



HDFNL General League By-Laws

The following By-Laws shall be read in general across all grades of football and netball competitions.

1. Powers of the Board

- 1.1 The Board shall have entire control and management of all League games, appoint all necessary officials and employees, and may do other acts and deeds which it considers conducive to the interests of the games of football and netball.
- 1.2 The Board shall make all decisions on any case arising which is not provided for in the HDFNL By-Laws.
- 1.3 The Board shall appoint a League Administrator. The League Administrator shall carry out all directions given by the Board and shall keep all necessary records in accordance with the Constitution and the By-Laws of the League.
- 1.4 The Board shall appoint an Independent Investigation Officer. The Independent Investigation Officer shall carry out any investigation that has been referred by the Board. All directions given by the Board and shall keep all necessary records in accordance with the Constitution and the By-Laws of the League.

2. Meetings

2.1 Annual General Meeting

- 2.1.1 The Annual General Meeting of the league shall be held in at a time set by the Board following the conclusion of the previous season.
- 2.1.2 The Board may call a Special General Meeting as determined by the constitution of the League.

2.2 President/Secretary Meetings

- 2.2.1 The Board shall call a President/Secretary meeting at a date and time of their choosing.
- 2.2.2 President/Secretary meetings are for information sharing purposes.
- 2.2.3 Member Clubs are expected to be represented at these meeting by their Presidents and Secretaries or when not available other members of their Executive.
- 2.2.4 Meetings shall be minuted as required.
- 2.2.5 There are no limits, either minimum or maximum, on the number of President/Secretary meetings held in a year.

3. Life Membership

- 3.1 Players completing three hundred (300) senior football matches within the League shall be awarded automatic life membership of the League.
- 3.2 Players completing three (300) in A Grade netball matches within the League shall be awarded automatic life membership of the League.
- 3.3 Any person by stint of outstanding service to the League of not less than 10 consecutive years may be eligible for Life Membership. Nominations for Life Membership shall be determined by the HDFNL Board.
- 3.4 By resolution of the Board any nominations for Life Membership shall be presented at the AGM.
- 3.5 Any such Members so elected to Life Membership shall thereafter be relieved from the payment of any subscriptions otherwise payable.

4. Authorized League Passes

The following passes shall be distributed during each season by the league.

4.1 Home & Away Season

Life Members
Board Members
League Partners/Sponsors



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Members of the Wimmera & District Umpires Group officiating in games on that day
Any Individual Season Pass as determined by the Board

4.2 **Finals Passes (Including Grand Final)**

Life Members

Board Members

League Partners/Sponsors

League Suppliers

Members of the Wimmera & District Umpires Group officiating in games on that day

5. **League Colours**

The official colours of the league shall be dark green and gold.

6. **Clubs**

6.1 Each club within the league during the previous season shall be deemed to be an affiliate of the league for the following season subject to payment of such affiliation fees due as per Rule 4.1 of the HDFNL Constitution.

6.2 Each club within the league shall nominate, in writing, a uniform that is to be worn for both Football and Netball for the upcoming season.

The League shall at their discretion approve or reject uniform requests. Approval or rejection of uniform requests shall be made in writing.

6.3 The clubs of the league shall be:

- Edenhope Apsley Football Netball Club Inc
- Harrow Balmoral Football Netball Club Inc
- Jeparit Rainbow Football Netball Club Inc
- Kalkee Football Netball Club Inc
- Kaniva Leeor Football Club Inc & Kaniva Leeor Netball Club Inc
- Laharum Football Netball Club Inc
- Natimuk United Football Netball Club Inc
- Noradjuha Quantong Football Netball Club Inc
- Pimpinio Football Netball Club Inc
- Rupanyup Football Netball Club Inc
- Stawell Swifts Football Netball Club Inc
- Taylors Lake Football Netball Club Inc

7. **League Competitions**

7.1 The HDFNL shall run a single competition that comprises football and netball in both senior and junior grades.

7.2 All football shall be played under the laws of the Australian Football League and the rules of AFL Victoria Country. Exceptions to these laws and rules shall be outlined in the **HDFNL Football By-Laws**.

7.3 All netball shall be played under the International Netball Federation Netball Rules. Exceptions to these rules shall be outlined in the **HDFNL Netball By-Laws**.

7.4 In football grades a players age is determined as at 1st of January of that year. In netball grades a players age is determined as at 31st of December of that year.

7.5 Grades shall be:

7.5.1 Football

Senior Football

Reserve Football

Under 17

Under 14



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- 7.5.2 Netball
A Grade
B Grade
C Grade
C Reserve Grade
17 & Under
15 & Under
13 & Under
- 7.6 All clubs shall enter teams into all grades. Any club who can not field a team in any grade must request in writing to the League. Requests to not field a team in a grade will be at the discretion of the League.

8. Admission

- 8.1 Admission fees shall be paid upon entry to a League game.
- 8.2 Admission fees shall be retained by the Home club for games during the Home and Away Season.
- 8.3 Admission fees for all finals shall be retained by the League.
- 8.4 Admission Prices for the 2021 Home and Away season are as follows:
- | | |
|--------------|------|
| Adult | \$8 |
| Under 17 | Free |
| HDFNL Record | \$2 |
- 8.5 Admission prices for the 2021 Finals games other than the Grand Final are as follows:
- | | |
|--------------|------|
| Adult | \$10 |
| Under 17 | Free |
| HDFNL Record | \$2 |
- 8.5 Admission prices for the 2021 Grand Finals games are as follows:
- | | |
|--------------|------|
| Adult | \$12 |
| Under 17 | Free |
| HDFNL Record | \$4 |

9. Fixture

- 9.1 The League Administrator shall complete the fixture for each season. Each club shall be entitled to make a submission to the League on issues to be taken into consideration, although no guarantee is made. Such submission should be received by the League not later than a nominated date set by the League Administrator. The fixture shall be approved at a President/Secretary Meeting, no less than 2 months prior to the commencement of that season.

10. Other Matches

- 10.1 No club shall, without the prior approval of the Board engage in any match other than the approved fixture for each season. Any club wishing to take part in any other competition that is not within the approved fixture for each season, must provide written notice fourteen (14) days prior to the match taking place with the League seeking the Board's approval.

11. League Sanctioned Functions/Events

- 11.1 It is Compulsory that all HDFNL Affiliated Clubs attend and or participate in all sanctioned League Functions or Events as determined by the HDFNL Board and as advised to all Clubs. This is related to any official event or a sponsored event. Non participation by a Club without a valid reason will incur a fine of 20 penalty units.

12. HDFNL Record



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- 12.1 Each home club will be allocated an amount of HDFNL records for distribution at all games during the home and away season.
- 12.2 Each club shall make its own arrangements to collect their allocated records from Shelton and Lane Printing.
- 12.3 Clubs can request more than their allocated HDFNL records for any game, provided that seven (7) days notice is provided to the League.

13. Media

- 13.1 Any league registered player or official found to have made inappropriate comments in the media towards the League's Board, AFL Victoria County, AFL Wimmera Mallee or its employees, Netball Victoria, Wimmera and District Umpires Group or league netball panel umpires will be investigated by the League.
- 13.2 The Board shall decide the appropriateness of the comments made and the offending party will be given the opportunity to explain their actions prior to the fine being given.
- 13.3 If found that the comments are inappropriate, the Board shall have the power to decide on the number of penalty units that the offending party must pay, up to a maximum of 10 units.

14. Premiership Points

- 14.1 In all home and away matches, the following shall apply in all competitions played as per By-Law 7:
 - Four (4) points shall be awarded for a win
 - Two (2) points shall be awarded for a draw
 - Zero (0) points shall be awarded for a lossIn the event of Clubs having equal points at the end of each season, the position of Clubs shall be determined by the percentage equated from points for and against of games played by each Club

15. Complaints

- 15.1 Any club or registered member of a club with a complaint against the League Administrator, Board, another club or registered member of another club, umpires or independent tribunal must make the complaint through the League Administrator or Chairperson in writing. The matter will be dealt with by the Board within a timely manner. Refer Constitution Disputes – Section 32. Constitution

16. Finals Format

- 16.1 Clubs positioned 1 to 6 on the league ladder shall play in the league's finals.
- 16.2 The leagues finals fixture shall be:

First Saturday	Elimination Final 1	Team 3 vs Team 6
First Sunday	Elimination Final 2	Team 4 vs Team 5
Second Saturday	Second Semi Final	Team 1 vs Team 2
Second Sunday	First Semi Final	Winner Elimination Final 1 vs Winner Elimination Final 2
Third Saturday	Preliminary Final	Loser of Second Semi Final vs Winner of First Semi Final
Fourth Saturday	Grand Final	Winner of Second Semi Final vs Winner of Preliminary Final

17. Finals Venues

- 17.1 Elimination, Semi, Preliminary and Grand Finals venues shall be selected at the discretion of the HDFNL Board.
- 17.2 Elimination, Semi and Preliminary Finals shall be catered for by the host club.
- 17.3 Clubs shall be selected to cater for the Grand Final at the discretion of the Board.



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18. Awards

- 18.1 A Premiership Cup/Trophy and Flag shall be provided to clubs that win Grand Finals in all grades of football and netball. Clubs can request extra Cups/Trophies or Flags at the expense of the club.

18.2 **Club Championship Award**

- 18.2.1 On an annual basis, the league will award a Club Championship which will be awarded at the league's senior best and fairest presentation. The Club that accrues the most points in that season will be awarded the Club Championship. Points towards this award will be accrued as follows:

Senior Football Win	30 points
Reserves Football Win	20 points
U/17 Football Win	15 points
U/14 Football Win	10 points
A Grade Netball Win	30 points
B Grade Netball Win	20 points
C Grade Netball Win	15 points
C Reserve Netball Win	15 points
U/17 Netball Win	15 points
U/15 Netball Win	10 points
U/13 Netball Win	5 points

Should a draw occur between two (2) clubs, points will be halved.

19. Reporting Misconduct

- 19.1 No official, player, member of the League or member of a Club shall, on the day of a game;
- 19.1.1 Use abusive, threatening or insulting language to League Members, Club Officials, Umpires, Players or the General Public.
- 19.1.2 Interfere with or assault and League Members, Club Officials, Umpires, Players or the General Public.
- 19.1.3 Be guilty of any conduct which is detrimental to the best interests of Australian Football and Netball.
- 19.1.4 Take, keep, swap, destroy, steal or dispose of in any manner, any property of the League
- 19.1.5 Refuse or neglect to observe, or comply with the Rules and /or By-Laws of the League.
- 19.2 All reports, accusations, objections and complaints shall follow the **Investigations** section of these By-Laws.

20. Conduct

- 20.1 Non participating players who disregard warnings for bad behaviour will be called upon to show cause why their registration should not be revoked.
- 20.2 Where a Club Official or member disregards warnings for bad behaviour, he/she shall be liable to a fine which shall be determined by the League, and may also be dealt with as the League may think fit.
- 20.3 Payment of such fine shall be the responsibility of the offending officials or members Club. League and Club matches shall have a member of the Police in attendance if so determined by the Board.

21. Fines

- 21.1 The League reserves the right to fine any Member Club for a breach of the By-Laws. Fines shall be paid in full by the club responsible to the League.
- 21.2 Fine shall be referred to as Penalty Units. Each Penalty Unit shall be set at \$50.

22. Investigations



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- 22.1 The League shall appoint an Investigation Officer, who shall be called upon when a club wishes the League to investigate a matter.
- 22.2 The Club requesting an investigation shall notify the League in writing outlining the exact details of the disputes, protests or charges requiring investigation within nine (9) days of the incident.
- 22.3 The club shall pay a fee of \$500, which shall be retained by the League as a bond.
- 22.4 The League shall refer the matter to the League's appointed Investigation Officer.
- 22.5 The Investigation Officer shall use all means necessary to investigate and make a judgment.
- 22.6 The findings of the Investigation Officer shall be final
- 22.7 *Investigation Financial Policy*

All costs associated with investigations conducted on behalf of the League shall be covered by the requesting club.

When the Investigations Officer determines in favour of the requesting club, the bond retained by the League will be refunded, less the Investigations Officer's fee for services.

In cases where the Investigation Officer refers the matter to an Independent Tribunal, and a verdict of not guilty (or case not proven) is determined, the club requesting the investigation will receive a refund of the bond, less the Investigations Officer's fee for services.

In cases where the Investigation Officer refers the matter to an Independent Tribunal and a guilty verdict is determined, the club requesting the investigation shall receive a full refund of the bond. The club of the player/official that has the guilty verdict applied to it shall be fined the amount of the Investigations Officer's fee for services. (in addition to any additional tribunal fine) which shall be used by the League for payment to the Investigations Officer for services.

Furthermore, if any report or complaint deemed to be frivolous the Five Hundred Dollar (\$500.00) deposit would be forfeited.

Note: The above financial policy shall be applied in cases where the Investigations Officer fee does not exceed \$500. In extenuating circumstances (e.g. More difficult, complex or lengthy investigations) the Investigations Officer may request an amount over and above \$500 which will be paid by the club requesting the investigation over and above the bond paid.

23. Disbandment of Clubs

- 23.1 In the event of any member Club disbanding, its members shall be at liberty to play with another Club, providing the disbanding Club is financial on the books of the League. Transfers under this By-Law will be subject to the provision of the AFL as regards transfers of players.
- 23.2 In the event of a disbanding Club being unfinancial on the books of the League, a levy will be fixed on its members by the Board, any transfers will only be approved by the Board on payment of such fixed amount.

24. Working with Children's Checks

- 24.1 When requested clubs shall provide the League with copies of a person's Working with Children's Check for specified roles within the club.
- 24.2 Any club that cannot provide a Working with Children's Check for the requested position within seven (7) days shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.



HDFNL Football By-Laws

The following By-Laws shall be read in general across the League's Football Competition. This shall be read in conjunction with the League's General By-Laws.

25. Playing Rules

- 25.1 All games shall be played under AFL Laws of the Game and AFL Victoria Country Rules and Regulations except in such cases and conditions where the By-Laws hereby adopted are superseded by the League's By-Laws.

26 Football Coordinator

- 26.1 Each club shall appoint a senior football coordinator/s.
- 26.2 Each club shall appoint a junior football coordinator/s.
- 26.3 Each football coordinator/s must sign an AFL Victoria Country registration form and be registered on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club prior to the start of the current season.
- 26.4 The football coordinator/s shall have a Working with Children's Check.

27. Players

- 27.1 All players shall be registered with AFL Victoria Country.
- 27.2 Each player must be registered on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club prior to the start of the current season.
- 27.3 Any player wishing to play after the start of the current season and who is not registered with AFL Victoria Country on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club, must complete the registration prior to the game they wish to participate in.
- 27.4 Any club playing an unregistered player shall be referred to AFL Victoria Country rule 1.3.
- 27.5 Any player registered with their club may play in Senior Football, Reserve Football, U/17 Football and U/14 Football Grades. Players ages for underage grades are determined as per By-Law 7.4
- 27.6 Clubs may request an exemption for an overage player. The request must be submitted in writing to the League outlining the reasons for the overage request. All approved overage requests shall be monitored by the Board, if a player who has been granted an overage request is deemed to have sufficient skills to play in the older age group then the exemption will be revoked.

28. Player Clearances

- 28.1 All clearances shall refer to the AFL Victoria Country handbook.

29. Permits

- 29.1 All permits shall refer to the AFL Victoria Country handbook.
Clubs are encouraged to utilise intra-league sharing of players via Rule 2.9 of AFL Victoria Country handbook to permit players to opposing teams when player numbers are lacking.
- 29.2 All clubs shall adhere to all league area permits per season as per By-Law 31.
- 29.3 Should a club have five (5) or more permits per game day per senior grade they may incur a fine of 5 penalty units per extra player unless approved by the HDFNL Board.
- 29.4 Any player who is not registered to a club shall not play finals.

30. Local Interchange Agreements

- 30.1 The league shall enter into local interchange agreements with club listed TAC Cup competition players.
- 30.2 The league shall enter into local interchange agreements with club listed VFL competition players at the request of the club.



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31. Area Permits

- 31.1 For Underage Competitions, AFL Wimmera Mallee introduced new agreements where players can play on permit between the Horsham District Football Netball League and the Wimmera Football Netball League under a renewed layered permit system across the Leagues. A renewed junior area agreement is introduced for permits from WFNL to HDFNL and an area permit agreement is introduced for permits from HDFNL to WFNL; both reinforce the on-field number regulations. Those playing on permit may only play one game in one league per weekend. Clearances will be limited to once every three weeks. The HDFNL Board will decide with which other League/s an Area Permit Agreement will be agreed to for the upcoming season including following leagues:
Hampden Football Netball League
South West District Football Netball League
Mininera & District Football Netball League
Ararat Junior Football League
Hamilton Junior Football League
- 31.2 The HDFNL Board will decide with which other League/s an Area Permit Agreement will be agreed to for the upcoming season. The Area Agreement/s and policies can be found on the HDFNL Website.

32. Coaches

- 32.1 All coaches shall be registered with AFL Victoria Country.
- 32.2 Each coach must be registered on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club prior to the start of the current season.
- 32.3 Any coach who wishes to coach after the start of the current season and who is not registered with AFL Victoria Country on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club, must complete the registration prior to the game they wishes to coach in.
- 32.4 The club of any unregistered coach shall incur a fine of 4 penalty units.
- 32.5 All coaches shall be accredited as per AFL Victoria Country handbook.
- 32.6 All coaches shall have a Working with Children's Check.

33. Team Managers

- 33.1 All team managers shall be registered with the AFL Victoria Country.
- 33.2 Each team manager must be registered on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club prior to the start of the current season.
- 33.3 A team manager who wishes to take to the field after the start of the current season and is not registered with AFL Victoria Country on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club, must complete the registration prior to the game they wishes to participate in.
- 33.4 The club of any team manager who is unregistered shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.
- 33.5 All team managers shall have a Working with Children's Check.

34. Trainers

- 34.1 All trainers shall be registered with AFL Victoria Country.
- 34.2 A trainer must be at least 15 years of age.
- 34.3 Each trainer must be registered on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club prior to the start of the current season.
- 34.4 Any trainer who wishes to take the field after the start of the current season and is not registered with AFL Victoria Country on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club must complete the registration prior to the game they wish to participate in.
- 34.5 The club of any unregistered trainer shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.
- 34.6 Each club shall have a minimum of one (1) trainer holding a level 1 Australian Football Trainer Education Centre (AFTEC) accreditation.



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- 34.9 The trainer/s shall have a Working with Children's Check and a copy of this must be supplied to the league prior to the start of the current season.
- 34.10 Trainers shall be attired in a uniform as supplied by the League.
- 34.13 The club of any trainer attired incorrectly shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.

35. Runners

- 35.1 All runners shall be registered with AFL Victoria Country.
- 35.2 A runner must be at least 16 years of age.
- 35.3 No coach of a team shall act as a runner.
- 35.4 Each runner must be registered on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club prior to the start of the current season.
- 35.5 Any runner who wishes to take to the field after the start of the current season and is not registered with AFL Victoria Country on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club, must complete the registration prior to the game they wishes to participate in.
- 35.6 Clubs may appoint up to two (2) team runners per grade.
- 35.7 One (1) runner may enter and remain on the field at any one (1) time.
- 35.8 Runners must enter and leave the field by the designated interchange area.
- 35.9 The runner/s shall have a Working with Children's Check.
- 35.10 Runners shall be attired in a uniform as supplied by the League.
- 35.11 Runners must have the club name and identifying number on the back of the shirt.
- 35.12 Clubs in breach of rules 33.4, 33.7, 33.8 and 33.10 shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.

36. Water Carriers

- 36.1 All water carriers shall be registered with AFL Victoria Country.
- 36.2 A water carrier must be at least 12 years of age.
- 36.3 Each water carrier must be registered on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club prior to the start of the current season.
- 36.4 Any water carrier who wishes to take to the field after the start of the current season and is not registered with AFL Victoria Country on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club, must complete the registration prior to the game they wishes to participate in.
- 36.5 Water Carriers shall be attired in a uniform as supplied by the League.

37. Interchange Steward

- 37.1 Interchange Stewards shall be used only in finals games.
- 37.2 All Interchange Stewards shall be appointed by the League.
- 37.3 The Interchange steward shall record all player interchanges, blood rule interchanges and order offs during a game on the form provided by the league.
- 37.4 A club appointed official or runner shall advise the interchange steward of a player being interchanged.
- 37.5 The club of any club official or runner who does not advise the interchange steward of a player being interchanged shall incur a fine of 1 penalty units.

38. Umpires



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38.1 The following umpires shall officiate home and away games:

Senior Football	2x Association Central Umpires, 2x Club Boundary Umpires, 1x Club Goal Umpire per home and away team
Reserve Football	1x Club Central Umpire per home and away team, 1x Club Goal Umpire per home and away team
U/17 Football	2x Association Central Umpires, 1x Club Goal Umpire per home and away team
U/14 Football	1x Club Central Umpire per home and away team, 1x Club Goal Umpire per home and away team

38.2 The following umpires shall officiate finals games:

Senior Football	2x Association Central Umpires, 2x Association Boundary Umpires, 2x Association Goal Umpires
Reserve Football	2x Association Central Umpires, 2x Association Boundary Umpires, 2x Association Goal Umpires
U/17 Football	2x Association Central Umpires, 2x Association Boundary Umpires, 2x Association Goal Umpires
U/14 Football	2x Club Central Umpire, 2x Club Goal Umpire – As assigned by the League

38.3 In Reserve football during the home and away games, boundaries are to be monitored by the central umpire. When the ball is deemed to be out of bounds a player from the team that is in attack shall throw the ball back into play. The central umpire shall monitor the throw in and determine if it is fair. The attacking team shall be decided by the central line of the ground and shall be nominated by the central umpire.

38.4 In U/17 and U/14 football during home and away games, boundaries are to be monitored by the central umpire. When the ball is deemed to be out of bounds the central umpire shall take the ball ten (10) meters into the playing area and resume play by throwing the ball up.

38.5 In U/14 football during finals, boundaries are to be monitored by boundary spotters that are assigned by the League. When the ball is deemed to be out of bounds the central umpire shall take the ball ten (10) meters into the playing area and resume play by throwing the ball up.

38.6 The League shall cover the cost of association umpires. Club umpires shall be paid at the discretion of the club.

38.7 The goal umpires shall record on cards as provided by the league exact scores and shall be returned with the game day results as per By-Law 45.5.

38.8 All club umpires shall be registered with the AFL Victoria Country.

38.9 Each club umpire must be registered on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club prior to the start of the current season.

38.10 Any club umpire who wishes to take to the field after the start of the current season and is not registered with the AFL Victoria Country on AFL Footyweb-Sports TG with their club, must complete the registration prior to the game they wish to participate in.

38.11 The club of any unregistered club umpire shall incur a fine of 4 penalty units.

38.12 A club central umpire must be at least 18 years of age.

38.13 A club goal umpire must be at least 16 years of age.

38.14 The club umpire/s shall have a Working with Children's Check.

38.15 Club central and boundary umpires must wear a uniform that is approved by the League. Club Goal Umpires must wear the League approved vest as their uniform.

38.16 All club central umpires registered with the league umpiring Reserve Football must have completed or hold minimum level 1 umpire accreditation prior to the start of the season or have written permission from the league.

38.17 The club of all club central umpires registered with the league umpiring Reserve Football who have not completed or hold a minimum level 1 umpire accreditation prior to the start of the season or have written permission from the league, shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.



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39. Footballs

- 39.1 The league shall supply, at the Leagues expense, footballs for all finals games.
- 39.2 The league shall supply game balls to clubs for each Senior home game plus one spare for the season.
- 39.3 The home club shall provide a football in good condition for all Reserve, U/17 games.
- 39.4 The home club shall provide a Size 4 synthetic football to be used in U/14 games.
- 39.5 The choice of ball for Senior games will be at the discretion of the league.
- 39.6 The choice of ball for Reserve and U/17 games shall be either "Sherrin" or "Ross Faulker" branded footballs. Footballs previously used in Senior games shall be used in either Reserve or U/17 games.
- 39.7 Cost for balls in the home and away season will be covered by club.
- 39.8 Clubs who do not use the correct approved league sponsor logo football in senior games as stated by the league shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.

40. Player Uniforms

- 40.1 All players must wear AFL Victoria Country approved uniforms complying with the registered colours of their club including numbered playing jumpers, shorts and socks.
- 40.2 The league must approve all uniform colours and designs as per By-Law 6.2.
- 40.3 Clubs must notify in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform prior to the current season.
- 40.4 The away club for all games shall wear white shorts. However, clubs may wear a single colour of shorts for all games provided they approved by the board, as per By-Law 6.2.
- 40.4 Bike shorts may be worn, but must be either Beige/Cream coloured or the same colour as the club shorts worn for that game.
- 40.5 Black gloves are permitted to be worn.
- 40.6 All players are to be in the approved uniform by the first game of the season. Should approved uniforms not be ready, approval from the league must be given for an agreed interim uniform.
- 40.7 The club of all players not in the approved uniform by the first game of the season and who have not received approval from the league for an agreed interim uniform may incur a fine of 4 penalty units.

41. Game Times

- 41.1 Starting times for all home and away games are as follows:

Senior Football	2:25pm
Reserve Football	12:40pm
U/17 Football	10:55am
U/14 Football	9:30am

- 41.2 Starting times for Grand Final games are as follows:

Senior Football	2:40pm
Reserve Football	12:00pm
U/17 Football	10:00am
U/14 Football	8:30am

- 41.3 Should a game be running late, the siren is to be sounded immediately after the completion of the previous game.

- 41.4 Game times for all home and away games shall be as follows:

Senior Football	4x 20 minute quarters plus time on with breaks of 5 minutes, 20 minutes and 5 minutes
Reserve Football	4x 20 minute quarters with no time on with breaks of 5 minutes, 10 minutes and 5 minutes
U/17 Football	4x 20 minute quarters with no time on with breaks of 5 minutes, 10 minutes and 5 minutes



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	minutes
U/14 Football	4x 15 minute quarters with no time on with breaks of 3 minutes, 5 minutes and 3 minutes

41.5 Game times for all final games shall be as follows:

Senior Football	4x 20 minute quarters plus time on with breaks of 5 minutes, 20 minutes and 5 minutes
Reserve Football	4x 16 minute quarters plus time on with breaks of 5 minutes, 10 minutes and 5 minutes
U/17 Football	4x 18 minute quarters plus time on with breaks of 5 minutes, 10 minutes and 5 minutes
U/14 Football	4x 15 minute quarters with no time on with breaks of 3 minutes, 5 minutes and 3 minutes

41.6 Teams that not ready to resume play at the beginning of a quarter shall be fined 2 penalty units.
Teams that are not ready to resume play five (5) minutes after the beginning of a quarter shall be fined 4 penalty units. At this time the Timekeepers shall signal to the central umpire to resume the game.

42. Teams

42.1 Senior Football

- 42.1.1 The number of players in a Senior football team shall be 21. Each team can have up to 18 players on the playing surface at one time with 3 players on the interchange.
- 42.1.2 Teams shall have 14 players on the ground ready to start play at the designated starting time.
- 42.1.3 Any team with less than 14 players on the ground ready to start play at the designated starting time may be fined 2 penalty units.
- 42.1.4 Teams failing to field 14 players can not play for premiership points and shall forfeit the game. Four (4) Premiership points shall be awarded to the opposing team.

42.2 Reserve Football – Home and Away Games

- 42.2.1 The number of players in a Reserve football team shall be 20. Each team can have up to 16 players on the playing surface at one time with 4 players on the interchange.
- 42.2.2 Teams shall have 14 players on the ground ready to start play at the designated starting time. Any team with less than 14 players are encouraged to utilise intra-league sharing of players via Rule 2.9 of AFL Victoria Country handbook to permit players to opposing teams when player numbers are lacking.
- 42.2.3 Teams failing to field 14 players can not play for premiership points and shall forfeit the game. Four (4) Premiership points shall be awarded to the opposing team.

42.3 U/17 Football – Home and Away Games

- 42.3.1 The number of players in an U/17 football team shall be 22. Each team can have up to 18 players on the playing surface at one time with 4 players on the interchange. Where there is an uneven number of players Clubs must share players to ensure maximum and equal numbers up to eighteen (18) per side. Opposing player Permits are available.
- 42.3.2 20 players on the ground in any combination from both clubs will constitute a game and will qualify for Premiership points and best and fairest votes. Goals kicked will be recognised as if they were for their own club. Any team with less than 10 players are encouraged to utilise intra-league sharing of players via Rule 2.9 of AFL Victoria Country handbook to permit players to opposing teams when player numbers are lacking.
- 42.3.3 If both clubs are unable to field 20 players between them then a scratch game shall be played. A scratch game will not constitute a game and both sides will be awarded two (2) premiership points. If a scratch game is not played zero (0) premiership points shall be awarded to both teams. Both teams must provide a reason to the HDFNL Board within 2 business days after the scheduled game as to why a scratch game did not proceed. The Board will review the reasons and may award two (2) premiership points if the reason are found to be satisfactory.

42.4 U/14 Football – Home and Away Games

- 42.4.1 The number of players in an U/14 football team shall be 26. Each team can have up to 18 players on the playing surface at one time with 8 players on the interchange. Where there is an uneven number of players Clubs must share players to ensure maximum and equal numbers up to eighteen (18) per side. Opposing player Permits are available.

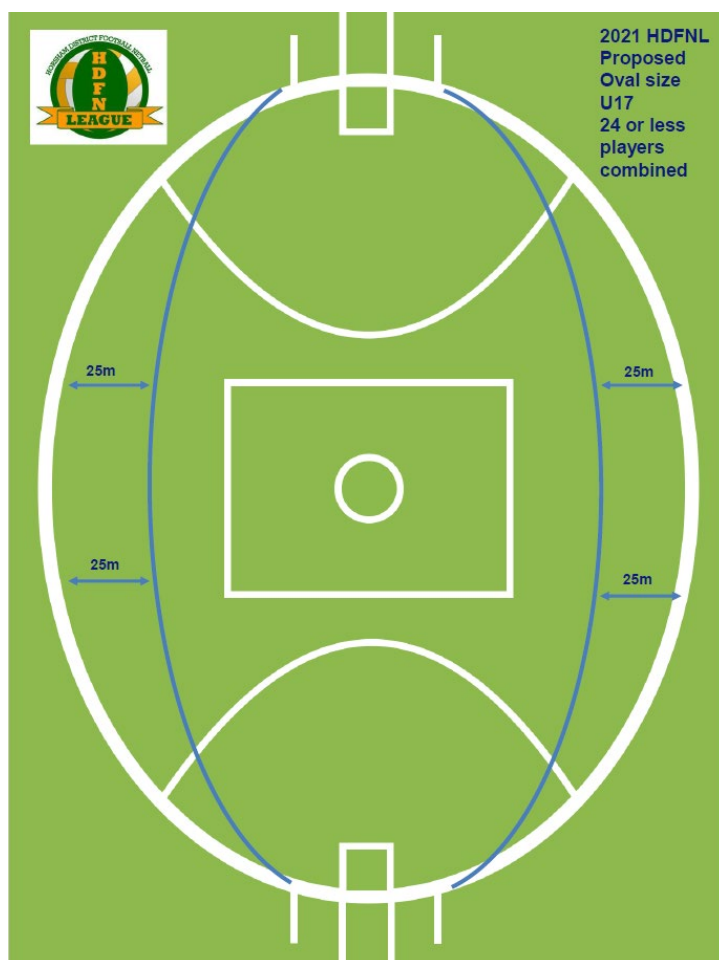


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- 42.4.2 20 players on the ground in any combination from both clubs will constitute a game and will qualify for Premiership points and best and fairest votes. Goals kicked will be recognised as if they were for their own club. Any team with less than 10 players are encouraged to utilise intra-league sharing of players via Rule 2.9 of AFL Victoria Country handbook to permit players to opposing teams when player numbers are lacking.
- 42.4.3 If both clubs are unable to field 20 players between them then a scratch game shall be played. A scratch game will not constitute a game and both sides will be awarded two (2) premierships points. If a scratch game is not played zero (0) premierships points shall be awarded to both teams. Both teams must provide a reason to the HDFNL Board within 2 business days after the scheduled game as to why a scratch game did not proceed. The Board will review the reasons and may award two (2) premierships points if the reason are found to be satisfactory.
- 42.5 Reserve Football – Finals Games**
- 42.5.1 The number of players in a Reserve football team shall be 20. Each team can have up to 16 players on the playing surface at one time with 4 players on the interchange, irrespective of the number of players the opposition team has.
- 42.6 U/17 Football – Finals Games**
- 42.6.1 The number of players in an U/17 football team shall be 22. Each team can have up to 18 players on the playing surface at one time with 4 players on the interchange, irrespective of the number of players the opposition team has.
- 42.7 U/14 Football – Finals Games**
- 42.7.1 The number of players in an U/14 football team shall be 26. Each team can have up to 18 players on the playing surface at one time with 8 players on the interchange, irrespective of the number of players the opposition team has.
- 43. Playing Surface for U/17 and U/14**
- 43.1 When playing numbers for U/17 and U/14 games are below 12 per side, 24 players in total, the playing surface shall be reduced.
- 43.2 The reduced oval will run the length of the ground. A point 25m from the existing boundary line shall be made at the points of the centre square. A new boundary line shall be marked between the point posts, passing through the 25m incursion points. See figure 1

Figure 1

HDFNL Football By-Laws



44. Mercy Rule for U/17 and U/14 Football

- 44.1 The League is committed to encouraging more junior players to maintain their interest in football and increase their longevity in the sport. Young people lose interest in football when the margin between two teams on any one day is excessive. This is exacerbated when teams are regularly “hammered”. In junior football we aim to shift the focus toward developing skills and having fun and enjoyment among young footballers and away from the score. Reinforce the concept of sportsmanship; ethical, respectful, polite and fair behaviour while participating. Coaches will be proactive and use alternate strategies with their teams to ensure the Mercy Rule is only implemented as a last resort.
- 44.2 When the score differential between teams equals or exceeds sixty (60) points in an U/14 game and seventy-two (72) points in an U/17 game prior to three-quarter time the Goal Umpires will inform the Field Umpires.
- 44.3 The Field Umpire will signal the end of the game to the Timekeepers who will blow the siren twice to signal the end of the game.
- 44.4 The Field Umpire will instruct the Goal Umpires & scoreboard attendants to record scores. Scoreboard shall be restarted and will reflect the current score for the remainder of the game.
- 44.5 A break of three (3) minutes shall be taken. During this time Coaches from both sides shall work together to even up the teams.
- 44.6 After teams have been evened, the game shall continue for the remainder of the allocated time of play. The scoring and recording of goal kickers will cease.
- 44.7 The official recorded result for the game shall be:
Losing team - the score of the losing team, at time the Mercy Rule was applied;
Winning Team - the score of the losing team, at the time the Mercy Rule was applied, plus 60 points for U/14 games and plus 72 points for U/17 games.
- 44.8 Field umpires are to award Best Player votes irrespective of any team changes.



HDFNL Football By-Laws

- 44.9 When the Mercy rule is invoked, both coaches MUST mix the teams in a sportsmanlike manner to ensure an even contest. If this is not done, at the discretion of the League Board:
- The points may be forfeited, and/or
 - The club fined and/or
 - The coaches brought before the Independent Tribunal and charged with a breach of the Code of Conduct.
 - Continued breaches of the Mercy rule may result in Coach AFL accreditation being removed under the Junior Coach Policy.
- 44.10 Coaches need to adhere to the AFLWM Junior Coach Policy (2019) to focus on the development and enjoyment of their players.

45. Team Lists

- 45.1 Team lists must be lodged on the AFL Footyweb-Sports TG database by 9.00pm the Friday prior to each game. Team lists must be printed for use on game day. The printed team list must also include coaches, runners, trainers, water carriers, team managers, interchange stewards and club umpires if known.
- 45.2 In Senior Football twenty one (21) players shall be named in position. Should a player need to be withdrawn/replaced from the named twenty one (21) players, the club shall amend their team sheet and update the team list in AFL Footyweb-Sports TG database prior to the start of the game.
- 45.3 The team list printed as per by – law 42.1 must be used on game day. Each participating club must add any coaches, runners, trainers, water carriers, team managers, interchange stewards and club umpires that were not known when printed by hand. Each participating club must place a line through any players who were selected but not playing and provide to the central umpires and opposing team prior to the game. Any player that has been added to a team sheet must also include their AFL Victoria Country Registration number as well as their full name. This team sheet must be provided with the game day results as per By–Law 56.5.
- 45.4 Any club who does not provide the team sheet as per By–Law 42.3 may incur a fine of 2 penalty units per game.

46. Timekeepers

- 46.1 Each participating club shall provide a timekeeper per game.
- 46.2 The siren shall only be sounded by the timekeepers prior to, during and at the completion of a game.
- 46.3 Stopwatches must be synchronised, if only one stopwatch is available, that shall be the official time.
- 46.4 The timekeepers shall record on cards as provided by the league exact times and shall be provided with the game day results as per By–Law 56.5.
- 46.5 Timekeepers must be 16 years of age or older.
- 46.6 The club of any timekeepers that are 16 years or younger may incur a fine of 2 penalty units.

47. Game Day Checklist

- 47.1 A home and away club representative must complete the JLT Australian Football game day checklist prior to the start of first game of the competition day on the approved JLT phone app.

48. Game Day Results

- 48.1 The home club is responsible for entering each game result into AFL Footyweb-Sports TG database by 5.30pm.
- 48.2 Game result information shall include:
- Quarter by quarter scores and final score (league media score sheet as provided by the league)
 - Best players 1 to 6
 - Goals scored per player
 - Most valuable player votes 3 to 1 (Senior Football only)



HDFNL Football By-Laws

- 48.3 It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that all game day results are entered accurately.
- 48.4 Should inaccurate information be entered the home club may incur a fine of 1 penalty units per inaccurate entry.
- 48.5 It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that all game day paperwork be sealed in the league game day envelope and delivered to the league's office by 4pm on the second working day following the game and must include:
- Official league score sheet
 - Quarter by quarter scores and final score (league media score sheet as provided by the league)
 - Best and fairest vote cards
 - Most valuable player vote cards (Senior Football only)
 - Signed league timekeepers card
 - Signed league goal umpires card
- 48.6 Should the home club not deliver the game day envelope to the league's office by 4pm on the second working day following the game they shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.
- 48.7 Should any game day paperwork be missing from the game day envelope as per By-Law 44.5, the club responsible shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.

49. Finals

- 49.1 In the event of a drawn game in any final, including the grand final, the following shall apply:
A break of five (5) minutes shall occur. During this time Goal Umpires shall confirm the scores and Coaches may address their players.
Five (5) minutes, plus time on, shall be played. At the conclusion of this five (5) minutes teams must immediately change ends. Coaches shall not address their players during this time.
Five (5) minutes, plus time on, shall be played.
If at the end of the extra time scores are still level, no change of ends shall occur, play will be restarted at the centre bounce and continue until one team has a one (1) point advantage.
- 49.2 The HDFNL shall allocate rooms and shorts uniforms prior to each finals game and notify the club via the club secretary by 12 noon on the first business day immediately following the previous games.
- 49.3 The nominated away team shall call the toss of the coin.

50. Finals Eligibility

- 50.1 Any player registered with their club to be eligible to play finals must have played in three (3) games over three (3) separate weekends with that club during the current home and away season.
- 50.2 Any player registered with their club who plays Reserve Football must take the field in three (3) or more home and away Reserve Grade Football games to be eligible to play finals in Reserve Football.
- 50.3 Any player registered with their club who plays Reserve Football cannot take the field in more than seven (7) home and away games in Senior Football to be eligible to play finals in Reserve Football.
- 50.4 Should a club be playing Senior Football and Reserve Football on the same weekend during finals, By-Laws 50.2, and 50.3 are removed; but a player can only play one game per weekend.
- 50.5 Any VFL or TAC Cup listed player may play with their registered home club during finals in senior football only; but a player can only play one game per weekend between their club and VFL club. Refer AFL Victoria Country Finals Eligibility - 13.0 (b) TAC Cup and VFL Players
- 50.6 Should a player play more than one game per weekend during finals, the club shall incur the loss of the second game the player played in.

51. Set Penalties

- 51.1 As per AFL Victoria Country rule 11.0.



HDFNL Football By-Laws

52. Order Off

- 52.1 The HDFNL shall follow the AFL Victoria Country Rule 10.0.
- 52.2 A red card indicates the player is ordered off for the remainder of the game and is able to be replaced after 20 minutes of elapsed playing time from the resumption of the play after being ordered off.
- 52.3 A yellow card indicates the player is ordered off for 15 minutes of elapsed playing time from the resumption of the play after being ordered off and cannot be replaced within that time.
- 52.4 Timekeepers keep time

53. Independent Tribunal

- 53.1 The independent tribunal comprising of upto 10 members shall be appointed by the executive prior to the current season.
- 53.2 Three (3) members of such an independent tribunal shall form a quorum.
- 53.3 The members of the independent tribunal shall not hold any other position of office in the league or an official position with a club affiliated with the league within a period of twelve (12) months prior to nomination.
- 53.4 The members of the independent tribunal shall not have been a AFL Victoria Country registered player within a period of twenty-four (24) months prior to nomination.
- 53.5 Elected members of the independent tribunal shall receive the following prior to the current season
 - League season pass including finals
 - AFL Victoria Country handbook
 - HDFNL By-Laws
- 53.6 The league's tribunal shall be held in the week following a round of games at a venue and time determined by the league.
- 53.7 Matters shall be referred to the independent tribunal as per AFL Victoria Country rule 7.0.
- 53.8 Any matter referred to the independent tribunal as per AFL Victoria Country rule 7.0 can be appealed as per AFL Victoria Country rule 8.0.
- 53.9 The league's tribunal shall consult with the league for interpretation of any AFL Victoria Country rule or league By-Law as required whether the tribunal hearing has commenced or not. The league may also request further interpretation of any AFL Victoria Country rule from the AFL Victoria Country.
- 53.10 In the absence of a quorum at a hearing of the independent tribunal, any players charged shall be eligible to play for their club until the matter is heard and determined by the independent tribunal.

54. Codes of Behaviour

- 54.1 All players, coaches, team officials and spectators shall comply with AFL Victoria Country Codes of Conduct and the Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport.
- 54.2 Should any players, coaches, team officials and spectators fail to comply with AFL Victoria Country Codes of Conduct and the Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport the matter will be referred to the league's tribunal.

55. Stretchers

- 55.1 Each home club must ensure that an appropriate stretcher is placed at the interchange area.
- 55.2 Any club who fails to provide an appropriate stretcher shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.

56. Post Padding

- 56.1 All football posts must be padded prior to the start of the first game of the competition day.
- 56.2 All football posts padding shall be a minimum of 2.5m high x 30cm wide



HDFNL Football By-Laws

56.3 Failure to provide padding as required shall incur a fine of 5 penalty units.

57. Ground Lighting

57.1 If natural light is deteriorating during a game, the two participating club coaches and officiating central umpires can agree to turn on ground lighting to assist with the natural light at the ground to allow the game to complete.

58. De-Registration/ Non-Registration Policy

58.1 The league shall adhere to the AFL Victoria Country's de-registration policy.

59. On Field Communication Devices

59.1 Listening/talking devices shall not be allowed to be used on the field during games.

59.2 Should any club use listening/talking devices on the field during games they shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.

60. Awards

60.1 Dellar Medal

60.1.1 An award known as the "Dellar Medal" shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the Senior football competition.

60.1.2 Voting for such award shall be made by the field umpires officiating each Senior football competition game.

60.1.3 The field umpires officiating each Senior football competition game shall at the conclusion of the game select three (3) best and fairest players in the game.

60.1.4 The three nominations shall then be awarded either three (3) votes, two (2) votes or one (1) vote on an official league vote card provided by the home club.

60.1.5 The card is then placed in a sealed envelope and returned to the home club.

60.1.6 At the end of the home and away season, the league shall tally all votes from each game.

60.1.7 The player or players with the most votes shall be awarded the medal. In the case of two players receiving equal votes, joint winners shall be declared and separate medals shall be awarded to each player.

60.1.8 The player or players with the second most votes shall be awarded the runners up award. In the case of two players receiving equal votes, joint winners shall be declared and separate awards shall be awarded to each player.

60.1.9 Any player who has been found guilty of an offence during the home and away season shall not be eligible to win the medal.

60.2 Best Opposition Player

60.2.1 An award known as the "Best Opposition Player" shall be made each year to the best player or players in the Senior football competition.

60.2.2 Voting for such award shall be made by the opposing club participating in each Senior football competition game.

60.2.3 The opposing club participating in each Senior football competition game shall at the conclusion of the game select three (3) best players in the game.

60.2.4 The three nominations shall then be awarded either three (3) votes, two (2) votes or one (1) vote on an official league vote card provided by the home club.

60.2.5 The card is then handed to the home club and placed in a sealed envelope.

60.2.6 At the end of the home and away season, the league shall tally all votes from each game.

60.2.7 The player or players with the most votes shall be awarded the most valuable player award. In the case of two players receiving equal votes, joint winners shall be declared and separate awards shall be awarded to each player.



HDFNL Football By-Laws

60.3 Best U/21 Player

- 60.3.1 An award known as the “Best U/21 Player” shall be made each year to the best player under the age of 21 in the Senior football competition.
- 60.3.2 The players under the age of 21 as of the 1st of January of that year shall qualify for the Best U/21 Player award.
- 60.3.3 The player or players with the most votes from the Dellar Medal shall be awarded the rising star award. In the case of two players with the most votes, joint winners shall be declared and separate awards shall be awarded to each player.

60.4 Reserve Best and Fairest

- 60.4.1 An award known as the Reserve Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the Reserve football competition.
- 60.4.2 Rules in relation to the Reserve Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 60.1.

60.5 U/17 Best and Fairest

- 60.5.1 An award known as the U/17 Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the U/17 football competition.
- 60.5.2 Rules in relation to the U/17 Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 60.1.

60.6 U/14 Best and Fairest

- 60.6.1 An award known as the U/14 Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the U/14 football competition.
- 60.6.2 Rules in relation to the U/14 Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 60.1.

60.7 Leading Goal Kicker

- 60.7.1 An award known as the “Leading Goal Kicker” shall be made each year to the leading goal kicker in the Senior and Reserve football competitions.
- 60.7.2 The player or players with the most goals kicked shall be awarded the leading goal kicker award. In the case of two players kicking the most goals, joint winners shall be declared and separate awards shall be awarded to each player.

60.8 Best on Ground in Grand Final

- 60.8.1 A medal known as the “Best on Ground” shall be presented each year to the player judged Best on Ground in the Senior, Reserve, U/17 and U/14 football Grand Finals.
- 60.8.2 The Central Umpires from the game shall award the “Best on Ground” medal to the player that they adjudicate to be the best player.



HDFNL Netball By-Laws

The following By-Laws shall be read in general across the League's Netball Competition. This shall be read in conjunction with the League's General By-Laws.

61. Playing Rules

- 61.1 All games shall be played Under the International Netball Federation Netball Rules Book, except in such cases and conditions where the By-Laws hereby adopted are superseded by the League's By-Laws.

62 Netball Coordinator

- 62.1 Each club shall appoint a netball coordinator/s.
- 62.2 Any club that does not appoint a netball coordinator shall incur a fine of 4 penalty units.
- 62.3 The netball coordinator/s shall have a Working with Children's Check.

63. Players

- 63.1 All players shall be registered with Netball Victoria.
- 63.2 Each player must provide relevant details when registering on the Netball Victoria MyNetball registration system and be registered with their club in the MyNetball system prior to the start of the current season.
- 63.3 Any player wishing to play after the start of the current season and who is not registered with Netball Victoria MyNetball registration system and not registered on the Netball Victoria database with that club, must complete the registration prior to the game they wish to participate in.
- 63.4 Any player registered with their club may play in A Grade, B Grade, C Grade, C Reserve, 17 & Under, 15 & Under and 13 & Under. Player ages for Underage grades are determined as per By-Law 7.4.
- 63.5 Clubs may request an exemption for an overage player. The request must be submitted in writing to the League outlining the reasons for the overage request. All approved overage requests shall be monitored by the Board, if a player who has been granted an overage request is deemed to have sufficient skills to play in the older age group then the exemption will be revoked.
- 63.6 No senior player shall play in a lower grade once they have played in six (6) games of a higher grade.
- 63.7 Underage players shall still be eligible to play in Underage grades regardless of the number of A Grade, B Grade, C Grade or C Reserve games played.
- 63.8 No Underage player shall play more than two (2) games in any grades on one (1) weekend, this includes finals.
- 63.9 No senior players shall play more than one (1) game on any weekend, this includes finals.

64. Player Clearances

- 64.1 All clearances shall be done in line with Netball Victoria guidelines.
- 64.2 No player will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season.
- 64.3 A clearance will not be granted after the 30th of June for that season, unless extenuating circumstances exist.
- 64.4 Best and Fairest votes will transfer with the player should they remain in the league.

65. Coaches

- 65.1 All coaches shall be registered with Netball Victoria.
- 65.2 Each coach must be registered on the Netball Victoria database with their club prior to the start of the current season.
- 65.3 The club of any unregistered coach shall incur a fine of 4 penalty units.



HDFNL Netball By-Laws

- 65.4 All coaches shall have completed the Netball Victoria foundation accredited coaching course prior to the start of the current season.
- 65.5 All coaches shall have a Working with Children's Check.

66. Team Managers

- 66.1 Team managers shall have a Working with Children's Check.

67. Primary Carer

- 67.1 All primary carers of A Grade, B Grade, C Grade, C Reserve, 17 & Under, 15 & Under and 13 & Under teams on game day shall wear a vest identifying them as the primary carer as supplied by the league.
- 67.2 Primary carers shall have a Working with Children's Check.
- 67.3 Home clubs shall ensure that ice is available courtside.

68. Umpires

- 68.1 All umpires shall be registered with Netball Victoria prior to umpiring any game.
- 68.2 The club supplying an unregistered umpire shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.
- 68.3 The league shall be responsible for the overall development of umpires and clubs shall be responsible for badging of umpires throughout each season.
- 68.4 All club umpires registered with the league umpiring in A Grade, B Grade, C Grade, C Reserve, 17 & Under, 15 & Under and 13 & Under games must hold current accreditation and have successfully completed theory exam, prior to the start of the game.
- 68.5 The club supplying a non-accredited umpire shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.
- 68.6 Clubs shall supply one (1) umpire, per grade, every round.
- 68.7 Umpires shall officiate no more than two (2) games on any given day.
- 68.8 Umpires shall be paid at the discretion of the club.
- 68.9 Each club umpire shall be dressed appropriately in umpire's attire as follows:
- All Badged Umpires shall wear a white dress or white top with white shorts or white skirt.
 - All Non-Badged Umpires shall wear a white top with black or navy pants, shorts or skirt.

69. Netballs

- 69.1 The club shall incur the cost of all game balls provided for home and away games.
- 69.2 The league shall supply, at the Leagues expense, netballs for all finals games.
- 69.3 The league shall supply game balls to clubs for each home game plus one spare for the season for each A Grade game.
- 69.4 The home club shall provide a netball in good condition for all B Grade, C Grade, C Reserve, 17 & Under 15 & Under and 13 & Under games.
- 69.5 The choice of ball for A Grade games will be at the discretion of the league.
- 69.6 The choice of ball for B Grade, C Grade, C Reserve, 17 & Under 15 & Under and 13 & Under games shall be at the discretion of the clubs with a preference for "Gilbert" branded netballs to be used. Netballs previously used in A Grade games shall be used in either B Grade, C Grade, C Reserve, 17 & Under 15 & Under and 13 & Under games.
- 69.7 Cost for balls in the home and away season will be covered by club.
- 69.8 Clubs who do not use the correct approved league sponsor logo netball in A Grade games as stated by the league shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.



HDFNL Netball By-Laws

70. Player Uniforms

- 70.1 All players must wear approved uniforms complying with the registered colours of their club, including socks.
- 70.2 The league must approve all uniform colours and designs as per By-Law 6.2.
- 70.3 Clubs must notify in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform prior to the current season.
- 70.4 All players are to be in the approved uniform by the first game of the season. Should approved uniforms not be ready, approval from the league must be given for an agreed interim uniform.
- 70.5 The club of all players not in the approved uniform by the first game of the season and who have not received approval from the league for an agreed interim uniform may incur a fine of 2 penalty units.
- 70.6 Club and panel umpires shall ensure that players are wearing no jewellery (wedding rings or medical alert bracelet may be taped), fingernails are short and smooth as required. No gloves are to be worn.

71. Game Times

- 71.1 Starting times for all home and away games where 1 court is used are as follows:

A Grade Netball	4:10pm
B Grade Netball	3:05pm
C Grade Netball	2:00pm
C Reserve Netball	12:55pm
17 & Under Netball	11:50am
15 & Under Netball	10:45am
13 & Under Netball	9:50am
Net Set Go	9:00am

- 71.2 Starting times for all home and away games where 2 courts are used are as follows:

A Grade Netball	2:00pm
B Grade Netball	12:55pm
C Grade Netball	11:50pm
C Reserve Netball	11:50pm
17 & Under Netball	10:45am
15 & Under Netball	9:40am
13 & Under Netball	10:45am
Net Set Go	9:40am

- 71.3 Starting times for Elimination, Semi and Preliminary finals games are as follows:

A Grade Netball	3:00pm
B Grade Netball	2:00pm
C Grade Netball	1:00pm
C Reserve Netball	12:00pm
17 & Under Netball	11:00am
15 & Under Netball	10:00am
13 & Under Netball	9:00am

- 71.4 Starting times for Grand final games are as follows:

A Grade Netball	3:30pm
B Grade Netball	2:15pm
C Grade Netball	1:00pm
C Reserve Netball	11:45am
17 & Under Netball	10:30am
15 & Under Netball	9:30am
13 & Under Netball	8:30am

- 71.5 Game times for all games shall be as follows:



HDFNL Netball By-Laws

A Grade Netball	4x 15 minute quarters with breaks of 2 minutes, 3 minutes and 2 minutes
B Grade Netball	4x 12 minute quarters with breaks of 2 minutes, 3 minutes and 2 minutes
C Grade Netball	4x 12 minute quarters with breaks of 2 minutes, 3 minutes and 2 minutes
C Reserve Netball	4x 12 minute quarters with breaks of 2 minutes, 3 minutes and 2 minutes
17 & Under Netball	4x 12 minute quarters with breaks of 2 minutes, 3 minutes and 2 minutes
15 & Under Netball	4x 12 minute quarters with breaks of 2 minutes, 3 minutes and 2 minutes
13 & Under Netball	4x 10 minute quarters with breaks of 2 minutes, 3 minutes and 2 minutes
Net Set Go	4x 7 minute quarters with breaks of 2 minutes between quarters

- 71.6 Teams that not ready to resume play at the beginning of a quarter shall be fined 2 penalty units. Teams that are not ready to resume play five (5) minutes after the beginning of a quarter shall be fined 4 penalty units. At this time the Timekeepers shall signal to the central umpire to resume the game.
- 71.7 Any team who forfeits, the opposing team shall receive four (4) premierships points and percentage shall be worked out as forty (40) goals to one (1) goal. The opposing team will be permitted to lodge a team sheet.
- 71.8 Players who umpire must be given time to change between games.

72. Playing Conditions

- 72.1 If during a game, conditions (weather, court or equipment) change, making playing conditions dangerous, the umpires shall consult with the Coaches. A decision may be made to stop the game that is in the best interests of participant safety. Games can be halted temporarily due to weather or abandoned.
- 72.2 Any game that has been halted due to weather shall commence or resume upon the direction of the umpires. Any team which fails to take the court when so directed will be declared as forfeiting the game.
- 72.3 Should a game be abandoned due to dangerous conditions before half time, a draw will be awarded and percentage shall be worked out as twenty (20) goals to each team.
- 72.4 Should a game be abandoned due to dangerous conditions after half time points shall be awarded as at the stop in play.

73. Scoring and Timekeepers

- 73.1 Each team must provide a non-participating scorer for all games, including finals.
- 73.2 The Home team must provide a non-participating timekeeper for all games, including finals.
- 73.3 Should a team not supply a non-participating scorer the club shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.
- 73.4 Each home team must provide a scoreboard and non-participating scoreboard attendant for all home games.
- 73.5 Should a team not supply a scoreboard and non-participating scoreboard attendant for all home games the club shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units.
- 73.6 Home Clubs shall supply the official league scoresheet.
- 73.7 The home team scorer is to record on the official league scoresheet. The away team scorer is to also record on a scoresheet, acts as a check scorer and they sit together for the duration of the game.
- 73.8 The timekeeper shall sit near the scorers.
- 73.9 The official scoresheet and timing device must at all times be placed in full view of both scorers for the duration of the game.
- 73.10 Scorers must be at least 14 years of age.
- 73.11 The official league scoresheet shall list all player names (both given and surname) intending to take the court prior to the commencement of the game and shall not be added to during the duration of the game.
- 73.12 Should the league scoresheet not list all player names (both given and surname) prior to the commencement of the game, the player cannot take the court or must leave the court immediately. The players club shall incur a fine of 4 penalty units.
- 73.13 The league official scoresheet shall also include the player's position per quarter during the duration of the game, the goals



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scored and the game score.

- 73.14 Should the league official scoresheet not include the players position per quarter during the duration of the game, the goals scored and/or the game score, the players registered club shall incur a fine of 2 penalty units per player.
- 73.15 At the end of the game to indicate their satisfaction that the information on the league official scoresheet is accurate and correct it is to be signed by the following:
- the captain of each competing team
 - the officiating umpires
 - the scorers

74. Game Day Results

- 74.1 The home club is responsible for entering each game result into the Netball Victoria MyNetball on the day of the game by 5pm.
- 74.2 Game result information shall include:
- quarter by quarter scores and final score (league media scoresheet as provided by the league)
 - best players 1 to 3 (As voted by Umpires)
 - successful goals scored per player
 - most valuable player votes 3 to 1 (A Grade only as voted by clubs)
- 74.3 It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that all game day results are entered accurately.
- 74.4 It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that all game day paperwork be sealed in the league game day envelope and delivered to the league's office by 4pm on the second working day following the game and must include
- official league scoresheet
 - quarter by quarter scores and final score
 - best and fairest vote cards
 - most valuable player vote cards (A Grade only as voted by clubs)

75. Rescheduled Games

- 75.1 Starting times of home and away games can only be changed with the consent of league who shall have the consent of both clubs. If approval is not given, game times as per By-Law 71 shall be adhered to.
- 75.2 Clubs must request a change to starting times of home and away games in writing to the League two (2) weeks prior to the game or games taking place.

76. Finals

- 76.1 In the event of a drawn game in any final, including the grand final, the following shall apply:
A break of four (4) minutes shall occur. During this time Coaches may address their players, team changes are allowed and teams shall change ends.
Extra time shall be played as follows:
- For 13 & Under and 15 & Under games Five (5) minutes shall be played. A one (1) minute break will occur during which teams shall change ends. Following the break Five (5) minutes shall be played.
 - For 17 & Under, C Reserve, C Grade and B Grade games Six (6) minutes shall be played. A one (1) minute break will occur during which teams shall change ends. Following the break Six (6) minutes shall be played.
 - For A Grade games Seven (7) minutes shall be played. A one (1) minute break will occur during which teams shall change ends. Following the break Seven (7) minutes shall be played.
- If at the end of the extra time scores are still level, a visual signal shall be placed at the official bench to indicate play will continue until one team leads by two (2) goals.

77. Finals Eligibility

- 77.1 Any player registered with their club to be eligible to play finals shall have played in three (3) games over three (3)



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separate weekends with that club during the current home and away season.

77.2 Any player shall have played in three (3) games for that grade of netball to be eligible to play finals in that grade.

77.3 Clubs must complete a HDFNL exemption request form to seek any exemptions to any By-Laws in this document.

78. League Representative Teams

78.1 The league shall participate in

- Interleague at the discretion of the League Board
- Netball Victoria Association Championships
- Tournaments as approved by the League

78.2 The league shall appoint representative team coaches for a period of one (1) year for each team participating in By-Law 78.1 and shall advertise the positions as required upon the completion of each one (1) year period.

78.3 The league shall appoint representative team coaches upon a final recommendation by the League's Board.

79. Codes of Behaviour

79.1 All players, coaches, umpires, netball coordinator/s, umpires, umpire coordinator/s, parents and spectators shall comply with Netball Victoria codes of behaviour and also the Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport. Should any players, coaches, umpires, netball coordinator/s, umpires, umpire coordinator/s, parents and spectators fail to comply with Netball Victoria codes of behaviour and also the Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport the matter will be referred to the league's investigation officer.

80. Protests

80.1 A team wishing to protest a scoring issue must:

- not sign the official league scoresheet
- lodge the protest in writing with the league by 4pm on the first working day following the game

80.2 The league shall advise in writing of the protest result by 4pm on the third working day following the lodgement of the protest.

80.3 If the club who lodged the protest wishes to appeal the result, that club shall notify the League in writing with a fee of \$250.

80.4 When the league receives an appeal, this shall be forwarded to the Investigation Officer who will investigate the matter and make a decision.

80.5 The club shall be notified in writing of the decision of the Investigation Officer.

80.6 The Investigation Officer's decision shall be final.

81. Goal Post Padding

81.1 All netball goal posts must be padded prior to the start of first game of the day

81.2 All netball goal posts padding shall be a minimum of 3m high x 23cm wide. Failure to provide padding as required shall incur a fine of 5 penalty units.

82. Photography/Video Footage

82.1 No photographs or video footage is to be taken of players eligible to play 17 & Under, 15 & Under or 13 & Under Netball without written permission from the requesting club to the opposition club prior to the game.

83. Awards



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83.1 A Grade Best & Fairest Medal

- 83.1.1 An award known as the “A Grade Best and Fairest” shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the A Grade netball competition.
- 83.1.2 Voting for such award shall be made by the umpires officiating each A Grade netball competition game.
- 83.1.3 The umpires officiating each A Grade netball competition game shall at the conclusion of the game select three (3) best and fairest players in the game.
- 83.1.4 The three nominations shall then be awarded either three (3) votes, two (2) votes or one (1) vote on an official league vote card provided by the home club.
- 83.1.5 The card is then placed in a sealed envelope and returned to the home club.
- 83.1.6 At the end of the home and away season, the league shall tally all votes from each game.
- 83.1.7 The player or players with the most votes shall be awarded the medal. In the case of two players receiving equal votes, joint winners shall be declared and separate medals shall be awarded to each player.
- 83.1.8 The player or players with the second most votes shall be awarded the runners up award. In the case of two players receiving equal votes, joint winners shall be declared and separate awards shall be awarded to each player.
- 83.1.9 Any player who has been found guilty of an offence during the home and away season shall not be eligible to win the medal.

83.2 Most Valuable Player

- 83.2.1 An award known as the “Most Valuable Player” shall be made each year to the best player or players in the A Grade netball competition.
- 83.2.2 Voting for such award shall be made by the opposing club participating in each A Grade netball competition game
- 83.2.3 The opposing club participating in each A Grade netball competition game shall at the conclusion of the game select three (3) best players in the game.
- 83.2.4 The three nominations shall then be awarded either three (3) votes, two (2) votes or one (1) vote on an official league vote card provided by the home club.
- 83.2.5 The card is then handed to the home club and placed in a sealed envelope.
- 83.2.6 At the end of the home and away season, the league shall tally all votes from each game.
- 83.2.7 The player or players with the most votes shall be awarded the most valuable player award. In the case of two players receiving equal votes, joint winners shall be declared and separate awards shall be awarded to each player.

83.3 Best U/21 Player

- 83.3.1 An award known as the “Best U/21 Player” shall be made each year to the best player Under the age of 21 in the A Grade netball competition.
- 83.3.2 The players Under the age of 21 as of the 1st of January of that year shall qualify for the Best U/21 Player award.
- 83.3.3 The player or players with the most votes from the A Grade Best and Fairest shall be awarded the rising star award. In the case of two players with the most votes, joint winners shall be declared and separate awards shall be awarded to each player.

83.4 B Grade Best and Fairest

- 83.4.1 An award known as the B Grade Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the B Grade netball competition.
- 83.4.2 Rules in relation to the B Grade Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 60.1.

83.5 C Grade Best and Fairest

- 83.5.1 An award known as the C Grade Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the C Grade netball competition.
- 83.5.2 Rules in relation to the C Grade Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 60.1.



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83.6 C Reserve Grade Best and Fairest

83.6.1 An award known as the C Reserve Grade Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the C Reserve Grade netball competition.

83.6.2 Rules in relation to the C Reserve Grade Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 60.1.

83.7 17 & Under Best and Fairest

83.7.1 An award known as the 17 & Under Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the 17 & Under Netball competition.

83.7.2 Rules in relation to the 17 & Under Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 83.1.

83.7 15 & Under Best and Fairest

83.7.1 An award known as the 15 & Under Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the 15 & Under Netball competition.

83.7.2 Rules in relation to the 15 & Under Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 83.1.

83.7 13 & Under Best and Fairest

83.7.1 An award known as the 13 & Under Best and Fairest shall be made each year to the best and fairest player or players in the 13 & Under Netball competition.

83.7.2 Rules in relation to the 13 & Under Best and Fairest shall be identical to By-Law 83.1.

83.8 Best on Court in Grand Final

83.8.1 A medal known as the "Best on Court" shall be presented each year to the player judged Best on Court in the A Grade, B Grade, C Grade, C Reserve, 17 & Under, 15 & Under and 13 & Under netball Grand Finals.

83.8.2 Three (3) independent judges shall be appointed by the League to award the "Best on Court" medal to the player that they adjudicate to be the best player.