

# Mid West Football League Inc

## Constitution By Laws Tribunal Procedures and Penalties



As amended revision date 24 February 2020

Version: 19

## Constitution and By-Law Amendment Record

Date	Summary
23-Feb-1998	By-Law 2A. (d) add "in any one day"
22-Oct-2001	By-Law added "Wudinna Show"
22-Oct-2001	By-Law 18 (e) Replay date decision
3-Nov-2003	By-Law 21 (d) clause added re 21st player
27-Mar-2006	By-Law add Red/Yellow Card rule
26-Mar 2007	By-Law add B Grade Playing Conditions
12-Nov-2007	<p>AGM Review 2007 Summary:-</p> <p>Constitution 9 Review of Life Membership Points</p> <p>Constitution 14 Add Clause "14" Tribunal Secretary Position,</p> <p>By-Law 1 Clarification of under 12 Qualification</p> <p>By-Law 3(b) Juniors transferring between MWFL clubs require a clearance,</p> <p>By-Law 14 (a) Yellow/ Red Card Procedural Review,</p> <p>By-Law 19 (b) A Grade Grand Final Replay in event of a draw discontinued, extra time added,</p> <p>Minor review to amend references from the AFC (Affiliated Leagues Constitution) to the SANFL Affiliated Leagues Charter</p>
29 March 2010	<p>By Law 8 Revised Tribunal Powers and Procedures</p> <p>Added Independent Tribunal Procedures and Pre-Set Penalty Guide</p>
28 February 2011	<p>Add By Law Clause 3 (g) Juniors to wear arm band while playing A Grade</p> <p>Add By Law Clause 3 (h) No player may play senior football unless he/she has first obtained the age of 13 years</p>
27 February 2012	Amend By Law Clause 3 (g) Junior to wear arm band whilst playing A or B Grades
24 March 2014	<p>Amend By Law Clause 21 Junior League Playing Qualifications incorporating over age playing conditions</p> <p>Add Colts Competition Conditions as new By Law Clause 22 formalising 10 goal rule and match duration</p> <p>Re number remaining Clauses following new Clause 22 inserted</p>
3 November 2014	<p>By Law Clause 14 - Red Card By Law – Replace player after 10 minutes – not adopted (no change)</p> <p>By Law Clause 20 (b) – Amendment that top 15 players exclude any under 16 players</p> <p>By Law Clause 2A (b) Removal of sub clause. Definition of club drawing radius of 60km from home oval or midway point between two home ovals. Re-alpha the sub clauses in 2A</p> <p>Constitution Clause 20 Removal of the need to advertise AGM in local paper and replace with notice to clubs and posting on League public website</p>
30 March 2015	<p>By Laws</p> <p>Replace Clause 24 "Team Forms and Nineteenth and Twentieth Men" With new Clause 24 "Team Forms, Playing Conditions and Interchange"</p> <p>Rewritten clause to cover:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference to interchange rather than 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> men</li> <li>• A and B Grade teams may consist of 21 players with one being of colts age (Previously A Grade only)</li> <li>• Conditions of interchange in game and blood rule interchange</li> <li>• Special match conditions in event of B Grade forfeit</li> </ul>

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30 March 2015	Replace former Clause 2 "Player Registration and Permit to Play" and Clause 2A "Qualifications of Players" with revised Clause 2 "Player Registration and Permit to Play"
Proposed 2 Nov 2015 Adopted 22 Feb 2016 Minute Ref 6.3	Constitution Update reference to SACFL throughout document Update reference to SACFL Regulations throughout document Clause 10 (b) Update advertising positions of Secretary and Treasurer New Clause 31 Matters not otherwise addressed in this Constitution By Laws Clause 2 (b) Add reference to clubs Footyweb database Clause 3 (a) Add reference to Footyweb clearance and dual registration for juniors Clause 3 (g) Add reference to registration of transfer on MWFL database Clause 16 (a) Amend to incorporate reference to Pre-Determined Penalty Guide Clause 16 (e) Amend to make situation of proxy delegate clearer Clause (f) (1) Amend to effect that a player may not be involved in future matches in any capacity until a charge is heard Clause 31 Add a programmed match not to be held on the same day as the Streaky Bay Races
2 November 2015 Minute Ref: 15.2	Constitution Clause 9 Life Members – Junior Development Coordinator – add annual Life Membership points accrual of 2.0
22 February 2016 Minute Ref 6.4	By Law 24 Add points (g) and (h) – Teams Forms, Playing Conditions and Interchange Amendment to effect Colts to play in white shorts in senior grades and that Parent/Guardian consent required for junior players to play at senior level. Annexure 1 – Add Parental/ Guardian Consent Form
7 November 2016 Minute Ref 15.4	By Law 13 Add clause 13,(d) (1) Penalty for a match forfeit in A and B Grades increased from 5 goals to 20 goals. Original clause 13 (d) is now clause 13 (d) (2) applies to colts matches
7 November 2016 Minute Ref 6.4	By Law 23 Amend clauses to the effect that a B Grade will be a competition match with starting numbers per club of at least twelve (12) players, and will continue as such so long as players on field are at least ten (10)
6 March 2017 Minute ref 8.2 3 April 2017	Tribunal Penalties – Annexure 1 of the Tribunal Predetermined Penalties Guide. Add paragraph re Reports raised against non playing officials cases to be referred to Tribunal and empowering penalties of up to four (4) premiership points (up to two match equivalent) against offending clubs.
6 March 2017 Minute ref 15.7 3 April 2017	By Laws – Add new By Law 34 –Description of Footballs to be Used
16 October 2017 Minute ref 15.2 16 October 2017	By Law 3 (h) Qualification of Players – Juniors to wear white shorts (remove reference to yellow arm band) By Law 13 Forfeiture of Matches – Remove reference to umpire appointment board (Umpire Manager/ Coordinator retains this function)
AGM 15 Oct 2018 Minute Ref 3.2	By Law 11. Starting time and match duration reviewed (B Grade), match day conditions re times, durations and Time on/off added,

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[illegible]

# **The Mid West Football League Inc Constitution**

1. The name of the Association shall be the MID WEST FOOTBALL LEAGUE INC.

2. OBJECTS:

The objects of the League shall include the following:

- a) To promote, encourage and participate in the Australian Game of Football,
- b) To arrange, control and manage league football matches and competitions between League clubs and Leagues in accordance with the rules defined in this constitution,
- c) To arrange the time, place and conditions under which all matches promoted by the League shall be played,
- d) To raise money by subscription, percentage or otherwise from the League Clubs or players thereof as the League may time to time determine,
- e) To hear and determine upon any allegation, complaint, or dispute involving any breach of the League Rules, or in any rules or laws of the game adapted by the League, or in any respect of any matter affecting the interests of the League or game, which may be made against any member of the League or players or members thereof, with power to impose fines, suspension, expulsion or otherwise
- f) To invest and deal with the monies of the League not immediately required in such manner as may be from time to time determined.

3. INTERPRETATION:

Wherever appearing in this Constitution or By-Laws made pursuant to it the following words, unless to the contrary intention appears, bear the respective meanings hereunder assigned to them:

LEAGUE- means Mid West Football League,

LEAGUE CLUB or CLUB - means one of the Clubs referred to in Rule 4 of this Constitution,

GAME - means the Australian Game of Football

THE COMMITTEE - shall mean the Committee of Management of the League,

LEAGUE BY-LAWS – means any By-Law made by the League pursuant to this Constitution,

SACFL – means the South Australian Community Football League,

SANFL – means the South Australian National Football League,

SANFL Affiliated Leagues Regulations- means the rules and laws that Leagues and clubs affiliated with the SACFL and SANFL are bound.

OFFICIAL, CLUB OFFICIAL OR REGISTERED OFFICIAL – means any person appointed by a League Club as an Official of such club (ie: coach, runner, trainer, manager, secretary, president, treasurer, steward, sprigger etc.).

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4. MEMBERSHIP:

- a) The football clubs known as Central Eyre, Elliston, West Coast Hawks, Western Districts, Wirrulla, and Wudinna United Football Clubs and/or such additional club or clubs as shall be admitted or membership as shall be determined upon by the League in accordance with this Constitution,
- b) Office bearers to be elected in the manner herein after be provided,
- c) Life members to be elected in the manner herein after be provided,

5. DELEGATES:

- a) Each League Club shall be represented by two delegates nominated by League Clubs respectively,
- b) Any delegate member who is unable to attend any meeting of the League may appoint one of the proxy delegates nominated by his Club to attend and vote on behalf of such delegate member at such meeting of the League.

6. ADDITIONAL CLUBS:

Additional Clubs may be admitted to membership of the League from time to time at the Annual General Meeting under the following conditions:

- a) All applications to join the League must be made in writing with proposed colours, and must be in the hands of the Secretary of the League not later than twenty eight days prior to the Annual General Meeting, or a Special General Meeting for the purpose.
- b) Such applications must be approved by a vote of at least two thirds of the delegates of the Clubs already in the League, providing that, if the application is from a Club transferring from another League, they have complied with the SANFL Affiliated Leagues Regulations.

7. CLUBS WITHDRAWING FROM THE LEAGUE:

No club having once joined the League shall be allowed to leave without giving notice by registered post of its intention to do so to the League Secretary. Such notice must be given prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> August in any one year and the conditions of the SANFL Affiliated Leagues Regulations fulfilled.

8. DISSOLUTION OF LEAGUE:

In case it should appear at the time advisable or necessary to dissolve the League, a Special General Meeting, duly called for that purpose, shall have power, by a two thirds majority of the delegates there present, to resolve that the League be absolutely dissolved, and the same shall thereupon be dissolved and the affairs thereof be wound up accordingly in such manner as such meeting shall direct and, on winding up, if the assets of the League are more than sufficient to satisfy its liabilities, the excess shall be divided between Clubs represented by delegate members of the League at the time of such winding up.

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### 9. LIFE MEMBERS:

The League may elect as Life Member of the League (not more than two annually), any person who has rendered meritorious service to the League over a period of at least eight years.

A three quarter majority of the whole of the delegates of the League shall be necessary for the election of any Life Member.

Categories of Life Membership will be:-

- (a) Ordinary Life Member
- (b) Umpire Life Member

Each Ordinary Life Member shall receive from the League a Life Membership Badge, which, on presentation, will admit the holder thereof to all matches arranged by the League whilst the holder is a Life Member. Ordinary Life Members will also be issued each season with one Partners ticket which shall admit the holder to all matches arranged by the League.

Nominations for Life Membership stating nominee's record shall be presented to all delegates at the Annual General Meeting. Selection of the Life Members shall be done at the Ordinary Meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

All service achievements gained under the Le Hunte Football League and the Streaky Bay Football League shall be recognised by the Mid West Football League.

Qualifications for Life Membership:-

- (a) Life Members

Aggregate points system:

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Points for each year of service</u></b>
League President	2.0
League Secretary	2.0
League Treasurer	1.5
League Vice President	1.0
League Assistant/Tribunal Secretary	1.0
Club Delegate	1.0
Proxy Club Delegate	0.5
Delegate to Eyre Peninsula Zone Carnival Committee	0.5
Commissioners	1.0
League Coach	1.0
League Selector	0.5
League Trainer	1.0
League Timekeeper	0.5
League Runner	0.5
League Player (+ 0.5 for captain if not coach)	0.5
League Umpire	0.5
League Team Manager	0.5
Colts Committee President	2.0
Colts Committee Secretary	2.0
Junior Development Coordinator	2.0
Colts Committee Delegate	1.0
Under 23 Coach	0.5
<b>Aggregate number of points required</b>	<b>15</b>

**(Minimum period of 8 years)**

If two positions are held, both count.

(b) Umpire Life Members

Minimum 12 years and minimum 200 games A, B and Senior Colts.

**9. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION:**

Each Club shall pay an annual Affiliation fee to be determined at an Annual General Meeting by the first match of the minor round.

**10. THE EXECUTIVE:**

The Executive Officers of the League shall be:

- (a) The President, one or more Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant/Tribunal Secretary, Treasurer and they shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting. The Executive shall be responsible for the day to day running of the League.
- (b) The position of Secretary and Treasurer of the League may be held jointly.

The position of Secretary and/or Treasurer of the League are to be nominated in writing prior to the Annual General Meeting. Office bearers prepared to continue in that office need not renominate. Election of these executive positions is to be at the Annual General Meeting or a subsequent meeting of the League.

**11. CHAIRMAN**

- (a) The President, or in his absence, the senior Vice-President, shall (save in hereafter provided), preside as Chairman at every General and Ordinary Meeting of the League.
- (b) In the event of the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents from any meeting of the League, the delegate members present shall select one of their number to preside at such meeting.
- (c) The Chairman shall have casting vote only in the case where there is an equality of voting.

**12. PRESIDENT**

The duties of the President shall include presiding as Chairperson at all Committees, General and Ordinary Meetings. He shall represent the League before all authorities or in any legal proceedings and shall be responsible for the preparation and delivery of the annual report at the Annual General Meeting, and in general, he shall ensure that the objects of this Constitution as well as the resolutions of any meeting of the members of the League or of the Committee are carried out. He shall direct the Secretary to call all meetings of the Committee and of the League. The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, is to carry out all duties set out above.



13. SECRETARY

The duties of the Secretary shall be:

- (a) To perform the whole of the clerical work of the League.
- (b) To carry out all directions given to him/her at the Meetings of the League and any Committee appointed by the League.
- (c) To keep the minutes of the proceedings of the League and any Committee appointed by the League.
- (d) To perform such other duties as the League may from time to time determine.
- (d) He/she shall, at the direction of the President, call all meetings.

14. ASSISTANT / TRIBUNAL SECRETARY

The duties of the Assistant / Tribunal Secretary

- (a) To coordinate all matters pertaining to the holding of Tribunals
- (b) Assist the Secretary where required
- (c) To perform such other duties as the League may from time to time determine

15. TREASURER

The duties of the Treasurer shall be:

- (a) To receive and issue receipts for all League monies which are to be banked in the League's banking account without undue delay.
- (b) To keep books/accounts containing correct and up to date records of League finances and produce the same at League meetings whenever requested.
- (c) To prepare a Financial Report and a statement of Receipts and Expenditure, duly checked for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) To present all accounts for approval for payment at the League meeting following the receipts of such accounts.
- (e) To pay by cheque all approved accounts owing by the League. Such cheque to be signed by duly authorised persons appointed by the League.

16. THE COMMITTEE

- (a) The Executive Officers above mentioned shall, together with the Committee members hereinafter provided for, constitute the Committee of the League.
- (b) The Management of the League (except as otherwise provided by this Constitution) shall consist of a Committee of the Executive Officers and all the delegates of the League herein after referred to.
- (c) At the expiration of the period for which they have been elected, the committee members shall retire from office, but shall be eligible for reappointment.

17. PUBLIC OFFICER

The Public Officer shall be elected by the Committee.

18. SEAL

The League shall provide a Common Seal with the name of the League thereon, and such Seal shall not be used except by authority of the League. Every instrument to which the Seal is required to be affixed shall be signed by the President, or Vice President, of the League and counter-signed by the League Secretary.

19. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(a) The Annual General Meeting of the League shall be held no later than 14<sup>th</sup> November in each year at which meeting the following business shall be transacted:

- I. The Annual Financial Report and Balance Sheet for the past year, duly checked shall be presented.
- II. Elections shall be held for the positions for the ensuing year of office bearers: President, Secretary, Assistant / Tribunal Secretary, Vice President, Treasurer and from nominations by delegates of the Registered Clubs, such nominations to be agreed by the nominee or in the case of the Secretary, Treasurer and from nominations also received in writing by such applicant personally.
- III. Appointment of Sub-Committees and their powers
- IV. Appointment of Commissioners to the Independent League Tribunal.
- V. Consideration of any other business or matter accenting the welfare or interest of the League.

20. NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The time and place of the Annual General Meeting of the League shall be set by the League Executive. Notice of such meeting shall be issued to members of the League and the Secretaries of Clubs via email or post. Notice is to also be posted on the Mid West Football League public website, Notice shall be given at least 14 days prior to the date of the holding of the Annual General Meeting.

21. SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE LEAGUE

On written application by two or more clubs to the League Secretary for the calling of a Special General Meeting of the League, the Leagues Secretary shall ensure that such a meeting is called and held within fourteen days of such notice.

22. NOTICE OF GENERAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

Notice, specifying the time and place of any General Meeting, or Special General Meeting, and in the case of a Special General Meeting, the business to be transacted thereat shall be given to the President, Vice President and delegates. Such notice shall be given at least seven days prior to the time appointed for the holding of such meeting.

## 23. ADJOURNMENTS

Any meeting of the League may be adjourned from time to time and to such time and place as shall be determined by a majority of delegates present at the original meeting or at any adjournment thereof

## 24. QUORUM

At any meeting of the League eight (8) delegate members shall form a Quorum, provided at least four (4) clubs are represented.

## 25. VOTING

- (a) At all meetings of the League every delegate member present personally or by proxy approved by the League shall be entitled to one vote.
- (b) The Executive of the League shall have no voting rights, with the exception of the Chairperson as prescribed in Clause 11 sub clause (c).
- (c) At every meeting of the League all questions shall be determined by a show of hands, unless a ballot is demanded by at least three delegate members. Any delegate may call for a division.

## 26. COMMITTEES

The League may, from time to time, by resolution at any meeting, delegate any of its powers to Sub-Committee or Committees of a Board consisting of such one person or more persons as it shall think fit to appoint and may recall or revoke any such delegation or appointment. Such resolution may provide that a decision of any sub-committee in exercising the power so delegated shall be final.

## 27. RESCINDED RESOLUTIONS

A motion to rescind or vary a resolution which has been carried by the League may be carried out subject to the following conditions:

- (a) If the motion which is sought to rescind or vary has been passed in the then current year, notice of the intention to move such variation or rescission shall be given at a previous meeting of the League and such motion to rescind or vary shall not be carried out unless two thirds of the delegates vote in the affirmative.
- (b) If the motion which is sought to rescind or vary has been passed or adopted in any previous year, notice of intention to move such rescission or variation shall be given at a previous meeting, but such motion may be carried by a bare majority of delegates.
- (c) No motion, the effect of which if carried would be to rescind or vary any previous motion, shall if negated be again brought forward during the current year unless a motion giving leave to bring such matter forward be carried by a majority of not less than two thirds of the total number of delegate members.

28. LEAGUE CLUB RULES

- (a) Each League Club shall abide by the League Constitution
- (b) Such rules shall, among other things, contain provisions for holding on a date not later than the 30<sup>th</sup> November each year of an Annual Meeting, and for the appointment of delegate members, proxy delegate members, and other officers and office bearers, and for regulating the notification to the League of names and addresses of the persons elected and appointed to be Chairman, Secretary, Delegates etc, and also make provision for the holding of Special General Meetings of the Club.

29. BY LAWS

The League shall have the power from time to time to make alter and repeal such By Laws as it may deem necessary or convenient or expedient, in relation to the proper conduct and management of the business and affairs of the League and the attainment of its objects. All By Laws so made, shall be binding on all members of the League and League Clubs, and shall come into force immediately, subject to any approval requirements by the SACFL/SANFL under the Affiliated Leagues Regulations.

30. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

This Constitution shall not be altered or rescinded or added to except by resolution of this League, passed by a two thirds majority at the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose, of which notice shall be given not less than fourteen (14) days before the date of holding same and which notice shall set out the proposed alteration.

31. MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE ADDRESSED IN THIS CONSTITUTION

Where an issue is not addressed under this document, the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act (1985) as amended apply. The Mid West Football League is an incorporated body under this South Australian Legislation

.....end

# **The Mid West Football League Inc**

## **“By-Laws”**

1. Each league Club shall have, in connection with, and to foster the interests of such League Club
  - (a) a League team,
  - (b) where possible a Reserves Team,
  - (c) a senior colts team aging under 16 on the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the given season,
  - (d) a junior colts team aging under 13 as at the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the given season
  - (e) A mini league side for informal matches at half time of A Grade aging under 10 as at the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the given season.
2. **PLAYER REGISTRATION AND PERMIT TO PLAY**
  - (a) A player shall not be registered by a club nor be qualified to play for a team in any Football competition conducted by the League unless the valid registration appears on the Leagues membership record. Either:-
    - (1) granted a permit by the Permit Committee to be registered with that club;
    - (2) approved inward transfer or short term permit, having been consented to be any other club or league where the player was previously registered;
    - (3) first time player registered and accepted on the League membership database using the appropriate League stationery and registered on the MWFL database;
    - (4) club players with registration brought forward from a previous season on the MWFL database.
  - (b) Club Secretaries shall register their respective players each season with the League Secretary fourteen (14) days prior to the season commencement. Online registrations are deemed as lodged when they appear as valid on the League and club's database (Footyweb)...
  - (c) A player seeking registration with a Club for the first time or not included on the preseason registration must sign the prescribed form provided by the League Secretary. He then remains a player of the Club for the subsequent seasons unless cleared by the said Club.
  - (d) The Secretary of the League shall keep a register of the persons who have obtained registration and a permit to play.
  - (e) No permit shall be granted to a player whose clearance has not been lodged on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> June in any one season, except if provided for in the Affiliated Leagues Regulations as amended from time to time. Provided a clearance has been lodged prior to the 30<sup>th</sup> June in any one season, a permit may be granted to play for the club
  - (f) Any Club breach of this By-Law is to be fined \$500.00, in addition to forfeiture of any matches played whilst in breach.

3. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) No player shall be registered in this League until he has obtained a clearance on the prescribed form from the Club and League with which he last played. (subject to Affiliated Leagues Regulations exceptions) Junior players under 15 years require a clearance under the Footyweb system, and may also hold a dual club registration under the provisions of the Affiliated League Regulations, however may only play finals in the one nominated Affiliated League.
- (b) Where a junior player seeks to transfer between clubs within the Mid West league, a clearance will be required, to be signed by the player and their parent or legal guardian.
- (c) No player shall be granted a clearance by this League or any Club in this League who is under disqualification or has failed to pay a fine imposed by the League.
- (d) Should a registered player of this League leave his club without being cleared, then on his return he shall still be deemed to be a player of that Club.
- (e) Players who are registered with a SANFL Club are only able to return to their home Club if they are included on either the Registered Player List or the Registered Youth List.
- (f) Any registered player of this League who is transferred in his employment to another locality maybe given a temporary permit to play in that locality providing he complies with the Affiliated Leagues Regulations.
- (g) If a registered player in this League has not played competition football in the last 24 months and desires to transfer to another Club within this League he maybe granted a permit providing he fulfills the conditions of the Affiliated Leagues Regulations, and such transfer is registered on the League's database.
- (h) Junior qualified player playing any senior grade (A or B Grade). Any junior player (defined as under 16 qualified player) shall wear white shorts. This signals to umpires and opposition players that the player must not be subject to unduly rough play.
- (i) No player may play senior football unless he/she has first obtained the age of thirteen years (13) as at the date of the game. This applies to both A Grade and Reserves levels.

4. IMPROPER REGISTRATION

A player who has obtained registration by means of a false statement or without having the necessary qualifications shall be dealt with by the Commissioners of the Independent League Tribunal, or the SACFL as appropriate.

5. REFUSAL OF CLEARANCE

- (a) Any player, registered with an Affiliated League Club who is refused a clearance to transfer from one Club in the League in which he is registered to another Club in the same League, may appeal against the refusal to the League Independent Tribunal.

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- (b) All Clubs must abide by the rules as laid out in the Affiliated Leagues Regulations
- (c) Any such appeal for clearance shall be made in writing and lodged with the Secretary for the League along with a further clearance application completed by the player, and together with a fee of \$50.00 within seven (7) days of the clearance application being refused.
- (d) The Secretary of the League shall acknowledge receipt of the appeal by issuing a receipt for the prescribed fee and calling the Commissioner (s) of the Independent League Tribunal within seven (7) days of the appeal being lodged. The prescribed fee will be forfeited by the person appealing if in the opinion of the Independent League Tribunal the matter is considered frivolous.

6. PLAYING DISQUALIFIED PLAYERS

No Club shall play any player who is under disqualification by any Australian Football Authority whether such authority is affiliated with the League or not, and any Club after having a written notice from the League Secretary that a player has been disqualified or fined shall play such a disqualified player or the player whose fine has not been paid shall forfeit the match in which it plays such a player.

7. PLAYING AN UNQUALIFIED PLAYER

No Club shall play a player who is unregistered or who for any reason whatsoever is unqualified. A Club breaking this rule shall forfeit the match.

8. THE INDEPENDENT LEAGUE TRIBUNAL

- (a) At its Annual General Meeting the League shall appoint a sole League Commissioner. The League Proxy Commissioner shall be either of the elected League President or an elected Vice President. In the event of a Proxy Commissioner being called upon, he may not preside over an issue that directly affects a club with which an affiliation is held.
- (b) The Independent League Tribunal may grant or refuse a clearance to a player appealing, provided that in making its determination they consider and take into account all the circumstances and matters relevant to the application and including the following:-
  - 1. All the rules contained therein
  - 2. The age of the applicant
  - 3. The interests of the League
  - 4. The interest of the Australian Game of Football.
  - 5. The interests of the person appealing
  - 6. Any hardship, financial or otherwise, likely to be suffered in the event of the appeal being disallowed.
  - 7. Contractual obligations, if any, between the person appealing and the Club from which such clearance is sought.
- (c) The Independent League Tribunal shall have power to:-

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1. Enquire into, hear and determine a charge made against any person which is the subject of a report made in respect of a breach of the Laws of the Game,
2. If requested by an Affiliated League to inquire into, hear and determine any charge of assaulting or attempting to assault an umpire made by an umpire and/or umpires from a panel of umpires appointed or approved by the League against a player or official of an Affiliated League or Club of an Affiliated League.
3. Enquire into, hear and determine any charge made by an umpire provided by the League against a player or registered official of a League Club or player or official of an Affiliated League on the following grounds:-
  - 3.1 Assault or attempt to assault an umpire,
  - 3.2 Using abusive, threatening, indecent or insulting language towards an umpire,
  - 3.3 Misconducting himself towards an umpire,
  - 3.4 Acting in any way which is harmful to or derogatory of an umpire.
4. Hear and determine any other matter or complaint which may be referred to him for hearing and determination under these Regulations/ By Laws,
5. Summon any person to appear and give evidence at the hearing of any report, charge or complaint,
6. Admit or reject any evidence given or tendered at the hearing of such report, charge or complaint
7. Adjourn the hearing of any report, charge or complaint from time to time as may be convenient,
8. Adopt or pursue any procedure which he thinks convenient and proper in the hearing adjudication and determination of such report, charge or complaint,
9. Determine the manner of, any matter relating to the conduct of proceedings on the hearing of such report, charge or complaint,
10. Cause a transcript of proceedings on the hearing of such report, charge or complaint to be taken or recorded in such manner as he determines,
11. Punish by way of censure, fine, suspension or disqualification from playing or exercising any official function or suspended penalty, any person being a player or official of the League or an Affiliated League who is found to have knowingly and with intent to mislead, made any false statement at the hearing of any report, charge or complaint in respect of any matter which is material to the charge and directed to the proof of innocence or guilt of the person charged,
12. Dismiss any charge as being trivial or as not having been proved.

Further, the Independent League Tribunal may, notwithstanding the fact that any one or more of the conditions required to be fulfilled under these rules/ by-laws have not been complied with, the League Tribunal if, in its absolute discretion, it deems fit in the interests of the League and of the game, may proceed to hear a charge laid under these rules so long as it is satisfied that the substance of the charge or other matter has been established or not and that no player or person charged would or might be prejudiced.

- (d) The decision of the Independent League Tribunal shall be final and conclusive and no further appeal shall apply to any other tribunal or body whether judicial, quasi-judicial or otherwise. This is subject to rules of Affiliation where



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suspension of ten (10) or more games may be appealed to the SANFL/SACFL Commissioner for Country and Metropolitan Football.

The Independent Tribunal Procedures are annexed to these By-Laws, and provide guidance to the League Tribunal. These Procedures form part of the By-Laws of the Mid West Football League. Contained therein are general principals, rules of the structure, representation, procedures, and pre-determined penalties list.

8A PERMIT COMMITTEE

- (a) There shall be a Permit Committee comprising of the League Commissioner, Proxy Commissioner and one member of the Eyre Peninsula Zone Independent Tribunal appointed by the League Commissioner. The League Commissioner may at any time remove the member of the Eyre Peninsula Zone Independent Tribunal appointed by him to the Permit Committee and appoint another member of that Tribunal in his place.
- (b) The Permit Tribunal shall have the power to:-
  - 1. Hear and determine any application concerning the granting or revocation of a permit to play football for a club under By-Law 2A
  - 2. Grant or refuse any application for a permit made to it and revoke any permit which it may have granted.
  - 3. Adopt any procedure considered convenient and proper for the hearing and adjudication of any matter before it.
  - 4. Summon any person to appear before it and to give evidence.
  - 5. Admit or reject any evidence which may be given to it.
  - 6. Adjourn its proceedings to such time and place as it shall deem fit.
- (c) Any player requiring a permit must have received a clearance from the football club with which he last played and such clearance must have been delivered to the Secretary of the League before an application for a permit for him to be registered can be made under By-Law 2A. All clearances and permits must be finalised and in the hands of the League Secretary by 5.00pm the evening before the match in which a player is to play.
- (d) An application to the Permit Committee concerning a permit to be registered under By-Law 2A, or the revocation of any permit which the Permit Committee may have granted under that By-Law, must be heard within seven (7) days of the application being received by the Secretary of the League.
- (e) All hearings of the Permit Committee will be held at the Minnipa Hotel or at such other place as the Permit Committee may from time to time decide.
- (f) In making its determination for any application for a permit or revocation of a permit the Permit Committee may consider and take into account any circumstances and matters relevant to the application including, without limitation, the following:-
  - 1. The age of the applicant

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2. The interests of the League
  3. The interests of the game of Australian Football
  4. The interests of the person named in the application
  5. The interests of the Club with which the player desires to play
  6. In the case of an application for revocation of a permit the interests of the Club and/or the League making the application for the revocation of such Permit and the interests of the Club with which the player was given a permit to play by the Permit Committee.
- (g) At any hearing of the Permit Committee the player seeking the permit and the Club with which the players seeks a permit to become registered are entitled to be represented by an advocate who is not a member of the legal profession.
- (h) The decision of the Permit Committee on any application made to it under By-Law 2A shall be final and binding and no appeal from its decision shall lie to any Tribunal or body whether judicial, quasi-judicial or otherwise.

9. CLUB COLOURS

- (a) The registered distinguishing colours of the Clubs shall be as follows:-

<b>Central Eyre</b>	Red/White/Blue	Blue shorts
<b>Elliston</b>	Red/White	Red shorts
<b>West Coast Hawks</b>	Navy Blue/Gold/White	Navy shorts
<b>Western Districts</b>	Green/Gold	Green shorts
<b>Wirrulla</b>	Black/Red	Black shorts
<b>Wudinna United</b>	Black/White	Black shorts

- (b) Any modification to colour or design, or the use of advertising logos shall be approved by the League.
- (c) Any Club playing a member or members not conforming to the approved Club colours shall be prohibited by the field umpire from playing in any game and the League may impose such penalty as it may deem fit. An umpire can choose to issue a warning which is to be recorded on the offending clubs team sheet and submitted to the league secretary. Two warnings in the same season to a club will result in a \$100 fine being issued to that club.

10. DISTINGUISHING NUMBERS.

- (a) All players must wear distinguishing numbers for each match which must agree with those numbers shown on lists handed to the Field umpire at the start of each match.
- (b) Clubs making a technical mistake when naming players will be charged but provided the Club can demonstrate to the Commissioner/s satisfaction that all players were in fact eligible in every way to play for the Club, the Commissioner/s may dismiss the charge censure or fine the Club at their discretion.

11. MATCHES: STARTING TIMES, DURATION, TIMEON/OFF & TIED MATCHES

The Football season shall commence on the date to be fixed by the League. All League matches to be commenced by 2:30pm. Any Club not ready to start at the appointed time may be fined or dealt with as the League may think fit, and, in addition, if not ready to start within one half hour of the commencing time, shall forfeit the match to the opposing team. The Time-keeper shall notify the League Secretary of the details of the default and his decision as to the time shall be final. The Time-keepers to show and agree to the time of arrival of each team on the field.

Any change of starting times must be prior approved by the League.

a) Game Day Match starting times

	Minor Round	Finals
A Grade	2.30pm	2.30pm
B Grade	1.00pm	1.00pm
Junior Colts	12.00pm	12.00pm
Senior Colts	10.30am	10.30am

b) Match Duration

A Grade

**Minor Round and Finals 2.30pm start**

Match start time 2.30pm (or near to in Grand Final, Match Day program to be set by League)

4 x 20 minute quarters plus time on

5 minutes breaks at  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time on the oval.  $\frac{1}{2}$  time break is 20 minutes off of the oval.

B Grade

**Minor Round 1.00pm start:** 4 x 15 minute quarters with no time on unless special circumstance as directed by the Field Umpire. Game time may be reduced in agreement between club coaches and captains  
5 minute breaks at each of  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, 10 minutes at  $\frac{1}{2}$  time, each on the oval.

**Finals 1.00pm start:** 4 x 15 minute quarters with no time on unless special circumstances as directed by the Field Umpire.  
5 minute breaks at each of  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, 10 minutes at  $\frac{1}{2}$  time, each on the oval.

Junior Colts

**Minor Round and Finals 12.00pm start:** 4 x 10 minutes with no time on unless special circumstance as directed by the Field Umpire.  
5 minutes breaks at each of  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, each on the oval.

Senior Colts

**Minor Round and Finals 10.30am start:** 4 x 17 minutes with no time on unless special circumstance as directed by the Field Umpire.  
5 minutes breaks at each of  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, each on the oval.

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### c) Time On and Off

Where the provision of time on/off applies:

#### **Time Off**

Central umpires signal  
Boundary umpires whistle

Goal umpires score signal (ie not flag wave)

#### **Time On**

At ball up at start of play  
Central umpires signal  
Throw in when ball leaves boundary  
umpires hand or upon kick in / player re start  
At restart of play, either upon kick in, or ball up in middle Siren to end quarter/match

### d) Tied matches

Minor Round: Should a tie take place at the final siren, the tie stands (ie extra time does not apply in minor round games).  
Finals: Extra time applies in order to achieve a result in all finals (see clause 19 (e) ).

Time keepers are to sound the siren at the start and finish of each quarter and keep sounding it until the field umpire notifies them that he has heard it.

## 12. MATCHES OTHER THAN LEAGUE MATCHES.

No Club shall play any match other than a League match after the commencement of the minor round without first obtaining approval of the League Executive.

## 13. FORFEITURE OF MATCHES.

- (a) No Club shall refuse to play under the Field Umpire appointed by the SANFL. or the Mid West Umpires Panel because of objections to the appointed umpire. A Club so refusing to play or forfeiting a match shall be suspended or expelled by this League, or otherwise dealt with as this League may determine.
- (b) Any player or players or club official who refuse to play or officiate in a match or take part in the forfeiture of a match on account of objections to the appointed may be dealt with by the Commissioner/s as they think fit.
- (c) A Club forfeiting a match for any reason shall notify the Secretary of this League of its reasons for forfeiting, and this League may accept the explanation or deal with the Club so forfeiting or the players of such Club as it may think fit.
- (d)
  - (1) A and B Grade Matches  
A Club receiving a forfeit approved by the League shall be credited with two (2) premiership match points (if applicable) plus one hundred and twenty (120) points for and nil (0) against.
  - (2) Senior and Junior Colts Matches  
A Club receiving a forfeit approved by the League shall be credited with two (2) premiership match points (if applicable) plus five (5) goals or thirty (30) points for and nil (0) against.
- (e) In the case where matches are stopped mid game or forfeited for reasons beyond the control of the umpires and competing teams, which may include

lightening, serious or suspected serious injury, storm/weather conditions etc, are to be dealt with in terms of formula detailed in the Laws of Australian Football.

- (f) Clubs forfeiting a B Grade match shall notify the competing club and league secretary by 7.30pm the night prior to the scheduled match. Forfeiting club shall be fined \$250.00 for failure to notify prior to the 7.30pm cut off time.

#### 14. RED AND YELLOW CARDS

- (a) Yellow Card (Send Off)

Any player receiving a yellow card shall leave the oval immediately via the interchange gate, and shall not re enter the playing field until ten (10) minutes of actual playing time has expired. The ten minute period shall be timed by the match day timekeepers and it will be the responsibility of the team runner to receive notification from the time keepers as to the correct expiry of the ten minute period. Time keepers will sound a short blast of the siren until acknowledged by the field umpire.

Any player receiving two yellow cards in any one match (home/away rounds or finals) will automatically face a report and require that incidents be heard by the League Tribunal.

In the event that a player is issued with third yellow card, this will become an automatic red card, and the player must not return to the playing arena during the match. (automatic report also applies).

No player shall be replaced in the event of receiving either a red or yellow card, effectively meaning that the team is penalised one player for each yellow or red card on current issue.

Yellow cards issued are to be recorded on the form supplied for that purpose by time keepers and submitted to the League Recorder with the results envelope for that day to allow recording by the League Recorder. The umpire will also note the offence on the relevant team sheet or separate report attached to the Team Sheet which is to be forwarded to the League Secretary.

The yellow card incident reports are to be recorded and retained on file for consideration at any future Tribunal appearances. No automatic suspensions apply, with infractions to be considered by Commissioner when levying any penalties at such future Tribunal appearances.

- (b) Red Card

Any player receiving a red card in match (home/away rounds or finals) will automatically be reported and sent off for the remainder of the game. The umpire(s) officiating shall complete all the necessary documentation immediately after the match and follow the normal procedures in reporting a player for a breach of the rules.

Red carded players may be replaced by another player on the team sheet after the expiration of ten (10) minutes of playing time.

The League Secretary/Tribunal Secretary will summon the player to appear before the tribunal and normal tribunal proceedings will occur.

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Any other suspended games will be taken into account and served concurrently with the tribunal findings if the player is found guilty.

Red cards apply in all grades under the control of the League.

15. REPORTING OF INCIDENTS.

- (a) The following conditions shall apply to a charge laid by the umpire in respect of a breach of the "Laws of the Game" by a player. All charges shall be dealt with in terms of the Tribunal Procedure or Pre-Determined Penalty Guides

(1) Each umpire who makes a charge shall fill in duplicate, copies in respect of each Club which has a player to be reported. Such copies shall set out the name of such player and particulars of the charge. Each umpire who makes a charge shall sign both copies and if he is a boundary or goal umpire shall hand both copies to the field umpire. The field umpire shall deliver one copy of each charge to the Secretary of this League so as to reach him/her no later than in the afternoon of the following Monday. The reporting umpire is to advise the League secretary verbally that a report has taken place by Sunday evening 8pm.

Each Club shall be responsible for the attendance of an official at the door of the umpire's room at the termination of the match to seek details of any reports arising from a match and where charges are made, the field umpire shall hand to the officials of the Club concerned, and the duplicate signed copy of such charges. In the case of non-attendance of an Official, the Club in default and any player concerned in a charge shall be deemed to have waived compliance with the provisions of this clause and the charge will be heard as if the Official received the copy of the charge.

(2) On the handing to the Club Official of the copy of the charges as required by sub-clause (1) the Club concerned shall be deemed to have duly received notice of such charge, and thereupon such Club Official shall forthwith notify the player concerned of the making of the charge.

(3) When an umpire intends to make a charge against any playing member he shall, if such charges relate to matters arising in the first three-quarters of the game, notify the players concerned as soon as reasonably possible after the incident, and in any event, not later than the start of the next quarter.

- (b) Charges are sought to be heard not later than five (5) days following the match or by alternative arrangement as agreed by the Commissioner. The League Tribunal Secretary shall fix the time and place for hearing any charges and the Club Officials and Umpires concerned shall be notified by the Secretary of the League of such time and place of meeting.
- (c) The accused playing member shall attend on the hearing as such charge, and may give evidence, and subject to sub-clause (f) call witnesses and question all witnesses who give evidence on such hearing. Should he fail to attend after having been duly notified in accordance with sub-clause (b) the Commissioner/s may proceed to hear the charge in his absence.
- (d) The umpire who has reported a playing member may give evidence and call witnesses and question all witnesses who give evidence at the hearing, but in the event of the person appointed by the League under sub-clause (f) being present,

the calling of and questioning of witnesses shall be performed by him on behalf of the umpire.

- (e) At the discretion of the Commissioner and at the bona fide inability of an accused player to attend a hearing, a club appointed proxy may question all witnesses who give evidence at such hearing.
- (f) The League or Umpires Panel may appoint a person to present charges to the Commissioner/s.
  - (1) A playing member against whom a charge has been made shall not be eligible to be involved with future matches in any capacity until the Commissioner/s has adjudicated on the charge.
  - (2) Such ineligibility shall not apply to any match played within four (4) days after the date of receipt of the charge by the League Secretary.
- (g) Any person who conducts himself disrespectfully to the Commissioner/s during the hearing of a charge may be suspended for such period as the Commissioner/s may deem proper, and/or may be fined a sum not exceeding \$250.00.
- (g) Any player disqualified or suspended by the Independent Tribunal for a period which is in excess of the next ten matches of the team for which he was playing, may appeal to the Commissioner for Country and Junior Football of the SACFL/SANFL

16. REPORTING OTHER OFFENCE.

- (a) No person who is a member, official or servant of the League or a League Club shall during the progress of a game on or about the playing arena or at any other time:-
  - (1) Use abusive, threatening or insulting language to the League delegates or umpires or other officials or to players or to gatekeepers of any such oval.
  - (2) Interfere with or assault any League delegate, umpire or other official servant of the League or a playing member or gatekeeper.
  - (3) Be guilty of conduct detrimental to the best interest of the Australian Game of Football.
  - (4) Refuse or neglect to observe or comply with the rules of the League.
  - (5) Obtain or attempt to obtain entrance to any oval without producing entrance pass or paying proper admission charge.
  - (6) A charge against any person offending against the provisions of this Clause may be laid by any League member, official or servant, or in the case of an infringement of Sub-Clause (5), by any oval official or gatekeeper, providing, in the instance of a player being involved, it occurs outside the actual playing of a game.
- (b) Such charge shall be in writing, which shall set out the matter or matters complained of, and the name of the alleged offender.
- (c) Such charge shall be lodged with the Secretary of the League not later than the afternoon two (2) days following the alleged offence.
- (d) The Secretary of the League shall give to the person against whom a charge has been made two (2) clear days written notice of such charge, and shall set out a copy of such charge, and shall set out the time and place appointed for the hearing.

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- (e) Any charge under this rule will be heard by the Commissioner/s of the Independent League Tribunal.
- (f) Where a charge under this rule has been found to be proved, the Commissioner/s may inflict such punishment either by way of censure, fine, suspension or disqualification as they think fit.
- (g) Any person reported under By-Law 17 League Selection shall have the right to be represented by a delegate or proxy delegate of the Club to which the accused person belongs.

17. LEAGUE SELECTION.

- (a) Any player who has applied for and obtained registration and a permit to play may make himself available for selection in any match arranged by the League.
- (b) Club Secretaries must advise of a player's unavailability to the League Secretary prior to selection nights.
- (c) Any playing member who has been selected to play in an Inter-League or other League match shall on failure to satisfy the Commissioner/s of the Independent League Tribunal that he had a valid and sufficient reason for not playing, be liable to disqualification at the discretion of the Commissioner/s.

18. RIGHT OF APPEAL.

Subject to the SANFL/SACFL Affiliated Leagues Regulations, a player or Club disqualified or otherwise punished may within fourteen (14) days appeal to the SACFL/SANFL. Such appeal shall be handed to or posted to the Secretary of the League for forwarding to the SACFL/SANFL. Inc whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

19. PREMIERSHIP CONDITIONS.

- (a) In all matches two (2) points shall be conducted for a win and one for a draw.
- (b) If at the conclusion of the minor round any two (2) or more Clubs have obtained an equal number of points, the position of such Clubs shall be determined by the percentages of points kicked for and against such Clubs.
- (c) The Club which occupies leading position at the conclusion of the Minor Round shall be called the winners of the Minor Premiership.
- (d) At the conclusion of the Minor round the third and fourth teams on the Premiership Table shall play the first semi-final, and the first and second teams shall play the second semi-final. A Preliminary Final shall be played between the winners of the first semi-final and the losers of the second semi-final. The Grand Final shall be played between the winners of the second semi-final and the winners of the Preliminary Final.
- (e) Should a tie take place at the final siren in finals matches Captains shall toss for ends a further 5 minutes shall be played each end, this being repeated if



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necessary until a decision has been reached. This applies to all finals in all grades including the A Grade Grand Final

### 20. MAJOR ROUND (FINALS) - PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS.

- (a)
  - (1) a player must have played in 2 minor round matches to qualify to play in the major round.
  - (2) a player must have played at least 2 minor round matches in Reserves Grade to play in the Reserves major round, subject to By-Law 20 (c).
- (b) Names of top 15 active "A" Grade players to be handed to League Secretary by 21 days prior to commencement of Major Round. (No under 16 eligible player is to be included in the top 15 active A Grade players). League delegates to review names at next League Meeting. Any disputes to be tabled at the League meeting, and any changes unable to be undertaken by consensus to be referred to the Permit Committee. The so named players are not to be eligible to play in Reserves Grade major round, subject however to By-Law 20 (c).
- (c) If the League and Reserves teams of a Club are competing in major round matches on the same day, all players not selected in the League A grade team, (20 players) shall be eligible for Reserve grade team.

An under 16s eligible player may play in any senior grade final.

### 21 JUNIOR LEAGUE PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS.

- (a) All members of the "senior colts" team shall be under the age of 16 on the first day of January in each season.
- (b) All members of "junior colts" teams shall be under the age of 13 on the first day of January in each season
- (c) All members of the mini-league team played at half time of the A Grade shall be under the age of 10 on the first day of January each season.

All Junior League teams shall come under the jurisdiction of the League, which at its discretion may appoint a sub-committee to deal with junior's business.

#### 21 (1) Special Exemption for Over Age Players (under 16 only)

It is recognised that in some instances, players may not be considered ready to proceed to play senior football (physical size, experience and general ability). To retain these players in the game, the League may grant eligibility to play as an over age player in the under 16 competition.

Application for the granting of an "overage" exemption to allow a player to play must be made by the players club in writing for assessment by the League.

Qualification for over age players shall be as follows:-

- Players may only be in their first year out of Colts competition, in that they must be Under the age of 17 as at 1 January in the year to be played;
- Reasons for over age status sought must be stated in the application;

The purpose of this rule is to retain players within the game, with the hope that they will be able to progress to play senior football in future. This is not to be used as a measure to strengthen a Colts side. The League shall retain the power to revoke an overage

exemption at any time should it be considered that the overage player should more appropriately play senior football.

21 (2) Over Age Players – Playing Conditions

- Players must wear a yellow arm band when playing in the under 16 competition
- Players shall be ineligible to receive votes in the League Best and Fairest medals in the colts competition
- The Team Manager must mark “overage” against the players name on the team sheet submitted on match days

21 (3) Over Age Players – Special Conditions

An over age player shall have the eligible overage status automatically revoked as follows:-

- The player is sent off with either a yellow or red card during any match;
- The player is reported and found guilty of any offense;
- The player plays a game of A Grade football;
- The player plays 3 games of B Grade football

The overage player shall be eligible to play finals whilst overage qualification is retained.

21 (4) Over Age Players – Review

The League Executive or delegated Colts/Juniors Coordinator/Committee, shall conduct a review of all players with over age status at the completion of round one to determine whether the over age status is appropriate. The over age status may be revoked at any time by the League or delegated Colts/ Juniors Coordinator/Committee.

22 COLTS COMPETITION CONDITIONS

- (a) Senior Colts - Under 16 matches Minor and major round games shall be four (4) quarters each of 17 minutes duration with no provision for time on except in special circumstances as directed by the Central Umpire (major injury or disruption);
- (b) Junior Colts – Under 13 matches  
Minor and major round games shall be four (4) quarters each of 10 minutes duration with no provision for time on except in special circumstances as directed by the Central Umpire (major injury or disruption);

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- (c) If at half time or three quarter time there is a 60 point or higher margin in the game, the match should be discontinued and teams evened up at that point. This may be by merging teams or removing players from the ground at the coach's discretion. At this point:-
  - Central Umpires are to award League Medal votes
  - League Recorder is to award Premiership Points and Percentage,

Note: This rule applies only to minor round matches, not finals matches

Colts coaches are encouraged to communicate with opposition coaches to ensure that matches are as even as possible after the application of these rules.

23 B GRADE PLAYING CONDITIONS

- (a) Twelve (12) Players constitutes a game for points. Each team must have a minimum of twelve (12) players at the start of a game for a game for points to ensue.
- (b) If one team has less than eighteen (18) players down to a minimum of (12) then the other team can only place the same number of players on the field with any remaining players (up to the maximum allowed of 12) be listed and play as interchange players. The intention of the By-Law is thus:  
(If team A has 14 players and team B has 20 players then both teams can only field 14, but team B can have its remainder of 6 play only as interchange players. (14 players from each side on the field at any one time)).
- (c) In the event of an injury or other reason and a player has to leave the field, the game can continue until the number on the field reaches ten (10). During this time the other team may continue to field its original quota of players. Once a teams playing numbers on the field reaches less than ten (10) a forfeit will result. In the event of a forfeit then full points be awarded to the winning team and percentage to be determined as per MWFL By-Laws.
- (d) In the event of a forfeit, either by not having the required numbers prior to a game or by the reduction of a team to ten (10) players after a game has started, then a scratch match to take place in the remaining time prior to the A Grade game starting (if agreeable to both clubs players and coaching staff).
- (e) In the event of a game with sixteen (16) or less starting players on the ground then the centre square quota of players be reduced from four (4) per team to three (3) per team. This will apply at all times when a game is restarted with a centre ball up (after a goal is scored or at the start of each quarter).
- (f) Umpires to be notified prior to the start of each game with the numbers each team will be fielding, so as to police the new centre square rule when numbers fall to sixteen (16) or less.
- (g) These By-Laws to apply to all minor round B Grade games in the MWFL, but major round games are to revert back to normal Affiliated League and MWFL Rules and By-Laws.

24. TEAM FORMS, PLAYING CONDITIONS AND INTERCHANGE.

- (a) In every match a list of players, with their respective numbers, shall be exchanged by Officials of the opposing Clubs and only the players mentioned in such list shall be qualified to play. A copy of each list shall be handed to the Field Umpire, League Secretary and Club Officials before the start of the match, to be kept by them when necessary for identification purposes when a charge is laid.
- (b) The A and B Grade team may consist of up to 21 players (c) All named interchange players must be at the ground in uniform to play and must remain so ready until the conclusion of the match and must be identified on the team sheet.
- (d) The interchange players shall be available for use at the discretion of the coach (or delegate) and/or captain as a substitute player at any time during the match providing that, if either player is used an interchange the players concerned make their entrance and departure from the playing area through the designated area in view of the opposition. Failure to use the designated entrance and departure area shall mean that the player will not be permitted to take any further part in that particular game.

- (e) In the event of a blood rule player interchange at the request of the field umpire when the match has been halted for this purpose, the field umpires shall instruct that the replacement player enter the playing arena simultaneously to the player exiting the oval to expedite resumption of play as soon as possible. The designated entrance and departure area should be used in all instances in terms of 24 (d);
- (f) **Should a club forfeit the B Grade match**, in the interests of providing a game to as many players as possible, the following special match conditions of playing numbers shall apply in the A Grade match:-
  - 1. Upon agreement with coaches and captains of the competing clubs up to twenty five players may be used;
  - 2. In the event that the player numbers are increased under this By Law, both sides shall play with the same number of players if it is agreed to exceed the twenty one (21) players allowed under By Law 23 (b);
  - 3. The fact that this By Law has been enacted shall be noted on the team sheet and signed by both club Team Managers under advice to the Field Umpires and League.
  - 4. This By Law shall not apply in finals matches.
- (g) Junior qualified players shall wear white shorts whilst playing in any senior grades in order that they may be recognised by umpires and other players.
- (h) Every junior qualified player shall have written permission from their parent/guardian to play in senior grades. A form for this purpose is annexed to these By-Laws

25. PROTESTS OR DISPUTES.

Protests or disputes arising out of any League Match must be made in writing by the Secretary of the Club concerned to the League Secretary not later than two days following the match in which such incident occurred. Such protest or dispute shall be accompanied by a fee of \$100.00 to be forfeited if, in the opinion of the body appointed to hear such protest or dispute, the same is frivolous. All such protests or disputes shall be heard by Commissioner/s of the Independent League Tribunal or the Executive of the SACFL in the event of a SACFL Affiliated Leagues Regulations issue, no later than Friday following the reported incident and the Club or persons involved in the protest or dispute shall be allowed representation at the hearing.

26. UMPIRES.

- (a) The Mid West Umpires Panel or similar Umpires Panel from another Affiliated League shall provide where possible the field umpire for every match under its control.
- (b) The Field Umpire's remuneration per match and other Umpire's fees, to be fixed by this League from time to time.
- (c) No Mid West Umpires Panel Umpire who has acted as such shall be allowed to play in an A Grade League match during the season in which he has acted except with the consent of this League. A Club or Umpire breaking this rule shall be dealt with as the League may think fit.

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- (d) The scores shall be kept on scoring cards supplied by this League to the Goal Umpires, and are to be initialed by the Field umpire and handed or forwarded by him to the League Secretary after the match, together with the lists of players duly initialed.
- (e) The Mid West Executive will appoint a Liaison Officer to the Mid West Umpires Panel

27. TIMEKEEPERS.

All Clubs shall appoint a registered time-keeper to officiate at each Club game conducted by the League.

28. OFFICIALS ON PLAYING ARENA.

No official (runner, trainers and water carriers excepted) of any League Club is allowed within the playing arena during the progress of any game. Playing arena means within the fenced enclosure. Trainers must not leave their position unless for attention to players. Coach and Team Manager are not to leave their positions except at quarter, half and three-quarter time. Runner is to be uniformed in a League approved identifying shirt and is to leave his position only to relay messages to players.

Persons designated as trainers must be uniformed in white to enable recognition by umpires and officials.

Persons designated to supply water to players must be uniformed so as not clash with playing uniforms or runners uniforms, and are not to relay messages to players. People supplying water to player must not interfere with players in any way, and will be dealt with in terms of the Laws of Australian Football if in breach, including reporting.

All officials must be named on the team sheet

Should any official identify a player with a medical concern (ie suspected concussion, significant bleeding, immobility concern etc), they are to inform the central umpire to enable match to be stopped and situation managed.

29. FALSE STATEMENTS.

Any person, official or servant of the League, or playing member of the League, who makes a false statement to the League or a Committee of the League, may be charged with such offence and such charge dealt with in accordance with these Rules.

30. ENDORSEMENT OF DECISIONS AND DIRECTIONS OF LEAGUE.

- (a) Whenever a fine has been inflicted by the League on a Club or a delegate member or proxy delegate, or on a playing member, or official member of the League, such fine shall be paid within 30 days from the posting by the Secretary of the League of a notice of the infliction of such fine.
- (b) Where a fine remains unpaid after the specified time such amount shall double each 30 days the fine remains unpaid.

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- (c) Each Club shall be responsible for the payment of all fines inflicted by the League or the Commissioner/s on the Club, or on its delegate members, or proxy delegates, or on its playing members, or officials registered with the League.

31. PROGRAM

The programmed day for the Mid West Football League match shall not fall on the same day as the Wudinna Show.

A programmed day for a Mid West Football League match shall not fall on the same day as the Streaky Bay Cup race meeting.

32. TRAGEDY BENEFITS INSURANCE.

All clubs are to take out at least minimum level of Insurance as specified by the SACFL/SANFL for Affiliated Leagues and/or as designated under the Affiliated Leagues Regulations.

33. LAWS OF THE AUSTRALIAN GAME OF FOOTBALL.

The Laws of the Game as amended from time to time by the Australian Football League shall be adopted as a By-Law of this League except as explicitly varied by the By Laws of the League... All appointed Officials of each Club must be notified to the League by the meeting subsequent to their appointment.

34. DESCRIPTION OF FOOTBALL TO BE USED

Further to the provision of footballs in the Laws of the Game, footballs for Mid West matches are to be Sherrin brand in any colour as follows:-

Under 10 grade	Size three
Under 13 grade	Size four
Under 16 grade	Size four
Senior grades	Size five

End of By Laws text.

**Annexures**

1. Parent/Guardian Permission to Play Senior Grades of Football



**Parent/Guardian Permission to Play Senior Grades of Football**

\_\_\_\_\_ Football Club

I/we \_\_\_\_\_ (name(s)) as parent/guardian(s), hereby give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ (the player), to play senior level football for the above named club.

It is acknowledged that football is a contact sport and injury is possible, and in giving this permission it is further acknowledged that the club/ league will not be held further liable or negligent in allowing the player to play senior football.

This permission shall have effect for the full season of the date below

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Witnessed \_\_\_\_\_

Witness name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## **MID WEST FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

### **INDEPENDENT TRIBUNAL PROCEDURES**

#### **General Principles**

The domestic disciplinary tribunal is, and will remain, one of the most contentious and emotional parts of our game. It is because of this emotion that it is also an area, which, along with the disputed clearance, is most likely to attract a legal challenge to a decision. Such challenges have been mounted in the past and when successful, as some have been, have resulted in the league or association being involved in great hardship, either in legal expenses or penalty. It is therefore critical that certain basic principles are adhered to so as to minimise the risk of a successful challenge.

1. The most basic, and most important, of these is **NATURAL JUSTICE**. In essence, in football terms, natural justice means – that every person is entitled to a fair hearing that they must be provided with the opportunity to present any evidence available to them in defence of any charge, that the tribunal must give proper attention to all the evidence, that the tribunal reach its decision in a fair and impartial manner.
2. Another important principle is – That the player/defendant must understand what the charge is, how the hearing will proceed, entitled to be heard and have his/her say.
3. Also important is that each League or Association should ensure that their tribunal's powers are clearly identified and understood by the commissioners.
4. For the purpose of these By-Laws, the term player shall mean player or person (s) before the Tribunal against whom a charge is made.

#### **Structure of the Tribunal**

A sole Tribunal Commissioner will be appointed to hear and decide on all reportable offences for the Mid West Football League. A Proxy Commissioner may be appointed to act in the event of absence of the Tribunal Commissioner

It is preferable that the Tribunal Commissioner has some knowledge of legal proceedings. Their role is to adjudicate on the evidence presented on the night, not their personal views on either the incident or the individual involved.

#### **Tribunal Sitings**

The League Secretary or his delegate shall call Tribunals no later than Wednesday following a report, and shall advise the Secretary of all Clubs of the result of the hearing by Thursday noon.

Tribunal sittings may also be required at short notice due to non-local umpires officiating. Any such extraordinary sitting of the Tribunal will be called by the League Secretary., in consultation with the Tribunal Commissioner.

#### **Tribunal Penalties**

The League has adopted a predetermined penalty structure to be utilised by the Tribunal Commissioner to suspend or disqualify any person found guilty of a charge. This penalty structure is adopted as part of By Law 8 and attached as Appendix 1 to these procedures.

The predetermined penalties provide for players to enter a guilty plea, and this will incur a lesser penalty. A reported player who wishes to enter an early guilty plea will not be required to attend a Tribunal Sitting, but will automatically receive the predetermined penalty for the reported offence. Any pre-tribunal guilty plea must be made in writing to the League Secretary, and be received at least one day prior to the set Tribunal Sitting.

### **Tribunal Representation or Advocates**

The accused player shall attend on the hearing of such charge, and may give evidence. Reported players appearing before the tribunal involved in A and B Grade games shall not be represented by an advocate. A Player's advocate will be allowed for players involved in junior grade matches, with advocates only allowed to offer players advice on the proceedings of the Tribunal. Any player not appearing at the scheduled Tribunal hearing may have his case heard in his absence.

### **Tribunal Procedures**

1. The Tribunal shall satisfy itself that the person charged has had details of the charge – at this time the Commissioners should also satisfy themselves that:
  - the umpire or persons laying the charge has the power to report,
  - ascertain the player before the tribunal is the reported and that the player understands the nature of the charge,
  - that the player charged understands the procedures to be followed,
  - confirm that the advocate (if permitted ) is familiar with the tribunal procedures,

*A player/person not attending a Tribunal will be deemed suspended until such time as he does attend a Tribunal.*

2. At this stage in the hearing the tribunal may, at their discretion, offer the player the chance to plea.
3. The umpire(s) presents evidence - under the S.A.C.F.L. Constitution an umpire is prohibited from being represented at a hearing. However, the umpire may present written evidence, to expand upon his/her report sheet. If on some occasions an umpire is unable to attend a hearing, the tribunal may decide to allow the umpire to provide his/her evidence via telephone.
4. Cross examination of the umpire by the tribunal – this can take place during the umpire's evidence if the Commissioner wants to have a point clarified.
5. Cross examination of the umpire by the player The Tribunal should not prevent the player from testing any aspect of the umpire's evidence, unless they believe the advocate is badgering the umpire, i.e. repeatedly asking the same question.  
In the interests of fairness to all, the tribunal has a responsibility to focus on the testing of the umpires evidence on those matters directly related to the reported matter and not incidental occurrences which had no effect on the report.
6. Evidence of umpire's witness(es) – this practice is not encouraged nor practiced in the SANFL. The League believes the umpire(s) is there to relate his interpretation of the incident(s), not to 'win' a conviction. However, they cannot be refused the opportunity to present a witness or witnesses in support of their evidence. It is at the discretion of the tribunal what weight is applied to the evidence provided by the witnesses.
7. Cross examination of the umpire's witness(es) – refer above. This cross examination proceeds as would the cross examination of the umpire. If a video of the incident is available, and the rules of the league permit the showing of the video, then it is at this point that it should be shown. Further examination by the Tribunal may then result.
8. Obviously, a player may have pleaded guilty or not guilty. The Tribunal should seek to ensure that the player provides a plea that is consistent with his evidence, i.e. a player may have been charged with a 'deliberate strike' and may wish to plead guilty to an 'accidental strike'. In that case his plea to the charge should be 'not guilty. If the player has not lodged a plea, the Commissioner will ask for it and if a plea has been given the Commissioner will ask for it to be confirmed or amended. It is an acceptable practice at S.A.N.F.L. level that following the player's plea and umpire giving his evidence and with the agreement of the player, the umpire may not be further required and be free to go.
9. The player(s) presents his evidence – this may be in his own words, which is preferred, or through a written statement. If on some occasions, a player is unable to attend a tribunal hearing, the tribunal may decide to allow the player to provide his evidence per telephone, but only in exceptional circumstances.
10. Cross examination of the player by the tribunal – this can be done during the course of the

player's evidence if it is of benefit to the tribunal, but it should be stressed that in all fairness to the player, that player should be allowed to present his/her evidence completely without interruption to avoid any extra unintended pressure on the player by the tribunal.

11. Cross examination of the player by the umpire – although this is strictly permitted by the rules, the practice is strongly discouraged by the S.A.N.F.L. to avoid an adversarial situation being created between the umpires and players/clubs.
12. Evidence of the players witness(es) – the player shall be entitled to present whatever witness or witnesses as he/she shall think fit. These witnesses may present their evidence as would the player, in their own words or in writing. Again, it is the tribunal's discretion how much weight is given to their evidence.

**The player is unable to play until a finding has been delivered on the charge.**

Circumstances will sometimes prevail where a witness for the player is unable to attend the hearing. There is no bar to the tribunal accepting evidence via telephone from that witness and giving due weight to the evidence at their discretion.

*Remembering that evidence given by phone or in writing by a witness will not carry the same weight as being there in person so the Commissioner can observe the body language etc.*

13. Cross examination of the players witness(es) by the Tribunal – refer clause (10) above.
14. Cross examination of the players witness(es) by the umpire(s) – refer clause (12) above.
15. Closing submission by the player on the evidence presented to the tribunal – this should be relevant as to whether or not the evidence suggests a finding of guilt or otherwise.
16. **ALL** parties except the Tribunal Commissioner (and Tribunal Secretary at the Tribunal Commissioner's discretion) to withdraw to allow the tribunal to determine a finding – this includes all people even those independent of the particular case.
17. The tribunal then reaches a decision - at this time all parties are recalled to be advised of the finding of guilty or otherwise.

If a Not Guilty verdict is handed down – the Tribunal is declared closed.

If a Guilty verdict is brought down – the League should at this time advise the tribunal of the player's previous disciplinary record, but only those visits that have resulted in a guilty verdict.

The Tribunal Commissioner will then declare the penalty to be handed down as set down in the Predetermined Penalty Structure at Appendix 1.

18. Other matters – to be considered in the conduct of the hearings are as follows –:
  - Any person who conducts himself disrespectfully before the Tribunal may be dealt with in such manner as the Tribunal in it's absolute discretion shall deem fit.
  - Members of the media may be admitted at the discretion of the Tribunal.

**Recall of Tribunal**

A recall of a Tribunal is at the discretion of the Commissioner.

**Tribunal Sitting Location**

All Tribunal Sessions will be conducted at the Minnipa Hotel, or at a place appointed by the League Commissioner.

**Administrative Support**

1. Administrative support through the League Secretary or his/her delegate will be provided to the Tribunal Commissioner to record proceedings and outcomes.
2. All Tribunal outcomes will be communicated in writing to all clubs as soon as practical.

### **Powers of the Tribunal**

A League Commissioner must hear and determine any reports or charge or complaint against such player, League Club or other person and in particular but without limitation has the power to:

- 2.1.6.1. Enquire into, hear and determine a charge made against any person which is the subject of a report made in respect of a breach of the Laws of the Game,
- 2.1.6.2. If requested by an affiliated League to inquire into, hear and determine any charge of assaulting or attempting to assault an umpire made by an umpire and/or umpires from a panel of umpires appointed or approved by the League against a player or official of an Affiliated League or Club of an Affiliated League on the grounds of assaulting or attempting to assault an umpire,
- 2.1.6.3. Enquire into, hear and determine any charge made by an umpire provided by the League against a player or registered official of a League Club or player or official of an Affiliated League on the following grounds,
  - 2.1.6.3.1. Assault or attempt to assault an umpire,
  - 2.1.6.3.2. Using abusive, threatening, indecent or insulting language towards an umpire,
  - 2.1.6.3.3. Misconducting himself towards an umpire,
  - 2.1.6.3.4. Acting in any way which is harmful to or derogatory of an umpire.
- 2.1.6.4. Hear and determine any other matter or complaint which may be referred to him for hearing and determination under these Regulations,
- 2.1.6.5. Summon any person to appear and give evidence at the hearing of any report, charge or complaint,
- 2.1.6.6. Admit or reject any evidence given or tendered at the evidence of such report, charge or complaint.
- 2.1.6.7. Adjourn the hearing of any report, charge or complaint from time to time as may be convenient,
- 2.1.6.8. Adopt or pursue any procedure which he thinks convenient and proper in the hearing adjudication and determination of such report, charge or complaint,
- 2.1.6.9. Determine the manner of, any matter relating to the conduct of proceedings on the hearing of such report, charge or complaint,
- 2.1.6.10. Cause a transcript of proceedings on the hearing of such report, charge or complaint to be taken or recorded in such manner as he determines,
- 2.1.6.11. Punish by way of censure, fine, suspension or disqualification from playing or exercising any official function or suspended penalty, any person being a player or official of the League or an Affiliated League who is found to have knowingly and with intent to mislead, made any false statement at the hearing of any report, charge or complaint in respect of any matter which is material to the charge and directed to the proof of innocence or guilt of the person charged,
- 2.1.6.12. Dismiss any charge as being trivial or as not having been proved.

Further to Regulation 2.1.6., it may, notwithstanding the fact that any one or more of the conditions required to be fulfilled under these rules have not been complied with, the league Tribunal if, in its absolute discretion, it deems fit in the interests of the league and of the game, may proceed to hear a charge laid under these Rules so long as it is satisfied that the substance of the charge or other matter has been established or not and that no player or person charged would or might be prejudice.

### **Rights of Appeal**

The S.A.N.F.L. Constitution provides for **NO** right of appeal.

However, in the Affiliated Leagues, any suspension in excess of ten or more games may be appealed against. These appeals are made to the SANFL Commissioner for Country and Metropolitan Football.

The process to be followed is:-

1. The player or player's club makes a decision concerning any appeal.
2. A written submission must be submitted to the secretary of the relevant league by the player or player's Club.
3. Submission must give clear reasons for the basis of the appeal i.e., improper procedures, unfair hearing, no interpretation, unfair decision, or manifestly excessive penalty.
4. Secretary of league forwards the appeal by way of minutes/audio recording of the Tribunal or written statement the Tribunal with a copy of the Club's appeal submission. See South Australian Community Football League Inc. Regulations Rule 5.4.11, 5.4.12 and 5.4.13.
5. This must be completed within 28 days of the hearing.
6. Matter is then referred and determined by Commissioner of the Affiliated Leagues.

**If the Secretary feels that the penalty may reach the 10 match limit, (eg). Player interfering with an umpire) it is strongly recommended that an audio recording be made of the proceedings.**

**The S.A.N.F.L. does not support a League having a right of appeal for Tribunal decisions, either against the conviction or penalty.**

It can undermine the role and integrity of your Tribunal and can be an endless process. It will place enormous pressure on the Commissioners who must decide what is fresh evidence that could not reasonably have been presented at the first hearing, remembering that the player has the right to seek an adjournment if he believes further evidence can be produced.

#### **Witnesses**

The Tribunal cannot deny the player the right to call any such person as a witness in defending the charge against him. If the player seeks through the Tribunal to call a person, relevant to the charge, the Tribunal must summon that person before it. This need not be the case with the umpire. Provided the Tribunal is satisfied that the charge has been made out clearly by the umpire, then they may use their discretion in not requiring a witness to appear, even if the umpire wishes to call one.

#### **More Than One Umpire Reports**

In these cases, the umpires present their evidence in turn, with one umpire leaving the room while the other presents his/her evidence.

If three umpires are involved, the Tribunal would ask umpire one to present his evidence while umpires two and three wait outside. Cross examination of the umpire by the Tribunal and the player is done before umpires two and three present their evidence.

The Tribunal would then call umpire two in to present his evidence. Umpire one may stay in the room and umpire three would wait outside. Cross examination of umpire two by the Tribunal and the player is done before umpire three presents his evidence. The Tribunal would then call umpire three. The same sequence applies. The player would then present his evidence.

#### **When A Player Does Not Attend**

In the circumstances where a player cannot or does not attend a hearing, the hearing should not proceed unless he is prepared for a nominee, usually his Club's advocate, to tender a plea for him (in which case the plea would have to be one of guilty; if he pleads not guilty then the Tribunal should adjourn the hearing until the player is able to attend) and has formally advised the Tribunal accordingly. If the player has not been advised of the hearing, the matter must not proceed until he is advised and is able to attend.

Remember, the player is not eligible to play until the charge against him has been dealt with. The charge stays 'live'. Even if the player 'retires' he can hold no official position with a Club, anywhere, until the matter has been resolved.

### **When an Umpire Does Not Attend**

Wherever and whenever possible the umpire should attend the hearing. Remembering that the player must have the opportunity to test the umpire's evidence, that task obviously becomes particularly difficult, and at times impossible, when the umpire is not present. It is difficult to test written evidence, as is it difficult for the Tribunal to get a 'moving picture' of the incidents from the written word. The S.A.N.F.L. would acknowledge that it is not always possible for the umpire to attend, particularly in some Leagues.

The player may request that some attempt be made to contact the umpire, perhaps by phone if he is not readily accessible or it is very difficult to reconvene the Tribunal at a later date, to enlarge upon his written evidence. **This request should be granted where possible.** It will make for an easier and more comfortable judgement to be made by the Tribunal.

If on some occasions an umpire is unable to attend a hearing, the tribunal may decide to allow the umpire to provide his/her evidence via telephone.

### **Technicalities**

In the view of the League, technicalities that result in a charge being withdrawn should be few and far between.

What can be classed as a technically that would result in the charge being dismissed.

- (i) Failure of the umpire to advise the player that he has been reported, pursuant to Law 19.3.1

**YES**

- (ii) The umpire reporting the wrong player

**YES**

- (iii) The umpire making an error on the umpire report sheet.

**NO**

The 'umpires report sheet' is not regarded as a material piece of evidence. It serves the purposes of formally advising the player of his report, what he has been reported for and when the alleged incident took place. It should be said that the umpire is encouraged to complete this form in as much detail as possible.

- (iv) The 'wrong' charge being laid by the umpire i.e. 'kneeing' instead of the correct charge which is 'undue rough play'.

**NO**

The umpire is not able to withdraw or amend a charge once it has been made. All of the preceding matters have dealt primarily with reports laid by an umpire. In all of these situations fairness to the player is and must be the primary consideration.

## MID WEST FOOTBALL LEAGUE

### Annexure 1

### TRIBUNAL PRE-DETERMINED PENALTIES GUIDE

The following offences are listed as Specific Offences as per the Laws of Australian Football 2010

– Clause 19.2.2

Classroom 101/12

Offence	Football Law Ref. 19.2.2	Guilty Plea			Not Guilty Plea		
Umpire Offences							
		1 <sup>st</sup> Offence	2 <sup>nd</sup> or further offence		1 <sup>st</sup> Offence	2 <sup>nd</sup> or further offence	
Intentionally, recklessly or negligently making contact with or striking an Umpire.	(a)	4 years	Life		6 years	Life	
Attempting to make contact with or strike an Umpire	(b)	2 years	Life		4 years	Life	
Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to an Umpire	(c)	4 games	1 year		6 games	1 year	
Behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an umpire	(d)	3 games	1 year		5 games	1 year	
Disputing a decision of an Umpire	(e)	1 game	5 games		2 games	8 games	
Player and Other Offences							
		1 <sup>st</sup> Offence	2 <sup>nd</sup> offence in same season	>2 <sup>nd</sup> offence in two continuous seasons	1 <sup>st</sup> Offence	2 <sup>nd</sup> offence in same season	>2 <sup>nd</sup> offence in two continuous seasons
Use of an obscene gesture	(f)	1 games	2 games	4 games	2 games	4 games	8 games
Intentionally, recklessly or negligently:	(g)						
Kicking another person	(g) (i)	3 games	7 games	14 games	5 games	11 games	22 games
Striking another person	(g) (ii)	2 games	5 games	10 games	3 games	6 games	12 games
Tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg	(g) (iii)	2 games	5 games	10 games	4 games	9 games	18 games
Engaging in time wasting	(g) (iv)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games
Charging another person	(g) (v)	2 games	5 games	10 games	3 games	6 games	12 games

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Throwing or pushing another player after that player has taken a mark, disposed of the football or after the football is otherwise out of play	(g) (vi)	2 games	5 games	10 games	3 games	7 games	14 games
Engaging in rough play against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable	(g) (vii)	2 games	5 games	10 games	3 games	7 games	14 games
Engaging in a melee, except where a players sole intention is to remove a team mate from the incident	(g) (viii)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games
Kicking or otherwise causing the football to hit any part of a stadium roof's structure	(g) (ix)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spitting at or on another person	(g) (x)	3 games	5 games	10 games	4 games	9 games	18 games
Bumping or making forceful contact to an opponent from front-on when that player has his head down over the ball	(g) (xi)	3 games	7 games	14 games	5 games	11 games	22 games
Attempting to kick another person	(h)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games
Attempting to strike another person	(i)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games
Attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg	(j)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games
Intentionally shaking a goal or behind post when another player is preparing to kick or is kicking for goal or after the player has kicked for goal and the ball is in transit.	(k)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games
Wrestling another person	(l)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games
Using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language	(m)	1 games	3 games	6 games	2 games	4 games	7 games
Failing to leave the playing surface when directed to do so by a field umpire	(n)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games



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Wearing boots, jewelry and equipment prohibited under Law 9;	(o)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games
Any act of misconduct	(p)	1 game	3 games	6 games	2 games	5 games	10 games

**Reports Raised Against Non Playing Officials**

Reports raised against non playing club officials (team runner, water carriers, coach, trainers etc.) are to be referred to the MWFL Tribunal Commissioner directly, who is empowered to penalise the club concerned up to four premierships points (or two (2) games equivalent) **separately or in addition** to any other penalties the Commissioner may see fit in terms of the table above.

**General**

The above penalties are neither a minimum or maximum scale, and are a guide only for the MWFL Tribunal Commissioner for each reportable offence under the rules of the game. Any penalty that provides for one or more years of penalties will have application for one or more years from the date of the offence. Eg. If reported and found guilty of offence on 1/7/10 then eligible to play again on 1/7/11 if suspended for 1 year.

In the event that an injury sustained by a umpire/ player/ any other person is beyond that considered fairly addressed by the above penalties, the elected League Executive (President, Vice President, Secretary or Assistant Secretary) may call for the report to be heard by the MWFL Tribunal, thus not offering the pre determined penalty as set out above.

The Tribunal Commissioner, at his discretion, may suspend part of the sentence set at a Tribunal sitting to not less than half of the original penalty rounded up eg:-

1 week penalty	No suspension allowed
2 week penalty	1 week served and 1 week suspended
3 week penalty	2 weeks served and 1 week suspended
5 week penalty	3 weeks served and 2 weeks suspended etc.

The Tribunal Commissioner may set the length of any suspended sentence at his discretion, subject to these minimum served terms.

Any outstanding suspended sentence is to be served before the commencement of any further penalties imposed for a subsequent report.

.....end