



MOSS VALE FOOTBALL CLUB INC.

JUNIOR SUMMER SOCCER COMPETITION

2024 COMPETITION RULES

1. OBJECTIVES:

To facilitate the enjoyment & recreational benefits of modified soccer in a relaxed social and fun atmosphere for all children in the community aged between 5 and 14 years of age.

2. GOVERNANCE:

- 2.1 These rules shall cover the Junior Summer Soccer Competition (the "Competition") conducted by the Moss Vale Football Club Inc (MVFC) with the approval of the Highlands Soccer Association (HSA).
- 2.2 The Moss Vale Football Club will appoint a Competition Committee to administer the Competition on behalf of the Club.
- 2.3 These competition rules and regulations are subject to alteration as required, by a simple majority vote of the Competition Committee.
- 2.4 Any matters not included in the rules and regulations must be referred to the Competition Committee, whose decision shall be final.
- 2.5 Moss Vale Football Club reserves the right to:
 - (a) refuse admission of a team into the Competition; or
 - (b) refuse admission of a player into the Competition.
- 2.6 Moss Vale Football Club reserves the right to:
 - (a) suspend or disqualify a team from the Competition subject to the Competition Rules;
 - (b) suspend or disqualify a player from the Competition subject to the Competition Rules.

3. **VENUE:** Church Rd playing fields, Moss Vale

4. **COMPETITION DAY:** Wednesday

5. **TIME SLOTS:** Nominally 5.00pm, 5.45pm, 6.30pm

6. COMPETITION DATES (subject to adjustment)

October 16th – December 18th 2024 10 matches (max).

7. COMPETITION DIVISIONS

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|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5-7 yrs | Boys/Girls mixed competition. Minimum age is 5 years prior to December 31, 2024. Maximum age is 7 years at December 31, 2024. |
| 8-9 yrs | Boys/Girls mixed competition. Minimum age is 8 years prior to December 31, 2024. Maximum age is 9 years at December 31, 2024. |
| 10-11 yrs | Boys/Girls mixed competition. Minimum age is 10 years prior to December 31, 2024. Maximum age is 11 years at December 31, 2024. |
| 12-14 yrs | Boys/Girls mixed competition. Minimum age is 12 years prior to December 31, 2024. Maximum age is 14 years at December 31, 2024. |

Alterations to age group grades and combinations of above divisions is possible if there are not sufficient player numbers to make a stand alone age competition.

NOTE: Teams containing 3 or more Representative players may be placed in an age group above their registered playing age.

8. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- (a) The competition size in terms of the total number of participating teams and players is limited. Registration is on a “first come - first in” basis for both teams and players that have completed all registration forms and paid all registration fees in full. **Part payment of these fees does not guarantee entry to this competition**
- (b) Each team applying to play in the Competition must complete and submit a Team Registration Form to summer@mvsc.org.au
- (c) Each individual player applying to play in the Competition must register via the PlayFootball system. The registration of an amateur Player is effective from the date the individual is made active by the MVFC within the national online registration system.
- (d) Submitting a registration form is a request for a place in the Competition. It does not guarantee a place in the Competition.
- (e) All player registrations must be submitted with full payment. No person will be registered, nor will they be permitted to play, until that person's registration fees are paid in full.
- (f) Players can register in one team only.
- (g) In the event that a team's or player's registration application is unsuccessful, the payment submitted at the time of application will be refunded.

9. REGISTRATION FEES

Junior player registration fees for summer soccer are \$65 per player.

No additional fees, weekly or otherwise, are payable.

Note: Juniors Accident Support levies do not include any income protection. The full adult (senior) insurance levy must be paid if junior players require the income protection cover offered in the Accident Support Program.

Registration fees are to be paid by credit card as part of the on-line registration process.

10. CODE OF CONDUCT

All players, coaches, managers & team officials, and referees, are required & expected to abide by the FFA National 'Code Of Conduct' which is available on line at www.footballaustralia.com.au.

11. BALLS

The following sizes are applicable to the different age grades:

Grade	Size
U10 to U14 inclusive	4
U9 and under	3

12. MATCH FORMAT

Grade	Format
U8 to U14 inclusive	6 v 6 (including goal keeper)
U7 and under	4 v 4 (in compliance with FFA MiniRoo Football Regulations)

For age groups 5-7 yrs the following principles of FFA MiniRoo Football shall be applied:

- 4 v 4 format
- No competition tables or points
- No finals series

For age groups 8-9 yrs and 10-11 the following principles of FFA MiniRoo Football shall be applied:

- No competition tables or points
- No finals series

Competitions with points and finals series **may** be included for 12-14 yr players.

13. MATCH DURATION

Grade	Minimum Time
U10 to U14 inclusive	Two twenty (20) minute halves
U8 & U9	Two fifteen (15) minute halves
U6 & U7	Two fifteen (15) minute halves

14. COMPETITION RULES

14.1 Each team must have a designated contact who will be the primary point of contact for all team correspondence from MVFC.

14.2 Any team found playing or to have played an unregistered or disqualified player will be deemed to have forfeited the match.

- 14.3 Following the closing date for team nominations in each grade, the committee shall determine suitable competitions for the season. No late entries will be permitted unless they can replace a bye in the draw.
- 14.4 Depending on the number of teams nominating in each division, the Competition Committee shall determine the number of rounds in each competition. Full rounds need not be played.
- 14.5 Where possible the Competition Committee will conduct competitions to best accommodate the number of teams nominated.
- 14.6 In the event of the withdrawal of any teams before the conclusion of the competition, all points previously allocated in matches in which they have taken part shall be deleted and the goals for and against adjusted accordingly.
- 14.7 Teams that withdraw from the competition will forfeit their player registration fees. Further penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the Competition Committee.

15. TEAM SHEETS

Before the start of play each team manager shall ensure all players have printed their name on the team sheet, and also initialled next to their printed name. If a player is not listed on the team sheet the team manager will add their name.

For U12-U14 games referees will

1. Collect completed match team sheets from the canteen area just prior to the match kick-off time.
2. Finalise the team sheet by ensuring the correct team scores, goal scorers and referee signature is written on the team sheet before then return it to the canteen. It is each team manager's responsibility to check the card to ensure the result of the game has been recorded correctly before the Referee returns the completed team sheet.

16. PROTESTS/DISPUTES

A protest/dispute may be lodged on any matter relating to or arising out of the competition. Protests may be lodged on the competition day on which they occur. All protests/disputes will be heard by the competition committee whose decision on the matter shall be final. A decision will be made on the day of protest whenever possible.

20. WET WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather conditions, a decision will not be made until it is clearly evident to the competition committee that conditions are unsuitable for play. Wherever possible, team contacts will be advised as soon as possible when matches are cancelled via an email or mobile phone SMS text.

If team contacts have not received notification of cancellations due to weather conditions, then **assume all games will be played as scheduled.**

In the event of matches commencing and later games from the same division being washed out, the complete round for affected divisions will be declared null and void.

22. LAWS OF THE GAME

LAW 1 The existing fields at the Church Road Soccer Fields will be used for this competition.

LAW 2 The number of registered players for each team is listed in the table below and is dependent on the format being played.

Grade	Registered Players	Minimum Players
U8 to U14 inclusive	Min 8 – Max 11	Three (3) plus the goalkeeper. If four (4) players are not present within five (5) minutes of the advised kick off time, a forfeit will result.
U7 and under	Min 5 – Max 7	Three (3)

Teams can borrow players from other teams in their competition to make up the minimum numbers to play.

LAW 4 There will be unlimited interchange and no suspension of play whilst this takes place. Interchange requires the player to have left the field prior to the new player entering the field of play. Interchange for both teams must occur on the same sideline, within 5 metres of where the halfway line intersects the sideline. A change of goalkeeper is allowed at anytime, but only after the acknowledgment by the referee.

LAW 5 Players footwear will be sandshoes, 'grasscat' type or moulded boot footwear only; **no screw in stud type boots will be allowed.** Shin pads are compulsory and it is the player's responsibility to ensure that their shin pads cover their leg shins nominally between their ankle and knee. Simple T-shirts of the same colour is all that is required for a team strip. Distinguishing goalkeeper's shirts or bib is essential. Club shirts are acceptable, however this simple rule allows players from different clubs & friends etc to join together and play without having to be affiliated with a particular club. Shirts numbers, although recommended, are not essential.

LAW 6 A Duty Referee will control each game. It is preferred that the Duty Referee is an adult (i.e over 18 years of age).

However, the Duty Referee can be someone less than 18 years of age. In every instance, the Duty referee must be older than the age group playing by at least 2 years.

LAW 8 Start of play will be the same as winter competition rules.

LAW 9 Ball in and out of play will be the same as winter competition rules.

LAW 10 Method of scoring: All goals must be scored from outside the goalkeeper's area or on the line of the goalkeeper's semi-circle area; excepting deflection by the goalkeeper inside the goalkeeper's area only. All field players & opposing goalkeeper are not allowed inside the goalkeeper's semi-circle area.

LAW 11 There will be no offside rule applied in this competition.

LAW 12 No slide tackles or tackling for the ball from the ground is permitted. Generally, if a players hand or arm or knee or leg is touching the ground when the player also attempts to tackle or plays or controls the ball when they could reasonably have been challenged for the ball by another player, the player doing so will be considered to have committed a foul and an indirect free kick will be awarded against them to the opposing team.

LAW 13 A sin bin facility will be used for foul play or misconduct. This will solely be used & timed at the discretion of the Duty Referee. Minor misdemeanours will accrue a two (2) minute cooling off whereas a more serious offence may incur a five (5) minute penalty.

The Duty Referee will also have the power to send a player from the field if he/she believes the offence warrants such action. The referee is required to submit a send-off report on any player sent from the field of play in which they are officiating.

Players sent to the sin bin or sent off cannot be replaced. The sin bin is located behind the player's own goal line.

The MVFC Junior Summer Soccer Judiciary Committee will conduct a hearing to deal with any send-off's on the very same evening of the send-off offence. Players sent from the field must report to the canteen within ten (10) minutes of the conclusion of the match from which they were sent from the field to advise that they will be making themselves available for the Judiciary Committee meeting. Players whom do not report to the canteen as required or do not attend the Judiciary Committee meeting will be deemed to have approved for the matter to be heard 'in absentia'.

The MVFC Junior Summer Soccer Judiciary Committee will report all send-off offences & its findings on matters to the Highlands Soccer Association (HSA) Judiciary Committee Chairperson within 24 hrs of the send-off & Judiciary Committee meeting hearing the matter. The HSA Judiciary Committee Chairperson shall determine within 4 days whether MVFC Senior Summer Soccer Judiciary Committee findings are appropriate and acceptable to the HSA or whether the HSA Judiciary Committee will be convened to also hear the matter

All send-off offences shall incur a minimum one (1) match suspension in accordance with FIFA rules. This suspension cannot be appealed.

LAW 14 Deliberate time wasting will have an indirect free kick awarded against the offending team:

All free kicks, corner kicks and throw-ins are to be taken within five (5) seconds of placement of the ball/control of the ball. Deliberate time wasting whilst placing the ball will result in an infringement as if the ball was actually placed and 5 seconds elapsed.

If the time limit of five (5) seconds is exceeded, the match referee can award a free kick or throw-in to the opposition. In the case of time limit being exceeded for the taking of a corner kick, the opposition will be awarded a goal kick. In the case of a goalkeeper exceeding the time limit to take a goal kick, a corner kick will be awarded to the opposing team.

LAW 15 The goalkeepers will be allowed to go outside their own teams marked goalkeepers area; his/her team members or any attacking team player are not allowed inside the marked goalkeepers area.

The ball remains 'in play' for both the goalkeeper to use their hands and field players if the ball is on the marked goalkeepers semi-circle; i.e. the ball has not wholly crossed over the marked semi-circle.

If in the opinion of the referee any defending team player enters inside the marked semi-circle area to play the ball - a penalty kick will be awarded to the attacking team - refer to Law 17.

If in the opinion of the referee any attacking team player enters inside the marked semi-circle area to play the ball - a goal kick will be awarded to the defending team.

LAW 16 All free kicks will be indirect free kicks (except penalties per Law-15 or penalties to determine a final's match after extra time). Opponents cannot encroach closer than two (2) metres to the ball & player taking the free kick.

LAW 17 Penalty kicks will only be awarded in circumstances previously described in Law 15.

A penalty spot will be marked approximately one (1) metre from the top of the goalkeeper's area. [i.e. seven (7) meters from the goal line].

When a penalty kick is taken, all players, apart from the goalkeeper must remain behind the ball. The player taking the penalty kick can take a maximum of one (1) step before kicking the ball. Opponents cannot encroach closer than two (2) metres to the ball & player taking the penalty kick.

LAW 18 Kick-ins have replaced throw-ins and must be taken within five (5) seconds of control of the ball. The ball must be on the line and stationary prior to being kicked in
Kick-ins are taken with one step prior to the kick. This is NOT a free kick from the line
Opponents cannot encroach closer than 2 meters to the ball & player taking the kick-in

LAW 19 Goal kicks are to be taken by the goalkeeper only and can be taken anywhere within the goalkeepers semi-circle area. Goal kicks out of the goalkeepers hands or off the ground or the goalkeeper throwing the ball by hand, all from within the goalkeepers semi-circle must be done so within five (5) seconds of placement or control of the ball, and must not travel further than the halfway line on the full. If the ball does travel over the half way line on the full, a free kick will be awarded to the opposing side at the halfway line where the ball passed.

Note: The "No Back Pass" rule applies in this competition; i.e. a goalkeeper cannot pick up with their hands, a ball intentionally passed back to them by their own team mate.

Infringement of this Law will result in a corner kick to the opposing team.

LAW 20 Corner kicks are to be taken at the goal end where the side line meets with the end of the backline. This kick is to be taken within five (5) seconds of placement of the ball.

LAW 21 The minimum number of players allowed to commence a match is three (3) plus the goalkeeper. If four (4) players are not present within five (5) minutes of the advised kick off time, a forfeit will result.

Forfeit penalties & forfeit claiming: Three (3) goals will be awarded against the forfeiting team. To claim a forfeit, the opposing team must fill in the match team sheet appropriately. Appointed Duty Referees must sign the team sheet confirming the forfeit and forward the team sheet to the canteen staff.

LAW 22 If a team leads by three (3) goals then, at the referee's discretion only, the leading team may be required to limit touches of the ball in general play by any player in the leading team to a maximum of three (3) consecutive touches.

If a player in the leading team is deemed by the referee to have touched the ball more than three (3) consecutive times, then the referee may award an indirect free kick to the opposing team from the place where the breach occurred.

LAW 23 If a team leads by five (5) goals then, at the referee's discretion only, the leading team may be required to have every player in the leading team touch the ball in general play before the leading team can score a valid goal.

Note: Additional Law variations to further challenge players in teams that may have gained a leading goal difference or other advantage over an opposing team may be implemented by the MVFC Junior Summer Soccer Committee at any time during the competition.