

**FOOTBALL STANTHORPE**

**2022**

**COMPETITION RULES**

Revised: May 2022 (2022 changes are in red font)

***These competition rules should be interpreted so that the game is played in the best spirit of the game.***

1. **COMPETITION REGULATIONS**
	1. All matches under the jurisdiction of Football Stanthorpe Incorporated (Football Stanthorpe) will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game. This includes the Regular Season and Finals Series matches.
	2. The competition rules outlined below are in addition to those stipulated in the FIFA Laws of the Game (http://www.theifab.com/laws).
	3. Clubs, Players and Officials must comply with and agree to abide by the regulations of Football Federation Australia; Football Queensland; Football South West Queensland and Football Stanthorpe including;
		1. National Registration Regulations;
		2. National Disciplinary Regulations;
		3. FFA Code of Conduct;
		4. Grievance Resolution Regulations;
		5. Member Protection Policy;
2. **CODE OF CONDUCT**
	1. The FFA Code of Conduct aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of Football in Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its participants and stakeholders.
	2. Any breach of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action and the imposition of sanctions by Football Stanthorpe in accordance with the provisions outlined in the Code.
3. **COMPETITION STRUCTURE**
	1. Participation in any level of competition is subject to the payment of a registration fee to be notified by Football Stanthorpe.

**3.1.1.** Football Stanthorpe will not accept nominations to participate in any competition if the Club is un-financial with Football Stanthorpe.

**3.1.2.** No affiliated Club shall be permitted to commence playing in the Football Stanthorpe competition season if they are un–financial with Football Stanthorpe at the commencement of competition unless written agreement has been reached with Football Stanthorpe.

**3.1.3.** Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to amend the size, structure and composition of any division. This includes varying promotion and relegation rules as it sees fit.

* 1. For the purpose of determining the status of divisions:
		1. 1. Men’s
		2. 2. Ladies
		3. 3. Senior Colts
		4. 4. Junior Colts
		5. 5. Fillies
		6. MiniRoos (non-competitive)
		7. 6. Under 11
		8. 7. Under 10
		9. 8. Under 9
		10. 9. Under 8
		11. 10. Under 7
		12. 11. Under 6
	2. Competitive Divisions
		1. The composition of the Divisions will be determined by Football Stanthorpe on an annual basis following receipt of nominations from registered clubs.
		Where possible there will be:
			1. Men’s First Division
			2. Ladies First Division
			3. Senior Colts Division
			4. Junior Colts Division
			5. Fillies Division
	3. Non-competitive Divisions

**3.4.1** MiniRoos divisions may be combined in order to make up numbers, but generally will play in the appropriate age format – U6/U7 in 4v4, U8/U9 in 7v7, U10/U11 in 9v9.

**3.4.2** Where there is a lack of players on the day, players can play for another club to make up numbers, and in fact are encouraged to do so.

* 1. Football Stanthorpe will determine the number of matches to be played in each division once the final composition is determined.
	2. Football Stanthorpe is required to provide a competition division in every designated junior competitive age group U12-U18. If numbers are low in some age groups, certain age groups may have to be combined to run a viable competition. Variations on application will be considered by Football Queensland.
	3. At the conclusion of the fixture season, the top four (4) placed teams will participate in a Finals Series to determine the Grand Final Winners and Runners Up.
	4. The team finishing with the most points in each Competitive Division at the conclusion of the competition fixture season will be crowned Premiership winners.
1. **ADDITIONAL COMPETITIONS**
	1. Football Stanthorpe may conduct additional competitions as it deems appropriate before, during or after the competition season, and will provide the rules for these competition prior to commencement.
2. **APPLICATION FOR DEPARTURE FROM FIXTURES**
	1. Any application for departure from fixtures shall be received in writing to Football Stanthorpe at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date scheduled. Each request will be determined on its merits.
	2. Any team with three (3) or more players unavailable due to football representative duties representing Football Stanthorpe, (not school or other events) approved by Football Stanthorpe may be entitled to have their match postponed. Applications must be made at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date scheduled fixture.
3. **NON-PARTICIPATION IN A MATCH**
	1. In the event that a home or visiting team is not ready to commence a match within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, the match will be deemed a forfeit and the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0).
	2. Should a Club forfeit a match prior to kick-off, the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0).
	3. Should a Club forfeit after a match has commenced, the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0), or the actual goal difference, whichever is greater.
	4. A Club that fails to provide sufficient notification to Football Stanthorpe of a forfeit will be fined and will be responsible for any Referee fees in relation to the match.
	5. A Club that forfeits a match will incur a fine and will be responsible for the referee fees for that match (see Appendix 1).
	6. A Team that persistently forfeits matches may, at the discretion of Football Stanthorpe be removed from that Division.
4. **WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITION SEASON**
	1. If any team in the competition withdraws during the fixture season, then the recorded results for that team will be deleted and a bye in the competition will be substituted.
		1. Results from completed rounds will stand and a bye substituted for any subsequent rounds.
	2. The club involved may also be subject to disciplinary action and sanction by Football Stanthorpe.
5. **DELAYED, POSTPONED AND CANCELLED MATCHES**
	1. Matches may be postponed or delayed by Football Stanthorpe on advice from match officials, nominated representatives and venue clubs. Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to reschedule all postponed matches at a place and time as it sees fit. Consideration will be taken as to where games are to be played.
	2. Football Stanthorpe MUST approve any delayed or postponed game/fixture before they are delayed or postponed, in writing.
	3. Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to record any outstanding fixtures that have not been completed by no later than one (1) week after the conclusion of the fixture season as a 0-0 draw.
6. **SUSPENDED OR ABANDONED MATCHES**
	1. Once a match has commenced, the Match Referee has the authority to determine if the match should be suspended or abandoned due to severe adverse weather conditions or matters that may compromise the safety of the participants of the match.
	2. If a match has been abandoned due to weather conditions after the start of the second half, the score at the time of abandonment will stand.
	3. The Match referee may delay the start of a match or stop a match because of bad weather for up to ten (10) minutes and then can restart the match, if after ten (10) minutes the match cannot be re-started then the match will be deemed abandoned.
	4. **Request for Replay of Abandoned Match**
		1. Should a fixture be abandoned Football Stanthorpe shall take into consideration the following factors when considering a request for a replay:
		2. Reasons why the fixture was abandoned,
		3. Result of the game at the time of abandonment,
		4. The impact on the final league standing of this fixture.
	5. Any Club who is found to be responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the abandonment of a fixture may be subject to disciplinary sanctions (i.e. loss of points and fines), to be determined by Football Stanthorpe, not limited to the following.
	6. Abandonment due to walk off, a fine will apply.
	7. Football Stanthorpe may decide to direct any of the following outcomes in the case of play abandonment due to the action of one or both teams:
	8. That the match be replayed;
	9. The game be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the time of abandonment was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team;
	10. The game be recorded as ‘NO RESULT’;
	11. Impose a fine, suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club(s), player(s) and official(s).
7. **FINALS SERIES DETAILS**
	1. Football Stanthorpe will arrange dates, times and venues of all finals series matches. Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to schedule or reschedule matches on any day, time and place as it deems appropriate.
	2. The top four (4) teams at the conclusion of the Regular Season will participate in the Finals Series.
	3. The Finals Series format will be as follows:
		1. *Week 1: Semi-Final - 1st v 2nd, Semi-Final - 3rd v 4th*
		2. *Week 2: Preliminary Final - Loser of 1st v 2nd v Winner of 3rd v 4th*
		3. *Week 3: Grand Final - Winner of 1st v 2nd Semi-Final v Winner of Preliminary Final*
	4. The team who finishes in the higher position at the conclusion of the Regular Season will be considered the Home team for any Finals match.
	5. The selection of venues for all Finals Series matches, including the Grand Final, will be at the absolute discretion of Football Stanthorpe and a decision to allocate will be made based on a variety of factors.
	6. **Procedures to Determine the Winner of Competitive Finals Series Matches**
		1. If, at the conclusion of all Men’s (First Division) matches in the Finals Series, the scores between the teams are equal, then extra time of two (2) equal periods of fifteen (15) minutes will be played.
		2. If, at the conclusion of all Ladies (First Division) and Senior Colts matches in the Finals Series, the scores between the teams are equal, then extra time of two (2) equal periods of ten (10) minutes will be played.
		3. If, at the conclusion of the Junior Colts and Fillies Division matches in the Finals Series, the scores between the teams are equal, then extra time of two (2) equal periods of five (5) minutes will be played.
		4. If scores remain equal at the conclusion of both periods of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark will be taken, in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game, to determine the winner of the match.
8. **COMPETITION DETAILS**
	1. **MATCH SCHEDULING**
		1. Football Stanthorpe will arrange and publish the dates, times and venues of all matches, taking into account advice from host clubs on venue availability.
		2. Home ground rights will be awarded at the discretion of Football Stanthorpe.
	2. **MATCH RESULTS**
		1. The following points will be awarded for matches in Competitive Divisions during the Regular Season.
			1. Win = Three (3) points
			2. Draw = One (1) point
			3. Loss = Zero (0) points
			4. Bye = Zero (0) points
			5. No Result = Zero (0) points
	3. **DURATION OF MATCHES**
		1. **COMPETITIVE**
			1. All Men’s (First Division) matches will be played over two (2) halves of forty-five (45) minutes each.
			2. All Ladies (First Division) matches will be played over two (2) halves of thirty-five (35) minutes each.
			3. All Senior Colts’ matches will be played over two (2) halves of thirty-five (35) minutes each.
			4. All Junior Colts’ matches will be played over two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each.
			5. All Fillies matches will be played over two (2) halves of thirty (30) minutes each.
			6. Where divisions are played in a modified or reduced format, the duration of matches may also be reduced.

**11.3.1.6.1.** For example, if Ladies play a 7v7 competition, then the halves may be reduced to thirty (30) minutes each.

* + - 1. After normal time in each half, the Referee may at his/her discretion allow for additional time at the end of each half, including extra time if applicable, according to the conditions stated in the “Laws of The Game."
			2. The half-time interval will be a minimum of ten (10) minutes.
			3. The referee has the right to abandon any match if, in his/her opinion, playing conditions compromise player safety.
		1. **JUNIOR NON-COMPETITIVE**
			1. In junior matches the following match duration will be played.
			2. Under 6 to 11 game times shall be as per MiniRoos Football Guidelines.
			3. **Under 6 & 7’s**
				1. Matches will be played over two (2) halves of fifteen (15) minutes each.
				2. The half-time interval will be a minimum of five (5) minutes.
			4. **Under 8 & 9’s**
				1. Matches will be played over two (2) halves of twenty (20) minutes each.
				2. The half-time interval will be a minimum of five (5) minutes.
			5. **Under 10 & 11’s**
				1. Matches will be played over two (2) halves of twenty-five (25) minutes.
				2. The halftime break will be a minimum of five (5) minutes.
1. **FINALS SERIES - COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS**
	1. Clubs cannot demote any player for any reason.
	2. A player is deemed to be eligible to play in the Finals Series in which they have played (as per Appendix 3) at least one-third (1/3) of the scheduled games during the competition season.
	3. An eligible player can play up in the Finals Series if they have played at least one-third (1/3) of the scheduled games in their age group (subject to the player age policy).
	4. An eligible player cannot play down in the Finals Series in an eligible age group unless they have played at least one-third (1/3) of the scheduled games in the lower age group (subject to the player age policy).
	5. Therefore: for example, a Ladies player who has played one-third (1/3) of the games in the Ladies division and has been eligible (subject to player age policy) to play in Senior Colts cannot play in the Senior Colts Final Series unless they have also played one-third (1/3) of the games during the competition season in Senior Colts as well.
	6. **A male player cannot play down into any age group lower than that for which the player qualifies, unless allowed under the player age policy in Appendix 2.**
2. **TEAM NUMBERS – COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS**
	1. Men’s will play a 11 v 11 competition.
	2. If Ladies play a 11 v 11 competition,
		1. Teams can only field one (1) more player than the opposition team, up to eleven (11) players, with a minimum of seven (7) players.
		2. The number of players (including substitute players) on the submitted team sheet of the team with the lesser number of players at the time that the match starts will be used to determine the minimum number of players that each team can field.
		3. For example: where a team that has named eight (8) players and/or substitute players on the team sheet, then the team with the greater number of players can start with nine (9) players and can have up to sixteen (16) players named on their team sheet. If the team with lesser players only fields seven (7) players at the start of the match and keeps one (1) player on the bench, the other team can still field nine (9) players as the team sheet player count determines the minimum number of players than each team can field.
	3. If Senior Colts and Junior Colts play a 11 v 11 competition,
		1. Teams can only field one (1) more player than the opposition team, up to eleven (11) players, with a minimum of seven (7) players.
		2. The number of players (including substitute players) on the submitted team sheet of the team with the lesser number of players at the time that the match starts will be used to determine the minimum number of players that each team can field.
		3. For example: where a team that has named eight (8) players and/or substitute players on the team sheet, then the team with the greater number of players can start with nine (9) players and can have up to sixteen (16) players named on their team sheet. If the team with lesser players only fields seven (7) players at the start of the match and keeps one (1) player on the bench, the other team can still field nine (9) players as the team sheet player count determines the minimum number of players than each team can field.
	4. Fillies will play a 7 v 7 competition,
		1. Teams can only field one (1) more player than the opposition team, up to seven (7) players, with a minimum of five (5) players.
		2. The number of players (including substitute players) on the submitted team sheet of the team with the lesser number of players at the time that the match starts will be used to determine the minimum number of players that each team can field.
		3. For example: where a team that has named six (6) players and/or substitute players on the team sheet, then the team with the greater number of players can start with seven (7) players and can have up to twelve (12) players named on their team sheet. If the team with lesser players only fields five (5) players at the start of the match and keeps one (1) player on the bench, the other team can still field seven (7) players as the team sheet player count determines the minimum number of players than each team can field.

1. **PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE PLACINGS AFTER REGULAR SEASON**
	1. The position of each team at the conclusion of the regular season will be determined based on the following criteria.
	2. Highest number of points accumulated during the Regular Season.
	3. If two (2) or more teams are level on points accumulated in any senior division, the following criteria shall be applied, in order, until one (1) of the teams can be determined as the higher ranked:
		1. Highest goal difference.
		2. Highest number of goals scored.
		3. Highest number of points accumulated in matches between the teams concerned.
		4. Highest goal difference in matches between the teams concerned.
		5. Highest number of goals scored in matches between the teams concerned.
		6. Play off between the teams at time and venue as determined by Football Stanthorpe.
	4. If two (2) or more teams are level on points accumulated in any junior division (Junior Colts and Fillies), the following criteria shall be applied, in order, until one (1) of the teams can be determined as the higher ranked.
		1. Highest goal difference.
		2. Highest number of goals scored.
		3. If all things remain equal, the trophy or premiership shall be awarded to both teams.
2. **FILLIES DIVISION**
	1. Will play under same rules as Junior Colts with these exceptions:
	2. They will play 7 v 7,
	3. will be females only aged Under 12 to Under 14,
	4. will play on the same field size as Under 11’s,
	5. will use the same goals as Under 11’s,
	6. and will have a 12metre penalty area and the penalty mark will be made 9metres from the midpoint between the goalposts.
	7. The Fillies team may include eligible female players from the Under 11’s, for players turning eleven (11) this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
	8. Female players turning twelve (12) may play “down” one age group into Under 11’s (non-competitive) subject to Player Age Policy **4., 4.a and 4.b.**
	9. \*\* Conditions Apply\*\* Female Only Players turning fifteen (15) in this calendar year (on or before December 31st), may play “down” into Fillies are subject to conditions as per the current Football Stanthorpe Player Age Policy **4., 4.a**, **and** **4.b.**
	10. **Please note: if the Under fifteen (15) player plays down into Fillies, she can no longer play in the Ladies or the Senior Colts competition.**
3. **JUNIOR NON-COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS**
	1. Please refer to the Player Age Policy in Appendix 2.
	2. A player must play in their own age group unless age groups are combined.
	3. A male player cannot play down into any age group lower than that for which the player qualifies.
	4. Female only players may play “down” one age group or year without the need of a FQ Player Dispensation Request form.
	5. The age groups of Under 6 to Under 11 will play the MiniRoos Football formats as per the specifications and guidelines issued by Football Federation Australia and Football Queensland.
	6. Football Stanthorpe is required to provide a MiniRoos in every designated age group from U6-U11. If numbers are low in some age groups, certain age groups may have to be combined. Variations on application will be considered by Football Stanthorpe.
	7. Teams can only have one (1) more player than the other team that takes the field, or we preferably encourage equal distribution of players even if playing for the opposite team.
		1. For example, an Under 8’s team (7 v 7) has five (5) players and the opposition team has nine (9) players, then you have fourteen (14) players in total, now you share players and play 7 v 7 (this includes all interchange players on the bench).
		2. Please encourage all players and team through this process so that all players have fair game time.
	8. Full details of formats and guidelines will be issued to clubs prior to the commencement of the playing season, once received from FFA and Football Queensland.
4. **ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENT**
	1. **Players in the Competitive Divisions (Men’s, Ladies, Senior Colts, Junior Colts, and Fillies**)
		1. A registered player is eligible to take part in matches under the jurisdiction of Football Stanthorpe provided their full name (no nicknames) appears on the team sheet prior to the commencement of the match.
		2. If a player who is listed on the team sheet does not take the field, they are deemed not to have played and will be crossed off the official team sheet, this is the responsibility of the referee. Clubs have twenty-four (24) hours to appeal to the Registrar if they feel a player has been crossed off in error.
	2. **Players in the Junior Non-Competitive Divisions (Under 6’s to Under 11’s)**
		1. A registered player is eligible to take part in matches under the jurisdiction of Football Stanthorpe provided their name appears on the team sheet prior to the commencement of the match or by the conclusion of half time.
5. **PLAYER AGE POLICY GUIDELINES**
	1. **Please see APPENDIX 2 for full details.**
6. **PLAYER REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY**
	1. **PLAYER REGISTRATION**
		1. Players participating in competitions under the jurisdiction of Football Stanthorpe may be registered as Amateur Players in line with the provisions established in the National Registration Regulations.
		2. Amateur Players are permitted to be registered at any time. However, amateur players are not permitted to re-register with another club within Football Stanthorpe after 30th June each year. The Competition Rules may also restrict a player’s eligibility for Finals Series.
		3. The registration of a Player with a Club is effective from the date as entered at date of registration. Unless cancelled earlier, registration is effective from the date of registration until 31st December that year.
	2. **AMATEUR PLAYER REGISTRATION PROCESS**
		1. When registering an Amateur Player for the season, the Club must follow the [www.Playfootball.com.au](http://www.Playfootball.com.au) online registration process.
		2. Players or their parents/carers if underage must tick the acknowledgement that they have sighted and accepted the Player Injury Insurance cover provided by Football Queensland.
		3. Any player, not born in Australia, who wishes to register and has not played football in Australia before, must comply with the International Transfer Certificate (ITC) requirements as per the Football Queensland ITC process as set out on the FQ website.
		4. On fulfilment of all requirements, the Player will be registered with their club.
	3. **PLAYER INSURANCE**
		1. Player Accident and Associated Liability Insurance cover is taken out by Football Queensland. Policy details and claims procedures will be provided to all Clubs, Registered Players and Team Officials.
		2. All players or their parents/carers if underage must tick the acknowledgement online that they have sighted and accepted the Player Injury Insurance cover provided by Football Queensland.
	4. **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**
		1. The eligibility of a player to participate in matches under the jurisdiction of Football Stanthorpe is finalised upon receipt and approval of all necessary forms and appropriate clearances by Football Stanthorpe, but not limited to the correct registration under Playfootball, payment of all required organisation, governance, and club fees, or the “Football Queensland 2022 Player Dispensation Request” forms (as per Player Age policy).
		2. A player is eligible to play in matches under the jurisdiction of Football Stanthorpe, provided he /she is registered in line with Football Federation Australia National Registration Regulations and Football Queensland Registration Procedures.
		3. A player is eligible to play in matches under the jurisdiction of Football Stanthorpe, provided he /she is not under suspension by any Federation.
	5. **PLAYER INELIGIBILITY**
		1. Any player not registered in line with Football Federation Australia National Registration Regulations, Football Queensland Registration Procedures and Guidelines and Football Stanthorpe Registration Procedures for the current season is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any match.
		2. Any player under suspension by any Association or Federation will be deemed ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any match until that suspension is served.
		3. Any player in breach of the regulations for Senior and Junior Competition matches is considered ineligible.
		4. Any club is permitted to lodge a letter of protest regarding the alleged fielding of an ineligible player. The protest must be in writing under club letterhead and be forwarded to Football Stanthorpe.
		5. Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to investigate the eligibility of any player who participates in any of its competitions.

1. **SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS**
	1. For all divisions (Men’s, Ladies, Senior Colts, Junior Colts, and Fillies), a limit of four (4) interchange stoppages per half will be permitted, with no more than five (5) substitute players permitted to be named on the team sheet.
	2. Only players and substitute players’ names listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.
	3. Substitute players must take the field at an interchange to be counted as a game played.
2. **FOOTBALL AND MATCH DAY OPERATIONS**
	1. **FACILITIES / GROUND CONDITIONS**
		1. Each club must take all reasonable steps to maintain its pitch in good condition throughout the season.
		2. Football Stanthorpe may require a Club to take such steps as it may prescribe from time to time if it is not satisfied that the pitch is being maintained to an adequate and acceptable standard.
	2. **The host club must ensure:**
		1. The ground is correctly marked, including the technical area, as per FIFA Laws of the Game.
		2. It provides suitable goal nets, safely fastened to the ground and corner flags.
		3. It provides toilets/dressing rooms for players and match officials that are hygienic and clean.
		4. It has adequate toilet/refreshment/canteen facilities open to the public for the duration of the games.
		5. It provides a safe environment for players, officials, and spectators.
		6. It provides a Ground Official, that is highly visible and introduced to the referees for each competitive game.
		7. Host clubs also have the responsibility to provide a canteen to all players and spectators for both the host club, the visiting team, and spectators for the duration of the games.
		8. They should plan to provide meals for all game times, including to at least the halftime break of the Men’s game.
		9. Clubs that do not provide suitable canteens may lose their home games.
		10. Any club whose facilities do not meet the requirements specified may lose their home games and be liable to disciplinary action by Football Stanthorpe.
	3. **THE TECHNICAL AREA**
		1. Each club must have Technical Areas clearly marked as stipulated by FIFA guidelines and provide sufficient seating to allow all personnel to be seated during the match. There will be a one (1) metre buffer zone, clearly marked around the Technical area, separating the spectators from the Technical area and is to be a Spectator free area.
		2. For all matches played during the Regular Season and Finals Series, a maximum of eight (8) persons are permitted to occupy the Technical Area for each Club during any fixture. This includes the five (5) named substitutes and up to three (3) registered Team Officials.
		3. Occupants of the Technical Area must be either a registered Player wearing a different top to that of the players on the field, for example a coloured bib, or club jumper or club non-playing shirt or a registered Team Official wearing the appropriate accreditation at all times.
		4. A Player or Team Official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area or be near or behind it.
		5. Only one (1) person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match and they must return to their position after giving these instructions.
		6. The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the technical area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team physio or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee’s permission, to assess an injured player.
		7. All substitutes must be seated within the technical area. Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the technical area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative-coloured uniform to the team strip.
		8. All occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner. The referee has the right to eject any person (including club officials) from the technical area at any time as he/she sees fit. The game will not re-commence until that person has left to the referee’s satisfaction.
		9. Smoking and drinking alcohol within the confines of the playing barrier fence is strictly prohibited. This includes the team bench within the technical area and all its occupants.
		10. No spectators or any person not authorised are allowed behind or near the Technical Area. They must be outside the designated buffer zone and in the designated spectator areas.
	4. **LIGHTING**
		1. Recommendations for football field lighting detailed in the Australian Standard AS2560 Part 2.3 “Lighting for Football” includes Minimum Service Illuminance Lux (Maintained Average) of 100 and Minimum Uniformity Ratio (Min: Ave) 0.5 for Amateur Competition.
		2. Referees (after consulting the Club Official) may abandon the match if they believe the light it not sufficient to play in safe conditions.
			1. The host club may have financial action against them if the insufficient lighting is an ongoing concern and may lose to ability to host games.
	5. **MEDICAL**
		1. All clubs must provide a suitably trained first aid person, named on the team sheet to provide first aid for players, and if possible, an ambulance officer, nurse, or doctor, to provide first aid for club officials or spectators during scheduled matches.
		2. **Ambulance Access**
			1. Unrestricted access to the field of play shall be provided for Ambulance vehicles when required and be clearly signed.
		3. **Water Bottles**
			1. For safety reasons, water bottles are not to be thrown either on or off the field.
		4. **Blood Ruling**
			1. In the event a player suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood, the match official will request that the injured player receive attention outside the field of play and only when he/she is satisfied that the injury or wound is safely covered and contained, will the player be permitted to re-join the game.
			2. In the event the player’s uniform or attire is splattered with blood, the referee will instruct that player to change his/her attire before being permitted to re-join the game.
			3. Should the injured player be required to change his/her uniform, then the match official will show discretion in allowing the player to wear an alternative numbered shirt if necessary.
		5. **HEAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**
			1. When high temperatures occur on match day, the Match Referee, Club Officials, or a Football Stanthorpe delegate may determine:
			2. To play the match under standard conditions.
			3. To play the match with provision for extra breaks for consumption of fluid.
			4. To delay the match; or
			5. To postpone the match.
			6. The decision to incorporate these provisions should be based primarily on the assessment of the potential medical risk of playing in the heat to both the Players and Match Officials.
			7. All clubs, players and match officials are requested to please note the following when high temperatures occur on match day.
			8. If the temperature is 32º or above, water bottles should be made available and placed along the sidelines to enable any player to take a drink during the game; and
			9. If conditions are considered extreme by the match referee, he or she has discretion to allow a one (1) minute break during each half.
	6. **EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS**
		1. In extreme weather conditions, Football Stanthorpe in conjunction with the appointed match official reserves the right to postpone, delay or abandon any fixture.
		2. If the game is deemed abandoned; all eligible players will have a game played added to the games played.
		3. If the host club considers a ground inspection is required, they are to ring the nominated Football Stanthorpe representative before 8AM. The name and contact details for the designated representative is to be advised at the commencement of the season.
		4. The Football Stanthorpe representative is to then meet with a club official and jointly inspect the field to ascertain several factors, which will include:
			1. Is the ground considered safe for the players and the match to proceed?
			2. If so, how many matches can be played, taking into account all factors including the likely weather conditions and the expected state of the ground?
		5. The designated representative will then reach a decision regarding the schedule of matches with Football Stanthorpe responsible for advising the opposition club and appointed Referees in the event matches are to be postponed.
		6. Early morning inspections are only to be organised with the designated representative when conditions are such that there is doubt as to the safety of the ground. In cases of light rain only, the match referee will inspect prior to the match itself. Ground inspections for mid-week matches will be arranged via Football Stanthorpe.
		7. In the event of the cancellation or abandonment of a fixture through rain rendering grounds unplayable, all such fixtures shall be played or replayed at a time and under such conditions as Football Stanthorpe shall determine, provided however, that any such fixture shall be played or replayed on the host club's grounds where possible.
	7. **TEAM OFFICIALS**
		1. All Team Officials must be registered with Football Stanthorpe. Upon registration, an Identification Card will be issued which must be worn when performing specified duties.
		2. All Team Officials must conduct themselves in accordance with the FFA Code of Conduct.
		3. Football Stanthorpe may impose disciplinary action upon such persons and Clubs, where it is found that Team Officials have breached the Code of Conduct.
		4. Team Officials are only covered by insurance provided the club has appointed and registered them. With regards to team trainers or medical staff, Clubs should not use the services of any other person to treat players regarding injuries, unless such persons have their own insurance coverage to safeguard themselves if any legal action is implemented because of treatment of injuries.
		5. Team Officials must remain within the Technical Area and are required to wear their Identification Card at all times. Team Officials not wearing the appropriate identification will not be permitted to be situated in the area during the match.
		6. Team Officials are responsible for ensuring players behave in an appropriate manner at all times before, during and after any game.
		7. Team Officials are not to argue or address any disagreements or comment direct to a referee. Any complaints should be directed to Football Stanthorpe on club letterhead.
		8. A Team Official can only enter the field of play when the referee indicates to do so.
	8. **GROUND OFFICIALS’ ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**
		1. It is the responsibility of the club hosting competitive matches to provide a Ground Official for all matches.
		2. Ground Officials must be in clearly identifiable uniform and must identify themselves to the appointed match official prior to each match.
		3. Ground Officials are to be visible at all times and one must be designated to provide an escort to all match officials before kick-off, at half time and full time.
		4. The Ground Official cannot be the coach or manager whose game is in progress on the park.
		5. The Ground Official cannot be intoxicated or under the influence of any illicit substances.
		6. The Ground Official will comply with any Legislative requirements regarding Smoking in Public areas during his or her time as the Ground Official.
		7. The duties of the Ground Official, on match days, are many and varied. The smooth running of the day calls for an efficient and vigilant Ground Official ready for whatever comes along.
		8. The Ground Official should check the referees’ room and make sure it is clean and comfortable.
		9. Upon arrival of the referees, they should introduce themselves as the Ground Official in the event they need assistance.
		10. If an appointed referee is not present, they should ensure that a referee is arranged either by the club or by consent of the two teams playing.
		11. The Ground Official should ensure that at least three (3) approved match balls are available for referees,
		12. Ensure that the spectators’ behaviour is orderly and is not abusive to the match officials, players, or other spectators,
		13. Direct and assist any ambulance if called to attend a player or any other person, and
		14. Be of assistance wherever possible.
		15. **Club Official Roles & Responsibilities**
			1. Each home and away club must provide a Club Official for all competitive games.
			2. The Club Official is responsible for either implementing or overseeing, and not limited to:

wearing a bright coloured vest to show the referees, players, and spectators who the club official is,

* + - * 1. preparing the field for the day,
				2. advising the referees of who the Club Officials are for the day,
				3. ask who the opposing team Club Official is,
				4. talk to spectator's, club members if their behaviour is not acceptable for a family sporting event,
				5. have the authority to speak to anyone that is not being a good sport, yelling and swearing at players, spectators and referees, continual coaching from the sideline after being asked to stop,

and if the person(s) refuses to leave, then the police are called to have person(s) removed,

and the club official may ask the referee to stop the game until the person either stops the offence or leaves the area.

and the ejected person may face the Disciplinary Committee.

* + - * 1. ALL clubs are responsible for their own members and could face disciplinary action and or fines if members of their clubs are abusive to anyone before, during or after the matches, and this is not limited to competitive games.
	1. **MATCH DAY INFORMATION**
		1. **Match Balls**
			1. Football Stanthorpe shall provide each club with a quantity of match balls prior to the commencement of the season fixtures, at the club’s expense.
			2. The designated home team at each match shall ensure that at least three (3) Football Stanthorpe approved match balls are supplied to the Match Official prior to the commencement of the match. All three (3) balls must be the Football Stanthorpe approved match balls.
			3. If two (2) or more official match balls are damaged or lost during a match, then a ball that is similar to the approved match ball may be used until a replacement approved match ball if found.
			4. Referees will report breaches of the match ball licensing arrangement to Football Stanthorpe. Licensing regulations provide that any Clubs that breach the licensing requirements may be liable for a fine for each breach.
		2. **Playing Strips**
			1. The two teams must wear colours that distinguish them from each other and the match officials.
			2. Each goalkeeper must wear colours that are distinguishable from the other players and the match officials.
			3. If the two goalkeepers’ shirts are the same colour and neither has another shirt, the referee may allow the match to be played.
			4. Undershirts must be the same colour as the main colour of the shirt sleeve; undershorts/tights must be the same colour as the main colour of the shorts or the lowest part of the shorts – players of the same team must wear the same colour.
			5. Each Club affiliated to Football Stanthorpe shall provide to Football Stanthorpe the details and a photograph of their regular strips including socks for approval and registration of colours. Approval must be given by Football Stanthorpe prior to any club purchasing new strips. Failure to do so may render such strips unable to be worn.
			6. All playing strips must have numbers on the back of the jerseys except for the non-competitive MiniRoos divisions.
			7. Equipment must not have any political, religious, or personal slogans, statements, or images. Players must not reveal undergarments that show political, religious, personal slogans, statements or images, or advertising other than the manufacturer`s logo. For any offence, the player and/or the team will be sanctioned by Football Stanthorpe.
		3. **Player Equipment**
			1. It is the match referee’s responsibility to ensure all players taking the field of play are wearing equipment that is safe to themselves and other persons.
			2. The compulsory equipment of a player comprises the following separate items:
				1. a shirt with sleeves,
				2. shorts,
				3. socks – tape or any material applied or worn externally must be the same colour as that part of the sock it is applied to or covers,
				4. shin guards – these must be made of a suitable material to provide reasonable protection and covered by the socks,
				5. suitable footwear.
				6. No jewellery is to be worn.
				7. Non-dangerous protective equipment and head covers may be worn subject to conditions.
				8. Please refer to the “Laws of the Game” for further details.
			3. **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**
				1. Please refer to the “Laws of the Game”
			4. **ELECTRONIC PERFORMANCE AND TRACKING SYSTEMS (EPTS)**
				1. Please refer to the “Laws of the Game”
			5. **Alcohol**
				1. It shall be the Host Club’s responsibility to enforce all Liquor Licensing requirements in the sale and consumption of alcohol.
				2. Should persons be seen to be in breach of these rules, the Ground Official should advise such person to conform to the rules immediately. Should such person/s refuse to adhere to that request, the Ground Official shall contact the police to have such persons removed.
			6. **National Flags, Slogans, Emblems**
				1. No Club should display national flags, slogans, or emblems at home venues under any circumstances, with the only exception being the Australian flag.
				2. Clubs will be allowed to dress/decorate their respective social clubs (internally) as they see fit provided flags, slogans or emblems are not visible from the playing arena.
				3. Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to request the removal of any national flags or slogans at any time.
				4. The incorporation of national flags, slogans, or similar emblems on any part of the player’s attire or the uniform worn by a Club Official is strictly prohibited.
				5. Clubs found to be in breach of this provision may be subject to disciplinary action and sanctions.
1. **MATCH DAY TEAM SHEETS – COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS**
	1. On match day, both teams are required to complete an official team sheet prior to the commencement of any match.
	2. The team sheet must list all players and team officials taking part in the fixture and be provided to the match referee at least ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off.
	3. The match referee must ensure that clubs do not list more than sixteen (16) players and no more than three (3) team officials on the team sheet for any match.
	4. Where possible, all players and team officials must ensure that they have signed the team sheet before it is given to the match referee.
	5. In the event a player is unable to sign the team sheet prior to the start of the fixture, it is the responsibility of the club official to ensure that player is listed on the team sheet. That player then has until the conclusion of the half time interval to sign the team sheet and must do so in front of a match official.
	6. The Technical Area is limited to three (3) club officials, generally, Coach, Manager, 1st Aid Officer or Assistant Coach. All three (3) team officials are to wear the authorised team official lanyard at all time during the game.
	7. Should any listed player or team official fail to sign the team sheet by the conclusion of the half time interval and participates in the fixture, then that player will be deemed to be in breach of the Rules of Competition and the club will be sanctioned as follows:
		1. If it is established that the player was legitimately registered and was eligible to play, then the club may be fined for each offence, and the match result will stand.
		2. If it is established that the player was not legitimately registered or was ineligible to play, then the penalties for playing an ineligible player will apply.
		3. If both clubs are found to have failed to list a player who takes part in the same competition match, then both clubs will be disciplined, and the match will be deemed ‘NO RESULT’.
		4. In the event a Club Official approaches the match referee seeking to protest the fielding of an ineligible player, the referee should instruct the Club Official to lodge an official protest.
	8. The referees must cross out any player listed on the team sheet that DOES NOT take the field.
	9. A Club Official must sign the team sheet once the referee has completed the team sheet.
	10. Team Sheets, Referee Summary & Send-Off/Incident Report Forms from the appointed match official will be accepted transcript. All decisions of the match referee regarding the facts connected with play (including whether a goal is scored or not and the result of the match) are considered final.
	11. **Club Responsibilities**
		1. It is the Club’s responsibility to ensure:
		2. It has minimum number of seven (7) players to commence the match in all 11 v 11 games and five (5) players for 9 v 9 and 7 v 7 games,
		3. That it does not list more than sixteen (16) players on the team sheet.
		4. All players taking the field are eligible to play.
		5. All players taking the field of play are correctly listed on the team sheet in legible writing. If the players name is declared illegible by Football Stanthorpe, that player may be deemed as ‘not played’. If the said player receives a yellow/red card during the match, then the Club will be deemed to be in breach of the Rules of Competition regarding Player Eligibility and the Club may be subject to disciplinary action.
		6. All players taking the field of play have signed the team sheet.
		7. All players are ready to commence the fixture at the scheduled kick-off time.
		8. All players wear the appropriate licensed apparel, before taking the field of play.
		9. That the details recorded on the completed team sheet are accurate and signed by a Club Official upon conclusion of the match.
		10. Clubs that deliberately add names to the Team Sheet of a player that cannot take the field will be sanctioned by Football Stanthorpe.
		11. For example, a player with a major injury, not dressed in the team strip is added to the team sheet as a player.
		12. The completed and signed team sheets must be scanned and emailed to Football Stanthorpe by close of business on the following Tuesday.
		13. The Home Team is responsible for collecting and sending in said team sheets.
2. **TEAM SHEETS NON-COMPETITIVE (U6 – U11)**
	1. On match day, both teams are required to complete an official team sheet prior to the commencement of any match. It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that all Coaches/Managers are advised of this.
	2. The team sheet must legibly list all players taking part in the fixture. Players are not required to sign the team sheet.
		1. The completed team sheets must be scanned and emailed to Football Stanthorpe by close of business on the following Tuesday.
		2. The Home Team is responsible for collecting and sending in said team sheets.
3. **NON-ATTENDANCE OR UNAVAILABILITY OF MATCH OFFICIAL**
	1. Should the appointed match official fail to honour his appointment, then the next most senior match official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture.
	2. In the event the appointed match official is late on arrival, then the replacement match official (as above) will take charge of the fixture until the appointed match official is ready to take over.
	3. In the event no registered match official is present to take charge of the match, then the designated Home club shall consult the visiting team and appoint a match official to take charge of the match. This match official has the same powers as a registered match official. The designated Home club shall be responsible for forwarding both team sheets to Football Stanthorpe as usual.
	4. All Clubs are obligated to fulfil all fixtures regardless of whether the appointed match official is present to take charge. Should any Club fail or refuse to participate in any fixture on the above grounds, then:
		1. The match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.
		2. Where the offence is committed by a senior team, the Club will be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action.
		3. In the event both teams refuse to play, Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to award a ‘NO RESULT’, fine both Clubs and take further disciplinary action.
	5. In circumstances where an assistant referee has not been appointed to a competitive game, the designated Home team is obliged to provide Club referees to assist the match referee.
4. **MATCH OFFICIALS**
	1. **Appointment of Referees**
		1. Referees for all Football Stanthorpe fixtures shall be appointed by the Referees Coordinator in conjunction with Football Stanthorpe with due consideration of the nature and level of difficulty of the fixture or division.
	2. For all divisions (Men’s, Ladies, Senior Colts, Junior Colts & Fillies), a limit of four (4) interchange stoppages per half will be permitted, with no more than five (5) substitute players permitted to be named on the team sheet, regardless of the competition being 7 v 7, 9 v 9, or 11 v 11.
	3. Only players and substitute players listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.
	4. Substitute players must take the field as an interchange to be counted as a game played. The referee will cross out any player on the team sheets that have not taken the field.
		1. Only eligible players listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.
		2. All substitutions/interchanges can only occur at a break in play with the approval of the referee.
		3. All substitutes must be seated within the technical area.
		4. Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the technical area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative-coloured uniform to the team strip.
		5. **Team Sheets, Referee Summary and Send Off/Incident Report Forms**
		6. At the conclusion of each match, the referee shall consult and confirm with his/her assistants prior to completing both Team Sheets and Send Off/Incident Report Forms.
		7. Referees must complete all aspects of the Team Sheet including all information pertaining to licensing requirements and, where requested, Player of the Year votes.
		8. Once completed, the referees must ensure that Team Sheets and any Send Off/Incident Report Forms are forwarded to Football Stanthorpe through the appropriate channels. It is crucial that these forms reach Football Stanthorpe by no later than two (2) working days after the weekend, i.e. by close of business, Tuesday.
		9. In the event a Club Official approaches the match referee seeking to protest the fielding of an ineligible player, the referee should instruct the Club Official to lodge an official protest. The referee should note this on the Team Sheet.
	5. The referee must check that Clubs do not list more than the maximum of five (5) substitutes on the team sheet.
		1. Please note that the Team Sheets, Referee Summary & Send-Off/Incident Report Forms from the appointed match official will be accepted transcript.
		2. **Referee Fees**
		3. The Host Club shall be responsible for the payment of Referees' fees in accordance with the scale as laid down by Football Stanthorpe.
		4. Current match official fees are set out in Appendix 1.
5. **AWARDS**
	1. **FIXTURES**
		1. The competition premiers in each division in each age grouping shall be awarded the Premiership shield.
		2. The team that has accumulated the most points in Round One (separate to all other Rounds) will be deemed the Round One Leaders and awarded the Round One Leader Shield in each division.
		3. The team that has accumulated the most points in Round Two (separate to all other Rounds) will be deemed the Round Two Leaders and awarded the Round Two Leader Shield in each division.
		4. The team that has accumulated the most points in Round Three (separate to all other Rounds) will be deemed the Round Three Leaders and awarded the Round Three Leader Shield in each division.
		5. Football Stanthorpe shall be responsible for the ordering of trophies and engraving of the club's name and the year it was won on to all perpetual shields. All trophies that can be determined prior to the Annual Presentation night will have engraving arranged by Football Stanthorpe.
		6. No perpetual trophies shall be taken after the Annual Presentation dinner. All trophies are to be returned to Football Stanthorpe at the end of the Presentation night.
		7. Football Stanthorpe shall be responsible for engraving any trophies that were determined after the last games of the season and also to return all perpetual trophies to the trophy cabinets located at C.F. White Oval Clubhouse.
	2. **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**
		1. This award is based on the total number of points accumulated by each team within their Club. The Club Champions Shield shall be awarded to the Club that has accumulated the greatest number of points of all competing competitive teams.
	3. **REFEREE’S FAIR PLAY AWARD**
		1. During the Season, the Referee of each match allocates points (3 – 2 – 1 points) to players deemed to have demonstrated fair play/good sportsmanship. At the conclusion of all competitive division fixtures (Men’s, Women, Senior Colts, Junior Colts and Fillies), the players in each division with the greatest total number of points shall be awarded the Referee’s Fair Play Award.
	4. **REFEREE OF THE YEAR, REFEREE ENCOURAGEMENT AND JUNIOR GOLDEN WHISTLE AWARD**
		1. Voted on by the Clubs competing, the Referee of the Year award is awarded to a Stanthorpe Referee that is deemed to be the best/most competent Referee in the competition.
		2. The Junior Gold Whistle Award is decided by the Senior Referees in the competition and is awarded to an ‘up and coming’ Junior Referee that had displayed growth and development of skills during the season.
	5. **INDIVIDUAL PLAYER AWARDS**
		1. There are four (4) individual player awards in each division:
			1. Most Improved
			2. Best New Talent
			3. Player of the Year Runner Up
			4. Player of the Year
		2. Each award has its own criteria.
	6. **PLAYER AWARDS - SELECTION CRITERIA**

**An addendum with assessment criteria will be sent out later in the season.**

* + 1. **Player of the Year**
			1. The stand-out player in the competition.
			2. All round technical ability: heading, passing, receiving, first touch, etc.
			3. All round tactical ability: individual, group and team tactics.
			4. Excellent sportsmanship and attitude.
			5. A team player with commitment to team, club (and representative duties).
			6. Must have NOT received more than ONE red card during the season.
			7. *(Reasons for the red card will be investigated and taken into account).*
		2. **Player of the Year – Runner Up**
			1. The stand-out player in the competition.
			2. All round technical ability: heading, passing, receiving, first touch, etc.
			3. All round tactical ability: individual, group and team tactics.
			4. Excellent sportsmanship and attitude.
			5. A team player with commitment to team, club (and representative duties).
			6. Must have NOT received more than ONE red card during the season.
			7. *(Reasons for the red card will be investigated and taken into account).*
		3. **Best Emerging Talent**
			1. Must be in their first year in their Competitive division – full time i.e. not playing in lower division as well (unless playing in the same age division e.g. Fillies & or Junior Colts)
			2. Competent in most technical and tactical aspects of the game.
			3. Is able to fit into the team easily and make a significant contribution to team play.
		4. **Most Improved**
			1. Must have played in their registered division full time for at least one year (i.e. currently in their second year in that division).
			2. Has shown a significant improvement in technical and tactical ability.
			3. Demonstrated improved confidence.
			4. Increased contribution to team play over the course of the time under consideration.
	1. **GRAND FINAL SHIELD AND PLAYERS OF THE MATCH**
		1. The winning team in each division Grand Final match shall be awarded the Grand Final Trophy.
		2. Players of the Match in each Grand Final division match shall be awarded the Match Ball and be selected by Community members that have a long history with Football and Football Stanthorpe and are present on game day to witness the match in its entirety, selected by the Football Stanthorpe President or his or her representative.
1. **SPONSORSHIP**
	1. Players and Officials of Member Clubs and Affiliates shall not enter into any individual sponsorship or advertising agreements without the prior written approval of their Club, provided that such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld in the absence of conflict with this Code of Conduct.
	2. No member Club shall:
		1. Grant approval to any Player or Official of that Club to enter into any sponsorship or advertising agreements involving any company or product which conflicts with the aims and objectives of the Football Stanthorpe or its sponsors, or
		2. Be obliged to grant approval to any Player or Official of that Club to enter into any Sponsorship or Advertising agreement involving any company or product which conflicts with the aims and objectives of the Club or its sponsors.
	3. Should Football Stanthorpe engage a sponsor, a condition of entry into a Football Stanthorpe competition is that clubs are required to uphold any requirements that are stipulated in the sponsorship contract. Such requirements may include signage, distribution of sponsor promotions and information, the display of logos on club websites etc.
	4. Football Stanthorpe will endeavour to ensure that any requirement by a sponsor has minimal financial impact on clubs and will not impact existing sponsorship contracts. At all times Football Stanthorpe will negotiate with clubs to minimise any disadvantage to a clubs existing sponsorship.
2. **PENALTIES AND OUTCOMES**
	1. Any club who fields an ineligible player will be subject to disciplinary sanctions as determined by Football Stanthorpe.
	2. If it is established that a player competing in any match was not legitimately registered or was ineligible to play, then the following will apply;
		1. The club found guilty shall forfeit any goals scored and points gained in that match and the points and match will be awarded to the opposing team.
		2. The game will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team unless the final result was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team.
		3. Football Stanthorpe may impose a fine, suspend, expel, or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club or player.
	3. In the event that it is established that both clubs competing in any match fielded players who were not legitimately registered or were ineligible to play, then the following will apply:
		1. The match will be deemed as a ‘NO RESULT’, whereby, no points will be awarded.
	4. Football Stanthorpe may impose a fine, suspend, expel, or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending clubs or players.
3. **DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS**
	1. **COMPETITION**
		1. These Disciplinary Rules are set by Football Stanthorpe as the Competition Administrator and supplement the National Disciplinary Regulations in accordance with clause 1.2 of those Regulations.
	2. **SANCTIONS**
		1. A player or a team official who is sent off must serve a mandatory one (1) match suspension (except for a serious error such as where the wrong player or official was identified as the offender). A player who is sent off will be suspended from all Football Stanthorpe matches until midnight of the next division match day in which the player was sent off. The application of sanctions to be issued to Participants (player or team official) for direct red cards will be in accordance with the range of sanctions outlined in the National Disciplinary Regulations. Where a Player receives an indirect red card, he will serve a Mandatory Match Suspension of one (1) match.
4. **NOTIFICATION AND TIMEFRAMES**
	1. The imposition of a mandatory match suspension is immediate. Football Stanthorpe will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the mandatory match suspension within three (3) days of the completion of the weekend. For the avoidance of doubt, the mandatory match suspension is effective regardless of whether the notice was received.
	2. If Football Stanthorpe has determined that an Offence by a Player or a Team Official was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the mandatory match suspension, a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the details of the Offence and of the disciplinary sanction imposed will be forwarded within three (3) days of the completion of the weekend.
5. **TERMS OF SUSPENSION**
	1. While serving a suspension, a Participant (player or team official) may not:
	2. On the day of a Match, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play, the Technical Area, the players’ space, the dressing rooms or any other place within a venue where Participants are likely to assemble to prepare for that match.
	3. If attending a Match, be seated in an area normally reserved for Spectators.
	4. Within one (1) hour of the start of match from which the Participant is suspended and within one (1) hour of the conclusion of the match from which the Participant is suspended have any contact with any media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to) participating in any post-match press conference and participating in television or radio interviews.
	5. Anyone serving a suspension can only be a spectator at that match and cannot interact with referees or players before or after the match that they are suspended from.
	6. Any suspension from the Finals Series (or the competition fixtures if not already served in the Finals series) will carry forward into the following season and will be served in competition fixtures.
	7. If a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the execution of the suspension. A bye or a match forfeited by the participant’s team does not count towards the execution of the suspension.
6. **DISCIPLINARY HEARING PROCEDURES**
	1. Except in the case of obvious error there is no appeal from a mandatory match suspension.
	2. A Club, Player or a Team Official may appeal the disciplinary sanction imposed in a Disciplinary Infringement Notice by notifying Football Stanthorpe in writing within seven (7) days after the date on which the Disciplinary Infringement Notice was received, outlining the reasons for the appeal and enclosing the Appeal Fee of $100.00. This fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
	3. An appeal from Football Stanthorpe’s disciplinary sanction must be heard by a Disciplinary Committee. When determining any appropriate sanction, a Disciplinary Committee may consider:
		1. The nature and severity of the infringement,
		2. The offender’s past record and whether this is a repeated Offence,
		3. The culpability of the offender (including whether the infringement was intentional, negligent, or reckless),
		4. Any reasons prompting the offender to commit an infringement,
		5. The remorse of the offender; and
		6. Any extenuating circumstances.
7. **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE (DC)**
	1. The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a three (3)member panel as described in the Football Federation Australia (FFA) Grievance Procedure for appointment of grievance arbitrator. Administrative support in the form of a Chairperson and Minute Secretary shall be provided by the association.
	2. **Jurisdiction and role of the Disciplinary Committee**
		1. The designated association level of authority empowered by FFA for dealing with any and all grievances for on and off-field behaviour, which brings the game into disrepute, shall be the Disciplinary Committee (DC) (refer FFA Grievance and Resolution Regulations).
			1. Including, but limited to players, team officials, spectators, Football Stanthorpe Board & Committee Members, club officials and associated members, and referees.
			2. Should there be a number of incidents to be dealt with at the same time, there may be several hearings staffed by alternate DC panels operating at the same time: while the association may call on the DC to resolve such issues it is not the role of the DC to make recommendations to the association on such matters. The role of the DC is solely to provide a determination to the association on each grievance.
			3. the DC is empowered to deal with all grievances arising under this constitution which is based on the National Grievance Policy (refer FFA National Grievance Regulations).
			4. the DC is empowered to impose any period of suspension it considers appropriate in all the circumstances of the grievance as prescribed in the National Disciplinary Regulations (refer to Appendix C).
	3. **Disciplinary Committee Chairperson**
		1. Is to familiarise themselves with the association’s constitution and by-laws as adopted by the association and the Rules of the Game as specified by FFA.
		2. following a briefing from the association, the Chairperson will accept any grievance referred to the DC,
		3. liaise with the minutes Secretary in convening Disciplinary Committee meetings,
		4. must be impartial and not influence the DC’s final decision one way or another.
		5. The role of the Chairperson is to Chair the meeting and provide clarification to the DC,
		6. must ensure that there is an outcome for each individual grievance based on evidence provided directly to the DC or sourced by the DC either in writing or through verbal testimony i.e. witnesses called to appear,
		7. any witnesses called to appear before the DC must be notified in writing of date and time they are to appear,
		8. this outcome must be communicated in writing to the association and all relevant parties,
		9. the Chairperson will call the DC members from a list compiled by the association,
		10. the composition of the DC must reflect statutory requirements of the constitution (refer to FFA Grievance and Resolution Regulations).
	4. **DC Minutes Secretary**
		1. Is to take the minutes of the meeting,
		2. can only be called to contribute to the meeting if required by the DC,
		3. records and files all relevant paperwork for each individual grievance.
		4. At the conclusion of each grievance the complete record of proceedings must be given to the association’s Secretary to archive.
8. **SANCTIONS UNDER FFA STATUTES**
	1. Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Club:
		1. a reprimand;
		2. a fine;
		3. place the Club on a bond;
		4. a deduction or loss of competition points;
		5. ban on the registration or transfer of any Players for a specified period of time;
		6. annulment of registration of a Player;
		7. suspension from participation in matches;
		8. exclusion, suspension or expulsion from the Competition;
		9. playing a match without spectators or on neutral territory;
		10. a ban on playing in a particular stadium;
		11. annulment of the result of the match; or
		12. such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.
	2. Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Participant:
		1. a reprimand;
		2. a fine;
		3. return of award;
		4. place the individual on a bond;
		5. ban on registration of Player with any Club for a specified period of time;
		6. annulment of registration of a Player;
		7. suspension from participation in matches;
		8. suspension or expulsion from the Competition;
		9. suspension or cancellation of licence or accreditation, including Licensed Player Agent’s licence or coaching accreditation;
		10. termination of registration or playing contract;
		11. a ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes’ bench;
		12. a ban from entering a stadium;
		13. ban on taking part in any football related activity; or
		14. such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.
9. **SCHEDULE OF FINES**
	1. **MISCONDUCT/BRINGING THE GAME INTO DISREPUTE**
		1. To be determined based on offence.
	2. **COMPETITION FINES**
		1. Once a fine has been issued, Clubs have thirty (30) days to pay. After this period clubs will accumulate no further points until the fine is paid unless prior arrangements are made in writing and approved by Football Stanthorpe. These fees are determined on an annual basis and ratified by Football Stanthorpe.
	3. **FORFEITS**
		1. Mens & Ladies – more than 48 hours’ notice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_$100.00
		2. Men’s & Ladies – less than 48 hours’ notice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_$150.00
		3. Men’s & Ladies – less than required players at kick off \_\_$150.00
		4. Snr, Jnr Colts & Fillies – more than 48 hours’ notice \_\_\_\_\_$50.00
		5. Snr, Jnr Colts & Fillies – less than 48 hours’ notice \_\_\_\_\_$100.00
		6. Snr, Jnr Colts & Fillies – less than required players at kick off\_\_\_

 $100.00

* + 1. Teams with less than required number of players at kick off and teams that forfeit will incur the referee fees for the match regardless of whether a fine for forfeits is deferred.
	1. Team Walk Off - Refer matter to Football Stanthorpe and Disciplinary Committee.
	2. **Ineligible Players**
		1. Playing of Ineligible Player – in fixtures \_$200.00
		2. Playing of Ineligible Player – in finals \_$200.00
		3. Team Withdrawal – after nominations have closed \_\_\_\_$500.00

(unless they have notified Football Stanthorpe prior to nominating that it may happen)

* 1. Club Falsifying Registration Documents - Refer matter to Football Stanthorpe and Disciplinary Committee
	2. Detrimental Statement to Media - Refer matter to Football Stanthorpe and Disciplinary Committee
	3. Detrimental Statement in Public - Refer matter to Football Stanthorpe and Disciplinary Committee
	4. Grievance Lodgement Fee (refundable if grievance is upheld) $150.00
	5. NB:
		1. Fines apply to all competitive divisions,
		2. Fines may be increased in the case of recurring offences by clubs/players/official,
		3. Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to vary any penalty if circumstances are warranted.
		4. A second offence in the same year shall provide a 50% increased penalty commensurate with the offence.
		5. Player/Club fines are at the discretion of Football Stanthorpe. The amounts stated can be varied.
	6. **Disciplinary Tribunal Hearing Fee**
		1. If found guilty \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_$250.00
		2. No action recorded\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_No Fee
1. **REVIEW OF COMPETITION RULES**
	1. These competition rules are subject to change, based on decision of majority of clubs and approved by Football Stanthorpe at an annual review meeting.
2. **APPENDIX 1 – MATCH OFFICIAL FEES**
	1. Referee fees for Current Season 2022
		1. **Men’s**
			1. Referee $80.00
			2. Assistant $40.00
			3. Assistant $40.00
			4. 4th Official $40.00 Final series only
		2. **Ladies**
			1. Referee $60.00
			2. Assistant $30.00
			3. Assistant $30.00
			4. 4th Official $30.00 Final series only
		3. **Senior Colts**
			1. Referee $50.00
			2. Assistant $25.00
			3. Assistant $25.00
			4. 4th Official $25.00 Final series only
		4. **Junior Colts**
			1. Referee $30.00
			2. Assistant $15.00
			3. Assistant $15.00
			4. 4th Official $15.00 Final series only
		5. **Fillies**
			1. Referee $20.00
			2. Assistant $10.00
			3. Assistant $10.00
			4. 4th Official $10.00 Final series only
		6. **MiniRoos n/a**
3. **APPENDIX 2 – PLAYER AGE POLICY**

**Football Stanthorpe 2022 Player Age Policy**

1. Players must register and play in their designated age group as determined by date of birth. The cut-off date for ALL age groups is 31st December, players born after 31st December will be in the next age group. Players may be able to play up and or down as per below.
2. For all competitive age groups, a maximum of five (5) substitute players can be named on the team sheet.
3. Age groups and conditions of play:
	1. **Men’s (First Division)** **Competition**
		1. Male players to be eligible to play in this division shall be turning seventeen (17) or over this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		2. The Men’s team may include Senior Colt players and MUST be turning sixteen (16) in this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		3. Male Players turning fifteen (15) in this calendar year (on or before December 31st), may play “up” into Men’s are subject to conditions **4., 4.a**, **and** **4.b.**
	2. **Ladies (First Division) Competition**
		1. Female Only Players to be eligible to play in this division shall be turning fifteen (15) or over this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		2. The Ladies team may include Fillies and MUST be turning fourteen (14) in this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
	3. **Senior Colts Competition** (Under 14 to Under 16)
		1. Male Players to be eligible to play in this division shall be turning fourteen to sixteen (14, 15 and or 16) this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		2. Female Players to be eligible to play in this division shall be turning fifteen (15) or sixteen (16) this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		3. The Senior Colts team may include Male Junior Colt players playing up and MUST be turning thirteen (13) in this calendar year (on or before December 31st) are subject to conditions **4., 4.a**, **4.b.**
		4. Female Players turning seventeen (17) in this calendar year (on or before December 31st), may play “down” into Senior Colts are subject to conditions **4., 4.a**, **and** **4.b.**
	4. **Junior Colts Competition** (Under 12 & Under 13)
		1. Male and Female Players to be eligible to play in this division shall be turning twelve (12) to thirteen (13) this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		2. The Junior Colts team may include eligible boy’s and girl’s players from the Under 11’s, for players turning eleven (11) this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		3. Female Players turning fourteen (14) in this calendar year may play “down” into Junior Colts without the need to complete a FQ Player Dispensation Request form.
	5. **Fillies Competition** (Under 12 to Under 14 Females)
		1. Female Players to be eligible to play in this division shall be turning twelve (12) to turning fourteen (14), this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		2. The Fillies team may include eligible female players from the Under 11’s, for players turning eleven (11) this calendar year (on or before December 31st).
		3. Female Players turning twelve (12) this calendar year, may play ‘down’ into the Under 11’s competition (MiniRoos), subject to conditions **4., 4.a, and 4.b.**
		4. Female Only Players turning fifteen (15) in this calendar year (on or before December 31st), may play “down” into Fillies are subject to conditions **4., 4.a**, **and** **4.b.**
		5. **Please note: if the Under fifteen (15) player plays down into Fillies, she can no longer play in the Ladies or the Senior Colts competition.**
	6. **A player has deemed to have played a game only if:**
		1. The player is eligible to play in the game
		2. The player is listed on the official team
		3. The player has signed the team sheet (competitive games only)
		4. The player has taken the field
		5. The player has been substituted or interchanged during a game (taken the field)
		6. The opposing team has forfeited the game. All eligible players in the non-forfeiting team, will be awarded a ‘game played’ if a team sheet is completed and forwarded to the registrar
		7. The game has been abandoned or cancelled.
	7. **MiniRoos** (Under 6 to Under 11)
		1. Age groups for this season are:
			1. Under 6’s (players turning 5 or 6 in this calendar year, on or before December 31st)
			2. Under 7's (players turning 7 in this calendar year, on or before December 31st) request
			3. Under 8's (players turning 8 in this calendar year, on or before December 31st)
			4. Under 9's (players turning 9 in this calendar year, on or before December 31st)
			5. Under 10’s (players turning 10 in this calendar year, on or before December 31st)
			6. Under 11’s (players turning 11 in this calendar year, on or before December 31st)
		2. Please Note: Female only players may play “down” one age group or year without the need of a FQ Player Dispensation Request form.
		3. All players can play up one year or one age group only. A FQ Player Dispensation Request form is not needed.
		4. Teams can only have one more player on their team than the opposition. Clubs should try and fill their numbers from either their player’s playing up and or girls playing down and then look to the opposition team for players to make up numbers and continue with the no more than one (1) player than the other team.
		5. Players that take the field or listed on the team sheet in more than two (2) games on any game day will be regarded as an ineligible player; therefore, are subject to the rules of playing an ineligible player.
4. All Players who are suited to a higher or lower age group due to their physical and/or social sense:
	1. In this circumstance a written application accompanied by supporting medical or educational evidence should be considered by the club and must be submitted as a “Football Queensland 2022 Player Dispensation Request” to Football Queensland before 9AM each Thursday before the game. Late notices will not be processed until the following Monday.
	2. Players MUST have completed the FQ Player Dispensation Request form as per the Football Queensland website prior to participating in a match.
5. Football Stanthorpe reserves the right to modify or change any of the above age groups or eligibility that the board believes will benefit the majority of players, teams and clubs.
6. If you are unsure with any of the above, please seek clarification from Football Stanthorpe, in writing, BEFORE the player takes the field.
7. **APPENDIX 3 – FINAL SERIES RULES**

**Please note the following rules have been provided by Football Stanthorpe prior to the commencement of the final series. This is to ensure all clubs and officials are aware of the rules. If unsure of the interpretation of any of the rules, please contact Football Stanthorpe prior to finals commencing for clarification.**

**Eligibility of players for the Final series**

Players who have played at least one-third (1/3) of the scheduled games or more in their division (subject to player age policy) have automatically qualified to play up a division. ie: a Senior Colt player who has played five (5) Senior Colt games in a fifteen (15) match season and only one Men’s A grade game is still eligible to play up in the Men’s (First Division) final series.

However, players who are eligible to play down a division during the season, for example under fourteen (14) girls playing in Junior Colts, must have played at least one-third (1/3) of the scheduled games or more in their division (subject to player age policy) in the Junior Colts division to qualify for finals in the Junior Colts division Finals Series.

When an opposing team forfeits the game, all eligible players in the other team will be awarded a game played, and therefore be deemed to have played. The club does not need to provide a team sheet to Football Stanthorpe, as all eligible players will be deemed to have played. The forfeiting team’s players will not be deemed to have played as their team has forfeited the game.

**Number of substitutions**

Men’s (First Division)

* + a limit of four (4) interchange stoppages per half will be permitted.
	+ during the extra time period (2 x 15 minutes halves), a total of a further two (2) interchanges may be made per half.
	+ only players’ names listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.
	+ a maximum of five (5) substitutes can be named on the team sheet and all five (5) can be used during the match.
* Ladies (First Division) and Senior Colts
	+ a limit of four (4) interchange stoppages per half will be permitted.
	+ during the extra time period (2 x 10 minutes halves), a total of a further two (2) interchanges may be made per half.
	+ only players’ names listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.
	+ a maximum of five (5) substitutes can be named on the team sheet and all five (5) can be used during the match.
* Junior Colts and Fillies
	+ a limit of four (4) interchange stoppages per half will be permitted
	+ during the extra time period (2 x 5 minutes halves), a total of a further two (2) interchanges may be made per half.
	+ only players’ names listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.
	+ a maximum of five (5) substitutes can be named on the team sheet and all five (5) can be used during the match.

**Football Stanthorpe Final Series Extra Time Rules**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Length of extra time** | **Total Number of interchanges allowed during extra time period** | **Restrictions of use of subs in extra time** |
| **Men’s** | 30 minutes (15 E/W) | 2 interchanges per half | No restrictions – can be made at any time |
| **Ladies** | 20 minutes (10 E/W) | 2 interchanges per half  | No restrictions – can be made at any time |
| **Senior Colts** | 20 minutes (10 E/W) | 2 interchanges per half  | No restrictions – can be made at any time |
| **Junior Colts**  | 10 minutes (5 E/W) | 2 interchanges per half | No restrictions – can be made at any time |
| **Fillies**  | 10 minutes (5 E/W) | 2 interchanges per half | No restrictions – can be made at any time |

**# An interchange can be a group of players**

**Extra points to note**

**Players on the field at the end of normal time are deemed to be the starting players for any extra time – any changes to the team from full time to the commencement of extra time will be considered a substitution/interchange.**

**No such thing as a Golden Goal – Full extra time period must be played. If still a draw after extra time kicks from the penalty mark will decide the winner.**

**Goalkeeper at end of extra time – must be the goalkeeper during kicks from the penalty mark.**

**Please note as addition:** *‘****During kicks from the penalty mark****: in the event of an injury to the goalkeeper, the goalkeeper can be replaced by another player on the field – or if the team still has substitute or interchange players available – can be replaced by a substitute or interchange player’.*