



**COMPETITION RULES
FOR
THE FRASER COAST LEAGUE
INCORPORATING RULES
FOR
FOOTBALL MARYBOROUGH
AND
& FOOTBALL HERVEY BAY
U12 & MINI ROOS**

DATED 25-1-2015

COMPETITION RULES:

Definitions: Within these rules, CA or Competition Administrator means Football Hervey Bay, Football Maryborough, Fraser Coast League (FCL) Committee & Football Gympie (when participating in the FCL).

1.1 COMPETITION REGULATIONS:

- a) All matches under the jurisdiction of the Football Maryborough Competition Administrator and the Football Hervey Bay Competition Administrator will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game. This includes the Regular Season and Finals Series matches.
- b) The competition rules outlined below are in addition to those stipulated in the FIFA Laws of the Game (www.fifa.com).
- c) All Clubs, Players and Officials must comply with and agree to abide by the regulations of Football Federation Australia, Football Queensland, Football Maryborough and Football Hervey Bay, including:-
 - i. National Registration Regulations;
 - ii. National Disciplinary Regulations;
 - iii. FFA Code of Conduct;
 - iv. Grievance Resolution Regulations;
 - v. Member Protection Policy;
 - vi. Football Hervey Bay & Football Maryborough Rules of Competition.
- d) Annually the CA or the FCL Administrators will hold over in trust, club moneys for their “Good Behaviour Bond” for the following season. This will not include any bond forfeited by any club during that year.
- e) All clubs shall at the beginning of the season i.e. before 1st March, lodge with the CA or the FCL Administrators, a cash bond (Refer ‘Good Behaviour Bond’ in Appendix) as decided from time to time by the CA Management Committee/FCL Administrators.
- f) The CA/FCL Administrators retains the right to place a higher bond on any club that behaves in a way detrimental to the code, such bond to be imposed the following season.

1.2 COMPETITION STRUCTURE:

Senior Divisions - Men’s and Women’s:

- a) The composition of the Senior Divisions will be determined by the Competition Administrator/FCL Administrators on an annual basis, following receipt of nominations and fees from registered clubs. Where possible there will be a First, Second and Third Division for each gender.

- (i) A club must have a minimum of nine (9) registered players before they can nominate a team in that division.
- b) All participating clubs may field more than one team in any division other than 1st Division. In any senior competition group (e.g. Men's seniors, Women's seniors) a Club must field a team in each division to be eligible to nominate a second team in a division. Acceptance of a second team will be at the discretion of the Competition Administrator.
- c) The Competition Administrator will determine the number of matches to be played in each division once the final composition is determined.
- d) Clubs may demote a maximum of three (3) players from the starting eleven (11) players from the previous higher division game, provided that no players shall be demoted more than one club team, ranked by division, at a time.
- e) The team finishing with the most points in each Division at the conclusion of the competition fixture season will be crowned Premiership winners.
- f) At the conclusion of the fixture season, the top four (4) placed teams will participate in a Finals Series to determine the Grand Final Winners and Runners Up.

Junior Divisions – Under 12 to Youth:

- g) The composition of the Junior Divisions will be determined by the Competition Administrator on an annual basis following receipt of nominations and fees from registered clubs. Where possible there will be a First and Second Division for each age group.

A club must have a minimum of nine (9) registered players before they can nominate a team in that division.

- h) Within each age group clubs may field more than one team in any Division irrespective of the number of teams they field in other Divisions of that age group. Each team must be able to field a full and separate compliment of members.
- i) Players may not play for another team in that Division from the same club. Clubs playing a player in both of its teams will be deemed to have played an ineligible player and may face disciplinary action and sanctions
- j) Players from a separate division in the age group may play into another of their club teams within the provision of Clause 2.6. (Player Registration and Eligibility)
- k) The Competition Administrator will determine the number of matches to be played in each division once the final composition is determined.
- l) The team finishing with the most points in each Division at the conclusion of the competition fixture season will be crowned Premiership winners.
- m) At the conclusion of the fixture season, the top four (4) placed teams will participate in a Finals

Series to determine the Grand Final Winners and Runners Up.

Junior Divisions – Mini Roos Competition:

- n) The age groups of Under 6 to Under 11 will play the Mini Roos Football formats as per the specifications and guidelines issued by Football Federation Australia and Football Queensland.
- o) Full details of formats and guidelines will be issued to clubs prior to the commencement of the playing season, once received from FFA and Football Queensland.

Additional Competitions:

- p) The Competition Administrator may conduct additional competitions as it deems appropriate before, during or after the competition season, providing the rules for this competition prior to commencement.

1.3 COMPETITION DETAILS:

Match Scheduling:

- a) The Competition Administrator will arrange and publish the dates, times and venues of all matches, taking into account advice from host CA's on venue availability.
- b) Home ground rights will be awarded at the discretion of the Competition Administrator.

Match Results:

- c) The following points will be awarded for matches during the Regular Season.
 - Win = 3 points
 - Draw = 1 point
 - Loss = 0 points
 - Bye = 0 points
 - No Result = 0 points
- d) The team who accumulates the most points at the end of the regular season will be declared Premiers.

Duration of Matches – Senior:

- e) All matches will be played over two halves of 45 minutes each.

- f) After normal time in each half, the referee may add on Injury/Stoppage time as he/she sees fit.
- g) The half-time interval must be a minimum of five (5) minutes and no longer than ten (10) minutes in duration or as deemed by the referee.
- h) The referee has the right to abandon any match if, in his/her opinion, playing conditions compromise player safety.

Duration of Matches – Junior:

- i) In junior matches the following match duration will be played:-
 - Under 6 to 11 game times shall be as per Mini Roos Football Guidelines.
 - Under 12/13 shall consist of two halves of 30 minutes each.
 - Under 14/15 shall consist of two halves of 35 minutes each.
 - Youth shall consist of two halves of 40 minutes each.
- j) There will be no time added in Junior games (including Youth) unless there is a serious injury requiring an Ambulance to be called to remove the injured player from the playing field.
- k) The half-time interval must be a minimum of five (5) minutes and no longer than ten (10) minutes in duration or as deemed by the referee.
- l) The referee has the right to abandon any match if, in his/her opinion, playing conditions compromise player safety.

Procedures to Determine Placing after Regular Season:

- m) The position of each team at the conclusion of the regular season will be determined based on the following criteria:-
 - i. Highest number of points accumulated during the Regular Season.
- n) If two (2) or more teams are level on points accumulated in any junior/senior division, the following criteria shall be applied, in order, until one (1) of the teams can be determined as the higher ranked.
 - i. Highest goal difference;
 - ii. Highest number of goals scored;
 - iii. Highest number of points accumulated in matches between the teams concerned;
 - iv. Highest goal difference in matches between the teams concerned;
 - v. Highest number of goals scored in matches between the teams concerned;
 - vi. Play off between the teams at time and venue as determined by Competition Administrator.

Substitution of Players:

- o) For all male senior 1st Division matches each team can make up to three (3) substitutions (including a goalkeeper), with no more than five (5) substitutes listed.
- p) For all other divisions, unlimited interchange will be permitted, with no more than five (5) substitute players permitted to be named on the team sheet.
- q) Only players' names listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.

1.4 FIXTURES:

The CA may change the date and time of a fixture on written application from a Member Club. The application must state reasons for the desired change, and must be received by the Admin Officer/Secretary a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled fixture date.

The CA may change dates and times if:

- 1.1. It considers that it is in the best interests of the teams involved.
- 1.2. A Member Club has three (3) players of a team involved in football representative commitments, or school based events conflicting with set fixtures.
This criteria will not apply to the Final Series.
- 1.3. At its discretion.

- 1.4.1 Under no circumstances can clubs, or officials of clubs, change the time or location of any games.
- 1.4.2 If following a Home and Away format, the home team shall be the first team named.

1.5 INCOMPLETE FIXTURES:

- 1.5.1 The result of any match during the season proper which does not reach its natural conclusion shall be decided by the CA either by:-
 - a. Allocation of points according to the score at the time of stoppage, OR
 - b. Ordering a full replay to be staged as close as possible to that date, OR
 - c. Declaring the match abandoned and awarding one (1) point to each team, OR
 - d. In the case of proven malpractice by one team, awarding of points to the opponents of the offending team plus three (3) goals.
- 1.5.2 In the case that a Finals match does not reach its natural conclusion, a full replay must be staged as close as possible to that date.
- 1.5.3 In such cases where it can be proven beyond reasonable doubt that spectator interference causing abandonment has been inspired by a person or persons directly associated with any Member Club, that Member Club may be deemed guilty of serious misconduct through association, and may be liable to such penalty as may be determined by the CA. Penalty as per 'Spectator interference penalty' in Appendix.
- 1.5.4 Any team which "walks off" or refuses play to continue, may be deemed to have committed

serious misconduct and may be liable to such penalty as may be determined upon investigation by the CA. The team guilty of the “walk off” shall be deemed to have forfeited the match, and goals awarded shall be recorded as Nil. Three (3) points and three (3) goals – or the actual goal difference at the time of the ‘walk-off’ - shall be awarded to their opponents. Monetary penalty as per ‘Walk-off Penalty’ in Appendix.

- 1.5.5 Any team refusing or failing to play the team against which it has been drawn, shall be deemed to have forfeited the game.
- 1.5.6 The CA may determine to exclude a team from the competition in the event the team forfeits on three (3) occasions during the progress of a season. The Member Club may be called upon to explain why their team should not be excluded from the competition.
- 1.5.7 The CA may impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club/s, team/s, player/s and official/s.
- 1.5.8 In the event that a home or visiting team is not ready to commence a match within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, the match will be deemed a forfeit and the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0).
- 1.5.9 Should a Club forfeit a match prior to kick-off, the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0).
- 1.5.10 Should a Club forfeit after a match has commenced, the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0), or the actual goal difference, whichever is the greater.
- 1.5.11 A Club who forfeits a match may also be subject to additional sanctions by the Competition Administrator, plus compensation of their opponents.
- 1.5.11 In the case of a Club who forfeits without giving the required 48 hours notice, or fails to complete a commenced fixture, then the following will apply:-

The CA shall enforce:-

- a) in the 1st instance the full refs fees;
- b) in the 2nd instance, the full refs fees plus half the scheduled fine;
- c) and in the 3rd instance, the club shall incur the full refs fees plus the full scheduled fine, and be required to ‘Show Cause’ why they should not be excluded from the competition for the remainder of the season.

1.6 WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITION SEASON:

- a) If any team in the competition withdraws during the fixture season, then the recorded results for that team will be deleted and a Bye in the competition will be substituted.
- b) Results from completed rounds will stand and a Bye substituted for any subsequent rounds.

- c) The club involved may also be subject to disciplinary action and sanction by the Competition Administrator.

1.7 DELAYED, POSTPONED AND CANCELLED MATCHES:

- a) Matches may be postponed or delayed by the Competition Administrator as outlined in Clause 4.4 on advice from match officials, nominated representatives and venue clubs.
- b) The Competition Administrator reserves the right to reschedule all postponed matches at a place and time as it sees fit. Consideration will be taken as to where games were to be played.
- c) The Competition Administrator reserves the right to record any outstanding fixtures that have not been completed by no later than one (1) week after the conclusion of the fixture season as a 0-0 draw.

1.8 SUSPENDED OR ABANDONED MATCHES:

- a) Once a match has commenced, the Match Referee has sole responsibility to determine if the match should be suspended or abandoned due to severe adverse weather conditions or matters that may compromise the safety of the participants of the match.

Request for Replay of Abandoned Match:

- b) Should a fixture be abandoned, the Competition Administrator shall take into consideration the following factors when considering a request for a replay:
 - i. Reasons why the fixture was abandoned;
 - ii. The amount of time actually played - if more than 75% of the fixture has been played, the score at the time of abandonment will be the result of the fixture;
 - iii. result at the time of abandonment;
 - iii. The impact on the final league standing of this fixture.
- c) Any Club who is found to be responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the abandonment of a fixture, may be subject to disciplinary sanctions (i.e. loss of points and fines), to be determined by the Competition Administrator, not limited to the following.
- d) The Competition Administrator may decide to direct any of the following outcomes in the case of play abandonment due to the action of one or both teams:-
 - i. That the match be replayed;
 - ii. The game be recorded as a 3-0 win in favor of the opposing team, unless the score at the time of abandonment was of a greater margin in favor of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team;

- iii. The game be recorded as “NO RESULT” – no points or goals to be awarded to either team;
- iv. Impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club/s, player/s and official/s.

1.9 FINALS SERIES DETAILS:

Format:

- a) The top four (4) teams at the conclusion of the Regular Season will participate in the Finals Series.
- b) The Finals Series format will be as follows
 - i. *Week 1: Semi-Final - 1st v 2nd, Semi-Final - 3rd v 4th*
 - ii. *Week 2: Preliminary Final - Loser of 1st v 2nd v Winner of 3rd v 4th*
 - iii. *Week 3: Grand Final - Winner of 1st v 2nd Semi-Final v Winner of Preliminary Final*
- c) The team who finished in the higher position at the conclusion of the Regular Season will be considered to be the home team for any Finals match.
- d) The venues for all Semi-Finals Series matches will be played at the grounds of the teams finishing 1st and 3rd, and the Prelim Finals and the Grand Finals will be alternated between Football Maryborough and Football Hervey Bay grounds under the agreement decided upon in 2010, which commenced with the Prelim Finals being played at FM grounds, and the Grand Finals being played at FHB grounds.

Procedures to Determine the Winner of all Competitive Finals Series Matches:

- e) If, at the conclusion of any match in the Finals Series, the scores between the teams are equal, then extra time of two (2) equal periods of fifteen (15) minutes for senior men, and 10 minutes for all other divisions, will be played. The conditions of FIFA Law 8 will apply.
- f) If scores remain equal at the conclusion of both periods of extra time, penalty kicks will be taken, in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game, to determine the winner of the match.

g) TROPHIES:

- i) All perpetual trophies won by any Member Club, must be returned to the CA in the same condition in which it was presented, no later than 1st July of the following season.
- ii) If any trophy is lost, damaged, or not returned by the due date, the CA will invoice the club for the replacement and/or repair of the trophy. A fine of \$220-00 will also apply as per ‘Trophy loss or non-return’ in the Appendix.
- iii) Engraving costs incurred by the Member Club will be reimbursed by the CA upon production of a suitable receipt.

- iv) A written criteria for the establishment of any perpetual memorial trophy must be recorded by the CA for future reference.
- v) The cost of trophies will be distributed evenly amongst the CA's for the division in which they compete.

2. PLAYER REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY:

2.1 PLAYER REGISTRATION:

- a) Players participating in competitions under the jurisdiction of Football Maryborough/Football Hervey Bay, may be registered as Amateur Players or Professional Players in line with the provisions established in the National Registration Regulations.
- b) Amateur Players are permitted to be registered at any time. However, Amateur players are not permitted to re-register with another club within the FM/FHB CA after 30 June each year. The Rules of Competition may also restrict a player's eligibility for Finals Series.
- c) Professional players may only be registered during one of the two Registration Periods each year - the dates to be advised, if applicable.
- d) The Competition Administrator may register a Professional Player outside the Registration Periods only if:-
 - i. That Player is not currently bound by a Professional Player Contract.
 - ii. That Player is a goalkeeper and the Competition Administrator is satisfied that the Club has a justifiable reason for the request and has provided appropriate evidence;
 - iii. The Competition Administrator is satisfied, in its absolute discretion, that exceptional circumstances exist, including if a Player is seeking registration arising out of the termination of the Participation Agreement of his former Club or he has terminated his Standard Player Contract for Just Cause.
- e) The registration of a player with a Club is effective from the date of registration as entered on the Prescribed Forms submitted to the Competition Administrator. Unless cancelled earlier, registration is effective from the date of registration until 31st December of that year.

2.2 AMATEUR PLAYER REGISTRATION PROCESS:

- a) When registering an Amateur Player for the season, the Club must complete the Registration process as defined by FQ.
- b) Football Queensland will request any International Transfer Certificates (ITC) necessary for players that were last registered with an overseas Federation.
- c) On fulfillment of all requirements, the Player will be registered to FM/FHB.

2.3 PROFESSIONAL PLAYER REGISTRATION PROCESS:

- a) When registering a Professional Player for the season, the Club must complete the Registration process as defined by FQ.
- b) Football Queensland will request any International Transfer Certificates (ITC) necessary for Players who were last registered with an overseas Federation.
- c) On fulfillment of all requirements, the Player will be registered to FM/FHB.

2.4 PLAYER INSURANCE:

- a) Player Accident and Associated Liability Insurance cover is taken out by Football Queensland. Policy details and claims procedures will be provided to all Clubs, Registered Players and Team Officials.
- b) All players must sign the acknowledgement that they have sighted and accepted the Player Injury Insurance cover provided by Football Queensland.

2.5 VISA PLAYERS:

- a) If the player's country of birth is not Australia, clubs must check the player's residential/visa status prior to registration. Clubs must abide by all appropriate regulations as advised by Football Federation Australia and Football Queensland.
- b) Football Queensland will request any International Transfer Certificates (ITC) necessary for players that were last registered with an overseas Federation.
- c) Clubs are permitted to sign an unlimited number of visa players.

2.6 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

General:

- a) The eligibility of a player to participate in matches under the jurisdiction of this Competition Administrator is finalized upon receipt and approval of all necessary forms and appropriate clearances by the Competition Administrator.
- b) A player is eligible to play in matches under the jurisdiction of this Competition Administrator, provided he/she is registered in line with Football Federation Australia National Registration Regulations, Football Queensland Registration Procedures and Football Maryborough/Football Hervey Bay Registration Procedures.
- c) A player is eligible to play in matches under the jurisdiction of the Competition Administrators, provided he/she is not under suspension by any Federation.
- d) A registered player is eligible to take part in matches under the jurisdiction of the Competition Administrators provided their name appears on the team sheet prior to the commencement of the Match, or by the conclusion of half-time as outlined in the Competition Rules.

- e) For matches using substitution rules, a player who is listed as a Reserve and does not take the field is deemed not to have played.
- f) For matches using interchange rules, any player who is listed on the team sheet is deemed to have played, unless marked DNP (did not play) by the match officials.

2.7 PLAYER AGE POLICY:

- a) Players must be turning 5 by the end of the calendar year in which they wish to register. (This replaces the previous requirement for players to have attained 5 years before registration).
- b) Players must play in their designated age group as determined by date of birth unless exceptional circumstances apply. Exceptional circumstances will include a shortage of player numbers in an age group. A Player from the next lower age division will be sanctioned to fill in for a maximum of 6 games up to and including finals, provided that the player does not displace a player from the genuine age group. (15 year olds playing Youth/Senior Football; & Youth players playing Senior Football are exempt from this rule.) For the purpose of this clause a team is defined as 11 players + 3 Substitutes. If a team has 14 players of the correct age available, NO younger age players are permitted to be brought up. Clubs may request to have a younger age player permanently reclassified to the next higher age, however that player cannot revert to his correct age group in the current season under any circumstances. Playing a player up an age group for the 7th game will result in a forfeit of that higher age group fixture match (rule 2.9 f) unless a reclassification letter from the Parent/Guardian and signed by the players club is received by Football Maryborough/Football Hervey Bay Executive Committee prior to the commencement of that match.

Football Queensland prescribed form PA01 must be submitted to Football Maryborough/Football Hervey Bay Executive Committee prior to any player playing in a higher age group.

AT ALL TIMES PLAYERS OF THE CORRECT AGE GROUP MUST BE USED IN PREFERENCE TO A PLAYER OUTSIDE THAT AGE GROUP.

- c) CA's wherever possible are required to provide a top tier Division 1 competition in every designated junior competitive age group U12 - U15. (There are to be no combined age groups for the Division 1 competition). Variation will be considered by FQ on application.
- d) Where combined age groups are required for lower divisions, applications will be considered by FQ.
- e) There will be NO exceptions for small sided football formats and ages.
- f) Junior Player Exceptional Circumstances Rules to play open Football:

MALE:

Players born in 2000 (Under 16) and older may play in all youth and Premier senior male competitions with parental /guardian approval.

Players born in 2001 (Under 15) may play in the Under 16/17 competition and may apply via their club, with parental/guardian approval, for exemption under "Exceptional Circumstances" conditions to

play in Premier senior competitions. Players in this category **MUST** be assessed by a qualified coach (approved by the CA) and be deemed capable of playing Open Football.

FEMALE:

Players born in 2001 (Under 15) and older may play in all youth and senior female competitions with parental / guardian approval.

Players born in 2002 (Under 14) may apply via their club, with parental/guardian approval, for exemption under “Exceptional Circumstances” conditions to play in Open Women’s Competitions. Players in this category **MUST** be assessed by a qualified coach (approved by the CA) and deemed capable of playing Open Women’s Football.

g) Wide Bay Junior Premier League (JPL) Players are deemed to have participated at State or National level competitions.

2.8 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS:

1. To be eligible to play in the Finals Series, a player must have played at least five (5) fixture matches for their registered club. A player’s name ticked, or otherwise indicated ‘on’, by the referee on a team sheet is deemed to have played in that match.
2. All players must have played at least 1 more game in the lower division than a higher division to be eligible to play in that division in the Finals Series.
3. Youth age players will be permitted to play in Youth Finals without penalty if having played more games in a senior division.
4. When calculating 1st Division matches, it will include FCL and any Intercity 1st division competition combined a player participates in.

2.9 PLAYER INELIGIBILITY:

- a) Any player not registered in line with Football Federation Australia National Registration Regulations, Football Queensland Registration Procedures and Guidelines and Football Maryborough/Football Hervey Bay Registration Procedures for the current season, is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any match.
- b) Any player under suspension by any Association/Federation will be deemed ineligible, and is not permitted to participate in any match until that suspension is served.
- c) Any club is permitted to lodge a letter of protest regarding the alleged fielding of an ineligible player. The protest must be in writing under club letterhead and be forwarded to the Competition Administrator within 48 hours of the completed fixture.
- d) The Competition Administrator reserves the right to investigate the eligibility of any player who

participates in any of its competitions.

Penalties and Outcomes:

- e) Any club who fields an ineligible player may be subject to disciplinary sanctions as determined by the Competition Administrator.
- f) If it is established that a player competing in any match was not legitimately registered or was ineligible to play, then the following will apply:-
 - i. The club found guilty shall forfeit any goals scored and points gained in that match, and the points and match will be awarded to the opposing team.
 - ii. The game will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the goals scored were of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team.
 - iii. The Competition Administrator may impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club or player.
- g) In the event that it is established that both clubs competing in any match fielded players who were not legitimately registered or were ineligible to play, then the following will apply:-
 - i. The match will be deemed as a 'NO RESULT', whereby, no points will be awarded.
 - ii. The Competition Administrator may impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending clubs or players.

3. DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS:

3.1 COMPETITION:

- a) These Disciplinary Rules are set by FM/FHB as the Competition Administrators and supplement the National Disciplinary Regulations in accordance with Clause 1.2 of those Regulations.

3.2 SANCTIONS:

- a) The application of sanctions to be issued to Participants for direct Red Cards will be in accordance with the range of sanctions outlined in the National Disciplinary Regulations. Where a Player receives an indirect Red Card, he will serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match.
- b) A Player who accumulates the following number of Yellow Cards during the course of the Competition, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspension in the Division in which

he/she received his/her last Yellow Card, and shall be suspended from participating in any division match until his/her suspension has been served:-

- i. Four (4) yellow cards, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
 - ii. For every three (3) yellow cards thereafter, a two (2) match suspension. *(For example, two (2) match suspension for seven (7) yellow cards).*
- c) A Player who accumulates the following number of Yellow Cards during the course of the Final Series, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspension in the Division in which he/he received his/her last Yellow Card and shall be suspended from participating in any division match until his/her suspension has been served:-
- i. Two (2) yellow cards, equates to a one (1) match suspension
- d) A Player who accumulates the following number of direct Red Cards during the course of the Competition or the Final Series, must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions, in addition to any sanction for the offence and shall be suspended from participating in any division match until his/her suspension has been served:-
- i. 1st occasion, equates to a one (1) match suspension;
 - ii. Any subsequent occasion, equates to a two (2) match suspension and so on and so on.

3.3 MISCONDUCT:

- a) Clubs must ensure that their Participants do not engage in Team Misconduct. The Competition Administrator may, consistent with the FFA Statutes, sanction a Club whose Participants engage in Team Misconduct.
- b) Team Misconduct in relation to a Club is where:-
- i. Five (5) of its Players are cautioned during a sanctioned match;
 - ii. Three (3) of its Participants are sent off or expelled during a sanctioned match;
 - iii. Its Participants collectively show dissent towards a Match Official or collectively seek to intimidate, threaten or exert pressure on a Match Official to make or alter a decision; or
 - iv. Its Participants engage in a melee or brawl.

3.4 CODE OF CONDUCT:

- a) The published FFA Code of Conduct aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of football in Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its participants and stakeholders.
- b) Any breach of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action and the imposition of

sanctions by the Competition Administrators in accordance with the provisions outlined in the Code.

3.5 NOTIFICATION AND TIMEFRAMES:

- a) The imposition of a Mandatory Match Suspension is immediate. The Competition Administrator will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the Mandatory Match Suspension within three (3) days of the completion of the weekend. For the avoidance of doubt, the Mandatory Match Suspension is effective regardless of whether or not the notice was received.
- b) If the Competition Administrator has determined that an Offence by a Player or a Team Official was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the Mandatory Match Suspension, a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the details of the Offence and of the disciplinary sanction imposed will be forwarded within three (3) days of the completion of the weekend.

3.6 TERMS OF SUSPENSION:

- a) While serving a suspension, a Participant (player or team official) may not:-
 - i. On the day of a Match, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play, the Technical Area, the dressing rooms or any other place within a venue where Participants are likely to assemble to prepare for that match;
 - ii. Within one hour of the start of match from which the Participant is suspended and within one hour of the conclusion of the match from which the Participant is suspended, have any contact with any media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to) participating in any post-match press conference and participating in Television or Radio interviews;
 - iii. Within one hour of the start of the match from which the Participant is suspended, and within one hour of the conclusion of the match from which the Participant is suspended, have any contact with any Participant whilst that Participant is in an area listed within Clause 3.6 a) i.
- b) Any suspension from the Finals Series (or the competition fixtures if not already served in the Finals Series), will carry forward into the following season and will be served in competition fixtures.
- c) If a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the execution of the suspension. A Bye or a match forfeited by the participant's team does

not count towards the execution of the suspension.

3.7 DISCIPLINARY HEARING PROCEDURES:

- a) Except in the case of obvious mistaken identity, there is no appeal from a Mandatory Match Suspension.
- b) A Club, Player or a Team Official may appeal the disciplinary sanction imposed in a Disciplinary Infringement Notice by notifying the Competition Administrator in writing within seven (7) days after the date on which the Disciplinary Infringement Notice was received, outlining the reasons for the appeal and enclosing the Appeal Fee of \$100. This fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- c) An appeal from a Competition Administrator's disciplinary sanction must be heard by a Disciplinary Committee. When determining any appropriate sanction, a Disciplinary Committee may consider:-
 - i. The nature and severity of the infringement;
 - ii. The offender's past record and whether or not this is a repeated Offence;
 - iii. The culpability of the offender (including whether or not the infringement was intentional, negligent or reckless);
 - iv. Any reasons prompting the offender to commit an infringement;
 - v. The remorse of the offender; and
 - vi. Any extenuating circumstances.

3.8 SANCTIONS UNDER FFA STATUTES:

- a) Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Club:
 - i. a reprimand;
 - ii. a fine;
 - iii. place the Club on a bond;
 - iv. a deduction or loss of competition points;
 - v. ban on the registration or transfer of any Players for a specified period of time;
 - vi. annulment of registration of a Player;
 - vii. suspension from participation in matches;
 - viii. exclusion, suspension or expulsion from the Competition;
 - ix. playing a match without spectators or on neutral territory;
 - x. a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
 - xi. annulment of the result of the match; or
 - xii. such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.
- b) Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a

participant:-

- i. a reprimand;
- ii. a fine;
- iii. return of an award;
- iv. place the individual on a bond;
- v. ban on registration of Player with any Club for a specified period of time;
- vi. annulment of registration of a Player;
- vii. suspension from participation in matches;
- viii. suspension or expulsion from the Competition;
- ix. suspension or cancellation of licence or accreditation, including Licensed Player Agent's licence or coaching accreditation;
- x. termination of registration or playing contract;
- xi. a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench
- xii. a ban from entering a stadium;
- xiii. ban on taking part in any football related activity; or
- xiv. such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.

3.9 FINANACIAL STATUS FOR PARTICIAPTION IN COMPETITIONS:

- a) If a Member Club, or a member of that club, is found to be in breach of these Rules, then the Member Club will be issued with a "Show Cause" notice. If the club is fined by the CA, these fines will be levied according to the guidelines set in the Appendix of this document. The Member Club must pay the fine within a period of 28 days from the date upon which the notification was issued.
- b) A Member Club having outstanding fees – including Referees Fees - or other monies due to the CA for one month or more, may be called upon to 'Show Cause' why they should not be declared 'unfinancial'. If a Member Club is declared 'unfinancial' their teams may take the field. However the Member Club shall be deemed to have forfeited all matches in all age groups and divisions until the outstanding monies are paid. A monetary fine may be applied (refer 'Unfinancial' in Appendix).

4. FOOTBALL AND MATCH DAY OPERATIONS:

4.1 FACILITIES / GROUND CONDITIONS:

- a) Each CA must take all reasonable steps to maintain its pitch in good condition throughout the season.
- b) The CA must ensure;-

- The ground is correctly marked, including the technical area, as per FIFA Laws of the Game;
- It provides suitable goal nets, safely fastened to the ground and corner flags;
- It provides toilets/dressing rooms for players and match officials that are hygienic and clean;
- It has adequate toilet/refreshment/canteen facilities open to the public;
- It provides a safe environment for players, officials and spectators.
- The playing surface must not cause a danger to players

4.2 THE TECHNICAL AREA:

- a) Each CA must have Technical Areas clearly marked as stipulated by FIFA guidelines and provide sufficient seating to allow all personnel to be seated during the match.
- b) The Technical Area should be clearly marked out, extending no further than one (1) metre on either side (left and right) of the designated seating area (extra seats should be available for use in addition to permanent seating if necessary) and extends forward up to a distance of one (1) metre from the side line.
- c) For all matches played during the Regular Season and Finals Series, a maximum of eight (8) persons are permitted to occupy the Technical Area for each Club during any fixture. This includes the five (5) named substitutes and up to three (3) Team Officials.
- d) Occupants of the Technical Area must be either a registered Player wearing a bib, or a registered Team Official and wear the appropriate accreditation at all times.
- e) A Player or Team Official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area.
- f) Only one person at a time is authorized to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match and he must return to his position after giving these instructions.
- g) The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the Technical Area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team physio or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission, to assess an injured player.
- h) All substitutes must be seated within the Technical Area. Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the Technical Area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to the team strip.
- i) All occupants of the Technical Area must behave in a responsible manner. The referee has the right to eject any person from the Technical Area at any time as he/she sees fit. The game will not recommence until that person has left to the referee's satisfaction.
- j) Smoking and drinking alcohol within the confines of the playing barrier fence is strictly prohibited. This includes the team bench within the Technical Area and all of its occupants.

4.3 LIGHTING:

- a) Recommendations for football field lighting detailed in the Australian Standard AS2560 Part 2.3 “Lighting for Football” includes; Minimum Service Illuminance Lux (Average) 100 and Minimum Uniformity Ratio (Min: Ave) 0.5 for Competition.

4.4 MEDICAL:

- a) All CA’s must provide spectator and player medical support service during scheduled matches.

Stretchers:

- b) CA’s must ensure the availability of at least one stretcher suitable for first aid and emergency use at all scheduled matches.

Ambulance Access:

- c) Unrestricted access to the field of play shall be provided for Ambulance vehicles when required and be clearly signed.

Water Bottles:

- d) For safety reasons, water bottles are not to be thrown either on or off the field.

Blood Ruling:

- e) In the event a player suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood, the match official will request that the injured player receive attention outside the field of play and only when he/she is satisfied that the injury or wound is safely covered and contained, will the player be permitted to rejoin the game.
- f) In the event the player’s uniform or attire is splattered with blood, the referee will instruct that player to change his attire before being permitted to rejoin the game.
- g) Should the injured player be required to change his uniform, then the match official will show discretion in allowing the player to wear an alternative numbered shirt if necessary.

Heat Management Strategy:

- h) When high temperatures occur on match day, the Match Referee or the Competition Administrator delegate may determine:-
 - i. To play the match under standard conditions;
 - ii. To play the match with provision for extra breaks for consumption of fluid;
 - iii. To delay the match; or

- iv. To postpone the match.
- i) The decision to incorporate these provisions should be based primarily on the assessment of the potential medical risk of playing in the heat to both the Players and Match Officials.
- j) All clubs, players and match officials are requested to please note the following when high temperatures occur on match day:-
 - i. If the temperature is 32° or above, water bottles should be made available and placed along the sidelines to enable any player to take a drink during the course of the game;
and
 - ii. If conditions are considered extreme by the match referee, he or she has discretion to allow a two (2) minute break during the course of each half.

Extreme Weather Conditions:

- k) In extreme weather conditions, the Competition Administrator in conjunction with the appointed match official reserves the right to postpone, delay or abandon any fixture.
- l) The Competition Administrator representative is to then meet with a Referee official and jointly inspect the field to ascertain a number of factors, which will include:-
 - Is the ground considered safe for the players and the match to proceed?
 - If so, how many matches can be played, taking into account all factors including the likely weather conditions and the expected state of the ground?
- m) The designated representatives will then reach a decision regarding the schedule of matches with the Competition Administrator responsible for advising the opposition club and appointed Referees in the event matches are to be postponed.
- n) Early morning inspections are only to be organized with the designated representative when conditions are such that there is doubt as to the safety of the ground. In cases of light rain only, the match referee will inspect prior to the match itself. Ground inspections for mid week matches will be arranged via the Competition Administrator.
- o) In the event of the cancellation or abandonment of a fixture through rain rendering grounds unplayable, all such fixtures shall be played or replayed at a time and under such conditions as the Competition Administrator shall determine.

4.5 TEAM OFFICIALS:

- a) All Team Officials must be registered with the Competition Administrator. Upon registration, an

Identification Card will be issued which must be worn when performing specified duties.

- b) All Team Officials must conduct themselves in accordance with the FFA Code of Conduct.
- c) The Competition Administrator may impose disciplinary action upon such persons and Clubs, where it is found that Team Officials have breached the Code of Conduct.
- d) Team officials are only covered by insurance provided the club has appointed and registered them. With regards to team trainers or medical staff, clubs should not use the services of any other person to treat players in regard to injuries, unless such persons have their own insurance coverage to safeguard themselves if any legal action is implemented as a result of treatment of injuries.
- e) Team Officials must remain within the Technical Area and are required to wear their Identification Card at all times. Team Officials not wearing the appropriate identification will not be permitted to be situated in the area during the match.
- f) Team officials are responsible for ensuring players behave in an appropriate manner at all times before, during and after any game.
- g) Team officials are not to argue or address any disagreements or comment directly to a referee. Any complaints should be directed in writing to the Competition Administrator on club letterhead.
- h) A team official can only enter the field of play when the referee indicates to do so.

4.6 GROUND OFFICIALS:

- a) It is the responsibility of the CA hosting matches to provide a Ground Official for all matches.
- b) Ground Officials must be in clearly identifiable uniform and must identify themselves to the appointed CA official prior to each match.
- c) Ground Officials are to be visible at all times and one must be designated to provide an escort to all match officials before kick-off, at half time and full time.
- d) The ground official cannot be the coach or manager whose game is in progress on the park.
- e) The duties of the club ground official, on match days, are many and varied. The smooth running of the day calls for an efficient and vigilant ground official ready for whatever comes along. The ground official should:-
 - If an official referee is not present, ensure that a referee is arranged either by the club or by consent of the two teams playing.
 - Ensure that the spectators' behavior is orderly and is not abusive to the referee or his assistants, player's or other spectators.
 - Direct and assist any ambulance if called to attend a player or any other person.
 - Be of assistance wherever possible.

4.7 MATCH DAY INFORMATION:

Match Balls:

- a) The Competition Administrator shall provide a quantity of match balls before the commencement of the season.

Playing Strips:

- b) All clubs must nominate and register their strips with the CA before the start of each season.
- c) All clubs must nominate a “Home” strip and have available an “Alternate” strip. The alternate strip (shirt, shorts and socks) should not clash with their nominated “Home” strip. All gear ordered must have the “Q” logo attached by the manufacturing company. This should be requested when ordering.
- d) All first named clubs will be deemed the "Home" team and therefore will play in their nominated colours.
- e) In the event there is a clash of colours with the visiting team, it will be the responsibility of the visiting team to change into their alternative strip.
- f) Goalkeepers may wear any colour provided it does not clash with either team or referee/assistants.
- h) Each club affiliated to Football Maryborough/Football Hervey Bay shall provide to the Competition Administrator the details and a photograph of their regular and alternate strips, (including socks), for approval and registration of colours. Approval must be given by the Competition Administrator prior to any club purchasing new strips. Failure to do so may render such strips unable to be worn.
- i) All playing strips must have numbers on the back of the jerseys with the exception of the non-competitive small sided football formats.

Player Equipment:

- j) It is the match referee’s responsibility to ensure all players taking the field of play are wearing equipment that is safe to themselves and other persons. All players must wear shin-guards whilst on the field of play.

Jewellery:

- k) In accordance with FIFA ‘Laws of the Game’, a player is forbidden to wear any jewellery.

Alcohol:

- l) It shall be the Competition Administrators responsibility to enforce all Liquor Licensing requirements in the sale and consumption of alcohol.

- m) Should persons be seen to be in breach of these rules, the ground official should advise such person to conform to the rules immediately. Should such person/s refuse to adhere to that request, the ground official shall be at liberty to contact the police to have such person/s removed.

National Flags, Slogans, Emblems:

- n) No club should display national flags, slogans or emblems at home venues under any circumstances, with the only exception being the Australian flag. Clubs will be allowed to dress/decorate their respective social clubs (internally) as they see fit provided flags, slogans or emblems are not visible from the playing arena.
- o) The Competition Administrator reserves the right to request the removal of any national flags or slogans at any time. The incorporation of national flags, slogans or similar emblems on any part of the player's attire or the uniform worn by a Club official is strictly prohibited.
- p) Clubs found to be in breach of this provision may be subject to disciplinary action and sanctions.

4.8 MATCH DAY TEAM SHEETS – COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS:

- a) Team sheets, as provided by Football Wide Bay, are an official legal document, and shall be completed in ink, complete with printed names and respective signatures, then presented to the Referee Operations Manager at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time. The run on players MUST be ticked prior to the start of the game.
- b) All players, reserves and team officials, must sign the team sheet beside their PRINTED name, BEFORE entering the field of play. In all instances however, the player must have signed the team sheet before the commencement of the second half to be able to take any part in the match.
- c) The names of reserve players must also be PRINTED on the sheet prior to its being handed to the referee. A maximum of five (5) reserves may be named on the team sheet.
- d) If fewer than eleven (11) names are on the team sheet when it is handed to the referee, additional names may be added until such time as eleven (11) names appear on the sheet. No other player shall be granted permission to enter the field of play.
- e) If eleven (11) players take the field at the commencement of a match, a player whose name is not included on the team sheet handed to the referee before the start of the match, shall not be allowed to take part in the match.
- f) Immediately following each CA fixture, the referee shall complete the official team sheet, attaching thereto any reports of misconduct by players and/or officials on the appropriate misconduct forms, setting out full particulars of the charge. The Referees Operations Manager will confirm all details, and deliver to the Registrar or a CA representative. In exceptional

circumstances, the referee may delay the completion of their reports for up to forty-eight (48) hours after the completion of the fixture.

- g) Should any listed player fail to sign the team sheet by the conclusion of the half time interval and participates in the fixture, then that player will be deemed to be in breach of the Rules of Competition and the club will be sanctioned as follows:-
 - i. If it is established that the player was legitimately registered and was eligible to play, then the club will be fined for each offence, and the match result will stand.
 - ii. If it is established that the player was not legitimately registered or was ineligible to play, then the penalties for playing an ineligible player will apply.
 - iii. In the event that both clubs are found to have failed to list a player who takes part in the same competition match, then both clubs will be disciplined and the match will be deemed 'NO RESULT'.
- h) In the event a club official approaches a CA official seeking to protest the fielding of an ineligible player, the CA official should instruct the club official to lodge an official protest in writing on club letterhead within 48 hours of the completion of the match.
- i) At the conclusion of each match, the referee shall consult and confirm with his/her assistants prior to completing all copies of the Team Sheets, Referee Summary and any Send-off/Incident Report Forms.
- j) A CA Official must sign the team sheet once the referee has completed the team sheet.
- k) Team Sheets, Referee Summary & Send-off/Incident Report Forms from the appointed match official will be accepted transcript. All decisions of the match referee regarding the facts connected with play (including whether a goal is scored or not, and the result of the match) are considered final.

Club Responsibilities:

It is the club's responsibility to ensure:-

- l) It has a minimum number of seven (7) players to commence the match;
- m) That it does not list more than sixteen (16) players on the team sheet;
- n) All players taking the field are eligible to play;
- o) The names of all players taking the field of play are PRINTED correctly and listed on the team sheet in legible writing. If the players name is declared illegible by the Competition Administrator, that player may be deemed as "not played". If the said player receives a Yellow/Red card during the match, then the club will be deemed to be in breach of the Rules of

Competition in regards to Player Eligibility and the club may be subject to disciplinary action.

- p) All players taking the field of play have signed the team sheet;
- q) All players are ready to commence the fixture at the scheduled kick-off time;
- r) All players wear the appropriate licensed apparel, before taking the field of play.
- s) That the details recorded on the completed team sheet are accurate and signed by a CA official upon conclusion of the match.

4.9 TEAM SHEETS NON COMPETITIVE (U6 – U11):

- a) On match day, both teams are required to complete an official team sheet prior to the commencement of any match. It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that all Coaches/Managers are advised of this.
- b) The team sheet must legibly list all players taking part in the fixture. Players are not required to sign the team sheet.
- c) The completed team sheet must be placed in the box at the CA office on conclusion of the match.

4.10 NON-ATTENDANCE OR UNAVAILABILITY OF MATCH OFFICIAL:

- a) Should the appointed match official fail to honour his appointment, then the next most senior match official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture.
- b) In the event the appointed match official is late on arrival, then the replacement match official (as above) will take charge of the fixture until the appointed match official is ready to take over.
- c) In the event no registered match official is present to take charge of the match, then the designated “Home” club shall consult the visiting team and appoint a match official to take charge of the match. This match official has the same powers as a registered match official.
- d) All clubs are obligated to fulfill all fixtures regardless of whether the appointed match official is present to take charge. Should any club fail or refuse to participate in any fixture on the above grounds, then:-
 - i. The match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team;
 - ii. Where the offence is committed by a senior team, the club will be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.
 - iii. In the event both teams refuse to play, the Competition Administrator reserves the right to award a ‘NO RESULT’, fine both clubs and take further disciplinary action.
- e) In circumstances where only one Assistant Referee has been appointed to a Senior game, the

designated 'home' team is obliged to provide a club assistant to assist the match referee.

4.11 MATCH OFFICIALS INFORMATION:

Substitution of Players:

- a) For all male senior 1st Division matches, each team can make up to three (3) substitutions (including a goalkeeper), with no more than five (5) substitutes listed.
- b) For all other divisions, unlimited interchange will be permitted, with no more than five (5) substitute players permitted to be named on the team sheet.
- c) Only players' names listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.
- d) All substitutions/interchanges can only occur at a break in play with the approval of the referee and must take place at the halfway line.
- e) All substitutions/interchanges made at half time must enter the field from the half way on the referees signal just prior to kick off of the second half.
- f) All substitutes must be seated within the Technical Area.
- g) Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the Technical Area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to the team strip.

Team Sheets, Referee Summary and Send Off/Incident Report Forms:

- h) At the conclusion of each match, the referee shall consult and confirm with his/her assistants prior to completing both Team Sheets and Send Off/Incident Report Forms.
- i) Referees must complete all aspects of the Team Sheet.
- j) Once completed, the referees must ensure that Team Sheets and any Send-off/Incident Report Forms are forwarded to the Competition Administrator through the appropriate channels. It is crucial that these forms reach the Competition Administrator by no later than forty eight (48) hours after the completion of the match..
- k) In the event a club official approaches the match referee seeking to protest the fielding of an ineligible player, the referee should instruct the club official to consult a CA official.
- l) The referee must check that clubs do not list more than sixteen (16) players on the team sheet for any match.
- m) Please note that the Team Sheets, Referee Summary & Send-Off/Incident Report Forms from the appointed match official will be accepted transcript.

MONETARY AND FINE APPENDIX

ALL FEES GST INCLUSIVE (WHERE APPLICABLE)

1. Good Behaviour Bond - \$1,000.00
2. Affiliation Fees - \$110 per club
3. Team Nomination Fee
 Senior \$66 per team
 Junior \$16.50 per team
4. Player Registration shall be equal to an amount determined by the CA + GST + FFA + FQ + FWB levy.
5. Referees fees are determined by the CA having regard to recommended fees set by Football Wide Bay.
6. Late Team Nomination (after the season Draw has been compiled) - not in excess of \$100.00
7. Late Team Withdrawal (after competition Draw has been compiled) - \$150.00
8. Playing an unregistered player - \$33.00 per player
9. 'Administration Fee for Movement of Registration' - \$22.00
10. 'Uncleared player registration' fine - \$ 33.00
11. 'Movement of players' (between teams in the same Division) - fine to club - \$ 33.00
12. Club Forfeit Fee (Refer Clause 1.5 'Incomplete Fixtures')

- i. All Senior Divisions \$130.00 plus Referees Fees
 - ii. All Junior Competitive Divisions \$100.00 plus Referees Fees
- 13. 'Competitive' Team Sheets - Clause 4.8
 - i. Incorrectly completed Team Sheet - \$27.50 per error
 - ii. Falsified Team Sheets - not exceeding \$110.00
- 14. Spectator interference penalty - minimum \$550.00
- 15. Walk-off penalty (Clause 1.5.4) - minimum \$110.00 - maximum \$1100.00
- 16. Unfinancial Status - \$100.00 (Clause 3.9)
- 17. The CA may pass on to the Member Clubs such fees or levies as may be imposed on the CA by other bodies.
- 18. Appeals
 - i) CA Appeal Fee (Clause 3.7.b) - \$100
 - ii) Zone Appeal Fee - \$150.00
- 19. 'Trophy Loss or non-return' fee (Clause 1.9.g): \$220.00