do not give at least 24 hours notice for a game forfeiture, will be fined \$110 (refer Annex A), plus the payment of the Umpires Fees.

The team that is declaring a forfeit must:

- i. Advise the opposition team of the forfeit and reason for the forfeit. It is advised that you declare the number of players still available in case a scratch match could be arranged between the two clubs. Please contact The League if you require contact details for the opposition team.
- ii. Advise the Umpires Coordinator. Please contact The League if you require contact details for the Umpires Coordinator.
- iii. Advise The League so that the fixture/results can be updated.

10. **MOVING A GAME**

Teams that wish to make a change to the date, time and/or location of a home or away game must:

- i. Contact the opposition team and agree upon a new date/time/location for this game. Please contact The League if you require contact details for the opposition team.
- ii. Contact the Umpires Coordinator to ensure that Umpires are available for this new game date/time/location. Please contact The League if you require contact details for the Umpires Coordinator.
- iii. Advise The League of this new game date/time/location once it has been approved by the opposition team and Umpires Coordinator.

11. **PLAYER COUNT**

- 11.1 If a team has been counted and found to have more than eighteen players on the field, the score obtained in that particular quarter of the game is cancelled.
- 11.2 Where a team has more than permitted numbers, then the field Umpire is to award a free kick to the Captain of the opposing team. This is to be taken in the Centre, or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty; plus a further 50metre penalty.
- 11.3 Where a count reveals that the opposing team has the permitted numbers then the field Umpire is to award a free kick to the Captain of opposing team. This is to be taken in the Centre or where the play was stopped, whichever is greater penalty; plus a further 50metre penalty.
- 11.4 If the Umpire deems that the count is just a time wasting play then the offending player may be reported.

12. PLAYERS' BOOTS JEWELLERY AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

12.1 No player shall be permitted to play in a match with apparel or protective equipment which may cause injury to themselves or their opponents.

12.2 This includes the following:

12.2.1 Protruding nails or plates on boots.

12.2.2 Any form of jewellery, including earrings, tongue rings or any body piercing.

12.2.3 Surgical appliances or guards.

12.2.4 Long fingernails.

13. 50 METRE PENALTY

13.1 When Imposed

Where a Field umpire has awarded a Free Kick or a mark to a Player, the Field Umpire shall also award a 50 Metre Penalty in favour of that Player if the Field Umpire is of the opinion that any Player or Official from the opposing side:

- a. has encroached the mark;
- b. engages in Time Wasting;
- c. uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards the Umpire;
- d. behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards an umpire or disputes the decision of an Umpire;
- e. enters the Protected Area, except when the Player is accompanying or following within 5 metres of their opponent;
- f. has not returned the football directly and on the full to the Player awarded the Free Kick or Mark;
- g. engages in any other conduct for which a Free Kick would ordinarily be awarded;
- h. when not in the immediate contest, holds a Player after that Player has Marked the football or who has been awarded a Free Kick; or
- i. Player in the contest who unreasonable holds a Player after that Player has Marked the football or who has been awarded a Free Kick.

13.2 Imposing a 50 Metre Penalty

When the Field Umpire imposes a 50 Metre Penalty, the following procedure shall apply:

- a. the Field Umpire shall signal to the Timekeeper to stop the clock used for the timing of the Match for such time as it takes to impose the 50 Metre Penalty;
- b. the Field Umpire shall advance the mark by 50 Metres in a direct line with the centre of the Goal Line; and
- c. if the Player who is obtaining the benefit of the 50 Metre Penalty is less than 50 Metres from the Goal Line, the mark shall become the centre of the Goal Line.

14. UMPIRES: DUTIES AND INSTRUCTIONS

14.1 Appointment of Umpires

14.1.1 The League shall appoint for each match a field Umpire, two boundary Umpires and two goal Umpires. The field Umpire shall have full control of play and shall award penalties in accordance with the Laws.

14.1.2 The League may appoint additional Umpires to officiate throughout the period of the match. All field Umpires appointed shall have the powers conferred under these Laws.

14.1.3 The League may appoint an Umpires Coach / Coordinator and delegate the responsibility to appoint Umpires. The Umpire Coach / Coordinator will report directly to the SAWFL Board.

14.1.4 Home Clubs are to pay Umpire cash payments. If a SAWFL match is played at a neutral ground during the minor rounds, the cost of the Umpires will be shared by both teams. This is to be coordinated by the Team Manager of each team.

14.1.5 The League will provide field, goal and boundary Umpires for the grand final.

14.2 Replacement of Umpires

14.2.1 Where any Umpire, before or during the progress of the game, becomes incapable through sickness, injury or accident in performing his/her duties, a substitute shall be chosen according to arrangements made by The League or the Umpires Coordinator.

14.2.2 Where Boundary Umpires are not in attendance, the designated home team is to provide suitable replacements.

14.2.3 Where Goal Umpires are not in attendance, each team is to appoint a Goal Umpire.

14.3 Umpires Rooms

14.3.1 No person, other than the Umpires officiating in the match and their trainers, shall enter the Umpires' dressing room while the Umpires are there. Each Umpire is individually responsible for seeing that this Law is observed and must report to The League any person who breaches this Law.

14.3.2 The provisions of this Law does not apply to members of an Umpires' Appointments Board or to other persons authorised by The League to select and appoint Umpires to matches; or such other persons to whom The League shall determine this law shall not apply.

15. REPORTING PROCEDURES

- 15.1 Umpires shall be provided by The League with report sheets on which they shall enter particulars of any charge or charges they make against players or officials. This shall be completed at or before the termination of a match.
- 15.2 The report shall be completed in duplicate, or in triplicate, if a player of each side is reported in relation to the same charge and each copy shall be signed by the Umpire or Umpires making the charge.
- 15.3 The field Umpire shall take charge of a copy of all report sheets submitted to him at the termination of a match by boundary and/or goal Umpires.
- 15.4 As soon as practical after the termination of a match in which a report has been made, the field Umpire shall hand a copy of every report sheet to the appropriate official of the team of which the reported player is a member. For this purpose each Club shall be responsible for the attendance of an official at the Umpires' room at the end of each match. In the event of no such official attending, the field Umpire shall be deemed to have complied with the duty imposed on him/her by this law.
- 15.5 Umpires shall lodge, or cause to be lodged, the remaining copy of any report sheet they may have completed with The League office before close of business on the Tuesday after the day of the match, or within such other time as may be required by The League.
- 15.6 Umpires must endeavour to note all particulars in connection with any report they make in order that a clear account may be given when such a report is being considered by the appropriate authority.
- 15.7 The procedures for reporting players and officials may be varied by The League to suit local requirements.

16. ORDER OFF

- 16.1 The guidelines and procedures for the order-off rule are listed in Annex C.
- 16.2 A player reported by a Field Umpire for a second offence shall be ordered from the field for the remainder of the match.
- 16.3 A player ordered off may not be replaced.
- 16.4 In the event of a player failing or refusing to leave the ground when ordered off, they shall be reported for misconduct and their team shall forfeit the match.

17. MATCH DURATION

17.1 Duration of the game, quarters and intervals

17.1.1 All matches shall be of four quarters each 20 minutes playing time. The League may, in extenuating circumstances reduce such time.

17.1.2 The time allowed between the end of the first quarter and the start of the second quarter shall be sufficient to permit teams to change ends, but shall not exceed five minutes. The match must recommence not later than 15 minutes after the conclusion of the second quarter. (*At half time the players may leave the playing ground for not more than 10 minutes.*). Between the end of the third quarter and the start of the last quarter, there shall be an interval of not more than 5 minutes.

17.1.3 In the event of a finals game being drawn at the end of play, the teams will play a further 5 minutes each way. At the end of these 10 minutes if the game is still drawn the team to score first wins.

18. TIME KEEPERS

18.1 Each team shall appoint a timekeeper whose duties shall be as follows.

18.2 To keep the time of each quarter on time cards, complete the time cards and forward them to the Secretary of The League or another nominated body.

18.3 To sound a siren at the start and finish of each quarter, and to keep sounding it until the field Umpire notifies them that he/she has heard it.

18.4 To add time on to the playing time of the quarter whenever directed to do so by the field Umpire, for injuries.

18.5 In the case of the field Umpire failing to signal the completion of the time added period, or that the time-keepers fail to hear the whistle to signify the end of this period, they shall stop adding "Time On" when they see that the ball is again in play.

18.6 Time On: The field Umpire shall instruct the timekeepers to add "*Time On*" when play is unduly delayed through serious injury or player send off.

19. REGISTRATION & CLEARANCES

19.1. It shall be the Club's obligation to ensure that all players are registered with The League. All players are to be registered on the approved League's data management system prior to commencement of their first (1st) Club match.

19.2 The final date for player transfers is the 30th June. No transfers are to be processed after this date.

- 19.3 A player must have played at least three matches for premiership points during the season to be eligible to take part in that season's Finals series.
- 19.4 An unregistered player shall be suspended at the discretion of the Board. The offending club shall be fined, forfeit the match and record no score. The opposition team shall record a win and record their score.
- 19.5 A player who wishes to play for another Team must be cleared to play on the League's data management system prior to taking the field with a new club. A transfer must be sought for teams within SAWFL or from other Associations.
- 19.6 The only reason a clearance may be refused is if the player is not financial with her Club.
- 19.7 It shall be the Club's obligation to ensure that all players are cleared with The League to play at their club.
- 19.8 A player playing without a clearance shall be suspended at the discretion of the Board. The offending club shall be fined, forfeit the match and record no score. The opposition team shall record a win and record their score.

20. REPRESENTATION

- 20.1 The League, will at the discretion of the Board, select representative sides.
- 20.2 In accordance with AFL Police, the State Coach is to have a minimum of Level 2 Accreditation.

20.3 Selection Procedures

- 20.3.1 Representative Coach and Managers: The Board will advertise, interview and select a suitable person for these positions.
- 20.3.2 Representative Players: To select representative players, a panel of selectors will be nominated consisting of Representative Coach, Academy Coach, a member of the Board and any other person as nominated by the Board.

20.4 Travel Arrangements

- 20.4.1 Representative Teams will travel together as a group and not as individuals, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

20.5 Fundraising

- 20.5.1 The League will conduct annual fundraising events to support Representative Teams.

21. CRIMINAL HISTORY ASSESSMENT

All Clubs must adhere to the standards issued by the Department for Families and Communities when conducting criminal history assessments. Some key information extracted from these standards has been included below relating to conducting criminal history assessments or obtaining a National Police Certificate:

21.1 **Screening Requirements**

- i. A criminal history assessment is a decision about whether a person is suitable to work with children based on the person's criminal history (if any) and the assessed risk to children who access services from the organisation.
- ii. Your Club may conduct a criminal history assessment themselves or apply to a third party (such as the State Body or Screening Unit) for an assessment and letter of clearance.
- iii. Your Club must undertake to follow the standards issued by the Department for Families and Communities when conducting criminal history assessments. These Standards are outlined below.

2.1.2 **Identifying Affected Positions**

Clubs will conduct an assessment of the criminal history of every person who is, or will be, engaged to work with children in this organisation, and its affiliated associations.

As a first step, the Club should identify all individuals and positions within the organisation that involve working with children.

These positions include:

- i. Committee Members,
- ii. All Coaches,
- iii. Assistant Coaches,
- iv. Team Managers,
- v. Trainers, and
- vi. Any other Match Day Official who fit one or more of the criteria as outlined.

2.1.3 **Procedures**

Clubs must adhere the following policy and supporting procedures for obtaining criminal history reports.

2.1.4 **Obtaining a National Police Certificate (NPC)**

- i. Volunteers to obtain application form from the SA Police website –
- ii. http://www.police.sa.gov.au/sapol/services/information_requests/national_police_certificate.jsp
- iii. The application must be completed online and then printed. This form cannot be saved.
- iv. Volunteers to go to a local police station or Justice of the Peace (JOP) with their NPC application form, photocopy of documents adding up to 100 points and the original documents to have their identity verified.
- v. Once identification has been verified, please bring this application to The League (provided the applicant is a volunteer) and the League's Authorised Officer will include the VOAN details on the application.

- vi. The applicant sends the application to The Records Release Unit, SA Police.
- vii. The NPC will be returned to the volunteer. Due to privacy laws the NPC can only be returned to the applicant, and no third parties.
- viii. Volunteer to submit their NPC to the organisation in which they are obtaining the NPC for.
- ix. The applicant must be able to produce the NPC at the League's request.

For further details, please refer to your Club's Member Protection Policy or view the standards issued for Child Safe Environments by the Department for Education and Child Development [here](#).

22. ANTI-DOPING POLICY

- 22.1 The AFL Anti-Doping Policy shall apply to all persons to whom these Laws apply.

23. INFECTIOUS DISEASES POLICY

- 23.1 All Bodies affiliated to the South Australian Women's Football League will play under the guidelines as set out in Annex D.

24. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

- 24.1 The AFL Anti-Discrimination Policy shall apply to all persons to whom these Laws apply.

25. AGE POLICY

- 25.1 In line with our duty of care, players under the age of sixteen are not permitted to play in the League's Open Women's competition.
- 25.2 Refer to the separate sub-rules for the Junior competitions contained in these By-Laws for the age eligibility requirements of those competitions.
- 25.3 Any Club wishing to apply for a player to be dispensed up or down to an age group that better suits their size and/or experience must adhere to the Dispensation Policy set out in Annex F.

26. INSURANCE

- 26.1 Prior to commencement of any competition, all Clubs must be insured to a level as determined by The League.
- 26.2 Any Club failing to be adequately insured will forfeit the right to compete.

27. FOOTBALL IN EXTREME CONDITIONS

- 27.1 The AFL Guidelines for the prevention of heat injury in extreme conditions shall apply and be binding on The League.

**ANNEX A to
SAWFL By-Laws - FINES**

DESCRIPTION	\$ Amount
Non-compliance with the provision of match balls	50.00
For not supplying goal or behind posts padded at home matches	50.00
For not having the playing field clearly and/or correctly line marked at home matches	50.00
For not supplying a suitable siren or horn at home matches	50.00
For not supplying an accessible stretcher at home matches	50.00
For not supplying a Timekeeper at a home match	50.00
For not supplying a boundary or goal umpire (where applicable) at a home match	50.00
For not supplying a Match Day Official at all home matches	50.00
For not supplying and Interchange Steward at home matches	50.00
For an on field drinks carrier or on field training staff members being incorrectly attired	30.00
Non-compliance of specified uniform (team)	20.00
Players out of uniform (player) This will include t-shirts worn under Guernseys	50.00
Failure to hand in team sheets or handing the wrong team sheet, incomplete or illegible to opposition Club/Umpires/SAWFL	50.00
Non compliance of starting at appointed time	50.00
Forfeit	110.00
Any breach of Infectious Diseases policy	50.00
Playing an unregistered player or uncleared player	50.00
Boundary Umpires (supplied by Clubs) out of uniform	25.00
Goal Umpires (supplied by Clubs) out of uniform	25.00
Playing an underage player	50.00
For a Club not entering team sheet(s) in Sporting Pulse prior to the start of the match to be played	100.00
For the Home Team not entering scores, goal kickers or best players for both teams into Sporting Pulse by 5:00pm Sundays	100.00
For a Club not correcting team sheets and/or best players and/or goal kickers in Sporting Pulse by 5.00pm Sundays	100.00
A reported player not attending a Tribunal	100.00
For a Club Delegate failing to attend a Tribunal with a reported player(s)	100.00
To reimburse each umpire required to attend a Tribunal. Only applicable when player found guilty	30.00
To reimburse each umpire to attend a Tribunal Appeal	30.00

The SAWFL Board or approved Tribunal may also impose a fine not listed on the Fines List to an Affiliated Club or one of its members including official, coach or player for breaching or failing to comply with The League's Rules and Regulations and/or Constitution.

ANNEX B to SAWFL By-Laws

CODES OF CONDUCT

One of the critical components of our game is the passion that people show for the team and club that they support. Whilst this passion is usually harnessed and used to support our game, it sometimes can boil over to create negative situations. We must all work together in the attempt to eliminate this negative passion.

Codes of Conduct are an integral component of sporting activities and the following codes compliment the good work of many football bodies over several years and the Australian Sports Commission requirement.

All members of The League shall adopt members specific codes and The League encourages members to be vigilant in enforcing such codes whether via support for those who constantly abide by the codes and/or harsh penalties for those who fail to act in accordance with the codes.

Mandatory and Enforceable Codes of Conduct for Coaches, Players, Parents, Supporters and Officials

The League fully supports the Codes of Conduct as introduced by the AFL and the SANFL.

Conduct that is prejudicial to the interests of The League, and conduct unbecoming a member, registered player or official is not to be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action by the Board of Management.

Coaches' Code of Conduct

Coaches are required to sign the AFL Code of Conduct as part of the Level 1 Accreditation requirement. All coaches must be accredited to coach in our League.

Player's Code of Conduct

- Play by the rules – the rules of your club and the laws of the game
- Never argue with an umpire or other official – without these people, you can't play football
- Control your temper – verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players doesn't help you enjoy or win any games
- Be a team player – it is a team game, treat it that way
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated – fairly
- Cooperate with your coach, the umpires and team mates
- Play for your own enjoyment and to improve your skills
- Do not use ugly remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability – many such comments are now illegal
- Players and officials will at all times behave in a manner so as not to endanger or injure themselves or another person
- Players and officials will demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul, threatening or insulting language at any time
- Any player or official turning up to and taking part in League training sessions or League games, while under the influence of alcohol, will find themselves automatically suspended and subject to further disciplinary action by the Board of Management



- Any player or official using, dealing and have found on their person illicit drugs, while representing The League at social functions, training sessions and games, will find themselves automatically expelled from The League
 - Any player or official involved in criminal activity while representing The League will find themselves automatically expelled from The League
 - Any player or official using Social network sites (Facebook, My Space, Twitter etc) as a means of discrediting, bullying or harassing another player, official or The League will have disciplinary action taken against them by the Board of Management
-

As a member of the South Australian Women's Football League (SAWFL), I agree that I will adhere to the above Codes of Conduct and rules at all times whilst representing the SAWFL. This includes all training sessions, games and functions.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

**ANNEX C to
SAWFL By-Laws****GUIDELINES FOR THE ORDER-OFF RULE AND REPORTABLE OFFENCES****CATEGORY "A"** – *Player sent off immediately and player reported*

- Serious striking
- Kicking
- Charging
- Assault on Umpire

CATEGORY "B" – *Player sent off for 15 minutes playing time for the first offence. The player is sent off for the rest of the game for the second offence. Report for either offence is at Umpire's discretion.*

- Minor Striking
- Willfully wasting time
- Unduly interfering with a player who is kicking for goal.
- Disputing the Umpire's decision
- Shaking a goal post
- Throwing or pushing an opponent unnecessarily
- Misconduct
- Refusing to remove unacceptable equipment when asked by the Umpire to do so
- Unduly rough play

CATEGORY "C" – *Player is sent off for 5 to 15 minutes playing time for the first offence*

- Obscene or abusive language

Clarification of Category C

- The time is set according to what the Umpire feels is appropriate.
- The player is sent off for the rest of the game for the second offence.
- In both circumstances, a report can be made at the Umpire's discretion.
- It is expected that a report will be made after the second offence.
- Warnings can be given at the Umpire's discretion but are not compulsory

Definition

Abusive and/or obscene language consists of swearing at an opposition player, game officials or spectators. Swearing after one's own mistake is not considered as serious an offence although is punishable if within earshot of spectators.

ENFORCEMENT OF ORDER OFF RULE

The Umpire will signal "time on" and the clock will stop (as for an injury).

The Umpire must tell the player immediately and accompany her to the bench where the coach needs to be told of the exact penalty. A Field Umpire shall signal that a player has been ordered off, by pointing to the interchange area with an outstretched arm; the player shall leave the ground immediately and proceed directly to the interchange steward, or timekeepers.

The Umpire will fill out an order-off form after the game to give details of the incident. If the same player is involved in incidents similarly, The League Registrar can take further action.

The player must immediately come off the ground when notified or the game shall be forfeited by the team of the offending player.

REPORTING PROCESS

The Umpire must notify the player concerned (or the captain of that team) as soon as reasonably possible after the incident.

The Umpire should not enter conversations about the incident with any delegates, Club officials or players.

The Umpire must fill out a report sheet following the game. The copies go to (1) the Registrar, (2) the team of the offending player and (3) the Umpire concerned.

ANNEX D to SAWFL By-Laws

AUSTRALIAN SPORTS MEDICINE FEDERATION LTD PRIVACY STATEMENT ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES (With particular references to HIV (AIDS) and HEPATITIS B)

General

A number of blood-borne diseases can be transmitted during body contact and collision sports. The more serious include HEPATITIS B and HIV (AIDS) infections. These diseases may be spread by contact between broken skin, mucous membrane and infected:

- Blood
- Saliva (not for HIV)
- Semen and vaginal fluids

There is no evidence that sweat/urine, and tears will transmit hepatitis B or HIV.

THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WILL REDUCE THE RISK OF TRANSMITTING INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

GENERAL

All open cuts and abrasions must be reported and treated immediately.

It is strongly recommended that all the following should be vaccinated against HEPATITIS B:

- participants, involved in contact collision sport and playing under adult rules,
- personnel working in contact/collision sport team areas, and
- those who officiate in body contact and collision sports.

PLAYERS

It is the responsibility of all participants to maintain strict personal hygiene as this is the best method of controlling the spread of these diseases.

All participants with prior evidence of these diseases are strongly advised to obtain confidential advice and clearance from a doctor prior to participation.

All contaminated clothing and equipment must be replaced prior to the player being allowed to resume play.

If bleeding should reoccur, the above procedures must be repeated.

If bleeding cannot be controlled and the wound securely covered, the player must not continue in the game.

REFEREES AND GAME OFFICIALS

Referees and Game Officials must report all open cuts and abrasions to medical staff at the first available opportunity.

TEAM AREAS

It is the Club's responsibility to ensure that the dressing rooms are clean and tidy. Particular attention should be paid to hand basins, toilets and showers.

Adequate soap, paper hand towels, brooms, rubbish disposal bins and disinfectants must be available at all times.

Communal bathing areas (e.g. spas) should be strongly discouraged.

The practices of spitting and urinating in team areas must not be permitted.

All clothing, equipment and surfaces contaminated by blood must be treated as potentially infectious and treated accordingly.

Sharing of towels, shaving razors, face washers and drink containers must not occur.

In all training areas, open cuts and abrasions must be reported to the coach immediately.

Although Hepatitis B vaccination is usually effective in raising immunity to Hepatitis B, it provides no protection against other blood-borne diseases such as HIV. Vaccination must not result in relaxation of hygiene standards.

ANNEX E to SAWFL By-Laws

CYBERSAFETY POLICY

Creating a Cybersmart Environment

Social networking sites like Facebook, MySpace, Twitter and YouTube can be a great way for clubs to provide information, promote their sport, their activities and successes.

As with off-line communities, some social media users can act anti-socially and show disrespect for their online community with little consideration of the social and potentially legal implications. Issues like bullying and harassment, unwanted or inappropriate contact, uploading of inappropriate or offensive content can cause issues for individual club members or the club involved.

In the club environment you may choose to promote **Cybersafety** by recommending to your members to:

- *Use the privacy settings*
- *Keep your private information private*
- *Think before you post any content, video, images or text, online. You can put it up, but you can't necessarily take it down. Ask before posting images or stories about others. What you see as harmless fun may be embarrassing and humiliating for them and create a poor club image*
- *Don't project an undesirable self-image of yourself or the club*
- *Choose your online friends wisely. Others' inappropriate views and behaviours can reflect badly on you and the club.*
- *Communicate with others as you would do offline, with courtesy and respect*
- *If you think someone is being bullied or harassed online, speak out. If club members are involved speak with your coach or club official. The club will not tolerate this behavior*

Rationale

The SAWFL, in conjunction with the SA Community Football League (SACFL) has an obligation to maintain a safe physical and emotional environment for League officials, staff, registered players, umpires, coaches, club members, parents, spectators and sponsors. This responsibility is increasingly being linked to the use of the Internet and Information & Communication Technologies (ICT), and has seen the emergence of a number of related Cybersafety issues. The Internet and ICT devices/equipment bring great benefits to all users and to the effective operation of the SAWFL, SACFL and clubs.

The SAWFL and SACFL places a high priority on the acceptable use of ICT devices/equipment which will benefit members however, it recognizes that the presence in the sporting arena of these technologies can also facilitate anti-social, inappropriate, and even illegal behaviour and activities. The SAWFL and ACFL aims, therefore, to maximize the benefits of these technologies, while at the same time to minimise the dangers and manage the risks.

Policy

The SAWFL and SACFL and its Member Clubs encourage effective and safe Cybersafety practices which aim to maximize the benefits of the Internet and ICT and allow for the effective operation of the SAWFL and SACFL and Member Clubs, whilst minimizing and managing any risks.

The SAWFL and SACFL takes seriously its responsibility in providing robust policy and guidelines for its members in relation to what is deemed acceptable and appropriate online behaviours. The League and/or club name, motto, crest, logo and/or uniform must not be used in any way which would result in a negative impact for The League or club and its members.

Members of the SAWFL and SACFL and its clubs have a responsibility to ensure that all online communications are in keeping with The Leagues expectations in relation to appropriate and respectful interactions with officials, coaches, umpires, players, parents, spectators and sponsors. Players **will not** post inappropriate comments about individual SAWFL, SACFL or club members which if said in person during the playing of a game would result in disciplinary action being taken.

Images of Children

In South Australia under the Summary Offences Act 1953, a person must not engage in indecent filming. Images of children and adults should not be used inappropriately or illegally.

Wherever possible, obtain permission for a child's parent/guardian before taking an image of a child that is not their own and ensure that the parent knows the way the image will be used. The privacy of others needs to be respects and clubs should disallow the use of camera phones, videos and camera inside changing areas, showers and toilets.

Clubs displaying an image of a child should avoid naming or identifying the child or, wherever possible, avoid using both the first name and surname.

Do not display personal information such as residential address, email address or telephone numbers without gaining consent from the parent/guardian.

Additional information such as hobbies, likes/dislikes, school, etc should not be included as this information can be used as grooming tools by pedophiles or other persons.

It is the responsibility of the SAWFL, SACFL and clubs to only use appropriate images of a child, relevant to the sport and ensure that the child is suitably clothed in a manner that promotes the sport.

Cyberbullying

"Cyberbullying is a way of delivering covert psychological bullying. It uses information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated and hostile behaviour, by an individual or group that is intended to harm others." (Belsey 2007)

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, racially vilifying or threatening another person by sending or posting inappropriate and hurtful email messages, instant messages, text messages, phone messages, digital pictures or images, of Web site postings (including social network sites eg facebook or blogs) and the sending, receiving and/or possession of naked or sexually explicit images of a person. Club members must also be aware that postings from their individual accounts, whether done by themselves or another person will remain the responsibility of the account owner.

All members of SAWFL, SACFL and individual clubs must be aware that in certain circumstances where a crime has been committed, they may also be subjected to a criminal investigation by Police over which The League and/or club will have no control. This particularly applies to 'sexting' where the image is of a person under the age of 18 years whereby Police will be informed immediately a club becomes aware of the situation.

Procedure

SAWFL, SACFL and/or club officials or members who feel that they have been the victims of such misuses of technology should save and store the offending material on their computer, mobile phone or other device. They should then print a copy of the material and immediately report the incident to the relevant club/league representative.

All reports of Cyberbullying and other technology misuses will be investigated fully and may result in a notification to Police where the SAWFL, SACFL or club is legally obliged to do so.

If the SAWFL, SACFL's Executive receives a complaint about an online issue, the allegations will be forwarded to the relevant League Investigations Officer.

If there is evidence, charges will be laid and the complaint will proceed to the League's Independent Tribunal, exactly the same as if the investigation relates to physical violence or other reportable offences.

Penalties

Any proved charges will automatically lead to a minimum of a two (2) match suspension for a registered player. In deciding the final penalty, consideration will be given to the seriousness of the act, the impact on the victim, the impact on the club/League/SACFL and the prior good history or otherwise of the player. Players charged with these types of offences for a second or subsequent time and where a suspension has been previously imposed will face expulsion.

Any player presented before a tribunal for the first or subsequent time on a Cyberbullying offence must be aware that the penalties available to the tribunal members will cover the complete range including expulsion. In the case of a non playing club member being proved to have engaged in harassment or bullying, the club employing, engaging or otherwise associated with the person at the time of the conduct shall be deemed to be vicariously liable for the conduct of the person and shall pay to The League a penalty to be determined by The League.

**ANNEX F to
SAWFL By-Laws**

DISPENSATION POLICY

The underpinning philosophy of this process is to allow players who are not comfortable or able to compete in their chronological age group, the opportunity to be dispensed up or down to an age group that better suits their size and/or experience.

Dispensated Up

To be eligible to be dispensed up, the Player must only be one year outside the age range. This can be reviewed in exceptional circumstances.

Ref.	Policy	Responsible
1.1	Provided the player is within one year of the desired age level the player can apply for dispensation up.	Player
1.2	The "SAWFL Dispensation Form – Playing Up" must be completed by the player and parent/guardian.	Player
1.3	The club is to arrange for the individual to be assessed by a representative of The League. Contact caitlin@safl.asn.au	Club/League
1.4	The results of the assessment are to be recorded on the form, and provided that the assessing representative has answered yes to all four criteria the form can be submitted to The League for sign off. Should the representative answer no to one or more criteria then a full explanation is to be given under further comments with the final decision being made by The League after considering all circumstances.	Club/League
1.5	Should a player be dispensed up permanently they are not to play back down without sign off from The League.	Coach/ Team Manager
1.6	Teams are only able to field a maximum of two dispensed up players on the field at any one time.	Coach/ Team Manager

Dispensated Down

To be eligible to be dispensed down, the player must only be one year outside the age range. This can be reviewed in exceptional circumstances.

Ref	Description of action	Responsible
2.1	Provided the player is within one year of the desired age level the player can apply for dispensation up.	Player
2.2	The "SAWFL Dispensation Form – Playing Up" must be completed by the player and parent/guardian.	Player
2.3	The club is to arrange for the individual to be assessed by a representative of The League. Contact caitlin@safl.asn.au	Club/League
2.4	The results of the assessment are to be recorded on the form, and provided that the assessing representative has answered yes to all four criteria the form can be submitted to The League for sign off. Should the representative answer no to one or more criteria then a full explanation is to be given under further comments with the final decision being made by The League after considering all circumstances.	Club/League
2.5	Should a player be dispensed down permanently they are not to play back up without sign off from The League.	Coach/ Team Manager
2.6	Teams are only able to field a maximum of two dispensed up players on the field at any one time.	Coach/ Team Manager

Identification

All dispensated players are to be identified each game by:

- Recording an asterisk next to their name on the team sheet prior to exchanging it with the Opposition's Team Manager.
- Introducing the player to the Field Umpire before the start of the game.
- Players who have been dispensated up an age grade are required to wear a fluoro bib for the duration of the game. This identifies them as coming under the "no-tackling/bumping" rule, i.e. there are to be no tackles or bumps received or given by this player, and instead a three-second touch rule must be used.

Disputes

Step	Description of action	Responsible
3.1	The League encourages open communication between clubs (i.e. Coaches and Team Managers) and if anyone should have concerns regarding dispensated players they should be raised at the club level in the first instance.	Coach/Team Manager
3.2	Issues that are raised during the match should be recorded on the team sheet next to the individual. Team sheet is then to be submitted to the SAAFL along with a supporting email to caitlin@safl.asn.au	Coach/ Team Manager
3.3	The League will discuss concerns raised with the relevant club/s. Should the club request a review of a dispensated player, The League may reassess the player/s that are in question.	The League