

**PEEL
FOOTBALL AND
NETBALL
LEAGUE INC.**

FOOTBALL BY-LAWS

2023

February 2023

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FOOTBALL BY-LAWS

1. REGISTRATION & TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

1. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

1.1 Any person desiring to play in football matches conducted by the PFNL must register with their intending club via PlayHQ On-Line. All PlayHQ On-Line Registrations must be done by close of business Friday so clubs can add players to their Team Lists.

1.2 For players who have not been registered with any other Australian Rules club at any time, registration can be accepted on the weekend and will be eligible to play with his/her new club immediately upon his/her new club's verification via PlayHQ and the PlayHQ Registration by the player verified.

1.3 The Colts competition is a restricted age competition, and any person who attains the age of 20 years prior to the 1st of July of that year shall not be eligible to play in this Competition. All players turning 20 after the 1st of July until the 31st of December are eligible to play in this competition.

1.4 The minimum age for any player to play in a senior grade is 15 years of age in the year of playing.

1.5 Any official forms (e.g. permit, registration/transfer form) signed by a player under the age of eighteen (18) years will not be considered valid, unless it is countersigned by his/her parent or legal guardian.

1.6 Any player who makes a false declaration on his/her registration form shall be liable to suspension and/or disqualification and shall not be eligible to play until a new application has been lodged and approved by the General Manager.

1.7 A registration can be cancelled if the Board decides accordingly.

2 TRANSFERS

2.1 A player who has played and is registered with another football club anywhere in Australia, must first complete an application for a transfer from his/her current club. Such application must be lodged no earlier than 1st February and no later than 10.00pm (WST) 30 June.

2.2 After inputting the transfer request into PlayHQ Membership, the hard copy must be forwarded immediately to the General Manager or at the latest, by 3.00pm Friday. The player will be eligible to play with his/her new club only when the transfer has been fully approved in the system.

2.3 The player's previous club has six (6) business days (excluding Saturdays and Sundays, but including public holidays) to respond to any application for transfer. If the application is not actioned within that period, then the transfer will be automatically approved in PlayHQ Membership and the player transferred to his/her new club.

2.4 Any player refused a transfer by any member club, or League/Association shall not be eligible to apply for player registration with his/her new club.

2.5 A player's former club can refuse the transfer within the six (6) business days by notifying their affiliated League/Association of the refusal via PlayHQ. A refusal can only occur where the club can substantiate that the player:

- (a) is a Declared Player whose current player arrangement requires the player to continue to play for the Club; and/or
- (b) is indebted to the Club; and/or
- (c) is in possession of Club property (e.g. jumper) that needs to be returned;
- (d) wishes to withdraw their application;
- (e) received the maximum possible payment under the WACFL's Paid Player Bylaws (Bylaw 4.6).

In these cases, a club refusing to transfer a player must provide evidence upon request by the Controlling Body within three (3) business days of the request to substantiate the claim. Failure to provide such evidence will result in the Controlling Body re-opening and approving the transfer.

2.6 The transfer can also be refused when the player wishes to withdraw his/her application. Clubs can only submit this as a reason to refuse where the player has signed the Player Withdrawal of Transfer Form. This completed form must be provided to their affiliated Football Body within six (6) business days from the date of which the transfer application was lodged. Failure to provide this form within the required period will result in the Football Body re-activating the application and approving the transfer.

2.7 If a player is certain that the reason his/her transfer has been refused is not genuine, they have the right to appeal immediately. Any player refused a transfer by any PFNL Club, may appeal in writing to the Board who shall have power to investigate and determine such appeal and to permit the registration of such player even though no transfer has been obtained. Otherwise the appeal should be addressed to the WACFL.

2.8 A player under suspension by a League/Association can transfer to another League/Association but cannot transfer from the new club until 28 days after the period of suspension has expired. However, in the case of a player or official who has been suspended from playing or participating in a competition conducted primarily between 1 April and 30 September, the player/official may, upon obtaining prior written approval of the controlling body which imposed the suspension, play or participate in a competition conducted primarily between 1 October and 31 March. Furthermore, in the case of a player or official who has been suspended from playing or participating in a competition conducted primarily between 1 October and 31 March, may upon obtaining the written approval of the controlling body which imposed the suspension, play or participate in a competition conducted primarily between 1 April and 1 October.

2.9 Where a player is genuinely transferred in his/her employment to another branch of the same employer's business and wishes to transfer to a local club after 30 June, he may make an application to transfer prior to the commencement of the final round games, this transfer will need the assistance of the WACFL Operations Manager, subject to a written statement from his/her employer that he has been:

- (a) legitimately transferred in his/her employment; and
- (b) has been on the permanent payroll of the employer for at least three months prior to his/her notification of transfer.

NB: This provision shall apply equally to children under the age of 18 years whose parent/guardian has been so transferred in their employment.

2.10 Defence Force Personnel (DFP) who have been transferred to this State in the course of their duties or return to the State on their discharge, may be issued with a registration to play irrespective of the time of the year.

2.11 To qualify for Finals, DFP transferring into the PFNL after the 30th June of that year are required to play three (3) qualifying games before the finals in one grade to be eligible to qualify in that grade.

2.12 Any player not having played during the previous 24 calendar months is entitled to a "free" transfer. The necessary paperwork and actions must still be followed, but his/her former club cannot refuse to approve the application. In these instances, the player can only be registered on the PlayHQ system after 30 June with the assistance of the WACFL Operations Manager.

3. PERMIT – MATCH DAY (Type 1) and LOCAL INTERCHANGE (Type 2)

3.1 Students residing away from their home attending a high school, TAFE, Agriculture College or University must be transferred to a new club at their temporary location.

3.2 For those students who have been transferred in the past 24 calendar months, they may return to play with their country club of origin using the Match Day Permit. For those players playing in the metropolitan District Junior Competitions, they may return to play at any time during the season. Those players who have been transferred to a metropolitan community club (WAAFL, Metro FL), they may return to play with their country club only during recognised semester breaks.

3.3 Players who intend to play with a WAFL Reserves or Colts team for a limited period, can play using the Match Day Permit whilst retaining their country club registration. However, they are only able to use a maximum of four (4) Permits prior to 30 June, and three (3) after the 30 June.

3.4 Players intending to play with a WAFL League side cannot use a Permit. They must be transferred.

3.5 Players intending to play with a WAFL Reserves or Colts team for an extended period, must be transferred to the WAFL Club. They may return to play with their original country club at any time during the season when released by their WAFL club, using the Local Interchange Permit (type 2) for a maximum period to the end of the season.

3.6 WAFL players 19 years of age and under are permitted to return to play with their original country club at any time during the year when not required by their WAFL club using the Match Day Permit. The number of Permits that can be used is unlimited.

3.7 WAFL players 20 years of age and over are permitted to return to play with a country club that is not their original club when not required by their WAFL club using the Match Day Permit. However, Match Day Permits in this case are limited to six (6) prior to 30 June and none after 30 June.

3.8 WAFL players can return to play with their original country club using the Local Interchange Permit (type 2), at any time during the season when not required by their WAFL club. The Local Interchange Permit is valid until the end of the season.

3.9 No player on permit, either type 1 or 2, can play in the two competitions on the same, or long, weekend.

3.10 Temporary Transfer Permits, Type 3 can only be used for players wishing to transfer either to or from a summer-based football league such as the NTFL.

3.11 For employees who consistently relocate to country locations on a “fly in – fly out” employment basis, can play with a club at their temporary location without the need to obtain a transfer, using the Local Interchange Permit (type 2). The Permit can be approved until the end of the current season, and enables the player to play with his/her primary club when at home, and with his/her secondary club when in his/her temporary location for employment.

3.12 No Permit can be used for players to play with another WACFL, WAAFL affiliated club, or interstate club.

4. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

4.1 An ineligible player shall be defined as any one of the following persons: -

- a) A person who is not registered with the PFNL.
- b) A person who is registered with the PFNL but has been suspended.
- c) A person who has had his/her permit withdrawn.
- d) A person over the age defined to be eligible to participate in the Colts competition.
- e) A person who fails to comply with eligibility for a final round game as defined in By-law Section 9.
- f) A person whose application for reinstatement was granted but who is later found to have proved false or misleading information by design or omission, and whose permit to play is withdrawn.
- g) A WAFL registered player who does not have an approved Local Interchange Permit Form or Match Day Permit.

4.2 Any team that includes an ineligible player, shall automatically lose any match points gained by winning or drawing the game in which such player or players participates. Irrespective of scores in such game the opposing team shall be declared the winner and shall be credited with four (4) premiership points and the offending team shall lose all points scored by it in such game. The team receiving the forfeit shall be debited and credited with the official scores

4.3 The premiership table shall be adjusted by: -

- a) Deducting the total kicked by the offending team from their score for the team playing the ineligible player.
- b) Deducting any premiership points won by the team playing the ineligible player.
- c) Awarding the four premiership points to the side receiving the forfeit.
- d) Correcting the percentage figure.

The Club that plays an in-eligible player and loses is not only subject to 4.3 but is also subject to fines as listed in Section 9.

5. MATCHES

5.1 The ground requirements for the PFNL are as stated in the 'Laws of Australian Football booklet'.

5.2 Clubs must complete game day check list form as provided by MARSH Insurance.

Note: Completion of a MARSH Sport Match Day Checklist must be completed in full if the ground is unfit for play and will be analysed when the Board determine if the match will be replayed.

5.3 No person other than those listed on the respective team sheets shall be allowed on the playing arena whilst the game is in progress.

5.4 Teams are not permitted to leave the playing arena except at the half time interval.

5.5 The Board shall have power to cancel the scores of any match and to order such match to be replayed at such time and place as it may think fit.

5.6 No club/persons shall video any game, unless sanctioned by the Board or General Manager.

6. TEAM SHEETS

6.1 At least 15 minutes prior to the commencement of each game, both team managers shall present to the Field Umpires and opposition, copies of their Official Team Sheet showing:

- a) Surname, Christian name, registration number and jumper number of each player participating in the game. For the League teams, the list must contain the full list of 22 players; and up to a maximum of 22 for the Reserves and Colts teams.
- b) Full names of the coach and team manager, runners, water carriers and trainers are required. If numbers are available on tops, they should also be recorded on team sheets.

6.2 If a team sheet is incorrect in that a player has not been listed and takes the playing arena, or a player is listed under another person's name, then the Board shall impose such penalty as in their absolute discretion, they consider, including but not limited to, reversal of match result, annulment of score or part thereof, fine or censure.

6.3 Late arrival players must be listed on the team sheet given to umpires. Prior to commencement of play the team manager is to provide the opposition team manager with the name/s, registration and jumper number of any player/s who will be arriving late. Late arrivals must report to the opposition team manager for confirmation to participate in the match. Listed

late arriving players who arrive after half time will not be permitted to play and will be deleted from the team list.

7. PLAYING TIMES

7.1 Unless a night game is scheduled, the following starting times apply for all qualifying and final round matches for all grades.

- (i) **Colts:** Match to commence at allocated times – four (4) quarters of twenty (20) minutes (no time on). Quarter (1/4) time break five (5) minutes, half (1/2) time break fifteen (15) minutes, three quarter (3/4) time break (5) minutes.
- (ii) **Reserves:** Match to commence at 12:30pm – four (4) quarters of twenty (20) minutes (no time on). Quarter (1/4) time break five (5) minutes, half (1/2) time break fifteen (15) minutes, three quarter (3/4) time break (5) minutes.
- (iii) **League:** Match to commence at 2:30pm – four (4) quarters of twenty-five (25) minutes (no time on). Quarter (1/4) time break five (5) minutes, half (1/2) time break fifteen (15) minutes, three quarter (3/4) time break (5) minutes.

7.2 If the League match is to be played at night, then the following start times shall apply:

- (i) Colts: 2:00pm, Reserves: 4:00pm, League: 6:00pm
- (ii) or Colts 12.30pm, Reserves 2.30pm & League 4.30pm with approval from the Board of Directors.

7.3 Time on for League, Reserves & Colts shall be added as determined by the umpires at any time during the game for any such unavoidable but necessary delays such as stretcher coming onto ground for an injured player, where the umpire stops the game because of a serious injury or melee, lost or damaged ball or malfunction of lighting which causes a delay in play.

7.4 Any club not ready to commence play within five (5) minutes of the prescribed starting time shall be fined the sum as determined by the Board of Directors, unless a suitable explanation for such delay shall be accepted by the Board of Directors.

7.5 Any Club not ready to commence play after fifteen (15) minutes of the prescribed starting time shall automatically forfeit the match.

7.6 Any Club that forfeits shall be fined and premiership points awarded to the team receiving the benefit of the forfeit. All match costs will be borne by the forfeiting club. The appointed field umpires who attend the ground where a game is forfeited shall be paid the full fee for such game provided, they are not notified of such forfeit. The team receiving the benefit of the forfeit shall be credited with ninety (90) points, and debited with one (1) point.

7.7 In the case of a forfeit, the team receiving the forfeit must submit a full team list of all players present and available to play.

7.8 A team that forfeits three qualifying matches in one season shall be withdrawn from the competition and shall not be eligible for renomination in the following year. The maximum fine imposed shall be six hundred dollars (\$600).

7.9 It is the responsibility of the home team in all grades to have an operational and attended scoreboard. Where no scoreboard attendant is provided, a fine shall be imposed.

7.10 Clubs are encouraged to play with a maximum of 18 players on the field and up to four interchange players. Clubs can play with reduced numbers, for example 16, but both sides must play with equal numbers on the field at the start of the game, and might consider the loaning/borrowing of players to ensure more players are involved in the match, a more competitive game is provided, and unwanted forfeits avoided. **Yellow or Red card (order off) rules still apply.** Other than this, the match is played under normal conditions. This shall only apply to the qualifying rounds.

7.11 When a match has been called off for any reason prior to the scheduled end of the game, determination of the match result will be determined by the following:

(a) **BEFORE HALF TIME:** if the match is unable to recommence within a twenty (20) minute period or should the game be terminated before half time, then the result would be declared a draw and each team awarded two premiership points. Their respective scores at the time would count for percentage calculation.

(b) **AFTER HALF TIME:** if the match is beyond the half time interval and is unable to proceed or recommence at any time within the time schedule for the match. The result would be declared based on the scores standing at half time. (This being the first point of the game where all things are deemed to be equal)

Note: If the ground conditions change during the match a new MARSH Sport Match Day Checklist needs to be completed in full again and if unfit to play 5.2 applies.

8. DUTIES DURING AND AFTER MATCHES

8.1 In all qualifying matches the home team shall be responsible for entering the correct scores to PlayHQ within the time fixed by the Board. Failure to do so will be an offence and the club concerned shall be fined. It is the responsibility of both clubs to record best players 1 to 6 and goal scorers before 10.00am Monday morning following. Note: Home teams on game day need to complete Livescoring or update scores on PlayHQ on completion of the match. Fines apply if on completion of the final match on the day of playing these scores are not entered.

8.2 An official of the home club shall escort the Umpires from the playing arena at half time and at the completion of the match to the change room and provide water during each quarter break.

9. FINAL ROUND MATCHES

9.1 For the elimination, qualifying, first semi-final, and second semi-final these games will be played at the home ground of the highest-ranking league team, unless the condition of the ground is considered to be below standard. The determination as to the standard and naming of a replacement ground will be made by the Board at the appropriate time. "Please refer to Appendix 'A' Final requirements" page 34.

9.2 In the case of the Preliminary Final the team finishing second, will, if they lose the second semi-final have a home final, which means they would host the Preliminary Final. If they win, they still host the Preliminary Final. This also means the club hosting the Preliminary Final can prepare for hosting.

9.3 The Grand Final will be played at Rushton Park.

9.4 In the event of a club having two lower grade teams in the finals, all matches will be fixtured at the ground deemed to be suitable to the PFNL regardless of the position of the opposing team in a lower grade. This is to facilitate best use of officials and umpires.

10. TIMEKEEPERS AND INTERCHANGE STEWARDS

10.1 Each Club is required to provide a Time-keeper for each game.

10.2 In the event of any disagreement between the two timekeepers as to the length or variation of the time of any quarter, such dispute shall in the case of the first or second quarter be reported to the field umpire at the half time interval and in the case of the third and fourth quarters it shall be reported after the game. The field umpires shall note such disagreement in their report and in the event of a protest on the result of the match on the grounds of an error in timekeeping, a copy of the report will be made available to the Board who shall adjudicate as to the result of the game.

10.3 Any Club may protest the result of a match to the Board of Directors on the ground that the result was affected by an error in timekeeping. The Board of Directors may confirm the result of the match to the losing and winning club. In these circumstances, the total points scored by both teams shall stand and count in the general percentages.

10.4 Timekeepers should always stand/sit together to ensure that there are no discrepancies in time. The siren should always be tested prior to the commencement of the game. Each timekeeper should always have a reliable stopwatch to monitor the timing for each quarter, and for timing of red/yellow card incidents.

11. OFFICIAL RUNNER

11.1 A runner's uniform shall be a prescribed coloured shirt emblazoned with the word "runner", on the back, with club colour or black shorts / track suit pants. Appropriate closed in footwear must be worn. Board Shorts are not appropriate attire.

11.2 The runner's role is solely to deliver messages from the coaching staff to players on the playing arena. He must immediately vacate the playing arena once the message has been delivered. He must not interfere with the course of play, including standing in and filling a space at set plays.

11.3 A runner must not engage in physical contact to any player, official or umpire or initiate physical contact of any nature while on the playing arena. Runners shall be reported by the umpires for infringements of this nature. The PFNL Independent Tribunal shall then determine any penalty that should be imposed. Any penalties incurred by a player acting as a runner shall be viewed as penalties against a player in regard to the competition medals for fair play.

11.4 The runner is not permitted to coach or remain on the field barracking and will be asked to leave the playing arena. If the Runner fails to immediately respond to any request from the umpires, a free kick will be awarded against his/her team at the spot of the infringement or

where the ball is at that time, whichever is the greater penalty. He will also be reported by the umpires for misbehaviour and subject to a Tribunal Hearing.

11.5 Clubs may use a maximum of two runners in each game, with only one runner being permitted entry to the playing arena at any one time. Where two club runners are used, they must access and leave the playing arena through the official interchange area.

11.6 If a runner uses foul or abusive language, a free kick will be awarded against his/her team at the spot of the infringement or where the ball is at that time, whichever is the greater penalty.

12. PROTESTS

12.1 Where the scores of a match are altered on a protest, the team with the highest score after the protest hearing shall be awarded the full premiership points. Any alteration to the points scored "for and against" in such match will be recorded accordingly.

12.2 Where a team captain or acting captain requests a head count and one team is found to have extra players on the field, the following process shall be followed:

- a) The umpires shall note the quarter, the time of the quarter and the game score at the point the game was stopped for the head count.
- b) Should an extra player be counted, the extra player shall be removed from the field of play and the game shall continue with no alteration to the scores.
- c) Every endeavour shall be made to determine the source and time of the extra player has been on the playing field to evaluate the period of influence of the extra player.
- d) The subsequent decision on penalty will be made by the Board.
- e) If a field Umpire is of the opinion that a request was made under By-Law 12.2 primarily to delay play or such request did not have sufficient merit, the field Umpire shall report the Player who requested the count for Time Wasting under Law 19.2.2.

13. UMPIRES

13.1 All umpires shall be appointed by Peel Football and Netball League (PFNL) appointed Umpires Co-ordinator who may discharge any umpire so appointed at any time.

13.2 The remuneration to be paid to each umpire shall be determined by the Board.

13.3 The field umpires must lodge with the office of the PFNL within twenty-four (24) hours after the match, a report in writing in the prescribed form which shall contain the following particulars: -

- a) The time when the match commenced and finished;
- b) The final scores;
- c) Such other remarks and observations as the umpire may think fit to report;
- d) Details of any player reported in accordance with the laws of the game;
- e) The names of the three best players in order of merit in such game;
- f) Such other information as the Board shall require from time to time.

13.4 Where an umpire fails to comply with any of the provisions of By-law 13.3 the PFNL may impose a penalty.

13.5 Club officials and any player may only approach an umpire on match day under the following conditions: -

- a) Coaches must not approach an umpire at any time during a game.
- b) Players must not approach Umpires during any quarter time breaks.
- c) Players may talk to umpires during the game but only at suitable times convenient to the umpire.
- d) Only captains or acting captains may approach umpires for head count at any time, or clarification of a rule at quarter time breaks.

14. TRAINERS, WATER CARRIERS

14.1 Water Carriers must be at least 14 years of age and wear the approved vest/tee-shirt emblazoned with the word's "water" with club colour or black shorts / track suit pants. Appropriate closed footwear must be worn. Board shorts are not appropriate attire.

14.2 Trainers must be accredited to a minimum of Level One standard and be at least 16 years of age,

14.3 They must wear a predominantly white shirt with white or black trousers/shorts. Closed in white shoes should also be worn.

14.3 Trainers must only enter the playing arena to attend an injured player and must not interfere with play when entering the arena to provide such attention. All trainers are requested to remain behind the boundary line while the game is in progress and enter the playing arena only when there is a clear break in play away from the player/s.

14.4 Trainers/water carriers are NOT TO REMAIN on the playing arena even though there is a clear break in play.

14.5 Trainers and water carriers must not stand inside the 50m arc during a point kick in. If treatment be necessary during a point kick-in, the trainer should notify the umpire before the kick in occurs. A free kick may be given if permission is not received and the trainer is deemed to be interfering with play.

15. ORDER OFF LAW

15.1 A player or official who breaches the laws of the game shall be dealt with under three categories:

(i) YELLOW CARD (Order off - Cool off) –A player or official such as a runner, water carrier or trainer ordered from the playing arena for a yellow card infringement shall leave the ground for a period of 15 minutes and can be replaced immediately. In situations where an official such as a club member on the bench, i.e. coach, assistance coach, team manager; or a club appointed boundary or goal umpire, is issued with a yellow card, that card is to be accepted as a "warning" and that official can continue with his/her duties. However, further issue of a yellow card on that day is to be regarded as a red card, and that official is to leave the playing arena and not permitted to return.

The interchange steward is to acknowledge the umpire by raising a YELLOW CARD. Time does not commence until the player or official reports to the interchange steward.

Note: a player can still be reported on a yellow card infringement.

(ii) Any player or official issued with two Yellow Cards in the same game or on the same day, effectively becomes a RED CARD violation and the offender shall take no further part in the game or any game on that day. He can be replaced after 15 minutes has elapsed.

NOTE: The player or official is required to immediately leave the field by running directly via the interchange area.

YELLOW CARD SUSPENSIONS:

Automatic one (1) playing date for 2 yellow cards in same game or same day.

Automatic one (1) playing date after 3 yellow cards in one season.

Automatic two (2) playing dates after 5 yellow cards in one season.

Automatic review of players permits after 6 yellow cards in the season by the Board.

(iii) RED CARD (Order off – Stay off) – For Committing any Reportable Offence. A Red Card offence will require the field umpire to *Order Off* the field an offending Player or official for the remainder of the day. Replacement is only permitted after 15 minutes has elapsed. The player or official is required to immediately leave the field by running directly via the interchange area. The interchange steward is to acknowledge to the umpire by raising a RED CARD and the time of his/her replacement takes effect when the player/official leaves the playing arena/field.

The offending player or official shall take no further part in the match and is not permitted to enter the playing arena at all for the remainder of the day. They will not be permitted to act in any official capacity for their Club.

15.2 If a player or official fails or refuses to leave the field immediately when ordered to for a Red or Yellow Card Offence, the Field Umpire shall advise the captain, acting captain or player of the same team, the consequences of the offender's action. Should the offender continue to refuse to leave the field, the field umpire shall terminate the match and the offending person's team shall forfeit the match.

16. COACHES

16.1 All coaches are required to have completed the appropriate online Foundation Coach Accreditation modules, or in the process of seeking accreditation prior to the 1 May each season. Coaches will now register at CoachAFL.

16.2 If a coach is reported for any act of misconduct, the following details will be provided to the State Coaching Manager as soon as possible after the day in which he was reported:

- Name and date of birth
- Charge/s against the coach
- Tribunal date.

16.3 As soon as the Tribunal has handed down its decision, that decision is to be advised to the State Coaching Manager. If the coach is found guilty, then an automatic citation cancelling the coach's accreditation will be actioned. If found not guilty, those details must still be provided and a separate investigation will be undertaken by the State Coaching Manager, and a citation may still be warranted.

16.4 If the coach is a playing coach, on-field physical indiscretions such as striking or charging will be handled as a normal player. However, non-physical on-field indiscretions such as umpire abuse or vilification and off-field indiscretions, will be managed in accordance with by-laws 16.2 and 16.3.

16.5 Any such coach, whether a senior, head or assistant coach whose coaching accreditation is cancelled, will not be permitted to continue as a coach in the PFNL.

16.6 In accordance with the Coaches Code of Conduct, coaches are accountable in maintaining the spirit of the game through player management. Coaches in the Colts Competition will be held responsible for ensuring the instilling of the correct attitude of their players as they come through and move through to the senior grades.

16.7 Therefore, a player in this competition who commits an offence detrimental to football or a reportable offence, the senior coach of the team shall receive two (2) demerit points for each melee involving his/her team and for each reportable offence of which one of his/her players is found guilty.

16.8 Where the coach accumulates a total of 10 demerit points in a season, he may be sanctioned, fined and/or suspended from coaching in the PFNL.

17. MELEES

17.1 A melee is defined as a group of six or more players and/or officials, arguing, wrestling, fighting or jostling on and/or off the playing arena before, during or after the match. Fines in Clause 20, page 28.

17.2 Runners, trainers unless giving immediate attention to a player, watercarriers, officials and anyone not listed as a player for that game will immediately vacate the playing field. The onus for compliance rests with the participating clubs. Non-compliance will be reported as misconduct by the umpires or umpires' observers.

17.3 Umpires will attempt to diffuse the situation and breakup the group without entering into the immediate area of conflict.

17.4 Players and officials who do not comply with a field umpire's direction to disperse may be issued with a yellow card.

17.5 The instigating players involved in the melee will be issued with a red card.

17.6 A player who moves from any other part of the ground to join the melee, will be issued with a yellow card, except if that player is the captain or acting captain, who is assisting to diffuse the melee.

17.7 Field umpires shall report the teams for misconduct and each team shall incur a fine as prescribed in Fine Clause 20.

17.8 Umpires are not required to individually notify those involved. Notifying the team manager at the conclusion of the match will suffice.

17.9 Umpires observing specific incidents within the melee (i.e. striking, kicking etc.) shall report the offenders or may offer the set penalty.

17.10 In an umpire's safety is at risk, the field umpires shall all come together and agree to terminate the match. All umpires will group together and leave the ground.

17.11 Where the match is terminated before the scheduled end, the Board in their absolute discretion, may determine the result or require the match be replayed at such time and place as the Board sees fit.

18. BLEEDING AND BLOOD INFECTIONS

18.1 No club shall allow any player to participate in any match or continue to participate in any match for if such player:

- a) Is Bleeding;
- b) Has blood on any part of his/her person or uniform.

18.2 On observing that a player is bleeding or has blood on any part of his/her person or uniform the field umpire shall direct such player to leave the field immediately through the interchange area. Notify interchange steward of change in jumper number.

18.3 Only a field umpire can direct a player to leave the playing area.

18.4 Any player directed to leave the field can seek medical attention at any point off the field (i.e. does not have to leave via the interchange area). However, the replacement player must enter through the interchange area.

18.5 The injured player must enter through the interchange area when resuming play.

18.6 Any situation where a player/official refuses to obey a direction of the field umpire given in accordance with this by-law shall be handled in the same way as outlined in 15.2; and the player/official shall be reported for misconduct,

19. PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF LIGHT FAILURE

19.1 In the event of one or more light towers ceasing to operate or the light intensity is reduced; the Field Umpire shall blow full time. Games cannot be recommenced with reduced light unless that it can be measurably proven to be within the PFNL Guidelines.

19.2 Upon the Field Umpire blowing full time the timekeepers shall stop time as per the normal time on procedures and record the exact time the game ceased.

19.3 For safety reasons, umpires and players are to vacate the playing arena and move towards their respective change rooms.

19.4 The No 1 Field Umpire, the home team authorised officer, and the team managers from both competing teams, shall meet immediately in the Umpires Room. The home team authorised officer will advise as to the ability to re-commence play.

19.5 If the game does not recommence within the thirty (30) minute period, the match shall be deemed incomplete and a decision shall be made in accordance with Laws of Australian Football.

19.6 If the game can recommence the Field Umpire shall direct both teams to enter the playing arena to recommence the match. A ten-minute warm up period should precede the recommencement.

19.7 Upon recommencing the match, the timekeepers shall start time as per the normal procedure after time on.

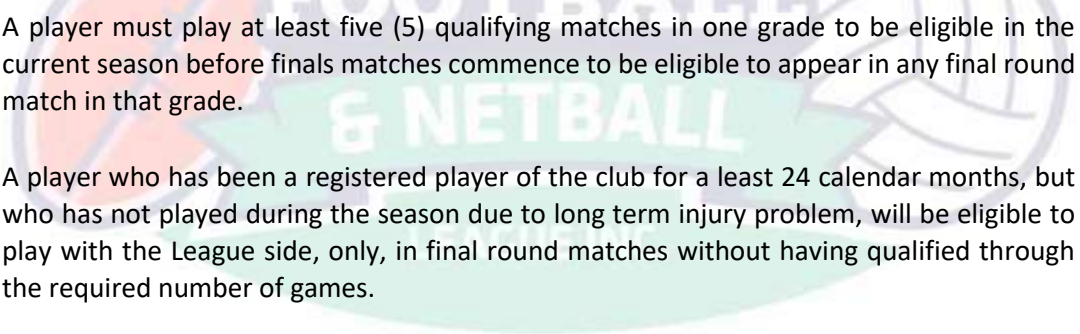
19.8 In the event of the match recommencing within the thirty (30) minute period, the Field Umpire shall start play from where the match ceased because of light failure.

19.9 In the event of reoccurring light failure after the match has recommenced, the same procedure will be followed and the home team authorised officer must decide on the appropriate course of action.

20. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS - SENIORS

20.1 A player who wishes to participate in final round matches may do so, provided he is qualified under the following conditions:

League/Reserves:

- 
- (a) A player must play at least five (5) qualifying matches in one grade to be eligible in the current season before finals matches commence to be eligible to appear in any final round match in that grade.
 - (b) A player who has been a registered player of the club for a least 24 calendar months, but who has not played during the season due to long term injury problem, will be eligible to play with the League side, only, in final round matches without having qualified through the required number of games.
 - (c) A player qualified in a lower grade of the Peel Football and Netball League Inc. may play in any higher-grade finals match.
 - (d) A player who takes part in a finals match of a higher grade shall be eligible to play in a lower grade match if the player concerned has played five (5) lower grade qualifying matches.
 - (e) When a Club has league and reserves teams playing in a final on the same day, a player from a higher grade may play for the lower grade team provided the qualifying number of five (5) games has been played for the league team as per Clause (a).
 - (f) A WAFL registered player playing with a local club using a Match Day or Local Interchange Permit must have played a minimum of five (5) qualifying games with that Club during the season in the grade in which the player wishes to play.

21. ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS – COLTS

21.1 A player must play at least five (5) qualifying matches in the current season before finals matches commence to be eligible to appear in any final round match in that grade.

21.2 A player who takes part in a finals match of a higher grade shall be eligible to play in a Colts match if the player concerned has played five (5) Colt grade qualifying matches.

21.3 To qualify for finals a WAFL player playing under Local Interchange Permit Type 2 registration must have played a minimum of five (5) qualifying games with a club in the current season in the grade in which the player wishes to play.

22 COMPETITION

22.1 The PFNL shall keep a premiership table for each grade, showing the team, games won, games drawn, games lost, points scored, points scored against, percentage and premiership points determined as follows: -

- Four (4) points for each winning game;
- Two (2) points for each drawn game;
- Four (4) points for each game won on forfeit; and
- Nil points for each loss.

22.2 The final round of games in each grade shall consist of six games to be played by the top five (if seven clubs top four) teams in each grade.

22.3 Final round matches shall be played as follows for top five: -

- (i) Elimination Final - the fourth team shall play the fifth team.
- (ii) Qualifying Final - the second team shall play the third team.
- (iii) First Semi-Final - the loser of (ii) shall play the winner of (i).
- (iv) Second Semi-Final - the first team shall play the winner of (ii).
- (v) Preliminary Final - the loser of (iv) shall play with winner of (iii)
- (vi) Grand Final - the winner of (iv) shall play the winner of (v).

The winner of such Grand Final match shall be premiers for that season.

23 DRAWN MATCHES IN FINAL ROUNDS

23.1 There shall be no drawn match result in finals matches. All games will be decided "by 2 x 5 minutes" periods of extra time. If the scores are level after the completion of the first two periods of extra time, then a second two periods will be played. This will continue until a result is reached.

23.2 In a final round match where the score is level at the elapsed time, the timekeepers shall sound the siren. The goal umpires shall consult with each other as to the correct score and confirm to the field umpires that the scores are level and signal to the timekeepers that the scores are correct.

23.3 On receiving confirmation that the scores are level, the field umpires shall advise both captains that two additional 5-minute periods, with time on for the League matches, shall be played.

23.4 The interval between the siren to conclude the fourth quarter and the commencement of the first period of additional time shall be six (6) minutes. Coaches shall be permitted to address teams during this period and other club staff entitled to enter the arena at the intervals may also attend their team. After the first period of additional time, teams shall immediately change ends. Coaches and other club staff SHALL NOT be permitted to enter the arena.

24. REPORTS, HEARINGS AND SUSPENSIONS

24.1 Umpires referring charges against players shall do so in accordance with and shall otherwise comply with the Laws of Australian Football.

24.2 Umpires may also refer charges against clubs, coaches, or other officials of any club in respect of matters arising out of the course of any game and in relation thereto, shall so far as possible follow the same procedure as in the case of charges against players.

24.3 After the completion of a match, at the umpires' convenience, the Team Managers are to attend the umpires' room for "all clear" or notification of any charge to be laid against an official or player.

24.4 – Following informing the Team Managers, Umpires will be required to complete Officials HQ online proforma to lodge reportable offence information with the competition. Umpires will also be required to forward any further information to the competition by no later than 9am Monday.

24.5 – On Monday, the PFNL Match Review Panel will meet to discuss reporting offences from the weekend. Following that meeting, the General Manager Operations will notify the club/s of the MRP outcome in writing by no later than 5pm unless a delay has occurred. In which case, club/s will be notified of such delay.

24.6 – Clubs will have to 12pm Tuesday to inform the PFNL of acceptance, or intent to challenge MRP outcome. When acceptance occurs, the PFNL will forward an official outcome letter to the reported player's club. If a club informs their intent to challenge the MRP outcome, the PFNL will notify the WAFC Independent Tribunal of a case required to be heard. General Manager Operations will inform clubs of date/time once notified by the WAFC.

24.7 – The WAFC will convene a tribunal hearing for Wednesday or Thursday night depending on their case load. This hearing will be heard via Microsoft Teams software with an online link provided to clubs in advance of the hearing date/ time.

24.8 – Any reported player/official who wishes to plead NOT GUILTY must appear via Microsoft Teams (online) at their club for the hearing with their advocate. Clubs can log into meetings with player/official and their advocate at their clubrooms. A player/official who is UNABLE to attend online at the clubrooms must seek prior approval from the WAFC independent tribunal to undertake the hearing from elsewhere.

25 TRIBUNAL HEARINGS

25.1 All tribunal hearings will be heard via the WAFC Community Football Tribunal which operates as per the WAFC Community Football Tribunal Guidelines updated each year.

The tribunal will hear a charge for which a Player or Official has pleaded not guilty, or has pleaded guilty to a lesser charge.

The tribunal may find the Player or Official guilty of the original charge, a lesser charge, or not guilty of any charge.

The tribunal will determine the appropriate sanction within the Standard Range of Penalties for the Reportable Offence if it finds the player guilty of a Reportable Offence.

Unless requested for attendance by the Tribunal Chairman, Umpires or Victims may provide evidence prior to the Tribunal hearings, however must be available to be contacted by the Tribunal Chairman during the hearing period if required.

Players, Officials and Umpires are permitted to be accompanied by an advocate, however this advocate may not be a legal practitioner and is only to act in the role of providing support. An advocate will not be asked to provide evidence.

25.2 A Tribunal shall exercise the following functions:

- hear all charges lodged by umpires referred to it by the Board;
- hear all charges against clubs, players and officials and any other matters referred to it by the Board.

25.3 Re-open or re-hear any matter previously dealt with by the Tribunal and decide if in its discretion such step is justified.

25.4 Impose such penalties or fines authorised by these By Laws as it deems fit, or it may give a caution.

25.5 The Tribunal decision shall be final and received without comment.

25.6 The General Manager shall in all cases satisfy himself that the relevant By Laws have been complied with before submitting a protest, charge or other matter for the hearing and determination of a Tribunal on behalf of the Board.

25.7 A Tribunal shall meet to consider any matter at a time convenient to it and the parties involved but such a meeting shall be held within a reasonable time prior to the next fixtured game, as determined by the Board of Directors.

25.8 The Tribunal meetings shall be held at a venue selected by the Board of Directors.

25.9 A Tribunal meeting may be adjourned to another time and place, due notice of which shall be given to all parties involved.

25.10 An umpire who lodges a charge against any player or official of a club shall be present at the Tribunal hearing of that charge.

25.11 Whenever a charge is lodged by a boundary or goal umpire the field umpire officiating in that sector of the ground in which the offence is alleged to have taken place shall attend the Tribunal Hearing unless the Tribunal decides otherwise.

25.12 Any player or official of any club against whom a charge has been lodged shall attend at the Tribunal hearing. Should the player or official not attend, the club shall incur a penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100) and the player shall be automatically suspended until he appears before the Tribunal. In the case of an official, he shall be dealt with by the Board who shall determine a penalty.

25.13 The Tribunal may, of its own volition or at the request of any party to a matter before it, require the attendance at a Tribunal hearing of any player or official of a club or any umpire, and such player, official or umpire shall attend as required.

25.14 Any person required to attend at a Tribunal hearing shall give evidence if required by the Tribunal.

25.15 Players, officials or umpires concerned in any matter before the Tribunal shall be accompanied by a club Advocate who shall only be entitled to give character reference. Should the Advocate not attend, the club shall incur a penalty of fifty (\$50) dollars. Such Advocate shall not be a legal practitioner.

25.16 A Tribunal may for its purposes, rely on such evidence as it thinks fit, and may admit PFNL Statutory Declarations and other writings as well as verbal evidence. Should a PFNL Statutory Declaration be submitted, it must be witnessed by an appropriate qualified person other than a club official, and contain a telephone number for contact if required by Tribunal Chairman.

25.17 Any person charged with an offence, or does not accept a prescribed penalty offered, MUST attend the Tribunal.

25.18 Reporting umpires, advocates and witnesses must attend the Tribunal.

25.19 PFNL Statutory Declarations may only be submitted by persons offended against, umpires, and witnesses, as a last resort, if the attendance is not possible, due to employment commitments or medical reasons. The Statutory Declaration must include a contact telephone number and that person available for contact about the hearing.

25.20 PFNL Statutory Declarations may only be submitted upon approval by the General Manager and acceptance by the Tribunal. They must be submitted on the appropriate PFNL form FULLY COMPLETED, with a detailed account of the incident.

25.21 No member of the Tribunal may pre-view a video tape or film of instances affecting a charge prior to the hearing of the case. Taped or filmed programs must not be screened privately before the hearing, except at the request of the Chairman of the Tribunal. Independent or club videos will not be accepted unless SANCTIONED by the Board or General Manager prior to the game being played.

25.22 Any player found guilty by the Tribunal or accepted the prescribed penalty of an offence, will not be eligible to win a "Fairest and Best" award for that season nor will he be considered for selection in any representative PFNL team while under suspension.

25.23 A player who has been suspended shall be ineligible to play or participate in any grade of the PFNL Competition or in any other match conducted by any other controlling body.

25.24 A Player or Official who has accumulated a total of sixteen (16) weeks or more suspension because of on-field discretions is subject to the AFL Deregistration Policy. This information is covered in the AFL Deregistration Policy.

This is an Australian Football League (AFL) Deregistration Policy and applies to State Bodies. State Body means the governing State and Territory football bodies affiliated to the AFL which includes the West Australian Football Commission and their affiliated Leagues and Clubs.

25.25 Any person who:

- fails to attend as required and does not show good cause for such failure: or
- any person who as required by these By Laws attends a Tribunal hearing but refuses to answer any question during the hearing and does not show good cause for such refusal; or
- any person who as required by these By Laws attends a Tribunal hearing and when giving evidence at the hearing, wilfully endeavours to mislead the Tribunal; or
- Any person who attends a Tribunal hearing of a Tribunal and acts in an unseemly manner;

shall be deemed to be guilty of misconduct and shall thereupon be liable to suspension or disqualification as a player or official or both or to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) as the Tribunal may determine.

26 APPEALS AGAINST SEVERITY OF PENALTY

26.1 Appeals against the severity of penalties imposed by the Tribunal may be made to the General Manager by notice in writing on club letterhead, with reasons and explanations for the appeal, from the president of the club against whom or whose player or official the penalty was imposed. Such appeal must be lodged within seventy-two hours (72 hours) of the decision by the Tribunal and accompanied by a three hundred-dollar (\$300) bond. The appeal is heard by an Appeals Board comprising of the League's appointed Tribunal Chairman and Tribunal personnel plus a Director from the Board who was not involved in the initial Tribunal hearing.

27 OFFENCES, PENALTIES & JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

27.1 The Board of Directors may by resolution from time to time declare any acts or omissions by players, officials or clubs to be offences under these By Laws and may also declare the penalty for such offences.

27.2 Where no specific penalty is prescribed in respect of any offence under these By Laws, or under the laws of the game, the Tribunal may impose a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or disqualification for such person as it deems fit, or both.

27.3 Clubs of the PFNL shall be held responsible for the conduct and the behaviour of their members at matches and shall be liable to any penalty imposed by the Board and shall include any misconduct or misbehaviour by their members at and/or during such matches, which in the opinion of the Board is detrimental to the image of the PFNL.

27.4 Any player or official who acts or conducts himself in a manner prejudicial to the good order, management, control and administration of the PFNL commits an offence under these By Laws,

shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and in the case of a player, disqualified from playing during such time as deems fit or, in the case of an official in any capacity either, permanently or during such time as determined.

27.5 Any coach or official of a club who confronts and/or abuses any umpire, or publicly comments on an umpire's performance during or after a match shall be liable for a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500).

27.6 While any fine imposed on a player or official under these By Laws remains unpaid, that person shall not be eligible to play or participate in any match.

27.7 A club, official or player shall be deemed to be in default if any fine is not paid within fourteen days after notice has been sent to the club or player by the General Manager.

27.8 Any club or official making any protest or charge against another club, player, official or member of another club, or reporting any infringement of these By Laws, shall forward the same with particulars in writing to the General Manager together with the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200) within 72 hours after the date upon which the incident occurred (the day of the occurrence and Sunday, if falling therein shall each count as one of the days) or such further time as the Board in their absolute discretion may allow.

27.9 Any protest or charge under this rule, shall be dealt with as determined by the Board in such manner as they in their absolute discretion consider necessary and proper, including referral to an Investigation Officer. The said sum of two hundred dollars (\$200) shall be forfeited to the PFNL upon dismissal of the protest or charge, or it is determined the protest or charge was frivolous or groundless but shall be refunded if the protest or charge is upheld or the Board in their absolute discretion consider proper. Any club lodging a protest or charge must be currently financial and the club of any player lodging a protest or charge must be currently financial.

27.10 The General Manager will advise the club that a charge has been lodged and a copy of the charge will be forwarded to them.

27.11 Any umpire referring a charge against a player or official for any offence in addition to the offences prescribed under the laws of the game, must do so within the time and in the manner prescribed by By-law 27.8 except that such umpire shall not be required to deposit the fee of two hundred dollars (\$200).

27.12 The General Manager shall satisfy himself in all cases that the provisions of this by-law have been complied with before submitting any complaint to the Tribunal.

28 DEFAULT OF PLAYERS & CLUBS

28.1 If any club fails to pay any annual fees, contribution, call, fine or other payment for which the club is liable under these By Laws within the time prescribed, or by the closure of the PFNL financial year, the club shall be deemed to be unfinancial and no nomination or re-nomination shall be accepted for the following season.

28.2 An unfinancial club shall lose its representation to the Football Sub-committee until they shall have made the payment. If a resolution be carried by a majority of the whole Sub-

committee, in favour of suspension, the club may be suspended from the PFNL unless a satisfactory explanation of the default is given to the Board.

28.3 Any club that suspends or expels a player, official or member from its club shall forward to the General Manager within seven days, the name of that person together with particulars of the offence for which he/she was suspended/expelled.

29. INVESTIGATION OFFICER

29.1 When the Tribunal or Directors deem it necessary that further investigation is required, the Board of Directors will appoint an Investigation Officer to carry out a thorough investigation and report back to the Board of Directors.

29.2 The Investigating Officer shall investigate all charges or protests referred to it by the Board of Directors, and to conduct interviews with all witnesses to the incident, charge or protest.

29.3 Members of the Board of Directors may refer charges against players, clubs, coaches or other officials of any club in respect of matters arising out of or during any game. Such reports shall follow the same procedure as in the case of charges referred by umpires.

30. LIQUOR LICENCES

30.1 Each club that has licensed premises or area, must advise the PFNL of their hours of trading and forward a copy of their Licence. This information must be lodged with the General Manager before the first qualifying match in each year.

31. PAID PLAYER POLICY

DEFINITION

Following the introduction of the WACFL paid Player Rules & Regulations in 2017 a Paid Player Payment is categorised as:

- Football Match Payments;
- Approved Travel Payments;
- Approved Coaching Payments (for Playing Coaches);
- Approved Relocation Payments;
- After Match Best Player Awards;
- Fairest and Best Awards;

WACFL defines a paid player as any WACFL registered player that receives any payment for playing football or participating in a football club.

The only transfer of money, goods or services able to sit outside of the term “Player Payment” is post-match best player awards, approved travel payments, approved coaching payments, club meals and insurance upgrades for players.

or the point of the WACFL’s Paid Player Rules & Regulations, all other transfers of money, goods or services will be considered player payments and therefore must be included in any match and player calculations.

31.1 No WACFL Team is to pay out a combined total of greater than \$3,000 in total player payments in any given match unless Rules & Regulations 4.4(b), 4.4(c) and 4.4(d) can be applied, in which case the amount may increase by that applied amount.

31.2 No WACFL Club is to pay a player a 'Sign on Fee' or provide any subsidiary benefits (outside of employment, relocation costs and match fees) to any player. Any relocation costs must be provided to the League for tracking and approval. Insurance provided to players specifically adding protection around the playing of football is deemed to be outside of the WACFL Paid Player Rules & Regulations and is allowed.

31.2.1 Clubs can make reimbursement to a player to for any medical gap's expenses associated with an injury sustained whilst playing football. Clubs are required to keep copies of the invoices (such as Medicare statements) that clearly identify the insurance gap for which reimbursement payments are being made.

31.3 The maximum match payment a player can receive is \$500 per match. A maximum amount of \$150 per match is able to be paid to a Reserves grade player for any one match to help with travel costs. A player cannot receive a payment for more than one match on one weekend. A player who receives a payment for a reserves match is unable to play in a League match on that weekend. Reserves Payments should be noted on the Paid Player Spreadsheet.

31.3.1 Flights to and from matches are exempt from Paid Player Rules & Regulations.

31.4 The only possible exceptions to Rules & Regulations 4.3 are as follows:

- a) Each WACFL Club is allowed to pay one 'Marquee Player' up to \$1,000 per match provided the player meets the listed criteria (see Rules & Regulations 4.8).
- b) Each WACFL Club is allowed to pay a 'one off' undisclosed match payment to a celebrity footballer who transfers in for one match to promote football. This payment will sit outside of the salary cap. This player must have played AFL and this payment must be approved by the League prior to him playing.
- c) A playing coach is allowed to receive up to \$1,000 per match. A maximum of \$500 of this amount can sit outside of the total match ceiling listed in Rules & Regulations 4.1.
- d) A player can qualify to receive a travel fee for matches in which the player travels greater than 200km (return) from their suburb of residence to attend. Players, upon request, must be able to demonstrate that they are residing at the address provided. This payment must be approved by the WACFL via a Travel Payment Application Form prior to any payment being made. Payments must be recorded on the WACFL's Paid Player Spreadsheet.

The following payment schedule is applicable.

Distance (km's return)	\$ Amount Applicable
200km - 299km	\$100
300km - 399km	\$150
400km - 499km	\$200
500km +	\$250

- e) A Marquee Player that is also a playing coach is allowed to receive up to \$1,500 per match, \$500 of which can sit outside of the total match ceiling as per Rules & Regulations 4.4 (c).

31.5 Any WACFL Club paying individuals match payments relating to Country Football must ensure payments are legally compliant and all player payments must be recorded on the WACFL's Paid Player Spreadsheet for auditing purposes. For all WACFL Clubs paying players outside of Best Player

Awards, the following paperwork must be supplied by the club directly to the WACFL where appropriate:

- 31.5.1 All Club Presidents must submit to the League (prior to the start of the season) a signed Club Paid Player Declaration as per the WACFL's Club Paid Player Declaration paperwork.
- 31.5.2 All proposed Marquee Player payments must be submitted to the WACFL for approval using the WACFL Marquee Player Approval form.
- 31.5.3 All proposed Playing Coach payments must be submitted to the WACFL for approval using the WACFL Playing Coach Approval form.
- 31.5.4 All proposed Travel payments must be submitted to the WACFL for approval using the WACFL Travel Payment Approval form.
- 31.5.5 All Clubs making player payments must submit a completed WACFL Paid Player Spreadsheet to the WACFL no later than 48 hours after every game.

31.6 No WACFL Club is to pay out greater than \$500 in total player prize money (or goods to the value of) for any given match. A player is unable to receive greater than \$100 in prize money (or goods or services to the value of) per match. All prizes must be recorded in the WACFL's Paid Player Spreadsheet. A maximum amount of \$1,000 can be paid out to a Club Best and Fairest winner, with a maximum of \$500 for a Runner Up and a maximum of three more descending (<\$500) amounts allowed. No other ex gratia payments should be provided to players during or at the completion of the football season.

31.7 For Marquee Players and Player Coaches receiving greater than \$500 in payments per match, the Club must ensure the following conditions are met:

- a) The Marquee Player or Player Coach must have a signed Standard Playing Declaration lodged with the WACFL prior to three business days before the player participates in a sanctioned match.
- b) Payment to a Marquee Player does not alter Rules & Regulations 4.1.
- c) Application can be made for Coaches (that occasionally play) to fall outside of the salary cap provided they are not considered playing coaches, but occasionally play due to diminishing numbers. This application should be made through the WACFL and will be at the League's discretion.

31.8 For a player to qualify as a Marquee Player he must fill a minimum of one of the following criteria:

- a) Been on an AFL Club list (including Rookie List).
- b) Played a minimum of 50 State League (League grade) games.
- c) Have written approval from the WACFL based on elite performances in Country League and Representative achievements. This will be at the WACFL's discretion.

31.9 A League playing coach is the only player able to receive remuneration for coaching within the League team. A League Player is able to receive a maximum of \$100 per match (outside of the cap in 4.1) to assist with the coaching of any other team within that Club (capped at one player per team). This is subject to approval by the WACFL.

31.10 WACFL reserves the right to investigate any Ex-Gratia Payments (or services provided) made to a player, or his family, which it deems (or suspects) to have been made with the intention of circumventing the requirements of the Paid Player Rules & Regulations and in exchange for the

payment of playing in football matches for the Club. This includes payments made either by the Club or by a third party.

31.11 WACFL reserves the right to investigate any Club based Employment Payments made to a player, or his family, which it deems (or suspects) to be in exchange for the payment of playing in football matches for the Club rather than in exchange for the services rendered.

31.12 The WACFL Paid Player Rules & Regulations are all encompassing across all Affiliated Country Leagues. The individualisation of these Rules & Regulations to suit a specific League will only be valid should the League have first obtained the WACFL's approval.

INVESTIGATIONS

WACFL believes the Paid Player Rules & Regulations provide clarity around how much any player should be eligible to receive for playing in a WACFL match. Clubs that choose to make payment outside or around these limits will be deemed to have intentionally breached the Rules & Regulations and are subject to penalty as a result.

31.13 WACFL reserves the right to investigate Club financial activity including the auditing of Club accounts, paid player paperwork and interviewing of Club officials and players regarding player remuneration. There is also an expectation that Leagues will provide paid player paperwork (such as approvals granted) should this be requested as part of any investigation. Any such penalties handed down by the WACFL will be binding across affiliated Leagues and Clubs. Players or officials unable to participate in audit interviews will be stood down from participating in matches until such time as they are made available.

31.14 Each WACFL Club that pays players must be able to provide to the WACFL within 24 hours of being requested:

- a) An up-to-date WACFL's Paid Player database.
- b) Standard Playing Declaration for Marquee Players and/or Playing Coaches paid greater than \$500 per match.
- c) Club financial statements including bank statements.
- d) Written approval granted by the League for any claims under these Rules & Regulations for Marquee Players, Celebrity Players, Second Tier Coaching Payments and approved travel payments.

31.15 Information provided to the Investigator at the conclusion of a season may lead to penalty for future seasons.

31.16 The WACFL Investigator may summon any WACFL affiliated Player, League or Club Official as witness to player payment investigations. Following the investigation process, individuals may be requested to complete a Statutory Declaration confirming the findings (at the WACFL's discretion).

31.17 Individuals found to have not cooperated or acted dishonestly or deceitfully with the WACFL Investigators are liable to be banned from playing or participating in a WACFL competition for such time as the WACFL sees fit, whilst Clubs are liable to financial sanctions and loss of match points either in the current or future seasons.

31.18 For the sake of the policing of these Rules & Regulations, the assumption made from the WACFL Investigator is that they are '*reasonably satisfied*' on the basis of the information (and evidence) presented that a breach has or has not been made.

INVESTIGATIONS/INTEGRITY OFFICER

31.19 The WACFL appointed staff member may at any time investigate (formally or informally) any matter that may undermine the integrity of any WACFL competition including but not limited to alleged breaches of the WACFL Paid Player Rules & Regulations, Vilification and Player, Coach and Spectator Behaviour.

31.19.1 The WACFL appointed staff member shall have the authority to;

- a) Conduct investigations as he/she sees fit.
- b) Hear and determine matter of alleged breaches of the paid player Rules & Regulations.
- c) Hear all witnesses to the matter as he/she in their absolute discretion deems to be relevant and give such weight to the evidence he/she hears as he/she determines in their absolute discretion.
- d) Reopen any matter previously dealt with and determine accordingly.
- e) Issue a caution or impose penalties and or fines as he/she sees fit.
- f) Refer any matter to a tribunal or disciplinary committee.
- g) Compel any player or club official for interview.

31.19.2 Any decision of the WACFL appointed staff member may be subject to appeal in accordance with the WACFL Rules & Regulations.

INVESTIGATIONS PROCESS

31.20 A Club that receives official notification, via email and telephone, that it is requested to partake in an investigation will be provided with detail of the requested documentation and appropriate timelines in which documentation should be delivered and the investigation will take place.

31.21 Upon review of the requested Club documentation, WACFL will request the Club to arrange a series of interviews with requested players and officials within a period of the following seven (7) days.

31.22 It is required that requested players and officials will make themselves available to attend such sessions within the seven (7) day period unless extenuating circumstances can be proven. WACFL reserves the right to suspend (indefinitely) any Player or Official unable to attend a Paid Player hearing within a reasonable timeframe. There is a requirement that Players and/or Officials will cooperate with the processes of the Investigation, including the answering of questions directed to them concerning alleged payments or actions.

31.23 If the WACFL Investigator believes there are sufficient grounds to suspect a breach of Paid Player Rules & Regulations (following an investigation held in accordance with these rules), the WACFL Investigator shall make recommendation to the Executive Manager Country Football based on their findings.

PENALTIES

31.24 Non-complying Clubs, or Clubs which have not abided by the above Rules & Regulations, will receive possible penalties such as loss of match points from games in which they were proven to be non-compliant and monetary fines up to \$5,000. WACFL players who have been found to be forthcoming and cooperative with the Paid Player Investigation may be entitled to immunity from penalty under these Rules & Regulations.

- Clubs*: 1st Offence – Up to \$5,000 + Loss of Premiership Points
2nd Offence – Up to \$5,000 + Suspension from the League
- Players: 1st Offence – Up to 10 Weeks Suspension
2nd Offence – Up to Deregistration

*Penalties Post Finals

For Clubs that are unable to be penalised by a loss of match points in the immediate season, such a club will be liable for the loss of future premiership points and or a Club suspension up to a period of 12 months.

APPEALS

31.25 Any Club aggrieved by a finding or penalty imposed under the Investigatory Process may appeal against such finding and/or penalty directly to the WACFL Executive Manager in accordance with WACFL Rules & Regulations Rules & Regulation 11.1.

32. SPECTATOR MANAGEMENT POLICY

32.1 For all leagues and clubs throughout the WACFL, spectator management is a difficult task and can often become hard to manage. For this reason, the WACFL has introduced spectator management guidelines to give all leagues and clubs official channels to manage spectators and create a positive and inclusive game day environment.

32.2 As the lease holder of a venue each club has the right to refuse entry to patrons if you have sufficient evidence and have followed the correct procedure.

32.3 The WACFL Spectator Management process consists of a three-strike system with all strikes explained below:

- a **First Strike** – No official action is to be taken, this strike is a warning and explains the process to the offender.
- b **Second Strike** – A two game suspension from attending any matches that are sanctioned by the league hosting the game. If this suspension is ignored, it will progress to strike three.
- c **Strike Three** – A restraining order which will prevent the offender from attending any matches sanctioned by the league.

Game day environments are very important in building club culture and the WACFL wish for all games to be a family friendly atmosphere.

The documentation which can be used in this process is available below:

WACFL SPECTATOR MANAGEMENT POLICY STRIKE ONE

Page 30

WACFL SPECTATOR MANAGEMENT POLICY STRIKE TWO

Page 31

WACFL SPECTATOR MANAGEMENT POLICY STRIKE THREE

Page 32

WACFL SPECTATOR MANAGEMENT POLICY STRIKE ONE

Dear _____

Date: _____

Match: _____

Location: _____

Offence: ☐ Offensive ☐ Violent ☐ Threatening ☐ Intoxicated

With the support of the WACFL, we have introduced a new Supporter Behaviour Governance system. This involves a three-strike policy to ensure that game day environments are positive and provide a family friendly atmosphere.

As the League/Club holding the booking for the venue, we are responsible for the running of any events that occur whilst we hold the booking. As the holder of the booking it is within our rights to control who is allowed on the premises whilst the booking is in place.

We encourage all supporters to attend our matches and support their team, however we wish to keep these games family friendly and create an inviting environment for the whole community to enjoy.

You have been witnessed displaying poor conduct as indicated by the above ticked box. The purpose of this letter is to advise you that poor spectator behaviour will not be tolerated and you have now been given your first strike.

The first strike is considered a warning to you and we advise that you significantly improve your behaviour. If you are found to reoffend you will be issued with a second and potentially third strike with the penalties outlined below.

SECOND STRIKE – A two match suspension from attending club functions, which will ban you from attending any home games that the club is hosting.

THIRD STRIKE – The club will be proactive in implementing a restraining order on you making it illegal for you to attend (*Club Name*) matches. A third strike escalates this to a police matter.

We hope that you consider your actions and how they affect others in the future.

Please contact _____ if you have any other questions.

Signed _____

NAME _____

CLUB/LEAGUE NAME _____

WACFL SPECTATOR MANAGEMENT POLICY STRIKE TWO

Dear _____

Date: _____

Match: _____

Location: _____

Date of First Offence: _____

Offence: ☐ Offensive ☐ Violent ☐ Threatening ☐ Intoxicated

With the support of the WACFL, we have introduced a new Supporter Behaviour Governance system. This involves a three-strike policy to ensure that game day environments are positive and provide a family friendly atmosphere.

As the League/Club hold the booking for the venue, we are responsible for the running of any events that occur whilst we hold the booking. As the holder of the booking it is within our rights to control who is allowed on the premises whilst the booking is in place.

We encourage all supporters to attend our matches and support their team, however we wish to keep these games family friendly and create an inviting environment for the whole community to enjoy.

You have been witnessed displaying poor conduct as indicated by the above ticked box. The purpose of this letter is to advise you that this is the second time you have been witnessed displaying poor spectator behaviour and you have been issued with a second strike under the WACFL Spectator Management Policy.

You are therefore banned from attending the following two Club/League matches and won't be allowed on this venue until _____.

If you break this ban and attend a game whilst serving the suspension, it will be considered as your third strike and we will be proactive in taking out a restraining order which will prevent you from attending any home games for the remainder of the season.

We'd also like to make you aware that should you reoffend for the third time once you have completed your second-strike ban, the League/Club will implement a third strike, and will be proactive in issuing a restraining order against you, banning you from attending any matches for the remainder of the season and the League/Club facilities.

Please contact _____ if you have any other questions. Signed _____

NAME _____

CLUB/LEAGUE NAME _____

WACFL SPECTATOR MANAGEMENT POLICY STRIKE THREE

Dear _____

Date: _____

Match:

Location:

Date of First Offence: _____

Date _____ of _____ Second _____ Offence:

Offence: ☐ Offensive ☐ Violent ☐ Threatening ☐ Intoxicated

With the support of the WACFL, we have introduced a new Supporter Behaviour Governance system. This involves a three-strike policy to ensure that game day environments are positive and provide a family friendly atmosphere.

As the League/Club hold the booking for the venue, we are responsible for the running of any events that occur whilst we hold the booking. As the holder of the booking it is within our rights to control who is allowed on the premises whilst the booking is in place.

We encourage all supporters to attend our matches and support their team, however we wish to keep these games family friendly and create an inviting environment for the whole community to enjoy.

You have been witnessed displaying poor conduct as indicated by the above ticked box. The purpose of this letter is to advise you that this is the third time you have been witnessed displaying poor spectator behaviour and you have been issued with a third strike under the WACFL Spectator Management Policy.

You are therefore banned from attending Club/League matches for the remainder of the season.

The League/Club will be proactive in issuing a restraining order against you banning you from attending any matches for the remainder of the season and the League/Club facilities.

Please contact _____ if you have any other questions. Signed _____

NAME _____

CLUB/LEAGUE NAME _____

33. LIST OF FINES

(Please note all Fines listed below and referred to in the By-Laws will have GST added when Clubs are fined as they are currently GST Exclusive, except Melees which includes GST.)

FINE	AMOUNT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient ground markings (grounds must be clearly marked as per AFL Laws of the game) in white and the field umpires will report on the match Report regarding the quality of the markings. 	\$50 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Umpires not being attended to whilst the match is in progress (drinks) and escorted from the ground by an official of the home ground at game breaks. 	\$20 to \$50 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Umpires not being correctly attended to once matches are completed. 	\$20 to \$50 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late starting time to any match, including after normal game breaks. (Up to and including three minutes late starting) 	\$10 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over three minutes starting the match or after normal game breaks. 	\$50 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club jumpers having same number. 	\$20 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorrectly dressed players (shorts, socks, jumpers) (per player) +GST 	\$20 to \$50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ineligible players <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) First offence (ii) Subsequent offences 	\$200 + GST \$500 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late payment of affiliation fees to League by due date + GST 	\$50 to \$200
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No provision of Scoreboard Attendant 	\$20 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorrect attire of official runner, trainers or watercarriers + GST 	\$50 per person
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No club timekeeper 	\$10 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not using sponsor endorsed footballs for games (all grades) 	\$75 + GST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubs not being represented at Committee Meetings or compulsory Meetings, roadshows and workshops as defined by the Board. 	\$500 each offence

- Forfeiting a match \$50 - \$200 + GST
- Failure to pay umpire by designated time
GST \$100 - \$200 +
- Interchange paperwork not completed \$10 - \$30 + GST
- No appearance of reported player at Tribunal hearing \$100 + GST
- No appearance of advocate at Tribunal hearing \$50 - \$100 + GST
- Best players and goal scorers not supplied in PlayHQ by 10am Monday \$25 per team + GST
- Failure to provide the names and contact details of club officials and coaches
of all teams by required date \$100 + GST

MELEES

The definition of a melee is as contained in Section 17 of these by-laws.

Team accepts the set penalty:

Seniors (per team)

First offence	\$200 + GST
Second Offence	\$400 + GST
Third and subsequent offence during the year	\$500 + GST

Colts (per team)

First offence	\$100 + GST
Second Offence	\$300 + GST
Third and subsequent offences	\$500 + GST

If the team/s plead not guilty, and the charge is heard by the Tribunal, the following fines will be implemented if the charges are proven: \$800 + GST per team

(All Tribunal fines imposed will be a club fine; although the Tribunal may recommend a team fine.)

Item 34

Appendix 'A': Final requirements By-Law 9.1.

All clubs are to fully acknowledge that:

1. They are the hosts for the Peel Football & Netball League Inc.
2. Every hosting Club is to promote the sponsors of the Peel Football & Netball League Inc. on the day of the final as required. The Leagues Finals Sponsor is "TBC".
3. All host club members are to access their club through the entry gate.
4. Each host club should supply a list of up to 12 volunteers or your club can use the current Gate Passes for free entry to their ground on the day they host their final.
5. The Peel Football & Netball League Inc. will maintain control of all gate takings and budget sales for all the finals.
6. Change rooms for the Finals apart from the Grand Finals to be allocated by the host Club and clearly designated.

Host Clubs are to:

1. Supply the necessary **Security guards** for the **licensed area** in accordance with the Liquor Licence requirements, as the Leagues Security Guards are for around the ground and gate. Clubs need to adhere to all liquor licence requirements.
2. Oval is inspected and cleared of all rubbish and debris.
3. Oval grass is cut and oval is clearly marked to specification with the spectator line at least (2) two metres outside the boundary line and four (4) to six (6) metres behind the goals if no arena fence.
4. White lines or roped area for players to move from the change rooms onto the arena. Needs to be kept clear of spectators.
5. White lines in front of coach's boxes, which needs to be behind the spectator line.
6. Cones for interchange areas.
7. Remark centre circles and goal squares between games on the day if required.
8. Supply two (2) capable scoreboard attendants per game.
9. Supply secure area for Radio Broadcast including Phone Line & Power.
10. Adequate goal post padding, as per AFL Laws of the Game.
11. Adequate change rooms facilities for competing teams and umpires.
12. Adequate facilities for Spectators, toilets etc.
13. Hot water showers supplied to competing teams and umpires.
14. Ice to be supplied to competing clubs and umpires as requested by same.
15. Bench areas for competing clubs are fenced off from spectators.
16. First Aid post provided.
17. Stretcher available for use by competing clubs.
18. Suitable precautions taken to ensure safety of all players, spectators and umpires.
19. Due to crowd numbers, Canteen Facilities need to cater for increased numbers. Use of Coffee Vans, Food Vans etc. are recommended.
20. Suitable Parking for disabled and support staff of Teams.
21. Acceptable Spectator Management Process in place.

22. All Club Members, Coaches, Officials, Trainers and Runners to abide by the Code of Conduct, otherwise they are subject to fines etc. under Clauses 27.3, 27.4 & 27.5 which relates to the Offences. Coaches need to be made aware of Clause 27.5.

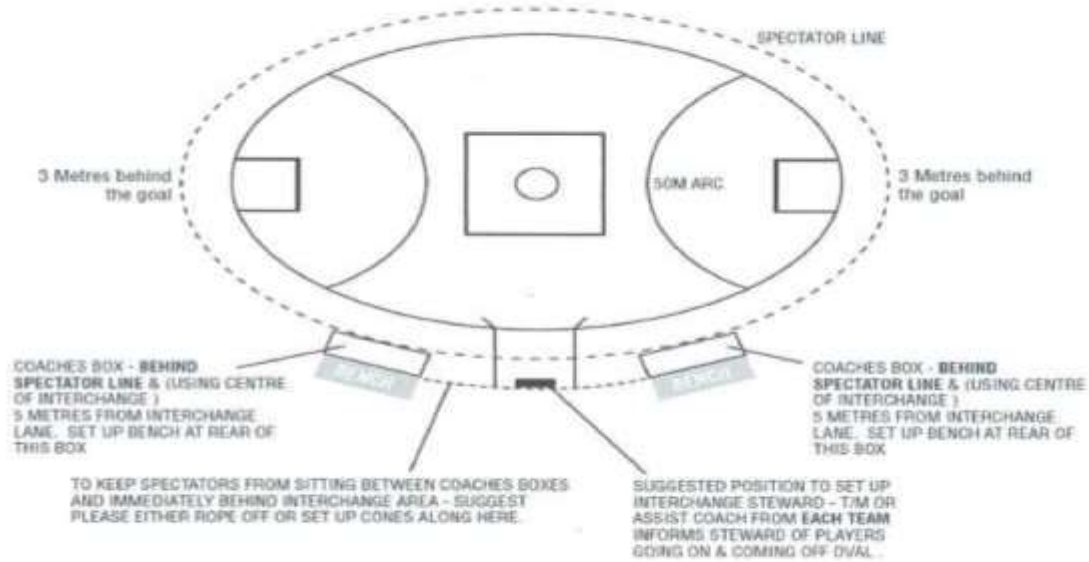
Peel Football & Netball League Inc. to supply:

1. Gatekeepers (Peel Netball)
2. Gate Security (Total Security)
3. St John First Aid Post
4. Timekeepers
5. Umpires (PFUA)
6. Footballs
7. Budget Sellers (If applicable)
8. Grounds Manager



Coaching Box Diagram-dimension and placement

PEEL FOOTBALL AND NETBALL LEAGUE INC.





2023 PEEL FOOTBALL AND NETBALL LEAGUE INC.

FOOTBALL PLAYER POINT POLICY

AIM:

- To introduce a system which will encourage clubs to foster the promotion and development of the young local players, but still provide clubs with the option of recruiting experienced players from outside the League.
- To provide an incentive for clubs to develop loyalty from recruited players to the club.
- To encourage players to return to their club of origin.

OPERATION:

The Player Points will be allocated to all new players as their transfer/new registration is approved and will be allocated according to the level of competition the player has been involved in, as outlined in the following. Each player's Player Points will be available through the PlayHQ.

Each team will operate with a points ceiling of 33, and team sheets for the league match must contain the full 22 players.

Any transgression against this policy will be regarded as playing ineligible players and penalised in accordance with By-law 4.2 and 4.3.

If any club considers that the points allocated to a player is inappropriate, they can submit an appeal to the League General Manager as soon as they have been advised of his points. The Football Director and General Manager will be responsible for confirming the correct allocation of points.

All Player Point allocations will be deemed as final once the transfer window closes (June 30th), with any allocation to stand for the remainder of that season.

LOYALTY CREDIT:

Each player allocated a point above one (1) for each consecutive season he plays, and remains at his registered club until it reduces to the minimum one point. It is the responsibility of each club to advise the General Manager of any such player who is remaining at their club and entitled to the "loyalty point reduction".

A loyalty credit of one (1) point will apply if a player has spent three or more consecutive years at a PFNL Club in the previous five years when transferring back, where they have played 5+ games in a season.

“CLUB OF ORIGIN” = 1 POINT

Players who begin their football career at the club (accepted as their “club of origin”) and are registered with their “club of origin” in the current season. If a player has spent five consecutive years with another junior club after the primary “club of origin” this also will be accepted as their “club of origin”.

This will include any player who has played elsewhere at any level and returns to play with his “club of origin”.

In the case of a player who has played with two or more “junior” clubs at a level below PFNL Colts grade, he will be allocated one point if he returns to play with the club that cleared him to any State League Club (WAFL, SANFL, TSL-Tas, NTFL, VSFL).

The player will also be allocated one point should he return to play with his original “club of origin”.

PLAYERS ON PERMIT (CLUB OF ORIGIN) = 1 POINT

Players playing on “permit” - i.e., either Level 1 (Match Day) or Level 2 (Local Interchange).

INACTIVE PLAYERS = 1 POINT

“Inactive” – i.e., players who have not played at any level of competitive football for twenty-four (24) completed calendar months.

COMMUNITY FOOTBALL PLAYERS (NOT PFNL) = 2 POINTS

Players who are not classified as coming from their “club of origin” and who come from other country or metropolitan clubs either intra or interstate, classified as a Community Football Club.

STATE COMPETITION PLAYERS (Reserves and Colts) = 3 POINTS

Players except those listed above under “club of origin” and who have played with a State League Club (WAFL, SANFL, TSL-Tas, NTFL, VSFL **+10 games in the previous three (3) years**) below the club league level – i.e., Reserves or Colts.

STATE COMPETITION PLAYERS (League) = 4 POINTS

Players except those listed above under “Club of Origin” who have played with a State League Club (WAFL, SANFL, TSL-Tas, NTFL, VSFL **+10 games in the previous three (3) years**) at the club league level, within the previous three (3) years. Otherwise, the points will be allocated in accordance with their playing career since retiring from the State League Club.

AFL PLAYERS = 5 POINTS

Players who have been on an AFL list (including a “rookie”) during the previous five (5) years **who has played 1+ game in the previous five (5) years**. Otherwise, the points will be allocated in accordance with their playing career since retiring from the AFL.

PLAYERS TRANSFERING WITHIN THE PEEL FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

For players aged 19 or under in the year of playing who transfer from their PFNL “club of origin”, either junior or senior, to another PFNL club will be allocated two (2) points.

Players over the age of 19 who transfer from their PFNL club of origin, either junior or senior, to another PFNL Club, will be allocated three (3) points. This still applies if a player transfers back to another PFNL club and has not played 5 games in the current season at the other Association/League.

No season due to COVID or similar scenarios: If a player remains registered with their club and chooses to play under a permit at another Association/League the Loyalty point will apply.

