



# **DISPENSATION PROCESS**

**Season 2021**

Extract from the 2021 Rules of Competition

**Bendigo Amateur Soccer League**



# BENDIGO AMATEUR SOCCER LEAGUE

## EXTRACT – 2021 RULES OF COMPETITION

### PLAYING UP OUTSIDE RULES OF COMPETITION

2.3.2 To be eligible to play in a Senior (Men or Women's) competition or in a Junior age group higher the following applies:

- To be eligible to participate in senior men's competition run by BASL (i.e. Division 1, Division 2 and Youth), a player must be at least 15 years of age as at 1 January 2021, unless an application to BASL for exemption from Regulation 2.3.2 is made by the player's Club on behalf of a player and is accepted by BASL
- To be eligible to participate in senior women's competition run by BASL, a player must be at least 14 years of age as at 1 January 2021, unless an application to BASL for exemption from Regulation 2.3.2 is made by the player's Club on behalf of a player and is accepted by BASL
- For Junior Divisions (Under 6 to Under 16 (including Under 18 Saturday)) a player may only play up to four (4) years above his or her age group in 2021, unless an application to BASL for exemption from Regulation 2.3.2 is made by the player's Club on behalf of the player and is accepted by BASL

2.3.3 An application made under Regulation 2.3.2 must meet the following minimum criteria:

#### **(I) – Initial Assessment**

- The application must be supported by a signed letter from the player's Club supporting the application;
- The application must be supported by a signed letter from the player's State Team or Representative coach if applicable;
- The application must be supported by a signed letter of consent from the player's parent or guardian supporting the application; and
- The Club/player must provide BASL with the following additional information:
  - Age
  - Previous Playing Experience (Community, Representative, State)



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## (ii) - Skills/Physical Assessment

- If the application assessed warrants referral for a skills assessment this will be referred to the BASL Technical Director to be conducted. (An independent review will be conducted by a group consisting of the BASL, TD, Requesting club representative and independent assessor)

**NOTE: This process is not immediate and has an expected timeline from submission to finalisation of 2 weeks**

- 2.3.4 An application made under Regulation 2.3.3 will be considered by BASL. BASL has sole discretion in relation to any application made under that Regulation.
- 2.3.5. Any Team which fields an ineligible player may be subject to penalty under the GDT.
- 2.3.6. Any Player playing under a dispensation granted by BASL must produce the letter of dispensation on match day upon request by the Match Official. Failing to produce a letter of dispensation upon request by the Match Official may result in a charge of Misconduct under the GDT.
- 2.3.7. If there is a dispute about a player(s) eligibility on the day of a Competition Fixture, the Match Official must note the details of that dispute and send those details to BASL together with an incident report. No Club or Match Official may prevent a player from taking the field in a Competition Fixture on suspicion of ineligibility.
- 2.3.8 A Player will not be prevented from playing above his or her age group except where other rules with the 2021 ROC apply and would be broken
- 2.3.9 A Player who is participating above his or her age group will not be prevented from returning to play in his or her rightful age group unless that Player is suspended and except where other rules apply (e.g. Cup Competitions or Grading).

## PLAYING DOWN OUTSIDE RULES OF COMPETITION

- 2.3.10 A Player may in BASL's sole discretion be permitted to play down one age group in the following circumstances:
- (a) if the Player has not previously been registered with FFA or FV; or
  - (b) if the Player has previously been registered with FFA or FV and the Player's Club provides satisfactory evidence that the Player is not capable of competing at the higher level including but not limited to the following:



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- (i) Club Official to submit a formal request in writing either on Club letterhead or from an official club email account outlining the request
- (ii) Supporting evidence in writing or email from the player's parent(s)/guardian(s)
- (iii) Medical Certificate outlining the player's condition and reason(s) for needing to play in a younger age group

