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# Section 1 General Rules

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**1.1** Players in all competitions conducted by the Association are subject to the provisions of section 4 in its entirety.

## **1-2 Wet Weather Arrangements**

If the playing surface is in doubt due to rain a club official must inspect the ground and report to the Junior Competition Organizer by 7:15am on the day of play. The J.C.O. will then inform 2ST and Power FM of which grounds are playable and which are not. The broadcast should be first heard at 7:30am. Failure of a club to inspect the ground and make a report by 7:15am will incur a fine.

For night games 4pm is the deadline for notification.

**1-3 Referees** when available, shall be appointed by the Referee's Association or Cadet Referee Coordinator. If no official referee has been appointed, the home team is responsible for providing a referee.

**1-3a** When an official referee or Cadet referee is present on the ground and is prepared to officiate, he/she shall be allowed to do so and shall take precedence over any non official referee appointed by the team managers.

## **1-4 Poaching of Players**

No coach, manager, or others is to poach players from another club. If a club has any evidence of poaching of players they are to inform the Secretary of the S.D.F.A. Inc. by letter any disciplinary action will be taken by the P.D. and J.C. and or the Executive. Poaching of players will be viewed as a serious offence and dealt with accordingly.

## **1-5 Ground Controller**

**1-6** It shall be the responsibility of the home team or, if played on a neutral field, the first mentioned team to ensure that the field of play is kept free from spectators, and that two ground officials from each club are available to the referee for crowd control, ten minutes prior to the start of the game, these officials are to wear coloured vests so that they can be identified. The match will not start until those official's names are recorded on the match sheet by the referee. If this rule is not conformed

too, action will be taken by the Association, which could lead to loss of points or Fines. Ground Controllers are to ensure that there is no unruly behaviour, abuse of Referees and officials, or people affected by alcohol at the ground. Ground Controllers have the right to eject those players from the ground. Ground Controllers are not to consume alcohol whilst carrying out these duties. For the final series all clubs are to provide two (2) officials to the Association for use as ground controllers.

**1-6a** Ground Officials have the authority to remove persons from the officially marked areas, if the ground is fenced they can be removed outside the fence boundary, if they fail to leave the Council Ranger or police are to be called to have them removed, and a report made to the Association including names of the offenders.

### **1-7 Shin Guards**

No player is to take the field, unless he/she is wearing shin guard protection of the commercial type.

### **1-8 Playing Strip**

Affiliated clubs should submit to the Management Committee, a photograph prior to the commencement of the competition of all their playing strips, details of any intending changes of their playing strip including shirt socks and shorts for approval by the Management Committee. Clubs may only wear their approved strips.

**1-8a** No teams shall play each other wearing the same strip.

**1-8b** Goalkeepers shall wear colours easily distinguishable from all other players and the referee.

**1-8c** In the event of a clash of colours, the club in their traditional colours, do not change their strip either home or away, their opponents use their alternate strip.

**1-8d** All shirts in competition age groups shall have a number on the back at least 12cms high which shall be in contrasting colour to that of the shirt.

## **Wearing of Jewellery**

**1-9** Players are not permitted to wear jewellery of any type, except for medical alert tags or bracelets. Wearing of jewellery in contradiction of Football NSW directive is a cautionable offence.

## **1-10 Duration of matches conducted by S.D.F.A. Inc.**

Under 6, 7s	15 minutes each way
Under 8, 9s	20 minutes each way
Under 13 Girls	25 minutes each way
Under 10, 11, 12s	25 minutes each way
Under 15 Girls	30 minutes each way
Youth League	30 minutes each way
Premier League	35 minutes each way
Girls Under 17	35 minutes each way
Under 18	40 minutes each way
Ladies 1st Grade	40 minutes each way
Ladies Res Grade	40 minutes each way
Ladies 3rd Grade	35 minutes each way
Senior 1st Grade	45 minutes each way
Reserve Grade	40 minutes each way
Third Grade	40 minutes each way
Over 35	40 minutes each way

## **1-11 Match Ball**

Each team shall be responsible for the provision of footballs. On a neutral ground each team shall provide at least one (1) ball for Junior Matches and (3) three for all Senior Matches. **Ball sizes shall be:** (a) Under 6,7,8, 9 size 3 (b) Under 10,11,12 & 13 size 4 (c) Older age groups, size 5.

## **1-12 Champion of Champion Nominations**

Any team playing above its own age group has the right to challenge the competition champions in its correct age group for the right to represent the Association in the Champion of Champions competition.

**1-13** Female Players are only permitted to play in junior mixed competitions up to and including under 12's or according to current State rules.

**1-13a** Once a female player has a confirmed pregnancy, that player can no longer participate in any competition run by S.D.F.A.

## Section 2 Registration

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**2-1** A player shall be registered with the S.D.A.F.A. when the club register's the player on Myfootball and presents a properly completed SDFA Team Sheet and his/her ID card to the Registrar. Photos for ID cards are to be uploaded to Myfootball at time of registration Id cards are then to be printed from MYfootball.All id cards are to be presented to the Association Registrar for stamping.

**2-2** Player registrations will only be accepted between Mondays (except public holidays) and 7pm Thursdays. No exceptions to this rule will be accepted.

**2-3** No player shall be entitled to take part in any competition unless they are registered with the S.D.F.A.

**2-4** The ID card system will be used for the under 12s and upwards. One passport photo of the player is required. Any SSG soccer player playing in a higher competitive age division must have an identity card complete with photo. A team ID sheet is to be printed from Myfootball.

**2-5** A player shall be eligible to play for the club which he is registered and no other unless special permission is granted (e.g. Gala Day, and Juniors playing senior matches when the club has no senior teams, or over 35's) if permission is granted the registrar must receive a completed SDFA team sheet and his/her ID card.

**2-5a** If the Association receives a registration for the same player, from more than one club, the player shall be registered with the club whose registration was first received.

**2-6** A club playing and unregistered player, and the player concerned shall be dealt with by the Management Committee or the P.D. and J.C. and shall forfeit the match to the opposing team, and fined.

**2-7** Baptismal certificates, birth certificates, statutory declarations or such suitable proof of age is to be produced by all players registered with the Association in their initial season with the Association. It is the responsibility of the club to sight the evidence of age.

**2-8** No registrations will take place after 30th June each year unless approved by the Management Committee which will only cover players who have not been previously registered with this Association.

**2-8a** In Junior Competitive Teams the number of players in each team is limited to 16 registrations, this may be extended with the permission of the executive. Players may be deregistered and others registered up to that number during the season.

## **2.9 Age of Players**

**2-9a** The age of a player for the purpose of categorising into the correct age group shall be the age that player turns during the calendar year.

**2-9b** In the women' competition girls can play in the senior competition after turning the age of fourteen (14) years of age after having been assessed as capable to do so by a Coach holding a current Senior Coaching Licence.

**2-9b** To play in the men's competition a player must be turning 16 years of age in that calendar year.

**2-9c** To be eligible to play over 35's the player must turn 35 within the playing season that year.

**2-9d** A player must turn five (5) years of age in the current calendar year.

**2-9e** Girls are allowed to play down one year up to twelve (12) years of age, girls who have attained the age of thirteen (13) are allowed to play down in an under 12 mixed competition, they are then team tied for the season.

## **2-10 Transfers**

**2-10a** A player wishing to transfer to another club within the Association must complete a Supplementary Registration form and a Cancellation of Registration Form signed by the club, and the player or his /her guardian, both forms go to the Registrar. The player shall remain a player of the club with which he is registered until as such time as the appropriate

Registrar advises the transfer has been completed. The player will not be allowed to play until the transfer is complete. After completing the paperwork the player can then complete the transfer by going to [www.myfootballclub.com.au](http://www.myfootballclub.com.au) and completing the cancellation request, the club then can complete their part of the cancellation of rego by going to [www.myfootballclub.com.au](http://www.myfootballclub.com.au) the club has seven (7) days to complete this request.

**2-10b** Transfer of players between clubs shall cease on the 30th June each year.

### **2-11 Dual Registration**

Is allowed if the player is not playing as a Non Amateur, has a letter of approval from both clubs and is registered with SDFA Inc. before the third round of the competition. This rule only applies to players who are registered outside the boundaries of the SDFA Inc.

### **2-12 Clearances**

Where a club, team or player(s) wish's to play outside S.D.F.A. boundaries in a competition organised by another Association or body for any reason, the club, team or player(s) concerned must apply for and obtain a release permit from the Association within whose boundaries it or they are situated. If a player is registered with another Amateur or Federation club, the player will require a clearance in writing as well as a current completed Association registration form. In the case of a player gaining a clearance it will be submitted to Football NSW.

### **2-13 Reinstatement of Non Amateur Player**

**2-13a** In the case of a Non Amateur player wishing to be reinstated as an Amateur player a clearance will be required from Football NSW. A period of one month has to be elapsed from the players last match as a Non Amateur player before he /she can play as an Amateur, or with the current Football Australia rules and regulations. ( Art. 25) The player will not be allowed to play until this Association is notified by Football NSW that the player is cleared to play.

## Section 3 Competition

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**3-1 Nominations** - Competitions shall be opened to teams nominated by any club affiliated with the S.D.F.A.. Nominations shall be submitted to the SDFA by the date determined by the Management Committee.

**3-2** Competitions shall be arranged in suitable age groups, from under 12 to over 35's, where applicable each year after nominations.

**3-3** SDFA management committee shall draw up a fixture list for the competitions as soon as possible after nominations have concluded. The competitions where possible will be drawn on a home and away basis.

**3-3a Competitions conducted by the Association shall be:**

(a) District Premiership

(b) District Knockout

(c) Pre Season

(d) Summer 7 aside

And other competitions that are considered suitable

**3-4 Moved**

**3-4a** The Women's Competition may be conducted in two divisions or as the Management Committee decides, on a home and away basis.

**3-5** Where two Junior teams from the one club are playing in the same age group in different divisions in a competition, which is graded, from the start of the season representative players must play in the higher division.

**3-5a** When two teams from the same club enter teams in the same grade, any player who plays in those teams, are team tied from the start of the competition.

**3-6 Late Start.**

**3-6a** A period of ten minutes (10) grace shall be allowed in the event of the game not starting at the scheduled time, at the end of this period of

grace, if the game has not started, the game shall be called off and the circumstances reported to the Competition Organizer who shall refer it to the Management Committee for a decision as to whether a forfeit or replay is required. In the event of the game starting within the period of grace, the game shall be shortened by the number of minutes the kick off was delayed, both halves shall be of equal duration.

**3-6b** Not less than ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled time of the commencement of the game the Registration Cards of all players (including substitutes) appearing on the team sheet shall be made available to an official of the opposing team. Prior to the commencement of the game, such official shall hand those cards to the referee and shall request the referee to note on the team sheet any matter concerning the eligibility of any player appearing thereon.

**3-6c Provided that:** Where a player's name appears on the team sheet and that player is not at the ground prior to the time at which the registration cards are handed to the referee only by reason that the players name has appeared on the team sheet the same day at a different ground and the players registration card has been required at that ground, such fact shall be noted by the manager, and that registration card shall be made available for inspection by an official of the opposing team and handed to the referee or the linesman nominated by the referee prior to that player taking part in the match.

**3-6d** Any player who, without proper consent of the Senior Competition Organizer or Chairman of the P.D. and J.C. takes part in the match without first producing his registration card in accordance with Rule 2-4 shall be in breach of the playing rules and both he and his club may be dealt with by the Executive or the P.D. and J.C. who may impose such penalty as it may see fit including suspension, forfeiture of points or the imposition of fines.

**3-6e Removed.**

**3-6f** Where the circumstances will not permit full time to be played the two managers shall mutually arrange with the referee for a lesser duration. In all cases both halves shall be of equal duration and a maximum of five (5) minutes interval between halves shall be allowed. The referee shall keep the time for the game and this time shall be official.

**3-6g** Where matches of two or more different grades are being conducted on the one ground and a delay occurs in the preliminary match, it shall be played in equal halves of lesser time so as to allow the next match to start on time. Except in the case of the Final series where the full amount of time is to be played in each grade.

**3-6h** The consent of the referee must be obtained before the kick off may be delayed from the programmed time.

### **Non Completed Matches**

**3-7** Any fixture which, cannot be played or completed owing to causes over which neither club has any control shall be played 15 days from postponement of the scheduled match. The failure of an official referee to officiate at the match shall never be regarded as sufficient grounds for the match to be postponed. If the match is not played within the time limit, the game will be set by the executive. If a club does not play on the date set by the executive the match will be forfeited and fines will be incurred.

### **3-7a Abandoned Match's**

If a match is abandoned after the start of the match for any reason the executive will make a decision if the match is to replayed, abandoned, or points awarded to either team.

### **3-8 Removed**

### **3-9 Forfeit Rule**

**3-9a** If a team gives notice of an impending forfeit to the opposing team and to the appropriate Competition Organizer three days or more prior to the match, a fine will be imposed, however a forfeit without this advance notice will also incur a fine plus a cost to the Referees (Rule 5-1).

**3-9b** In the event of a Senior First Grade team forfeiting a match after their lower grades have played at the same venue the penalty will be loss of any competition points for the lower grades as well as the fine.

**3.9c** Any club which, without just cause, fails to play its fixtures as scheduled shall be liable to disciplinary action by the Management Committee, or the P.D. and J.C. and may forfeit the points to the opposing team.

### **3-10 Deferred - Postponed Games or Re arranged Games**

The appropriate Competition Organisers or the Management Committee can only defer games. Any teams that have players unavailable due to representative commitments are entitled to a deferred match, but requests and arrangements must be made through the Competition Organizer. A representative player is a player who is selected in a representative team, which, comes under the control of Shoalhaven, Southern NSW Football or Football NSW or a higher authority.

**3-10a** Any application by a club for rearrangement of a fixture shall be in writing and be received by the Senior Competition Organizer at least five days prior to the date upon which the match was scheduled to be played. The Management Committee may re-arrange any fixture in the competitions whether or not such a request has been received from a club participating.

**3-10b** Under12 to Premier Grade games can only be deferred or rearranged by the Junior Competition Organizer or Executive Committee due to other soccer commitments by players, and all arrangements must be made through the competition Organiser. At least seventy two (72) hours notice must be given. This includes school excursions.

**3-10c** Midweek games can be deferred or rearranged at the discretion of the Competition Organizer.

### **Results.**

**3-11** Each club shall be responsible for phoning the results of home games through to the Competition Organizer by 6pm on the day of the match. Games played at night, scores are to be rang, emailed or texted in on completion of the match. Official result cards are to be posted or delivered to the Registrar within three working days of the match. Fine of twenty dollars (\$20) for each competition match that fail to comply.

### **3-12 Substitution**

In all competitions conducted by the S.D.F.A. for age groups Under12 and up to and including Premier League, Ladies ,Reserve Grade, Third Grade and Fourth Grade, the interchange format will be used. Interchange of players is unlimited. Interchanging of players is permissible at any time during the game in age groups. The interchange procedure shall be followed.

### **3-12a Substitutes**

Substitutes shall be limited to the replacement of five (5) players. Substitutes may be made at any time after the start of the match and for any reason provided the substitutes have been previously listed as substitutes on the team sheet. The interchange rule 3-12c applies in the over 35's, Reserve, Third and Forth grade (when applicable) competition.

**3-12b** Substitutions and / or interchange are to be made from one side of the field only.

### **3-12c Interchange**

In over 35's, Reserve Grade, Third Grade and 4th grade (when applicable) the interchange format will be used. Interchange of players is unlimited. Interchanging of players is permissible at any time during the game. The interchange procedure shall be as follows:

1. Interchange zone will be an area one (1) metre either side of the half way line.
2. An interchange is one, which is made when the ball is out of play and for which the following conditions shall be observed.
  - (i) The player leaving the field shall do so from the sideline crossing over at the sector called the interchange zone.
  - (ii) The player entering the field shall also do so from the interchange zone but not until the player leaving the field has passed completely over the side line.
  - (iii) A player nominated for interchange shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction to the referee whether called upon to play or not.
  - (iv) The interchange is completed when the player who was off the field enters the field. From this moment they become a player and the player whom they replaced ceases to be a player.
3. The number of interchanges made during a match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced may return to the field for another player.
4. If during an interchange an interchange player enters the field before the replaced player has completely left it, the referee shall ensure the replaced player leaves the field, then caution the interchange player, and then restart the game.
5. If during an interchange an interchange player enters the field or a replaced player leaves it from a place other than the interchange zone the referee shall caution the offending player.
6. The interchanging of players will cease at the completion of normal and extra time. If at this time penalty kicks are required to obtain a

result then the eleven (11) players on the field at the end of extra time are the only players permitted to participate in the penalty kicks. No interchange at this time is permissible.

7. The senior men's competition will be run with Reserve and Third Grade teams playing full interchange.

### **3-13 Protests**

Protests regarding the result of any game are to follow the following procedure:

- a. The protest noted on the match card/team sheet
- b. The Competition Organizer notified within 24 hours
- c. Follow up with a letter to the Secretary of the S.D.A.F.A. within 3 working days

### **3-14 Team Sheets: Competiton Age Groups**

Team sheets must be completed in ink for all competition matches, with the names of each player correctly spelt, and id numbers, recorded against their correct shirt number. The first eleven players listed on the team sheet must be the first eleven players who take part in the match, any other player who subsequently takes part in the match shall be a substitute whose name must appear after that of the initial first eleven names on the team sheet. The correctly completed team sheet shall be handed to the referee at least ten (10) minutes before the scheduled start of the match. A maximum of sixteen (16) names can appear on the team sheet.

**3-14a** Results are to be recorded on official Team Sheets provided by the Association.

They must contain the names of the participating players in their correct number, the result, date, age group and grade. The Team Sheet is to be signed by the referee and both team managers at the conclusion of the game.

**3-14b** On neutral grounds the team named first in the official draw shall be responsible for forwarding the completed result card and results.

**3-14c** In the event of the completed result card and match results not being received the offending club shall automatically be fined as per Rule 5-1.

**3-14d** Any matters to be brought to the attention of the Registrar should be noted on the back of the result card and signed by the managers, there by confirming their awareness of the matter being reported.

### **ID Cards**

**3.15** In the event of any manager electing not to examine the opposing teams ID cards, prior to the start of play, all rights shall be forfeited to lodge a protest on the grounds of the players' ineligibility.

**3.15a** Failure to produce ID cards upon request prior to the game will result in a forfeit (3 points and 4 goals).

**3.15b** The ID cards may be retained for the duration of the match by the team manager or coach and be given to the referee on request.

### **3-16 Awarding of Competition Points.**

Points in all premierships competitions shall be awarded as follows:

- (a) 3 points for a win
- (b) 1 point for a score draw
- (c) 1 point for a scoreless draw
- (d) 3 points for a bye
- (e) 3 points and four (4) goals for a forfeit

### **3-17 Junior Competition Special Rules.**

**3-17a** In the Junior Competition where a club enters only one (1) team in a grade which competitions are conducted in more than one (1) division, such team shall be required to play in the division as decided by the Management Committee.

**3-17b** In the Junior Competition a player shall not be permitted to change teams within the one club and within one age group after he has played in any competition match in that season, such competition match does not to include Gala Day. Provided, however, the Management Committee may at their discretion approve a request for a player to play outside his designated team if it is in the interest of the competition and where hardship would otherwise result.

**3-17c** In the Junior Competition where two teams from the one club are playing in the same age group in different divisions in a competition,

which is graded, from the start of the season representative players must play in the higher division.

**3-17d** In the Junior Competition, a player may play up in an older age group only to make up a team of eleven players during the competition proper. This rule will not apply in any final series.

### **3-18 Final Series**

#### **3-18a Competition Champions**

**3-18b** The team with the greatest number of points at the completion of the competition shall be declared Competition Champions. In the event two or more teams finish on equal points, the Competition Champions shall be decided by a play off and not by goal difference. Extra time will be played if necessary, in the play off match(s). If after extra time and the scores are even, penalties iaw the referee chart shall decide the winner.

**3-18c** The top four teams as decided on points or goal difference (plus or minus) shall play off for the right to play in the Grand Final as follows, if still equal goals difference head to head results during the competition to decide.

**Major Semi Final:** 1 v 2

**Minor Semi Final:** 3 v 4

**Preliminary Final:** Winner of Minor v Loser of Major

**Grand Final:** Winner of Major v Winner of Preliminary

**3-18d** In the Final series of the premiership for all age groups , if scores are equal at full time, extra time shall be played, ten (10) minutes each way. If the scores are still level at the end of extra time, the result shall be determined by a penalty shoot out as per the referees chart.

### **3-19 Qualification For Juniors**

A player must have played three (3) Junior competition games of soccer in the current season with that club to qualify to play in the semi final and finals.

#### **3-19a Qualification Seniors**

A player shall be entitled to play in a semi-final, preliminary final or grand final if he has in that same season appeared in not less than five

premiership rounds excluding byes, with the club. "Appeared" means he was on the field as a player for some part of the match (rule 3-20). A player shall be eligible to play in a lower grade semi-final and finals if he has:

- (a) Played more games in that grade than in any higher grade.
- (b) In grades that play interchange, if a player's name appears on the team sheet 1- 16 he is deemed to have played in that grade.

**3-19b** A Premier League, or over 35 player who is not a regular player in the Senior competition must have played 5 ( Five ) games in the competition, which he is seeking to be eligible to play in. Senior players must play five (5) games in the over 35s to play in that competition.

**3-19c** Players who play in the Premier, and Over 35s competitions, and play in the Senior competition are subject to all the Senior rules including qualification.

**3-20 Eligibility Seniors** - A player may only play during the competition proper in one "Club Grade" lower than the grade in which he last played., unless he is returning from an absence of more than two weeks and two days and that absence did not include any time forfeited due to disciplinary reasons. "Played" means he was named on the match sheet in Third Grade, or Reserve Grade, or took the field as a substitute, or took the field at any time in first grade.

**3-20a** (a) Any person who is not available at the venue to take the field prior to half time, shall be deleted from the team sheet.

### **3-21 Small Sided Games**

The purpose of small sided games is simply to introduce the young players to soccer in an enjoyable and carefree atmosphere with no pressure on them to win. The emphasis is on learning and fun, and the hope is that the youngsters will enjoy the experience and stay in soccer, the game played in over 100 countries world wide, for many years to come.

#### **3-21a Rule of Play**

- (a) The game shall not be stopped for an interchange to be made unless a player is injured or else a goalkeeper is being changed and the interchange format will apply.
- (b) No Off Side.

- (c) Goalkeepers are not to be penalised for holding the ball over six (6) seconds.
- (d) No coaching from the sideline by parents or any hysterical abuse (only encouragement to be allowed). Clubs are encouraged to enforce this rule.
- (e) Coaching by the coach is to be done in a quiet and helpful manner from the sideline.
- (f) Minimum age requirement. A player must turn five (5) years of age on or before July 31st of the current season.

**3.21b** A player may play in any team or any number of teams providing it is not in a younger age group. Players can also play for the opposition in order to equalize the teams. All players must be registered with SDFa. A match card is to be completed for all games, the match card is to have the players name and FFA registration number. No scores are to be recorded on the match sheet.

**3.21c** In fact, coaches are asked to swap players at half time if the score is more than six (6) goals up.

**3-21d** Small Sided Games are to be seen as a fun game by the players whilst still learning the basics. Coaches should encourage sportsmanship, co-operation and participation.

### **3-21e Results**

Official team cards must be completed for each match and must contain player's names, and registration number, and must be sent to the competition organiser. A competition point score table is not to be kept, and there are no finals. Fines will apply as per Rule 5-1.

**3-21f** Any point in relation to Small Sided Games not specifically covered in these regulations shall be dealt with by the Management Committee if applicable.

## **3-22 Under 6 and Under 7.**

### **3-22a 4 v 4 – no goalkeeper.**

Maximum of three substitutes, who may rotate during the entire game. The coach or parent is allowed to make the substitutions while the ball is in play, but must wait until the substituted player has left the field.

The game leader, coaches and managers should continually discourage Children from permanently standing in front of the goal.

### **3-22b Ball in and out of play.**

The ball is out of play when it has wholly crossed the goal line or the touch line on the ground or in the air, or when play has been stopped by the game leader or instructing referee.

### **3-22c Ball crossing the touch line**

There are no throw ins or corners. A player from the opposing team to the player that touched the ball last before crossing the touch line will place the ball on the touch line and pass or dribble the ball into play. Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball until it is in play. The ball must touch a team mate before a goal can be scored.

### **3-22d Ball crossing the goal line after touching the defending team last.**

There is no corner kick. Regardless of which team touched the ball last, a player from the team whose goal line the ball has crossed will place the ball anywhere along the goal line and pass or dribble the ball into play. Opponents must retreat to the half way line and can move once the ball is in play. The ball must touch a team mate before a goal can be scored.

### **3-22e Fouls and Misconduct**

Indirect free kicks are awarded for all acts of handball or fouls and misconduct. Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball when the indirect free kick is taken. (An indirect free kick is where a goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal).

Most acts of handball or fouls and misconduct at this level are caused by a lack of coordination, with no intent. In this case try and give the advantage to the attacking team and continue play. If you decide a deliberate or serious act of handball, foul or misconduct has occurred, explain to the child they have done the wrong thing and that they should not do this again.

### **3-22f Field dimensions**

**Length:** Thirty ( 30 ) metres

**Width:** Twenty ( 20 ) metres

**Goal Size:** One point five ( 1.5 ) to two metres (2) wide.  
Point nine metres (.9) to one (1) metre high

### **3-22g Moved to 3-21b**

### **3-23 Under 8 and Under 9 SSG**

#### **3-23a 7 v 7 – including goalkeeper**

Maximum of four substitutes who may rotate during the entire game. The coach or parent is allowed to make the substitutions while the ball is in play, but must wait until the substituted player has left the field.

#### **3-23b Goalkeeper**

The goalkeeper is allowed to handle the ball anywhere in the penalty area. To restart play after a save or gathering the ball with their hands, the ball must be thrown or rolled from the hands or played from the ground with their feet, within 6 seconds. The goalkeeper is not allowed to kick or drop kick the ball directly from their hands. Opponents must be at least 5m outside the penalty area and cannot move inside the penalty area until the ball is in play.

The ball is in play once it moves out of the penalty area.

#### **3-23c Fouls and misconduct**

Indirect free kicks are awarded for all acts of handball or fouls and misconduct. Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball when the indirect free kick is taken. (An indirect free kick is where a goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal). For deliberate or serious acts of handball or fouls and misconduct in the penalty area, a penalty kick is awarded from an 8m penalty mark with only a goalkeeper in position. All other players must be outside the penalty area and be at least 5m behind the penalty mark.

#### **3-23d Fouls and misconduct are:**

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- jumps at an opponent
- charges an opponent

- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- pushes an opponent
- tackles an opponent from behind to gain possession of the ball
- making contact with the opponent before touching the ball
- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent
- handles the ball deliberately
- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of a player...

### **3.23e Field Of Play Dimension**

**Length:** Forty (40) to fifty (50) metres

**Width:** Thirty (30 ) Forty (40) metres

**Goal Size:** Height 1.8 metre. To two (2) metres

**Width:** Two point five (2. 5) metres to three (3) metres

**Penalty Area:** Five (5) metres Depth 12 metres wide

### **3-23f Duration Of Game**

Under 8's 20 minutes each way, with a five minute break.

## **3-24 Under 10 and Under 11 SSG**

**3-24a** There shall be nine players in a team, one of whom will be a goalkeeper. Maximum of four substitutes who may rotate during the entire game. The coach or parent is allowed to make the substitutions while the ball is in play, but must wait until the substituted player has left the field.

### **3-24b Goalkeeper**

The goalkeeper is allowed to handle the ball anywhere in the penalty area. To restart play after a save or gathering the ball with their hands, the ball must be thrown or rolled from the hands or played from the ground with their feet, within 6 seconds. The goalkeeper is not allowed to kick or drop kick the ball directly from their hands. Opponents must be at least 5m outside the penalty area and cannot move inside the penalty area until the ball is in play. The ball is in play once it moves out of the penalty area or when the goalkeeper places the ball on the ground\*.

An indirect free kick is awarded if the goalkeeper touches the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate.

**3-24c** Indirect free kicks are awarded for all acts of: handball or fouls and misconduct. Opponents must be at least 5m away from the ball when the indirect free kick is taken. (An indirect free kick is where a goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal). For deliberate or serious acts of handball or fouls and misconduct in the penalty area, a penalty kick is awarded from an 8m penalty mark with only a goalkeeper in position. All other players must be outside the penalty area and be at least 5m behind the penalty mark Fouls and misconduct.

**3-24d Fouls and misconduct are:**

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- jumps at an opponent
- charges an opponent
- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- pushes an opponent
- tackles an opponent from behind to gain possession of the ball
- making contact with the opponent before touching the ball
- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent
- handles the ball deliberately
- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of a player

**3-24e** An under 10 or under 11 team must have at least six (6) players to participate in a match.

**3-24f Field of Play Dimensions**

**Length:** Sixty (60) to seventy (70) metres

**Width:** Forty (40) to Fifty (50) metres

**Goal Size:** One point eight (1.8) to Two (2) metres high, and four point five (4.5) to five (5) metres wide maximum.

**Centre Circle:** Five (5) metres

**Penalty Area:** Five metres (5) deep and twelve (12) metres width

**3-24g Substitution** - The interchange format will apply.

**3-24h Duration of Game**

The match will be played in two equal halves of 25 minutes.

### **3-25 Knock Out Competitions**

#### **3-25a Senior Knockout and/or Pre Season Competition Rules**

**3-25b** The Knockout and/or pre Season competition shall be played with all clubs participating.

**3-25c** Team Nominations are to be made prior to the draw being made. Each team is limited to sixteen players, and all players are cup tied to their nominated teams for the duration of the competition.

**3-25d** A player will be regarded as having played for a team if his name appears on the match card.

**3-25e** Duration of the matches will be two equal halves of forty (40) minutes. There will be no time added on. Half time will be five (5) minutes or as otherwise decided by the management committee.

**3-25f** If the scores are equal at the completion of normal time, Rule 8-5 will apply.

**3-25g** In the event of any team forfeiting they are to fill out a match card and those players will be tied to that team. Rule 1-9 and 8-2e are to apply.

**3-25h Substitutes** - Substitutes may be made at any time after the start of the match and for any reason provided the substitutes have been previously listed as substitutes on the team sheet. The interchange rule 7-7 applies.

#### **3-26 Junior Knockout Competition Rules**

**3-26a** The competitions shall be played on a Knockout principle and shall be played where the Association directs. The duration of the games are as per rule 1-17.

**3-26b** A player may play with only one team in an age group, except where rule 3-2b applies.

**3-26c** If the scores are equal in the preliminary rounds, semi finals or finals of the Knockout Cup at full time, extra time shall be played, Ten (10) minutes for Under 11s to Under 17s). If the score is still equal, the result shall, be determined by a penalty shoot out as per the referee's chart.

**3-26d** Semi Finals and final of the Knockout competition shall be played on neutral grounds provided that suitable grounds as decided by the Association are available.

**3-26e** After the first round the teams may be divided into a winners and losers pool which form the A and B competition, so that each team would get at least two (2) matches. If the games are played on the same day, the duration of the games shall be ten (10) minutes each way

**3-36f** Teams from other Associations may be invited to take part in the Knockout Cup.

### **3-27 Summer 7 A Side Competition**

**3-27a** The competition shall be played on a half sized field.

**3-27b** Duration of the games shall be of 20 minute each way with up to 5 minutes for half time.

**3-27c** If a game fails to start on time due to teams not being ready it shall be shortened to allow the following game to start on time.

**3-27d** Players must be registered on the official team sheet, a maximum of 12 players may be registered. The committee may vary this rule under exceptional circumstances.

**3-27e** No additional player will be registered after week 3 of the competition. The committee may vary this rule under exceptional circumstances.

**3-27f** Teams will be divided into grades and teams will be graded at the discretion of the committee.

**3-27g** Players may only be registered and play in one team. A team playing and unregistered player, and the player concerned shall be dealt with by the Management Committee or the P.D. and J.C. and shall forfeit the match to the opposing team.

**3-27h** Any team forfeiting a game without a minimum of three days notice will be fined \$25, which will be deducted from the team bond.

**3-27i** Any team forfeiting two or more games may at the discretion of the committee be suspended from the competition.

**3-25j** Games may only be deferred at the discretion of the committee, requests must be made a minimum of one week in advance, both teams must agree to the deferral.

**3-27k** Unlimited interchange shall be played in all games.

**3-27l** The top four teams will play in a semi final series. The top four will be decided on points, then goal difference, if still equal the team scoring the most goals, if still equal the team winning the most games.

**3-27m** In the event of a draw in the semi finals and finals, an extra five minutes each way shall be played, if still equal a penalty shootout as per the referee's handbook shall be taken.

**3-27n** Team Nominations are to be made prior to the draw being made. Each team is limited to a maximum of twelve players, and all players are cup tied to their nominated teams for the duration of the competition.

### **3-27o Disciplinary Summer Soccer**

**3-27p** Blue cards shall be used to sin bin players for offences where the referee considers an offence is not serious enough for a yellow or red card. The length of the sin binning will be at the discretion of the referee, depending on the severity of the offence, a player shall not be replaced while sin binned.

**3-27q** The disciplinary committee shall consist of the competition organizer, assistant competition organizer and referees coordinator. This committee will consider the referee's report and decide if the offence is proven. Punishments shall be in accordance with section.

Ten ( 10 ) of the rules of general application. If a player wishes to appeal the severity of the sentence the President of SDFa shall convene a judiciary hearing as per the handbook.

**3-27r** Suspensions will be carried over to the following summer competition.

## Section 4 Disciplinary

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### **4-1 Send Off**

The name of any player dismissed from the field of play during the match shall be noted on the team sheet.

**4-1a** The date and the nature of the offence. At the conclusion of the match the referee shall retain it in his possession and together with his send off report send same to the chairman of PD & JC within forty eight (48) hours of the match. The referee shall notify the chairman of PD & JC by phone of all players who were "Sent Off" within twenty four (24) hours.

The PD & JC is to be made up of a Chairperson and two other neutral persons who will decide on any penalties. A referee's representative may be available to answer any questions relating to the laws of the game as per the referees handbook.

**4-1b** Send off and caution reports are to be forwarded to the chairman of the P.D. and J.C. All send off and caution reports and appeals against send offs are treated as laid down in section 4.

**4-2** The Judiciary Committee shall impose punishments within the following guidelines on the next page:

# 1. SCHEDULE 1: OFFENCES RELATED DIRECTLY TO PLAYER EXPULSIONS DURING A MATCH

Offence Number	Description	Minimum Sanction	Maximum Sanction
1 (R4 or R5)	Denying the opposing team a clear goal scoring opportunity	The mandatory 1 fixture	4 fixtures suspension
2 (R6)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and or gesture/s	The mandatory 1 fixture	6 months suspension
3 (R1)	Serious foul play (eg. When challenging for the ball)	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 1 additional fixture	12 months suspension
4 (R2)	Assault on a player (eg. Violent conduct when not challenging for the ball)	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 1 additional fixture	24 months suspension
5 (R6)	Serious Unsporting conduct	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 1 additional fixture	24 months suspension
6 (R6)	Use of Discriminatory language and / or gesture/s, including racist, religious, ethnic or sexist	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 4 additional fixtures	24 months suspension
7 (R3)	Spitting at a player	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 5 additional fixtures	24 months suspension
8 (R2 or R6)	Inciting a brawl	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 5 additional fixtures	24 months suspension
<b>SPECIFIC OFFENCES AGAINST A MATCH OFFICIAL</b>			
9 (R6)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and / or gestures against a match official	The mandatory 1 fixture	24 months suspension
10 (R6)	Unsporting conduct toward a match official	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 3 additional fixtures	24 months suspension
11 (R2)	Assault of a match official	6 months including the mandatory 1 fixture suspension	Life suspension
12 (R3)	Spitting at a match official	12 months including the mandatory 1 fixture suspension	24 months suspension
R7	Receiving a second caution in the same match	2 fixtures	
<b>Blue Card</b>	Five Minute ( 5 ) suspension from the match		



# 1. SCHEDULE 2: OFFENCES RELATED TO BEHAVIOUR OF CLUB OFFICIALS

Offence Number	Description	Minimum Sanction	Maximum Sanction
1	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and or gesture/s toward any individual other than a match official	The mandatory 1 fixture	6 months suspension
2	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and or gesture/s toward a match official	The mandatory 1 fixture	12 months suspension
3	Assault of a player, spectator, club official or any other person other than a match official	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 1 additional fixture	24 months suspension
4	Assault of a match official	6 months including the mandatory 1 fixture	Life suspension
5	Physical damage caused to any facility within a Football Stadium	The mandatory 1 fixture	24 months suspension
6	Spitting at any individual other than a match official	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 5 additional fixtures	24 months suspension
7	Spitting at a Match official	12 months including the mandatory 1 fixture suspension	24 months suspension
8	Serious unsporting conduct	The mandatory 1 fixture plus 1 additional fixture	24 months suspension
9	Any action they may be deemed to bring the game of Football or Football NSW into disrepute	The mandatory 1 fixture suspension	24 months suspension



## 2. SCHEDULE 3: OTHER OFFENCES

Offence Number	Description	Minimum Sanction	Maximum Sanction
1	Misconduct of any nature	1 fixture suspension if applicable and / or a \$250 fine	5 years suspension and / or a \$5000 fine and / or deduction of a maximum 3 competition points from the current season in the relevant grade and / or any other provision as referred to in the Football NSW By-Laws.
2	Misconduct against Football NSW or any appointed Football NSW Officer	2 fixture suspension if applicable and / or a \$500 fine	10 years suspension and / or a \$15,000 fine and / or deduction of a maximum 9 competition points from the current season in the relevant grade and / or any other provision referred to in the FNSW By-Laws.
3	Gross Misconduct against football NSW or any Football NSW Officer	4 fixture suspension if applicable and / or a \$1000 fine	Life suspension and / or \$25,000 fine and / or deduction of a maximum 15 competition points from the current season in the relevant grade and / or deduction of a maximum 9 competition points from the following season in the relevant grade and / or removal from competition and / or any other provision referred to in the FNSW By-Laws.
4	Deliberately misleading any Football NSW Disciplinary Body	10 fixture suspension	Life Suspension and / or any other provision referred to in the FNSW By-Laws.



## 1. CAUTIONS (YELLOW CARDS)

### 1. Cautions shall be issued by referees to players for minor infringements of the Laws of the Game as follows:

Code	Description
Y1	The players is guilty of unsporting conduct
Y2	The player shows dissent by action or word
Y3	The player persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
Y4	The player delays the restart of play
Y5	The player fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw in
Y6	The player re-enters the field of play without the Referee's permission
Y7	The player deliberately leaves the field of play without the Referee's permission

#### 4-3 Findings Of the Judiciary Committee

The Committee has the power to:

- a. Consider the reports of the Referee, Linesman, or Others
- b. Decide if the offence is proved
- c. Determine and set whatever punishment or sanctions that it considers appropriate in accordance with the guidelines.

#### 4-4 Punishment

If the Judiciary Committee considers that the offence is proved, it must select the punishment from the guidelines above. The Judiciary Committee is empowered to set punishments outside these guidelines where they consider extenuating circumstances require either higher or lesser suspensions. Suspensions are calculated in matches, regardless of proof of offence any player sent off shall serve one (1) mandatory match suspension. ( FIFA ) except where proof of mistaken identity can be proved.

##### 4-4a The Judiciary Committee has the right to consider:

- a. The severity of the offence
- b. The players past record
- c. Extenuating circumstances

Where the offence is of a relatively minor nature and the player has a previous record of good conduct, the Judiciary Committee may chose to set a suspended sentence in accordance with the guidelines.

**4-4b** A player or official who receives a suspension as per these rules cannot appeal the minimum suspension they receive.

**4-5** No further appeal shall lie within the Association from any determination or penalty of the Judiciary Committee relating to an appeal from the P.D. and J.C., a player or club may, subject to the Articles of Association and By Laws appeal to the Southern NSW Football unless the committee of the Association grants a stay.

**4-6 Any dispute or complaint concerning:**

**4-6a** The conduct of a player or club, or ordinary member

**4-6b** An alleged breach of the Association rules and By Laws.

**4-6c** A failure to observe lawful decisions and directions of the committee of the Shoalhaven District Football Association Inc.

**4-6d** A breach of the Articles of Association of the Football NSW. and its By Laws may be referred to the P.D. and J.C. for decision.

**4-7a** Any offence not covered by The guidelines will have the penalty determined by P.D. and J.C. but shall be at any case at least two (2) matches. A player who receives two cautions during a match and is sent from the field ( R7) shall serve a two (2) match suspension and there is no appeal against a send off for two yellow cards.

**4.8a** There shall be no appeal against a single yellow card (caution) issued during a game.

**4-9** Should a player strike or attempt to intimidate a Referee or an official, such players will be automatically suspended and shall appear before the Judiciary Committee at a time and date of which due notice will be given to the players club.

**4-10** Players dismissed from the field of play shall change into normal street clothes as quickly as possible and leave the ground, it shall be the responsibility of the club concerned (players) to see this is carried out. Failure to do so could see the club fined.

**4-10a** A player sent from the field shall not play again until the suspension is completed, Clubs will be notified of the offence and the penalty incurred.

**4-11** Should a Judiciary hearing be requested, clubs will be notified of the time and venue of such hearing. All requests for such shall be communicated to the Chairman of the P.D. and J.C. within three working days after the offence. A fee of two hundred and fifty dollars ( \$250) shall accompany each appeal to the appeals committee, the fee is payable prior to any hearing taking place. This fee will be forfeited if the appeal is unsuccessful.

**4-11a** A player sent from the field of play who wishes to have a hearing before the PD & JC shall submit a written report on club letterhead along with the \$250 fee. This report should clearly outline the grounds for the hearing as well as the names of any witnesses they wish to present to the PD & JC. This also refers to appeals to the Association Executive or any higher body, with the appropriate fee.

**4-11b** At the Judiciary hearing the player will be entitled to have one representative of his club in attendance, with any witness to the events which caused the send off. In the case of a Junior player he/she will be entitled to have a parent accompany him/her as well.

**4-11c** Any player not attending or not represented at the Judiciary hearing when requested to do so will automatically be suspended until he appears.

**4-11d** Any matches missed by a player awaiting determination by the Judiciary shall be taken into account when the matter is determined by the Judiciary. A bye is not a competition match.

**4-12** Any player who receives four (4) official cautions during the competition, and prior to the final series the player shall serve a two (2) match suspension in the competition proper. There shall be no appeal against the two (2) match suspension after receiving four (4) official cautions.

**4-12a** Any player who receives seven (7) official cautions in one season and prior to the final series shall be suspended for four (4) competition

matches. There shall be no appeal against the four (4) match suspension after receiving seven (7) official cautions.

**4-12b** In the case of a player who plays in both The Senior, Over 35 and Junior competitions, the official cautions are to be combined and the suspension will be as per rules 4-12, 4-12a.

**4-13** All players will start the new season free of any official cautions, however any suspensions will carry over.

**4-14** The Senior Games Organiser will retain the players Registration Card until the suspension is completed, when he will return it to the club concerned.

**4-15** Any player who receives a suspension as a result of a RED card shall be ineligible to play again in any S DFA competition until after the completion of play for all grades in the competition that that offence occurred, on the date of the last match of the suspension.

**4-16** In the event of a player who plays in more than one competition receiving a suspension as a penalty subject to rules 4-12, 4-12a, and 4-12b ( Accumulation of yellow cards ) the penalty shall be allowed to be served across all competitions that the player REGULARY participates in. Only ONE match per day in any competition can be included as part of the suspension and the player is ineligible to play until after the completion of play for all grades on the date of the last match of the suspension.

## Section 5 Financial

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### 5-1 Fines

a.	Not telephoning results in	\$20.00
b.	Forfeits No Notice Juniors	\$50.00
	No Notice Seniors	\$300.00
	1st Grade Forfiet	\$300.00
	Plus Referee Costs (Seniors)	\$100.00
	Notice Given (Juniors)	\$25.00
	Notice Given Seniors	\$150.00
c.	Non attendance at Association Meetings	\$100.00
d.	Official Result Cards not received	\$25.00
e.	Three (3) balls not available at Senior Games	\$10.00
f.	Two (2) officials not available at Senior Games	\$25.00
g.	Failure to Pay Accounts after 30 days	10%
		of Invoice
h.	Failure to Pay Accounts after 60 days will Result in loss of points for from that date for all Club teams.	
i.	No FFA Numbers on Team sheets	\$10.00 per each missing number
j.	Fines and Bonds of an undisclosed amount can be applied by the Association for serious breaches of any matter.	

**5.2** All invoices raised by SDFA are to be paid within 30 days of invoice date. Failure to do so will result in a fine equal to 10% of each invoice total. If the outstanding balance of invoices are not paid within 60 days from date of invoice, loss of points from that date for all club teams will apply.

### 5-3 Un financial Players

Any player deemed un financial by his club and the club wishes for SDFA not to register the player with any other club, the club is to list all such players on their club letterhead and have it to the Secretary by 30th June each year, failure to do so will result in SDFA not taking any action against the player.



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