



**OVENS AND KING FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE**  
**Football By-Laws 2020**



# RULES & REGULATIONS

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**1. SEASON:** The Football Season shall commence on such date in each year as the board may decide.

**2. REGISTRATION, CLEARANCES AND PLAYING PERMITS:**

a) All registrations, Clearances and Permits shall be conducted as per the VCFL rules and regulations.

b) Any club playing an unregistered player shall be dealt with by the VCFL rules and the club found guilty of such infringement shall be liable to such penalty as determined by those rules as the case may be.

c) Any player disqualified in any match shall serve the period of disqualification in the grade in which the player is suspended. This means the player can not play in any other grade.

d) Any suspension must be served in home and away or finals round matches. Pre-season games are not included as having served suspension.

**3. APPEALS AGAINST REFUSED CLEARANCES:**

a) All Clearance appeals shall be conducted as per VCFL rules and regulations.

**4. PREMIERSHIP CONDITIONS:**

**a) Home and Away Matches:**

i) A round of matches in accordance with the program of matches as issued by the Board shall be played.

ii) In all matches four points shall be counted for a win, two for a draw and in the event of any Club tying with another the position of such Club shall be determined by the proportion of points scored for and against such Club during the home and away matches.

iii) In the event of Clubs tying for first and second, third and fourth or fifth position on the ladder at the end of the home and away matches and also having the same proportion or points scored for and against an additional match or matches shall be played prior to the commencement of the Final Series Matches to determine the positions the clubs concerned shall occupy on the final ladder.

iv) No points will be awarded to Clubs due to byes occurring.

v) Unless otherwise determined by the Board pursuant to Rule 12 (c):

2) all reserve grade home and away matches shall commence at 12pm and be played over four quarters of twenty minutes; and

3) all Senior grade home and away matches shall commence at 2pm. and be played over four quarters of twenty minutes plus time-on]

**b) Final Series Matches:**

At the conclusion of the home and away matches the first six Clubs on the premiership list ("the list") shall play off for the premiership under the Final Six System ("the system").

**i) First Weekend:**

**Elimination Final One – Saturday**

The Club placed Third on the List shall play the Club placed Sixth on the List.

**Elimination Final Two – Saturday**

The Club placed Fourth on the List shall play the Club placed Fifth on the List

The loser of the Elimination Finals shall be eliminated from the Finals Series.

**ii) Second Weekend:**

**Semi Final One – Saturday**

The Club placed First on the List shall play the Club placed Second on the List

**Semi Final Two – Sunday**

The winning Club of Elimination Final One shall play the winning Club of Elimination Final Two.

The loser of the Semi Final Two – shall be eliminated from the Finals Series.

**iii) *Third Weekend:***

**Preliminary Final - Saturday**

The Losing Club of Semi Final One shall play the Winning Club of Semi Final Two.

The loser of the Preliminary Final – shall be eliminated from the Final series.

**iv) *Fourth Weekend:***

**Grand Final - Saturday**

The winning Club of Semi Final One shall play the winner of the Preliminary Final.

**c) Finals Match Duration:**

All Finals matches will be played over:

- i) All third grade finals matches shall be played over four quarters of twenty minutes plus time on in the second half only;
- ii) All reserve grade finals matches shall be played over four quarters of twenty minutes plus time on in the second half only;
- iii) All Senior grade finals matches shall be played over four quarters of twenty minutes plus time on.

**d) Finals Starting Times:**

All finals matches will commence at the times as advised by the Board.

**e) Tie in Final Series Matches**

In the event of a tie in a final series match extra time shall be played.

- i) Extra time shall consist of two halves each of five minutes duration with time on played and shall commence as soon as possible following completion of normal time.
- ii) Teams shall maintain the same ends as at the completion of normal time and shall exchange ends after the first five minute period.
- iii) In the event that scores are level following extra time such subsequent periods of extra time shall be played until a result is determined.
- iv) Coaches and other Club staff other than those permitted to enter the arena during normal time, shall not enter the arena or address players during any period(s) of extra time.

**f) Arrangement of Grounds for Final Series Matches:**

The final series matches shall be played upon such ground or grounds as shall be determined by the Board.

**g) Conditions of Players for Final Series Matches**

i. A player playing in two matches in the same home and away round can only quality for final series matches in the higher grade in which he plays

ii. All players must play at least three (3) games in the current season with a club before they can participate in the final series matches;

iii. Players playing eight (8) matches or more with the first XVIII are not eligible to play in any finals matches of the second XVIII. Players playing three (3) or more games with the first XVIII must play six (6) games or more with the second XVIII before being eligible to play in any final matches with the second XVIII. If firsts and seconds are involved in finals matches on the same day or during the same weekend, open selection of players regardless of number of games played shall be permitted. Qualification ending at completion of home and away matches.

iv. A player shall not be permitted to play in more than one final over a weekend.

v. Area Permits agreement with various Leagues will be available. The agreements vary and Club s must be aware of these as copies will be provided to each club.

vi. For the purposes of Finals Series qualification matches played in VFL Under 18 competition (NAB League) shall be considered as Ovens and King Football League Senior Grade matches.

**(h) Change room allocation and Coloured Shorts – Final series**

i) The club that finishes highest on the List (Ladder) at the end of the home and away series shall have the right to the home rooms.

The General Manager shall allocate the room allocation for the minor grades at all finals.

ii) The club that finishes highest on the List (Ladder) end of the home and away series shall have the right to wear their traditional coloured shorts.

This shall occur in all grades.

**5. NAMES OF CLUBS:**

Each Club shall register its name with the League. No Club shall alter its name without the prior approval of the League.

**6. COLOURS – CLUBS:**

Each Club shall have exclusive right to wear such colours approved by the Board from time to time and no Club shall alter its colours without the approval of the Board.

Each Club may also obtain approval of board to two sets of short colours to be designated by the club as first selection and alternate selection respectively.

The Board may from time to time determine upon the selection of shorts to be worn by teams.

For finals matches, the selection of shorts to be worn shall be determined by the Board.

The emblem of the League shall be included on all players' Guernsey's and in a position on each guernsey as approved by the Board for each Club from time to time.

The following colours have been approved subject to the further provision hereof:

**Benalla** Guernsey: Black with White panther logo

**All Blacks** Socks: Black

Shorts: Black or White.

**Bonnie Doon** Guernsey: Black with Red sash

Socks: Black and red

Shorts: Black and red

**Bright** Guernsey: Sky Blue and White V

Socks: Sky Blue.

Shorts: Sky Blue with White

**Glenrowan** Guernsey: Yellow and Black

Socks: Yellow and Black.

Shorts: Black.

**Goorambat** Guernsey: Silver with Green & Gold sleeve and collar

**& District** Socks Green and Gold

Shorts Green

**Greta** Guernsey: Navy Blue

Socks: Navy Blue

Shorts: White.

**King Valley** Guernsey: Royal Blue and White strips

Socks: Royal Blue and White hoops

Shorts: Royal Blue

**Milawa** Guernsey: Dark Navy Blue with Red yoke Socks: Red

Shorts: Dark navy blue

**Moyhu** Guernsey: Green and Gold wings.

Socks: Green and Gold tops.

Shorts: Green Gold strip - Home and White away

**North** Guernsey: Brown and Gold stripes

**Wangaratta**

Socks: Brown and Gold hoops

Shorts: Brown and gold

**Tarrowingee** Guernsey: Red White and Blue

Socks: Red.

Shorts: Navy Blue.

**Whorouly** Guernsey: Maroon Blue and Gold

Socks: Maroon and Royal Blue tops

Shorts: Maroon and Royal Blue and Gold

*Notwithstanding the foregoing on each occasion where the clubs referred to as the "home team" play in any match against the Clubs shown as the "away team" the home team Club shall adopt its first selection of short colours and the **away teams Clubs shall each respectively wear White shorts.***

Each player who is a registered player of the League shall wear such items of uniform and apparel as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board, Such items may included the playing uniform and other items of apparel to be worn by registered players when attending official League fixtures and events.

If a player shall fail to wear such items of uniform and apparel prescribed by the Board pursuant to this Rule, a fine as determined by the Board may be imposed by the Board upon the Club for each player of the Club in respect of whom there is a Breach.

## **7. NUMBERS:**

a) i) Each player taking part in a match as a registered player of the League shall wear the number prescribed by the Club and such number shall be of a type and size and attached to the Guernsey in a place directed by the Board.

ii) In the event that a player shall fail to wear the number prescribed by the Club pursuant to this paragraph, a fine determined by the Board may be imposed by the Board upon the Club for each player of the Club in respect of whom there is a breach.

iii) Should a player not be included in the numbers submitted to the "Footy Record" the change of number must be announced over the public address system prior to the commencement of the match. Failure to do so will attract a fine as determined by the Board.

iv) Should a player change his number during the course of a match the change must be announced over the public address system prior to the commencement of the next quarter. This shall also occur during final series.

## **8. TEAM SHEETS:**

a) Each Club shall prior to the playing of a home and away, final series or any match promoted, controlled or managed by the League in which the Club is engaged give to a responsible official of the opposing Club a team sheet listing the names of all players of the Club (who at the time of notification are registered players of the League indicating the number prescribed by the Club pursuant to 8 a) hereof in respect of each such player), the coach, the official runner, club umpire and club umpire escort and the official trainers of the team.

b) All team sheets must be completed in alphabetical order or a fine as determined by the Board shall be applied.

c) All Area permit forms in respect of any player shall be sighted by a responsible official of the opposing Club and signed by such official prior to the commencement of such game.

The Team sheet shall be

clearly be marked indicating players participating on permits.

d) Due to injury or illness a late change is required prior to the game commencing and team sheets have been exchanged the following must apply.

(i) Umpires must be notified by at least quarter time if not prior to the game starting so that authorization is given to amend the team sheet.

(ii) The opposing team bench must be notified prior to the game commencing.

- (iii) The interchange steward must also be informed should that the new player be allocated to the interchange.
- (iv) Once the match has commenced unless the above action has taken place there can be no replacement of players.
- e) All team sheets are to be signed by a responsible official of the Club.
- f) The secretary of the home Club shall forward to the General Manager of the League a copy of each team sheet along with a report of the match with the umpires after each match.

## **9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF TEAMS:**

- a) All Clubs are to advise their Senior and Reserves to media outlets as advised by the board.
- b) Teams are to be advised by i) by 8pm every Thursday.
- c) The Senior team should comprise 18 players in position, an interchange of 3, and 3 emergencies, making a total of 24 players. Teams must be named with the emergencies not included in the team listing of twenty-one (21). No expanded bench is to be named.
- d) Late changes to selected teams will render Clubs liable to a fine as determined by the Board.
- e) Fines as determined by the Board will apply to Clubs who drop players from the original twenty one (21) Senior players to the reserves team that particular weekend or who use players in the Senior team after not including them in the twenty four (24) players announced on Thursday or Friday nights as the case may be.
- f) Failure to announce any team on the Thursday evening will incur automatic fines determined by the Board.

## **10. a) AFL Victoria Country LOGO on Players' Shorts:**

- i) Only shorts as approved by the AFL Victoria Country with the appropriate AFL Victoria Country insert may be worn and must be purchased through the endorsed AFL Victoria Country suppliers.
- ii) Shorts must be the colour of the club and must have the correct coloured insert in shorts.

## **b) Under Shorts:**

- i) Any protective gear or under shorts worn must be skin toned or the colour of the club Shorts on the day.

## **c) AFL Victoria Country Logo on Jumper:**

- i) All jumpers must have the approved AFL Victoria Country logo on the jumper as advised by the AFL Victoria Country.
- ii) All jumpers must be purchased through the endorsed AFL Victoria Country supplier.

## **e) Sponsors' Logos on Club Guernseys:**

- i) The size of the logo is not to exceed 180 square centimetres or such other size approved by the Board.
- ii) The logo is to be worked on the left breast or such other position approved by the board.
- iii) Logos are to be referred to the Chairman of the Board prior to being included on the official O&KFL Club guernsey.
- iv) Clubs are not permitted to conclude negotiations with a sponsor whose name or product would be detrimental to the image or interest of the League.
- v) Prior to finalisation or arrangements with any new sponsors, contact is to be made with the Chairman of the Board to seek advice as to whether the sponsor is suitable.

## **f) Lace Up Guernseys:**

Lace up guernseys are not permitted to be worn in O&KFL competitive games.

## **11. BALL TO BE USED:**

- b) For the Senior home and away series the home Club shall submit two new red footballs, each of a make approved by the League, to the visiting Club for choice, excepting as hereinafter provided and Provided that in the event of a night game the home Club shall submit two yellow footballs.
- c) On any day considered by the two competing Clubs to be adverse, or by mutual arrangement between such Clubs, two new red footballs may be used in a Senior match. In

such circumstances the provisions of paragraph b) with respect to the make of the footballs to be used shall apply.

d) For the use in the case of emergency the home Club shall arrange for a total of not less than two additional footballs to be delivered to the Umpires dressing room prior to the start of the match.

e) The compulsory use of wet weather footballs for any grade shall be decided by the Board and is of such brand and make as approved by the Board. Wet weather footballs can be used in Third Grade matches between June & July.

e) For the purpose of this section the approved footballs as nominated by the Board.

f) In Reserve grade matches one suitable ball in good condition with the home club to supply the ball.

## **12. TIMEKEEPERS' DUTIES – TIME OF STARTING MATCHES:**

a) Duties and Powers of Timekeepers.

The provisions of the AFL Laws of the Game shall apply.

b) i) Each Club shall supply one clock for the use of the Club timekeeper.

ii) Each ground upon which League matches are played shall have a bell or siren of a type approved by the Board. The operation of such bell or siren shall be under the control of the timekeepers appointed for the game. The timekeepers shall in addition to those occasions provided for ring or sound the bell or siren at such times as shall be determined upon from time to time by the Board and shall at the end of each quarter continue to ring or sound the bell or siren until the field umpire acknowledges that he has heard the bell or siren by blowing his whistle and holding his two hands over his head.

### **c) Times for starting games:**

The Board may from time to time determine the starting time for games, the times by which teams of the Club shall enter the field for the commencement of games and the penalties to be paid or incurred by Clubs for failure of their teams to enter the field by the times so determined.

### **d) Start of Match:**

i) The siren shall be sounded three times when the umpires enter the field five minutes prior to the start of the match.

ii) It shall be the responsibility of the Field Umpires and captains to ensure games commence on time.

iii) Field Umpires to complete report sheet advising of offending clubs who fails to meet the required starting times.

iv) Each club shall be permitted the use of footballs on a mutually agreed half of the area prior to the commencement of matches.

### **e) Quarter-Time:**

i) Senior Match: Official allowance of five minutes.

The timekeeper shall sound the warning siren three times at three minute mark of the break.

The timekeeper shall sound the siren once at the five minute mark to recommence play.

ii) Reserves match: Official allowance of five minutes.

iii) Thirds Match: Official allowance of five minutes.

### **f) Half-Time:**

i) Senior Match: Official allowance of twenty minutes.

The half-time entertainment (if any) must cease at the fifteen minute warning sirens (three soundings). Any instance of exceeding this time shall be reported to the Board.

The timekeeper shall sound the siren once at the official starting time (twenty minutes) to recommence play.

ii) Reserves match: Official allowance of ten minutes.

iii) Thirds Match: Official allowance of ten minutes.

### **g) Three Quarter-Time:**

i) Senior Match: Official allowance of six minutes.

The timekeeper shall sound the warning siren three times at four-minute point of the break.

The timekeeper shall sound the siren again at the six-minute mark to recommence play.

ii) Reserves match: Official allowance of five minutes.

iii) Thirds Match: Official allowance of five minutes.

h) Any infringement of this rule and/or resolutions relating thereto reported by the field umpires shall result in a fine as determined by the Board being automatically imposed on the Club concerned by the Board.

i) If a team of a Club has not entered the field within fifteen minutes after the prescribed time such Club shall (in addition to the fine provided for) forfeit the game and the premiership points associated therewith unless a reason satisfactory to the Board for its delay be given to the Board. In the event a reason satisfactory to the Board is given as aforesaid the Board shall have power to determine that the match be played on a subsequent day or otherwise to finally decide on the matter.

### **13. REPORTS OF MATCHES:**

a) The Secretary of the home Clubs shall furnish to the General Manager of the League immediately after each match correct scores for the purpose of broadcasting by the media and for publication in the press.

b) Clubs must enter details into SportsTG, the best players, goal kickers of both clubs of all grades and quarter by quarter scores by 5.30pm on match day.

c) The Secretary of the home club shall furnish to the General Manager of the League not later than two clear days following the matches a written report of all matches played that day, Such report shall include the official score card certified correct by both official scorers, team sheets, time cards, umpire reports, League awards, interchange sheets, and area permits (if any).

### **14. MEDICALLY UNFIT PLAYERS:**

No club shall by itself, its officers, any coach, servant or agent permit or allow and player who it suspects or where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that player may not be responsible for his actions, to play or continue to play in any match in which the Club is engaged.

A Club shall where it suspects or where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the player has suffered an injury which may cause the not to be responsible for his actions, immediately cause such player to be examined by a duly qualified Medical Practitioner and unless such duly qualified Medical Practitioner certifies that the player is cognizant of and responsible for his actions, the player shall not be eligible to play or continue to play in any match and no Club shall permit or allow and such player to play or continue to play in any match in which the Club is engaged.

Any Club, officer, coach, servant or agent of any Club who contravenes this rule shall be guilty of an offence and may be fined up to a maximum of \$500.00.

### **15. SCORING BOARDS:**

a) Scoring boards must be erected in a prominent position on each ground registered in the League and scores must be posted thereon by a competent person.

b) Official scorers shall be the appointed Goal Umpires for senior grade matches to take the scores and goal scorers to be retained by the timekeepers.

c) In the Reserve and Thirds the Timekeepers are the official scorers and shall record the goal scorers.

d) Such official scorers shall be in constant communication with the Scoreboard attendant to ensure that the scores displayed at all times are correct.

### **16. PROOF OF COMMUNICATION:**

Wherever these Rules and the Articles of the League provide for a time limit for lodgement of any communication the onus of proof of such lodgement is on the initiating Club.

### **17. ADMISSION PRICES:**

a) At all grounds registered with the League for home and away matches there shall be a uniform price of admission determined by the Board. Aged and Invalid Pensioners will be admitted to all home and away games on production of pension cards at a price determined by the Board



b) Holders of VCFL service medallions, Baker Medal awards and life members of the League shall be admitted free to all games on production of medallions.

c) Normal admission charges will be paid by all visiting players and officials.

The exception being Trainers who will be provided with a Home & Away and a Finals official pass.

d) The Board will decide admission prices for the final series.

e) The League Manager will issue league guests passes to media personnel, trophy donors to the League. Baker Medal winners, life members and recognised guests of the League.

#### **18. INFRINGEMENT – RULES:**

a) Where the Board is of the opinion that a Club or any director, player, trainer, official or employee of a Club has contravened the provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association or Rules and Regulations of the player rules of the League or has been involved in conduct which is unbecoming or prejudicial to the interest of the League, the Board may deal with any matter in such manner as the Board in its absolute discretion thinks fits.

b) Where the Board is of the opinion that a player or other official or employee of a Club may have committed a reportable offence under the Laws of the Game of Football the Board may refer the matter to the investigation officer and subsequently to the League Tribunal.

#### **19. PROTESTS – DISPUTED MATCHES:**

a) Protests involving disputed matches must be lodged in writing with the General Manager not later than (72) hours of the completion of the match. The onus of proof of lodgement within the time limit is on the Club protesting.

b) The protesting Club must furnish a deposit of \$500.00, which may be forfeited if the protest is deemed frivolous. A copy of the written protest must be forwarded to the opposing Club concerned within (72) hours of the completion of the match. The Opposing club shall be required to furnish a deposit of \$500.

c) If in the opinion of the Chairman and General Manager of the League the grounds of protest are justified the dispute will be referred to the League Tribunal, which will decide the protest.

d) If however in the opinion of the Chairman and General Manager the protest is irregular or involves the jurisdiction of the Board a meeting of the Board will be called as soon as possible to hear evidence. The Board in such cases reserves to itself the right to determine whether any protest lodged with it shall be forwarded to the League Tribunal.

e) No protest may be withdrawn without the consent of the Board.

f) In the event of a protest being entered the Club losing the same shall forfeit the \$500.00 or part thereof at the discretion of the League Tribunal or the Board. The match may be awarded to the opposing team and/or a fine imposed. The protested match shall not be played again unless by order of the Board.

g) In the event of either Club being dissatisfied with such decision it may appeal to the VCFL on lodgement of a further deposit in accordance with the VCFL. Such appeal must be lodged no later than 2pm second day of the decision by the Board or League Tribunal. The decision of the VCFL shall be final.

h) In the event of evidence given in the appeal to the VCFL being other than that given before the League Tribunal such additional evidence must be forwarded to the Secretary of the opposing Club and also the League Tribunal through the Board.

#### **20. NEGLECT TO ATTEND SUMMONED MEETING:**

a) Any player, coach or member of the staff of a Club who shall neglect or refuse to attend and Tribunal board or other meeting of the League to which he may have been summoned shall be dealt with as the League Tribunal may think fit.

b) Should any player coach or member of the staff of a Club not appear at a Tribunal hearing when requested by the Chairman of the Tribunal the following fines all apply in addition to any penalty which the Tribunal may impose.

First offence \$100.00

Second or subsequent

offence in the same season \$200.00

## **21. EXPULSION SUSPENSION AND DISQUALIFICATION – PLAYERS:**

a) A Club expelling or suspending a player from its ranks shall forward with one week of such expulsion or suspension the name of such player and his address together with particulars of the offence for which he was expelled or suspended to the Chairman of the League who shall in the case of an expulsion on receipt of such notice inform such player in writing of his expulsion and that if he wishes to appeal against same he must notify the chairman of the League in writing of his intention so to do within fourteen (14) days of the date of the said notice from the Chairman. No player shall be allowed to play until his case shall have finally decided by the Board.

b) No player who shall have been disqualified by any League or Association for a breach under the laws of the AFL Rules of the Game of football shall be allowed to play with any Club or hold any office or act in any capacity for a Club until such disqualification be removed by the body which made same or by appeal to the Board. No player shall play with or coach any Club or League or Association while the term of such disqualification lasts excepting that a player be permitted to play in Club practice matches or pre-season matches and any OKFL playing coach may act as non playing coach of his OKFL Club during the period of his disqualification. Any player so offending shall be dealt with, as the Board may think fit. A player disqualified by the League Tribunal shall not be allowed to hold any office or act in any capacity for a Club until the period of disqualification imposed by such Tribunal shall have terminated.

## **22. UNBECOMING CONDUCT:**

The board, Club, players or umpire who alleges that a Club, player or an official of a Club has been guilty of conduct which is unbecoming to a Club, player, or an official of a Club or which is likely to bring the game of football into disrepute may lodge with the Board a notice in writing setting out particulars of the allegation as per the Rules & Regulations of the VCFL.

a) Both clubs (club lodging complaint and offending players club) are required to lodge a deposit of \$500 each.

b) Costs associated with Investigations – the League and the losing club shall share the costs equally.

## **23. BREACH – LAWS OF THE GAME:**

a) The Rules and Regulations of the VCFL shall be applied for all reportable offences under the AFL Laws of the Game for field offences.

b) The provisions of this Rule shall apply to all matches including practise matches at which there are officiating umpires.

c) Charges failing to be determined by the League Tribunal shall be heard at a time and place determined by the General Manager of the League.

d) Notwithstanding the fact that any one or more of the conditions required to be fulfilled by paragraph c) of this Rule have not been complied with the League Tribunal may at its discretion hear and determine upon any charge falling within its responsibility provided it is satisfied that no substantial miscarriage of justice will occur as a result thereof.

e) i) Any Club official or player who publicly comments on the contents of a written report or a charge prior to the determination by the Tribunal shall be liable to a fine as determined by the Board on his Club.

ii) Any Club official or player who publicly criticises the decision of the Tribunal or Board shall be liable to a fine as determined by the Board on his Club.

f) In the event of a Club making allegations or complaint or laying a charge against an umpire pursuant to the provisions of this Rule the Board may take such action as it may consider appropriate.

g) An official of a Club who uses abusive threatening or insulting language to an umpire on the day of a match or otherwise misconduct's himself shall be liable to a fine of as determined by the Board on his Club.

## **24. UMPIRES:**

a) Neglect to Attend Summoned Meeting:

Any umpire who shall neglect or refuse to attend and Board or other meeting of the League to which he may have been summoned shall be dealt with, as the Board may think fit.

**b) Not Eligible to Officiate for Old Club:**

An umpire is not eligible to officiate in a match in which the Club of which he may have been a player is engaged unless he has ceased playing with such Club for a period of at least three (3) years.

**c) Dressing Rooms:**

i) Umpires' dressing rooms at ground shall be kept clear of all persons except the umpires and no visit is permitted before during or after the match by any persons except by the Secretary or Team Manager of the competing Clubs.

ii) Separate shower facilities must be provided for the umpires.

**d) Public Comments on Umpires:**

Club officials, coaches and players shall not engage in public comment on umpires.

A Club official, coach or player contravening the provisions of this resolution may be fined as determined by the Board, such fine to be imposed on his Club.

**e) Umpires Escort:**

i) It is the responsibility of each club to supply an Umpires Escort for each match who must be listed on the official team sheet.

ii) The Escort must wear the "Escort Armband" as supplied by the league.

iii) The Escort must be a mature person, capable of assisting the umpire in a crisis.

iv) The escorts are to be at the umpire's room five minutes prior to the umpires going on the ground. (Escorts should meet with the umpires to ensure these arrangements are adhered to.)

v) The escorts must accompany the Umpires onto the ground prior to the match and prior to the start of the second half and, off the ground at the completion of the second and final quarters.

vi) The escorts must go to the centre of the ground and stand with the umpires during the first and three quarter breaks.

vii) The escorts must move quickly to the umpires as soon as the end of each quarter signalled.

viii) In the event of an incident involving the umpires the escorts must remain with the umpires and ensure their safe departure from the ground.

ix) The Umpires must be escorted to the door of the Umpires Room before the Escort has completed his duties.

x) Non adherence to the above requirements will attract a fine as determined by the Board of the Ovens & King Football League.

xi) The Umpires will record any breach of this rule.

**f) Approaches to Umpires:**

No Club coach or Club official shall be permitted to speak to umpires during the progress of the match including intervals.

No coach, team member or Club official shall be permitted to enter into the centre square during the intervals of a match except for the Club captain and the Club official referred in paragraph e) hereof. All team addresses shall be given outside the centre square.

Any breach of this rule shall be determined by the Board and shall incur a fine as determined by the Board.

g) **The home club** is to be held responsible for the **security** of the Umpires Change Rooms and for the clothing ie. Tracksuit tops prior to and during all matches.

h) That during the **final series the emergency umpire** shall be dressed in distinctive attire so they can be clearly identified. The emergency umpire shall be stationed at the inter-change area throughout the duration of the games.

i) The emergency Umpire shall be named in the footy record each week of the final series.

**25. REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS:**

a) The League has first call on services of players for its matches. In the event of any selected player not being able to play he shall not be permitted to play with his Club on the

day of the match concerned unless the Chairman of selectors has personally investigated the reasons and satisfied himself that the player cannot obtain leave from his employment.

b) The selection committee of the League shall appoint captains and vice captains of all League representative teams.

c) Any player who has either himself or through his Club signified his unwillingness and been selected to play in any combined League match and who shall either neglect or fail to play without having given twenty four hours' notice at least to the Chairman of the League shall on failing to satisfy the Board as to his reasons for not playing be liable to be disqualified as determined by the Board.

d) The Board shall appoint a chairman and up to four selectors – one of who shall be the coach – for representative teams of the League.

e) The selection committee shall be entitled to recommend a suitable fine to the Board on any player who is not able to offer an adequate excuse for not attending training sessions.

**26. BAKER MEDAL:** a) The fairest and best player in the Senior home and away matches as adjusted by the field umpires throughout the season shall be awarded the "Baker Medal".

b) The two field umpires shall within a reasonable time following the conclusion of the match, and where a charge is to be laid against a player by an officiating umpire only after giving or attempting to give to Club officials the notification provided for in Rule 25 hand to the Secretary of the home Club, their idea of the three fairest and best players in the match in order of preference in a sealed addressed and stamped envelope marked "Baker Medal".

i) The player adjusted fairest and best shall receive three votes: the player adjusted second fairest and best receive two votes and the player adjusted third fairest and best, one vote.

ii) The Secretary of the home Club shall be responsible to lodge such envelope at the League Office on the first working day after the match.

iii) At the end of the home and away matches in each season the votes are to be counted and the player receiving the highest number of votes is to receive the medal.

iv) In the case of two or more players receiving an equal number of votes, each shall be declared the joint winner and each such player shall be awarded the Baker Medal.

v) Any player who has been found guilty of an offence in a match or has accepted a Set Penalty suspension in a match in which Baker Medal votes have been cast shall be ineligible to receive the medal in that season, except in the instance of a time wasting offence(s).

vi) No votes shall be awarded for matches when InterLeague players are ineligible to play with their clubs due to Ovens and King Football League representative duties.

c) The Board shall instruct umpires that votes are to be awarded to the players adjusted by the umpires to be the fairest and best players on the day irrespective of whether such players have been found guilty of an offence in a match during that season and irrespective of whether any of such players have been reported on the day.

d) Any reference in this Rule to a player having been found guilty of an offence shall mean an offence as described in the Laws of the Game published by the National Australian Football Council.

e) A player who has been found guilty of an offence in a match or accepted a Set Penalty in a match which votes are cast in any of the three games of the League shall be ineligible to win the respective medal in any grade of the League in that season, except in the instance of a time wasting offence(s),

**27. THE ROSS SCHUTT Medal:**

The provision of Rule 26 shall similarly apply to the award of the "The ROSS SCHUTT Medal" for the fairest and best player in the Reserves home and away matches.

**28. POSTPONEMENT OF MATCHES:**

The Board may postpone any football match in the event of unfavorable weather.

A decision to postpone a match shall be given not later than 11am in the forenoon prior to the commencement of the match or such time as the Board may determine in the case home and away matches and at any time prior to the commencement of final series matches. Any match which the Board determines shall be postponed shall be played on such date as is fixed by the Board. If notwithstanding the postponement of the match by the Board a match

is played on a day from which it is postponed the result of such match shall not be reckoned for the premiership.

### **29. WALKIE – TALKIES:**

The use of walkie-talkie set shall not be permitted on the playing arena during the progress of a match, excepting in the area between the arena fence and the boundary line.

### **30. TRIBUNAL – SET PENALTIES:**

- a) As per the VCFL Rules and Regulations.
- b) The Club of an offended player in a report may have the case heard by the Tribunal upon request in writing to the General Manager of the League by 12noon Monday after the offence has occurred.
- c) i) All clubs must notify the umpire within thirty minutes of being advised of the report if the player is accepting a Set Penalty or attending the Tribunal.  
ii) Should a player, after accepting a Set penalty, want to have the case heard by the League Tribunal his club must notify the General Manager by 12Noon Monday after the offence has occurred.

### **31. TRAINERS/WATER CARRIERS:**

- a) Prior to the commencement of the current season each Club must submit to the General Manager of the League a written list of official trainers of the Club.
  - i) A Registration fee to be paid to the O&K Trainers Association before a trainer is considered registered.
  - ii) All Trainers must be suitably qualified to the level as determined by the Board and produce proof of such qualification.
- b) The number of official trainers of each Club shall be restricted to a maximum of six (6) trainers and or water carriers who may take the field in any one game.
- C) i) All official trainers shall be attired in white or black pants and the white/green shirt or jacket. All trainers shall exhibit a number on rear of their respective shirts or jackets.  
ii) All Water Carriers shall wear shorts or track suit pants. The grey Shirt as supplied by the League must be worn.
- d) Trainers must be listed on the team sheet in the appropriate section showing name and number of the Trainer.

### **32. BLOOD RULE:**

As per the VCFL Rules and Regulations.

### **33. COACHES ACCREDITATION:**

All coaches must be accredited as per the VCFL Rules and Regulations.

### **34. RE-OPENING OF TRIBUNAL CASES:**

- a) No member club, player or any other person having been dealt with by the Ovens and King Football League Independent Tribunal shall be entitled to have any such hearing re-opened or the matter re-determined by the Ovens and King Football League Independent Tribunal unless the tribunal are satisfied that:
  - i) Evidence, which ought to be produced, is “fresh” and was not reasonably available at the time of the original hearing.
  - ii) The fresh evidence is convincing. Plausible and relevant having regard to the evidence produced at the original hearing, the facts which the fresh evidence tends to prove or disprove, an inherent creditability of the fresh evidence or the authenticity of its source.
  - iii) The fresh evidence is such that if accepted, it would be likely to produce a different finding.
- b) Any application to have any Ovens and King Football League Tribunal hearing re-opened or re-determined shall be made in writing to the General Manager of the Ovens and King Football League and must be accompanied by:
  - i) Payment to the Ovens and King Football League. The sum of \$500.00 for costs of the application, such sum is not refundable.
  - ii) Payment to the Ovens and King Football League. The sum of \$2,000.00 which shall be refunded in all cases except where the Ovens and King Football League deems such application to be frivolous.

### **35. ATTENDANCE AT UMPIRES ROOM**

- a) The Secretary or Team Manager of all clubs must attend the Umpires Room within twenty (20) minutes of the conclusion of the match to receive the All Clear or be notified of any report.
- b) Failure to attend the Umpires Room with the time limit will attract a Fine as determined by the Board.

### **36. CODE OF CONDUCT**

Member clubs are responsible for the actions and behaviour of their officials, players and supporters, before, during and after all games. Also at all official Ovens and King Football League functions and Tribunals or club training sessions

### **37. INVESTIGATION OFFICER**

- a) Should the need arise to appoint an Investigation Officer to hear a case referred for hearing, the General Manager shall appoint an officer accredited as per the VCFL list of approved accredited officers.
- b) The investigations Officer shall operate under V.C.F.L. Rule and Regulations.

### **38. PERMISSION FOR MATCHES BETWEEN CLUBS**

A club shall not play another club at any time without the sanction of the Board. If a club is desirous of playing another club it shall make application to the Board.

### **39. CLUB IN DEFAULT**

- a) No delegate shall be allowed to take part in any meeting, unless all monies due by his Club are paid or unless a satisfactory reason for such delay is given.
- b) At the end of the calendar month of March, any Club that is not within the Trading Terms of League Accounts and without prior written consent of the League Board, will play, but not be awarded any Premiership points won in any game commenced and no points will be awarded to the losing teams, but normal percentage conditions apply, as if the points were allocated. Any points so lost shall not be recoverable except by ruling of the League Board.
- c) At the end of the Home and Away roster, any Club that is not within the trading terms of the League Accounts, without prior written consent of the League Board, cannot partake in any Finals Matches in any grade. The final eight standing's as per Finals contention will be from the first eight (8) Financial Clubs on the Premiership Ladder.

### **40. Reserves Competition**

Player shortage policy –

The Reserve grade competition is a 16 per team competition therefore every game must commence with 16 on the field. The only time this should change - if both clubs have 20 players to participate – approval is automatically granted for the game to commence with 18 on the field each. Prior to 12 noon – the Coaches or team managers must discuss what numbers they have available to play. Where team sheets are printed prior to 12noon – any changes should be identified – such a player has not arrived to participate – the name should be neatly ruled through. With late changes, the Field umpire/s needs to be made aware either prior to the entering the playing field or at the quarter time break.

The maximum number of players that can participate in the home and away season game is 22 and this can only occur if both teams have at least 20 players available to play.

Should both clubs have more than 22 players each between mutual agreements then they can participate with the number agreed between the two clubs.

These conditions apply for home and away matches only – during the final series, teams are expected to field 18 on the ground and the maximum of 22 players can participate.

### **41. Management Requirements**

- i) All clubs must supply to the League Manager a list of all appointed Coaches with email and postal addresses and phone contact details.
- ii) **Footy Record** – all clubs must supply a list of players in numerical order as per the allocated Guernsey number provided by the club. Clubs are responsible to maintain an accurate record at all times.

**Penalties** will be incurred by the Club for failure to maintain an accurate listing of player's numbers. The Board shall impose the penalty.

- iii) **Risk Management**

### **Match Day Checklist**

Match Day Checklists are compulsory and must be completed prior to the commencement of play on each match day.

Match Day Checklists are important risk management tools. A significant aspect of Public Liability Insurance is that clubs and leagues use these Checklists.

All clubs/teams competing at the ground on game day should take part in the completion of the checklist. The Match Day Checklist requires that an authorised representative from the HOME TEAM and the AWAY TEAM sign Declarations at the bottom of the form once they are satisfied conditions are acceptable for play to commence.

The original of the checklist on completion must be forwarded by the home club to the League with other home game match day material. The carbon copy is to be retained by the home club. All completed checklists should be stored and filed for a minimum of seven (7) years for future reference.

#### **iv) Racial and Religious Vilification**

The VCFL policy and procedures are enforced by the League.

#### **v) Doping Policy**

The Doping policy as adopted by the Australian Football League for the time being in force, is adopted by the League.

Refer AFL Laws of the Game – 21 Anti Doping Policy.