



Metro West Junior Football League Rules & By-Laws **2013**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL IN THE METRO WEST JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE	4
2.	INTERPRETATION AND DEFINITIONS	4
3.	CONDITIONS FOR ADMISSION-NEW CLUB	5
4.	RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP- CURRENT CLUB	6
5.	APPLICATION OF THESE BY-LAWS AND THE LAWS OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL	7
6.	CODE OF CONDUCT	7
7.	PROTOCOLS	7
8.	CODE OF CONDUCT SIGN OFF	8
9.	ROLE OF THE COACH	9
10.	MATCHES	12
11.	PLAYING UNIFORMS	12
12.	CHANGE OF UNIFORM	12
13.	LOGOS ON UNIFORM(S)	13
14.	SPONSORSHIP	13
15.	UNIFORM COLOUR CLASHES	13
16.	TEAM NOMINATIONS	14
17.	FIXTURES	16
18.	WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINATED TEAMS	17
19.	DURATION OF MATCHES & INTERVALS	17
20.	WHITE AND BLUE GROUP	18
21.	15 A-SIDE TEAMS	20
22.	MODIFICATION TO LAWS OF AFL	20
23.	UNDER 8 to UNDER 10 COMPETITION	21
24.	UNDER 12 to UNDER 16 COMPETITION	21
25.	PHYSICAL SIZE AND DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA	21
26.	INSURANCE	22
27.	CLUB REGISTRARS AND ONLINE SCORING AND MANAGEMENT	22
28.	PLAYER REGISTRATIONS, TRANSFERS & PERMITS	22
29.	TRANSFERS	25
30.	AUSKICK TRANSFERS	26
31.	PERMIT COMMITTEE	27
32.	POACHING PLAYERS	27
33.	MATCH DAY PAPER WORK	27
34.	CLUB OFFICIALS	29
35.	LEGAL COMPLIANCE BY THE LEAGUE AND CLUBS	29
36.	CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT, 1993 S.A.	30
37.	CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENTS	30
38.	CHILD SAFETY OFFICER	30
39.	MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER (MPIO)	30
40.	PRIVACY	31
41.	TEAM OFFICIALS	31
42.	ROLE OF MATCH DAY OFFICIAL	34
43.	CLUBS CROWD CONTROL RESPONSIBILITIES	35
44.	ALCOHOL POLICY	36
45.	SMOKING POLICY Review this with the Appendix 15 - Smoke Free Policy	36
46.	CONCUSSION POLICY	36
47.	PROVISION FOR MATCHES	36

48.	INELIGIBLE PLAYERS	38
49.	QUALIFYING ROUNDS	39
50.	FORFEITS	39
51.	MATCH DAY PLAYER EVEN UP	40
52.	REMOVAL OF PLAYERS FROM ARENA	41
53.	TRIAL MATCHES	41
54.	REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL	41
55.	ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS	42
56.	LEAGUE FINALS ARRANGEMENTS	43
57.	DISABILITY	46
58.	PROTECTIVE GEAR	47
59.	FOOTBALLS	48
60.	USE OF STRETCHER/INJURED PLAYERS	48
61.	BLEEDING & BLOOD BORN INFECTIONS	49
62.	MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY	50
63.	ADVERSE WEATHER	50
64.	LIGHTNING POLICY	51
65.	CYBER SAFETY & SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES POLICY	52
66.	DISCRIMINATION AND RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS VILIFICATION	52
67.	AWARDS	53
68.	FIELDING TEAMS IN OTHER COMPETITIONS	54
69.	DISPUTES	55
70.	ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS AND RULES	55
71.	ACCEPTANCE OF RULES	55
72.	MAKING A PUBLIC STATEMENT	55
73.	CONDUCT UNBECOMING, PREJUDICIAL OR LIKELY TO BRING THE MATCH INTO DISREPUTE	56
74.	UMPIRE CATEGORIES	56
75.	UMPIRES	57
76.	UMPIRE'S DUTIES	58
77.	SPECIAL MATCH DAY RULES	59
78.	FILMING	59
79.	YELLOW AND RED CARD CONDITIONS	59
80.	UNAUTHORISED ENCROACHMENT	59
81.	REPORTS	60
82.	REPORTED PLAYERS UNDER 8 to UNDER 16, OFFICIALS, CLUB MEMBERS AND SPECTATORS	60
83.	PROTESTS AND DISPUTES, TRIBUNAL, INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE	61
84.	STEWARDS	62
85.	PENALTIES	62
86.	INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE	62
87.	COMPLAINTS & APPEALS	63
88.	FEES AND FINES	64
89.	MERIT AWARDS	64

1. SPIRIT OF JUNIOR FOOTBALL IN THE METRO WEST JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

1.1 Every participant understands that Junior Football in the Metro West Junior Football League is delivered to the Community with the spirit of the match in mind.

It is incumbent on every participant irrespective of their place in the match, to ensure that they will not focus on winning at all cost and understand that the role of Junior Football is:

- a) To foster the development of Junior Players, Volunteers, Umpires, Coaches and Officials.
- b) Learning to win and lose is part of the developmental journey of a participant, but must remain secondary to the primary focus of junior Player development.
- c) Maximise the enjoyment and development of junior footballers.
- d) Provide our children with a match environment that is safe, fun and fair.
- e) Ensure that the values which add to the spirit of our match, which include fairness, equality, respect and Teamwork are encouraged and celebrated.
- f) Uphold, promote and protect the Rules, By-Laws, Laws of AFL, Codes of Conduct, Policies and spirit of the match.
- g) Not accept poor behaviour around our match and deter practices that undermine our match environments (Coaching, Playing, Volunteering, Spectating and Umpiring).
- h) Adhere to any directive issued by The League in the best interest of achieving the above.

The Metro West Junior Football League is affiliated with the South Australia Community Football League and will abide by the SACFL Constitution and SACFL Regulations.

2. INTERPRETATION AND DEFINITIONS

In these Rules and By-Laws unless there is something in the context inconsistent therewith:

- 2.1 **"Affiliated League"** means a Football League which has affiliated with South Australian Community Football League (SACFL) under rule 9.4 of the SACFL Constitution.
- 2.2 **"AFL"** means the Australian Football League.
- 2.3 **"Club"** means any Junior Football Club which affiliates with The League through membership.
- 2.4 **"Coach"** In sports, a coach is a person involved in the direction, instruction and training of the operations of a sports team or of individual sportspeople. A coach may also be a teacher.
- 2.5 **"Executive Committee"** means the Committee appointed under The League Constitution.
- 2.6 **"Footyweb"** means the AFL Registration and Competition system.
- 2.7 **"Groups"** means age group for the purpose of competition.
- 2.8 **"Investigation Committee"** means the Sub-Committee appointed by The League under the Constitution.
- 2.9 **"Member"** means a Club or person elected to membership of The League in accordance with The League Constitution.

- 2.10 "Member Protection Policy"** addresses issues of harassment, discrimination and child protection within their organisation.
- 2.11 "Misconduct"** means any unacceptable or improper behaviour.
- 2.12 "MWJFL"** means the Metro West Junior Football League.
- 2.13 Official** includes any person assuming a responsibility on behalf of, and with the consent (express or implied) of a member club of the controlling body, irrespective of whether or not that person was elected or appointed to a position by or on behalf of the club. For the avoidance of doubt, "official" shall include any coach, assistant coach, team manager, assistant team manager, runner, trainer, interchange steward, match day official, water carrier, ground manager, member of a club's committee or person officiating in any capacity on match day.
- 2.14 "Player Registration and Transfer Form"** means a Form to be completed by a Player seeking approval to transfer as a Player from one Club to another Club.
- 2.15 "Prescribed Position"** means all Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Team Managers, Trainers and any other Match Day Official who fit one or more of the criteria as outlined including Runners, Child Safety Officer, Auskick Coordinator, President, Secretary, Registrar and Delegate.
- 2.16 "Registration"** means the act of registering a Player to compete in the MWJFL under by law 30 of these Rules and By-Laws.
- 2.17 "Rules & By-Laws"** means these Rules & By-Laws.
- 2.18 "SAAFL"** means the South Australian Amateur Football League.
- 2.19 "SACFL"** means the South Australian Community Football League.
- 2.20 "SAJFC"** means the South Australia Junior Football Council.
- 2.21 "SANFL"** means the South Australian National Football League.
- 2.22 "SANFL League Club"** means a League Club as defined in the SANFL Constitution.
- 2.23 "Steward"** a person who helps to supervise some event or proceedings in an official capacity
- 2.24 "The League"** means the Metro West Junior Football League.
- 2.25 "Transfer"** means an approval to transfer a Player from a Club or Affiliated League Club to another Club or Affiliated League Club under Rules and By-Laws 30 of these Rules & By-Laws.

Words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and vice versa, and words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa.

3. CONDITIONS FOR ADMISSION-NEW CLUB

- 3.1** Application from a Club seeking admission to The League shall make its application on such application Form as prescribed by The League and to be received by The League not later than the thirty first (31st) day of October of the year preceding that to which admission is sought.

3.2 The application shall include:

- a) The names and addresses of the applicant Club Office Bearers and Committee members.
- b) Front and rear view photographs of the proposed uniform(s) of the applicant Club.
- c) The location of the applicant Club's Oval(s), Change Rooms and Club Rooms (where applicable) and whether such Oval(s) and facilities are shared or not and upon what basis and with whom.
- d) The number of Teams the applicant Club desires to compete in The League.
- e) A nomination of the Grade(s) in which each Team of the applicant Club desires to compete.

3.3 Any other information that from time to time The League directs to form part of the applicant Club's application.

3.4 All applicant Clubs which are admitted to The League shall pay an Affiliation Fee as determined by The League.

3.5 For the purpose of considering any application for admission to The League, The League retains the right to examine and inspect the applicant Club's records, Oval(s), Change Rooms, Club Room and facilities.

3.6 The League may make any recommendations as it sees fit concerning such applicant Club's Oval(s), Change Rooms, Club Rooms or facilities.

3.7 Where the applicant Club has more than one Team desiring to compete in The League, The League may reject such application in respect of one or more of the applicant Club's Teams.

3.8 The League shall approve the applicant Club's uniform including, if applicable, it's away match uniform.

3.9 The decision of The League shall be final in respect of whether the applicant Club's application is accepted or rejected.

4. RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP- CURRENT CLUB

4.1 Each current Club seeking renewal of its membership with The League for the next playing season shall make its application on such renewal Form as prescribed by The League and to be received by The League not later than the thirty first (31st) day of October of the year preceding that to which renewal is sought.

4.2 An application for admission from a Club which was not a Club in the current playing season is to be received by The League not later than the thirty-first (31st) day of October of the year preceding that to which membership with The League is sought and shall include:

- a) The number of Teams such Club desires to field in The League.
- b) Front and rear view photographs of the proposed uniform(s).
- c) A nomination of the age Grade(s) in which each Team of the Club desires to compete.
- d) Any other information that from time to time The League directs to form part of the application.
- e) A fee as determined by The League. Such fee shall be deducted from that Club's subscriptions for the forthcoming season.

- 4.3** Any Club making application for any additional Team(s) shall pay a fee to The League by no later than thirty first (31st) January in the year to which the application is sought.
- 4.4** In the event that a Club withdraws such additional Team prior to the date determined by The League, the fee shall be refunded in full to the Club. In the event that a Club withdraws its additional Team after the date determined by The League, no part of the Member Club's fee shall be refunded.
- 4.5** For the purpose of considering any application for renewal of its membership to The League, The League retains the right to examine and inspect the Club's records, Oval(s), Change Rooms, Club Rooms and facilities.
- 4.6** The League may make any recommendations as it sees fit concerning such Club Oval(s), Change Rooms, Club Rooms or facilities.
- 4.7** Any Club withdrawing a Team or Teams after the date determined by The League in that particular season shall pay a fee to The League as determined by The League.
- 4.8** Any Club withdrawing a Team or Teams during the season shall pay part of or total of the annual subscriptions as The League may see fit.

5. APPLICATION OF THESE BY-LAWS AND THE LAWS OF AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL

- 5.1** Subject to the modifications and additions to the Rules & By-Laws specifically provided herein, all matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football as adopted from time to time by the AFL:
 - a)** The content of The League's Rules & By-Laws takes precedence over the Laws of Australian Football in any match of The League.
 - b)** Every participant is also expected to adhere to the guidelines contained within The League's Member Protection Policy.
 - c)** All Clubs, Team Officials and Registered Players (to the extent that their age permits) are to be conversant with and adhere to The League's Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Codes of Conduct and Policies.
 - d)** The Appendices Form part of these By-Laws.

6. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 6.1** It is the responsibility of all Clubs and Officials to protect every child (including opposition Players and Umpires) involved in The League's Competitions.
- 6.2** In the interest of the match of Australian Football, The League requires all parties within the competition to treat Umpires, the opposing Club's Officials, Players and supporters, and all related property, with respect.

7. PROTOCOLS

- 7.1** In achieving by law 6, Code of Conduct, the League proposes the following can be used as a guideline:
 - a)** Setting a good example, including adherence to the various Codes of Conduct.
 - b)** Restraining Officials, Players and supporters who may be inclined to become over-excited, particularly if they use abusive, threatening or insulting language or physical action.

- c) Introducing Officials and Players to Umpires prior to the match, and encouraging those same Officials and Players to courteously acknowledge the efforts of the Umpires whatever the result.
- d) Welcoming Officials, Players and supporters of the opposition Team on match day.
- e) Encouraging opposing Teams to shake hands prior to commencement and also at the end of the match.
- f) Presenting the ground and Club Room environment in a professional and welcoming manner.
- g) Introducing awards for sportsmanship other than for best and fairest.
- h) Total abstinence from consuming alcohol at matches.
- i) Total abstinence from any Form of drug use.

8. CODE OF CONDUCT SIGN OFF

8.1 Parents and Players are required to sign specific Codes of Conduct on The League Registration and Transfer Forms when first joining a Club. Players are requested to sign when age 12 and above. All Players should sign a new Code of Conduct Form when they reach that age. Where the On Line Registration process is utilised, acceptance of the Terms & Conditions will satisfy the requirement to sign the Code of Conduct. Parents and Players are bound by these Rules and By-Laws, including the relevant Code of Conduct in these Rules and By-Laws, as amended from time to time, irrespective of whether they have in fact signed any specific Conduct Codes or Codes of Conduct. All Coaches and Officials, by reason of their acting in such capacity, are bound by these Rules and By-Laws and the Coach's Code of Conduct and Official's Code of Conduct, as the case may be, as amended from time to time. Supporters are also to abide by these Rules and By-Laws, in particular the Parents and Supporters Code of Conduct.

CODE SIGNOFF AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

8.2 The League Registration and Transfer Form for The League includes the following key statements regarding behaviour and expectations. Both Players and Parents are expected to sign, except as outlined in Rules and By-Laws 8.1:

For Players

- a) I have read, understand and agree to abide by the MWJFL Competition Rules and Code of Conduct, By-Laws and Policies of the Club and the MWJFL.
- b) I have read, understand and agree to abide by the MWJFL Social Media Policy.
- c) I will observe and obey these MWJFL Competition Rules, Code of Conduct, Rules and By-Laws and Policies, and be bound by all rulings made by or with the authority of my Club and the MWJFL Executive that relate or apply to me.
- d) I declare that the information supplied by me is true and correct.

For Parents/Carers & Guardians

- e) I/We hereby consent to the registration of our child with the Club and the MWJFL.
- f) I/We acknowledge that I/we have been provided with, read and understand the Code of Conduct & Social Media Policy of the Club and MWJFL.
- g) I/We hereby agree to abide by the Code of Conduct and agree to observe and obey this Code and all rulings made by the Club and/or the MWJFL Executive that relate to me/us, other family members and invited guests.
- h) I/We agree that images of my child may appear on the Club and MWJFL website. However, such images will not be identified by name.
- i) I/We understand that Club and/or the MWJFL Executive may withdraw or suspend the Player's registration to play in the MWJFL competition should I/we fail

to comply with the Code and/or any rulings of the Club and/or the MWJFL Executive should I/we breach the Code.

- j) I/we agree should any injury occur, our Club or the MWJFL will, at all times, endeavour to notify the Parent/Guardian or Caregiver but, should an emergency exist, I/we grant our Club, an Official or the MWJFL the authority to seek ambulance and/or medical attention.
- k) Only (h) can be struck out in signing this Code of Conduct, all other statements are to be made as one agreement.

Players Code of Conduct

(Refer to Players Code of Conduct)

Parents/Carers/Guardians and Supporters Code of Conduct

(Refer to Parents / Carers / Guardians Code of Conduct)

**** Supporters Code of Conduct TO BE ADOPTED FROM PLAY BY THE RULES**

9. ROLE OF THE COACH

9.1 The Coach is in a unique position wielding significant influence. The Coach interfaces with all groups involved within a Club and thus, assumes certain obligations and responsibilities to protect the image and profile of the match, both today, and in particular with Coaches of Junior Teams in the future. It is essential that every Coach be aware of this unique position and so conducts himself in such a manner as to maintain the respect and dignity of the position.

- a) Set a good example and display utmost honesty and integrity in all dealings.
- b) Teach fair play and good sportsmanship.
- c) Never place the value of winning above that of instilling the highest possible morals and character.
- d) Be reasonable in setting demands, goals and expectations.
- e) Maintain a current knowledge of the Rules, of training methods, both theory and practical.
- f) Teach and interpret the Laws and Rules and By-Laws to the Players.
- g) Never ridicule Players for making mistakes or losing.
- h) Ensure each Player has the same opportunity to play equal match time as all other Players within the Team.
- i) Encourage and create opportunities to develop individual as well as team skills.
- j) Ensure that all Players understand the importance of regular attendance and positive attitude at training.
- k) Ensure that injured Players are given prompt and competent medical attention, and that Doctor's orders as relayed by Parents, are strictly adhered to.

9.2 All Coaches, whether accredited or not, are bound by the AFL Coaches Code of Conduct, as well as these Rules and By-Laws, including the specific Rules governing Reporting and Disciplinary Procedures. **(Refer to Appendix 1).**

9.3 In these Rules and By-Laws the words "Coach" means not only formally appointed Coaches, but also all persons acting in such capacity, whether formally appointed or not, as well as to Assistant Coaches, whether formally appointed or not, who act in such capacity.

9.4 It shall be the responsibility of Coaches to maintain team discipline and to instruct the Players to play within the rules and spirit of the match at all times.

9.5 Under no circumstances are Coaches to abuse, threaten or approach Umpires.

9.6 The Coaches Code of Conduct includes **(Refer to Coaches Code of Conduct)**, but is not limited to:

9.7 Coach and Administrators

- a) Remember the Coach is a representative of the Club's Administration and therefore it is important that Coaches conduct themselves so as to maintain the principles, the integrity and dignity of the position.
- b) Support the Administration in Policies and Regulations that may from time to time be initiated. Any differences should be conducted behind closed doors in a composed manner.
- c) Adhere to Club Policy in both letter and spirit.
- d) Advise the Club Administration of any deficiency in training aids or facilities to redress the situation.

9.8 Coach and Umpires

- a) Treat the Umpire with the utmost of good faith and respect.
- b) Introduce the Umpire to the Players prior to the commencement of the match and encourage Players and Officials to courteously acknowledge the efforts of the Umpires.
- c) Instruct Officials, Players and supporters that there is an appropriate manner and time to address any problems that they have with an Umpire or with any decisions and that time is not during the match, nor the intervals within a match, and certainly not when tempers are a bit frayed.
- d) Pacify any Official, Player or supporter from any inappropriate action, verbal or physical, toward an Umpire.
- e) Back up/support an Umpire's disciplinary action should the need arise.
- f) Never publicly criticise the Umpire to Players or Spectators.
- g) Never incite Players or Spectators to act against the Umpire.

9.9 Coach and Supporters (Spectators)

- a) Encourage supporters to act in a sportsmanlike manner, congratulating either Team for good, fair play.
- b) Ensure that supporters do not interfere with the match, nor encourage Players to act in an unsportsmanlike manner.
- c) Quickly address any problems that may be brewing with supporter behaviour and request the Club Administration to act in a manner to deflate any possible problems.

9.10 Coach and Parents/Carers and Guardians

- a) At the commencement of the season, inform Parents of the Coach's plan for training of the Players, the standard of behaviour the Coach expects Players to possess and to display, and what disciplinary action he/she would administer should a Player step outside the Coach's guidelines.
- b) Request Parents support the Coach in any disciplinary action the Coach is forced to undertake.
- c) Request Parents act in an honest and sportsmanlike manner in their dealings with the Coach, the Club's Officials, the Umpires and the opposition Officials, Players and supporters. Request that if a Parent has a problem with the Coach, or in the treatment of their child, that they firstly raise that problem with the Coach in question and then if dissatisfied by either the outcome of that meeting or subsequent actions taken/not taken, the matter be escalated to Club Administration.

9.11 Official's and Administrators Code of Conduct.

(Refer to Administrators and Officials Code of Conduct)

9.12 Breaches

Penalties for breaches of the Code of Conduct include:

- a) Any Player guilty of offensive behaviour, fighting or causing others to fight on the field, should be subject to an immediate quarter send off by their Coach, regardless of any action from the Umpires.
- b) Any Official, Player or Supporter breaching a Code of Conduct, may be issued with a warning for a minor breach. Further, more serious breaches may result in dismissal or suspension from participation in Competition(s).
- c) Any Official, Player or Supporter bringing their Club into disrepute, may result in dismissal from participation in Competition(s).

9.13 All breaches of the Code of Conduct will be referred to the Club for appropriate disciplinary action. The Club shall report their findings and any action being taken to The League within five (5) days of the notification. If the penalties are considered inadequate by The League, action may be overruled by the Investigation Committee. Clubs may defer matters to the Tribunal for hearing in extenuating circumstances.

9.14 Where the nature of the breach warrants a stronger remedy commensurate with the seriousness of the Code breach, the matter may be referred to an Investigation Committee.

9.15 The following is indicative of the Form of response that may occur:

Breach	Description	Remedy	Referred
Level 1	Minor Indiscretion	Individuals name recorded; counselling, mediation or apology if appropriate; official warning.	Usually not
Level 2	More serious infraction or repetition (within 3 years).	Suspended sentence or loss of membership rights; possibly the assigning of the individual to a mentor program by The League; counselling, mediation or apology as necessary; suspended Fine for club.	Yes
Level 3	Serious infraction of 'third strike' (Third Level 1 or Second Level 2).	Any of the above; or potential suspension or removal of membership rights of an individual; Fines and/or loss of competition points to a Club/Team.	Yes

9.16 Clubs that do not exercise adequate control over their Members, Parents/Carers of Players, Players, Coaches, Officials and Spectators so as to ensure that the Codes of Conduct are abided by may be called upon by The League to accept responsibility for any breach of the Codes of Conduct. If it is determined by The League that a Club has failed to exercise adequate control over their Members, Parents/Carers of Players, Players, Coaches, Officials and Spectators then that Club may be penalised as follows:-

9.17 For the first (1st) offence:-

- a) A Fine not exceeding \$500.00 and/or
- b) Loss of competition points and/or,
- c) The suspension of the offending person(s) from attending fixture matches.

9.18 For a second (2nd) offence:-

- a) A Fine not exceeding \$750.00 and/or,
- b) Loss of competition points and/or,
- c) The suspension of the offending person(s) from attending fixture matches and/or,
- d) The temporary suspension of the Team and/or the Club from the competition.

9.19 For a third (3rd) and subsequent offences:-

- a) A Fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 and/or,
- b) Loss of competition points and/or,
- c) The suspension of the offending person(s) from attending future matches,
- d) The suspension of the Team and/or the Club either from the remainder of the season or permanently from The League.

Investigation Committee

9.20 Where a Club is unable to handle a breach or when the matter is considered to be a Level 3 Breach, The League will refer the matter to an Investigation Committee. Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 91.

10. MATCHES

Refer to rule 4 COMPETITION

10.1 The League shall arrange inter-club football competition in specific age groups for Players registered with Junior Clubs of The League.

10.2 The competitions shall comprise:

- a) In the Under 8, Under 9 and Under10 competitions, a series of home and away matches, and
- b) In the Under 12 to Under 16 competitions a series of home and away matches and a finals series.

Date of Determination of a Players age.

10.3 The date of determination of a Player's age for the purpose of determining in which age grade the Player shall be eligible to play is the first day in January of the year in which the Player is to play.

Example: If a child turns 12 at any time during a year he/she is eligible to play in the Under 12's or nearest older group for that year.

11. PLAYING UNIFORMS

11.1 Upon The League approving the type and style of the uniform of the Club, such uniform shall be deemed to be the registered uniform of that Club.

11.2 Unless The League determines otherwise, each and every Player participating in an

11.3 Official match of The League shall wear the registered uniform of their Club.

11.4 Players representing Clubs during Official matches of The League shall wear approved League licensed apparel.

11.5 The playing number shall be securely fixed to the back of all Player's Guernseys for all Official matches of The League.

11.6 The League may impose a Fine to a Club for each Player infringing any provisions of these Rules and By-Laws 11.2, 11.3 and 11.4.

12. CHANGE OF UNIFORM

12.1 Any changes of a Club's uniform, or any additional new uniform(s), shall be approved by The League.

12.2 When a Club desires to change to or add any new uniform(s) such Club shall supply artwork(s) of both the front and the rear view of their proposed new uniform(s) including shorts and socks to The League prior to the twenty eighth (28th) of February in that particular season.

12.3 The League shall determine the Club's proposed uniform(s) changes and/or additional uniform(s) submission(s).

13. LOGOS ON UNIFORM(S)

13.1 All Club Guernseys shall be badged with the MWJFL logo.

13.2 The MWJFL logo shall be 7.5cm x 2.5cm and positioned 6cms below the shoulder join on the Guernsey on the front right side of the Guernsey.

13.3 All Club socks shall have a MWJFL logo (4.5cm x 1cm) half way up the sock from the start of the ankle not including the turn down or foot. The MWJFL logo shall be placed on both sides of the sock and not on the front or back of the sock.

13.4 All football shorts of The League shall incorporate the letters "MWJFL" vertically in the side panels (17cm x 5cms) and the MWJFL logo in full colour shall be placed on the right front leg (4cms x 1.5cms) horizontally under the MWJFL vertical lettering.

13.5 A logo on the front of a Guernsey shall not exceed 9cm in diameter.

13.6 A second logo on the front of a Guernsey may be placed at the same height as the logo on the back of the Guernsey but shall not exceed 30cm x 8cm.

13.7 A logo on the back of a Guernsey may be placed under the Guernsey playing number but shall not exceed 30cm x 8cm.

13.8 A second logo on the back of a Guernsey may be placed above the Guernsey playing number but shall not exceed 15cm x 4cm.

13.9 Two sponsor(s) logo(s) on Player's shorts.

13.10 The logo on a Player's shorts shall not exceed 64 square cm in area and shall be placed on either front leg panel. For these shapes the maximum dimensions are:

- a) circle – 8cm in diameter
- b) square – 8cm x 8cm
- c) rectangle – 10cm x 6cm

13.11 All playing apparel (Guernseys, shorts and socks) shall be badged with the SACFL logo).

14. SPONSORSHIP

14.1 Sponsorships will not be approved for organisations or for products that are not suitable for junior sport. Sponsorship of tobacco and alcohol products or their retailing will be refused. Gambling and any other sponsorship deemed inappropriate for junior sport will also be refused.

15. UNIFORM COLOUR CLASHES

15.1 A Club shall have a uniform design approved by The League to differentiate it from that of another Club(s) uniform.

- 15.2** In the event of The League determining that uniforms of any two Clubs playing each other in any Official match of The League clash, the provisions of these Rules and By-Laws 15.3 and 15.4 shall apply.

White shorts

- 15.3** Where the colours of the shorts of two opposing Teams clash, the Away Team shall change shorts and wear white to remove any clash, except for major round matches where the lowest ranked Team for the match shall change.
- 15.4** The Club designated as playing away from its home ground shall change its Guernsey and/or shorts for that match so as to remove the clash.
- 15.5** A Fine may be imposed upon a Club for each Player infringing any provisions of these Rules and By-Laws 15.3 and/or 15.4.
- 15.6** Should a dispute arise as to any determination made pursuant to these Rules and By-Laws 15.2 hereof a decision shall be obtained from The League.
- 15.7** Should any Club have a Guernsey clash, such Club may borrow a set of Guernseys from The League:
- a)** No fee shall be invoiced to the Club for the loan of these Guernseys.
 - b)** However, a fee shall be invoiced for any damaged or non-return of any Guernsey.
 - c)** All Guernseys shall be clean and dry when returned to The League no later than the Wednesday afternoon following the match in which they were used.

16. TEAM NOMINATIONS

- 16.1** Each Club may prior to a date decided upon by The League each year but no less than 30 days prior to the commencement of the season, lodge with The League Registrar a list of Team nominations for age groups in which that Club wishes to field a Team or Teams during the coming season.
- 16.2** Clubs nominating Teams for entry into the Under 8's to Under 16 competition must have registered at least 75% of the minimum number of Players (as set out in these Rules and By-Laws) in that Team.
- 16.3** The League shall consider all such nominations and shall as far as possible include Teams in competitions as nominated.
- 16.4** In any instance where The League is unable to allocate a Team as nominated, it may make an alternative nomination.
- 16.5** The League Treasurer shall advise each Club of the nomination fees payable for its nominations and the date by which these fees are to be paid. Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 93.
- 16.6** Each Team nomination should, where possible, include the name and other relevant details of the following people:

Coach

- 16.7** An accredited Coach capable of teaching Players the Laws and skills of Australian Football.

16.8 Team Nominations shall only be accepted if, when the Coach is nominated.

Team Manager

16.9 A Team Manager capable of assisting the Coach by carrying out the clerical and other duties relating to the efficient functioning of the Team. The responsibilities of the Team Manager s are set out in **(Refer to Appendix 18)**

Coach Registration

16.10 Any person desiring to Coach with an Affiliated Club in The League in any season must first make application on the prescribed League Coach Registration Form which includes Code of Conduct prior to Coaching. Refer to Coach Registration form

16.11 The Club Registrar will add the Coach on Footyweb

16.12 Where the Online Registration process is utilised acceptance of the Terms and Conditions will satisfy the acceptance of the Code of Conduct.

CURRENT POLICE CHECK

16.13 The Coach will be required to have a current National Police Clearance. If the Coach does not have a current National Police Clearance, it shall be completed thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of the season. *Exemption may apply. (Refer to Appendix 13 - Police Check Form)*

CURRENT PLAY BY THE RULES CERTIFICATE

16.14 The Coach will be required to have a current Play By the Rules, (Child Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment) Certificate. *Exemption may apply*

16.15 The Coach will also be required to obtain Level 1 Accreditation during their second year of Coaching. If a Coach continues to Coach without having obtained the necessary accreditation, a Team which is coached by the unaccredited Coach will lose all match points for matches won by the Team whilst the unaccredited Coach continues to Coach. In the event of no match points being received by that Team, The League may impose an appropriate penalty.

16.16 All Coaches of League Representative Teams must have a minimum Level 1 Accreditation, current National Police Check and Play By the Rules Certificate prior to being appointed.

16.17 The Assistant Coach will be duly accredited as a Coach following the same rules as a Coach.

Unaccredited Coach

16.18 An unaccredited Coach not provided approval to continue Coaching by The League will not be permitted to:

- a) Display visible signs of Coaching, which includes communicating to the Players, Assistant Coach or Coaches, Runners, Water Carriers, Trainers etc., before or during the match.
- b) Enter the playing arena at any stage during the match. If, however, the Coach is a Parent of a Player participating in that match, the Coach may enter the field at the quarter time and three quarter time breaks but must not address the Team.
- c) Be closer than 25 metres from the Team's Interchange Bench during the match.

16.19 Any Coach suspended as a Coach will not be permitted, during the period of suspension to:

- a) Display visible signs of Coaching, which includes communicating to the Players, Assistant Coach or Coaches, Runners, Water Carriers, Trainers etc. before or during the match.
- b) Enter the playing arena at any stage during the match.
- c) Be closer than 25 metres from the Team's Interchange Bench during the match.
- d) Enter the Change Rooms before or during the match, including half time.

16.20 Clubs will be provided with Coach Identification which must be worn by Coaches during matches. Failure to wear identification will result in a Fine and/or the loss of match points.

17. FIXTURES

17.1 Prior to the commencement of each football season The League Registrar will prepare a fixture list for all matches to be played in competitions under the control of The League and to allocate grounds and times for such matters. Where possible the fixtures shall include:

17.2 An equal number of matches played between all Teams in each competition.

17.3 An equal number of home and away matches for each Team.

17.4 Alternate matches at home and away for each Team.

17.5 Where any Team has a Bye then each other Team in that competition shall have the same number of Byes.

17.6 No premiership points or Player qualifications shall apply when a Team has a Bye.

17.7 A clear indication of grounds and match times.

17.8 Neutral grounds for Grand Finals.

17.9 Any proposed amendment or alteration to the fixtures or any details thereof shall be submitted in writing to The League Registrar for the consideration of The League.

17.10 Should The League be unable to meet before a decision on the proposal is required, The League Registrar shall be empowered to make a decision, which shall be final and binding.

Re-Grading

17.11 The League may re-grade sides to ensure a balanced competition. This will occur on or prior to Round five (5) and be conducted at the discretion of The League.

17.12 Any re-fixturing that occurs after the commencement of the season will be at the discretion of The League.

17.13 All points and percentage of the Team(s) re-graded will be carried over to their new age group.

Oval Lights

- 17.14** Oval lighting for a night match shall be in accordance with the Australian Standard for Sports Lighting and a copy of the appropriate current accordance approval shall be submitted to The League prior to any Official match being played as a night match. In accordance with Australian Standards, any junior night fixture lighting shall have a minimum of 50 lux.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINATED TEAMS

A Club, which withdraws a Team or Teams from any competition after the commencement of the season without a reason acceptable to The League, may be liable to a penalty or a Fine as determined by The League.

- 18.1** In the event that a Team is withdrawn from a competition after the commencement of a season; The League shall determine how the fixtures will be re-organised and for which match premiership points will be awarded.

19. DURATION OF MATCHES & INTERVALS

During the half time break, teams must remain on the oval and not enter the change rooms.

Unless otherwise agreed by The League, the following shall be the duration of matches played under the control of The League. (Refer below or to Appendix - Game Siren Time)

Competition	Quarter Length	Break Length		
Under 08	4 x 10 min ¼'s	¼ time 3 mins	½ time 5 mins	¾ time 3 mins
Under 09	4 x 10 min ¼'s	¼ time 3 mins	½ time 5 mins	¾ time 3 mins
Under 10	4 x 10 min ¼'s	¼ time 3 mins	½ time 5 mins	¾ time 3 mins
Under 12 Blue	4 x 14 min ¼'s	¼ time 3 mins	½ time 5 mins	¾ time 3 mins
Under 12 White	4 x 14 min ¼'s	¼ time 3 mins	½ time 5 mins	¾ time 3 mins
Under 14 Blue	4 x 18 min ¼'s	¼ time 5 mins	½ time 8 mins	¾ time 5 mins
Under 14 White	4 x 18 min ¼'s	¼ time 5 mins	½ time 8 mins	¾ time 5 mins
Under 16 Blue	4 x 20 min ¼'s	¼ time 5 mins	½ time 10 mins	¾ time 5 mins
Under 16 White	4 x 20 min ¼'s	¼ time 5 mins	½ time 10 mins	¾ time 5 mins

No Time On

- 19.1** No time on will be added for any match.
- 19.2** Upon a second warning from the Umpire and a Team has not made an acceptable effort to take the field, the Umpire shall award a free kick to the opposing Team. Should both Teams be offending, the Umpire will pay a free kick to the 1st returning Team.
- 19.3** In addition to Rules and By-Laws 19.3, if any Team is deemed by the Umpire to be in breach of Rules and By-Laws 19.3, the Coach(s) of the offending Team(s) may be reported for time wasting.

20. WHITE AND BLUE GROUP

In the 2013 season, the previous football Year age Groups of Under 11 (U11), Under 12 (U12), Under 13 (U13), Under 14 (U14), Under 15 (U15) and Under 16 (U16) will now be:

Grades	New	Team
Previously 11's	Under 12	White Group
Previously 12's	Under 12	Blue Group
Previously 13's	Under 14	White Group
Previously 14's	Under 14	Blue Group
Previously 15's	Under 16	White Group
Previously 16's	Under 16	Blue Group

Grades

The Blue Group and White Group competition was introduced in 2012 in the U16 competition to replace the U15 and U16 age group competition.

In 2012, the Clubs voted for the further implementation of the Blue and White group in the U11, U12, U13 and U14 age groups. The new competition would now be U12 White, U12 Blue, U14 White, U14 Blue, U16 White and U16 Blue.

The intent behind this reform was to:

- Offer a competition that was to support Clubs who could in the past only field either an odd or even Team, to now field a Team in a competitive environment in the White Group or Blue Group.
- To also support Clubs who are able field both an odd an even Team further develop Players by using the Player Movement Policy within the Blue and White group competition to reward Players.
- To arrest Clubs fielding Teams in one age group that dominates the competition year after year.

The League recommends that Clubs who are able to field both odd and even Teams support The League's interpretation and intent of the Blue Group and White Group environment by maintaining Players within their age group with movement for development and reward.

20.1 Clubs will need to be transparent with their members and clearly outline their philosophy and policy with regarding the management of the Blue and White Group.

Squad Size

Grades	Group	Size
Under 8		maximum of 25 positions
Under 9		maximum of 25 positions
Under 10		maximum of 25 positions
Under 12	White Group	maximum of 25 positions
Under 12	Blue Group	maximum of 25 positions (combined 50 positions)
Under 14	White Group	maximum of 25 positions
Under 14	Blue Group	maximum of 25 positions (combined 50 positions)
Under 16	White Group	maximum of 25 positions
Under 16	Blue Group	maximum of 30 positions (combined 55 positions)

20.2 If a club only fields one (1) x U16 Team they will be allowed to have a maximum of 30 positions. This rule only applies to this Grade.

20.3 Clubs will need to be proactive by advising their Members that if they desire to play with the Club they must register as soon as possible to avoid missing out on a position.

Clubs will also need to be transparent with their members and clearly outline their philosophy and policy regarding list management of squad positions.

20.4 All positions taken in a Squad List will be confirmed via Footyweb.

20.5 The League will not approve any submissions to exceed these positions.

Player Movement From Within the White and Blue Group Grades

20.6 All current Players will have the flexibility to play up or down within their Squad during the qualifying rounds.

20.7 Also refer to these Rules and By-Laws 59 for Disability play down criteria.

20.8 Where Players are playing up or down these Players are deemed eligible for Fairest and Best voting.

20.9 There will be no restriction on the number of Players eligible to play in Teams in either the White or Blue Group. Clubs are expected however, to avoid excessive numbers in one Group and strive to achieve as many Teams as possible. They are also expected to balance Player numbers between groups. **For example, if there are 30 Players nominated for the U16 Blue Group and 16 Players for the U16 White Group, Clubs would be expected to nominate two (2) Teams of around 23 Players.**

Player Eligibility

20.10 A Player who has played ten (10) or more matches in a Team competing in the Blue Group shall be eligible to play finals for the Blue Group only.

20.11 If any Player then plays in the White Group Team in Finals after playing ten (10) or more matches in the Blue Group, the match in the White Group will be deemed a forfeit.

20.12 Where a Club fields a Team in both the Blue Group and White Group of any grade, the Blue Group Player cannot play in a White Group when their Team is scheduled a Bye if he has played in the Blue Group in his previous match.

20.13 The exception being if the Player has played more White Group matches than the Blue Group matches in the season to date.

20.14 Any Player who plays in a Blue Group match on a given weekend before the White Group match is scheduled is deemed ineligible for the White Group.

20.15 If any Player plays in the White Group after playing in the Blue Group, the match will be deemed a forfeit. This applies to all Players in the U12 to U16 competitions.

20.16 Players must play a minimum of five (5) matches in the Team for which they wish to play finals e.g. five (5) matches in the U12 Blue Group to qualify for U12 Blue Group finals. A Player who plays three (3) matches for the U12 Blue Group and two (2) matches for the U12 White Group whilst he has played five (5) matches he has not qualified for to play finals for either Team.

Clubs Nominating Teams in the White or Blue Group Grades-One Team Nomination

20.17 Member Clubs may be required to send a submission on an Official Club letterhead signed by the Club President in the situation where a Member Club can only field one Team in either the Blue or White Group.

20.18 The submission must include the following:

- a) How many Teams the Club is nominating to field in the three (3) grades e.g. U12, U14 & U16.
- b) Where they finished on the premiership table in the last two (2) seasons.
- c) How many new Players to football have registered in the new season.
- d) Percentage of SANFL Development Squad Players.
- e) Percentage of first year Players.
- f) Physical size of the Team.

Two Teams in the one Competition

- 20.19** Under no circumstance will any Club be allowed to field two (2) Teams in the one group, e.g. 2 x U12 Blue Teams. Clubs will be required to field a Team in the U12 Blue Group and U12 White Group.

21. 15 A-SIDE TEAMS

The 15 A-Side concept was voted in by the Clubs at the 2012 AGM. The intention of this concept is to give Clubs an opportunity to start Teams, retain Players, Parents Coaches, Volunteers and for Clubs to build Teams with the intention of fielding a traditional 18 A-Side Teams for the season.

- 21.1** Member Clubs may be required to send a submission on an Official letterhead signed by the Club President in the situation where the Club believes they will nominate and field a 15 A-Side Team in The League.
- 21.2** The Club must only field the 15 A-Side Team in the White group competition.
- 21.3** A match shall be deemed to be forfeited if the 15 A-Side Team consists of less than thirteen (13) Players. Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 52.
- 21.4** The even up rule applies. Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 53.
- 21.5** Time Keepers may reduce each quarter by two (2) minutes and add these two (2) minutes on the quarter time breaks with the agreement of both teams.

Reverting to a Traditional 18 A-Side Team

- 21.6** Once a Club fielding a 15 A-Side Team, registers 20 Players they MUST notify The League as soon as possible and will revert to a traditional 18 A-Side Team.

22. MODIFICATION TO LAWS OF AFL

15, 25 and 50 Metre Penalties

15 Metre Penalty Under 8 competition only

- 22.1** A 15 metre penalty may be enforced by a Field Umpire(s) where an Umpire deems it to be applicable.

25 Metre Penalty Under 9 to U16 competition

- 22.2** A 25 metre penalty may be enforced by a Field Umpire(s) where an Umpire deems it to be applicable.

50 Metre Penalty - Reports Under 12 to Under 16 competition

- 22.3** A 50 metre penalty shall be enforced by a Field Umpire upon making a Report under AFL Law 19.2 or as a result of a Player count as per AFL Law 5.5

50 Metre Penalty – Umpire Abuse

- 22.4** A free kick and or a 50 metre penalty may be awarded against a Player, Official or Spectator who:
- a) Uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards an Umpire;
 - b) Behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards an Umpire;
 - c) Intentionally, recklessly or negligently engages in conduct which affects, interferes with or prevents an Umpire from performing their duties.

Dangerous Tackle

- 22.5** Tackling is permitted as per the Laws of Australian Football. However, **No Player** shall be deliberately slung, dumped or thrown to the ground in any tackle.
- a) 1st incident - Yellow Card,
 - b) 2nd incident - Red Card – Misconduct (Report)

23. UNDER 8 to UNDER 10 COMPETITION

Refer to Under Age Rules (8 - 10) and the Appendix Why Modify and What is zoning.

24. UNDER 12 to UNDER 16 COMPETITION

Refer to Under Age Rules (12 - 16).

25. PHYSICAL SIZE AND DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

- 25.1** Players must apply to The League for permission to play down an age group during the current season. Refer to **MWJFL Playing down application form**
- 25.2** Approval may be granted if the Player submits with their application to play down, written authority by a Sports Physician(s) or legally qualified Medical Practitioner and addresses:
- a) Is less than sex maturity rating four (4), and
 - b) Falls below the fifth (5th) percentile for height or weight.
 - c) Any medical condition
- 25.3** The granting of any such request shall apply only to the current season and can be subject to review by The League during the course of the current season.
- 25.4** A Player granted permission to play down an age group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which he has received permission to play.
- 25.5** Also refer to these Rules and By-Laws 59 for Disability play down criteria.

PLAYING UP AN AGE LEVEL

- 25.6** The League acknowledges the principal role of the parent/carer/guardian in determining if a player should play in a higher age group age competition than the one determined by the player's chronological age. Players should only be permitted

to play up an age level when their physical capacity and social sense enable them to compete adequately at the higher age level. The decision whether a player should play up beyond the two-year age span should be based on the advantages to be gained by the player.

- 25.7** Prior to a player participating in a competition outside the recommended two-year age span, the player's parent or guardian must sign a consent form. **Refer to MWJFL Playing up form.**

26. INSURANCE

- 26.1** Each club shall take out, for the current season, Insurance Policies sufficient to cover itself, its Officials, Umpires, Coaches and Players to the following minimum levels:
- 26.2** Public Liability to \$20,000,000
- 26.3** Professional Indemnity to \$2,000,000
- 26.4** Death and Disablement cover to \$100,000 for Adults and \$10,000 for children.
- 26.5** Sports Injury cover including 50% cover for non-Medicare medical benefits and an excess is payable.
- 26.6** The minimums are included in the Bronze Level Cover provided under the AFL National Risk Protection Program for 2013.
- 26.7** It is recommended that where possible each Club explores additional insurance protection. Silver & Gold cover is also available; this cover is at individual Club's discretion and upgrades are available at Club costs. The SACFL on behalf of the Clubs will include all Clubs in the annually negotiated national scheme and will advise them of the current terms and conditions as they apply.

27. CLUB REGISTRARS AND ONLINE SCORING AND MANAGEMENT

- 27.1** Each Club upon acceptance and/or renewal of its membership with The League shall elect or appoint a Registrar to enter information as directed by The League into Footyweb.
- 27.2** The League may impose a Fine for failure to comply with such request.
- 27.3** Each Club Registrar will also look after participant Registration and Transfers for their respective Clubs in line with these Rules and By-Laws requirements.
- 27.4** Club Registrars will NOT issue permits without approval from The League Registrar. Any permit issued without approval will deem a Player ineligible. Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 30, 33.

28. PLAYER REGISTRATIONS, TRANSFERS & PERMITS

- 28.1** The League shall comply with rules and conditions as specified in the SACFL Regulations, in particular Regulations 8 to 16 inclusive. **Refer to the SACFL Regulations**

Registrations Minimum Age:

- 28.2** A Player shall be a minimum of six (6) years of age to be registered with The League.

28.3 Any person desiring to play with an Affiliated Club in The League in any season must first make application on the prescribed League Registration and Transfer Form prior to participating in any match. **(Refer to MWJFL Player Registration form)**

28.4 No Player(s) can play in The League competition until The League Registration and Transfer Form is entered onto Footyweb by the Club Registrar.

28.5 The granting of each application for registration is at the discretion of The League.

Players Signature

28.6 All Players participating in The League must also sign a completed League Registration and Transfer Form.

Parent/Carer/Guardian Signature

28.7 All Parents/Guardians must read and sign The League Registration and Transfer Form which includes the 'Code of Conduct' and 'Conditions of Registrations' sections.

28.8 A Player will not be deemed as being registered unless the completed League Registration and Transfer Form has been signed by a Parent/Guardian.

Registering a New Player

28.9 All NEW Players must complete a League Registration and Transfer Form and also provide an approved Proof of Age document to be properly registered.

Proof of Age for New Players

28.10 Any of the following 'Proof of Age' documents are acceptable to The League and must have the Player's full and correct name and date of birth:

- a) Birth Certificate or Extract
- b) Passport
- c) Baptism Certificate
- d) Student photo identification
- e) Legal document certifying proof of age of applicant
- f) Letter confirming age from school (must be signed by the school principal)

28.11 The Club Registrar will sight the original document and a copy of this document will be attached to The League Registration and Transfer Form.

28.12 The Club Registrar will add the new Player including the Proof of Age Document onto Footyweb before the Player is eligible to play.

28.13 A NEW Player will not be deemed as being registered unless a Proof of Age Document has been secured and entered on Footyweb.

Re-Registering a Previous Player

28.14 All re-registering Players shall do so by either completing and signing a League Registration and Transfer Form or completing On Line Registration.

On Line Registration for Previous Players

For clubs who choose Online Registration the following applies: **(Refer to - Sporting Pulse Online payment and Registration document)**

- 28.15** Where the On Line Registration process is utilised acceptance of the Terms and Conditions will satisfy the acceptance of the Player, Parent/Carer and Guardian Code of Conduct

Lapsed players (Registering a Past Player/ Lapsed Player)

- 28.16** Ensure that the last year the Player was registered is clearly stated. If the Player did not play in the last two (2) years and the Club Registrar is unable to locate this Player on Footyweb, then this Player will be deemed a new Player and will have to provide a 'Proof of Age' Document.

De-Registration

- 28.17** A Club may request that a Player be de-registered under the following conditions:
- a) The Player, once having registered with The League, has not played in any match in any age group.
 - b) The Player has only been available to play up to and including two (2) matches.
- 28.18** A request for de-registration will only be accepted prior to 30 June and on an Official League De-Registration Form and signed by an Official of the Club. **(Refer to Form - Player - de registration)**

Dual Registrations

- 28.19** A Player will not be allowed to register for more than one Club in The League.

Match Day Registrations for New Players

New Players who register on match day will be required to do the following prior to being eligible to play:

- 28.20** The NEW Player will have to complete and sign a League Registration and Transfer Form.
- 28.21** The Player's Parent/Guardian will have to sign The League Registration and Transfer Form.
- 28.22** If the Player has produced an original approved Proof of Age document on match day, the Team Manager will attach a copy with The League Registration and Transfer Form.
- 28.23** The Team Manager will write the Player's full and correct name and date of birth and Guernsey number on the Team Sheet. The Team Manager will also sign the Team Sheet for confirmation.
- 28.24** The opposing Team Manager is to be informed that a new Player is being registered, and must sign and date the back of the Team Sheet, to verify the notification.
- 28.25** The Club Registrar will add the match day registration onto Footyweb as soon as possible after the match and before to 8.00 pm on Sunday.
- 28.26** The League Registrar will audit all new Player registrations to ensure the Proof of Age has been entered on Footyweb.

28.27 New Players can only play one match without an approved Proof of Age document. The Proof of Age document will have to be entered on Footyweb before being eligible to play the next match.

28.28 If a Player only plays one match for the entire season and no Proof of Age document has been secured and entered on Footyweb, this Player will be deemed as an Unregistered Player and the Club may be Fined \$150.00.

Closing Date for Registrations

28.29 Player registrations will be accepted until the end of the home and away season in which the Player intends to play.

Querying Opposition Player Eligibility

28.30 Should a Team or Member Club wish to query the eligibility of an opposition Player they are to submit in writing a request for The League Registrar to follow up on the Player(s) eligibility in a Team by 5.00pm Monday immediately following the match. Late submissions will not be accepted. Should any discrepancies be found, the matter will be dealt with at the discretion of The League in accordance with these Competition Rules. Clubs playing ineligible Players may be Fined up to \$500.00 as determined by The League.

29. TRANSFERS

29.1 A Transfer Form cannot be lodged with the Club Registrar of the Affiliated League in which the Player wishes to play before February 1st and after June 30th in the year in which the application for Transfer is made.

29.2 Any Player wishing to transfer from one Club to another Club within The League from the 1st February of the playing season is able to do so subject to the maximum squad size requirements; and a League Registration and Transfer Form is completed and signed by the Player and Parent/Guardian.

29.3 A Player transfer from one Club to another Club within The League after the 1st February of the playing season shall be approved by The League subject to both Clubs being able to meet both the minimum and maximum squad size requirements following the transfer.

Under 15 Years

29.4 A Player **under the age of fifteen (15) years** on the first day of January of the playing year and wishing to transfer to a Club of The League will not be required to obtain a transfer from the SANFL Affiliated League with which he/she was last registered.

Over 15 Years

29.5 A Player **over the age of fifteen (15) years** on the first day of January of the playing year and wishing to transfer to a Club of The League:

- (a)** May only be registered with one SANFL Junior District League (currently these Leagues are the Metro West Junior Football League, Metro South Junior Football League, North East Metro Junior Football Association and Central Districts Junior Football Association).

- (b) Will be required to obtain a transfer from the SANFL affiliated Junior District League with which he/she was last registered.
- (c) These Players will be required to complete and sign a SACFL Registration and Transfer Form. **(Refer to Appendix 7 SACFL Form)**

- 29.6** The Player's Parent/Guardian will also have to sign this SACFL Registration and Transfer Form.
- 29.7** The Club Registrar will process this transfer on Footyweb and will be audited by The League Registrar.
- 29.8** All Players transferring Clubs within The League will need to complete and sign a League Registration and Transfer Form to be lodged.
- 29.9** Transfers will only be processed from Midnight 1st of February until Midnight the 30th of June in the playing season.

30. AUSKICK TRANSFERS

- 30.1** All Auskick transfers to The League will be processed as new Players requiring a League Registration and Transfer Form and a Proof of Age document.

Clubs to Retain League Registration and Transfer Forms

- 30.2** It is the responsibility of the Club to keep all original Player League Registration and Transfer Forms and copies of Proof of Age document and supply such records to The League upon request within 48 hours of such request.
- 30.3** It is the responsibility of the Clubs to ensure each Player meets the Code of Conduct standards required by The League
- 30.4** The Club Registrar shall keep all League Registration and Transfer Forms and a SACFL Registration and Transfer Forms for a period of 24 Calendar months.
- 30.5** Transfer applications submitted electronically must contain the following information:
- a) Player's name
 - b) Address
 - c) Date of Birth
 - d) Player Registration number
 - e) Club the Player desires to be transferred from and its Affiliated League
 - f) Club the Player wishes to be registered with and its Affiliated League

Incorrect Information

- 30.6** If a Player and/or Club lists incorrect information on the Player's Player League Registration and Transfer Form or incorrect information into Footyweb, such Player shall be deemed to be unregistered and The League may impose a Penalty and/or Fine to the offending Player and/or the Club.
- 30.7** Any Player suspended by The League for a total of 12 matches or more shall have their registration to play within The League withdrawn but may request a transfer to any other League or association at the completion of the suspension.
- 30.8** A Club Player who has had their registration to play within The League withdrawn after being suspended for a total of 12 or more matches may apply in writing to The League for reinstatement.

30.9 The League shall be entitled to withdraw or rescind a Player Registration or Transfer.

30.10 The League may impose a penalty including but not limited to a Fine and/or the loss of any premiership points and/or any score kicked if any Club plays or has played a Player in a match whom is unregistered, not transferred, suspended, is over-age, plays under an incorrect name or was not eligible to play in the major round.

31. PERMIT COMMITTEE

31.1 All permits will be processed as per SACFL Regulations 8 to 16 inclusive. Before any Player takes part in any match, the onus is on the Club to satisfy themselves that The League has permitted the Player to take the field. Junior Players shall be subject to approval by The League.

31.2 The League shall appoint a Permit Committee.

31.3 The Permit Committee shall have the power to issue a permit to any Player as per these By Laws and Rules and the SACFL Regulations.

32. POACHING PLAYERS

32.1 Any Member Club poaching or attempting to poach any registered Player from another Member Club shall be Fined **\$200.00** per Player. Additionally, the Club and any Officials involved in the poaching or attempted poaching may be dealt with by The League pursuant to Rule 50 of The League By-Laws.

33. MATCH DAY PAPER WORK

33.1 The following documents shall be provided by The League for use by each competing Team in each match played under the control of The League.

Team List

33.2 A Team List using Footyweb containing the following information:

- a)** The Club name and the age group of the Team.
- b)** Date and venue for the match.
- c)** Surname and First name and jumper number of each Player representing that Club in the match.
- d)** The name and accreditation of the Coach.
- e)** The name and accreditation of any Assistant Coaches.
- f)** The name of the appointed Team Runner(s).
- g)** The names of the Team Water Carrier(s).
- h)** The name and signature of the Team Manager or another authorised Team Official.
- i)** The name of the appointed Match Day Official.
- j)** Match score.
- k)** Name of Trainer/Medical Attendant.

Fairest and Best Voting Slip

33.3 One **Fairest And Best Voting Slip** for age groups 12 years and older and one suitably marked envelope showing the names and age group of both competing Teams and the date and venue for the match per approved League method.

Club of the Year Form

- 33.4** League appointed Umpires will vote for the Club of the Year as per The League criteria.

Score Cards

- 33.5 Score cards:** Two (2) for Goal Umpires and one (1) for the Time Keeper in the Under 12's Competitions upwards.

Goal Umpires

- 33.6** Goal Umpires and Time Keeper shall enter all Goals and Behinds and confer at the conclusion of each quarter and otherwise carryout their duties in accordance with the AFL laws of the match.
- 33.7** Should any discrepancy occur in the scores recorded by both goal Umpires then the scores will be clarified with the Umpires and the Time Keeper, with the scorecard of the Time Keeper being deemed as the official score.

Umpire Match Report Form

- 33.8** At the conclusion of each match, the Field Umpire(s) shall provide a report to the League on the prescribed Umpire's Match Report Form. **(Refer to Appendix 12)**

Coaches Feedback Form on Umpire

- 33.9** To assist The League Coach/Coordinator in its assessment of Umpires, Clubs may at their discretion, provide a report on the Umpires' performance to the League Coach/Coordinator. Such report should be provided on the prescribed Form, duly signed by the Team Coach and forwarded with the match day paperwork.
- 33.10** Where match day paperwork is not used, the On Line Coaches Feedback Form on Umpires or an email may be used by Clubs to provide feedback on Umpires to The League Coach/Coordinator.

Team Manager

- 33.11** The Team Manager or other appointed Official or Umpire shall after the conclusion of the match return all completed match documents, including any reports and signed by the Field Umpires, verifying their correctness. These match documents must be returned to the Club Registrar who will send all home match day paperwork to The League Registrar using The League's designated delivery process.

What Constitutes a Match?

- 33.12** Players must be listed on the Match Sheet, be in attendance at the match, attired in their team uniform and must have taken the field during the match.

Late Arrivals

- 33.13** Late arriving Players **cannot** take to the field until presented to the Field Umpires at the first quarter break or the end of the second quarter.. Players arriving **after the half time break** are ineligible to play.

Delivery of Match Day Paperwork

- 33.14** At the end of the day the home Team Manager should collect from the Umpires all match day paperwork in a sealed envelope. The Team Manager will forward the

match day paperwork to the home Club Registrar who will arrange to have it returned in the prescribed manner, to reach The League Registrar no later than 8.00 pm on Tuesday, following the match.

- 33.15** It is the home Team's responsibility, not the Umpires, to ensure delivery of the match day envelope.

On Line Results

- 33.16** The Home Team Club Registrar will be responsible for entering the Club's Team results in Footyweb after each match. This includes the score, best Players (optional). The Club Registrar will also update their Team list to reflect the Players that played on the day only.

- 33.17** Failure to comply with this provision may result in a Fine and a Fine for each subsequent day the match day paperwork, in total, are not received by The League Registrar.

34. CLUB OFFICIALS

- 34.1** Each club shall elect Club Administrators and Officials who will be responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the Club. All Clubs and Club Officials should familiarise themselves with these principles and guidelines.

These Officials must include:

- 34.2** President, Committees, Delegates to The League and other required Officials whom will be elected as per each Club's Constitution.
- 34.3** Coaches, Trainers and other Officials who are suitably accredited as per the AFL and SACFL Regulations.
- 34.4** The League shall adopt the Codes of Conduct/Policies as defined by the AFL and amended by The League and all Club, Team and match Officials shall agree to abide by such Codes of Conduct.
- 34.5**
- 34.6** All Club Volunteers who work with children (in prescribed positions) must have provided a criminal history assessment as required by legislation.
- 34.7** Clubs are to have in place a policy on 'Risk Management' relevant to Coaches, Administrators and Club Officials. When adults have responsibility of care for children, Clubs must ensure the safety, health and protection of children. Clubs are responsible for the behaviour of its Officials in line with The League's Member Protection Policy.
- 34.8** All Club Officials will register on Footyweb and abide by The League's Administration Code of Conduct. **(Refer to Administrator and Officials Code of Conduct)**
- 34.9** Where the On Line Registration process is utilised, acceptance of the Terms and Conditions will satisfy the acceptance of the Code of Conduct.
- 34.10** The Club President will provide a copy of the Club's Liquor Licence to The League when directed.

35. LEGAL COMPLIANCE BY THE LEAGUE AND CLUBS

- 35.1** The League and Clubs are required to comply with all legal (including statutory) and other provisions and requirements governing their operations, including but not limited to the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (as amended from time to time) and the Children's Protection Act, 1993 S.A (as amended from time to time).
- 35.2** Whilst The League will provide information, guidance and assistance to the Clubs where it is able on issues affecting their governance and operations, the responsibility to ensure compliance with all legal (including statutory) and other provisions and requirements affecting their operations lies with The League and Clubs.

36. CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT, 1993 S.A.

- 36.1** The attention of The League and Clubs is particularly drawn to the requirements of the Children's Protection Act, 1993 S.A) (as amended from time to time).
- 36.2** Any person who has not complied with the requirements of the Children's Protection Act, 1993 S.A is in breach of these Rules and will be unable to act in any capacity at any competition match, including the finals. Such persons will be referred to The League Investigation Committee by The League, to be dealt with as provided for in these Rules and By-Laws.

37. CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

The League and Member Clubs must:

- a) Have a Child Safety Policy (this may be part of your Club or governing body's Member Protection Policy). **(Refer to Member Protection Policy)**
- b) Ensure all Staff/Volunteers who work with children (in prescribed positions) have provided criminal history assessments as required by legislation.
- c) Check with their governing body as to their requirements. Information around assessment and recording can be sourced from:
- d) www.families.sa.gov.au/childsafe
- e) Ensure all Staff/Volunteers are aware that they are mandated to report any suspicion of child abuse and are familiar with the Child Abuse Report Line (CARL) 13 14 78. **(Refer to Member Protection Policy)**

38. CHILD SAFETY OFFICER

- 38.1** Every Club must have an accredited Child Safety Officer to promote child safety awareness and ensure Policies and Procedures are up to date.
- 38.2** The role of the Child Safety Officer is to deliver advice and promote awareness within their own organisations or groups having attained certain competencies.

39. MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER (MPIO)

- 39.1** A Member Protection Information Officer is responsible for providing information about a person's rights, responsibilities and options to an individual making a complaint or raising a concern. They can also provide information and advice to Sport Administrators and complaint handlers with regard to the Member Protection Policy of that sport. MPIO's are generally impartial – they don't mediate or investigate complaints.
- 39.2** The League will appoint an accredited Member Protection Information Officer.

40. PRIVACY

- 40.1** The Commonwealth Privacy Act governs the collection and use of personal information where a person's identity is:
- a) Apparent, or
 - b) Is obvious from the information.
- 40.2** The legislation provides strict guidelines (known as the National Privacy Principles) about the collection, use and disclosure of such information and can be found at www.privacy.gov.au

41. TEAM OFFICIALS

- 41.1** In all matches of The League, Clubs shall ensure the Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Team Manager, Runner(s), Trainer(s), Water Carrier(s), Match Day Officials and Club Boundary and Goal Umpires wear the appropriate match attire as prescribed by The League. **(Refer to Appendix - Match Attire)**

Time Keeper and Facilities

- 41.2** Each competing Team shall supply a **Time Keeper** for each match who shall be a **minimum of 16 years of age. The Time Keeper will have a copy of The League's Rules and By-Laws and a copy of the AFL Laws available for all grades.**
- 41.3** A Time Keeper's box or table and seating are to be suitably situated to ensure that Time Keepers have an unobstructed view of the whole playing field. Time Keepers should position themselves near the Interchange Area if able to..
- 41.4** The Home Team will have a means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the Field Umpire, and be deemed to be the Official Time Keeper.
- 41.5** The Time Keepers shall sound the siren or horn at the times and on the number of occasions as stipulated in these Rules and By-Laws of The League. **Refer to Appendix-9 Sunday Game times.**
- a) In the event of a dispute or disagreement between the two (2) Time Keepers, such a dispute shall be reported by the Field Umpire at half time if the dispute occurs during the first half or at the conclusion of the match if it occurs during the second half. The Field Umpire shall refer the matter to The League.
 - b) If the visiting Team does not provide a Time Keeper, The League will not investigate any time keeping complaints.
- 41.6** All Coaching staff and Team Officials are **not** permitted to intimidate dispute decisions or interfere with the Umpire or his role on the day of the match.

The Team Bench

- 41.7** Teams must set up their bench in the designated Team Bench area.
- 41.8** In addition to Players, a maximum of four (4) of the following Team Officials are permitted in the designated Team Bench area during a football match:
- a) Coach

- b) Trainer
- c) Runner
- d) Team Manager

- 41.9** No other person is permitted in the designated Team Bench area during the match. Team Officials and Players in the designated Team Bench area must not be within one (1) metre of the Boundary Line at any time other than during the breaks.

Coaching Staff

- 41.10** All Coaching staff must remain within the Coaches' designated team bench area. The Coach will wear League identification. Only the Coach, Team Manager, Trainer and Runner can remain in the Coaches designated team bench area.
- 41.11** Coaching staff may only exit the Coaching area at authorised quarter changes, half time and at the conclusion of the match.

Boundary Umpire

- 41.12** Each competing age Team shall supply a Boundary Umpire who **shall be a minimum of 13 years** and correctly attired and of sufficient knowledge and competency to correctly throw the ball into play and carry out all other responsibilities of the position, as defined in the Laws of the Match.

Goal Umpire

- 41.13** Each competing Team shall supply a Goal Umpire who **shall be a minimum of 13 years of age** and who will wear the approved white attire and have a minimum of two signalling flags. The Goal Umpire will also be supplied with a scorecard in matches.
- 41.14** The Goal Umpires in the competition will keep a record of each Team's score during the match, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time. Goal Umpires must compare Score Cards with the Time Keeper at all major breaks.
- 41.15** At the conclusion of the match the Goal Umpires will date and sign the scorecards and hand same to the Field Umpire.
- 41.16** The Goal Umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of Spectators and other obstructions refer to these Rules and By-Laws 49.
- 41.17** It shall be the responsibility of the home Team Time Keeper for the recording of send-off details and make notes of any other issue.

Runner

- 41.18** Any Team Runner shall be clearly identified by wearing an approved League uniform.
- 41.19** U8 and U9 Teams are NOT permitted to have a Runner. Only one Coach per team is permitted to be on the ground during the match.
- 41.20** The Coach is NOT permitted to carry water. In the U8 to U10 competition, the Coach is not permitted to carry a file or any other item which may cause injury to a participant when on the ground.
- 41.21** Each Team in the U12 to U16 competition is permitted to appoint one Team Runner.

- 41.22** Runners ARE NOT permitted to carry water.
- 41.23** Team Runners are not permitted to remain on the playing arena. Team Runners are to deliver a message to a maximum of two Players from the Coach to a Player(s) and return immediately to the Coach's bench via the interchange. Team Runners are not permitted to "Coach" whilst on the ground.
- 41.24** Runners are not allowed inside the 50 metre arc at each end during kicks for goals or inside the Centre Square during the Centre Breaks.
- 41.25** Team Runners **shall be a minimum of 16 years of age.**
- 41.26** Team Runners' names are to be entered onto Team Sheet.
- 41.27** A Field Umpire may order from the field and report any Team Runner who is in breach of these Rules and By-Laws. Any Team Runner ordered from the field may be replaced.

Water Carriers

- 41.28** Water carriers are permitted for all age groups.
- 41.29** Each Team in the U9 to U16 competition are permitted to have two (2) Water Carriers. These persons shall be clearly identified by wearing approved League uniform. Additional Water Carriers can be applied for at the discretion of The League.
- 41.30** There will be only one (1) Water Carrier in the U8 competition.
- 41.31** Water Carriers ARE NOT to become involved in any capacity in on field Coaching.
- 41.32** Water Carrier(s) shall only enter the field of play behind play to deliver water to the Players whilst:
- a) A Player from either side is having a set shot for goal, or;
 - b) Whilst the football is being retrieved and returned to the Field Umpire who will be located in the centre of the ground after a goal has been scored.
- 41.33** Where a Player having a set shot for goal misses the goal, all Water Carriers must immediately leave the playing field.
- 41.34** Water Carrier(s):
- a) May enter the field of play from any position on the ground.
 - b) Are not permitted to communicate with the Team Bench other than during the breaks between quarters.
 - c) Must not at any time other than during the breaks between quarters be within 30 metres of the Team Bench.
 - d) Are not permitted to pass messages, give instructions to Players or disrupt play.
- 41.35** A Field Umpire may order from the field and report any Water Carrier who is in breach of these Rules and By-Laws. Any Water Carrier ordered from the field may be replaced.
- 41.36** Water carriers **should be a minimum of 12 years of age.**

41.37 No adult will perform water carrier duties in finals.

41.38 Water Carriers' name(s) is to be entered on to both Team Sheets.

Medical Officer/Sports Trainer

41.39 Each Team, where possible, shall provide a Team Medical Officer/Sports Trainer.

41.40 The Team Medical Officer/Sports Trainer shall be clearly identified by wearing approved League uniform.

41.41 The Team Medical Officer/Sports Trainer must be able to prove, upon request by League Officials, suitable proof of qualifications to assess and remove injured Players on a stretcher.

41.42 Should a Team fail to provide a qualified Medical Officer/Sports Trainer, then the opposing Teams suitably trained Medical Officer/Sports Trainer may assume control of injured Players for both Teams.

41.43 It is recommended that all Medical Officer(s)/Sports Trainer(s) be a minimum Basic First Aid Certificate.

41.44 A Player or Team Official under suspension for a breach of the Laws of the Match or these Rules and By-Laws of The League may not play or officiate in any match of Australian Football during the period of suspension. This includes any affiliated senior, junior, SANFL, Country, School or Interstate competition.

41.45 All Team participants, Team Officials, Parents, Spectators and Club Officials are expected to adhere to the following, as per these Rules and By-Laws 43.1 & 79.4.

Zero Tolerance

41.46 The League supports a **ZERO TOLERANCE** stance against any form of abuse towards Umpiring or Officials. Any breaches of these codes will result in penalties and Sanctions directed at the person responsible, the Team and possibly the Club.

41.47 Penalty for breach - Any Club, Player or Team Official considered by The League to be in breach of this By-Law, may be Fined or suspended or otherwise penalised as decided by The League according to its agreed penalties.

42. ROLE OF MATCH DAY OFFICIAL

Match Day Official

42.1 Each Club in every grade shall appoint a Match Day Official whom **shall be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age** and will be responsible for the following:

- a) Shall wear and have a clearly visible League vest.
- b) Attend the Umpire(s) Room twenty (20) minutes prior to the commencement of the match and introduce themselves to the officiating Umpires.
- c) Escort the Umpire(s) on to the field for the commencement of the match, off the field at the half time break, on to the field for the commencement of the third quarter and off the field at the completion of the match.

Exclusion zone

- 42.2** Other than the goal umpire no person must loiter in the area directly behind the goal and behind posts during play. People will be allowed to walk past when using the area as a thoroughfare only

Centre Square Exclusion Zone

- 42.3** Only League Executive members, Field Umpires, Boundary Umpires, Goal Umpires, Time keeper and Match Day Official will be allowed to remain in the Centre Square during the breaks. Match Day Officials will ask all other persons to leave the Centre Square area. Penalties will apply.
- 42.4** Ensure a Match Day Official, or the Captain 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 Club would like addressed.
- 42.5** Advise the opposing Club Match Day Official that The League may be notified of any persons connected with their Club for bad language, abusive, aggressive or threatening behaviour towards another person(s).
- 42.6** Ensure that Spectators are kept behind the Spectator defined line or fence.
- 42.7** Ensure that Club Coaches and Officials keep within their defined area.

Alcohol

- 42.8** Ensure alcohol is not consumed in the defined non-alcohol consumption areas.
- 42.9** Ensure no hazardous objects, including cans, bottles, glass are taken onto the playing field at any time.
- 42.10** Ensure no Club Officials, Players or supporters enter the Umpire's Rooms without the Umpire's permission.
- 42.11** For all major round matches each Club participating shall be responsible for supplying two (2) Match Day Officials.
- 42.12** The home Club Match Day Official shall pay each League appointed Umpire(s) an amount prescribed by The League in cash and each 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 (**Refer to Umpires proof of payment form**) is signed by each Umpire.
- 42.13** In the event that an Umpire refuses payment or to sign the Umpire's Proof of Payment Form, the Match Day Official shall seek out an Official from the opposing Club or another Umpire to witness such refusal.
- 42.14** All reports of breaches of payment to Umpires shall be passed onto The League.
- 42.15** The League may impose a Fine to a Club found guilty of breaching their responsibilities in relation to By-Law 44.

43. CLUBS CROWD CONTROL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 43.1** The League's Codes of Conduct details The League's expected standards of behaviour from Clubs, Officials, Players and Supporters.
- 43.2** Clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct and the behaviour of any Coach, Official, Time Keeper, Club Member, Player, Supporter or any other person(s)

associated with their Club ("Associated Person(s)") at matches in which their Teams are participating.

- 43.3** Clubs shall be liable to any penalty and/or Fine imposed by The League for any breach of The League's Code of Behaviour for any misconduct or misbehaviour by their Associated Person(s) at, during or after any match of The League.

44. ALCOHOL POLICY

- 44.1** The League recommends that member Clubs adhere to strict guidelines regarding the responsible consumption of alcohol. At all Junior Matches, the consumption of alcohol at grounds shall not be permitted except within the licensed area (subject to Liquor Licensing Act).
- 44.2** Clubs shall be responsible for the conduct of their own Members, Supporters and associated persons.
- 44.3** Breaches of this Rule and By-Law will attract monetary Fines and other penalties at the discretion of The League.
- 44.4** Clubs should notify The League as to their licensed area and arrangements.

45. SMOKING POLICY **Review this with the Appendix 15 - Smoke Free Policy**

- 45.1** The following policies should be applied to sporting and social events:
- a) No smoking shall occur at or near any sporting event or competition involving persons under the age of 18. This policy shall apply to Coaches, Players, Trainers, Officials and volunteers.
 - b) Social functions shall be smoke free, with smoking permitted at designated outdoor smoking areas.
 - c) Coaches, Officials, Trainers, Volunteers and Players will refrain from smoking and remain smoke free while involved in an Official capacity for any of the Club or League Representative Team, on and off the field.

46. CONCUSSION POLICY **(Refer to Concussion Policy)**

47. PROVISION FOR MATCHES

Home Club

- 47.1** The club named first on the Official fixture shall be the Home Club. Home Clubs are responsible for ensuring that the following provisions for matches are made:

Change Rooms

- 47.2** For all grades, adequate changing facilities should be provided for each Member Club and the Umpires.

Ground Preparation

- 47.3** The Oval shall be marked in accordance with the SAAFL Regulations.

Interchange Area

- 47.4** An **Interchange Area** which shall be fifteen (15) metres wide and where possible be centralised between the two Coach's Boxes on the Boundary Line of the playing field.

Centre Circle

- 47.5** A **Centre Circle** three (3) metres in diameter and an **Outer Circle** ten (10) metres in diameter, which shall be located in the middle of the **Centre Square**.

50 Metre Arc

- 47.6** A line drawn in the shape of an arc at each end of the playing surface, to show the distance to the centre of the goal line. This distance is to remain constant throughout the arc and dependent upon the size of the Oval, be between 35 and 50 metres. The arc shall not intersect with the Centre Square Line.

Boundary Line

- 47.7** Either with a clearly marked line or an Oval fence to ensure Spectators are kept a minimum of three (3) metres from the Boundary Line.

Under 8 to Under 10 Oval Dimensions

- 47.8** For U8 – U10 matches the field dimensions will be as **(Refer to Appendix 11- Under age field locations)**

Siren, Horn or Bell

- 47.9** The Home Club in every Group shall provide a suitable **Siren, Horn or Bell**.

Scoreboard

- 47.10** Every home club must have a suitable working scoreboard and legible numbers.

Scoreboard Attendant

- 47.11** The home Club in every U12 – U16 age group shall supply a Scoreboard Attendant whom **shall be a minimum of ten (10) years of age** for all matches of The League.

Coach's Boxes/Area

- 47.12** The Home Club in every Group shall supply accessible **Coach's Area**.

Goal Post and Behind Posts

- 47.13** Match does not commence until padding is placed around all fixed Goals and Behind Posts. The home Club in every Group shall have suitable Goal Posts and Behind Posts fixed in their proper positions with suitable protective padding, at a minimum height of 2.5 metres from the bottom of each post, and with a minimum of 35 millimetres thickness affixed to such Goal and Behind Posts.

Telephone Access

- 47.14** Have access to a telephone and emergency telephone numbers for Ambulance, Doctor and Police.

Stretcher

- 47.15** The home Club in every age group shall provide a **Stretcher** to be placed in a safe position near the Boundary Line at the Interchange Area which is accessible to both Teams.

Goal Flags

- 47.16** Each Club shall provide **Goal Flags** of white material not less than 50 cm square.

Water

- 47.17** Provide water.

Ice

- 47.18** Provide ice.

First Aid

- 47.19** Provide a suitable Sport First Aid Kit for medical treatment(s).
- 47.20** Where a match is allocated to a neutral venue, The League shall nominate a Home Team, which shall be responsible for all provisions as if the match was being played on the home ground of that Team.

Match Day Checklist

- 47.21** A check of the ground surface is to be conducted before the first match of the day and the appropriate JLT Ground Report Form completed. If the weather conditions change, then another ground check should occur prior to that match commencing and be documented. **(Refer to Appendix 3- Match Day checklist)**
- 47.22** Penalty for breach - Any Club, Player or Team Official considered by The League to be in breach of any of Rules and By-Laws 49, may be Fined or suspended or otherwise penalised as decided by The League according to its agreed penalties.

48. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

- 48.1** Ineligible Players shall not be included in any Team or take part in any match.
- 48.2** The following Players shall be classified as ineligible:
- a)** A Player not **properly** registered with a Club and The League.
 - b)** A Player who is over the age limit for any particular match UNLESS that Player has a disability or meets the physical size and development criteria or medical condition AND is granted permission by The League to play down in that particular grade pursuant to these Rules and By-Laws 27 & 59.
 - c)** A Player who is under suspension.
 - d)** A Player who in the opinion of an appropriate medical authority has suffered concussion, should not play the following week i.e. stand out one (1) week, provided the Club has been informed and whom such authority to play has not subsequently cleared.
 - e)** A Player who has not received a lawful Transfer or permit from another Affiliated Club or another League with which they were previously registered.

- 48.3** Only Players that actually participate in the match can be listed on the Team Sheet.
- 48.4** In an endeavour to ensure that a Player who is suspended for a significant period of time does not play in any other League or Affiliated Competition (all of SA); Players who are suspended, accepting of a prescribed penalty, or found guilty in Affiliated Competitions shall be reported by the Tribunal Secretary to the SACFL for circulation to all other affiliated bodies.
- 48.5** If a Team, which included a Player who was ineligible to play, the Team shall forfeit the match and the match shall be awarded to the opposing Team as per these Rules and By-Laws 50 and 52.
- 48.6** Should the opposing Team also play an ineligible Player in the same match, no score or points shall be awarded to either Team. Additional penalties including Fines may be administered at the discretion of The League.
- 48.7** Penalty for breach – Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 52 Forfeits.

49. QUALIFYING ROUNDS

Premiership Points

- 49.1** In the U12 to U16 competition's each qualifying round match, four (4) premiership points shall be awarded to the winning Team and two (2) points shall be awarded to each Team in a drawn match.

Fair Play Rule

The Fair Play margin is now 10 goals across All grades (except Under 16 where the fair play rule is not enforced).

If a team is leading at a half time by the Fair Play margin of 10 goals or more, all score cards are to be removed from the game at Half time, with NO further scores being recoded,

If the Fair Play rule is called for at half time, the umpires will be required to record their Best and Fairest Votes only.

50. FORFEITS

- 50.1** In the U12 to U16 competition a match shall be deemed to be forfeited if either Team consists of less than fourteen (14) Players.
- 50.2** In the 15 a side competition a match shall be deemed to be forfeited if either Team consists of less than thirteen (13) Players in the Under 12 - Under 16 competition.
- 50.3** Where a Team fails to appear or where a Team forfeits a match, full premiership four (4) points shall be awarded to the Team receiving the forfeit.
- 50.4** The Team receiving the forfeit should be credited with 60 points.
- 50.5** The Team that forfeited the match shall be credited 0 points.
- 50.6** In the case of a forfeited match, Team lists showing the names of all Players of both Teams in attendance shall be submitted to the Field Umpire.

- 50.7** In the event of any forfeit, both Clubs involved shall advise The League in writing within 48 hours of the date of the match and include the reasons for the forfeit.
- 50.8** The League shall be empowered to Fine either or both Clubs if in its opinion, the reasons given for the forfeit are not acceptable.
- 50.9** Any Club that forfeits any match and any Club that fails to adhere to Rules and By-Law 52.6 shall be Fined or otherwise penalised, at the discretion of The League.
- 50.10** All Players listed on both Team Sheets shall be credited as having played that match for the purposes of finals eligibility and historical records.

51. MATCH DAY PLAYER EVEN UP

- 51.1** The Coach/Assistant Coach will be responsible for ensuring that the Match Day Player Even Up Rule is complied with.
- 51.2** Player Even Up must be applied for the entire match **excluding** finals. (Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 84 Red and Yellow Cards). This Rule and By-Law makes provisions for increased Player welfare.
- 51.3** U8 to U10 competition: A match of modified football has no minimum number of Players; and
- 51.4** The Even Up Rule will apply when one or two Teams have less than 15 Players in the U8 competition and less than 18 Players in the U9 to U10 competition; and
- 51.5** All additional Players will be offered to the lesser numbered Team; and
- 51.6** Each Team shall have even numbers of Players until Teams comprise of 15 Players for U8 competition and 18 Players for the U9 to U10 competition.
- 51.7** Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 84 procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red Cards.
- 51.8** U12 to U16 competition has minimum and maximum Player numbers; and
- 51.9** The Even Up Rule will apply when one or two Teams have less than 15 players for 15 a side competition and 18 Players; and
- 51.10** An even number of Players from both Teams are to start the match on the field; and must be on the field at all times except if a Red or Yellow Card is issued. Once the quarter penalty for the Red or Yellow Card has been served then an even number of Players from both Teams must be on the field.
- 51.11** If a Player is injured and the Team has no Player to replace the injured Player, the opposing Team must even up immediately.

Even-Up Yellow Card Conditions

- 51.12** A Player ordered off for a yellow card offence during an even-up situation cannot be replaced for a quarter.
- 51.13** If a side can only field between 14 and 17 Players, the Coach with the greater number of Players **must** offer all additional Players to the lesser numbered Team to field up to the maximum of 18 Players per Team; and

- 51.14** Players must be rotated so that no single Player plays more than one (1) quarter per match for the opposition Team.
- 51.15** Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 84 procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red Cards.
- 51.16** Any Team that refuses the Even Up provisions will be deemed as losing the match and forfeiting any points and percentages earned during that match.
- 51.17** A Club, in which any one of their Coaches refuses the Even Up provisions, will be required to explain as to why a Team or Club will not be penalized.
- 51.18** Players who are lent to another Team, must have their names entered into that new Team list with their original Team stated in brackets after their name.
- 51.19** Penalties –Even Up penalties are as follows:
- 51.20** Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 84 procedures apply in the case of Yellow and Red Cards.
- 51.21** Any team that refuses the even up provisions will be deemed as losing the game and forfeiting any points and percentage earned during that game.
- 51.22** Any club, in which any one of their coaches refuse the even up provisions will be required to explain as to why a team/or club will not be penalised.
- 51.23** Any Coach who disregards this rule will be issued with De-Registration Notice.
- 51.24** Any Club, Player or Team Official, considered by The League to be in breach of any part of Rules and By-Laws 53, may be Fined, de-registered, suspended or otherwise penalized as decided by The League according to its agreed penalties.

52. REMOVAL OF PLAYERS FROM ARENA

- 52.1** No Coach or Club Official may remove a Team from an Oval during play. If a Coach or any Team Official removes a Team from the playing arena whilst a match is in progress, such person and a responsible Official from the person's Club shall be required to appear before The League and show cause why a penalty should not be imposed on the Club and/or person, for their actions.

53. TRIAL MATCHES

- 53.1** Clubs may arrange for pre-season Trial Matches for Teams of Registered Players only.
- 53.2** Clubs will contact The League Coach/Coordinator who will arrange for League Field Umpires to officiate the Trial Matches. Umpires will receive match payments as agreed by The League.
- 53.3** These Rules and By-Laws will apply to all Trial Matches.
- 53.4** Any Player sent from the field of play (Red Card) or reported by the Umpire during a Trial Match shall be dealt with by the disciplinary procedures of the governing body of the tournament, or if by agreement with that body the disciplinary procedures of these Rules and By-Laws. Refer to League Tribunal.

54. REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

- 54.1** Any Player selected in a Representative Team must be a Registered Player with a Club in The League.
- 54.2** A Player selected to represent The League in Representative Matches shall be released from the Club to whom he is registered.
- 54.3** Any Player sent from the field of play (Red Card) or reported by the Umpire during a Representative Match shall be dealt with by the disciplinary procedures of the governing body of the tournament, or if by agreement with that body the disciplinary procedures of these Rules and By-Laws. Refer to League Tribunal.

55. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS

- 55.1** To play in finals, Players must be registered in The League and registrations must have been approved and be valid on Footyweb.
- 55.2** To be eligible to take part in any final round match (Finals), the Player must have played a minimum of five (5) matches **for that Team** in the qualifying rounds of that season.
- 55.3** Notwithstanding Rules and By-Laws 57.2, with regards to the Blue and White Group, any Player who has played in a total of ten (10) or more home and away matches of a higher grade or grades shall not be eligible to play final matches in a lower grade. Matches will be ranked from U16 Blue to U12 White.
- 55.4** Footyweb will be the only record referred to, to confirm a Player's qualification.
- 55.5** Any Player who plays in the final rounds in the incorrect grade will be deemed an ineligible Player as per Rules and By-Laws 50.

SANFL Development Squad Players

- 55.6** Players who are registered with a Member Club and are issued with a permit to play with a SANFL Club must play a minimum of five (5) matches for that Member Club Team in the qualifying rounds of that season.
- 55.7** Players who are registered with the Member Club and are issued with a permit to play with a SANFL Club must have written permission from the designated SANFL Club Representative of that Club to be released to play with their Member Club.
- 55.8** Written permission from the designated SANFL Representative must be sent to The League Registrar.
- 55.9** The League will review this application for approval prior to the Player being given a permit to play qualifying round matches or finals matches.
- 55.10** Providing false or misleading information in this approval request may result in the Member Club being fined or losing their premiership points for the match.
- 55.11** If a Club allows an unregistered or ineligible Player to play in any Team in a final round match, the Team will be disqualified and the match awarded to the opposing Team. In the event both Teams play an unregistered or ineligible Player, The League may penalise both Teams and award the fixture to the next placed participants.
- 55.12** Any Club that breaches any subsections under Rules and By-Laws 57 may be Fined or penalised at the discretion of The League.

- 55.13** A Member Club may make an application to the Permit Committee for a Player who is not eligible for Finals in accordance with Rules and By-Law 50.

FINAL FOUR

- 55.14** After the conclusion of all qualifying round matches, the final round matches shall be played in the following order.
- 55.15** A final four (4) will be played.
- 55.16 First Semi Final** - Team finishing in third position (the "Home" Team) shall play the Team finishing in fourth position (the "Visiting" Team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Preliminary Final.
- 55.17 Second Semi Final** - Team finishing in first position (the "Home" Team) shall play the Team finishing in second position ("Visiting" Team) with the loser advancing to the Preliminary Final and the winner to the Grand Final.
- 55.18 Preliminary Final** - winner of First Semi Final ("Visiting" Team) shall play the loser of the Second Semi Final ("Home" Team) with the loser being eliminated and the winner advancing to the Grand Final.
- 55.19 Grand Final** - winner of the Second Semi Final ("Home" Team) shall play the winner of the Preliminary Final ("Visiting" Team) with the winner becoming the Premiership Team for that grade until the next Grand Final in the following season.

SCORES EVEN AT THE END OF THE MATCH DURING FINALS

- 55.20** Should the final scores of both Teams in any final round match, including the Grand Final, be equal at the end of the time allocated for the match, such match shall be extended by two (2) additional periods of five (5) minutes with no time on, in which the Teams shall change ends and kick to either end of the ground alternatively.
- 55.21** Should the scores still be tied at the end of these addition periods, the Team captains will decide which Team will kick to which end of the ground by the toss of a coin and play will then resume until one Team scores and that Team shall be declared the winner.
- 55.22** At the end of the match, there will be a two (2) minute break between full time and the commencement of the extra time. (Coaches allowed on field at this time).
- 55.23** After the completion of the first five (5) minutes of extra time, it is a straight change over, no Coaching staff on the field.
- 55.24** The League shall appoint Field Umpires, Boundary Umpires and Goal Umpires for all final round matches.

56. LEAGUE FINALS ARRANGEMENTS

- 56.1** A finals series shall be conducted in the U12 – U16 age group competitions conducted in such manner as is decided by The League from time to time.
- 56.2** All finals matches shall be played at such grounds as The League shall determine.

Player Eligibility for Finals (minimum)

- 56.3** A Player must have played in at least five (5) home and away matches with a particular Team to be eligible to play in finals matches for that Team. Where a forfeit occurs, the forfeit shall count as one home and away match for Players in the non-forfeiting Team.

Interchange Bench

- 56.4** No limit shall apply to the number of Players on the interchange bench in finals matches.

Home Team Privilege

- 56.5** The Team in the higher position on the ladder at the end of the home and away season is the designated home Team in a finals match.

Number of Matches per Weekend

- 56.6** A Player is only permitted to play in one finals match on any given weekend.

Blue and White Group Player Eligibility

- 56.7** Any Player who has played in a total of ten (10) or more home and away matches of a higher grade or grades shall not be eligible to play final matches in a lower grade. Junior matches will be ranked from U16 Blue down to U12 White.

League Executive Head Match Day Official Duties

- 56.8** Each Final Venue will have League Executive members present. The League Executive will be the Head Match Day Official.

Admission to Finals

- 56.9** There is a charge of \$(to be advised) per adult Admission Charge to the Grand Final. Member clubs must notify their members so they are aware of the charge. All money raised off-sets the cost of the running the Grand Final and any surplus is returned to The League budget. Conditions of entry will apply as determined by The League.

Spectators on the Ground

- 56.10** Spectators are allowed on the ground during the breaks except for the Centre Square Area.

Umpires

- 56.11** All Umpires including Boundary and Goal Umpires, for finals matches shall be appointed by The League Umpires Coach/Coordinator.

Team Sheets

- 56.12** All Teams must supply a complete Team List that is to contain the Players Surname, First Name and jumper number. Team Officials will also be listed on the Team Sheet as per these Rules and By-Laws 35.
- 56.13** Team Managers do NOT have to get the Umpires to sign the Team Sheet after the match. The Manager will be given the all clear from The League Head Match Day Official. Thirty (30) minutes prior to the match starting, each Team Manager must

lodge a completed Team Sheet with The League Executive Head Match Day Official.

Club Match Day Officials

- 56.14** Club Match Day Officials must stay behind the Boundary Lines when the match is in progress. They must carry out their duties as per these Rules and By-Laws 44. At the breaks they must keep their supporters out of the Centre Square.

Officials Approaching Umpires

- 56.15** No Officials are to approach the Umpires during the match or breaks. If any Official has a question they are to ask their Club Match Day Official or League Executive member.

Players and Official Uniform

- 56.16** All Officials must wear the correct League attire. All Players must wear the correct uniform.
- 56.17** No T-shirts are to be worn and only correct shorts are to be worn, e.g. no wearing shorts with pockets.

Trainers

- 56.18** Clubs will be expected to provide trainers for the day however the league will also provide a Trainer for the day.

Drawn Match

- 56.19** Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 57.20

Incomplete Match

- 56.20** Refer to AFL rule 10.62

Footballs

- 56.21** The League will supply all the Grand Final match balls.

Tossing the coin

- 56.22** The Umpires will come and toss the coin between the two (2) Captains, ten (10) minutes before the match starting.

Code of Conduct

- 56.23** Coaches and Team Managers are to ensure all their Players, Parents/Guardians/Spectators and Officials are aware of The League's Code of Conduct and that they adhere to them. As the Finals series is the showcase of The League, The League expects everyone involved to maintain a high standard of behaviour.

Grand Final Team Photos/Grand Final DVD

- 56.24** The League will arrange for a photographer and videographer to record the Grand Finals for members to purchase. Team Managers will be required to place

orders directly with the photographer/filming company. Any person found recording the matches will be ejected from the ground.

Provision of Officials

- 56.25** During finals series matches, non-competing Clubs may be rostered to provide personnel to assist with ground management tasks such as Scoreboard Attendants.

Time Keepers

- 56.26** The League will appoint an independent Time Keeper for the Grand Finals. Each competing Team is also required to provide a Time Keeper. If a Club declines to provide a Time Keeper, The League will not investigate any time keeping complaints.

Catering Rights for Finals

- 56.27** League approved caterers shall have sole responsibility for the supply of food and drinks at the Grand Final. No products which conflict with League sponsors products are to be supplied.

Venue Selection

- 56.28** Semi Finals and Preliminary Finals venues will be hosted at Member Club's venues using a cyclic roster system as agreed in the beginning of the football season. The host Member Club will be responsible for preparing the ground management tasks.

Grand Final Venue

- 56.29** The League Grand Final will be held at a venue determined by The League. The selected venue must be enclosed to allow charging of an Admittance Fee.

Alcohol

- 56.30** Alcohol will be banned from the Grand Final. Any person found in possession or consuming alcohol/liquor within the grounds will be ejected from the ground.

Commencement Times of Finals

- 56.31** Unless otherwise decided by League, the commencement time of final matches shall be **(Refer to Grand Final siren times**

Time On

- 56.32** There will be no Time On during the Finals. For any incomplete match, refer to the AFL By-Laws 10.62. **Note:** U12, U14 and U16 Semi Final and Preliminary Final times are to be confirmed subject to ground availability.

57. DISABILITY

Physical & Intellectual

- 57.1** A Player with a disability may apply to The League for permission to play down an age group during the current season. Refer to the **MWJFL play down application form.**

- 57.2** Approval will only be granted if the Player submits with their application to play down, written authority by a Sports Physician or registered Medical Practitioner.
- 57.3** The granting of any such request shall apply to the current season only.
- 57.4** A Player granted permission to play down an age group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which he has received permission to play.

58. PROTECTIVE GEAR

- 58.1** A Player who desires to wear protective headgear during a match must wear a Sports Physician or Doctor approved headgear.

Players Suffering From Any Known Disabilities or Medical Condition

- 58.2** Where a Player is aware that he has an actual or potential disability or medical condition which could result in injury respect of which he is required or a certificate from a legally qualified Medical Practitioner certifying that the Player will, in the view of the legally qualified Medical Practitioner, receive adequate protection in respect of such potential injury from the protective headgear. The necessary forms are available from The League.

Player's not suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition

- 58.3** Forms are available from The League which requires a Parent or Guardian to state that a Player does not suffer from any known disability or medical condition, which will be affected if injuries are received to the head whilst wearing the said protective headgear.
- 58.4** The League Form approving the wearing of the headgear must be shown to the Umpire before each match and approved in writing by The League. The Umpire is authorised to forbid the Player from participating in the match if the form of approval is not shown.

Mouthguards

- 58.5** The League strongly advocates the wearing of protective mouth guards by all Players in all matches.

Gloves

- 58.6** The League does not recommend the wearing of playing gloves; these should only be worn on the recommendation of a Sports Physician or Doctor, supported by a valid Medical Certificate and approved in writing by The League.

- 58.7** Players are not permitted to wear a Plaster Cast during the course of a match.

Spectacles

- 58.8** Players wishing to wear spectacles during matches and training must wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses and must be held on securely by a band.
- 58.9** Players, Runners, Water Carriers and Trainers/Medical Staff are not to wear jewellery including wrist bracelets.

Skins

58.10 Undergarments (lycra shorts) must be either neutral colour or black or white.

58.11 It will be left up to the discretion of The League to allow or disallow the use of any other protective gear not addressed in these Rules and By-Laws.

Player Medical Information

58.12 Coaches and Team Managers will be required to have a copy of a player's current medical information at training sessions and matches.

59. FOOTBALLS

59.1 Each competing Team shall supply a synthetic or leather football of a size approved for that age group, and be in premium condition and ready for match play. Clubs may use either **Sherrin** or **Burley** Footballs.

59.2 The League will provide new footballs for the Grand Finals.

59.3 The home Teams shall provide a suitable match ball.

59.4 The away Team are to provide a suitable spare football.

59.5 Footballs of the following sizes are approved for the use in the respective age groups:

COMPETITION	FOOTBALL SIZE	FOOTBALL TYPE
Under 08	Size 2	Synthetic
Under 09	Size 3	Synthetic
Under 10	Size 3	Synthetic
Under 12 Blue	Size 4	Synthetic
Under 12 White	Size 4	Synthetic
Under 14 Blue	Size 4	Leather
Under 14 White	Size 4	Leather
Under 16 Blue	Full Size	Leather
Under 16 White	Full Size	Leather

59.6 Failure to use correct size football during match may incur a penalty.

60. USE OF STRETCHER/INJURED PLAYERS

In all matches including finals:

60.1 Any Player who in the opinion of the injured Player's Team Officials requires the assistance of a stretcher shall be attended by a suitably trained and certified Medical Officer in the practice of use of a stretcher prior to removal of that Player.

60.2 UNLESS the Player is capable and conscious enough to place themselves on the stretcher without assistance.

60.3 There will be **NO TIME ON** added. The Time Keeper will record the time of stoppage and the clock will continue as per playing times.

- 60.4** If the stretcher has been called for by an authorised person, then the Player will be removed from the playing field via the most direct route for play to recommence and the injured Player may be replaced through the interchange.
- 60.5** Only authorised persons are permitted to enter the field of play and no Team meetings or Coaching is permitted during this time. Players must remain in their positions ready for recommencement of play.
- 60.6** Should a Coach enter the field of play during a stretcher call and in the opinion of the Umpire, was doing so in order to provide instruction; a free kick will be awarded to the opposing side in front of goal at the end of the 10 Metre Square. (This rule will not apply if the 10 minutes or quarter break becomes enforced).
- 60.7** Should both Team's Coaches enter the field of play for the purpose of giving instruction, play will resume as would be the case under the rules of the match and both Teams will have a severe Fine imposed at the discretion of The League.
- 60.8** Umpires will report all stretcher call outs and the outcomes on the match documentation.
- 60.9** If a Player is removed from the field on a stretcher then that Player will not take any further part in the match whatsoever.
- 60.10** If, in the opinion of a Field Umpire or Team Medical Officer, a Player cannot be moved from the field of play due to the severity of an injury, then play may be abandoned for the match at the discretion of a meeting between the two (2) Team Managers and the Field Umpire and or any League appointed Official and or any League if present.
- 60.11** The League shall be advised of any such abandonment for the purpose of either rescheduling the fixture or determining a result according to the progress score and point of the match at which the match was abandoned.
- 60.12** For all Final Round matches all decisions pertaining to the above rules will be controlled by The League or their appointed Officials.
- 60.13** Injured Players must depart through the interchange or they are not permitted to return to the field. (Refer Rules and By-Laws 62.3).
- 60.14** Any Player whose weight is supported by any person(s) propping them up, examples includes being Fireman Chaired Off to be treated, for any part of the journey off the field are deemed as Stretchered e.g. Player is not capable of bearing their own weight.

61. BLEEDING & BLOOD BORN INFECTIONS

- 61.1** No Club shall allow any Player to participate in any match or continue to participate in any match for so long as such Player:
- a)** Is bleeding; or
 - b)** Has blood on any part of their person or uniform.
- 61.2** In the event that an Umpire observes a Player who is bleeding or has blood on any part of their person or uniform, the Umpire shall take action as follows:
- 61.3** On observing that a Player is bleeding or where any item of uniform or any part of the Player is covered in blood, the Field Umpire shall direct such Player to leave the

field immediately a break in play arises (i.e. score, free kick, mark, field bounce, boundary throw in).

- 61.4** When a Boundary, Goal or Emergency Umpire observes the need for this rule to be implemented, at the first possible break in play they will alert the Field Umpire.
- 61.5** Only the Field Umpires can direct a Player to leave the playing field, thereby ensuring the Team is not disadvantaged by playing one Team member short for any period of time.
- 61.6** Any Player directed to leave the field can seek medical attention at any point off the field, however his replacement must enter through the interchange area.
- 61.7** Field Umpire in control of play shall give the replacement Player reasonable time to take up their position prior to play recommencing.
- 61.8** When the injured Player wishes to resume playing, they must enter through the Interchange Area (i.e. their playing number may have changed).
- 61.9** A Player who refuses to promptly obey a direction of an Umpire given in accordance with this policy, shall be reported by the Umpire for Misconduct in that they refused to leave the field.
- 61.10** A Player shall immediately upon a direction by a Field Umpire, leave the playing arena, where such Umpire is of the opinion that the Player is bleeding or has blood on any part of their person or uniform. Upon being directed to leave the playing arena, a Player shall not return to take any further part in any match until and unless:
 - a)** The cause of any such bleeding has been abated;
 - b)** The injury is securely covered to the extent that no blood is visible;
 - c)** Any bloodstained article of uniform has been removed and replaced;
 - d)** Any blood on any part of a Player's person has been thoroughly cleansed and removed.

62. MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

- 62.1** The League Member Protection Policy is the legal and moral obligation to provide safe environments. **(Refer to Member Protection Policy)**

63. ADVERSE WEATHER

On occasion The League may vary the playing conditions due to extreme weather.

Heat Procedure

- 63.1** As a responsible organisation it has been recognised that we must modify playing condition for the safety of Players when there is a possibility of heat stress.
- 63.2** If the temperature is forecasted **35 degrees** or higher at 6.00 pm on the Channel 10 news on Saturday night, ALL matches will be cancelled, regardless of any subsequent cool change arriving.
- 63.3** Any lost rounds due to the heat policy being invoked – these matches will not be rescheduled.

63.4 Modification to match conditions will apply when the forecasted temperature of the day of competition is **32 degrees – 34 degrees** as at 6.00 pm on the Channel 10 news on Saturday night.

63.5 The League will advise Club Delegates as soon as possible after obtaining the forecast that the Heat Policy will operate for that round of matches. Umpires will be notified by the Umpire Coach/Coordinator.

The Home club will be responsible to initiate the following process:

63.6 Time Keepers are instructed to blow the siren at the ½ way mark of each quarter, the Umpire blows whistle to allow a 2 minute break for Players to take fluids and cool down.

63.7 A warning siren is blown after one (1) minute and a further siren after 1 minute 30 seconds and play recommences exactly two (2) minutes after the break commenced.

63.8 Play will recommence as it was when ceased or by throwing up the ball in the same vicinity where it ceased at the onset of the break.

63.9 Time will not be added to quarters to make up for break (Refer By-Law Time Sheet).

63.10 During the break Coaches are not allowed to address Players although the Runner may be used in normal practice.

63.11 Players are encouraged to use sunscreen on these days and keep fluids intake at a high level.

64. LIGHTNING POLICY

64.1 Umpires and Clubs (in particular the Team Officials) should be aware of the dangers of allowing play during thunder/electrical storms. Play should cease if lightning is seen in the vicinity of the playing field. No risks should be taken in this regard.

64.2 The first part of this rule (a flash-to-bang count of 30 seconds) is a guide to the suspension of activity. The flash-to-bang count is one of the most practical techniques for estimating the distance to lightning activity. It is based on the fact that light travels faster than sound. Given that sound travels at a speed of about one (1) kilometre every three (3) seconds, the time that elapses between the flash of lightning and clap of thunder can be divided by three to give a measure of how far away the storm is in kilometres.

64.3 The second part of the "30/30" rule provides the criteria for resumption of play. Here it is recommended that people wait 30 minutes after the last sight of lightning or sound of thunder.

64.4 The overall message is to seek shelter when the lightning activity is too close, but how do we define what is meant by too close? Currently, most experts agree that the accepted "safe" distance is no less than 10 km. This means that as the flash-to-bang count approaches 30 seconds, all people at risk should be seeking or already inside safe shelters.

64.5 This figure is based on the observation that a typical storm moves at about 40 km/h. Thus, waiting 30 minutes allows the thunderstorm to be about 20 km away, minimising the probability of a nearby strike.

The "30/30" rule

- 64.6** The "30/30" rule is recommended for lightning safety and serves as a guide for the suspension and subsequent resumption of activity.
- 64.7** A flash-to-bang count of 30 seconds indicates that lightning is 10 km away. This is associated with significant risk that the next strike could be at the observer's location. Thus, activity should be suspended and people moved to designated safe shelters.
- 64.8** Wait 30 minutes after the last lightning or thunder before recommencing play.
- 64.9** If matches are suspended due to the Lightning Rule being enforced, time will not be added on to make up lost time. Minimum of half a match must be played for a result to stand.
- 64.10** If matches are cancelled due to the Lightning Rule being enforced, matches will not be rescheduled.
- 64.11** When a match is stopped due to these circumstances, the result of the match is to be governed by the AFL Laws rule 10.6.2 Incomplete Match.
- 64.12** The conduct of sports matches and practices will be within the guidelines of The League's policy covering inclement weather. The aim of The League and Clubs will be to protect the health and safety of the children at all times. Lightning is an important cause of weather related injuries and is often underrated.
- 64.13** The League's Lightning Safety Policy includes that both **the home and visiting Match Day Officials in consultation with the Field Umpire** have the authority to stop or postpone matches.
- 64.14** Suspension and resumption of play should follow the "30/30" rule: play should stop when the flash to bang count is 30 seconds, and should not resume until 30 minutes after the last lightning. It is important to emphasise that blue skies and lack of rainfall are not adequate reasons to breach the 30 minute Return-To-Play Rule.

Safe structures

- 64.15** A large or substantial building with electric and telephone wiring and plumbing; to provide a safe pathway for the current to the ground.

Unsafe locations and situations

- 64.16** Unsafe locations:
- a)** Open field.
 - b)** Close vicinity to the tallest structure in an area (e.g. tree, communication tower, light pole).
 - c)** Umbrellas or any other object that increases an individual's height.

65. CYBER SAFETY & SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES POLICY

Refer to **SACFL Cyber safety Policy** and **MWJFL Member Protection Policy**

66. DISCRIMINATION AND RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS VILIFICATION

Refer to the **MWJFL Member Protection Policy**.

67. AWARDS

Fairest and Best

- 67.1** In every match played in open competition, the Field Umpire shall allocate votes for Players they consider to be the fairest and best Players in that match.
- 67.2** The Fairest and Best Player in the match shall receive three (3) votes, with the Best and Best Players receiving two (2), one (1) votes in order of performance. These votes shall be recorded by the Umpire in an approved method set out by The League.

The Voting Slip shall show:

- 67.3** Age group date and venue of match.
- 67.4** Surname, Initial, Club and jumper number of the three (3) selected Players.
- 67.5** The Field Umpire shall sign across the seal of the envelope after inserting the voting slip.
- 67.6** The League shall appoint a person to whom the envelopes containing the Fairest and Best Votes are to be entrusted and shall decide the manner in which those enveloped are to be stored.
- 67.7** The League shall decide on the place and date where all envelopes containing Fairest and Best Voting Slips are to be opened and all votes counted in a manner prescribed and by persons appointed by The League.
- 67.8** The Player who polls the highest number of votes in each competition shall be adjudged the 'Fairest and Best' Player of that competition.
- 67.9** The Player who polls the next highest number of votes shall be adjudged the 'Runner Up Fairest and Best'.
- 67.10** In the event of an equality of votes - then two or more trophies shall be presented.
- 67.11** Where discrepancies in names or other details occur on the voting slip it shall be checked against the Team Sheet for the relevant match to clarify the information.
- 67.12** The League may at its discretion allow a Donor or Donors to donate or establish a Medallion or Award in the form approved by The League and bearing the name of the Donor or Donors.

The following Awards and Medallions shall be presented by The League each year:

- 67.13** League 'Fairest and Best' and "Runner Up Fairest and Best" Awards to the Player or Players who poll the highest number of Umpire's votes in each age group in open rules competition.
- 67.14** League Award to the Player selected by the Field Umpire or a specially appointed panel, as the case may be, as the Fairest and Best Player in the Grand Final of each competition.
- 67.15** Pennants and/or Medallions for the Team, which wins the Grand Final in each age group in open rules competition.

67.16 Any other Awards or trophies as The League shall think fit.

67.17 No Player is to receive cash / cheque / monies as payment or incentive or reward for playing football in under age competition.

67.18 Vouchers from a Sponsor or the Club Canteen are the preferred incentive method.

Team of the Year

67.19 The top 22 vote getters for each age group in the U12 – U16 grade competition will be eligible for the Team of the Year award. Players who were suspended during the season will be ineligible.

Club of the Year

67.20 The Club who meets the criteria set by The League and receives the most votes during the qualifying rounds may receive up to \$1,000.

Umpire Award

67.21 To be advised.

AFL Player Payment

(Refer to Appendix 4 AFL Player Payment)

68. FIELDING TEAMS IN OTHER COMPETITIONS

68.1 A Member Club wishing to field a Team in another League or Association shall make application to The League, for consideration of acceptance to that League. The League will then pass onto the Delegates who may accept or reject any application.

69. DISPUTES

- 69.1** Should any dispute or objection arise as to the meaning or interpretation of any of these Rules and By-Laws, The League shall settle such dispute or objection. In the event that The League is unable to resolve a dispute it may escalate the issue to the SACFL for resolution.

70. ALTERATION OF BY-LAWS AND RULES

- 70.1** These Rules and By-Laws may be amended by The League in the first instance. They may also be amended by way of recommendation by the Member Clubs.
- 70.2** Amendments of the Rules and By-Laws can only be made by way of due process. Notification must be made in writing to The League and forwarded to each Junior Club. The new Rule or By-Law will take effect from the date specified by The League.
- 70.3** Should any situation arise which is not covered in these Rules and By-Laws, then the Rules, Codes of Conduct, Policies and Regulations of the SACFL shall apply.
- 70.4** The League will consult with the SACFL, in the first instance of doubt.
- 70.5** The SACFL may elect to resolve any matter, which is not provided for in these Rules and By-Laws, and any such resolution shall immediately become an amendment to these Rules and By-Laws, and shall automatically be included herein.
- 70.6** Any variation (exemptions) to these Rules and By-Laws must be submitted to the SACFL via the SAJFC for ratification prior to implementation.
- 70.7** These Rules and By-Laws will be reviewed every October.

71. ACCEPTANCE OF RULES

- 71.1** The Delegates Committee shall accept the Rules and By-Laws at a special meeting or at the Annual General Meeting prior to the commencement of each season.

72. MAKING A PUBLIC STATEMENT

- 72.1** No Executive Member, Club Official, Match Official, Team Official, Umpire or Player is to make any detrimental statements in public (radio, television, print or electronic media) in respect to the performance of any Executive Member, Club Officials, Match Officials, Team Officials, Umpire or Players, or any policy decisions of the Club or League as per the MWJFL Code of Conducts
- 72.2** In the case of a Player or Official, The League may report such person for breach of this Rule and By-Law and refer the Report to the Tribunal for Hearing and determination;
- 72.3** In the case of any other person, The League may refer the matter to the Investigations Committee for determination.
- 72.4** A Club whose Official has made a statement contrary to the provisions of Rules and By-Laws 76.1, or in the case of any other person, with the apparent authority, agreement, consent or approval of the Club, may be referred by The League to the Investigation Committee which may, in the event of a breach, levy a Fine of up to a maximum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and forfeit past or future match ratios.

73. CONDUCT UNBECOMING, PREJUDICIAL OR LIKELY TO BRING THE MATCH INTO DISREPUTE

- 73.1** Where The League is of the opinion that a Club or any Official, Player, or other person has contravened the AFL Laws of Football or the Rules and By-Laws, or has been involved in conduct which is unbecoming or is prejudicial or likely to prejudice the reputation or interests of The League, or bring the match of Australian Football into disrepute, The League may deal with such matter in their absolute discretion as The League thinks fit, and without limiting their powers, they may refer these matters to the Investigation Committee.
- 73.2** Conduct their own enquiry;
- 73.3** Refer the matter to the Tribunal; Impose any penalty that it deems fit, including but not limited to imposing a monetary penalty, suspension or disqualification or the loss of, of forfeiture of match points or match ratio or any other privileges, benefits or entitlement.

74. UMPIRE CATEGORIES

- 74.1** In broad terms, there are two (2) visible categories of Junior Umpires in The League.

Green Shirt

- 74.2** Green Shirt Umpires are typically new Umpires in training who are learning and developing their Umpiring skills. The "Green Shirt" Umpire will generally only umpire U8's to U12's. However, they may umpire higher Age Groups should the Umpire Coach/Coordinator believe they are competent to do so. Where possible a Mentor (allocated by the Home Club or Umpire Coach/Coordinator) shall be available either on or off field depending on the competency of the Umpire to assist with their training and difficult decisions and situations. This Mentor must be approved by the Umpire Coach/Coordinator. Two Green shirts should not umpire together where possible.
- 74.3** Promotion to "Orange Shirt" is by agreement between the Umpire Coach/Coordinator, the Umpire, and the Umpire's parents (if appropriate).
- 74.4** Where Mentors are appointed to an on-field role, the Umpire's payment structure assumes two (2) Umpires.

Orange Shirt

- 74.5** The "Orange Shirt" Umpires can be appointed to umpire any Official League match as determined by the Umpire Coach /Coordinator.
- 74.6** The "Orange Shirt" Umpires are required to achieve Level 1 of the National Umpire Accreditation Scheme (NUAS).
- 74.7** It is recommended that the age of a controlling Field Umpire of a match be a minimum of two (2) years older than the nominated Age Grade when officiating.
- 74.8** All League appointed Field Umpires, Boundary Umpires and Goal Umpires **shall be a minimum of thirteen (13) years of age.**
- 74.9** All Club appointed Boundary and Goal Umpires **shall be a minimum of thirteen (13) years of age.**

- 74.10** All Umpires who desire to umpire in The League in any season must first make application on the prescribed League Umpire Registration Form prior to participating in any match. Refer to these Rules and By-Laws 30 and **Umpire Registration Form**
- 74.11** League and club appointed Umpires are bound by The League Umpires Code of Conduct. **(Refer to Umpires Code of Conduct)**

75. UMPIRES

- 75.1** The Umpire Coach/Coordinator shall oversee a panel of Umpires from which they will appoint a trained Umpire or Umpires to officiate at each match played under the control of The League. The Umpire Coach/Coordinator will instruct all Umpires to comply with these Rules and By-Laws and pass on to all Umpires any Competition variations adopted by The League.
- 75.2** The Umpire Coach/Coordinator in consultation with The League shall fix the minimum fee for Umpires annually. This must be done by October 31st each year. **(Refer to Appendix 14)**
- 75.3** Any Club or Team Official, Registered Player or Spectator who makes any comment about an Umpire or the performance of an Umpire in any way other than in writing to the Umpire Coach/Coordinator shall be subject to a Fine or other penalty to be imposed at the discretion of The League.
- 75.4** The League supports a **ZERO TOLERANCE** stance against any form of abuse toward Umpires or Officials. Any breaches of these Rules and By-Laws will result in penalties and Sanctions directed at the person responsible, the Team and possibly the club.
- 75.5** Should a Field Umpire not be available to officiate at any match, the opposing Coaches or Team Officials may agree to appoint any person to act in that capacity. In such case the appointed Umpire shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any Umpire appointed by the Umpire Coach/Coordinator, including the awarding of fairest and best votes.
- 75.6** An Umpire appointed under By-Law 79 shall be named on match documents and shall receive normal match payments.
- 75.7** All Field Umpires shall be suitably attired for the match as approved by The League. **(Refer to MWJFL Umpires Handbook 2013)**
- 75.8** The Field Umpire will report all stretcher callouts and the outcomes, on the match documentation.
- 75.9** The Home Club will be responsible for collecting the match day paperwork from the Field Umpires, who will then forward the match day paperwork to The League.
- 75.10** Only the Match Day Official and the Captains from either Team may approach an Umpire during the breaks in a match. The League Executive is also permitted to approach an Umpire as long as they are correctly badged / identified.
- 75.11** Umpire's match payments are to be paid in cash with 50% paid by each Team. In the event of a forfeit, Umpires will still be required to be remunerated. (50% paid by each Team)
- 75.12** The Home Match Day Official is responsible for the welfare of the Umpires on match day.

- 75.13** Any Official appointed Emergency Umpire will have the same powers as the central Umpires.

76. UMPIRE'S DUTIES

- 76.1** Field Umpires shall provide reports of matches on the Forms provided by and in the manner prescribed by The League.
- 76.2** The officiating Umpires shall have powers to advise and make recommendations to The League of matters pertaining to the conduct of matches with particular reference to:
- a) The condition of any Oval where a match of The League is played;
 - b) The condition of the football(s) provided by any Club for use during the match;
 - c) The playing field is correctly line marked as per these Rules and By-Laws 49.3;
 - d) The condition of goal and behind posts (including padding);
 - e) Goal Umpire Flags;
 - f) All officiating Umpires attire;
 - g) Absence or quality of all Player's Guernsey numbers;
 - h) Incorrect uniform or attire of Players and Officials;
 - i) An extraordinary late commencement of any quarter of any match;
 - j) Such other powers or conditions as prescribed by The League.
- 76.3** Any information relating to Rules and By-Laws 80.2 is to be provided to The League on the Field Umpires Report Form to be completed at the conclusion of each match of The League.
- 76.4** The Field Umpire(s) may reject any football considered by them to be unfit for play.
- 76.5** The Field Umpire(s) officiating in any match conducted by The League shall be listed on each Club's Team Sheets prior to the commencement of play.
- 76.6** Each Field Umpire officiating in an Official match of The League shall at the conclusion of each match list the names of those Players who were in their opinion the best and fairest, second best and fairest and third best and fairest Players in the match on the Form provided by and in the manner prescribed by The League. This Form shall be signed by the Field Umpire(s) and placed in a sealed envelope provided by The League and forwarded to The League together with the Umpire's Report Form.

On Line Match Results System

- 76.7** When the On Line Match Results System is operating, Umpires will be required to enter in their match report online. This shall include:
- a) Fairest and Best votes
 - b) Match Report
 - c) Players reports (if any)
- 76.8** The Umpire Coach/Coordinator shall consider the match reports of all Umpires.

Report by Umpire or Authorised Person Report Form

- 76.9** If a Player or Official was reported by the Field Umpire, the Field Umpire at the conclusion of each match shall provide a Report by Umpire or Authorised Person Report Form to The League Coach/Coordinator and The League. The League Registrar will notify the Clubs involved as soon as possible.

77. SPECIAL MATCH DAY RULES

- 77.1 The League may implement special match day rules as it sees fit.

78. FILMING

- 78.1 Any filming of any part of the playing field and or play during a match of The League in the qualifying season must be approved by the participating clubs.

79. YELLOW AND RED CARD CONDITIONS

Yellow Card Conditions

- 79.1 The offending Player ordered off for a yellow card offence cannot be replaced for a period equivalent to one(1) quarter. **For Example:** *An offending Player is sent off for a Yellow Card offence at the 16-minute mark of the second quarter, the offending Player would not be permitted to re-enter the ground or be replaced until the 16-minute mark of the third quarter.*
- 79.2 In the event that a Player or Official is issued with two Yellow Card offences on the day of the match, then the Player or Official shall take no further part in the match.
- 79.3 In the event that a Player or Official, when ordered off for a Yellow Card offence, fails to leave the field **Immediately** when directed by the Field Umpire, then the Player or Official shall be reported for Misconduct and consequently be deemed to have committed a Red Card offence.

Red Card Conditions

- 79.4 The offending Player or Official ordered off for a Red Card offence cannot be replaced for one (1) quarter.
- 79.5 The offending Player or Official shall attend a Protests and Disputes Tribunal or where applicable, request the offer a Prescribed Penalty.
- 79.6 The offending Player or Official who fails to leave the Arena when directed by the Umpire shall be reported for Misconduct, the match shall be terminated and the offending person's Team will forfeit the match.
- 79.7 If a player has been given a red card, they CANNOT be returned to the game.

80. UNAUTHORISED ENCROACHMENT

- 80.1 In the event of an encroachment of the area of play by unauthorised persons, or that play is prevented by any other means, the Field Umpire shall seek the assistance of his fellow Umpires and/or any member of The League to clear the playing arena so that the match may be resumed. If the Field Umpire is unable to do this within a reasonable time he shall terminate play at that time and report all circumstances to The League. This body may award the result or declare the match abandoned or call a replay at its discretion or in line with AFL laws of the match.
- 80.2 Any Club whose Officials, Players and Club Spectators are found to be responsible for the unauthorised encroachment of any playing arena (and any Official, Player and Club Spectators so responsible) shall be Fined, suspended or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of The League.

- 80.3** The Home Club (or the Team mentioned first in the fixture) is responsible for ground security on the match day.

81. REPORTS

- 81.1** The following personnel shall have the power to Report any Player or Official for any breach of the Rules and By-Laws of the match, Codes of Conduct, Member Protection Policies or of the Rules or By-Laws of The League:
- a) Field Umpire
 - b) Umpire Coach/Coordinator whilst in an observing capacity
 - c) Boundary Umpires if Officially appointed by The League
 - d) Goal Umpires if Officially appointed by The League
 - e) Stewards if Officially appointed by The League
 - f) Any member of The League Executive
- 81.2** Goal and boundary Umpires (as appointed by The League) and members of The League, shall advise the Field Umpire of their intention to report any offence or incident prior to the commencement of the next quarter of the match.
- 81.3** Officially appointed Goal, Boundary Umpire, League or Steward must record in both Team Sheets the details of the Report/Offence, their authority, their name and signature.
- 81.4** Any Player or Official, who is to be reported, must be advised of such Report prior to the commencement of the next quarter of the match, unless the offence occurs in the final quarter in which case advice to the Team Manager when passing on the Official Report Sheet shall suffice.
- 81.5** Reports can also be instigated as a result of any special investigation Tribunal or Committee as per by law 88.

82. REPORTED PLAYERS UNDER 8 to UNDER 16, OFFICIALS, CLUB MEMBERS AND SPECTATORS

- 82.1** Any Player, Official, Club Member or Spectator against whom any Charge has been proved at a hearing of the Tribunal or received a Prescribed Penalty during the current season is ineligible for any Fairest and Best award. Any Player who has been sent from the ground three (3) times during the season is automatically suspended for one week and as a result shall be disqualified from participation in the voting for any Fairest and Best award.
- 82.2** Any Player, Official or Club Member suspended by either a Tribunal or Prescribed Penalty will not be permitted to play, coach or participate in any capacity, in any Affiliated Competition including schools, senior metropolitan community football or regional football, for the duration of the penalty. The reverse also applies.
- 82.3** Any Player, Official or Club Member reported or in receipt of a Prescribed Penalty Notice, is not to play or act in any Official capacity until such time as the Charge has been dealt with. Should a Player or Official receive the same from an Affiliated Competition then the same applies.
- 82.4** Any Player, Official or Club Member who chooses to contest a Red Card, Report or Prescribed Penalty is deemed suspended until such time as the Charge or Report is dealt with to the satisfaction of The League.

- 82.5** A Player or Official found guilty of an offence who has been given a suspension, Fine or any other Sanction by the Tribunal or League, shall not be permitted to enter the Arena on Match Days while the penalty remains unserved.
- 82.6** Evidence collected from Social Networking sites, web sites, electronic media and other related communication platforms can be presented as evidence in Tribunals, Investigations and Hearings.

Reports on Players (Under 8 to Under 10)

- 82.7** Players reported in the U8 to U10 age groups will have the Report adjudicated by a Code of Conduct Committee of their Club, in consultation with The League Umpire Coach/Coordinator or nominee, if necessary. The decision of the Committee is to be by majority. The hearing is to be held within three (3) days of receiving the Report from The League. The Player is ineligible to participate in any Competition matches until the Committee has dealt with the Report. The Club will provide to The League Umpire Coach/Coordinator and The League a statement in writing (or electronically) of the outcome of the Report and any action taken within five (5) days of the Report.
- 82.8** Where a Club fails to comply, without explanation, with the time limits imposed on it as set out in Rules and By-Laws 87.7, The League may impose a Fine of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) on the Club.

83. PROTESTS AND DISPUTES, TRIBUNAL, INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 83.1** The League may instigate any Investigation.
- 83.2** A Protests and Disputes Tribunal will be convened by The League. From time to time The League may also convene a Special Tribunal, Investigation Committee (Refer these Rules and By-Laws 91) or Appeals Committee and may instruct these Committees or Tribunals to conduct special investigative business on behalf of The League.
- 83.3** Please refer to these Rules and By-Laws 95 for Policy & Guidelines. The League can modify the range of recommended penalties in special circumstances in consultation with the SACFL and can instruct any Protests and Disputes Tribunal, Tribunal, Investigation Committee or Special Committee to apply these modified penalties.
- 83.4** Clubs may appeal to The League (Refer these Rules and By-Laws 95) against the severity of Tribunal penalties in writing, accompanied by new evidence and a \$250.00 fee within forty eight (48) hours of receiving notification of the original penalty. The League may refer these appeals to the Appeals Committee. The appeal fee is refundable if the appeal is successful.
- 83.5** The Tribunal Secretary shall inform all participants of the final outcome of any protests or appeals.
- 83.6** The SACFL will provide interpretive directions to The League as required by The League.
- 83.7** The League can refer specific cases to be independently managed by the SACFL.
- 83.8** Evidence collected from Social Networking sites, web sites, electronic media and other related communication platforms can be presented as evidence in Tribunals, Investigations and Hearings.

84. STEWARDS

- 84.1** The definition of a Steward can be found in the Section Definitions.
- 84.2** The League may appoint a Steward or Stewards who shall have the same power and duty of reporting for each match in each age group, with full powers to Report Players or Officials for breaches of the Rules or By-Laws of the match or the Rules or By-Laws of The League.
- 84.3** An Appointed Steward shall advise the Field Umpire and both Coaches prior to the commencement of the match, or the earliest possible opportunity if the match has commenced, that they are in attendance as a Steward.
- 84.4** In the event that an Appointed Steward intends making a Report, they shall indicate to the Umpire the details of the Report, which will then be noted on the Match Report Sheet.

85. PENALTIES

- 85.1** The League shall have the power to impose and enforce a penalty on any Club, Player, Spectator or Official for any of the following offences:
- a) Breaches of By-Laws, Rules, Codes of Conduct and Policies.
 - b) The playing of an ineligible Player in any match.
 - c) Failure to supply a Team List for each match with legible and positive identification of Players taking part in that match.
 - d) Failure to pay all Prescribed Team Fees within thirty (30) days of due date.
 - e) Failure to supply Match Records or any other documents as may be required by The League.
 - f) Any breach of any Code of Conduct as compiled by The League.
 - g) Any other matter as referred to by The League or in accordance with the Fines List **(Refer to Fines List)**.
 - h) The League, the Tribunal or the Investigation Committee may also impose a Fine not listed on the Fines List to a Club, Official, Coach or Player for breaching or failing to comply with The League's Rules and By-Laws and/or Constitution.
 - i) Any Fine imposed on a Club under these Rules and By-Laws shall be paid within thirty (30) days of demand and any Club which fails to comply with this Rule and By-Law shall be ineligible to vote at the AGM and to take any further part in any competition until Fines have been paid in full.
- 85.2** For a Club to participate in any finals, a club **MUST** be financial with The League.

86. INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

- 86.1** There shall be an Investigation Committee as per these Rules and By-Laws 88.1.
- 86.2** The Investigation Committee shall have the power to hear and determine any matter referred to it by The League or the Executive Committee.
- 86.3** The Investigation Committee shall comprise a quorum of not less than two persons none of whom had any current or past affiliation with a Club involved in the investigation.
- 86.4** The Investigation Committee shall have the power to:
- a) Hear and determine any investigation so initiated;
 - b) Dismiss the matter;

- c) Find a matter not proven;
- d) Find a matter proven and reprimand, suspend or Fine any Club(s) Player(s) or Official(s);
- e) Summon any person to appear before it and give evidence;
- f) Admit or reject any evidence which may be given;
- g) Adjourn proceedings to such a time and place deemed fit;
- h) Adopt or pursue any procedure considered convenient and proper for the disposal of any matter;
- i) Sustain or dismiss any application brought before it upon grounds as it in its absolute discretion may determine;
- j) Refuse to investigate any matter brought before it for investigation if it determines in its absolute discretion that such matter is trivial;
- k) Alter or delete as it sees fit the result of any match played;
- l) Direct any persons to attend any meeting at its own discretion;
- m) Refer matters as it deems fit to The League, Tribunal and/or the Executive Committee;
- n) Initiate an Investigation into a Tribunal decision or penalty.

86.5 The Investigation Committee shall have powers to impose a penalty or Fine upon any person or Club who or which:

- a) Knowingly gives false evidence to the Investigation Committee or;
- b) Before, at or after any meeting of the Investigation Committee insults, abuses or assaults any member of the Investigation Committee or any person giving evidence at such hearing or;
- c) In the opinion of the Investigation Committee is guilty of misconduct at any meeting or;
- d) Refuses or neglects to obey any order of the Investigation Committee or;
- e) Fails to be present at an Investigation Committee meeting as requested by the Investigation Committee it deems appropriate.

86.6 The President or Chairman and advocate are required to attend any Investigation involving their Club and are permitted to bring relevant people in regard to the alleged incident(s).

87. COMPLAINTS & APPEALS

87.1 Club generated complaints may be lodged with The League within 48 hours of an alleged incident, on an Official Club letterhead signed by the Club President making the complaint on behalf of their Club.

87.2 League generated complaints may be instigated in writing addressed to the Investigations Committee.

87.3 The League will determine whether an Investigation Committee, Appeals Committee or Protests and Disputes Tribunal will be convened to deal with any complaints that may not fit within normal disputes processes.

87.4 All complaints will be dealt with in a time frame suitable to The League.

87.5 Any Club may appeal in writing against any imposed penalty by The League or Protests and Disputes Tribunal within forty eight (48) hours of receiving notification of this penalty. The League shall consider any such appeal, which must be accompanied by new evidence and a **\$250.00** fee which is refundable if the appeal is successful.

- 87.6** The decision of The League, or an Appeals Committee, in regard to any appeal shall be final and in the case of a failed appeal, the original Fine shall be payable by the original due date.
- 87.7** The League may ask for the matter to be referred to the SACFL for further consideration and a final determination.
- 87.8** The League reserves the right to accept or refuse the lodgement of any other complaint outside of the usual processes.

88. FEES AND FINES

- 88.1** Club Annual Subscriptions for all Teams do not include Umpire's Fees for any matches played in The League.
- 88.2** Each Club shall pay their Subscriptions in two (2) instalments which are due and payable by 30th April and 31st July each year.
- 88.3** A Club may apply in writing for alternative payment methods which shall be considered by The League provided the application is made no later than 7 days prior to the due date of the payment.
- 88.4** Any additional Club related charges as determined by The League shall be added each season when applicable.

89. MERIT AWARDS

- 89.1** The League may award Merit Certificates to Volunteers who have served within Clubs. Criteria for these volunteers met shall include:
 - a)** Shall be a Life Member of the Club;
 - b)** Shall have served within the Club for at least nine (9) years-service, excluding the person's playing or Coaching career;
 - c)** Shall not have been a paid employee in any of the nine (9) years;
 - d)** Shall have made a very significant contribution to their Club.
- 89.2** Merit award nominations shall be submitted on the Form prescribed by The League.