



Season 2016

Regulations and By-Laws

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PRELIMINARY

INTRODUCTION

The following regulations and by-laws have been made by the AFL NSW/ACT COMMISSION LIMITED pursuant to its object to administer and promote Australian Football in the State of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

DEFINITIONS

In these Regulations & By-Laws, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meaning:

Administration Committee means and shall consist of any two (2) from the following positions or as designated by the League:

- Football Operations Manager
- Football Operations Coordinator
- Secretary
- Chairman/President
- Competition Management Committee Member; or
- Their nominees

AFL means the Australian Football League (ACN 004 155 211)

AFL Marks means AFL logos, AFL club logos, the AFL NSW/ACT logo, trade names and other Intellectual Property, registered or unregistered owned by the AFL and/or AFL NSW/ACT (whichever is applicable)

AFL NSW/ACT means AFL NSW/ACT Commission Limited

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AFSLC means AFL South Coast Inc.

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AFSLC Football Operations means Administration coordinator / support for AFL South Coast Inc.

Appeals Board means the panel constituted in line with Section 4 of the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT.

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Board means the Board of the AFL South Coast Inc. established by AFL (NSW/ACT) pursuant to clause 17 of its constitution.

Club means a club affiliated to the League participating in Competitions conducted and organised by the League

Community League Club refers to all teams directly comprising Clubs within an Australian football competition, other than the AFL, State League or Unaffiliated Leagues.

Competition means any Australian football competition conducted by AFL NSW/ACT or an Affiliated League

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Development Grades/Junior Rules means Rules governing ages of Under 9s – Under 12s

Footyweb means the AFL Competition Management System & Membership Database

Chief Executive Officer means the Chief Executive Officer of AFL NSW/ACT or his/her nominee.

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HOST Club means Is the Club that will be responsible for the ground management duties for any game being played.

Intellectual Property means all company and business names, trade names, trademarks, logos, symbols, emblems, designs or other indicia, inventions, patents, trade secrets, processes and any other intellectual property whatsoever (including copyright), registered or unregistered, currently owned and in existence or to be developed in the future by the AFL and/or AFL NSW/ACT.

Junior means Competitions up to and including Under 17s. Players must be eligible to play in specific age groups as of 1 January in each year. It is acknowledged that some Under 17 competitions may be operated under senior by-laws

Juniors – Junior Competition means Competitions up to and including Under 17s. Players must be eligible to play in specific age groups as of 1 January in each year

Laws of the Game means the Laws of Australian Football as administered and controlled by the AFL, as amended from time to time

League means an AFL NSW/ACT affiliated league that is currently conducting or may in the future conduct an Australian Football Competition within New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory

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League Committee means members appointed by the Board to manage the administration of each League.

Match means any football Match played between or directly or indirectly involving any Club or defined Independent School, including without limitation any practice Match, trial Match, representative Match or exhibition Match

National Player Transfer Regulations means the rules and regulations, as amended from time to time, regulating the transfer of players between clubs

Official means AFL NSW/ACT, League and Club (as the case may be) employees, servant or agent having official duties in connection with a Match, Competition or the AFL NSW/ACT Regulations and By-Laws, including (unless otherwise stated) Club and League Umpires.

Regional Board means the board established by AFL NSW/ACT pursuant to clause 17 of its constitution

Reportable Offence means a Reportable Offence within the meaning of the Laws of the Game, as amended from time to time

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Rules means Competition Rules and Bylaws of the AFLSC

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Senior Football means any game of the code other than Under Age Football.

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Services means Army, Navy and Air Force personnel.

State League Club refers to clubs competing in the North East Australian Football League, who are not AFL club reserves.

Tribunal means the tribunal constituted under the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT, as amended from time to time

Umpire means field, boundary, goal and emergency Umpire

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Under Age means a player who is under the age of eighteen (18) years as at the 1st January in the year of the request.

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Youth Age Rules means competitions between Under 13s – Under 17s

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Website means www.aflsouthcoast.com.au

INTERPRETATION

Regulations

In the interpretation of these regulations, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (a) words importing the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa;
- (b) words importing any gender shall be deemed to include the other gender;
- (c) headings are included for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of these regulations;
- (d) “including” and similar words are not words of limitation;
- (e) any words, terms or phrases defined in the remainder of these regulations shall have the meaning prescribed within the particular regulations; and Words, terms or phrases not otherwise defined in these regulations shall be given their ordinary meaning.

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PURPOSE

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The purpose of these rules is to provide a safe environment for all eligible participants to be involved in Australian Football.



PART A: REGULATIONS

1. AFFILIATION CONDITIONS

Any Australian football league, the membership of which includes any club or clubs in NSW or the ACT, may apply to affiliate with AFL NSW/ACT. Such affiliation shall be subject to the following conditions:

1.1 League Constitution

The League must be incorporated pursuant to the relevant legislation in New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory and its current constitution lodged with the AFL NSW/ACT at all times.

1.2 Laws of the Game

The League shall adopt the Laws of the Game as administered and controlled by the AFL and as endorsed by AFL NSW/ACT.

1.3 Contact Details

The League shall submit to AFL NSW/ACT in each year:

- (A) A list of the names, addresses, telephone and email addresses / fax number of its Officials by 31 January in each year;
- (B) A list of the Clubs and Club teams by 31 March in each year; and
- (C) A list of the names, addresses and contact details of the officers (including the President & Secretary) of each Club by 31 March in each year.

1.4 Affiliation and Licence Fees

The League shall agree to pay an annual affiliation fee as determined from time to time by AFL NSW/ACT.

1.5 Insurance

The League shall ensure that its Officials and Clubs, as a condition of affiliation to the League, are insured under the Australian Football National Risk Protection Program as arranged by JLT Sport or any substitute policy as arranged or administered by the AFL.

1.6 Appointment of Umpires

The League shall engage Umpires appointed by the League and/or Club from a panel of Umpires to be approved by AFL NSW/ACT.

1.7 Sponsorship/ Marketing Affiliation

The League shall acknowledge and agree that:

- (A) AFL NSW/ACT major sponsors provide in part the financial resources for AFL NSW/ACT to develop, implement and support the development of Australian football generally and specifically in the NSW and ACT; and
- (B) It will not enter into any contract, arrangement, agreement or understanding with any corporation/person for the supply, endorsement, approval or sponsorship of goods or services of the type provided by or associated with the operations of AFL NSW/ACT major sponsors or Licensees, unless otherwise approved by AFL NSW/ACT.

1.8 Application of Competition Rules

The League shall agree to be bound by the Constitution of AFL NSW/ACT and these Regulations insofar as they apply to such League and shall agree that in the event of any inconsistency between the Constitution of such League and the Constitution or Regulations of AFL NSW/ACT, then the constitution and/or by laws of such League shall be invalid to the extent of such inconsistency.

1.9 Club Affiliation and Licence Agreement with League

Each League shall have an affiliation agreement with AFL NSW/ACT as well as a Club licence agreement with its affiliated Clubs, in the format determined by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time.

1.10 Refusal or Cancellation of Affiliation

Any League which fails to comply with this Regulation 1, either in whole or part, may be refused application for affiliation or have its affiliation cancelled.

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1A CLUB AFFILIATION

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To be eligible to enter teams in any of the competitions administered by the AFLSC, a Club must:

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(a) lodge, and have approved by the Board, an affiliation form (Licence Agreement) as prescribed by the Board;

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(b) pay any affiliation or other fee as prescribed by the Board;

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(c) commit to participating in all activities specified by the Board or the League Committee;

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Prior to the commencement of the football season in which competitions the Club wishes to participate.

2. PLAYER REGISTRATION

Each League must agree to adopt and use the uniform system of registration of players set out in these Regulations.

2.1 Player Registration

(A) Any person desiring to play with a Club must first apply for registration.

(B) All player registrations are processed through Footyweb, or any other system as determined by AFL NSW/ACT or the AFL from time to time.

(C) No person will be registered or re-registered under an assumed name unless such assumed name and the reason for its necessary use is notified to and accepted by the League and the person's legal name and current address are submitted to the League at the time of registration. Such information shall be kept confidential by the League.

(D) Upon a person's registration application being approved, the person shall be deemed a player of that Club until such time as the person has either been granted a transfer to play with another club or a period of twenty-four (24) calendar months has elapsed since the person last played competition football for the Club with which he or she was last registered.

(E) Players are required to re-register with their existing Club each season through Footyweb. A new registration form is not required to be completed for re-registration.

2.2 Registration Documentation

(A) All player registrations must be submitted electronically via Footyweb by the player or, where the player is under 18 years of age as of 1 January in the year of registration, the registration must be submitted by the player's parent or legal guardian.

(B) For the registration to be active, the club must accept the player's registration.

(C) Any club who registers a player without the player's consent may be subject to an investigation by the Administration Committee.

(D) Documentation evidencing proof of age in the form of an original birth certificate, photo licence, passport, immunisation booklet or student identification may be requested by the League at any time. Failure to produce such documentation may lead to the player's registration being refused or cancelled.

2.3 Register of Players

Each League, through Footyweb, must keep an up to date register of all player registrations which includes the following information:

- (A) Full name, address, date of birth and contact telephone number(s); and
- (B) Date the player registration was granted.

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2.3A Time for Registration of New Players

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- (A) Each new (or archived) player's registration must be entered into the Footyweb system by the player.

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- (B) New registrations may be accepted up until the last game of the season. Registrations must be completed on Footyweb:

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- (a) For Seniors - prior to the first game played.

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- (b) For Juniors – refer to Rule 2.3B for restrictions.

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2.3B Match Day Registrations - Juniors

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- (A) Match Day Registrations may be granted provided:

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- (a) Registration details are to be entered into Footyweb by 5.00pm on the Tuesday following the game.

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- (b) New Player(s) name, address, birth date are noted on the back of the Team Sheet.

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- (c) The opposing Team Manager is informed that a new Player is being registered and the Manager must sign and date the back of the Team Sheet, to verify the notification.

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- (B) Should the Player later be found to be ineligible, the Player's team will lose match wins and the Club will be subject to the Board's jurisdiction.

2.4 Dual Registration

No player shall be permitted to be registered with more than one club at the same time except as provided for under the National Player Transfer Regulations and Regulation 3 below or in special circumstances as determined by the League with which he/she is registered.

2.5 Closing Date for Registrations and Transfers

- (A) New player registrations will be accepted until the end of the home and away series in the season in which the player intends to play.
- (B) Player transfer applications will be dealt with in accordance with the National Player Transfer Regulations.

2.6 Misleading and Incorrect Information

- (A) Any player who knowingly submits incorrect information or who intentionally fails to disclose information on any registration form or transfer application may be subject to the following penalties as determined by the League in its absolute discretion:
 - (a) De-registration; and/or
 - (b) Up to four (4) weeks suspension; and
 - (c) May also be deemed an ineligible player for any Matches in which he/she has played.
- (B) Any Club Official or Club that is party to a breach of this Regulation shall be dealt with by the League as it deems fit.

2.7 Unregistered and Ineligible Players

- (A) Any player not properly registered, or any player registered based upon incorrect or omitted information on the registration application shall be deemed to be an ineligible player. Any Club that either knowingly or unknowingly plays an ineligible player may lose all Match points for that Match and be fined up to \$100 for each Match in which such player has played.

- (B) Any ineligible player(s), Official(s) and/or Club(s) found by the League to have been involved with allowing a player to compete in a Match in accordance with this Regulation may be liable for suspension or deregistration in addition to any loss of Match points and fine(s).
- (C) If an allegation has been made against a Club for playing an ineligible player, the Club will be responsible for the appearance of the player at any investigation conducted by the League.

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2.7A Disability Approval - Juniors

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- (A) The Committee may consider applications for a disability concession under the Exemption and Disability Policy where:
 - (a) the player submits (with their registration) a letter fully detailing their request to play down,
 - (b) written medical evidence from a registered medical practitioner is received and,
 - (c) an application from their club requesting consideration be given to approval is supplied.
- (B) If approval is granted, it shall apply for the current season only.
- (C) Approval is not automatic, and until written approval is received by the club, the player is ineligible to play down.
- (D) Clubs are to have this letter with them at all games and are to notify the opposition team of any player that falls into this category.

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2.7B Female Participation

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- (A) The AFL policy strongly recommends that youth girls aged 13 and 14 years participate in a structured youth girl's competitions. However, if there is no youth girl's competition available the following applies:
 - (a) In accordance with the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Cth)¹, people aged under 12 years of age cannot be excluded on the basis of sex or gender identity from participating in a competitive sporting activity.
 - (b) Pursuant to section 42(1) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Cth), people of one gender aged 12 and over can be excluded from participating in competitive sporting activities in which the strength, stamina and physique of competitors is relevant.
 - (c) AFL members will exclude females who reach 14 years of age as at 1 January in the year of play from playing in any competition that is not a 'female competition'. Definition – A female competition is a competition in which the majority of the Players are female.
 - (d) The AFL NSW/ACT Dispensation policy applies to all participants in the game.
- (B) The provisions of section 42 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Cth) are essentially replicated in equivalent State legislation

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3. PLAYER TRANSFERS**3.1 Player Transfers**

All player transfers must be processed through Footyweb.

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- (A1) A Player playing for a Club without approval will result in the loss of any competition match wins and percentage awarded while the infringement of this rule continues.

3.2 Transfers between Clubs

Procedures for the transfer of players between Clubs within the same League (Domestic Transfers) will be in accordance with the National Player Transfer Regulations and Regulations 3.7 – 3.8 below.

3.3 Transfers between Leagues

Procedures for the transfer of players between AFL NSW/ACT Leagues will be in accordance with the National Player Transfer Regulations.

3.4 Interstate Transfers

Procedures for the transfer of players between States will be in accordance with the National Player Transfer Regulations.

3.5 Interchange Agreements

AFL South Coast will enter into interchange agreements with neighbouring Leagues AFL Sydney and AFL Canberra to provide players with pathways to regionally representative Clubs.

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3.5A Interchange Agreements - Juniors

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(A) Players are allowed to play for Clubs in another League under Permit subject to the following conditions:

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(a) Agreement obtained from both Clubs

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(b) Agreement obtained from both Leagues

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(c) The Player will be required to be registered with both Clubs

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(d) The Permit is for one season only.

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(e) All disputes involving Permits are to be referred to and determined by the Board.

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(f) Players eligible to play Under 18s (or oldest designated Junior age group) are able to play for two Clubs in the same season, in different Leagues without affecting eligibility for either.

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(B) The Footyweb permit system shall be the facility used to record and activate such interchanges (# 2 Interchange Permit). Failure to use correct permit designation will affect eligibility.

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3.5B Players Returning to the League

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A player who transfers from a League club to a club in an AFL affiliated league, upon transferring back to the League, within a period of , must transfer back to the club he left or obtain a domestic Transfer from that club to the club he wishes to join.

3.6 No Transfer Required

The transfer provisions will not apply to any player who has not been registered with a League during the past two (2) seasons.

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3.6A Commencement and Closing Dates for Transfers

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(A) The commencement date for the lodgement of Transfer applications accompanying new player registrations will be 1st February each year.

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(B) The closing date for the lodgement of Transfer applications accompanying new player registrations will be 30th June each year.

3.7 Appeals Board – Domestic Transfers Only

(A) An Appeals Board will be established by the Administration Committee to hear and determine all appeals relating to the refusal of Domestic Transfers.

(B) The Appeals Board shall be appointed each year by the League and shall consist of a panel of at least three (3) and no more than five (5) members, each of whom shall not be an Official of any Club playing in the League.

(C) The Appeals Board shall hold office for one (1) year. Each member may be reappointed for further terms of office.

(D) A Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall be appointed by the League.

(E) At any sitting of the Appeals Board, a minimum of two (2) members shall constitute a quorum and where possible, the Chairman or Deputy Chairman shall preside.

(F) For the avoidance of doubt, the Appeals Board referred to in this section 3.7 and section 3.8 will rule on appeals on domestic transfers only.

3.8 Refused Domestic Transfer

- (A) Requests for a Domestic Transfer can only be refused by the player's registered Club if the player:
 - (a) is indebted to the Club;
 - (b) is in possession of Club property (e.g. jumper) that needs to be returned; and/or
 - (c) wishes to withdraw their transfer application. Clubs can only submit this as a reason for refusal where the player has signed the forms as required by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time.
 - (d) is a contracted player to their registered club
- (B) The transferor Club must clearly state the reason(s) why the transfer is refused and must simultaneously provide supporting documentation.
- (C) Where a transferor Club refuses to transfer a player, the player may lodge an appeal in writing, together with a \$100 bond (of which \$20 is not refundable), to the League within five (5) business days from receipt of refusal.
- (D) Upon advice from the League that an appeal has been lodged the transferor Club has five (5) business days to lodge the same bond outlined in Regulation 3.8(C) to the League for the matter to be heard by the Appeals Board. The Appeals Board will hear the matter within five (5) business days of both bonds being lodged. Should the transferor Club fail to lodge the bond within five (5) business days then the transfer will automatically be granted by the League.
- (E) Bond monies may be forfeited at the discretion of the Appeals Board if it deems either the appeal or the refusal to be frivolous. If the transferor Club does not lodge a bond in the time stipulated then the transfer shall be automatically granted by the League.
- (F) Where, since the refusal of a transfer, the transferor Club and the player have come to an agreement, the transfer will take effect when the League receives either the original transfer form or a second transfer form, which has been suitably endorsed by the transferor club.
- (G) Where the Appeals Board is satisfied that the transferor Club does not have reasonable grounds for refusing the player a transfer, the Appeals Board may grant the transfer.
- (H) The determination of the Appeals Board will be binding upon the player and Club and an unsuccessful transfer application will not be renewed during the season in which the transfer was sought, provided always that where a material change in relevant circumstances occurs later, the player may apply to the Appeals Board for a review by way of re-hearing.
- (I) The Appeals Board must report to the Administration Committee any circumstances of which it may become aware which may suggest that false or misleading information has been provided to the Appeals Board by a party at or in connection with the hearing of any appeal.

3.9 Refused Interstate Transfers and Transfers between Leagues

Refused transfers for players wishing to transfer between AFL NSW/ACT Leagues or interstate will be dealt with in accordance with the National Player Transfer Regulations.

3.10 Student Permits

- (A) Subject to Regulation 3.10 (D) below, a player who transfers to another Club to attend an educational institution on a full-time and continuous basis may, during official semester vacations / school holidays, receive a permit to play with his immediate former Club subject to written endorsement from the current Club, the former Club and their respective Leagues.
- (B) The permit application is to be endorsed by those outlined above in Regulation 3.10 (A) prior to 1 July in a given year.
- (C) The permit period lasts until the player ceases his commitments at the educational institution and is subject to any relevant regulations of any of the parties, including participation in finals.
- (D) In order to be eligible for a Student Permit under this Regulation, the player must provide a school or university calendar which sets out vacation periods.

3.11 Match Day Permits

- (A) A player registered with a League Club may play with another League Club (in the same league) under the following conditions:
- (a) The interchange of all players under this By-Law must be approved by the Administration Committee
 - (b) The player only plays with one club on any weekend or round
 - (c) The Footyweb permit system shall be the facility used to activate such interchanges (A match Permit)
 - (d) Games played on match permit do not count towards finals eligibility with either club.
 - (e) A player cannot play on interchange on a day or weekend when his club has the bye or is otherwise not playing.

The spirit of this rule is to allow a club with surplus player(s) on a given match day to give these player(s) a game of football with another club. It is also designed to allow a player to trial with another club which is playing in a higher grade or division.

3.12 State League Player Trial Permit

- (A) A player registered with a Community League Club may obtain a permit to trial with a State League Club under the following conditions:
- (a) The permit of all players under this By-Law must be approved by the Administration Committee and the NEAFL Manager, and the players Community Club.
 - (b) A player is only permitted to play with one club on any weekend or round
 - (c) A player may only be granted a permit to one (1) State League Club per season
 - (d) A player is eligible to trial in up to six (6) State League games per season with the one (1) State League Club.
 - (e) A Community League Club can only permit one (1) player to each State League Club on any given weekend or round
 - (f) For each trial game a player's weekly match payments and/or contract with their current club must be honoured by the State League Club
 - (g) Games played on permit shall count towards finals eligibility for both the State League and Community Club.

The spirit of this rule is to allow aspiring Community League player(s) the opportunity to trial with a State League Club.

3.13 Leagues/Clubs Disbanding/Amalgamating

- (A) In the event of the transfer of a Club from one League to another, all registered players of that Club shall automatically be transferred with the Club to the new League. The Secretary or authorised person of the transferor League shall supply a certified list of all registered players of the Club concerned to the Club's new League.
- (B) If a player's Club has disbanded, the player must obtain a transfer from his/her League prior to playing with another Club.
- (C) If a player's Club has amalgamated with another Club, the player automatically becomes a player of the amalgamated Club.
- (D) If a player's League has disbanded, the player must obtain a transfer from AFL NSW/ACT prior to playing with another Club.

3.14 General

- (A) Each League must keep a register of all transfer applications which contains the following information:
- (a) Player's name and date the application was received by the League;
 - (b) Name of the Club/League from which the player desires to transfer and name of club/league to which the player desires to transfer;

- (c) Date the application was forwarded for decision; and
 - (d) Date the response was received and decision.
- (B) A player or coach under disqualification by a league or tribunal may be granted a transfer to a Club in another League during his period of suspension but such player or coach must serve the remainder of his or her suspension before playing or coaching in matches with the new Club.
- (C) Notwithstanding anything within these Regulations and By-Laws, Leagues may make provision in their own by-laws for a player to register after 1 July, subject to transfer approval by his/her registered Club/League, where such player is transferred by the defence force or by their employer of at least 3 months to another branch of the same company.
- (D) In extenuating circumstances AFL NSW/ACT, in consultation with the relevant League, may consider granting a transfer after 1 July.

4. CLUB TRANSFERRING

4.1 Club Transferring

- (A) Clubs desiring to transfer to another League must first obtain the permission of that League to join it, and if the permission is granted the Club must lodge a written application to transfer with its current League which shall be required to deal with such application. Should the Club's current League fail to determine the application within 60 days of lodgement, the Club shall be permitted to transfer automatically to the new League. A copy of the application must be lodged with the AFL NSW/ACT at the same time as lodgement with the League.
- (B) If any League is seeking a Club(s) from any other League, then the inviting League must notify the Secretary of the current League of such Club(s) at least 14 days prior to the invitation to the Club(s). Any Club(s) that accepts the League's invitation must provide its current League with no less than fourteen (14) days notice of its intention to transfer to another League. Should the Club's current League fail to determine the application within 60 days of lodgement, the Club shall be permitted to transfer automatically to the new League. A copy of the application must be lodged with the AFL NSW/ACT at the same time as lodgement with the League.
- (C) Leagues must obtain the prior written approval of AFL NSW/ACT prior to affiliating with any newly formed Club.
- (D) In the event of a Club being refused permission to transfer to or join another League, the Club may appeal to AFL NSW/ACT in accordance with Regulation 9 below.
- (E) In the event of a League disbanding, the Clubs affiliated with that League will be transferred to another League as directed by AFL NSW/ACT.
- (F) Any League or Club may appeal a decision made by AFL NSW/ACT pursuant to Regulation 4(E) in accordance with Regulation 9 below.

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4.1A Disqualifications – Persons Not To Act

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Any person who has been refused a transfer or permit to play or has been suspended or de-registered shall not be allowed to hold any on field position with any League or Club until the transfer or permit is granted, or the period of suspension or de-registration has expired or is removed by the body imposing the suspension or de-registration.

5. COACHES AND OFFICIALS

5.1 Coaches to be Registered and Accredited

- (A) All competition Coaches must be registered in Footyweb.
- (B) It is compulsory for all competition Coaches to be accredited to at least Junior Level 1 and/or Youth Level 1 by July 1 in the year of competition.
- (C) The League may revoke a Coach's permit to coach at any time.

- (C1) Coaches must be easily identifiable. In the Seniors this can be done by wearing any external clothing with the word 'Coach' clearly visible, with lettering size being a minimum of 7cm in height on the back and front. In junior competitions, coaches must wear a blue bib/vest with the word 'Coach' written in white writing (as provided by the league).

5.2 Unregistered and Unaccredited Coaches

- (A) Any Coach not accredited, not registered or registered based upon incorrect information shall be deemed to be an ineligible Coach. Any Club which allows an ineligible Coach to officiate during a Match may lose all Match points and / or be fined up to \$100 for each Match in which such Coach has officiated.
- (B) In addition to any other penalties, ineligible Coach(es) and/or Club(s) responsible for engaging an ineligible Coach may also be liable for suspension or deregistration at the sole discretion of the League.
- (C) When an allegation has been made against any Club for engaging an ineligible Coach the Club shall be responsible for the appearance of the Coach at any investigation conducted by the League.

5.3 Suspended Players/Coaches/Officials

- (A) Any suspended player, Coach or Official will be deemed to be an ineligible person and will not be allowed to act in any way as a trainer, runner, water-carrier or any official "on field" capacity in any home and away or finals Match for the duration of his/her suspension.
- (B) Any Coach suspended in his/her capacity as a Coach will not be permitted to enter the field of play at any stage of a Match that is sanctioned by the League.

5.4 Working with Children Policy

Any person who has not complied with the requirements of the Child Protection Legislation as it applies to them, is in breach of these by-laws and regulations. All Coaches and Team Managers must obtain a Working with Children Clearance, whether or not they would otherwise be exempted under the Regulations of the Child Protection Legislation as not requiring a check by reason of their being a parent or close relative of a Player in a team in which the Player usually participates. All Working With Children Checks must be completed by 30th June in each season.

6. DISQUALIFICATIONS – PERSONS NOT TO ACT

Any person who has been refused a transfer or permit to play or has been suspended or de-registered shall not be allowed to hold any on field position with any League or Club until the transfer or permit is granted, or the period of suspension or de-registration has expired or is removed by the body imposing the suspension or de-registration.

7. TRIBUNAL PROCEDURES

As a condition of AFL NSW/ACT affiliation, Leagues must adopt the procedures set out in the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT, as amended from time to time, for any disciplinary related matter.

8. OFFENCES IN INTER-LEAGUE MATCHES

In the event of a player being reported in an inter-League Match or in a Match between Clubs of different Leagues, the Independent Tribunal of the League with which the player is registered shall hear the charge.

9. APPEALS

9.1 Competition Appeal Rules

- (A) AFL NSW/ACT Commission Limited adopts the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT including in respect of "Section 4 - Competition Appeal Rules" such that players, coaches, officials, spectators, administrators and any other people reasonably connected to AFL NSW/ACT Commission Limited are required to comply with those Guidelines.
- (B) Any registered player, Club or League may appeal to its Appeal Board where constituted or where no such body exists, to AFL NSW/ACT against a decision of his/her/its governing body, including any decision arising out of these Regulations and By-Laws (where applicable).
- (C) All appeals, whether against a tribunal finding or against a decision in Section 9.1 (B) above, will be conducted in accordance with Section 4 of the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT.
- (D) The decision of the Appeals Board shall be final and binding on all parties.

10. DOMESTIC MATTERS

10.1 Regional Rules & By-Laws

- (A) Each League shall have the power to draw up rules or by-laws to provide for the management of its own affairs, provided such rules or by-laws are not inconsistent with these Regulations and By-Laws.
- (B) In the event of any inconsistency between a League rule or by-law and a provision contained with these Regulations and By-Laws, the latter shall prevail to the extent of such inconsistency.

11. AFL NSW/ACT COMPETITION BY-LAWS

Unless agreed to in writing from AFL NSW/ACT each League adopts the By-Laws provided in Part B.

12. AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS

In accordance with the AFL NSW/ACT Constitution, AFL NSW/ACT may from time to time change or repeal any of these Regulations as may be necessary for the proper conduct and management of AFL NSW/ACT and the regulation of its affairs.

13. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

AFL NSW/ACT shall have the power to decide any matters not provided for in these Regulations.



PART B: BY-LAWS

14. CLUB AFFILIATION

All clubs must affiliate with the League in the form and on such conditions determined by the League and/or AFL NSW/ACT from time to time.

15. COMPETITION ARRANGEMENTS

Spirit of the Game

At the end of a game all Players, coaches and umpires should gather in the centre of the ground and shake hands.

Spirit of the Game Rule - Juniors

This rule is applied to all ages below and including Under 17s.

- (A) The Goal Umpires are to confer with the Field Umpire at half time or three quarter time, where the score differential between the teams equals or exceeds a set amount (i.e. ninety (90) points for youth ages and sixty (60) points for modified ages) to determine when the Mercy Rule should be applied.
- (B) The Mercy Rule cannot be applied in the last quarter.
- (C) The Field Umpire will instruct the Goal Umpires and any scoreboard attendants to cease further scoring for the remainder of the match.
- (D) Where the Mercy Rule is applied, the match shall continue for the remainder of the allocated time of play, with the coaches encouraged to even-up the skill levels of the teams.
- (E) The official recorded result for the match shall be:
 - (a) Losing team - the score of the losing team, at the time the Mercy Rule was applied;
 - (b) Winning team - the score of the winning team, at the time the Spirit of the Game Rule was applied.

15.1 Fixture

- (A) Following receipt and acceptance of club affiliation applications, the league shall prepare a schedule of matches (fixture draw) for each grade of competition and distribute same to clubs prior to the season. Other than in exceptional circumstances as approved by the League, these fixture draws will not be varied once the season has commenced.
- (A1) The competing Clubs have 4 weeks from the distribution of the draw to request changes to times and venues. After that time changes to the draw can only be requested:
 - (a) with 4 weeks prior notice and with the affected opponent's agreement; or
 - (b) for unforeseen circumstances such as washouts.
- (B) Each competition fixture draw shall consist of a series of home and away premiership matches followed by a finals series.

15.1A Junior Age Groups

- (A) Teams will comprise of Players in age groups as prescribed by the League Committee for underage competition.
- (B) A registered player will be eligible to play in an age group in accord with the age they turn in that calendar year. For example if a child turns 12 at any time during a year he/she is eligible to play in the Under 12s or nearest older age group for that year.

15.2 Match Times

- (A) Starting time of all matches will be advised when the fixture draw is released. The starting times may be varied at the discretion of the Administration Committee.
- (B) Matches must start and finish on time. If a start is late, or there is a lengthy delay during the match, the Ground Manager and Field Umpires will decide on the duration of the breaks at quarter, half and three quarter time and if necessary will also reduce the length of quarters to ensure that the following match can commence on time.
- (C) If for any reason a team is not ready to commence play twenty (20) minutes after the appointed time, the opposing club may claim the match as a forfeit. If however the start of a match is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances and by mutual agreement between the competing clubs the match is still played, the clubs must agree on a shortened time of play to ensure that any following matches will not be delayed.
- (D) For Juniors such matches where teams do not have the minimum numbers at the scheduled start time but Players are still due to arrive, the game shall commence but with reduced Player numbers on each team. Teams must still have equal numbers on the field. No time-on will be allowed for the home and away matches.
- (E) If for any reason a club should not finish a match, the Field Umpire must report the matter to the Administration Committee for investigation.

15.3 Match Duration - Seniors

- (A) The duration of quarters for all Home and Away matches will be as defined by the League and for matches where time on is played the following is to apply
 - (a) To indicate the commencement of the time added period, the field umpire shall blow his/her whistle and raise one arm above his/her head. To indicate that the time added period has elapsed, the field umpire shall raise one arm above the head.
 - (b) Where the umpire fails to signal the completion of the time added period, or the timekeepers fail to hear his/her whistle or see his/her signal, the timekeepers are to restart the clock when the ball is clearly back in play.
 - (c) In the case of a goal or behind being scored, the time added is that which elapses between the time that the goal umpire first signals the goal or behind and the bouncing of the ball in the centre (after a goal) or the ball being brought back into play (after a behind).
 - (d) In the event of a player being replaced under the blood rule, timekeepers are to stop the clock from the time that the blood rule signal is given by the umpire until the umpire signals time back on or the ball is clearly in play.
 - (e) In case of a player being replaced using a stretcher, the field umpire shall signal time off and on as detailed above.

- (A1) Senior match durations shall be:

Division	Quarters	Time On
Division 1	4 x 25 minute quarters	No time on
Division 2	4 x 20 minute quarters	No time on

- (A2) Breaks during Senior matches shall be:

Division	1/4 time	1/2 time	3/4 time
Division 1	5 minutes	15 minutes	5 minutes
Division 2	5 minutes	15 minutes	5 minutes

- (B) For matches where time on is not applicable the following will apply.
 - (a) The clock is only to be stopped for the blood rule or when a player is replaced using the stretcher with the procedure as follows:
 - (i) In the event of a player being replaced under the blood rule, timekeepers are to stop the clock from the time that the blood rule signal is given by the umpire until the umpire signals time back on or the ball is clearly in play.

- (ii) In case of a player being replaced using a stretcher, the field umpire shall signal time off and on as detailed above.

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- (B1) The duration of quarters for finals matches shall be the same as Home and Away matches. Time on does not apply.

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15.3A Match duration - Juniors

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- (A) By age group Junior match durations shall be:

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Grade	Quarters	Time On
Under 9s/10s/11s	4 x 12 minute quarters	No time on
Under 12s/13s/14.5s/15s	4 x 15 minute quarters	No time on
Under 17s	4 x 20 minute quarters	No time on

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- (B) Breaks during Junior matches shall be:

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Grade	1/4 time	1/2 time	3/4 time
Under 9s/10s/11s	4 minutes	4 minutes	4 minutes
Under 12s/13s/14.5s/15s	4 minutes	7 minutes	4 minutes
Under 17s	4 minutes	10 minutes	4 minutes

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- (C) No time-on will be allowed for the MINOR round matches.

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- (D) In the case of a significant loss of playing time, the remaining time allocated for the match will be divided equitably by the Ground Manager and Umpire and the match will recommence and finish on schedule.

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- (E) The HOST Club and umpires will ensure strict adherence to the quarter breaks.

15.4 Warning Sirens

- (A) Timekeepers are to sound the siren as an indicator to players and officials as follows:
- (a) As umpires enter the playing field prior to the start of the game and after half-time - Once
 - (b) Five minutes prior to scheduled starting time of the match and start of the third Quarter – Once
 - (c) Two minutes prior to scheduled starting time of all quarters – Twice
 - (d) One minute prior to scheduled starting time of all quarters – Once
 - (e) Scheduled starting time of all quarters - Once

15.5 Ladder

A premiership ladder shall be maintained for the duration of the home and away matches as follows and as determined by the Administration Committee:

Even Number of Teams and/or Even Number of Games Played

- (A) The teams will be positioned in accordance with the total number of premiership points accrued (four (4) points will be allocated for a win, two (2) points for a draw and nil (0) for a loss). Where more than one club has the same “number of premiership points accrued” those clubs will be positioned on the premiership ladder in order of percentages calculated from the points scored for and against, by such clubs.
- (B) Juniors and/or Uneven Number of Teams and/or Uneven Number of Games Played
- (A) The teams will be positioned in the order of club’s “Winning Percentage” or “Match Ratio” in place of total premiership points accrued. A Club’s match ratio will be the percentage of wins against matches played (draws will be 0.5 of a win). Where more than one club has the same “Match Ratio” those clubs will be positioned on the premiership ladder in order of percentages calculated from the points scored for and against, by such clubs.
- (B) The premiership ladder will not count cancelled matches as matches played and thus ‘Match Ratio’ is only affected by the number of games played where a win, loss or draw can be affected.

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- (B1) AFLSC websites will display updated tables, showing match ratio and percentages to decide placing of teams on the tables, for each grade. All tables will include percentages calculated in accordance with the Spirit of the Game Rule 15.

15.6 Premier Team

The Premier Team for the season shall be the team which wins the Grand Final in each respective competition.

15.7 Forfeits

- (A) Any club unable to play a match for which it is drawn is to advise the opposing club and the League no later than 8pm of the Thursday prior to the match concerned. The match will then be treated as a forfeit and provided a satisfactory explanation is furnished to the League, no penalty other than those specified in this by-law will be imposed.

- (B) Should a club forfeit a match without the required notice, a fine of up to \$1000 may be imposed at the discretion of the Administration Committee.

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- (B1) Where Junior teams attend the venue and have insufficient numbers to compete this Rule 15.7B will not apply.

- (C) Where the League is unable to advise the appointed umpires prior to them attending a forfeited match, the League will pay the umpires and the forfeiting club will be invoiced for the full amount.

- (D) If for any reason a team is not ready to commence play 20 minutes after the appointed commencement time for a match, the opposing club may claim the match as a forfeit.

- (E) All clubs must field a Division 1 team in the home and away competition unless otherwise arranged with the Administration Committee. Should a club play in a Division 2 fixture and subsequently forfeit their Division 1 match in the same round, that club will not be awarded any match points for the Division 2 fixture and shall be liable to disqualification or such other penalty as the Administration Committee may determine.

- (F) A team shall forfeit a match if it is unable or fails, refuses or neglects to complete a match already commenced.

- (G) Where a forfeit occurs the result will be determined in accordance with the League requirements.

- (a) The team receiving the forfeit shall submit a team sheet for the purpose of player eligibility for finals

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- (a1) The team that receives the forfeit shall receive four (4) match points where applicable, and be designated the winning team..

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- (a2) The winning team will have their 'points for' increased by the average of the winning points scored for the round and have the average of the losing points scored added to the 'points against'.

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- (a3) The forfeiting team shall receive no match points and be designated the losing team.

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- (a4) The losing team will have the average of the losing points scored for the round added to their 'points for' and have their 'points against' increased by the average of the winning points score of that round.

15.8 Match Wins

In the case of a forfeit win, or where ineligible players have been played, the forfeiting or ineligible team will be awarded the lowest points for and the highest points against scored in the round in their grade/age group. The non-forfeiting or eligible team will be awarded the highest points for and the lowest points against scored in the round in their grade/age group. Ladders will be adjusted accordingly.

15.9 Adverse Weather

- (A) From time to time the League may vary the playing conditions due to adverse weather.

- (B) In the case where there is lightning during a match the umpire has the authority to delay the match where they believe the conditions have become unsafe and the 30/30 rule may be applied.

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15.9A Lightning 30/30 Rule

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Which calls for play to be stopped when the lightning/thunder ratio reaches 30 seconds or less. The ratio is the time between when lightning is seen and thunder is heard is less than 30 seconds. This means that lightning is 10kms away and the next strike has a 'significant risk' of hitting people. Play should not commence until 30 minutes after the last lightning strike or thunder.

15.10 Wet Weather Procedures

- (A) Where wet or adverse weather conditions prevail, clubs are to advise the League as early as possible of the likelihood of ground closures to enable alternative arrangements for the playing of scheduled matches to be considered.
- (B) Where a ground to which a match has been scheduled is unfit for play or has been closed, the League will, in liaison with the clubs concerned, provisionally reschedule the match to be played on the away club's ground if available.
- (C) Where a match is transferred to the opposing club's ground, that club will assume the home team responsibilities. Where practicable, the venue of the next match between the two clubs concerned will be reversed to compensate for the loss of the home ground privilege.
- (D) Where neither ground is available, the League will make every effort to move the fixture to an alternative venue. Clubs whose grounds are vacant and playable will be expected to co-operate with the League by making their ground available to minimise the likelihood of cancellations. In this situation, the home team responsibilities will be assumed by the home team as nominated in the fixture.
- (E) If a match is not played because neither ground nor an alternative venue is available, the League Committee will decide whether or not the match is to be rescheduled to another date or cancelled.
- (F) Should it appear likely that more than one match in a round may not be played, the League Committee may postpone or cancel all matches for that round.
- (G) In the event that any match is cancelled, the match does not contribute to either team's "Match Ratio" as per by-law 15.5 and such match shall not count towards player eligibility for finals. Where two or more of a Club's home and away matches are cancelled due to wet or adverse weather, the League Committee will decide on player eligibility for finals.
- (H) Each club is required to have procedures in place, which will enable them to contact their players, and officials to notify them at short notice of any changes to scheduled matches.
- (H1) When setting an alternative venue, the League shall make every attempt to schedule a venue that is most convenient to the home club. Where the league has advised of an alternate playing venue, the competing clubs are expected to comply with the venue change. Failure to do so will be deemed as a forfeit. Should both clubs fail to comply, both clubs will be deemed to have forfeited the match.

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- (H2) Postponements will only occur where wet weather contingencies have been scheduled into the original planning prior to season commencement, under the following conditions:
 - Postponed matches will be scheduled to the next available wet weather round. If a wet weather round is not available the timing of the match will be determined by the league in consultation with the clubs (determined within one week of postponement).

15.11 Other Matches

No Club shall arrange or play in any match other than the official fixture schedule without the approval of the League Committee.

16. FINALS**16.1 Finals Structure**

The League Committee will use specified guidelines as determined by the League to determine the length of any finals series upon release of the Competition Season Fixture prior to the first home and away match.

AFL South Coast

- (A1) Spirit of the Game Rule – Juniors does not apply during the finals series.

AFL South Coast

- (B1) AFL South Coast reserves the right to review finals arrangements, game day structure and operations at any stage.

16.2 Venue Selection

The League Committee shall determine the venues for finals series matches on an annual basis. Factors that will be taken into consideration when selecting finals venues will include, but not limited to location, condition of the playing surface and facilities, ability to charge admission and any special circumstances which may exist at the time.

AFL South Coast

- (A1) The Association considers that North Dalton Park and Nowra Showground are the premier football venues within the league's geographical limits and the only two venues suitable for holding Grand Finals. As such, the Grand Finals will be allocated to either venue in a given year on a rotational basis, or as determined by the League. Each League reserves the right to review this arrangement at any stage.

AFL South Coast

- (B1) All Clubs will be given the opportunity to host finals on a rotational basis however any of the factors from Rules 9.2.A and 9.2.B may require the Club to host at a venue other than their normal home ground.

16.4 Match Conditions

Except as per 16.3 and 16.5 all other match conditions applicable for the Home and Away season will apply to the finals.

16.5 Drawn Finals

- (A) In the event of a drawn game in any finals match the following will apply:
- (a) Goal Umpires will confirm the scores.
 - (b) Field Umpires will re-commence the game for duration of five minutes (plus time on). The teams will not change ends. (i.e. they will run the same way they did in the final quarter)
 - (c) The siren will sound, the teams will change ends and a further five (5) minutes (plus time on) is played.
 - (d) If the game is still drawn after the second 5 minute (plus time on) period the game will continue until the next score at which time the siren will sound.
 - (e) At no stage before or during extra time are coaches permitted to address players.

AFL South Coast

Drawn Finals for Juniors

AFL South Coast

- (A2) Rules apply as per AFL South Coast Seniors, with the exception of the following:

AFL South Coast

- (a) If the game is still drawn after the second 5 minutes of play, play will continue until the first score. The team to score first will be declared the winner.

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- (b) The coach will be allowed to address their team during a three (3) minute break after the final siren. The coach will not be able to address the team further during extra time

16.6 Emergency Umpires

Emergency umpires, when appointed to officiate, shall have the power to order players from the field as well as the ability to report players.

16.7 Player Eligibility

- (A) The League will determine the eligibility provisions prior to the commencement of the Home & Away season.

- (B) A player is only permitted to play in one finals match for his club on any given weekend unless determined otherwise by the League in rule 16.7.
- (C) Any player who has played in a total of 50% or more of home and away matches of a higher grade or grades shall not be eligible to play final matches in a lower grade unless the higher and lower grades are played on the same day (as defined by the League).
- (D) On application by a player's club, the League Committee may vary the number of qualifying games required where Services personnel are posted a significant distance away during the home and away matches; or where a player misses a significant number of matches due to serious injury; or under other exceptional circumstances. Dispensation applications must be made to AFLSC Football Operations at least thirteen (13) days before the finals begin.

AFL South Coast

- (D1) To play in finals, Players' must be registered in the league and registrations must have been approved and eligibility validated on Footyweb.

AFL South Coast

- (D2) Players who are on a Local Interchange Permit to South Coast Thunder are only required to play 3 games in a season with their AFL South Coast club to be eligible for finals. In Senior competitions, the games can be played in any division. In Junior competitions, the games must be played in the players registered age group.

AFL South Coast

16.7A Player Eligibility - Division 1

AFL South Coast

To be eligible to play finals, a player must have played a minimum of five (5) club Home and Away games in any grade over the course of the season.

AFL South Coast

16.7B Player Eligibility - Division 2

AFL South Coast

- (A) A player must play a minimum of four (4) Club home & away games in any AFLSC Senior League grade to be eligible in Reserve Finals.

AFL South Coast

- (B) Any player who has played in a total of 50% or more of home and away matches of a higher grade or grades shall not be eligible to play final matches in a lower grade unless the higher and lower grades are played on the same day (as defined by the League).

AFL South Coast

16.7D Player Eligibility - Juniors

AFL South Coast

- (A) A player must have played a minimum of four (4) games during that season within the respective age group for which they wish to play.

AFL South Coast

- (B) With respect to all competitions, any Player who plays more games in an older age group or higher division is ineligible for finals in the younger age group or lower division. If a player participates in all games in both age groups or division, and where the older age group or higher division has more games due to byes in the lower age group or division, this Rule does not apply.

AFL South Coast

- (C) A Player who plays up in two (2) teams in the same age group can only play in one team for the finals i.e. the one most games were played for, or if equal, the one that 50% was first reached.

AFL South Coast

16.7E Club Eligibility

AFL South Coast

- (A) If any club is financially in arrears to the League at a period of seven (7) days to the first scheduled match of the finals series, teams of that club shall be ineligible to compete in finals series matches. In the event that this occurs, teams placed next on the respective competition table shall fill the place of the ineligible team.

AFL South Coast

- (B) For the purpose of this by-law, clubs which are under a financial arrangement with the League and are up to date with the payments of that arrangement shall be considered financial.

16.8 Provision of Officials

During finals series matches, non-competing clubs may be required (as determined by the League Committee) to provide personnel to assist with ground management tasks such as gatekeepers, timekeepers, interchange steward and scoreboard attendants etc.

16.9 Catering Rights

Catering rights for finals matches will be determined by the League

AFL South Coast (B1) The host Club will be responsible for all expenses incurred in relation to the game day management of any finals matches or as determined to by the League.

AFL South Coast 16.9A Catering Rights for Senior Divisions

AFL South Coast (A) The hosting club shall be responsible for obtaining a liquor licence where necessary and no other club shall be permitted to take alcohol into the ground.

AFL South Coast (B) The hosting club will be responsible for provision of new footballs for each final.

AFL South Coast 16.9B Awards

AFL South Coast Presentations to be made on Grand Final day are determined by the League Committee and agreed to by the Board.

17. TEAMS

AFL South Coast Team Nominations

AFL South Coast (A) Senior Clubs are required to provide confirmation of team's being fielded in each division to Football Operations by 14th February.

AFL South Coast (B) Junior Clubs are required to provide confirmation of team's being fielded in each age group to Football Operations by 28th February.

17.1 Number of players – Senior Competitions

The number of on field and interchange players for each competition shall be:

AFL South Coast	Division	Minimum	Maximum	Interchange
AFL South Coast	Division 1	18 players	18 player	4-6 players
AFL South Coast	Division 2	14 Players	18 players	4-8 players

AFL South Coast 17.1A Division 1 Exception

AFL South Coast Games involving a single team Club playing in Division 1 the maximum number of players listed on the team sheet may be twenty four (24).

AFL South Coast 17.1B Division 2

AFL South Coast If the available number of players for both teams is 22 players, the number of on field players will be 18. If the available number of players for either team is less than 22, both teams in a given match must have the same number of on-field players, which shall be determined by the coaches in the presence of the umpire prior to the game. If the coaches cannot agree or no discussion occurs on a specified number then sixteen (16) shall be the designated number.

AFL South Coast 17.1C Mutual Agreement

AFL South Coast Teams can list 24 players on the team sheet (18 on the field - 6 on the bench) by mutual agreement between coaches 30 minutes prior to match. Umpires must be informed and all players recorded on the team sheet. In Finals only 22 players can be selected.

17.2 Number of players – Junior Competitions

At all times other than for send offs the numbers of Players on the ground must be equal for each team

(A) Subject to by law 17.3A the number of on field and interchange players for each competition shall be as below or as determined by the Administration Committee.

(a) Maximum number of players that can be listed on the team sheet for any single game is twenty four (24). The team management must ensure that all players are receiving equal game time, all players should play 3 quarters.

AFL South Coast (a1) For Under 12s unless both teams have 18 or more players or an uneven number of players there is to be no interchange bench. As designated in Rule 10.4.B all players must be on the field.

- (b) If both teams have eighteen (18) players or less listed on the team sheet / list the number of 'on field' players at the start of the match shall be sixteen (16) players on the field, unless both teams agree to start with seventeen (17) or eighteen (18) 'on field' players.
- (c) If both teams have more than eighteen (18) players listed on the team sheet the number of 'on field' players at the start of the match shall be the maximum number as determined in Rule 17.3(A). *Please note that this is a different rule to Rule 17.3A*

17.3 Minimum Number of Players (ex Juniors)

The minimum number of on field players required for a team to commence a competition match shall be fourteen (14).

AFL South Coast

17.3A Minimum Number of Players - Juniors

AFL South Coast

- (A) The following table shows the on field Minimum, Match # and Maximum by age group Age Group

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Grade	Minimum	Match	Maximum
Under 9s	6 players	12 players	15 players
Under 10s	6 players	12 players	15 players
Under 11s	9 players	12 players	18 players
Under 12s	9 players	12 players	18 players
Under 13s	9 players	12 players	18 Players
Under 14.5s	9 players	12 players	18 players
Under 15s	9 players	12 players	18 players
Under 17s	9 players	12 players	18 plays
Youth Girls	6 players	9 players	12 players

- (B) To encourage maximum participation and teams to stand alone in terms of Player numbers, the term Match # specifies the ideal number of on-field Players per team. Even Up Rule:

- (a) During the home and away season where a team has the number of Players shown as Match # (but the other team has more), then borrowing Players from the opposition team is encouraged, but not compulsory to balance overall numbers.

- (b) Where one team has less Players than the number shown as Match # (and the other team has more players), then it is compulsory to borrow/loan available Players to balance on-field Player numbers as far as possible.

- (C) If during the course of a game, a Player injured has to leave the ground but there are no replacements in that team, the Field Umpire and opposition coach are to be advised accordingly. The other side is to remove a Player to keep the numbers on the ground even (except for send offs). For a Player returning to the field the same process in reverse applies.

17.4 Minimum Age of Players

- (A) The minimum age for players to participate in competitions is as follows:

- (a) Senior Grade Competitions - fifteen (15) years of age

AFL South Coast

- (A1) Any player 17 years of age or under playing in a Senior competition must provide an AFLSC Parental Consent Form.

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- (A2) If a player wishes to play in a competition more than 2 years above the Player's current age as recognised by their year of birth, parents are to complete AFLSC Parental Consent Form. These forms must be available for sighting at the ground on game day if requested.

- (B) The League Committee will consider any exemption to the minimum age upon receipt of an application from the player's club endorsed with the consent from the player's parents/guardians.

AFL South Coast

17.4A Multiple teams

AFL South Coast

- (A) Should a Club field more than one (1) team in the same competition or division, after the initial 3 rounds no Player shall be permitted to play for more than one team (excluding younger players who play up), in the same competition or division, during the season.

- (B) Splitting of Players in to multiple teams of the same age group must be finalised after the initial 3 rounds and cannot occur during the season. Division of Players into two (2) teams is a Club responsibility, but both teams should be of similar makeup in ability and have a 50/50 split of ages.

17.5 Team Sheet / List

- (A) For each match, three (3) copies of an official team list containing player's names and jumper numbers and the names of team officials is to be prepared by each competing team. One copy is to be handed to the Field Umpires prior to the commencement of the game as designated by the league. The second copy is to be given to the timekeeper, to be clearly marked with the quarter-by-quarter scores and goal-scorers at the conclusion of the game and returned to the League Office with the match paperwork. The third copy is to be exchanged with the opposition club.
- (B) Team Lists are to be completed in alphabetical order.
- (C) Alterations or additions may be made to the original Team List up until the end of the half time interval by arrangement with the Field Umpires. Players arriving late may take the field prior to being listed on the Team List provided that the opposition Team Manager is advised. Such players must be included on the Team List before the second half commences.
- (D) Players included on the Team List but not in attendance must be removed from the Team List before the second half commences. No amendments may be made to any team after the half time interval.
- (E) Goals not listed on the Team List at the time it is received at the League shall not be credited to a player's tally if subsequently disclosed.
- (F) Clubs providing incorrect Team Lists may be liable to lose the match concerned.

17.6 Signature Checks

In the event that there is a question on the authenticity of a player listed on a team sheet / list on match day, at the request of either Team Captain, the Field Umpire shall at the earliest opportunity (before the match, quarter interval or after the match) request a player to provide his full name and address and his signature. Should any player fail to comply with this request, he shall on a report to the League be dealt with as that Body deems fit. It shall be the responsibility of the Ground Manager to arrange for the safe delivery of these particulars to the League. Should any discrepancies be found, the matter will be dealt with at the discretion of the Administration Committee in accordance with these by-laws.

18. MATCH DAY REQUIREMENTS

The club named first on the official fixture draw shall be the home club. Home clubs are responsible for ensuring that the following provisions for matches are made.

18.1 Ground Marking

- (A) The following lines must be clearly marked.
 - (a) Goal-squares, boundary lines, centre square
 - (b) Arc at each end of the ground, 3 metre centre circle (with intersecting line), 10 metre centre circle (with intersecting line)
 - (c) The interchange area, comprising two short lines across the boundary line 15 metres apart, should be marked on one wing and adequate seating provided equidistant on either side not less than 50 metres apart for the interchange players and team officials of each club.
- (B) The boundary line must be marked at least three (3) metres inside the fence line. Where there is no fence line coaches box should be marked 2 metres from boundary and a spectators line 3 metres or more from the boundary line.
- (C) A coach's line should be marked comprising 5 metres in length and 1 metre in from the fence/ fence line. It should be marked in front of the coach's box/ area. No official or bench player is allowed to stand in front of this line during play.

AFL South Coast (D1) For Juniors cones may be used to mark smaller grounds or where permanent marking is unavailable or inappropriate. Dimensions should be adjusted to scale.

AFL South Coast 18.1A Ground Sizes – Juniors

AFL South Coast (A) Where ground space allows the following field sizes will be used:

AFL South Coast	Age Group	Maximum Length	Maximum Width
AFL South Coast	Under 9s	90 metres	80 metres
AFL South Coast	Under 10s	100 metres	80 metres
AFL South Coast	Under 11s	110 metres	80 metres
AFL South Coast	Under 12s	120 metres	80 metres
AFL South Coast	Under 13s	Full length	Full width
AFL South Coast	Under 14.5s	Full length	Full width
AFL South Coast	Under 15s	Full length	Full width
AFL South Coast	Under 17s	Full length	Full width
AFL South Coast	Youth Girls	100 metres	65 metres

AFL South Coast (B) On consultation between Ground Manager Umpires and competing Clubs field sizes can be reduced to accommodate conditions.

18.2 Goal Post Pads

Padding must be provided on all goal and behind posts to a height of at least 2.5 metres from the ground.

18.3 Scoreboard

A suitable scoreboard with numbers and team names clearly visible to players and spectators must be in operation for all matches.

18.4 Change rooms

Separate and adequate changing facilities and showers must be provided for each club and the umpires and these rooms must be presented in a clean and tidy condition at the commencement of each match.

18.5 Timekeeping Facilities

A table and seating with an unobstructed view of the playing area must be provided for club timekeepers together with a suitable time clock and a sounding device which can be clearly heard at any position on the ground.

18.6 Footballs

Two footballs of a suitable standard must be provided by the Home Club for use in each match. Footballs must be red for day games and yellow for night games.

AFL South Coast (B) Standards and requirements for all grades of competition will be:

AFL South Coast	Age Group	Type of Ball	Size of Ball	Standard
AFL South Coast	Under 9s/10s	Leather/Synthetic	Size 2	Match suitable
AFL South Coast	Under 11s	Leather	Size 3	Match suitable
AFL South Coast	Under 12s	Leather	Size 3	Match suitable
AFL South Coast	Under 13s	Leather	Size 4	Match suitable
AFL South Coast	Under 14.5s	Leather	Size 4	Match suitable
AFL South Coast	Under 15s	Leather	Size 5	Match suitable
AFL South Coast	Under 17s	Leather	Size 5	Match suitable
AFL South Coast	Under 18s	Leather	Full size	Match Suitable
AFL South Coast	Division 2	Leather	Full size	Match suitable

AFL South Coast

Division 1

Leather

Full size

New Sherrin

AFL South Coast

18.6A Footballs - Juniors

AFL South Coast

- (A) Synthetic footballs may be used in the event of wet conditions as determined by the Ground Manager.

AFL South Coast

- (B) Yellow footballs may be used in the event of special circumstances (colour blind) as determined by the Ground Manager.

18.7 Emergency Medical Arrangements

- (A) The League has adopted the AFL Sports Trainers in Community Australian Football Policy (Sports Trainers Policy). All Clubs are required to comply with the Sports Trainers Policy.

- (B) Training courses will be available to Clubs that do not have the appropriate access to the necessary resources as required under the Sports Trainers Policy.

- (C) The host club is responsible for ensuring compliance to the minimum requirements of the Sports Trainers Policy for all games for which it is the host club.

- (D) There must be at least one person with the minimum competencies outlined in the policy at any match. These qualifications are:

- (a) Junior - First Aid Certificate
- (b) Youth (and above) Emergency Response Coordinator Certificate

- (E) The visiting club should confirm with the Ground Manager prior to the commencement of each game that the host club is able to comply with the requirements of this Rule. In the event that the host club is unable to comply with these requirements, then, if the visiting club agrees, the game will be postponed or rescheduled.

- (F) Any decision to replay a postponed match must be agreed to by both Clubs and the League Committee within seven days of the scheduled match. In the event that neither Club has the appropriate requirements at the scheduled commencement of the game a delayed start of 20 minutes may be applied. If there are additional fixtures following the match it should be shortened appropriately to not delay the commencement of games following.

- (G) The game may proceed if the visiting club is able to provide the appropriate resources under the Sports Trainers Policy.

- (H) If the visiting club does not agree to postponement or cancellation of the game, then the visiting club may claim a forfeit. The Rules in relation to forfeits will apply. If a game is started or played without the attendance of a First Aid Official (as defined), the host club will forfeit the match and may be subject to a maximum fine of \$200.

- (I) The Sports Trainers Policy refers to first aid usually being provided by sports trainers or by other volunteers with medical or higher level allied health qualifications. If a Club has a person present in any of the following occupations they are deemed as acceptable under the Policy.

- (a) Nurse
- (b) Physiotherapist
- (c) A certified Sports Trainer
- (d) St John Officer Paramedic
- (e) Doctor

- (J) A stretcher in good condition must be located in a quickly accessible location for the duration of the days play. The home club is also to ensure that it can promptly facilitate ambulance access to the field of play if necessary.

AFL South Coast

- (J1) The Emergency Response Coordinator must wear a BLUE vest/bib with 'ERC' in white writing clearly visible (Senior competition); and a RED vest (Junior Competition) with 'First Aid' in white writing clearly visible.

18.8 Concussion

- (A) Primary responsibility for the management of concussion lies with the Club of the Player, and their officials.
- (B) The guidelines in this rule on concussion are based on a position statement on the management of concussion in Australian Football by the AFL Medical Officer's Association.
- (C) The guidelines should be adhered to at all times. Decisions regarding return to play after concussive injuries should only be made by a medical doctor with experience in concussive injuries.
- (D) Any Player who has suffered a concussion or is suspected of having a concussion must be medically assessed as soon as possible after the injury and must not be allowed to return to play in the same game or train in the same practice session.
- (E) A concussed Player must not be allowed to return to training or playing before having a formal medical clearance provided to the Club.

AFL South Coast

18.8A Injury Treatment - Juniors

AFL South Coast

- (A) In the event that a First Aid Official is required on to the playing field, the Field Umpire shall stop play at the first opportunity after being so advised and invite the First Aid Official on to the field.
- (B) If first aid is needed and the advice is that the Player should not continue playing, the Coach shall abide by the decision of the qualified First Aid Official.

AFL South Coast

AFL South Coast

18.8B Alcohol Service

AFL South Coast

- (A) Any club wishing to sell alcohol at their grounds must hold and demonstrate a liquor license to the AFL SC Football Operations one month prior to the first home and away match.
 - (a) If any club wishes not to sell alcohol then no such license must be demonstrated.
 - (b) Any club found to be selling alcohol without a liquor license will be subject to a code of conduct breach notice, and may face financial penalties from the league.
 - (c) A repeated infringement may face forfeiture of home games, as well as a report to the police.
- (B) At a ground where an Under 18s game is being played prior to Reserve Grade or First Grade football, NO alcohol will be permitted to be served from any club canteen or club house until half time in the following game.

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18.8C Match Day Paperwork

AFL South Coast

Match day documents are to be managed as follows:

- (A) Team Sheets Retained by Clubs
 - (a) Clubs must use footy web – only record relied upon
 - (b) 3 copies produced:
 - (i) 1 handed to opposition Team Manager
 - (ii) 1 retained by Club Team Manager
 - (iii) 1 provided to Ground Manager & retained by Host Club
 - (c) Each Club to verify each other's list and each to sign off each Clubs copies.
 - (d) Team Manager's to update goal scorers on Ground Manager's copy of the Team Sheet at the conclusion of the match
 - (e) Umpires sign the Ground Manager copy after completing end of match duties.
 - (f) Host Clubs must retain for season and be able to present if required within 7 days.
- (B) Goal Umpire Score Cards Retained by Clubs
 - (a) Home club to put results on FootyWeb by 7:00pm (or 10:00pm for night games) after completion of the match. A \$100 fine to apply for failure to do so.
 - (b) Scores must be entered cumulatively quarter by quarter.
 - (c) Clubs must advise AFL SC Football Operations of games not played by midday Monday

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- AFL South Coast (C) Match Report Completed by Umpires
 AFL South Coast (c) Umpires to record match day presentation and issues / incidents via online facility
- AFL South Coast (D) Submission of Umpires Votes
 AFL South Coast (a) Umpires must submit 'Best and Fairest' votes via online facility (for competition age groups/divisions only).
- AFL South Coast (E) Umpire Review Completed by Coaches / Clubs
 AFL South Coast (a) Submission to Umpires Coordinator via online facility
- AFL South Coast (F) Umpire Notice of Report
 AFL South Coast (a) Umpires to submit 'Notice of Report' via online facility by 10:00am on the working day following the match in question.
- AFL South Coast (G) In the event of a forfeit
 AFL South Coast (a) Umpire Votes should be taken for Junior games
 AFL South Coast (b) No goal umpires cards to be kept
 AFL South Coast (c) Record result on Footy web noted as a forfeit
- AFL South Coast (H) Failure to meet with the requirements in Rule 18.8C may make the HOST Club liable to a fine (Rule 19.4).

18.8D Team Sheets

- AFL South Coast (A) All teams must use the official team sheet as produced from Footyweb. Separate instructions and training is provided on Team Sheet creation via Footyweb.
- AFL South Coast (B) For each match, three (3) copies of an official team list containing player's names and jumper numbers and the names of team officials is to be prepared by each competing team. One copy is to be handed to the timekeeper/ground manager, prior to the commencement of the game. This copy is to be updated with the goal-scorers, by the team manager at the conclusion of the game and held by the host club for the duration of the season. The second copy is to be kept by the team as a record of scores and goal kickers. The third copy is to be given to the opposition team manager as a record of participation and in the event of discrepancies. The ground manager's copy is to be sighted and signed by the umpires at full time as an accurate record of the competing team on the day.
- AFL South Coast (C) Team Sheets are to be completed in alphabetical order.
- AFL South Coast (D) All Players and interchange Players must be listed with the CORRECT jumper number. The Team Sheet must be signed by the Team Manager or Coach. If a Player plays in a higher age group, then the age group, in which the Player is registered, must be listed. (For example: SMITH, John Under 14s on Under 15s Team Sheet).
- AFL South Coast (E) Alterations or additions may be made to the original Team Sheets up until the end of the half time interval. Players arriving late may take the field prior to being listed on the Team Sheets provided that the opposition Team Manager is advised. Such players must be included on the Team Sheet before the second half commences. Players included on the Team Sheet but not in attendance must be removed from the Team Sheet before the second half commences. No amendments may be made to any team after the half time interval.
- AFL South Coast (F) Goals not listed on the Team Sheets at the time the League locks the game, shall not be credited to a player's tally if subsequently disclosed.
- AFL South Coast (G) Clubs providing incorrect Team Sheets may be liable to lose the match concerned.
- AFL South Coast (H) Any person wishing to query the validity of information contained on a team sheet must do so within 7 days of the match being played.
- AFL South Coast (I) Any club requesting the AFL SC Football Operations to make an adjustment to a team sheet must do so within 14 days of the match concerned being played and must provide a copy of the team sheet concerned. Failure to complete in the required time frame may result in the Club being fined and/or for Senior Clubs players being ineligible for finals.

AFL South Coast 18.8E Player Identification

- AFL South Coast** (A) In the event that there is a question on the authenticity of a player listed on a team sheet / list on match day, at the request of either Team Captain, the Field Umpire shall at the earliest opportunity (before the match, quarter interval or after the match) request a player to provide proof of identity. Should any player fail to comply with this request, he shall on a report to the League be dealt with as that Body deems fit. It shall be the responsibility of the Ground Manager to arrange for the safe delivery of these particulars to the League. Should any discrepancies be found, the matter will be dealt with at the discretion of the League Committee in accordance with these by-laws.
- AFL South Coast** (B) If the identification is unable to be satisfactorily established by evidence on the day the following procedure should be followed:
- AFL South Coast** (a) The Player in question shall sign the reverse side of the opposition's copy of the Club's Team Sheet. This should be forward to AFL SC Football Operations requesting proof of identity or age.
- AFL South Coast** (b) The Player's Club must produce satisfactory evidence to AFL SC Football Operations within three (3) working days of the match, otherwise all match wins gained in that grade in which the Player took part shall be forfeited to the opposing side.
- AFL South Coast** (c) The Umpire should include details of query on the match report.

18.9 Match-Day Safety Check

- (A) A representative of all competing clubs is required to conduct a match day health and safety check prior to the commencement of the first game and at any other time during the day if conditions change. The representatives must complete the checklist online via the JLT app.

19. CLUB OFFICIALS AND DUTIES**AFL South Coast Officials Registration**

- AFL South Coast** (A) All Club Executive Members must be registered on Footyweb and entered in Club Contacts
- AFL South Coast** (B) All Club Game Officials must be registered on Footyweb

AFL South Coast Officials Requirements

- AFL South Coast** (A) Only Umpires, Runners, Water Carriers and Designated First Aid/ERC Personnel are allowed to enter the field of play and only to attend to allocated duties. Other officials may be authorised by the umpire to enter the field of play to assist serious injury once play has been stopped.
- AFL South Coast** (B) Clubs must appoint the following officials (or designate the following tasks to a nominated person(s) who will be responsible for the match day requirements and match paperwork for the day).
- AFL South Coast** **Compulsory:**
- AFL South Coast** Ground Manager - Home & Away
- AFL South Coast** Game Day Manager
- AFL South Coast** First Aid/ERC Officer
- AFL South Coast** **Optional:**
- AFL South Coast** Time Keeper -Duties can be adopted by Game Day Manager if required
- AFL South Coast** Umpire Escort -Duties can be adopted by Ground Manager if required

19.1 Ground Manager

- (A) The home club must appoint a Ground Manager (or designate the following tasks to a nominated person (s) who will be responsible for the match day requirements and match paperwork for the day). The Ground Manager should introduce him/herself to the umpires and officials of the visiting club on arrival and acquaint them with the ground facilities as well as provide details of the closest emergency medical facilities. Should the Ground Manager be replaced during the day, the newly appointed person should inform both the umpires and visiting club of the change.

- (B) Prior to the commencement of play, the Ground Manager must identify compliance of the home club with the Sports Trainers Policy as described in Rule 18.7.
- (C) Prior to the commencement of play, the Ground Manager should distribute the following paperwork, which has been provided by the League. For each match:
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| DISTRIBUTE: | TO: |
| Scorecards | Club Goal Umpires |
- (D) At the completion of each match, the ground manager should collect the following:
- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| COLLECT: | FROM: |
| Goal Umpire Scorecards | Umpires |
| Completed Team Lists (Note 2) | Timekeepers |
- Note 1:**
- The Ground Manager should ensure that each club has entered the quarter-by-quarter scores; best players and the goals scored by players on their team lists.
- The tally of goals entered for players must equal the number of goals scored by the respective teams.
- (E) The Ground Manager also has the additional responsibility of overseeing the League's Code of Conduct at a venue as specified in Attachment 'A' of these by-laws.
- (F) At the end of the day the Ground Manager should collate all paperwork and arrange to have it returned in the prescribed manner, to reach the League by no later than the designated time.
- (G) Finally, it shall be the Ground Manager's responsibility to ensure that a representative of the home club:
- (b) Inputs all results and player information (i.e. team lists, goal kickers & best players) of all the days matches into the Footyweb on-line results system by the League designated time on the day of the match.

AFL South Coast 19.1A Ground Manager Duties List

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- AFL South Coast
- (A) Ground Manager's match day responsibilities include but are not limited to:
- Overseeing adherence to the League's Code of Conduct at the venue as specified in Attachment 'A' of these by-laws. (H&A)
 - Ensure all equipment (including a stretcher) for conducting the game is available before the game.
 - Complete ground inspections to ensure suitability for play and safety of participants. (H&A)
 - To ensure the ground is set-up through the movement and placement of goal posts and padding and the interchange area.
 - Ensure Sports Trainer Policy adhered to by Host Club. (H&A)
 - Arrange an umpire escort – if no-one available the umpire escort's duties remain the Ground Managers.
 - Wear a blue vest (Seniors) or a yellow vest (Juniors) with the title 'Ground Manager' printed on the back so as to be easily identified. (H&A)
 - Assist Junior umpires with managing incidents, including injury assistance, mercy rule, dangerous weather or other circumstances. (H&A)

AFL South Coast 19.1B Game Day Manager

AFL South Coast

The home club must appoint a Game Day Manager (or designate the following tasks to a nominated person (s) who will be responsible for the match paperwork for the day). The Game Day Manager should be at a clearly defined management desk and be available to all Officials during the course of game day.

AFL South Coast 19.1C Game Day Manager Duties List

- AFL South Coast** (A) Game Day Manager's match day responsibilities include but are not limited to:
- AFL South Coast** (a) Ensure a copy of the current AFLSC By laws and a copy of the current AFL Laws are available for all games.
- AFL South Coast** (b) Have available a spare set of Yellow & Red cards
- AFL South Coast** (c) Arrange a timekeeper – if no-one available the timekeeper's duties remain the Game Day Manager's.
- AFL South Coast** (d) Collect and manage all required paper work as set out in Rule 18.8C
- AFL South Coast** (i) Ensure that each club has entered the quarter-by-quarter scores; best players and the goals scored by players on their team lists.
- AFL South Coast** (ii) Ensure the tally of goals entered for players equals the number of goals (except where Mercy Rule is applied) scored by the respective teams.
- AFL South Coast** (e) Check the availability of Goal Umpires, Boundary Umpires.
- AFL South Coast** (g) Arrange payment to Field Umpires as required for Juniors.
- AFL South Coast** (h) In the event of a postponed game, inform the League Committee in writing of the specific reasons for abandonment of any games.
- AFL South Coast** (j) Receive any formally submitted objections, protests or complaints from Officials of Clubs.
- AFL South Coast** (l) Ensure Umpires review both team sheets for inclusion of all jumper #'s and then sign the sheets.
- AFL South Coast** (m) Assist with the completion of Umpire paperwork and ensure the information is correct for Junior (or new) Umpires.

19.2 Team Managers

- (A) Each club shall appoint a Manager for each team it fields in the competition. It shall be the Team Manager's responsibility to ensure that his or her teams' players and officials comply with the requirements specified in these by-laws and with any request reasonably made by the umpires officiating in a match in which their team is participating.
- (B) Each Team Manager shall introduce themselves to the Umpires prior to a match for identification and to ensure that the team sheets are handed in on time (no later than 30 minutes or as designated by the League prior to the scheduled start time). The Team Managers should also arrange for the team sheets to be exchanged with the opposition club at this time.
- (C) Each Team Manager is to ensure that at the conclusion of the match, the goalkickers and best players for their respective teams are noted on the official team sheet, which is held by the timekeeper.
- (D) It shall be the Team Manager's responsibility to ensure that a representative of the club waits on the umpires at the conclusion of each match to ascertain whether or not any reports of players or officials have arisen from the match or to receive the "all clear".
- AFL South Coast** (E) In Junior competitions wear a MAROON vest/bib with the writing 'Team Manager' clearly visible.

AFL South Coast 19.2A Team Manager Duties List

- AFL South Coast** (A) Team Manager's match day responsibilities include but are not limited to:
- AFL South Coast** (a) Providing a Goal Umpire (flags and scorecard) for Juniors
- AFL South Coast** (b) Providing one football in suitable match condition for Juniors
- AFL South Coast** (c) Manage Matchday Paper work as per Rule 18.8C
- AFL South Coast** (d) Complete Team sheets as per Rule 18.8D
- AFL South Coast** (e) Provide official runner and water carrier shirts as specified in Rule 19.4.C
- AFL South Coast** (f) Obtain the all clear from the timekeepers for players who've been sent off to resume playing.

AFL South Coast

- (g) Ensure that a representative of the club waits on the umpires at the conclusion of each match to ascertain whether or not any reports of players or officials have arisen from the match or to receive the "all clear".

19.3 Team Runner

- (A) The sole duty of the official Team Runner or Runners is to deliver messages to players of his club and then leave the field immediately having done so.
- (B) The Team Runner must be clearly identifiable as determined by the League.
- (C) Suspended players or officials are not permitted to act as the official Team Runner.
- (D) Each team is permitted to use a maximum of two (2) Runners. Only one runner per team shall be allowed on the field of play at any one time. Runners are not required to enter the field via the interchange area.

AFL South Coast

19.3A Support Personnel

AFL South Coast

Where there are insufficient volunteers to provide both runners and water carriers, the umpire's must be notified prior to the commencement of the game that the same person will be acting in both capacities.

19.4 Support Personnel Uniforms & Support Personnel Restrictions

- (A) Clubs are permitted to utilise a maximum of six (6) trainers, other medical support staff and water carriers per team.
- (B) These personnel are only permitted onto the field during play to attend to injured players or to provide players with water. They must not be used to deliver messages to players.
- (C) Trainers, other medical support staff and water carriers for each team must be dressed as approved by the League.
 - (a) Team Runners must wear PINK fluorescent vests marked Runner.
 - (b) Water Carriers must wear YELLOW fluorescent vests (Senior competitions) or LIGHT BLUE vests (Junior competitions) marked Water or Trainer.
- (C2) All support personnel entering the field must wear joggers or football boots.
- (D) Umpires will ask any Trainer/Medical/Water carrier to leave the ground if they do not have a compliant uniform and they should not return unless they have changed into the compliant uniform.
- (E) Support Personnel shall not be younger than 15 years of age for Senior competitions; and 12 years of age for Junior competitions.

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19.5 Umpires Escort

- (A) For each match, the home club must appoint a suitable person to ensure the safety of umpires (ideally the Ground Manager or appointee). The Umpires Escort is to escort the umpires (including club umpires) to and from the Grounds as designated by the League:
- (B) In addition, the Umpires Escort is to stand with the umpires during the quarter and three-quarter time intervals and arrange for water to be provided to the umpires, if required.
- (C) The Umpires Escort is expected to be identifiable in a blue vest, however it does not have to have Ground Manager on the back.
- (D) Any Umpire Escort provided is expected to assist in providing and/or obtaining details of any alleged breach of the Code of Conduct immediately after completing his/her duties in liaison with/at the request of the Umpires or Ground Manager as per the guidelines in 24.2 of these By-Laws.

AFL South Coast

19.5A Umpires' Escorts Duties List

AFL South Coast

AFL South Coast

- (A) Umpires' Escort's match day responsibilities include but are not limited to:
 - (a) Providing water for the Field Umpires at each break.

- AFL South Coast (b) Where possible, provide the Field Umpires with reasonable refreshments after their game(s).
- AFL South Coast (c) Accompany the Umpires on and off the ground and to and from the Umpire's rooms at breaks.
- AFL South Coast (d) Remain on field with the umpires during breaks.
- AFL South Coast (e) Assist in providing and/or obtaining details of any alleged breach of the Code of Conduct immediately after completing his/her duties in liaison with/at the request of the Umpires or Ground Manager as per the guidelines in Attachment A of these By-Laws.

19.6 Timekeepers

- (A) Each club is to appoint a Timekeeper where possible. Home clubs must provide a Timekeeper whilst away clubs are encouraged to supply one. The Timekeepers are to perform the duties as set out in the AFL Laws of the Game, these By Laws and as otherwise specified by the Administration Committee from time to time.
- (B) In the event of a dispute or disagreement between the two timekeepers, such dispute shall be reported to 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(s) shall report the matter to the Administration Committee for attention.
- (C) In addition to performing timekeeping duties, timekeepers will be required to record the scores of each game in which they officiate. The quarter by quarter scores are also to be recorded on each club's team sheet.
- (D) Timekeepers are also required to record the time that players, who are ordered off by the field umpires, leave the field and shall be the sole judges as to when such players may resume playing (if applicable). It is the club of the offending players responsibility to obtain the all clear from the timekeepers for such players to resume playing. The timekeepers are to acknowledge the umpires decision to send off a player by showing the appropriate red or yellow card to the controlling umpire.
- (E) The field umpire(s) shall have the power to dispense with the services of either or both timekeepers during a match.

AFL South Coast 19.6A Timekeepers Duties List

- AFL South Coast (A) Timekeeper's match day responsibilities include but are not limited to:
 - AFL South Coast (a) Manage the notification of timekeeping to the umpires.
 - AFL South Coast (b) Record the time that players, who are ordered off by the field umpires, leave the field and shall be the sole judge as to when such players may resume playing (if applicable).
 - AFL South Coast (c) Acknowledge the umpires decision to send off a player by showing the appropriate red or yellow card to the controlling umpire.

19.7 Officials on the Bench

In addition to the maximum number of trainers, other medical staff and water carriers, interchange players and team runner/s there will be a maximum of 4 other officials allowed on the bench area inside the ground during play.

19.8 Club Umpires

- (A) From time to time each club is required to provide suitable persons for the League Club Umpire Program. Such persons will be provided minimum level accreditation and support. Clubs will be advised of the Club Umpire commitment for the season prior to the start of the season as designated.
- AFL South Coast (A1) All Club umpires (field, goal and boundary) are required to be registered with the League. And complete appropriate paperwork to enable direct deposit payments.
- (B) Where the League has not appointed official field umpires or accredited club umpires, it shall be each club's responsibility to arrange for a suitable person or persons to umpire the match. Club field umpires are to be attired as approved by the league.

- (C) Club Field Umpires are required to complete all the necessary Match Paperwork (i.e. Umpires Match Report (which they are to sign) and Best & Fairest Votes.
- (D) Each competing club is responsible for the payment of their own club umpires, or in the case of one club providing both club umpire, the payment of one of the club umpires.
- (E) Where official goal and boundary umpires have not been appointed by the League, each competing club must be prepared to provide a suitable goal and boundary umpire to officiate. Club goal umpires must be equipped with two white flags and attired in a uniform as approved by the League and club boundary umpires must be attired as approved and equipped with a suitable whistle.
- (F) Official field umpires shall have the power to overrule decisions by club goal and/or boundary umpires and remove them should they consider that such club umpires are not competent to carry out the required duties.
- (G) Payment of club goal and boundary umpires (if any) shall be the responsibility of the providing clubs or as determined by the Administration Committee. Club goal and boundary umpire's names must not be added to the umpire's attendance sheet.

20. UNIFORMS AND LOGO REGULATIONS

20.1 Uniform Design

- (A) New clubs shall be required to submit complete details of the proposed colour and design of its uniform to the Board for approval. Once approved, such club shall have exclusive rights to its uniform design.
- (B) Existing clubs must submit details of any proposed variation of their uniform design for approval by the Board before use.

20.2 Jumper Numbers

Players of each team must play in their club uniform as registered with the League and wear numbers on the back of their jumpers corresponding to the numbers shown on the Team List. All numbers must be whole numbers between 1 and 99 inclusive. No two players or more from the same team are permitted to wear the same number.

AFL South Coast

20.2A Shorts

AFL South Coast

- (A) Lycra, bike shorts or skins may be worn under club shorts provided that they are either a neutral colour or the same colour as the club shorts.

20.3 Sponsor's Logos/Approved Suppliers

- (A) AFL NSW/ACT official suppliers are elected as the only supplier licensed to use the AFL NSW/ACT Logo.
- (B) Jumpers worn by Clubs must have the AFL NSW/ACT logo on the right breast. Club jumpers and shorts with the AFL NSW/ACT logo may only be obtained from the AFL NSW/ACT official suppliers.
- (C) Sponsor's logo as approved by the League may be worn either on the front or back of players' jumpers as follows:
 - (a) Front – The logo must be positioned on the left breast, directly opposite the AFL NSW/ACT logo. It is not to exceed 8 cm x 8cm in size.
 - (b) Back – The logo must be positioned and centred underneath the player number. It is not to exceed 12cm high and 24cm wide.
- (D) Sponsor's logo as approved by the League may be worn on shorts as follows:
 - (a) The logo must not exceed 39 square cm with a maximum width of 7cm. The logo must be placed on the front of the right leg.
- (E) The League Committee will consider any other proposals for the display of club or sponsors logos on player's uniforms.

20.4 Inspection of Equipment

No player shall be permitted to play in a match wearing apparel or protective equipment which may cause injury to himself or other players. The Field Umpires may at their discretion inspect players' equipment either before or at any time during the match.

AFL South Coast

- (B1) Players who wear spectacles during matches and training must wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses and must be held on securely by a band.

AFL South Coast

20.4A Inspection of Equipment - Juniors

AFL South Coast

- (A) For all junior matches, the wearing of aluminium football stops is not permitted. Boots should be inspected by umpire/team managers prior to each match to check condition of stops on all boots.

AFL South Coast

- (B) Mouthguards are mandatory for all Junior Division matches.

AFL South Coast

- (C) Use of gloves by Players in competition is not allowed. This is to encourage the development of handling skills. Umpires have discretionary power to allow the use of a glove(s) in special circumstances such as injury. The Ground Manager must sight a medical certificate where injury exists.

20.5 Club Names and Club Logos

- (A) New clubs shall be required to submit complete details of the proposed club name and club nickname and design of its club logo to the Board for approval. Once approved, such club shall have exclusive rights to its club name, club nickname and club logo.
- (B) Existing clubs must submit details of any proposed variation of their club name, club nickname and club logo design for approval by the Board before use, such approval to be granted or withheld at the sole discretion of the Board.

20.6 AFL Marks and Logos

For the purposes of this by-law refer to the definition of "AFL Marks" in the Definitions section of these Rules.

- (A) Clubs of the League, leagues and associations affiliated or directly associated with the League, or leagues controlled by the Commission shall not make use of AFL Marks without the prior written consent of the AFL and/or Commission which consent may be given or withheld at the AFL and Commission's discretion (reasonably exercised). Clubs of the League, leagues and associations affiliated or directly associated with the League or leagues controlled by the Commission shall submit details of any proposed use of AFL Marks to the Commission prior to any use thereof including use for advertising or promotional purposes.
- (B) Clubs of the League, leagues and associations affiliated or directly associated with the League or leagues controlled by the Commission acknowledge that the AFL and Commission are the owners of the AFL Marks and of the goodwill attaching to the AFL Marks and agree that the AFL Marks shall remain vested in the AFL and/or Commission and agree not to challenge the validity or ownership of the AFL Marks.
- (C) Clubs of the League, leagues and associations affiliated or directly associated with the League or leagues controlled by the Commission shall not register any trade marks, company or business names, logos, symbols, emblems, designs, or other indicia using the AFL Marks or any component thereof.
- (D) Clubs of the League, leagues and associations affiliated or directly associated with the League or leagues controlled by the Commission agree not to alter the AFL Marks in any way nor to affix, incorporate or use the AFL Marks, in connection with or as part of another trade mark, distinctive mark, name, brand or thing.
- (E) Clubs of the League, leagues and associations affiliated or directly associated with the League or leagues controlled by the Commission recognise the great value of the AFL Marks and acknowledge the goodwill attached thereto and that all rights, title and interest therein including the copyright thereto vests in and belongs to AFL and/or Commission.

- (F) Clubs of the League, leagues and associations affiliated or directly associated with the League or leagues controlled by the Commission agree that they will not at any time do any act, matter or thing intended to or which might otherwise have the effect of interfering with, restricting, limiting or challenging the proprietary rights of AFL and/or Commission in and to the AFL Marks.

21. UMPIRES

21.1 Appointments

The League or designate will appoint official umpires to matches as available and the names of the appointed umpires will be to clubs prior to the match as designated by the League.

21.2 Availability

All members of the umpires' panel must make themselves available to the League for appointment as a field, boundary or goal umpire as required. All umpires must conform to the rules and arrangements of the League and shall appear when called upon by the Administration Committee.

21.3 Umpire Requirements

Umpires should be at the ground as designated by the League before the official starting time of the match and must be on the field correctly attired at least ten minutes before such starting time.

AFL South Coast

- (A1) Seniors: Designated time of arrival 30 mins prior to schedule start time.

AFL South Coast

- (B1) Juniors: Designated time of arrival 20 mins prior to scheduled start time. Umpires must be dressed and ready to take the field.

21.4 Field Umpire Numbers

- (A) As a minimum, two field umpires are preferred prior to a match commencing unless determined otherwise by the League and the Umpires Co-ordinator. These can be accredited umpires, registered club field umpires or a combination of both. Should the appointed umpires become unavailable, the League Committee will be notified and with the Umpires Coordinator will determine the appropriate course of action.

- (B) Where two field umpires commence a match and for some reason one field umpire is unable to complete a match, the remaining field umpire may continue to control the match as a single umpire if another suitable umpire is not available to take the place of the unfit umpire.

AFL South Coast

21.4A Umpire Coach /Mentor

AFL South Coast

Umpire Mentors/ Coaches in uniform have the same behavioural responsibilities, privileges and protections as match umpires.

21.5 Umpires' Fees

The umpires' fees for the ensuing season shall be decided by the League Committee and communicated to the clubs no later than March in the year the season in which they are applicable.

21.6 Payment of Umpires

- (A) Appointed umpires are to sign the umpires' Match Report prior to the commencement of their scheduled match. Clubs will be invoiced for the appropriate fee based on actual attendance of officially appointed umpires.
- (B) In the event of a match being cancelled, other than because of forfeit as provided for in by-law 15.7 (E), no payment shall be due to the affected umpires.

AFL South Coast

21.6A Payment of Umpires - Seniors

AFL South Coast

- (A) Umpires will be paid by direct deposit to their nominated bank account. Payments will only be made to those umpires who sign the Match Report.

AFL South Coast

- (B) Clubs will be invoiced for the appropriate fee based on actual attendance of officially appointed umpires.

AFL South Coast

Payment of Umpires - Juniors

Payment of umpire fees is to be made by the HOST Club at the conclusion of the match.

AFL South Coast

- (A) Payment of umpire fees is to be made by the HOST Club at the conclusion of the match.

AFL South Coast

21.7 Umpires' Match Report

- (A) At the conclusion of each match, the senior field umpire shall provide a report to the League Committee using the online reporting facility link on the League website.
- (B) The field umpires shall also complete best & fairest player voting.

21.8 Club Report on Umpires

To assist the League in its assessment of umpires, clubs may at their discretion, provide a report on the umpire(s) performance to the League. Such report should be provided on the prescribed form as designated by the league.

21.9 Reporting of Players and Officials

- (A) Umpires may report to the League any player or official who, during the progress of a match or within the immediate proximity of the ground on the day of the match, commits a reportable offence. The procedure for making and lodging such a report shall be as specified by the Laws of the Game and by the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT.
- (B) In terms of Section 3 of the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT, Registered Club Field Umpires are permitted to report players - but non-registered club field umpires, club boundary and goal umpires are not permitted to do so.
- (C) All reporting umpires are required to reference the Offence Grade Template as outlined in 5.2 (b) of the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT when lodging a report.

AFL South Coast

21.9A Completing Notice of Report

AFL South Coast

- (A) As soon as practicable after the completion of the match, the reporting Umpire shall lodge a 'Notice of Report' via the online facility as provided by the league:
- (d) Verbally advise the League Committee Umpire Coordinator of the Report as soon as reasonably practical after the completion of the Match.
- (e) Verbally advise the Ground Manager and a representative from the reported players club that a 'Notice of Report' will be lodged.

AFL South Coast

AFL South Coast

21.10 Minimum Umpire Age

The minimum age for all open age and under age League competitions field, boundary and goal umpires shall be:

AFL South Coast

- (B1) It is recommended that the age of a controlling Field Umpire of a juniors match be a minimum of two (2) years older than the nominated age group when officiating. For example, the Umpire should be a minimum of thirteen (13) years of age for an Under 11s game.

21.11 Powers & Duties

- (A) The powers and duties of Field Umpires will be in accordance with the Laws and the Rules .
- (B) A free kick or a 50 m 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 his or her duties

AFL South Coast 21.11A Powers & Duties - Juniors

- AFL South Coast** (A) AFLSC has a “no tolerance” attitude toward the use of audible obscenities, and the interpretation and application of the Laws and these Rules will reflect this “no tolerance” attitude.
- AFL South Coast** (a) Players who use audible obscenities, regardless to whom they are directed, will be removed under a yellow infraction.
- AFL South Coast** (b) If the obscenity is directed at the Umpire, or for a second offence, the Player shall be reported.
- AFL South Coast** (B) Sledging - “Sledging” may be described as insulting or verbally intimidating a Player or Players.
- AFL South Coast** (a) Sledging is not appropriate in AFLSC football competitions. AFLSC has a “no tolerance” attitude toward sledging and the interpretation and application of the Laws and these Rules will reflect this “no tolerance” attitude.
- AFL South Coast** (b) An Umpire may give a warning to a Player or Players sledging another Player or Players and where possible, should inform both captains of the warning as soon as reasonably practicable after issuing such a warning.
- AFL South Coast** (c) A Player who sledges another Player or Players shall, whether or not a warning has been given to that Player or any other Player, be ordered from the field. In this instance, the Umpire will hold up a Yellow card.
- AFL South Coast** (d) For the purposes of these Rules, sledging will be deemed to be an act of misconduct under the Laws (Law 19.2.2).

22. ORDER OFF RULE**22.1 Yellow Card**

- (A) A player who is reported by a field umpire or field umpires for a breach of the laws of the game may be ordered from the field for a period of fifteen minutes or a period of time equivalent to one quarter, whichever is the least. In this instance an umpire will hold up a yellow card.
- (B) At the discretion of the field umpire, a player may be ordered from the field for a period of fifteen minutes and not be reported. In this instance an umpire will hold up a yellow card.
- (C) A player ordered off with a yellow card is required to leave the playing area immediately through the interchange area. The offending players club is responsible for obtaining the all clear from the timekeepers for such player to resume playing. For Juniors’ matches the Player must sit with the timekeeper until the all clear is received.
- (D) For the purposes of this rule, a yellow card will result in the player concerned remaining off the field for a period of:
- AFL South Coast** (a1) fifteen minutes, excluding breaks between quarters. E.g. a player sent off five minutes before half time would be permitted to resume playing ten minutes after the third quarter commenced. OR
- AFL South Coast** (a2) time equivalent to one quarter eg. In an Under 12s match where quarters are 12 mins. The period of the send off is 12 minutes.
- AFL South Coast** (D2) Any player receiving two yellow cards in one match will automatically receive a red card, thus ineligible to take part in the remainder of the match. The rules regarding the receipt of a red card will then apply.
- AFL South Coast** (D3) If a player receives three yellow cards during the season, this will automatically translate to a red card and the offending player will then receive an automatic one match suspension to be served the following week.
- (E) Unless determined otherwise by the Administration Committee all players who are ordered from the field with a Yellow Card cannot be replaced for the period of the send-off.

22.2 Red Card

- (A) A player who is reported by a field umpire or field umpires for a breach of the laws of the game twice in the same match for separate incidents, or who is reported for a serious breach (as listed in 22.2 (B) below), shall be ordered from the field for the remainder of the match. In this instance an umpire will hold up a red card.
- (B) Serious breaches are defined as where a player or official:
 - (a) Intentionally, recklessly or negligently makes contact with or strikes an umpire
 - (b) Attempts to make contact with or strike an umpire
 - (c) Behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire
 - (d) Intentionally, recklessly or negligently kicks another person
 - (e) Commits an act of misconduct - if the umpire is of the opinion that the act constituting misconduct is serious in nature
- (C) A player ordered off with a red card is required to leave the playing area immediately through the interchange area. The offending player is not permitted to sit on the bench, or enter the playing arena at any time (including breaks) for the remainder of the match.
- AFL South Coast (C1) Players who are ordered from the field with a red card cannot be replaced at any stage of the remainder of the game.
- AFL South Coast (C2) The red carded player shall not participate in any other match on that given round or weekend, including matches in any other division, age group or competition. It is the offending player and their club's responsibility to inform their other teams or senior club of the red card report. Failure to do so may result in loss of points and further suspension.
- AFL South Coast (C3) A Player sent from the field with a red card for the remainder of the game must be reported.

22.3 Recording of Send Offs

- (A) When a player is sent off the umpire will show the appropriate yellow or red card to the timekeeper who will in turn acknowledge the send off by showing the same colour card to the umpire.
- (B) Timekeepers are required to record the time that players, who are ordered off by the field umpires, leave the field and shall be the sole judges as to when such players may resume playing, or be replaced (whichever is applicable). It is the offending players club's responsibility to obtain the all clear from the timekeepers for such players to resume playing.

23. LAWS AND POLICIES**23.1 Laws of the Game**

- (A) Except where otherwise noted in these By-Laws, League Competition matches shall be played under the Laws of Australian Football as laid down by the Australian Football League.
 - (a) Use of gloves by Players in junior competition is not allowed. This is to encourage the development of ball handling skills. Umpires have discretionary power to allow the use of a glove(s) in special circumstances such as injury.

23.2 Kick-In Rule

The same football, as that used to score the behind, must be utilised unless otherwise instructed by the field umpire.

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23.2A Tackling - For Juniors

Where tackling is permitted as per the Laws of Australian Football Rule 15.4.1, no Player shall be deliberately slung, dumped or thrown to the ground via any tackle.

AFL South Coast

23.2B Head Count Rule 5.5 - For Juniors

AFL South Coast

The loss of points due to a proved excess of players as per Laws of Australian Football Rule 5.5.3 (c), will not apply

23.3 Loss of Points

Where a team loses a match through violation of the rules or these by-laws, the competition points or 'win' for the match concerned shall be credited to the opposing team. Points scored for and against each team and goals kicked by players shall be credited in the normal manner.

23.4 Infectious Diseases Policy

All League Competition Clubs are to comply with section 22 of the Laws of Australian Football in parallel with the AFL NSW/ACT Code of Practice for infectious diseases (H.I.V. and Hepatitis B).

(A) AFL NSW/ACT Code of Practice for infectious diseases includes:

AFL (NSW/ACT) Code of Practice for infectious diseases includes:

- (b) Clubs should strongly recommend to all players and officials that they be vaccinated against Hepatitis B.
- (c) Clubs should ensure that their dressing rooms are clean and tidy, with particular attention to hand basins, toilets and showers. Spitting and/or urinating in the team areas must not be permitted.
- (d) Trainers are to be instructed to wipe all blood away from players' faces or limbs if they have been injured.
- (e) Soiled towels should be discarded and clean towels should be available to avoid re-use or sharing of bloodied material. Appropriate containers need to be accessible for storing soiled towels.
- (f) Jumpers soiled with blood should be changed at the earliest opportunity.
- (g) Trainers should wear protective gloves when dealing with a bleeding wound.
- (h) Players with wounds that are bleeding profusely are to leave the field for treatment and will not be permitted to resume playing until the bleeding has stopped and the wound is adequately covered.

(B) Field umpires who observe a bleeding player are empowered to stop play and send a player from the field for treatment if in their opinion such action is warranted. Such player shall leave the field immediately through the interchange area. The replacement player may enter the field of play while the bleeding player is in the process of leaving the field and should do so through the interchange area also. The umpire shall wait until the replacement player has reached his position on the field before restarting play. If there is any undue delay in the replacement player entering the field of play, the umpire may restart play at his/her discretion.

23.5 AFL Vilification & Discrimination Policy

The League will at all times adhere to the AFL Vilification & Discrimination Policy.

23.6 Conduct of Games – Juniors

All Junior & Youth Matches and/or Competitions will be conducted according to the principles and guidance of the Junior Football Match Guide.

24. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**24.1 Prescribed Penalties**

A prescribed penalty system will operate in the League competition in accordance with National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT.

AFL South Coast

(A1) The base sanction for Classifiable Offences will be subsequently decreased where a Player submits an early guilty plea. As per the classification table in section 5.2(b) of the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT.

24.2 Code of Conduct

Clubs are required to adhere to the Code of Conduct as per attachment "A" and the Code of Conduct Guidelines and Disciplinary Procedures as per attachment "B" to these By-Laws. Clubs are required to ensure that all club members receive a copy of the Code of Conduct. The Code relates to regulating the conduct and behaviour of players, officials, club administrators, parents and spectators (supporters).

AFL South Coast

- (A1) 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 Board to accept responsibility for any breach of the Codes of Conduct. If it is determined by the Board 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:-

AFL South Coast

(a) For the first (1st) offence:-

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- The suspension of the offending person(s) from attending fixtured matches
- Loss of competition points and/or,
- A fine not exceeding \$500.00 and/or,

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(b) For a second (2nd) offence:-

AFL South Coast

- A fine not exceeding \$750.00 and/or,
- Loss of competition points and/or,
- The suspension of the offending person(s) from attending fixtured matches and/or,
- The temporary suspension of the team and/or the Club from the competition.

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AFL South Coast

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

AFL South Coast

- The suspension of the offending person(s) from attending future matches,
- Loss of competition points and/or,
- A fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 and/or,
- The suspension of the team and/or the Club either from the remainder of the season or permanently from the AFLSC.

AFL South Coast

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AFL South Coast

24.3 Power to Investigate

- (A) The League Committee may investigate or nominate a person to investigate any matter which he considers relevant to whether or not a person may have committed a Reportable Offence or a Code of Conduct Breach.
- (B) Without limiting the powers and discretions conferred upon the Administration Committee by By-law 24.3 (A), a nominee may investigate any matter:-
- (a) of his own motion; or
 - (b) on the basis of video evidence; or
 - (c) upon the written request of an Authorised Officer of a Club as per by-law 24.8 (Citings by Clubs) or
 - (d) upon the written request of either an Authorised Officer of the League or Association.

24.4 Co-operation

- (A) For the purpose of conducting an investigation under this Rule, a person shall upon request by the League Committee-

24.5 Failure to Co-operate

A person who fails to observe and comply with Rule 24.4 or who provides any information or has acted in a manner which is in any respect false or misleading or likely to mislead, shall be deemed to have been involved in conduct which is unbecoming or prejudicial to the interests of the League and shall be liable to either a sanction or referral to the tribunal as determined by the League in it's absolute discretion.

24.6 Interpretation

For the purposes of this clause a reference to the League designate shall be read as a reference to the League and/or any person nominated by the League to conduct an investigation on the basis of video evidence or otherwise. The League designate may report such person and refer the matter to the Tribunal for hearing and determination by the Tribunal. The person who has been reported will be notified in writing of the charge laid against him and the date and time for the hearing and determination of the charge by the Tribunal.

24.7 Power to Report

- (A) If the League designate is of the opinion that a person may have committed a Reportable Offence, whether on the basis of an investigation, video evidence or otherwise, the League Designate may report such person and refer the matter to the Tribunal for hearing and determination by the Tribunal. The person who has been reported will be notified in writing of the charge laid against him and the date and time for the hearing and determination of the charge by the Tribunal.

Report where Notice of Report not completed - Juniors

- (i) This Rule applies where a Player is sent off twice or more in a season, but the Umpire has not completed a Notice of Report in any sending off. Following the Player being sent off for the second time, the Player will automatically receive a one match playing suspension. The League will inform the Club President or delegate of the Player and the Tribunal Chairperson as soon as reasonably practical following the match of the referral.
- (ii) Where a Player receives notice of an automatic playing suspension as provided by this Rule, the Player may, through the Club President or delegate, request the automatic suspension be referred to the Tribunal for hearing. The Tribunal may impose such conditions on the Player as it deems appropriate, pending the hearing. The Tribunal may, after the hearing, affirm or vary the suspension (including increasing the suspension), or apply any other penalty as it deems appropriate.

24.8 Citings by Clubs

- (A) Where a club wishes to lodge a complaint against a player or official for an "on field" offence (a citing), such complaint must be noted on the appropriate League Incident Referral form (see sample Appendix D) and must be lodged in writing with the League no later than midday on the second business day after the incident out of which the complaint arises. An intermediate advice, on the incident form may be initially emailed with the written lodgement to follow as required.
- (B) Any such complaint must be accompanied by a \$300 (with \$150 not refundable) citing fee which may be forfeited should the Administration Committee deem the complaint to be frivolous. The citing fee shall be paid by cheque or be evidenced as paid by attaching to the Incident Referral Form evidence that the citing fee has been electronically or deposited manually to the League's bank account.
- (C) The Administration Committee shall decide whether or not the matter should be referred to the Independent Tribunal for consideration.

The person against whom such a complaint is lodged will be notified in writing of his rights (may be via Club Secretary) and the procedures to be followed for the investigation. Each of the clubs concerned will receive a copy of such correspondence.

24.10 Tribunal Hearings

- (A) A reporting umpire, the reported person and a representative of the reported person's club shall attend a hearing at a time and place specified by the Administration Committee.
- (B) The procedures to be followed should a reported person be unable to attend the hearing are set out in the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT and must be adhered to.
- (C) Should the reporting umpire be unable to attend, the Administration Committee may defer the hearing in which case the reported player or official may continue to play or act until such time as the hearing is held.

- (D) Should any of the above persons be unable to attend a hearing the Administration Committee may allow appropriate communication devices such as telephones, video links etc. to be utilized to proceed with the tribunal hearing.

24.11 Tribunals- Juniors

Legal representatives are permitted to attend Tribunal hearings, but are not permitted to act in the role of Player, Official or Umpire advocate unless agreed to by the League.

24.12 Player and Official De-registration

The League adheres to the AFL Player and Official Deregistration Policy.

25. REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

25.1 Participation

- (A) Competition representative teams shall participate in inter-league matches as directed by the League from time to time.
- (A1) Any player selected in a representative team must be a registered player with a club in that region.
- (B) The League shall have first call on the services of all players for its representative matches and representative training sessions. In accordance with AFL NSW/ACT Regulations, any player who does not make himself available or declines selection for such training sessions and matches, without the consent of the Administration Committee, may automatically be suspended for two (2) club competition matches subsequent to the representative match concerned.
- (C) Any player who declares himself unavailable because of injury or illness must be prepared to undergo a medical examination by a medical practitioner of the League's choice.
- (D) Any player who fails to attend a scheduled representative training session of which he has been properly notified must tender an explanation to the Administration Committee. If in the opinion of the Administration Committee the player's explanation is unacceptable, such player may be dealt with as the League thinks fit.
- (E) Except in exceptional circumstances as approved by the Administration Committee, players selected in a representative team will not be permitted to play with their club on the same weekend of the representative match concerned. Any player who takes part in a match in violation of this by-law shall be liable for further disqualification. The team with which he played may lose any premiership points gained and his club may be fined up to two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250).

25.2 Venue Selection

- (A) Where the League schedules a representative match to be played, the Administration Committee shall select a venue taking into consideration the standard of playing surface and facilities, ground hire costs and the ability to charge admission.
- (B) The League may allocate catering rights to the host club or any other club which is prepared to undertake all ground management duties for the fixture. Any gate takings will be used by the League to offset staging costs.

25.2A Disciplinary Action

In the event of a player being reported in an inter-League Match or in a Match between Clubs of different Leagues, the Tribunal of the League with which the player is registered shall hear the charge.

26. AWARDS

26.1 Season Awards

- (A) Each season, the Administration Committee shall arrange for the presentation of designated awards.

- (B) Any player that has been suspended for any offence in the home and away season shall not be eligible to win the League Best and Fairest award at Senior or Junior Level.

27. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

27.1 Administration Committee

The Administration Committee shall control the day-to-day operation of the League competition.

27.2 Attendance at Meetings

The League will determine the number of representatives required in attendance at League meetings for which notice has been properly given.

27.3 Fees

- (A) The Administration Committee shall prepare a detailed budget each season taking into account all known and projected income and expenditure items.
- (B) League clubs shall be levied an annual Licence fee, which will be used to offset the operational cost of the respective competitions.
- (C) Licence fees and other relevant charges will be levied on a seasonal basis.

27.4 Fines

- (A) Where a club, player, official or umpire has been fined by the Administration Committee or incurs an automatic fine, such fine shall be paid within 14 days of notification of the penalty except where otherwise specified by the League. Failure to pay such fine by the specified time without a satisfactory explanation may result in the fine being increased by the Administration Committee.
- (B) Where a fine has not been paid within three (3) months of the invoice date, the player's or official's club or in the case of an umpire, the Umpires Association, shall be responsible to pay the fine to the League.

AFL South Coast

27.4A Schedule of Fines

AFL South Coast

- (A) The following Schedule sets out the fines to be imposed for breaches of these Rules.

AFL South Coast

Breach

AFL South Coast

Code of Conduct Breach as per Rule 24.2	\$500 or \$750 or \$1000
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AFL South Coast

Statement breach as per Rule 20.9	Max \$1000
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AFL South Coast

Administration

AFL South Coast

Any Administrative Breach - No Warnings	\$100 to Max. \$500
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AFL South Coast

Match Day

AFL South Coast

Maximum 2 warnings for any match day breach in a season,	
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AFL South Coast

Each additional breach	\$50 fine per breach.
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27.5 Outstanding Accounts

- (A) Except as provided for under by-law 27.5 (B), any club which is in arrears to the League for a period in excess of 60 days from the date of the invoice, shall be ineligible to receive any competition points which may be accrued by its teams, from that point in time until the overdue amount has been paid.
- (B) Where extenuating circumstances exist, the Administration Committee may in its discretion, place a club on a financial scheme of arrangements for the repayment of outstanding accounts. Any club operating under such an arrangement shall be considered to be financial with the League provided that it is up to date with all payments specified by the scheme and for the current year.
- (B1) If an appeal is made to the Board about an imposed financial penalty, then the Board may, in its discretion, allow for required time frames to be held over until resolution of any appeal.

AFL South Coast

27.6 Dishonoured Cheques

Any club which pays an account to the Association by an instrument which is not honoured by its bank or other institution upon presentation, shall automatically be fined one hundred dollars (\$100) on each occasion.

27.7 Club Finances

- (A) Each member club shall be required to furnish to the Association by 31st of January a copy of their financial statement as presented at their clubs AGM. This document will remain confidential within the league executive and the Board and at no time will be made public.
- (B) Each member club shall provide the League with a Club Budget for the ensuing season by the 31st January each year or as designated.

27.8 Insurance

Each member club is covered by the League's compulsory insurance cover with JLT Sport under the AFL's National Risk Program. All registered players and officials of a member club will have minimum cover for public and products liability, association liability, personal accident and non-Medicare medical. Each Club has the option of taking up higher levels of cover directly with JLT Sport.

Specific details of cover shall be provided to clubs each year and can also be viewed at www.jltsport.com.au/Afl/

AFL South Coast

27.8A Liquor Licence - Seniors

AFL South Coast

Each member club intending selling alcohol on game day is required to provide a copy of a current liquor licence to the League prior to 1st of March each year.

AFL South Coast

LEGAL (INCLUDING STATUTORY) COMPLIANCE BY LEAGUE COMMITTEES AND CLUBS.

AFL South Coast

Statutory Compliance

AFL South Coast

- (A) League Committees 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 Commission for Children and Young People Act 1998 (as amended from time to time).

AFL South Coast

- (B) Whilst the AFLSC will provide information, guidance and assistance to League Committees and 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 League Committees and Clubs.

AFL South Coast

Commission for Children and Young People Act 1998

AFL South Coast

- (A) The attention of League Committees and Clubs is particularly drawn to the requirements of the Commission for Children and Young People Act 1998 (the CCYP Act) (as amended from time to time).

AFL South Coast

- (B) Any person who has not complied with the requirements of the CCYP Act is in breach of these Rules and will be unable to act in any capacity at any competition game, including the finals. Such persons will be referred to the Board or League Committee, to be dealt with as provided for in these Rules.

AFL South Coast

Working with Children Policy

AFL South Coast

- (A) Any person who has not complied with the requirements of the Child Protection Legislation as it applies to them, is in breach of these by-laws and regulations. All Coaches and Team Managers must obtain a Working with Children Clearance, whether or not they would otherwise be exempted under the Regulations of the Child Protection Legislation as not requiring a check by reason of their being a parent or close relative of a Player in a team in which the Player usually participates. All Working With Children Checks must be completed by 30th June in each season.



SCHEDULE 1

AFL South Coast

JUNIOR ZONING: (Under 9s/10s)

AFL South Coast

This brief guide is for the benefit of parents and other spectators to help them understand what is happening on the field. Modified rules are used in these age groups to minimise the chance of injury and give participants the best opportunity to participate in the great game of AFL.

AFL South Coast

- The field is divided into three (3) zones: forwards, centres and backs. The Players are rotated through the zones in each game to ensure that all Players experience the different field positions. Four (4) distinguishable markers (low domes) are placed on the sideline to mark the zones.

AFL South Coast

- The forwards are the only Players that can kick a score. These Players are marked with a clearly identifiable armband indicating that they are the forwards. Should a centre-zone Player kick the ball through the goal posts, no score is recorded and it is treated like any other out of bounds.

AFL South Coast

- It is important to realise that the marking of zones is to help both the Players and the umpire understand where Players should be. It is not a 'taboo' marker but an indication that a Player is close to the end of the zone. In essence there is a little 'grey area' where a Player may dispose of a ball just over the zone line. The umpire will communicate with the Players and attempt to ensure that the use of the "grey area" is kept to a minimum. The use of armbands by the forwards helps the umpire identify where a Player is intended to be.

AFL South Coast

- Players are unable to take full possession of the ball at the start of play (ball up/centre bounce) or the recommencement of play around the ground. In fact, the umpire will use different Players from the zone that play is in to contest the bounce.

AFL South Coast

- The interchange gate for these age groups is marked by smaller witch's hats and is the area that the team will use to move Players from and onto the ground.

AFL South Coast

Should you have any questions, ask the coach (after the game!) or the manager from your Club and I am sure that they will help.

AFL South Coast

Just remember, the Players are out there to have fun and the Umpire is a volunteer.



SCHEDULE 2

AFL South Coast

JUNIOR AGE GROUP RULES

AFL South Coast

1. Auskick

AFL South Coast

- (1) This grade will not play for competition match wins.

AFL South Coast

- (2) Auskick should remain as per the rules and regulations set out in the Auskick Handbook and Lesson Cards.

AFL South Coast

- (3) The two (2) Clubs will play a game as a follow up to the Auskick program. The sides must be of equal size and played under the rules set out in the Aussie Footy Rules handbook. Children must be aged eight (8) and under. The size of the team should ideally be nine (9) a side (i.e. three (3) Players from each team in three (3) zones).

AFL South Coast

- (4) The playing area shall be approximately half a standard size field. Standard field size is (ninety) 90 metres X sixty-five (65) metres.

AFL South Coast

- (5) Players must be rotated at the start of each quarter allowing everyone to experience playing as a forward, centre and back.

AFL South Coast

2. Development Rules

AFL South Coast

- (1) Standard Development Rules apply (refer Schedule 4).

AFL South Coast

- (2) Ages Under 9s to Under 11s are deemed non-competition and whilst competing in a round robin fixture, do not maintain results or ladders.

AFL South Coast

- (3) At the discretion of the League Committee Round Robin Gala days may be held in lieu of finals.

AFL South Coast

3. Youth Girls Rules

AFL South Coast

- (1) Unless provided for elsewhere in these Rules, teams will play under the Laws of Australian Football exceptions being:

AFL South Coast

Teams: Teams to comprise 9-a-side

AFL South Coast

Age Divisions: 13-15 years & 16-18 years

AFL South Coast

Player source: Affiliated clubs, schools and community teams

AFL South Coast

Game times: 4 x 15 min quarters

AFL South Coast

Mercy Rule: Youth Ages Mercy Rule to apply to Under 15s Age Group

AFL South Coast

Finals series: To be played at same venue and on the same day as Illawarra Junior Finals

AFL South Coast

- (2) Pre-requisites for registration of a team:

AFL South Coast

- (A) Must meet the specified minimum numbers

AFL South Coast

- (B) Team fees must be prepaid

AFL South Coast

- (C) Must use approved, numbered AFL/NSW playing jumpers

AFL South Coast

- (D) Must be able to provide a team manager

AFL South Coast

- (3) Venue:

AFL South Coast

- (A) The full round of games is to be played over one full day at the same central venue as determined by the League.

AFL South Coast

- (B) Host Club to provide the following:

AFL South Coast

- (i) 2 playing fields of approx. 100m x 90m set up with cones and posts.

AFL South Coast

- (ii) 2 x size 3 match balls for Under 15 games, and 2 x size 4 match balls for Under 18 games.

AFL South Coast

- (iii) Ground Manager

AFL South Coast

- (iv) Canteen staff for the day

AFL South Coast

(v) Payment of ground usage fees

AFL South Coast

(vi) Payment of all umpires, as well as water/food as required under the by-laws

AFL South Coast

(vii) Provision of first aid officer (or St John Officer)

AFL South Coast

(C) All canteen proceeds (less costs) to be retained by the host club.



SCHEDULE 3

AFL South Coast

UMPIRE REVIEW PROCESS

AFL South Coast

Components

AFL South Coast

The key components are:

AFL South Coast

- Completion of the Umpires Review form for Under 9s to Under 12s inclusive, is compulsory with non-compliance of a correctly completed form incurring a fine (i.e. non-submission/umpire identification or completing person's identification not provided).

AFL South Coast

- With the Youth Ages (Under 13s to Under 16s inclusive) and Seniors, it is encouraged but not compulsory.

AFL South Coast

- The online process will be available. This enables coaches via the web at a more convenient time after the game to complete his or her views and provide constructive feedback

AFL South Coast

- Preseason Training and access to the necessary link on the website will be provided

AFL South Coast

- It is expected that a coach will complete the online form by 9.00am on the Monday following a match

AFL South Coast

- This tool is provided for the purpose of umpire training, not coach satisfaction.

AFL South Coast

- A review of feedback and comments by Administration Umpires Coordinator to develop appropriate training methods.

AFL South Coast

- Administration Umpires Coordinator may follow up with coaches for additional information, but contact will NOT be made as a matter of course.

AFL South Coast

Summary

AFL South Coast

The aim of this process is to provide meaningful assessment of our junior umpires. To alleviate the "heat of battle" responses and to give a coach time to consider a constructive review the timing is extended. AFLSC is taking all steps to deliver an acceptable level of competency for the junior age groups. This can only be achieved if Club coaches and management of junior teams are prepared to provide constructive comment in their assessment of an umpire's performance.



SCHEDULE 4

STANDARD DEVELOPMENT GRADE / JUNIOR RULES

UNDER 9s & UNDER 10s

- 1 Playing Field (min)**
 - (1) The size of the playing field for:
 - **Under 9s** is 90 metres long and 80 metres wide
 - **Under 10s** is 100 metres long and 80 metres wide with cones or lines to mark zones.
 - (2) Increased by agreement. The field is divided into 3 equal zones
- 2 Ball Size**
 - (1) Size 2 Ball (synthetic or leather ball by agreement)
- 3 The Team**
 - (1) Team size is 9, 12 or 15 players with any number of reserves. (Refer Reg Var for Match #'s)
 - (2) Number of players on ground must be equal.
 - (3) Team consists of up to 5 equal numbers of forwards, backs and centres. Players remain in position for all of the quarter after which the players must change zone.
 - (4) Interchange of players may take place at any time
 - (5) All players should play at least 3 quarters of the match where possible
- 4 Zones/Positions and transition of the ball**
 - (1) Players will be instructed by the umpire to stay in their correct position.
 - (2) When the ball is in transition from the back zone to the forward zone, it must be touched by a player in the mid zone. Failing this, a free kick will be awarded to the opposition team at the point where the ball entered the end zone.
- 5 Scoring**
 - (1) Only forward zone players can score from within the forward zone. Forward players are marked with a clearly identifiable armband. Where a non forward scores, a free kick will be awarded to the opposition team at the point where the ball entered the end zone (forward).
 - (2) After a behind, the player kicking in cannot dispose to themselves
- 6 Playing Time**
 - (1) The playing time for **Under 9s** and **Under 10s** is 4 x 12 minute quarters
- 7 Starting and restarting play**
 - (1) A ball up is conducted between 2 centre players of similar height as nominated by the umpire. The umpire should nominate different pairs of players for subsequent ball ups after goals are scored. There is no full possession allowed.
 - (2) The full possession rule is applied as follows:
 - (i) A player contesting the ball up may not grab the ball and play on; and
 - (ii) The player must knock, palm or punch the ball to a teammate or open ground, and may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player or hit the ground.
- 8 Scrimmage and field ball ups**
 - (1) Field ball ups are contested by 2 players of similar height (selected by the umpire) after all other players have been sent back to their positions. There is no full possession permitted.
- 9 Out of Bounds**
 - (1) From a kick - a free kick is awarded to the closest opponent. A player cannot kick for goal from this free kick. If in doubt - ball up 5m in from boundary.

AFL South Coast

- (2) Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from the boundary. No Full possession permitted.

AFL South Coast

10 Gaining Possession

AFL South Coast

- (1) A player's prime objective should be to gain possession of the ball (eyes on the ball). Restrained side (shoulder to shoulder) contact is permitted when players are contesting a loose ball, provided that the ball is within 5 metres. 'Running with' the player rather than 'running at' the player must be the intention. Front on contact or contact from behind is strictly prohibited.

AFL South Coast

- (2) The ball is possessed by controlling it, catching it, grabbing it, or laying 2 hands on it when it is on the ground. Once the ball is possessed, other players may apply a tackle (refer to tackling rule)

AFL South Coast

11 Tackling

AFL South Coast

- (1) Players can perform a modified tackle.

AFL South Coast

- (2) A player in possession of the ball may be tackled by an opponent wrapping both arms around the area below the top of the shoulders and on/above the knees. The tackle may be from either side or from behind providing the tackle from behind does not thrust forward the player with the ball (that is push back the player in the back).

AFL South Coast

- (i) If the player in possession of the ball is taken to the ground in the act of tackling, they will receive a free kick. If the umpire feels the player drops to the ground deliberately in order to receive a free kick, they will be penalised for holding the ball.

AFL South Coast

- (ii) A player in possession of the ball, when held by an opponent applying the wrap around tackle, should be given a reasonable chance to dispose of the ball by kick or by handball, or by attempting to kick or handball, otherwise a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.

AFL South Coast

- (iii) The field umpire shall conduct a ball-up when the player with the ball has the ball held to the body by an opponent, unless the player has had a reasonable time to dispose of the ball prior to being tackled, in which case a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.

AFL South Coast

- (iv) The Field Umpire shall allow play to continue if the ball is knocked out of a player's hands by an opponent.

AFL South Coast

- (v) A player not in possession of the ball, when held by an opponent, shall be awarded a Free Kick.

AFL South Coast

- (vi) There is strictly no bumping, slinging or deliberately bringing the opposition player in possession of the ball to the ground.

AFL South Coast

- (3) Players cannot:

AFL South Coast

- (i) knock the ball out of an opponent's hands

AFL South Coast

- (ii) push the player in the side

AFL South Coast

- (iii) steal the ball from another player

AFL South Coast

- (iv) smother an opponent's kick

AFL South Coast

- (v) shepherd an opponent

AFL South Coast

12 Smothering

AFL South Coast

- (1) Not permitted

AFL South Coast

13 Barging

AFL South Coast

- (1) No barging, fending off or chopping past opponents is permitted. A free kick shall be awarded to the nearest opponent.

AFL South Coast

14 Shepherding

AFL South Coast

- (1) Not permitted

AFL South Coast

15 Marking

AFL South Coast

- (1) A mark is awarded irrespective of the distance the ball has travelled to any player who catches the ball directly from the kick of another player. Where a player drops a mark but has eyes on the ball, and hands out in front or above their head, and makes good contact on the ball then a mark can be awarded for a good attempt.

AFL South Coast

16 Distance Run and Ball Bounce

AFL South Coast

- (1) A player running with the ball must bounce it within 10 metres. Only one bounce is permitted. Players cannot dispose of the ball to themselves intentionally.

AFL South Coast

17 Kicking Off the Ground

AFL South Coast

- (1) Not permitted unless accidental

AFL South Coast

18 Distance penalty

AFL South Coast

- (1) A 10m advancement may be awarded to a player after a mark or free kick if he or she is hindered by an opposition player

AFL South Coast

19 Order off rule

AFL South Coast

- (1) As per Rule 22 of AFL SC By-Laws.

AFL South Coast

20 Spirit of the Game

AFL South Coast

- (1) Players, Coaches and Officials and Umpires to shake hands before and after game.
- (2) No scores or ladders to be kept.

AFL South Coast

21 Coaches

AFL South Coast

- (1) Coaches allowed on field to teach but no closer than 15m from play.

AFL South Coast

UNDER 11s & UNDER 12s

AFL South Coast

1 Playing Field (min)

AFL South Coast

- (1) The size of the playing field for:
 - **Under 11s** is 110 metres long and 80 metres wide
 - **Under 12s** is 120 metres long and 80 metres wide with cones or lines to mark zones.

AFL South Coast

- (2) Increased by agreement.

AFL South Coast

2 Ball Size

AFL South Coast

- (1) Size 3 Ball (synthetic or leather ball by agreement)

AFL South Coast

3 The Team

AFL South Coast

- (1) Team size is 9 to 18 players with any number of reserves
- (2) Number of players on ground must be equal. Interchange may take place at any time, but all players should play 3 quarters.

AFL South Coast

AFL South Coast

4 Zones/Positions and transition of the ball

AFL South Coast

5 Scoring

AFL South Coast

- (1) After a behind the player kicking in cannot dispose to themselves.

AFL South Coast

6 Playing Time

AFL South Coast

- (1) The playing time for:
 - **Under 11s** is 4 x 12 minute quarters
 - **Under 12s** is 4 x 15 minute quarters

AFL South Coast

7 Starting and restarting play

AFL South Coast

- (1) A ball up is contested between 2 centre players of similar height as nominated by the umpire in the centre of the ground. Only centre line players attend centre bounces (20m clearance from all other players). The umpire is to enforce a similar 20m area for field ball ups.
- (2) No Full possession permitted

AFL South Coast

8 Scrimmage and field ball ups

AFL South Coast

- (1) Field ball ups are contested by 2 players of equal size selected by the umpire. Before the ball up, the umpire should clear the area by sending players back to their positions. No more than 3 players from each team shall be closer to the ball up than about 20 metres.
- (2) No Full possession permitted

AFL South Coast

AFL South Coast

9 Out of Bounds

AFL South Coast

- (1) From a kick - a free kick is awarded to the closest opponent. A player cannot kick for goal from this free kick. If in doubt - ball up 5m in from boundary

AFL South Coast

- (2) Off hands or body - ball up 5m in from the boundary. No Full possession permitted.

AFL South Coast

10 Gaining Possession

AFL South Coast

11 Tackling

AFL South Coast

- (1) A player in possession of the ball may be tackled by an opponent wrapping both arms (the wrap around tackle) around the area below the top of the shoulders and on/above the knees.

AFL South Coast

- (2) The tackle may be from either side or from behind providing the tackle from behind does not thrust forward the player with the ball. No Player shall be deliberately dumped or thrown to the ground by a tackle. Where such a penalty is awarded the umpire will use the sling signal.

AFL South Coast

- (i) A player in possession of the ball ,when held by an opponent applying the wrap around tackle, should be given a reasonable chance to dispose of the ball by kick or by handball, or by attempting to kick or handball. If he or she fails to do so, a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.

AFL South Coast

- (ii) The field umpire shall conduct a ball up when the player with the ball has it held to the body by an opponent, unless the player has had a reasonable time to dispose of it prior to being tackled. In that case, a free kick shall be awarded to the tackler for holding the ball.

AFL South Coast

- (iii) The field umpire shall allow play to continue if the ball is knocked out of a players hands by an opponent

AFL South Coast

- (iv) A player, who is held by an opponent when not in possession of the ball, shall be awarded a free kick

AFL South Coast

- (v) Knocking or stealing the ball from an opponent's hands is permitted

AFL South Coast

12 Smothering

AFL South Coast

- (1) Smothering is permitted

AFL South Coast

13 Barging

AFL South Coast

- (1) No barging or chopping past opponents is permitted. Fending off with open hand to the body (provided it is not above the shoulders or in the back) is permitted..

AFL South Coast

14 Shepherding

AFL South Coast

- (1) Shepherding permitted as per the laws of Australian Football.

AFL South Coast

15 Marking

AFL South Coast

- (1) A mark is awarded when a player catches the ball directly from another player's kick that has travelled at least 10 metres

AFL South Coast

16 Distance Run and Ball Bounce

AFL South Coast

- (1) A player running with the ball must bounce it within 15 metres, only 2 bounces are permitted. Players cannot dispose of the ball to themselves intentionally.

AFL South Coast

17 Kicking Off the Ground

AFL South Coast

- (1) Not permitted unless accidental

AFL South Coast

18 Distance penalty

AFL South Coast

- (1) A 25m advancement may be awarded to a player after a mark or free kick if he or she is hindered by an opposition player

AFL South Coast

19 Order off rule

AFL South Coast

- (1) As per Rule 22 of AFL SC By-Laws.

AFL South Coast

20 Spirit of the Game

AFL South Coast

- (1) Players, Coaches and Officials and Umpires to shake hands before and after game.

AFL South Coast

- (2) 10 goal mercy rule.

AFL South Coast

AFL South Coast

AFL South Coast

21 Coaches

- (1) Coaches are not allowed on the field.
- (2) Messages delivered by a runner who must be an adult or a player that is mature enough to umpire the game...



ATTACHMENT "A"

1. PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

A player must:

- (A) Play by the rules – the rules of your Club and the laws of the game.
- (B) Attend training sessions and matches at times advised by the Club. If unable, for a valid reason to do so, players will inform the Club as soon, as is practical.
- (C) Act respectfully toward the officials and players of their own and opposing Clubs.
- (D) Respect and follow the directions of coaching staff, match and club officials.
- (E) Treat all players with respect, as you would want them to treat you.
- (F) Act respectfully towards match officials at all times. Abusive language is unacceptable.
- (G) Avoid individual or collective behaviour, which may reasonably be held by spectators to be offensive.
- (H) Avoid all acts likely to incite spectators to violence or disorder.
- (I) Not make detrimental statements in public (radio, television, print or electronic media) in respect to the performance of any match officials, players, or any policy decisions of the Club or AFL South Coast.
- (I1) Abide by the Regulations & By-Laws and the Competition Rules of AFL South Coast.
- (J) Respect the facilities and equipment of their own and opposing Clubs.
- (K) Not use remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability as many such comments are politically incorrect and it is your coach, team-mates, Club and family that are let down with such remarks.
- (L) Not use information technology to make or post inappropriate comments against players, clubs, club officials, match officials or AFL South Coast which is discriminatory or offensive. Information technology includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including social media such as Facebook, Twitter and blogs).

2. PARENTS & SUPPORTERS CODE OF CONDUCT

A parent, spectator or supporter must:

- (A) Remember that they are there for the participants to enjoy the game.
- (B) Encourage participation, not force it.
- (C) Teach that enjoyment is more important than winning.
- (D) Never ridicule mistakes or losses. Supporters are there to support not downgrade.
- (E) Lead by example and respect all players, coaches, umpires, administrators and spectators. Physical or verbal abuse shall not be tolerated.
- (F) Recognise all volunteers who give up their valuable time.
- (G) Never publicly criticise umpires, rather raise personal concerns with club officials in private
- (H) Not use remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability as many such comments are politically incorrect and it is your coach, team-mates, Club and family that are let down with such remarks.
- (I) Respect the facilities and equipment of their own and opposing Clubs.

- (J) Not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any player, official, umpire or supporter. Such actions are totally unacceptable.
- (K) Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- (L) Not use abusive language. Abusive language shall be deemed unacceptable.
- (M) Not enter the field of play in any sanctioned competition match unless granted permission by an Official to do so.
- (N) Not use information technology to make or post inappropriate comments against players, clubs, club officials, match officials or AFL South Coast which is discriminatory or offensive. Information technology includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including social media such as Facebook, Twitter and blogs).

3. COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

A coach must:

- (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 ideals and character.
- (D) Be reasonable in demands, setting goals and expectations at an attainable level.
- (E) Maintain a current knowledge of the rules of the game.
- (F) Teach and interpret the laws of the game to the players.
- (H) Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all individuals within the context of their involvement in Australian Football, including refraining from any discriminatory practices on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability.
- (I) Encourage and create opportunities to develop individual as well as team skill.
- (J) Ensure that all players understand the importance of regular attendance at training and positive attitude at training and that team selection throughout the season, including the finals, may be influenced by their training attendance and attitude.
- (K) Ensure that injured players are given prompt and competent medical attention and that doctor's orders are strictly adhered to.
- (L) Endeavour to keep informed regarding sound principles of coaching and skill development and of factors relating to the welfare of their players.
- (M) Display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practice fair play.
- (N) Display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, other officials, parents and spectators.
- (O) Abide by the Regulations & By-Laws and the Competition Rules of the AFL South Coast.
- (P) Not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any player, official, umpire or supporter. Such actions shall be deemed unacceptable.
- (Q) Respect the facilities and equipment of their own and opposing Clubs
- (R) Not make detrimental statements in public (radio, television, print or electronic media) in respect to the performance of any match officials, players, or any policy decisions of the Club or AFL South Coast.

- (S) Not use information technology to make or post inappropriate comments against players, clubs, club officials, match officials or AFL South Coast which is discriminatory or offensive. Information technology includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including social media such as Facebook, Twitter and blogs).

4. ADMINISTRATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

An administrator must:

- (A) Involve others in planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making related to Australian Football.
- (B) Create pathways for people to participate and develop through the sport not just as players but also as coaches, umpires and administrators.
- (C) Ensure equipment and facilities are safe and appropriate to the ability level of the participants.
- (D) Establish that qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and specific skill technique provide adequate supervision.
- (E) Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating.
- (F) Assist all participants in Australian Football to know and understand the rules.
- (G) Set a conduct example for others to follow.
- (H) Make it clear that abusing people in any way is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action.
- (I) Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
- (J) Not make detrimental statements in public (radio, television, print or electronic media) in respect to the performance of any match officials, players, or any policy decisions of the Club or AFL South Coast.
- (K) Not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any player, official, umpire or supporter. Such actions are totally unacceptable.
- (L) Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.
- (M) Ensure on and off the field behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship.
- (N) Ensure all parents, coaches, sponsors, administrators, officials, medical staff and players, understand their responsibilities regarding fair play in sport.
- (O) Abide by the Regulations & By-Laws and the Competition Rules of AFL South Coast.
- (P) Not use information technology to make or post inappropriate comments against players, clubs, club officials, match officials or AFL South Coast which is discriminatory or offensive. Information technology includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including social media such as Facebook, Twitter and blogs).

5. OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT

An official must:

- (A) Display fairness and uniformity in applying the rules.
- (B) Be honest in your assessment of situations.
- (C) Be consistent and courteous in calling all infractions.
- (D) Condemn deliberate fouls as being unsporting and promote fair play and appropriate sports behaviour.

- (E) Ensure that the health and safety of the players is the most important reason to be weighed in during the decision making process.
- (F) Use common sense to ensure the 'spirit of the game' for players is not lost by being too pedantic when applying the rules.
- (G) Be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance.
- (H) Ensure you remain up to date with any rule changes and/or interpretation of rules as laid down by the AFL
- (I) Seek continual self-improvement through study, performance appraisal and regular updating of competencies.
- (J) Not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any player, official, umpire or supporter. Such actions are totally unacceptable.
- (K) Not use information technology to make or post inappropriate comments against players, clubs, club officials, match officials or AFL South Coast which is discriminatory or offensive. Information technology includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including social media such as Facebook, Twitter and blogs).



ATTACHMENT "B"

CODE OF CONDUCT GUIDELINES AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

The League Code of Conduct ("Code of Conduct") is in place to assist in ensuring the safety and enjoyment of all players, officials and supporters in particular it relates to their conduct and behaviour. Clubs are required to ensure that all members receive a copy of the Code of Conduct.

1. Guidelines

- 1.1 The Code of Conduct shall not conflict in any way with the rules governing "Reportable Offences" (19.2 of Laws of Australian Football), The League Order-Off Rule or Citations. On-field offences shall be solely governed as such. A charge made for a reportable offence will take priority over a reported breach of the Code of Conduct (in the same incident). As such, an individual may not be penalised under the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT system and the Code of Conduct, it must be one system or the other.
- 1.2 Any player, official or supporter bringing a club into disrepute, irrespective of the cause, shall be entitled to one warning for what would be considered a 'Level 1' breach. Further such indiscretions or a more serious violation that warrants a stronger response or remedy commensurate with the seriousness of the breach of the Code of Conduct shall be dealt with in the following manner:
 - A 'complaint' may be made by:**
 - 1.2.1 An authorised club official on behalf of the club and any of its members
 - 1.2.2 The League Committee directly
 - 1.2.3 Officiating umpires (on Umpire Match Report Form)
- 1.3 All complaints shall be referred to the League Committee. Complaints directly to the League will be accepted within three business days of an alleged indiscretion.
- 1.4 Any breach reported will be initially assessed by the League Committee. Where the League Committee is of the opinion that a person may have committed a Code of Conduct breach, whether on the basis of an investigation, video evidence or otherwise, the League Committee may impose a Level 1 breach; refer the matter to the Conduct Committee for hearing and determination. The League Committee may also dismiss a complaint or dismiss a complaint and determine it to be frivolous.
- 1.5 Should the Administration Committee or Conduct Committee determine a complaint made by a club or club official to be frivolous, a fee of \$100 will be imposed upon that club.
- 1.6 Individuals and Clubs will be notified via their Club President/Secretary in writing of any case to answer and the time and date of a convened hearing. Those requested to attend a convened hearing into the matter are compelled to attend or have a representative attend in their place.
- 1.7 The following is indicative of the form of response (or remedy) that may occur:
 - 1.7.1 **Level 1 Breach**
Response for minor indiscretion (usually not referred)
 - Individuals' name recorded;
 - Counselling, mediation or apology if appropriate; and
 - Official warning.
 - 1.7.2 **Level 2 Breach**
Remedy for more serious infraction or repetition within 3 years (referred)
 - 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; and
 - Suspended fine for club.

- 1.7.3 Level 3 Breach**
Remedy for serious infraction or "third strike" being third Level 1 or second Level 2 within 3 years (referred)
- 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.
- 1.8** Indiscretions may be accounted for partly by an individual and partly by the club in which they are related to. As such penalties may potentially be apportioned to either an individual or club or shared. Clubs may be held partially responsible for the conduct of members and non-member supporters.
- Promoting the Code of Conduct**
- 1.9** All members must be given a copy of the Code of Conduct.
- 1.9.1** All players must be given a copy and sign (via registration form)
- 1.9.2** All coaches must be given a copy and sign (re-registration required each year)
- 1.9.3** All officials must be given a copy and sign the block 'Club Officials Code of Conduct Form' each year. Form should be submitted before Round 1. Those who cite and sign the form are to include committee, runners, team managers, match day officials and any other recognised support persons.
- 1.9.4** A copy must be available on each Club's website
- 1.9.5** A copy must be in a prominent position in the following locations: on canteen wall, in front of canteen; in the home and visitors change rooms; and at entrances to public toilets.
- 1.9.6** The League will provide clubs with an initial supply of A4 signs and a large corflute sign to be displayed outside a club's canteen.
- Code of Conduct Sign-Off**
- 1.10** Players, officials and parents of Under 18 players are expected to sign off on the following key statements regarding behaviour and expectations involved supporting the Code of Conduct via their registration form or the 'Club Officials Code of Conduct Form':
- 1.10.1 Player**
- I hereby agree that I am bound by the rules, by-laws and policies of the club, the league and the AFL NSW/ACT Commission as amended from time to time
 - I acknowledge that my failure to adhere to these rules may result in deregistration
 - I declare that this information is true and correct.
 - I have received and understand my responsibilities under the League's Code of Conduct.
- 1.10.2 Parents/Caregivers**
- I hereby consent to the registration of my child with this League.
 - I acknowledge that I have been provided with and understand the Code of Conduct of this League. I hereby agree to abide by the Code of Conduct and agree to observe and obey the Code of Conduct and all rulings made by the League that relate to me. I understand that the League may withdraw or suspend my child's registration to play in this League shall I fail to comply with the Code of Conduct and/or any rulings of the League shall I breach these Codes.
- 1.10.3 Coaches**
- I hereby agree that I am bound by the rules, by-laws and policies of the club, the League and the AFL NSW/ACT Commission as amended from time to time.
 - I acknowledge that my failure to adhere to these rules may result in deregistration.
 - I declare that the information is true and correct.
 - I have received and understand my responsibilities under the League's Code of Conduct.

1.10.4

Club Officials

- By signing this form I acknowledge that I have received and understand my obligations under the League's Code of Conduct as an official of an affiliated club. I also agree to abide by the rules, regulations and by-laws that govern this competition.

Ground Manager Responsibilities

1.11

In maintaining the League's Code of Conduct, the Ground Manager shall:

1.11.1

Liaise with club officials as requested (from either the home or visiting club) to help identify and find details for the alleged offender(s), those affected and any witnesses.

1.11.2

Where an incident appears to represent a minor breach, the Ground Manager may issue a warning to any person that they may be close to breaching the Code of Conduct.

1.11.3

Where a formal complaint is warranted, the Ground Manager shall advise the affected club to submit a formal complaint to the League Committee and follow the guidelines as described in Paragraph 1.2 of the Code of Conduct Guidelines.

1.11.4

They shall ensure that appropriate signage (provided by the League) is maintained and clearly visible at the venue's canteen and in each change-room.

1.12

The Ground Manager should also assist the Umpires upon request to:

1.12.1

Identify and obtain the details of any supporter, member or non-member spectator that they believe to be an offender or witness to a breach.

1.12.2

Identify and obtain the details of any club official or member that they believe to have been involved in a reportable offence where the umpire has not been able to ascertain the individual's identity.

1.13

Club Officials must co-operate in assisting the Ground Manager upon request to identify and obtain details for any member or supporter belonging to their club. Where it is believed that a Club Official has not co-operated appropriately, it will be considered a Level 2 breach.

2.**Conduct Committee**

2.1

The Conduct Committee is an independent committee whose duties are to determine and adjudicate upon such matters that the League Committee may from time to time refer.

2.2

The League Committee shall appoint the Conduct Committee, of not less than three members which may consist of a combination of the following: a representative from the independent Tribunal Panel, a representative from the League Committee or its nominee(s) and/or an independent Club President.

2.3

The Conduct Committee will meet on the first Wednesday evening after all relevant parties can be notified of the hearing date and time and any formal investigations completed.

3.**Scope and Powers of the Conduct Committee**

3.1

The Conduct Committee will operate under the same processes and rules as the Tribunal and By-laws 24.2 - 24.7

3.2

Decisions may be appealed under the same processes and rules of the Tribunal

3.3

The tribunal representative will chair all Conduct Committee hearings and ensure tribunal procedures are followed.

3.4

The Conduct Committee has the power to dismiss or change the grading of a breach, as well as postpone a hearing as they deem necessary in relation to the evidence produced.

3.5

Penalty options at the disposal of the Conduct Committee may include:

3.5.1

Appoint a mentor to an individual for a time nominated by the Conduct Committee and/or undergo some form of remedial counselling.

3.5.2

Impose that the individual must participate in a remedial program (e.g. Club Umpiring for a period of time determined by the Conduct Committee).

3.5.3

Ask for an apology to be given.

- 3.5.4 Enforce a process of mediation between aggrieved parties with particular outcomes to be achieved.
 - 3.5.5 Revoke a player or coach's registration to play/coach for a period of time as determined by the Conduct Committee.
 - 3.5.6 Revoke a child's/associated player's position to play for a period of time as determined by the Conduct Committee in the case of a parent/spectator.
 - 3.5.7 Ban an individual from admission to any recognised League event and venue.
 - 3.5.8 Ban an individual from holding any post as an official, administrator or committee person in the League.
 - 3.5.9 Deduct Club of the Year Award points for the season in which the indiscretion has taken place.
 - 3.5.10 Impose a fine on a club (may be up to but not exceeding \$1000).
 - 3.5.11 Impose the loss of 'competition points' upon a team/club.
 - 3.5.12 Impose a suspended penalty of any of the above.
- Per By-Law 22.2:**
- A third violation/breach of the League's Code of Conduct within three years in any capacity as player, coach, official and/or spectator will bring about an automatic revocation of the player's permit to play and/or coach's permit to coach for a time to be determined by the Conduct Committee.
- 3.6 Penalties may be imposed in any combination of the above guidelines.
 - 3.7 Failure to comply with any penalty handed down by the Conduct Committee may result in a greater penalty being determined for the individual/club.



ATTACHMENT "C"

AFL NSW/ACT COMMISSION LIMITED

PRESCRIBED PENALTY SYSTEM FOR REPORTED PLAYERS

Introduction

- The League has adopted the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT for the purposes of dealing with reportable offences. Section 5 of the National Match Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT contains grading templates for various classifications of offences and outlines the prescribed penalties which can be offered to reported players (where applicable).
- The system will not apply to officials who are reported. Those reports will be heard by the tribunal.

Procedure

- Umpires shall report and charge players in the usual manner. The reporting umpire shall complete the player report template and forward to the League by 10.00 am on the Monday following the match.
- Once the Player Report Form and Report Template has been received, the League Operations Co-ordinator will process the report and decide whether or not the offence and player is suitable for determination under the prescribed penalty system or if the report should be referred to the tribunal.
- If the offence and/or player is suitable for determination under the Prescribed Penalty System, the prescribed penalty shall be offered to the club/player on the Monday following the match in which the player was reported. Club/player shall notify the League of the acceptance or refusal to accept the set penalty no later than 5.00pm on the Tuesday following the match in which the player was reported. If accepted, the penalty shall be recorded against the player's record kept by the league. If the prescribed penalty is rejected the report shall be referred to the tribunal for hearing at a time to be advised by the League.

Attachment 'D'

INCIDENT REFERRAL FORM



TO: AFL SC Football Operations Coordinator

E-mail: Dave.Johnson@afl.com.au

Online: www.aflsouthcoast.com.au – Resources – Referral

I, the undersigned give notice I wish to refer an incident:-

- (i) which may constitute a Reportable Offence or Breach of Code of Conduct

Round:

Match: VS.....

Venue: Date:.....

Players/Officials involved (please identify offending person/s):

.....

Type of Infringement:

Vicinity on Ground:

Quarter: Time of Incident:

Other relevant information:

.....

.....

.....

.....

How do you rate the seriousness of the incident? (1 = Moderate; 5 = Extreme)

1	2	3	4	5
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Print Name: Club:(if applicable)

Signed: Dated:.....

Umpire / Umpires Coach / Club Executive / League Official (Specify Role)

This form is to be completed and lodged, along with the deposit in accordance with League By-Laws. If completed online a copy of the deposit receipt should be attached

League use only:

Lodged with League on/...../..... at(time)