



**FOOTBALL  
WEST**

# **Competition Rules**

**2026**

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## A. OVERVIEW

### 1. INTRODUCTION

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1.1 Football West is the governing body responsible for administering, developing, and promoting football throughout Western Australia. It has the authority to implement, maintain and enforce competition rules for all such competitions.

1.1.1 These Competition Rules apply to the following Competitions organised by Football West:

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Competition</b>	<b>Divisions</b>	<b>Teams</b>	<b>Associated Competitions</b>
Men	NPL	N/A	First Team, Under 23's, Under 18's	Night Series (First Team only), Top Four Cup, Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds, State Cup
Men	State League 1 and 2	N/A	First Team, Reserves, Under 18's	Night Series (First Team only), Top Four Cup (Reserves and Under 18's), Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds, State Cup
Men	Amateur League	Amateur Premier, Amateur Divisions 1- 4	First Team and Reserves	Night Series (Amateur Premier First Team only), Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds, State Cup, Amateur First Team Cup, Amateur Reserve Team Cup
Men	Metropolitan League	Premier Division, north and south divisions (as required)		Metropolitan Cup
Men	Masters League		Over 35's, Over 45's, Over 55's	Masters Over 35's Cup, Masters Over 45's Cup, Masters Over 55's Cup
Women	NPL	N/A	First Team, Under 21's	Night Series (First Team only), Top Four Cup, Women's State Cup (First Team only)

Women	Women's League	Women's Division 1	N/A	Night Series, Women's State Cup
Women	Women's League	Women's Central Division 2-5	N/A	Night Series, Women's League Cup
Women	Women's League	North and south divisions (as required)	N/A	Women's League Cup
Juniors	Junior Development League ( <b>JDL</b> )	As required	U13 to U16 boys  U13-U16 girls, U18 girls	JDL Cup  YCC  Other club-based competition as notified by Football West
Juniors	Junior Community League ( <b>JCL</b> )	North and south divisions (as required)	U13 to U18 boys  U13-U17 girls	JCL Cup  YCC
Juniors	Youth Club Championships ( <b>YCC</b> )			JDL  JCL (in limited cases in accordance with these Regulations)
Juniors	Miniroos	North and south divisions (as required)	U8 to U12 boys/mixed  U8, U10 and U12 girls	None
Juniors	Clusters		U6 and U7	

1.1.2 Affiliated Associations may also organise, sanction or regulate their own competitions, which are subject to the rules, regulations and policies of that Affiliated Association that must meet any minimum standards set by Football West. In the absence of any such rules, these Competition Regulations will apply, with adaptations as required for the circumstances or as otherwise directed by Football West.

1.2 The administration and organisation of football in Western Australia takes place in the context of football in Australia, and globally. Therefore, other rules and regulations relating to football may apply without reference, or as referenced and incorporated in these Rules. Those rules and regulations include:

1.2.1 FIFA Statutes;

- 1.2.2 FA Statutes;
- 1.2.3 FW Statutes; and
- 1.2.4 NPL Rules.

1.3 The objectives of the Competition Rules are:

- 1.3.1 To ensure that the Competitions are organised and conducted in accordance with consistent conditions.
- 1.3.2 To ensure that Football is played competitively and fairly in accordance with principles of true sportsmanship and in accordance with the Laws.
- 1.3.3 To constantly improve the game of Football and promote, regulate and control it throughout Western Australia.
- 1.3.4 To respect and prevent any infringement of the Laws, and directives and decisions of FA, and to ensure that these are also respected by its members.
- 1.3.5 To encourage participation in Football and to improve and advance Football as a spectator sport, and to provide a safe and secure playing and spectator environment.

## **2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

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### **2.1 Definitions**

- 2.1.1 Any term defined in the Football West Constitution or Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations has the same meaning as set out in that document unless otherwise expressed in these Rules.
- 2.1.2 In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions must be used:

**Abandoned**, in respect of a Match, means a Match that begins but is permanently terminated before full time and will not continue on the same day.

**Affiliated Association** means those associations that are affiliated with Football West in accordance with minimum requirements and processes for affiliation as required by Football West from time to time, and are required to adhere to the rules and regulations and statutes of FA and Football West.

**Amateur Leagues** means Amateur Premier League to Amateur Division 4, and their associated Reserve Team competitions.

**Amateur Player** means any Player that is not a Professional Player.

**Application** means the application lodged by each Club seeking inclusion in the NPL WA Competition.

**Associated Competition** means any Competition in which one or more Team(s) from the applicable League compete in, whether with Teams from the same or other Leagues, and always subject to the Regulations applicable to that Competition.

**Associated Cup Competition** means an Associated Competition that is a Cup Competition.

**Association** means a body corporate or incorporated association recognised by Football West as representative of Clubs or Players within a geographic area or with a special interest.

**AUD or \$** means the lawful currency of the Commonwealth of Australia.

**Australian Championships** (also referred to as the **National Second Tier (NST)**), means the National Competition conducted by FA between National Premier League sides and Foundation Teams from across Australia.

**Australian Championships Club** means any entity admitted by FA to field a team in the Australian Championships.

**Australian Championships Club Participation Agreement** means the agreement setting out the terms on which FA grants, and Clubs accept, the right to participate in the Australian Championships.

**Australian Championships Foundation Club** means one of the eight original Clubs admitted to the Australian Championships by FA.

**Australian Player** means any Player who is:

- (a) a citizen of Australia; or
- (b) a Permanent Resident of Australia (where Permanent Resident means a person resident in Australia on a "permanent" visa class issued by the Australian Government, evidenced by either the person's Visa Grant Notice or as a listed entitlement on the person's online Visa Entitlement Verification); or
- (c) the holder of a refugee visa, humanitarian visa or protection visa issued by the Australian Government.

**Best Goalkeeper** means the individual award for the best goalkeeper as set out in Rule 53.3.3

**Best Coach** means the individual award for the best coach as set out in Rule 53.3.4

**Business Day** means a day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday in Western Australia.

**By-Law** means any By-Law made by the directors of Football West in accordance with the Football West Constitution.

**Club** means:

- (a) a body corporate or incorporated association registered through Football Australia and recognised by Football West who nominates and coordinates one (1) or more Teams to participate in Competitions; or
- (b) any legal entity deemed to be a Club by Football West.

**Club Associate** means, in respect of a Club, any of the following:

- (a) Club Official;
- (b) Team Official;
- (c) Non-playing member of a Club;

- (d) Supporter of a Club when that person(s) is on the grounds before, during and after a relevant Match; and
- (e) Player.

**Club Match Official** means a Match Official appointed by a Club in accordance with these Competition Rules, as further defined in Rule 47.4. and 47.5

**Club Official** means, in respect of any Club, any of the following:

- (a) A Club office bearer;
- (b) A coach of a Club Team;
- (c) A manager of a Club Team;
- (d) A physiotherapist for a Club Team;
- (e) A Club employee; or
- (f) Anybody who is officially associated with the Club.

**Cluster Leagues** means the Competition for U6 and U7 age groups.

**Community Junior Competitions** means all Competitions for Players in the U18 age group other than NPL and State League U18 Competitions, and including YCC, JDL, JCL, Miniroos and Cluster Leagues and Associated Cup Competitions.

**Competition-Specific Variations** means the rules set out in Section H of these Competition Rules.

**Conflict of Interest** has the meaning set out in Rule 46.2.

**Cup Competitions** means a formal, knockout-style tournament comprising a series of elimination Matches between Teams, conducted by or under the control of Football West.

**Competition** means a formalised league or competition comprising a series of Matches involving Teams conducted by or under the control of Football West.

**Competition Rules** means these Competition Rules including the accompanying annexes as ratified by the Football West board of directors, and as amended from time to time.

**Competition Season** means any series of competitive Matches within one calendar year.

**Competition Year** means the year the relevant Competition commences

**Contractor** means a person or entity who is engaged to provide products or services.

**Cup Competition** means a separate knockout-style tournament conducted by or under the control of Football West, in which Teams progress by winning each Match, and losing Teams are eliminated. It is independent of the Regular Season and Finals Series.

**Delayed**, in respect of a Match, means a Match whose scheduled commencement is temporarily pushed back but is still intended to proceed on the same day.

**Dispute** has the meaning set out in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.

**Division** means a clearly defined level within a Competition that groups Teams of similar standard or ranking. Football West organises Competitions into Divisions, so Teams play against others at the appropriate level.

**Dylan Tombides Medal** means the individual award for the best U21 Player in the NPL WA Men's as set out in Rule 53.3.1

**Electronic Match Cards** means the online or digital form used to record all required Match details, including player lists, team officials, goals, cards, and other relevant information, submitted and managed through the Football West competition management system.

**Ex-Team** means a Team that withdraws or is removed by Football West from a Competition during a Competition Season.

**FA** means Football Australia Limited.

**FA Statutes** has the meaning set out in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.

**Fairest and Best** means the individual award for the fairest and best Player as set out in Rule 53.2.

**Field of Play** means the official playing area where a Match takes place. It includes the pitch marked by boundary lines and all areas inside those lines, but does not include the Technical Area, spectator areas, or surrounds.

**FIFA** means Fédération Internationale de Football Association.

**FIFA Statutes** means those statutes and regulations as published by FIFA from time to time.

**Final Series** means the knockout or playoff matches held at the conclusion of the Regular Season to determine the overall competition winner. Only Teams that qualify based on Regular Season standings participate.

**First Team** means the highest-ranked Team of a Club participating in a Competition, generally representing the Club in its top Division or league.

**Football** means:

- (a) "Association Football" as defined by FIFA from time to time; and
- (b) modified football, indoor football, 5-a-side football, futsal, beach football, walking football; and
- (c) any other game administered by Football West.

**Football West Club Licensing Manual** means the Football West Club Licensing Manual.

**Football West Constitution** means the constitution of Football West in force from time to time and published on the Football West website.

**Football West Rules and Regulations** means the Football West Constitution and any rules, regulations, policies, procedures, directives, codes of conduct and guidelines developed, disseminated and implemented by Football West (including the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations, Spectator Code of Behaviour and the Club Licensing Manual).

**Forfeit** means team loses a Match by default, because they cannot or do not play when required.

**Ground Marshal** means a person appointed by a Club to perform the duties set out in Rule 51.

**Home Club** has the meaning set out in Rule 30.3.

**Home Team** means the Team that is scheduled to play at their home venue, identified as the Team named first in any published schedule, and required to meet certain requirements regarding the Match operations as set out in these Regulations.

**Hybrid Model** is the model for promotion and relegation between Divisions or Leagues where one or more Team(s) are promoted and relegated directly, and another one or more Team(s) are promoted or relegated based on results in a Play-Off Match, as further detailed in Rule 18.8.

**Individual Awards** means the individual awards given at the end of a Competition as set out in Rule 53.

**JCL** means the Junior Community League.

**JDL** means the Junior Development League.

**Judicial Body** has the meaning set out in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations, each of which are established pursuant to the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations and are empowered to hear charges of Misconduct, and Disputes.

**Junior** means Players in Community Junior Competitions, or those Competitions (when the situations require).

**Junior Boys League** means the JDL and the JCL and will comprise Divisions in the Under 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s and 18's age groups.

**Junior Girls League** means the JDL and the JCL and will comprise Divisions in the Under 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, 17s & Under 18's age groups.

**Junior League Competitions** means the Junior Boys League, Junior Girls League, MiniRoos League and Associated Junior Cup Competitions.

**Laws** means the Laws of the Game, FIFA Statutes, FA Statutes, Football West Constitution, Competition Rules, By-Laws and Policies as applicable from time to time.

**Laws of the Game** means the Laws of the Game currently in force as adopted by the International Football Association Board from time to time.

**League Season** means the Home and Away league seasons of a Competition.

**Match** means any game of Football conducted by or under the control of Football West.

**Match Official** includes the following:

- (a) Football West appointed referee;
- (b) Football West appointed assistant referee;
- (c) Football West appointed referee inspector;
- (d) Football West appointed Match Commissioner; and
- (e) Any other person designated by Football West as a Match Official including a non-accredited referee chosen by a Club to preside over a Match in the absence of a Football West appointed referee.

**Metropolitan Area** means greater Perth metropolitan area, as designated by Football West from time to time.

**MiniRoos League** means Leagues run for Juniors between U6 and U12 age groups and run under modified format per age as set out by Football Australia (and **Miniroos** refers to those Competitions or Players who play in the MiniRoos League, as the situation requires).

**NPL** means National Premier League competitions as set out by Football Australia.

**NPL Rules** means all rules and regulations promulgated by FA that apply to NPL competition run by Football West, including rules and guidelines relating to playing strip, branding and communications and marketing.

**NPL Premiers** refers to the team with the most amount of Competition points at the completion of the League season.

**NPL Seniors** means the First Teams, Men's Under 23's, Female Under 21's, and Men's Under 18's of any one Club.

**NPL WA Competition** means the National Premier Leagues – WA Competition operated and administered by Football West and consisting of the NPL WA Men's and NPL WA Women's.

**NPL WA Female Young Player of the Year** means the individual award for the best U21 Player in the NPL WA Women's as set out in Rule 53.3.1

**NPL WA Men's** means the National Premier Leagues – WA Men's Competition operated and administered by Football West.

**NPL WA Women's** means the National Premier Leagues – WA Women's Competition operated and administered by Football West.

**Open Age Competition** means a Competition not specifically established for a particular age demographic and designated as such.

**Participant** has the meaning set out in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.

**Player** means any person who is, from time to time, registered with a Club or is selected as a member of a Representative Team. For the avoidance of doubt, a reference to a Player during a Match includes a substitute and a substituted Player.

**Player Roster** means the list of Players registered with and eligible to play for a Team where a player roster is required in compliance with the Player Roster Composition, and other requirements.

**Player Roster Composition** means the list of Players registered to an NPL WA Team as eligible to play for that Team and complying with the various requirements of that list.

**Play-Off Tournament Model** is the model for promotion and relegation between Divisions or Leagues where one or more Team(s) are promoted and relegated directly, and another one or more Team(s) are promoted or relegated based on results in a Play-Off Tournament, as further detailed in Rule 18.5.

**Policy** means any policy currently in force as ratified by the Football West board of directors.

**Postponed**, in respect of a Match, means a Match that is not started at its scheduled time and is to be rescheduled to a later date.

**Professional Player** means a Player who has a written contract with a Club, under which they are paid more than the expenses they effectively incur to play football for that Club.

**Regular Season** means the home and away league season. It does not include any other pre-season, friendly, Cup Competition Matches, Finals Series, or the Night Series.

**Representative Match** means a Match in which a Representative Team participates, including School Sport WA.

**Representative Team** means a group of Players which may be registered with different Clubs, but which represents Football West in a particular Match or series of Matches.

**Senior Competitions or Seniors** means divisions or tiers of Competitions that are not restricted to Juniors. When the term is used in these Rules, it refers to Senior Competitions across all Competitions, unless designated according to a specific Competition (e.g. NPL Seniors). The Senior Competitions are those designated for Men and Women in Regulation 1.1.1.

**Senior Sunday Competition** means those Competitions set out at Rule 66.1.

**Straight Model** is the model for promotion and relegation between Divisions or Leagues where one or more Team(s) are promoted and relegated directly based off their positions at the end of the Competition Season, as further detailed in Rule 18.6 and 18.7 (and **Straight Model – One Team**, and **Straight Model – Two Teams** shall be interpreted accordingly).

**Team** means any group of Players which represents the Club (whether formally or informally) in a Match or series of Matches, or with which the Club is connected in any way as determined by Football West.

**Technical Area** means the designated sitting or standing area for Team Officials, substitutes and substituted players.

**Top Four Cup** and **TFC** means the end of season finals Competition for NPL WA Men's and NPL WA Women's as set out in Part H, Rule 57 of these Rules.

**Top Goalscorer** means the individual award for the top goalscorer as set out in Rule 53.3.2.

**Women's League Competitions means** Women's League Division One, Women's League Central Divisions (2 and below), Women's League North and South Divisions, Women's Masters Competitions and Associated Women's Cup Competitions.

**YCC** means Youth Club Championships.

## 2.2 **Interpretations**

2.2.1 In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 2.2.1.1 headings are for convenience of reference only and do not affect interpretation;
- 2.2.1.2 references to any gender include all genders;
- 2.2.1.3 references to the singular apply to the plural and vice versa;
- 2.2.1.4 references to a person include any other entity recognised by law and vice versa;
- 2.2.1.5 where a word or phrase is defined, its other grammatical forms have a corresponding meaning;
- 2.2.1.6 any reference to a party to this document includes its successors and permitted assigns;
- 2.2.1.7 any reference to any agreement or document includes that agreement or document as amended at any time;

- 2.2.1.8 the use of the word includes or including is not to be taken as limiting the meaning of the words preceding it;
- 2.2.1.9 the expression at any time includes reference to past, present and future time and the performance of any action from time to time;
- 2.2.1.10 reference to an exhibit, annexure, attachment or schedule is a reference to the corresponding exhibit, annexure, attachment or schedule in this document;
- 2.2.1.11 reference to a statute includes all regulations and amendments to that statute and any statute passed in substitution for that statute or incorporating any of its provisions to the extent that they are incorporated; and
- 2.2.1.12 all monetary amounts are inclusive of GST unless stated otherwise.

### **3. RULES APPLICABLE TO FOOTBALL WEST COMPETITIONS**

- 3.1 All Matches will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game in force at the time of publication of the Competition Rules and as laid down by the International Football Association Board, unless otherwise stated in the Competition Rules.
- 3.2 **Application of these Competition Rules:**
  - 3.2.1 The Competition Rules apply to the following participants, and each of whom are deemed to accept and agree to be bound by them:
    - 3.2.1.1 any Club which affiliates with Football West and/or FA, and enters Teams into any Football West Competition;
    - 3.2.1.2 Players who participate in Football West Competitions and/or are registered to so participate;
    - 3.2.1.3 Club Officials for any Club at Regulation 3.2.1.1, once appointed and whether or not they have completed any registration; and
    - 3.2.1.4 Match Officials.
  - 3.2.2 The Rules contained within this document apply to and are valid for all Football West Competitions set out in Regulation 1.1.1.
  - 3.2.3 Unless otherwise specified or the context requires otherwise, these Rules apply to all corresponding parts of a Competition including Regular Season, pre-season, Final Series, and Associated Competitions.

#### **3.3 Inconsistencies**

- 3.3.1 To the extent there is any inconsistency between these Competition Regulations and other Laws, they shall prevail in the following order:
  - 3.3.1.1 the FIFA Statutes;
  - 3.3.1.2 the FA Statutes;
  - 3.3.1.3 FW Constitution;
  - 3.3.1.4 these Competition Regulations; then
  - 3.3.1.5 other FW Statutes.

- 3.3.2 Where a Rule in this document appears to be in conflict with a Rule in an Annexure, the Rule in the Annexure will take precedence.
- 3.3.3 Where a Rule appears to be in conflict with a Rule in any other Part of this document which deals with a specific Competition then the Part dealing with the specific Competition takes precedence.

#### 3.4 **Variations**

- 3.4.1 Football West may at any time alter, add to, clarify, or delete any of these Rules at its discretion. Any changes to these Rules will be communicated by notice from Football West to each Club. A change takes effect on the date specified in that notice.
- 3.4.2 Notwithstanding any Rule, the Football West COO and General Manager – Football may grant dispensation from, modify, waive or otherwise alter these Regulations or their application in extraordinary circumstances.
- 3.4.3 Where Football West has a discretion in the exercise of its powers under these Rules, it shall be permitted to exercise that discretion in any way that it chooses, having regard to competition integrity.
- 3.4.4 A Club may apply for, and Football West will consider an application by a Club, for an exemption to these rules where it can demonstrate that exceptional circumstances exist. Football West will determine (in its sole discretion) whether or not the circumstances warrant any exemption applied for. Any such determination is final and not subject to any further review or challenge.

#### 3.5 **Matters not provided for**

- 3.5.1 Notwithstanding any Rule, Football West may make determinations on matters not expressly provided for in these Rules. Any determination made by Football West pursuant to this Rule is final.

#### 3.6 **Interpretations:**

- 3.6.1 Where a Rule is capable of more than one interpretation, Football West reserves the right (in its sole discretion) to determine which interpretation applies and accordingly, whether to impose a Penalty or not, or the other consequences of that interpretation. Any such determination is final.

### **4. BREACHES OF THESE RULES**

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- 4.1 Notwithstanding any other Rule in any Competition, Football West may investigate any alleged breach of these Rules, and in doing so may rely on any information or document that it deems relevant in its absolute discretion. Whether a matter is investigated or not is entirely at the discretion of Football West.
- 4.2 A Club or Participant who breaches any of these Rules or those Rules in the accompanying Annexures is liable to a Penalty. Football West reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion to:
  - 4.2.1 issue a warning for any breach of a Rule prior to the imposition of any Penalties;
  - 4.2.2 impose a Penalty or not; or
  - 4.2.3 reduce or vary a Penalty;by written notification to the relevant Club or Participant.

- 4.3 Any decision to impose a Penalty under Rule 4.2:
  - 4.3.1 is separate to proceedings under (and Football West is not bound to follow) the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations for Misconduct;
  - 4.3.2 may not be appealed to any Judicial Body on the basis that Football West has exercised this discretion; but
  - 4.3.3 may be varied, revoked or rescinded at Football West's discretion and for any reason, including if new evidence that was not available to Football West at the time that the decision was made arises. A Club may only submit new evidence for the purpose of reconsideration under this Rule 4.3 within 5 Business Days of the decision being made under Rule 4.2.
- 4.4 Where a Penalty is not specified in these Rules, Football West reserves the right to use its discretion to determine and impose a Penalty.
- 4.5 Each Club acknowledges that it is its responsibility to comply with these Rules at all times, and that:
  - 4.5.1 it is not entitled to rely upon a Match Official's interpretation of these Rules; and
  - 4.5.2 that these Rules are distinct from and in addition to the Laws of the Game.

## **B. CLUB AFFILIATION**

### **5. AFFILIATION**

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- 5.1 A Club must affiliate with Football West if it wishes to enter Teams in Football West Competitions, pursuant to any applicable rules, policies or processes determined by Football West.
- 5.2 Football West reserves the right to refuse affiliation of any Club at its discretion.
- 5.3 A Club must also comply with the registration requirements under the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations.

### **6. ENTRIES**

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- 6.1 Affiliated Clubs will be automatically permitted to enter Teams in the same leagues in which they entered Teams in the previous Competition Season unless determined otherwise by Football West or a Disciplinary and Ethics Committee decision.
- 6.2 Affiliated Clubs located in the Metropolitan Area will be permitted to enter Teams into the following competitions in which they have not entered Teams in the previous Competition Season:
  - 6.2.1 Metropolitan League
  - 6.2.2 Masters League
  - 6.2.3 Women's League
- 6.3 All Affiliated Clubs (in and out of the Metropolitan Area) which wish to enter a Team in the following leagues, and which did not enter a Team in that League in the previous Competition Season or which is not otherwise eligible under Rule 6.2, must apply to Football West in writing if it wishes to enter a Team in that league in the following Competition Season:
  - 6.3.1 Metropolitan League
  - 6.3.2 Women's League
  - 6.3.3 Amateur League
  - 6.3.4 Community Junior Competitions
- 6.4 An Affiliated Club is not permitted to submit a direct application for Team entry into the following Leagues. Participation in these Leagues can only be achieved through the promotion and relegation processes stipulated in the corresponding Competition Rules:
  - 6.4.1 National Premier Leagues
  - 6.4.2 Men's State League
- 6.5 Entry into Football West Competitions is entirely dependent on vacancies and at the discretion of Football West. Football West will consider factors including the following when considering admitting Clubs into leagues in each Competition Season:
  - 6.5.1 whether or not a Club has met payment obligations to Football West within the prescribed timeframes in the previous Competition Season, as stipulated by Football West's Collection of Fees policy;

- 6.5.2 whether or not the Club has a debt with Football West;
- 6.5.3 whether or not the Club has met any probationary requirements in the previous Competition Season;
- 6.5.4 whether or not the Club has met all eligibility requirements of the competition;
- 6.5.5 the level to which the Club has met its fixture obligations; and
- 6.5.6 the Club's disciplinary record.

6.6 A Club must register all of its Players in accordance with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations, and Section D.

6.7 Football West reserves the right to limit the number of Teams that may be entered by a Club if it is of the reasonable opinion that the Club does not have enough fields available to support that number of Teams.

## **7. AMALGAMATION OF CLUBS**

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- 7.1 When two or more Clubs amalgamate, they are required to provide evidence to Football West of such an amalgamation. Clubs should refer to the Football West checklist to assist them through the process available here: [Football West Club Mergers & Amalgamations Guide.pdf](#).
- 7.2 When two or more Clubs amalgamate, the Teams within each of the Clubs subject to the amalgamation will retain the rights they possessed before the amalgamation in terms of their positions within Football West competitions.
- 7.3 If the retention of rights stipulated in Regulation 7.2 causes Football West rules or regulations to be breached, then Football West reserves the right to make any rulings it sees fit in order that such breaches do not occur.
- 7.4 Football West will not recognise any amalgamation until the Clubs subject to the amalgamation have settled all debts with Football West.
- 7.5 Football West reserves the right not to allow the affiliation of a Club formed as a result of an amalgamation unless it is satisfied that such an affiliation would be in the best interests of the game and Football West.
- 7.6 Players of amalgamating Clubs are deemed to be Players of the newly-formed Club once the amalgamation has been recognised by Football West and the new Club has affiliated to Football West.

## **8. OUTSTANDING DEBTS**

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- 8.1 Any club which has an outstanding debt owed to Football West as at 31 December will not:
  - 8.1.1 be issued with a login for player registrations;
  - 8.1.2 have its players covered by insurance for training and competition purposes; and
  - 8.1.3 have any friendly matches sanctioned.
- 8.2 In addition to the above, if an outstanding debt is not settled prior to 31 December of that year, Football West may remove the Club from all fixture planning and may declare

that the Club forfeits any positions in Football West Competitions to which it would otherwise be entitled.

## **9. CHANGE OF CLUB NAMES**

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- 9.1 A Club that wishes to change its name must apply to Football West in writing by 30 November in the calendar year prior to such change coming into effect, and must provide:
  - 9.1.1 a written request to Football West to change the Club name on existing Club letterhead which outlines the reasons for the request and the proposed new name, and any prescribed form required by the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations; and
  - 9.1.2 an alternative name should the preferred name not be permitted.
- 9.2 Football West (and FA) reserves the right to reject the proposed new name of the Club in its ultimate discretion if:
  - 9.2.1 it deems the proposed name is inappropriate, misleading, similar to another Club, or otherwise unsuitable; or
  - 9.2.2 it does not comply with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations.

## **10. RETURN OF COMPETITION AWARDS**

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- 10.1 Trophies, cups and shields that are deemed perpetual trophies must be returned as follows:

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Date</b>
All (except Night Series)	28 July
Night Series	7 February
- 10.2 A Club which does not return a perpetual trophy by the stipulated dates will be subject to an administration charge of \$55 per trophy for each week (or part of a week) that the trophy remains overdue up to and including the amount of the cost of a replacement trophy. Upon return of the trophy, or once this amount has been accrued if not returned, the Club will be invoiced for the cost.
- 10.3 A Club which is unable to locate a perpetual trophy or has damaged a perpetual trophy will be charged an amount equivalent to its replacement cost.

## C. COMPETITION OPERATIONS

### 11. OWNERSHIP

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- 11.1 Football West owns, manages and administers all League Competitions (and their linked competitions including Night Series), except for NPL in respect of which it operates under licence from Football Australia.
- 11.2 Football West owns all Cup events except the Australia Cup Preliminary Rounds. A host Club who is awarded the hosting rights for any Cup Final must enter into a hosting rights agreement with Football West. In addition to that agreement, the host Club may apply in writing to Football West to include certain activities at the applicable Cup Final, which may be approved by Football West in its absolute discretion. A host Club must not include any activities that have not been so approved.

### 12. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

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- 12.1 Promotion and relegation relationships exist between divisions of certain leagues and are governed by:
  - 12.1.1 this Rule 12;
  - 12.1.2 Rule 18; and
  - 12.1.3 Section H Competition-Specific Variations.
- 12.2 A Club which occupies a promotion position may only be promoted if:
  - 12.2.1 the Club has paid all outstanding debt to Football West within 30 days of completion of the final fixture of the Competition Season;
  - 12.2.2 the Club provides evidence of sound administrative and financial resources, if requested to do so by Football West within 30 days of any such request;
  - 12.2.3 the Club has complied with the requirements of the Laws; and
  - 12.2.4 the Club meets any published criteria of the division to which it is to be promoted which includes NPL WA Eligibility Criteria as stipulated in the Football West Club Licensing Manual (unless variations are permitted by Football West).
- 12.3 Football West shall determine the Divisions for each League prior to the start of the Competition Season, in accordance with the following Rules:
  - 12.3.1 The placement of a Team in a competition is governed by these Rules and the Competition Rules. However, Football West retains the right to move a Team or not to move Team to a different Competition or division at its discretion.
  - 12.3.2 Football West reserves the right to extend, amend, decrease or increase the size of the divisions and Leagues at its discretion.
  - 12.3.3 A new Club or Team is normally entered into a competition at the lowest level. Under application, Football West may consider exceptional circumstances and place a Team in a division which is not the lowest. Any such decision by Football West is final.

12.4 After Football West has determined the divisions for a League, including once the Competition Season has started, changes may be made in accordance with the following Rules and any applicable Competition-Specific Variations:

12.4.1 Football West may admit a Team into a Competition after the commencement of the Competition Season should a vacancy exist. The vacancy may be filled through a process to be determined by Football West in consultation with the relevant Standing Committee. This may include Football West changing the division to which a Team is allocated to another specific division determined by Football West and notified in writing to the relevant Team and Club. The Team and relevant Club must comply with the determination made by Football West under this Rule. A Team that refuses to comply with Football West's determination or refuses to move division when appointed to do so will incur a **penalty as set out in Appendix B**.

12.4.2 Football West may alter or adjust the position of, or otherwise move, any Team which has been placed in a particular Competition or Division at any time, both before and during the Competition Season.

12.5 The removal or withdrawal of any Team during the Competition Season is governed at Rule 21.

12.6 The right to enter a Team in a certain Division belongs to the Club rather than the Players of any particular Team.

12.7 In the event any Competition Season, including the NPL, must be cancelled or cannot be completed in a fair manner for any reason at any point, Football West has complete discretion to make a determination on how that Competition will be finalised, including to declare a Team the winner of that Competition or declare that there is no winner of the relevant Competition for that Season. Football West may consult with affected Clubs and the relevant Standing Committee at its discretion before a decision is made.

12.8 In the event any Competition Season, including the NPL seasons, must be modified at any point in time and for any reason, Football West may, and in its complete discretion declare that the Competitions are to be conducted under a modified set of Rules or fixtures published by Football West at that time.

## 13. COMPETITION ENTRIES

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13.1 To be eligible to enter a Team in a Competition, a Club must:

13.1.1 comply with the applicable requirements for that Competition as set in the Football West Club Licensing Manual:

- 13.1.1.1 NPL Clubs must meet Class A requirements;
- 13.1.1.2 State League Divisions One & Two and Women's League Division One Clubs must meet Class B requirements;
- 13.1.1.3 Amateur League Clubs must meet Class C requirements; and
- 13.1.1.4 all other Clubs must meet Class D requirements.

13.1.2 comply with the venue requirements in Regulation 14.

13.1.3 comply with any Competition-Specific Variations; and

13.1.4 in NPL, State League and Amateur League, the Club must enter a Team in each age group or Team category (e.g. Firsts, Reserves and age group).

## 14. VENUES – CLUB HOME GROUNDS

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- 14.1 A venue nominated by an Affiliated Club as its home ground must meet:
  - 14.1.1 the minimum requirements set out in Appendix A; and
  - 14.1.2 the applicable requirements set in the Football West Club Licensing Manual:
    - 14.1.2.1 NPL Clubs must meet Class A requirements.
    - 14.1.2.2 State League Divisions One & Two and Women's League Division One Clubs must meet Class B requirements.
    - 14.1.2.3 Amateur League Clubs must meet Class C requirements.
    - 14.1.2.4 All other Clubs must meet Class D requirements.
- 14.2 Football West encourages ground sharing arrangements but reserves the right to limit the number of Clubs which may share any single ground.
- 14.3 A Club may request to change its nominated home ground by written application to Football West. Football West reserves the right to refuse any application if:
  - 14.3.1 the facilities do not meet the minimum requirements in Appendix 1; or
  - 14.3.2 the proposed new venue is within 5 kilometres of another Club competing in the same Competition.
- 14.4 Football West reserves the right to require that its, FA's and any applicable Competition sponsors' signage is prominently displayed at the venue at which any Football West Matches are played. A Club and each Team must comply with any lawful direction given by Football West in connection with this Rule.
- 14.5 Football West reserves the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event that Competition Matches are affected by changes to the availability of any venue or venues. A Club and each Team must comply with any lawful direction given by Football West in connection with this Rule.

## 15. COMPETITION FEES, CHARGES AND FINES

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- 15.1 Football West will determine and publish each calendar year, a schedule of competition fees, charges and fines which will apply to the season in that calendar year.
- 15.2 Without limiting the generality of the above, Football West fees, charges and fines will include:
  - 15.2.1 Competition fees, such as team entry fee, Player registration fee, Judicial Body request fee, Appeal request fee, and Match Official fees;
  - 15.2.2 charges, such as late entry and team withdrawal charges, and general ad-hoc administrative charges; and
  - 15.2.3 fines for breaches of these Competition Rules or FW Statutes.

## 16. PRIVATE ACADEMY RELATIONSHIP

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- 16.1 Football West recognises that a Club may choose to engage a Contractor such as a private academy to deliver services to its players including, but not limited to, match day and training services.
- 16.2 Football West recognises that Affiliated Associations may have their own rules and regulations in relation to the participation in their own competitions of Clubs and/or Teams that engage (or otherwise have relationships with) private academies or external providers. Football West further recognises that these rules and regulations will vary across Associations.
- 16.3 Subject to satisfying any applicable Team eligibility criteria and compliance with Rule 16.4, a nominated Team will not be excluded from the Competitions solely because of its (or its Club's) relationship with a private academy or external provider. Football West reserves the right to exclude a Club notwithstanding compliance with this Rule 16.3, where the relationship prejudices the integrity or reputation of the Competition or Football West.
- 16.4 Clubs agree and acknowledge the following criteria:
  - 16.4.1 There must be no requirement for Players to directly pay a Contractor of a Club in relation to any activities in particular official regular Club training sessions.
  - 16.4.2 There must be no requirement for Players to attend additional training or development sessions with a Contractor of a Club.
  - 16.4.3 All Coaches appointed directly or indirectly via a Contractor of a Club must be registered as a coach with Football Australia and hold at least a C Diploma coaching licence.
  - 16.4.4 All Coaches appointed directly or indirectly via a Contractor of a Club must wear official Club apparel at Club training sessions and on Match days.
  - 16.4.5 The Team's playing name must not include the name of, or reference to, a private academy or other Contractor of a Club, and the Team's playing name must otherwise be identical to that used while participating in the Competition.
  - 16.4.6 While participating in Matches, Players must wear the Team's usual playing strip and any branding of a Contractor of a Club on that playing strip will be limited to one location and to a size no greater than 60cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - 16.4.7 While at a venue for a Match, any branding of a Contractor of a Club on a Player's outerwear, bags or other equipment is limited to one location per item and to a size no greater than 60cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - 16.4.8 While at a venue for a Match, Club Officials must wear their usual match day attire but any branding of a Contractor of a Club on that attire will be limited to one location across all attire (including, but not limited to, shorts, pants, t-shirts, polos, hoodies, jackets and caps) and to a size no greater than 60cm<sup>2</sup>.
- 16.5 Should a Team be accepted into a Competition and subsequently be found to be in breach of Rule 16.3 or 16.4, that Team may be removed from the Competition by Football West in its absolute discretion and the Club subject to disciplinary sanctions.

## **17. COMPETITION POINTS AND TABLE (REGULAR SEASON ONLY)**

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- 17.1 Three (3) points will be awarded to the Team which wins a Regular Season Match, one (1) point each for Teams which end a Regular Season Match in a draw and no points are awarded to a Team for a Regular Season Match defeat. Points are not transferable between Divisions.
- 17.2 Teams will be ranked in their Competition or Division according to the number of Competition points that Team accrues over the Competition Season.
- 17.3 If two or more Teams are equal on points on completion of the Regular Season, the following criteria will be applied to determine the higher-ranking Team in the following order:
  - 17.3.1 superior goal difference;
  - 17.3.2 higher number of goals scored;
  - 17.3.3 number of points gained in Matches between the Teams concerned;
  - 17.3.4 superior goal difference in Matches between the Teams concerned;
  - 17.3.5 greater number of goals scored away from home in Matches between the Teams concerned;
  - 17.3.6 lower number of Red Cards;
  - 17.3.7 lower number of Yellow Cards; or
  - 17.3.8 drawing of lots in accordance with a procedure to be determined by Football West in its absolute discretion.

## 18. PROMOTION, RELEGATION AND PLAY-OFF TOURNAMENTS

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- 18.1 The following Competitions and Divisions (for the purpose of this Rule, the **Relevant Competitions or Divisions**) have a promotion and relegation system whereby Clubs are promoted or relegated based on the performance of their First Team.
  - 18.1.1 Men:
    - 18.1.1.1 NPL WA Men's
    - 18.1.1.2 State Leagues
    - 18.1.1.3 Amateur Leagues
  - 18.1.2 Women:
    - 18.1.2.1 NPL WA Women's
    - 18.1.2.2 Women's Division 1
    - 18.1.2.3 Women's Central Divisions
  - 18.1.3 Junior:
    - 18.1.3.1 JDL (between its Divisions only)

- 18.2 The Relevant Competitions or Divisions are listed in Rule 18.1 in hierarchical order from the highest Competition to the lowest (in Men, Women and Junior respectively).
- 18.3 Promotion and relegation is in all cases based on the position of a Club's First Team only. When a Club's First Team is promoted or relegated, this applies to all other Teams in that Competition (such as the Reserves and any age group Teams).
- 18.4 Promotion and relegation will operate under one of the models at Rule 18.5 to Rule 18.8, as designated in, and in some cases varied by, the Competition-Specific Variations.

#### **18.5 Play-Off Tournament Model**

- 18.5.1 The Club whose First Team finishes in first place in a Relevant Competition or Division will be promoted to the Relevant Competition or Division immediately above it. This Team will replace the last-placed team in that Competition or Division, which will be relegated to the Competition or Division immediately below it.
- 18.5.2 The Club whose First Team finishes in second last position in a Relevant Competition or Division, and the Clubs whose First Teams finish in second, third and fourth positions in the immediately lower Relevant Competition or Division, will compete in a Play-Off tournament to determine which Club will play in the higher Competition or Division in the following season.
- 18.5.3 A Play-Off Tournament will consist of two semi-final ties, each of which will be played over two Matches:
  - 18.5.3.1 The first semi-final tie will be played between the Team that finished second last in higher Competition or Division and the Team that finished fourth in the lower Competition or Division.
  - 18.5.3.2 The second semi-final tie will be played by the Team that finished second in the higher Competition or Division and the Team that finished third in that Competition or Division.
  - 18.5.3.3 The losing Team from each semi-final tie will play in the lower Competition or Division in the following season.
  - 18.5.3.4 The winners of each semi-final tie will play each other in the Final Match, which is to take place over a single leg at a venue determined by Football West.
- 18.5.4 The Play-Off Competition Format is as follows:
  - 18.5.4.1 Each Play-Off (semi-final or final) will comprise of two Matches – one Match at each Club's home venue. Should a Club's home venue not be available, that Club will be responsible for sourcing an alternative venue at its own cost.
  - 18.5.4.2 The dates and times of the Matches will be determined by Football West and may not be challenged by either Club.
  - 18.5.4.3 The highest ranked team in the semi-final Play Off tie will be offered the choice of playing their home match first or second.
  - 18.5.4.4 The Play-Off Final will be held at a venue determined by Football West at its sole discretion.
- 18.5.5 The winner of the Play-Off Semi Final will be:

- 18.5.5.1 the Team that scores the most goals over the two legs; or
- 18.5.5.2 if both Teams score an equal number of goals over the two legs, the Team that scores the most goals in its away leg (the Club playing its away leg is the second-named Club in the Match, regardless of the venue at which the Match is played).

18.5.6 If a winner cannot be determined in accordance with Rule 18.5.5:

- 18.5.6.1 two periods of extra time of 15 minutes per period will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game at the conclusion of the second leg;
- 18.5.6.2 at the end of the second period of extra time, the provisions of Rule 18.5.5.1 will be applied to determine the winner of the tie (but the provisions of Rule 18.5.5.2 do not apply once the Match moves into extra time); and
- 18.5.6.3 if the teams remain tied after two periods of extra time, the winner of the Play-Off Final will be decided by a penalty shootout as described in the Laws of the Game.

18.5.7 The winner of the Play-Off Final will be the Club that scores the most goals. If a winner cannot be determined at full time:

- 18.5.7.1 two periods of extra time of 15 minutes per period will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game; and
- 18.5.7.2 If the teams remain tied after two periods of extra time, the winner of the Play-Off Final will be decided by a penalty shootout as described in the Laws of the Game.

## 18.6 **Straight Model – One Team**

18.6.1 The Club whose First Team finishes in first place in a Relevant Competition or Division will be promoted to the Relevant Competition or Division immediately above it. This Team will replace the last-placed team in that Competition or Division, which will be relegated to the Competition or Division immediately below it.

## 18.7 **Straight Model – Two Teams**

18.7.1 The Clubs whose First Team finishes in first and second place in a Relevant Competition or Division will be promoted to the Relevant Competition or Division immediately above it. These Teams will replace the second last and last-placed Teams in that Competition or Division, which will both be relegated to the Competition or Division immediately below it.

## 18.8 **Hybrid Model – Two Teams**

18.8.1 The Club whose First Team finishes in first place in a Relevant Competition or Division will be promoted to the Relevant Competition or Division immediately above it. This Team will replace the last-placed team in that Competition or Division, which will be relegated to the Competition or Division immediately below it.

18.8.2 The Club whose First Team finishes in second last position in a Relevant Competition or Division will play the Club whose First Team finished second in

the immediately lower Relevant Competition or Division in a single leg Play-Off Match to determine which Club will play in the higher Competition or Division in the following season. The winner of the Play-Off Match will be determined in accordance with Rule 18.5.7.

18.9 Promotion via this Rule is always subject to a Club's eligibility to be promoted or participate in the higher Competition, in accordance with these Regulations and the Football West Club Licensing Manual. Where a Club is ineligible, the Competition-Specific Variations will specify that shall be dealt with.

## 19. WINNER OF CUP COMPETITION MATCHES

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19.1 Where a Match in a Cup Competition or Play-Off Match does not result in a winner after full time, the following shall apply to determine the winner:

19.1.1 In Australia Cup WA Preliminary Rounds, Top Four Cup First Team, State Cup Final, Women's State Cup Final, Amateur Cup First Team:

19.1.1.1 two periods of extra time of 15 minutes per period will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game (or in the case of a two-leg tie, at the conclusion of the second leg); and

19.1.1.2 If the teams remain tied after two periods of extra time, the winner of the Play-Off Final will be decided by a penalty shootout as described in the Laws of the Game.

19.1.2 In the Top Four Cup Reserves and U18's, State Reserves Cup, State 18's Cup, Women's State Cup (except the Final), Amateur Cup Reserves Team, Masters Cup, Over 45's Cup, Over 55's Cup, Women's League Cup, Women's Masters Cup, and all Junior Cups, the winner of the Play-Off Final will be decided by a penalty shootout as described in the Laws of the Game.

## 20. OTHER MATCHES

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20.1 Football West may, from time to time, organise Matches outside the normal Competition Season, including Matches involving winning Teams or other special promotional rounds.

20.2 Any Team chosen to play in a Match organised by Football West pursuant to rule 20.1 is required to participate in that Match. Failure to do so may incur a **penalty as set out in Appendix B**.

## 21. TEAM REMOVED OR WITHDRAWN FROM COMPETITION

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21.1 In the event of any Team withdrawing or being removed from a Competition by Football West (Ex-Team), the following procedure will take effect to allow the altered Competition to proceed to a conclusion:

21.1.1 Removal or withdrawal before Competition has started and Ex-Team is not replaced in accordance with Rule 12.4.1:

21.1.1.1 All Teams remaining in the Competition will be credited with a bye result.

21.1.2 Removal or withdrawal before the first half of the round-robin Matches have been completed:

- 21.1.2.1 All goals scored and points earned by opponents in Matches against the Ex-Team will be deleted from their records and all Teams remaining in the Competition will be credited with a bye result.
- 21.1.3 Removal or withdrawal after all of the first half of the round robin Matches have been completed:
  - 21.1.3.1 All goals scored and points earned by opponents in Matches against the Ex-Team in the first half of the round robin Matches will be retained by those Teams but all goals scored and points earned by opponents in Matches against the Ex-Team in the second half of the round robin Matches (if any) will be deleted from their records and all Teams remaining in the Competition will be credited with a bye result
- 21.2 If a Club withdraws its Reserve or linked U18 Team, their First Team will be subject to a **penalty as set out in Appendix B**.

## **D. PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY**

### **22. PLAYER REGISTRATION**

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- 22.1 A Player must be registered with FA:
  - 22.1.1 through the Play Football app, with a valid Player photograph; and
  - 22.1.2 in accordance with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations; to be eligible to participate in any competitive Match.
- 22.2 A Player may register if the Player is at least 5 years old as at 31 December of the Competition Year.
- 22.3 An Australian Amateur Player, who has not previously been registered with an Australian Club in the Competition Year, may register with any Club in accordance with:
  - 22.3.1 the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations;
  - 22.3.2 the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players; and
  - 22.3.3 the relevant Player Roster rules.
- 22.4 A Player who has previously been validly registered on Play Football in the current Season for a Club may only register for another Club in that season before 5pm WST on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July in that Competition year, in accordance with and subject to compliance with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations.
- 22.5 This Rule 22 does not apply to MiniRoos League, 12's, Junior League and Junior Girls League Competitions, however, these Competitions may be subject to the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations.

### **23. PROOF OF REGISTRATION**

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- 23.1 It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that each Player participating in a Match:
  - 23.1.1 is eligible to do so;
  - 23.1.2 is properly registered in accordance with Rule 22.1;
  - 23.1.3 has acceptable proof of registration and can be identified through the registered Player photograph.

- 23.2 Each Club is required to satisfy itself that that each Player is registering for the correct age group and with the correct date of birth and must sight a proof of age document satisfactory to Football West when a Player first registers with that Club.
- 23.3 Football West reserves the right to request a certified copy of a document as proof of age in connection with any player. **Penalty per breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 23.4 The authorised representative of each Club participating in the Match is responsible for satisfying themselves that the opposition Players are properly registered with Football West.
- 23.5 Each Team must produce proof of registration for any or each of its Players on request from the opposition Club prior to kick-off. This may be produced electronically but must be in a format that allows the opposition Club to verify the Players identities. For clarity, the preferred format is a pdf version of the Player ID Cards being sent electronically to the opposition Club.
- 23.6 If a Club is unable to produce proof of registration for any Player prior to kick-off after being requested to do so by the opposition Club, the Match may proceed. However, the proof of registration must be produced before the end of the Match for that Player(s) to be deemed eligible to participate. If the Club is unable to produce the proof by the end of the Match, that Player(s) will be deemed ineligible.
- 23.7 The failure of a Club to produce proof of registration to the opposition Club must be reported to the Match Official who must note that failure on the Team List. A Player eligibility protest on the grounds of failure to produce Proof of Registration will only be accepted if a report has been received by Football West from the Match Official.
- 23.8 Proof of registration cannot be requested after the Match has commenced.
- 23.9 If a Club has complied with all necessary requirements and wishes to subsequently lodge a protest based on Player eligibility, it must do so in accordance with the conditions specified in the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.

## 24. AGE ELIGIBILITY

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- 24.1 Subject to any exceptions and additional eligibility requirements expressly set out in these Rules, including in the Competition-Specific Variations, a Player must meet the following age criteria to play in any Competition.
  - 24.1.1 To play in an Open Age Competition - be at least 16 years of age as at 31 December of the Competition Year.
  - 24.1.2 To play in an Over 55's League - be at least 56 years of age as at 31 December of the Competition Year.
  - 24.1.3 To play in an Over 45's League - be at least 46 years of age as at 31 December of the Competition Year.
  - 24.1.4 To play in any Masters League - be at least 36 years of age as at 31 December of the Competition Year.
  - 24.1.5 To play in an Under 23's Division - be at least 16 years of age and no older than 23 years of age as at 31 December of the Competition Year.
  - 24.1.6 To play in an Under 21's Division - be at least 16 years of age and no older than 21 years of age as at 31 December of the Competition Year.

24.1.7 Under 18's Division - be at least 15 years of age and no older than 18 years of age as at 31 December of the Competition Year.

24.2 A Player who does not meet the age criteria for a Competition as set out in this Rule 23 may apply to Football West in writing to be assessed as competent to play in that Competition, however, is ineligible to play unless and until Football West provide confirmation of competency to the Club in writing.

24.3 Football West reserves the right to allow elite female Players to participate in any male Competition appropriate to their skill level regardless of age or normal eligibility criteria otherwise described in these Rules. In such cases, Football West will determine the most appropriate Competition for those Players on a case-by-case basis.

## 25. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

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25.1 A Player is ineligible to play if that Player:

- 25.1.1 is not registered in accordance with the National Registration Regulations; or
- 25.1.2 plays for a Club with which the Player is not registered; or
- 25.1.3 plays without an ITC (International Transfer Certificate) where one is required; or
- 25.1.4 plays within a Stand-Down Period due to a change of status; or
- 25.1.5 plays while under suspension; or
- 25.1.6 plays while registered for two Clubs at the same time without seeking an exemption to do so (note that the Player is eligible to play for the Club with which he was registered first in these circumstances); or
- 25.1.7 is registered as an Amateur when deemed as a Professional; or
- 25.1.8 does not have proof of registration as described in these rules; or
- 25.1.9 plays for a Club, Team or in a Competition when not permitted to do so under these Rules including breaches of the player roster requirements; or
- 25.1.10 plays in a Match when not listed on a Team list; or
- 25.1.11 plays in a Match in which his or her name has been added to the Team list after the Match has commenced; or
- 25.1.12 plays for a Team which causes the maximum number of Players allowed to be listed on a Team list is exceeded; or
- 25.1.13 plays under an assumed identity; or
- 25.1.14 does not meet the age eligibility criteria in Rule 24 and has not obtained an exception in writing from Football West; or
- 25.1.15 plays while not eligible to do so for any other reason.

25.2 If a Player plays in a Match while ineligible, the Club will be liable for a **penalty as set out in Appendix B** of this document. In certain circumstances, as determined by the Football West (in its absolute discretion), a Player may also be sanctioned.

## 26. PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS

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26.1 Professional Players may only participate in any league deemed by Football West to be a professional competition.

26.2 Professional Players may only be registered during the prescribed registration periods as published by FA and in accordance with the National Registration, status and Transfer Regulations and the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players.

26.2.1 In 2026, the windows are:

26.2.1.1 Men:

(a) Between 14 January 2026 and 10 February 2026;

(b) Any other period as designated by FA or FIFA.

26.2.1.2 Women:

(a) Between 7 October 2025 and 29 December 2025;

(b) Between 29 April 2026 and 26 May 2026;

26.2.1.3 Any other period as designated by FA or FIFA.

26.3 A Professional Player may be registered outside a prescribed registration period if the Player is a goalkeeper, and:

26.3.1 in State League, the Club can supply evidence from a certified medical practitioner declaring that two or more goalkeepers are unfit to play at the time of the registration and for a period longer than six (6) weeks; or

26.3.2 in NPL WA Men's, in accordance with Article 2.2 of the Long-Term Injury Replacement Policy.

## **27. TEAM OFFICIAL REGISTRATION**

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27.1 The Club must ensure that all persons performing the following roles are registered on PlayFootball:

27.1.1 NPL and State League Men: All coaches, assistant coaches, goalkeeper coaches, Team managers, sports trainers, physiotherapists, or other medical staff in all age groups.

27.1.2 All other Competitions: all coaches. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

27.2 Other Team Officials who sit in the Technical Area during any Match must be registered on PlayFootball. Where no Technical Area is marked, Team Officials who are actively involved in any Match must be registered on PlayFootball. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

## **28. CLUB PROTEST**

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28.1 If a Club has a reasonable belief that a Player has played while ineligible, it may lodge a protest in accordance with the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.

## **E. MATCH OPERATIONS**

### **29. MATCHES - GENERAL**

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- 29.1 All Matches must be played in accordance with these Rules, the accompanying Annexures and the Football West Match Scheduling Policy.
- 29.2 All Matches must be played on grass, or an artificial surface that has been approved in writing by Football West.
- 29.3 Nets affixed to goalposts must be used in all Football West Matches. The Match Official must not allow the Match to proceed without nets.
- 29.4 Portable goalposts may be used in Football West matches but must comply with the applicable Australian standard and legislation.

### **30. MATCHES - SCHEDULING**

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- 30.1 Venues, dates and times of Matches will be fixed and published by Football West as soon as practicable prior to the commencement of each Competition Season. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, Matches will be played at those venues and on those dates as published on Football West's website.
- 30.2 Football West will not review or consider any dispute in relation to a Match schedule which arises by virtue of a Club making a claim of perceived unfairness.
- 30.3 The Club whose name appears first in any Match is deemed to be the home Team regardless of the venue at which the Match is played (**Home Club**).
- 30.4 Each Club is required to participate in its allocated Matches unless otherwise specified in these Rules. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 30.5 Once Match schedules have been published, no changes may be made unless otherwise provided for in these Rules, including in the Competition-Specific Variations.
- 30.6 Where a Match is required to be rescheduled, the Clubs must agree a new date and time within the timeframe specified by Football West. If the Clubs do not reach agreement within that timeframe, Football West will determine the new date and time of the Match, and the Clubs must comply with that decision.
- 30.7 A Club and each Team must comply with any lawful direction given by Football West in changing a Match schedule.

#### **30.8 Football West Changes**

- 30.8.1 Football West reserves the right to change the date, time and venue of any Match (including as a result of changes to the availability of a venue). Football West may consult with and take into account any representations made by a Club participating in the Match in question, and with any other Club or Clubs which may be affected before doing so.

#### **30.9 Club requests for change**

- 30.9.1 The Competition-Specific Variations set out what changes may be requested by a Club after the fixtures are published.

- 30.9.2 A Club in any Competition may request a Match change if it can demonstrate exceptional circumstances in writing. Football West shall have discretion whether to approve or not. Subject to Rule 30.9.3, any such request for a Match change must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition Club.
- 30.9.3 Football West may approve a fixture change without both Clubs' consent if it determines (in its discretion) that there are exceptional circumstances.
- 30.9.4 Football West may reject any fixture change submission if the proposed changes will cause unreasonable inconvenience to a Club or Team.
- 30.9.5 A Club which has been granted a fixture change for any reason is responsible for all costs associated with the rescheduled fixture.

#### **30.10 Regional Teams**

- 30.10.1 Weekend Matches involving South West Phoenix may not start before 11:00am unless both Clubs indicate their consent in writing to Football West not less than 2 business days before the Match.
- 30.10.2 Midweek and Friday Night Matches involving South West Phoenix may not start before 7:00pm unless both Clubs indicate their consent in writing to Football West not less than 2 business days before the Match.
- 30.10.3 Weekend Matches involving Mandurah City FC may not start before 9:30am unless both Clubs indicate their consent in writing to Football West not less than 2 business days before the Match.
- 30.10.4 Midweek and Friday Night Matches involving Mandurah City FC may not start before 6:30pm unless both Clubs indicate their consent in writing to Football West no less than 2 business days before the Match.
- 30.10.5 Any Match between two Clubs with a driving distance of less than 40km will be exempt from Rules 30.10.1 to 30.10.4.

### **31. FIELDING A TEAM**

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- 31.1 A Match must not proceed or continue if either Team is reduced to fewer than 7 Players.
- 31.2 Where a Club does not have sufficient Players to field all required Teams, priority must be given in accordance with these stated priorities:
  - 31.2.1 In NPL WA Women's, the First Team has priority over Under 21's.
  - 31.2.2 In NPL WA Men's, the First Team has priority over Under 23's, and Under 23's has priority over Under 18's.
  - 31.2.3 In all other Competitions, the First Team has priority over Reserves, and Reserves has priority over Under 18's (if applicable).
- 31.3 A Club in any League will have breached this Rule if:
  - 31.3.1 they fail to field a Team in three of that Team's consecutive Matches; or
  - 31.3.2 they fail to field a Team in four Matches across the Regular Season.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

31.4 A Club in NPL, State League or Amateur League will have breached this Rule if:

- 31.4.1 they fail to field a Team in each Division in three consecutive Matches; or
- 31.4.2 they fail to field a Team in each Division in four Matches across the Regular Season.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

31.5 A Club in YCC will have breached this Rule if:

- 31.5.1 they fail to field a Team in each age group in three consecutive Matches; or
- 31.5.2 they fail to field a Team in each age group in four Matches across the Regular Season.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

## **32. COMMENCEMENT OF MATCHES**

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32.1 In the event that a Team is not ready to commence the Match within 15 minutes following the scheduled kick-off time, the Match must not proceed. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

## **33. VENUE SAFETY AND READINESS**

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33.1 It is the responsibility of the Home Club to ensure that its home venue (including stadiums, change facilities and grounds) meets all requirements of these Regulations on Match Day and can facilitate the safe conduct of a scheduled Match.

33.2 The Home Club must ensure that prior to the Match, the Match Official has sufficient time to conduct a ground inspection, which may include but is not limited to inspection of the goal nets, the line markings and the state of repair of the ground more generally.

33.3 The Match Official may, in that Match Official's discretion, deem a ground not fit for purpose and elect to abandon the Match. In such a scenario, the Match Official must inform Football West of this occurrence to which Football West may propose remedial action, including but not limited to imposition of sanctions on the relevant Club such as a forfeit.

33.4 A Match may be played wholly or partly under floodlights if the floodlight installation has been approved by Football West as suitable for the conduct of Matches in the Competition in which the Match will take place. The Match Official may determine at any point immediately prior to or during the Match whether the lighting is adequate for the relevant Match (including Player safety) and may determine whether the Match is to proceed on this basis.

## **34. INCLEMENT OR EXTREME WEATHER**

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- 34.1 A Club must use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure that its home venue (including stadiums, change facilities and grounds) can facilitate the safe conduct of a scheduled Match during adverse weather conditions.
- 34.2 In the event of inclement weather, the Match Official must determine whether the safety of the Players, Club Officials, Match Officials and spectators will be compromised by commencing or continuing a Match. The Match Official will exercise his or her discretion as to whether the match will proceed, taking account of the [Football West Extreme Weather Policy](#).
- 34.3 On days in which the temperature is expected to be high, The Match Official will exercise his or her discretion as to frequency of drinks breaks, taking account of the [Football West Extreme Weather Policy](#). During any such break, all Players must remain on the field of play.
- 34.4 Irrespective of any other Rule to the contrary, in the event that a Match is ended in a manner inconsistent with these Rules due to inclement or extreme weather (including for example, by extra time rather than proceeding directly to kicks from the Penalty mark, or vice versa), Football West may allow the Match result to stand if it is satisfied (in its absolute discretion) that the Match was concluded in a manner consistent with the Laws of the Game. If Football West determines that allowing the Match result to stand would result in an unfair result, the entire Match will be replayed. The decision of Football West in these circumstances is final and cannot be challenged.

## **35. MATCH DAY OPERATIONS**

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- 35.1 The Home Club must provide one stretcher which is to be placed between the Technical Areas in a safe and accessible position. The stretcher must be in position before the commencement of the first Match of the day until the conclusion of the final Match of the day unless being utilised. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 35.2 Each Team must have a first aid kit available at the venue on the date of the Match.
- 35.3 Football West reserves the right to instruct Home Clubs to increase the minimum-security arrangements for any Match at any time. The cost of any additional security arrangements is to be borne by the Home Club.
- 35.4 Football West may appoint a Match commissioner at any NPL WA Match as its representative.
- 35.5 The Match commissioner must submit a report to Football West following each Match attended.
- 35.6 Should the Match commissioner report that a Club has breached any rules or regulations of Football West, then the Club may be sanctioned accordingly. A Match commissioner is classified as a Match Official with the same status as a Match Official, assistant Match Official, fourth official and Match Official inspector.

## **36. POSTPONED, DELAYED OR ABANDONED MATCHES**

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- 36.1 A Match must not be Postponed, Delayed or Abandoned except:
  - 36.1.1 on the instructions of the appointed Match Official in accordance with Rule 36.3;

- 36.1.2 by order of the police or other relevant authority exercising its statutory powers to that effect; or
- 36.1.3 on the instructions of, or with the prior written consent of, Football West.

36.2 Subject to Rule 36.1, if a Club requests the postponement of a Match, Football West reserves the right to require that an alternative date, time, and venue are agreed before any such request is granted.

36.3 If the appointed Match Official Postpones, Delays or Abandons a Match, the Match Official must, within 30 minutes of making such a decision, inform:

- 36.3.1 the Home Club;
- 36.3.2 the visiting Club; and
- 36.3.3 the Football West Match Officials Department.

36.4 If no Match Official is appointed by Football West to that relevant Postponed, Delayed or Abandoned Match, the responsibility to give the notice required by Rule 36.3 rests with the Home Club.

36.5 If the appointed Match Official Postpones or Delays any Match, they must submit a report in writing to Football West within 72 hours of the scheduled conclusion of that Match outlining the reasons for their actions. The appointed Match Officials are entitled to 50% of the prescribed Match fee for a Postponed Match and 100% of the Match fee for a Delayed Match which is subsequently completed or Abandoned.

36.6 If a Club or Club Associate is found by Football West (at its absolute discretion) to have caused the Abandonment of any Match:

- 36.6.1 they will be sanctioned in accordance with the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations; and
- 36.6.2 the Team of the relevant Club or to which the Club Associate is associated will be deemed to have forfeited that Match.

36.7 A Match Official must Abandon a Match (other than MiniRoos) where a Team is reduced to fewer than seven (7) Players. In such a circumstance, Football West may determine the Match forfeited for the Team with the reduced number of Players or may require some other form of remedial action as it sees fit.

**36.8 Rescheduling a Postponed Match**

36.8.1 A Match Postponed in accordance with Rule 36.1 may only be rescheduled:

- 36.8.1.1 at a date, time and venue mutually agreed by both Clubs (with details of the rearranged Match to be communicated to Football West at least three (3) Business Days prior to the Match); or'
- 36.8.1.2 if the Clubs involved are not able to reach an agreement as to when the Match will be played, at a date, time and venue as determined by Football West (such decision of Football West to be final).

36.8.2 If the rescheduled Match incurs a cost, Football West may pass on that cost to either one or both participating Clubs depending on the circumstances which led to the Postponement.

36.8.3 If a Postponed Match cannot be rescheduled in accordance with Rule 36.8.1, or cannot be completed for any other reason, Football West reserves the right to declare the Match a 0-0 draw or impose a forfeit on a Club that Football West deems responsible for the Postponement.

### 36.9 **Rescheduling an Abandoned Match**

36.9.1 If a Match is Abandoned for any reason prior to half time, then the Match will be replayed, unless, in the opinion of the Match Official, one or both of the participating Teams have caused or contributed to the abandonment of the Match or unless otherwise specified in these Rules or accompanying Annexures.

36.9.2 If a Match is Abandoned at half time or after the commencement of the second half, then the score at the time of the abandonment of the Match will be deemed to be the Match result, unless, in the opinion of the Match Official, one or both of the participating Teams or a Club Associate from one of the participating Teams caused or contributed to the abandonment of the Match. If the Match Official does not express an opinion on the party responsible for the Abandonment, Football West may make a decision as to which party or parties are responsible for the Abandonment and may impose a penalty on one or both Clubs, or Players or impose some other remedial action for the offending party.

36.9.3 Rules 36.9.3 and 36.9.4 do not apply to the MiniRoos League. Abandoned Matches in the MiniRoos League will not be replayed under any circumstances. Where results are recorded by Football West, the result will stand as it was at the time of the Abandonment.

36.9.4 If a Match is Abandoned, and that Match is one where an outcome must be determined (for example a knock out Cup Match) and at the time of the abandonment scores are level, then that Match will be replayed in full, unless in the opinion of the Match Official, one or both of the participating Teams or a Club Associate from one or both of the participating Teams caused or contributed to the Abandonment. If the Match Official does not express an opinion on the party responsible for the Abandonment, Football West may make a decision as to which party or parties are responsible for the Abandonment and may impose a penalty on one or both Clubs, or Players or impose some other remedial action for the offending party.

36.9.5 An Abandoned Match which is to be replayed can be rescheduled only:

36.9.5.1 at a date, time and venue mutually agreed by both Clubs (with details of the rearranged Match to be communicated to Football West at least three (3) Business Days prior to the kick-off time for the Match for NPL, and at least ten (10) Business Days in the case of all other Competitions); or

36.9.5.2 if the Clubs involved are not able to reach an agreement as to when the Match will be played, at a date, time and venue as determined by Football West, such decision of Football West to be final.

36.9.6 If a Match rescheduled under Rule 36.9.5.2 incurs a cost, Football West may pass on that cost to either one or both of the participating Clubs depending on the circumstances which led to the Abandonment.

36.9.7 If an abandoned Match cannot be rescheduled in accordance with Rule 36.9.5.2, Football West reserves the right to declare the Match a 0-0 draw. If the Abandoned Match is one where an outcome must be determined, Football West reserves the right to determine the outcome of the Match using any method it chooses.

## 37. FORFEITED MATCHES

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37.1 A Team that forfeits a Match (or is deemed to have forfeited) may be sanctioned with a Penalty at the discretion of Football West. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

**In addition, any Club which forfeits their First Team and another Team in that Competition (such as Reserves) shall have 6 competition points deducted from the First Team and the fine shall be doubled for both teams.**

37.2 **Consequences for results and Match Data**

37.2.1 The result of a forfeited Match will be awarded to the opposition Team by a margin of 3-0, unless that score disadvantages the non-offending Team (including where the non-offending Team has a margin of goals greater than three (3) at the point at which the Match is abandoned).

37.2.2 In circumstances in which Football West determines that both Teams participating in a Match commit a breach of any Rule which carry the sanction of a forfeit, Football West reserves the right to declare the Match played, and award each Team zero points and zero goals, or if that Match occurs in a knockout Competition, disqualify both Teams from that Competition.

37.2.3 Notwithstanding Rule 37.2.1, in circumstances where a Team is retrospectively penalised with forfeiting a Match, or forfeits during the Match after play has started:

37.2.3.1 all Match data resulting from the Match will be retained. This data includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) goals scored (with the exception of those scored by an ineligible Player);
- (b) Fairest and Best votes (with the exception of those earned by an ineligible Player);
- (c) substitutions;
- (d) yellow cards; and
- (e) red cards; but

37.2.3.2 Match data directly related to the conduct of a Player will not be retained if Football West determines that relevant Player caused or contributed to the relevant Team forfeiting the Match. For example, if a Player who is under suspension scores a goal in a Match, and that Player is responsible for conduct which leads to

that Team forfeiting the Match, that goal will not be counted towards that Player's Season goal tally.

37.3 If a Team that forfeits three (3) consecutive Matches or any four (4) Matches during a Competition Season, Football West may at its absolute discretion, deem that relevant Team to have withdrawn from the Competition. Such withdrawal does not automatically cause the withdrawal of the other Teams within that Club from any other Competition or division, but Football West may impose such conditions on the continuing participation of that relevant Club as it sees fit to preserve the integrity of the Competitions.

## **38. PLAYING EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORM**

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38.1 Each Team must nominate a home and alternative playing strip. The colours of the home strip's shirts and socks must be significantly different from those of the alternative strip. Each Club must ensure that they have access to both a home and an alternative playing strip prior to the commencement of every Match.

38.2 The Home Team will wear its designated home strip unless an exemption is granted by Football West in writing or if otherwise provided for in these Rules.

38.3 Each nominated strip and all club attire displaying club logo or badge (including match day and training attire, on and off field) must comply with the following requirements (when nominated and on each occasion that it is worn):

38.3.1 Each Player's playing shirt, including the goalkeeper's shirt, must display on its back a unique number which is clearly distinguishable from a reasonable distance. The number must be a whole number between 1 and 99. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

38.3.2 The number 1 may only be worn by a goalkeeper. A substitute goalkeeper must have a different, and unique, number on the back of their shirt.

38.3.3 Nothing may be placed on a Player's playing shirt that covers any part of the NPL Logo (such as captain's armbands or black armbands).

38.3.4 No part of the Player's attire or the uniform worn by a Club Official may incorporate national flags, slogans, or emblems, offend the spirit of the Inclusivity Principles or bring the FA or Football West into disrepute.

38.3.5 A Team whose shirts comprise stripes must have a plain coloured background on the back of each shirt on which the number is placed. The colour of the numbers must contrast clearly with the colour of the aforementioned background. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

38.4 Advertising on a strip is permitted except for:

38.4.1 advertisements which contravene state or federal laws (such as tobacco advertising);

38.4.2 advertisements relating to betting, wagering or gambling products or services;

38.4.3 advertisements which contravene Football West Statutes or Football Australia Statutes;

38.4.4 advertisements which relate or refer to products, brands or companies which are, in Football West's sole opinion, in direct conflict with Football West sponsors or damage the reputation of the Competition, Football West or Football Australia; or

38.4.5 (in respect of any strip worn by Players under the age of 18, whether in an Under18's Competition or otherwise), no advertising relating to alcoholic beverages.

38.5 Football West reserves the right to require that any such sponsorship advertising is removed from a playing strip if it deems the advertisement breaches Rule 38.4.

38.6 In any Match, if the shirts or socks of the participating Teams are alike or similar or are in the opinion of the Match Official likely to cause confusion:

38.6.1 then the Match Official may:

- 38.6.1.1 (in Seniors) require that Players of the away Team change their shirts and/or socks (for the avoidance of doubt, bibs may not be worn); or
- 38.6.1.2 (in Juniors) require that Players of the Home Team change their shirts and/or socks (for the avoidance of doubt, bibs may not be worn);
- 38.6.1.3 if the relevant Team is unable to comply with an instruction given pursuant to Rule 39.6.1.1 or 39.6.1.2, Postpone the Match; and

38.6.2 in the event of any dispute regarding the strip to be worn by either Team, the Match Official's decision is final.

38.7 A Match that has been Postponed in accordance with Rule 39.6.1.3 shall be declared a forfeit in accordance with Rule 38 against the Team unable to comply with the Match Official's instructions, unless Football West determines otherwise in exceptional circumstances. Where the Postponed Match is not forfeited, the Team unable to comply with the Match Official's instructions will bear any costs associated with rescheduling the Postponed Match.

## 39. VENUE – MATCH DAY

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39.1 The Home Club must host the Match at their home ground nominated in accordance with Rule 14.

39.2 On Match Day, the Home Club and venue must comply with the following operational requirements:

39.2.1 Parking spaces inside the venue must be provided free of charge for Match Officials as set out below:

Competition	Number of parking spaces
NPL	4
State League	4
Other	No requirement

39.2.2 That barriers are installed in compliance with Appendix A and that spectators remain behind those barriers.

39.2.3 A nominated groundskeeper is on duty during all scheduled home NPL and State League Matches, commencing at least (1) one hour prior to the first scheduled Match. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

39.2.4 A stretcher must be available.

39.3 Football West reserves the right to require that its, FA's, and any applicable Competition sponsors' signage is prominently displayed at the venue at which any Match is played. A Club and each Team must comply with any lawful direction given by Football West in connection with this Rule.

## 40. SUBSTITUTES

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40.1 The permitted substitute numbers are:

Competition	Division	Nominated substitutes	Number of substitutes permitted to be used
NPL WA Men's	All, Night Series	7	5
NPL WA Women's	All, Night Series	7	5
Men's State League	All, Night Series	7	5
Women's League	Division 1, Night Series knock-out matches	7	5
Women's League	Division 2, Night Series group matches	5	5 (interchange)
Amateur League	Firsts, Night Series knock-out matches	7	5
Amateur League	Reserves, Night Series group matches	5	5 (interchange)
Junior	13s-18's	5	5 (interchange)
Australia Cup WA Preliminary Rounds	N/A	6 (one must be goalkeeper)	5
State Cup Final	N/A	7	5
State Reserves Cup	N/A	7	5
State 18's Cup	N/A	7	5
Women's State Cup	N/A	7	5
Women's League Cup	N/A	5	5 (interchange)
Men's Senior Sunday	All	5	5 (interchange)

40.2 Further Competition-Specific Variations are set out in Part H.

40.3 Substitutes who are warming up must:

40.3.1 warm up inside the confines of the perimeter fence (where erected);

- 40.3.2 wear a bib which is a different colour to both Teams and the Match Officials; and
- 40.3.3 not warm up with a football.

40.4 All substitutions must take place in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

## **41. TECHNICAL AREAS**

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- 41.1 A Technical Area must be clearly marked for each Match in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- 41.2 Each Technical Area must have seating for the maximum permitted occupants in Rule 41.3.
- 41.3 The Technical Area may have a maximum of:
  - 41.3.1 twelve (12) occupants for NPL, State League, Women's Divisions 1-5 (consisting of a maximum of seven (7) named substitutes and five (5) non-playing Team Officials);
  - 41.3.2 ten (10) occupants for Amateur League, Metropolitan League, Masters League, Women's League, JDL and JCL (consisting of a maximum of seven (7) named substitutes and a maximum of three (3) Team Officials).
- 41.4 All substitutes, substituted Players and non-playing officials must remain in the Technical Area while the Match is in progress with the exception of substitutes who are warming up. A Player or non-playing official whose name does not appear on the Team List may not enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play or the Technical Area while the Match is in progress.
- 41.5 Players and Technical Area occupants must identify themselves to the Match Officials upon request during, immediately before and immediately after a Match. The Head Coach will be cautioned in place of the unidentified Player or Team Official. The Club will be penalised in the event of a breach. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

## **42. MATCH BALLS**

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- 42.1 Match balls must meet the requirements of the Laws of the Game.
- 42.2 Each Home Team must provide the Match Official (or game leader in the case of Juniors) with the designated number of Match balls prior to the deadline. The requirements for each Competition are designated below. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Team/Division</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Minutes prior to commencement of Match</b>	<b>Size</b>
NPL	All	3	10 minutes	Size 5
Men's State League	All	3	10 minutes	Size 5
Amateur League (Men's)	Men's Premier and Premier Reserves	3	10 minutes	Size 5
Amateur League	North and south	3	10 minutes	Size 5

(Men's)	divisions			
Metropolitan League	All	3	5 minutes	Size 5
Masters League	All	3	5 minutes	Size 5
Women's	Division 1 Central Divisions 2-5	3	5 minutes	Size 5
Women's League	All	3	5 minutes	Size 5
JDL	Division 1 and 2	2	5 minutes	Size 5
JCL	Under 14s -Under 18's	1	5 minutes	Size 5
JCL	Under 13s	1	5 minutes	Size 4
Miniroos	Under 10s - Under 12s	1	5 minutes	Size 4
Miniroos	All	1	5 minutes	Size 3
Clusters	All	1	5 minutes	Size 3

42.3 Football West shall designate a Match ball for certain Competitions in accordance with the below table. The Home Club is responsible for providing the designated Match ball in the numbers required by Rule 42.2. Football West will provide a certain number to each Club at the commencement of the Season in accordance with the below table, and Clubs may order more through Football West. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Team/Division</b>	<b>Number provided free by Football West</b>
NPL	All	Three per First Team
Men's State League	All	Three per Club
Amateur League (Men's)	Men's Premier and Premier Reserves	Three to each Premier Division Club
Women's	Division 1	Three per Team
JDL	Division 1 and 2	Two per Team

## 43. BROADCASTING AND LIVESTREAMING

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- 43.1 Football West is the exclusive owner or licensee of all media rights (including all audio and all audio-visual rights, in all forms such as television, internet, mobile, radio and other electronic media, and including archive rights) to the Competitions.
- 43.2 Clubs are permitted to video Matches for technical purposes. A Club must provide to Football West any technical video footage upon request.
- 43.3 **Streaming**
  - 43.3.1 Football West may designate Matches to be livestreamed by Football West or by a third-party with approval from Football West. Football West may impose such conditions as it sees fit on the livestreaming of any Match.
  - 43.3.2 If a Club wishes to livestream any Match it must be approved by Football West at least five (5) Business Days before the Match takes place.
  - 43.3.3 A Football West watermark must be displayed in the top-right corner of the broadcast, formatted as specified by Football West.
  - 43.3.4 All footage supplied to Football West post-streaming must not include the Football West watermark or any other graphical overlays.
  - 43.3.5 Advertising visible during the Broadcast must:
    - 43.3.5.1 not promote unhealthy dietary choices;
    - 43.3.5.2 comply with state or federal laws (such as tobacco advertising);
    - 43.3.5.3 comply with Football West Rules, Regulations and By-Laws;
    - 43.3.5.4 not promote any product, brand or company that Football West considers to be in conflict with any Football West sponsor; or
    - 43.3.5.5 not promote any product, brand or company that, in Football West's sole opinion, may damage the reputation of the league or Football West.
  - 43.3.6 Commentary used in any livestream must not breach the Football West or FA Code of Conduct.

## 44. LENGTH OF MATCHES, INTERVALS AND MATCH SCHEDULING

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- 44.1 **Match length**
  - 44.1.1 With the exception of abandoned Matches, each period of a Senior Match must last for a minimum of 35 minutes in order for a result to be recorded.
- 44.2 **Intervals**
  - 44.2.1 Subject to Rule 44.2.2, the duration of the half time interval is to be 15 minutes.
  - 44.2.2 The Match Official must adjust the duration of an Under 21's, Under 23's or Under 18's Match where necessary to ensure that the First Team Match commences at the scheduled kick-off time. The half time interval is to be first shortened. The half time interval must be at least eight (8) minutes long.
  - 44.2.3 When a Match is shortened in accordance with Rule 44.2.2, each Match Official is entitled to receive the full amount of their normal Match fee.

44.3 Competition-Specific Variations are set out in Part H.

## **45. ADMISSION TO MATCHES**

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### **45.1 Fees**

45.1.1 The Home Team may charge an admission fee to Matches in the following Competitions:

45.1.1.1 NPL and its Associated Competitions

45.1.1.2 State League and its Associated Competitions

45.1.2 Where an admission fee is permitted, Clubs may charge no more than the following amounts unless otherwise approved by Football West:

<b>Competition</b>	<b>General Admission</b>	<b>Students, Pensioners and Concession Holders (with valid ID)</b>	<b>Children under 16</b>
NPL (including Associated Competitions)	\$15	\$7.50	Free
State League (including Associated Competitions)	\$10	\$5	Free

45.1.3 Where an admission fee is charged, each Team is entitled to 23 free entries for Players, Club Officials or official Club guests, unless otherwise stated for a specific Competition.

45.1.4 The Visiting Club must provide the Home Club with the names of persons entitled to free entry by 12:00pm on the last Business Day before the Match, unless otherwise stated.

45.1.5 Football West reserve the right to charge an admission fee for any matches and competitions at the Sam Kerr Football Centre at a rate determined by Football West.

### **45.2 Accredited entry**

45.2.1 Any person who produces official Football West accreditation (including Match Officials not appointed to the Match) must be granted free entry. Clubs must not refuse entry to a person with correct accreditation. Football West accreditation is valid only for Football West Matches and may be revoked at any time.

45.2.2 The Football West videographer and Match reporter must be permitted to park inside the venue free of charge.

### **45.3 Entry conditions**

45.3.1 The Home Club must have venue conditions of entry (for paid and free entry) that requires all persons attending the venue to:

45.3.1.1 comply with the FA Spectator Code of Behaviour;

- 45.3.1.2 not smoke tobacco or use vaping devices within 20 metres of the Field of Play; and
- 45.3.1.3 not bring or possess glassware, glass bottles, or cans on the Field of Play or in any area surrounding it, including any designated spectator areas.

45.3.2 The Home Club must take all reasonable steps to implement and enforce the conditions of entry specified in Rule 45.3.1, including monitoring patron behaviour and taking appropriate action where breaches occur.

## F. OFFICIALS AND REPORTING

### 46. ALLOCATION OF MATCH OFFICIALS

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46.1 The allocation of Match Officials will be determined by Football West. No Club may request the attendance or non-attendance of any particular Match Official. A Club must not refuse to allow an allocated Match Official to officiate at that allocated Match.

#### 46.2 Conflicts of interest

46.2.1 Football West Match Officials must not officiate a Match in cases where the Match Official has an actual or potential conflict of interest in respect of that Match, or the Teams or Players involved in it (**Conflict of Interest**).

46.2.2 Football West Match Officials must immediately disclose a Conflict of Interest to Football West prior to commencement of a Match. If there is any doubt as to whether or not any such conflict exists, the Match Official must declare it.

46.2.3 If a Club believes that a Football West Match Official has a Conflict of Interest, it may report the matter to Football West with detailed reasons for the alleged conflict of interest. Any reports of alleged conflict which do not contain detailed reasons for the allegation will be dismissed immediately.

46.2.4 In the event that a Conflict of Interest comes to the attention of Football West, Football West may make a determination (in its absolute discretion) on whether that Conflict of Interest exists. If Football West determines that a Conflict of Interest exists or has existed, Football West may make any directive or determination that it sees fit in the circumstances, including that it may order the replay of the Match or determine that a forfeit is to be imposed (but is not limited to these outcomes). Football West may determine the action or direction to be taken or made at its own and final discretion.

### 47. MATCH OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE

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47.1 A Match cannot proceed without the minimum number of Match Officials.

47.2 In the absence of one or both assistant Match Officials, each Team will provide a Club assistant Match Official to assist the Match Official. If either Club does not comply, then the Match cannot proceed.

47.3 No NPL First Team Match or State League Match can proceed without at least one Football West match official present. In the event that none of the Match Officials allocated to such Match are ready and able to commence the Match within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, then the Match cannot proceed.

47.4 For all Matches except NPL First Team Match or State League Match, where a Match Official is not allocated to the Match by Football West or none of the Match Officials allocated to a Match are ready and able to commence the Match within 15 minutes of the

scheduled kick-off time, then the Home Club will allocate a Match Official (**Club Match Official**).

#### 47.5 Club Match Officials

- 47.5.1 For Senior Competitions, a Club Match Official (including an assistant), must be at least sixteen years old [or as old as the youngest eligible Player for the Competition or (whichever is the younger)].
- 47.5.2 For Junior Competitions, a Club Match Official must be at least two years older than the age group of the Teams playing in that relevant Match.
- 47.5.3 A Club Match Official will (by reason of Football West's delegation of authority to relevant regional football associations), assume the same powers and responsibilities as a Football West-appointed Match Official for the duration of the Match.

### 48. MATCH OFFICIAL DUTIES

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- 48.1 Match Officials have the duties and powers set out in the Laws of the Game, National Disciplinary Regulations, D&GRs, and all other Statutes.
- 48.2 The decisions of the Match Official regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the Match, are final, even if the decision(s) of the Match Official represents a technical error in the Laws of the Game. Football West will not entertain any protests as to the result of a Match related to or arising from disciplinary decisions of a Match Official or decisions of facts relating to play.
- 48.3 Players and Team Officials must comply with any lawful instruction given to them by a Match Official officiating at a Match. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 48.4 Players and Team Officials must not approach a Match Official at any time before, during or after the Match unless invited to do so by the relevant Match Official.
- 48.5 The appointed Match Official must complete a Match report according to any directions given by the Referee Technical Committee. Such reports are to be lodged with Football West within twenty-four (24) hours of the completion of the Match.

### 49. MATCH OFFICIALS FEES

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- 49.1 Football West will determine the fees payable and publish the rates prior to the commencement of each Competition Season.
- 49.2 The Home Club is responsible for all or part of the fees as follows:
  - 49.2.1 For NPL, State League, Amateur Premier and Amateur Premier League Reserve, the Home Club is responsible for the payment of all Match Official fees.
  - 49.2.2 For Amateur Competitions not covered by Rule 49.2.1 and Women's Competitions (except NPL WA Women's), each Club is responsible for 50% of Match Official fees.
  - 49.2.3 For all other Competitions, see Competition-Specific Variations.
- 49.3 Football West is responsible for all or part of the fees as follows:
  - 49.3.1 For State Cup Final, and State Reserves Cup Final, all Match Official fees.

49.4 Match Official fees must be paid by the means set out as follows:

49.4.1 For NPL, State League, and Amateur Premier, following receipt by the Club of monthly invoices issued by Football West.

49.4.2 For Amateur Competitions not covered by Rule 49.4.1, Women's Competitions (except NPL WA Women's), and Junior Competitions in cash to the Match Official(s) on the day of the Match, before the Match commences;

49.4.3 For all other Competitions, see Competition-Specific Variations.

49.5 Subject to the Competition-Specific Variations, where two Teams from different Divisions are competing in a Cup Match, a Match Official allocated to that Match will be paid the fee payable for Matches otherwise officiated in the higher-ranking Team's Competition, to be paid by the two Teams in equal proportions.

49.6 A Club must not refuse to pay an officially appointed Match Official for any reason, except where Football West has agreed to pay the Match Official Fees.

49.7 A Club Match Official is not entitled to payment that might otherwise apply to a Match Official under these Rules but may request payment from the Club(s) that are normally responsible for the payment of Match Officials prior to kick-off. Those relevant Clubs may decide at their discretion as to whether to make such requested payment.

49.8 **Forfeits, abandonments and postponements**

49.8.1 When a Match is abandoned, the Match Officials are entitled to receive 100% of the Match fee.

49.8.2 If the Match Official delays any Match which is completed or abandoned later that same day, he must submit a report in writing to Football West within 24 (twenty-four) hours of the scheduled conclusion of the Match outlining the reasons for their actions. The Match Official is entitled to 100% of the Match fee for such Match.

49.8.3 If the Match Official delays any Match which is not recommenced that same day, he must submit a report in writing to Football West within 24 (twenty-four) hours of the scheduled conclusion of the Match outlining the reasons for their actions. The Match Official is entitled to 50% of the Match fee for such Match.

## 50. MATCH DOCUMENTATION

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50.1 An Electronic Match Card is the online form which is used to enter the details of a Match.

50.2 All Competitions except for Under 5s, Under 6s and Under 7s will use Electronic Match Cards through the Competition Management Software, website or associated mobile applications. MiniRoos Leagues from Under 5's to Under 7's will use attendance sheets.

50.3 Rules governing Electronic Match Cards are set out in the relevant Annexure for each Competition.

50.4 **Prior to the Match**

50.4.1 Each Team must complete an Electronic Match Card

50.4.1.1 no later than fifteen (15) minutes prior to the commencement of the Match, and it must:

50.4.1.2 accurately record all information requested for that Competition from time to time, including:

- (a) full Player names, FA numbers, correct shirt number, with eligible overage Players denoted and starting Players assigned;
- (b) all Team Officials and persons intending to occupy the Technical Area; and
- (c) team formation.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

50.4.2 Only Players whose names appear on the Club's Player Roster may be listed on the Team List for the First Team for NPL WA, State League 1 and State League 2, with the exception of players from the same club's Under 21's or Under 18's team in accordance with the relevant player movement rules. Any such Player must meet the age eligibility criteria of the Team from which she is being promoted.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

50.4.3 A Player whose name appears on an Electronic Match Card is deemed to have participated in the Match as either a Player or a named substitute. Players that are named substitutes but do not take the field are still participants but do not count as having taken the field for the purposes of any other Competition Rule.

50.4.4 The Team List received by Football West in respect of a Match will be accepted facts relating to that Match.

**50.5 Technical issues**

50.5.1 If there are technical difficulties or other circumstances which require a change to the Electronic Match Card system, a Team must:

- 50.5.1.1 email Football West Club Support ([clubsupport@footballwest.com.au](mailto:clubsupport@footballwest.com.au)) with the details of the participants in the Match prior to the Match's scheduled kick off time, which Football West may at its discretion accept as a valid Electronic Match Card;
- 50.5.1.2 also advise the Match Official and present proof to the Match Official that a Match Card has been emailed to Football West;
- 50.5.1.3 make available a Team List to the Match Official on Match Day, with a copy retained by the Club and made available to the opposition Club; and
- 50.5.1.4 for NPL WA, State League 1 and State League 2 First teams, make available a Team List to: (a) the Home Club Media Officer; (b) Football West's Match Reporter; and (c) Football West's Videographer.

**50.6 Results**

50.6.1 The final score shall be entered into the Competition Management System by:

- 50.6.1.1 the Match Official, for NPL, State League, Amateurs and Women's League Division 1; or
- 50.6.1.2 the Home Club within two (2) hours of the completion of the Match, for all other Competitions.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

- 50.6.2 A Club may contact Football West if it believes that the details on the Match documentation have misidentified a goal scorer or substitute.
- 50.6.3 A contest to the goal scorer(s) for a particular fixture as set out on the Electronic Match Card must:
  - 50.6.3.1 be received prior to the commencement of a subsequent round;
  - 50.6.3.2 be submitted to Football West by the relevant Club prior to the commencement of the subsequent round;
  - 50.6.3.3 be supported by evidence of video footage; and
  - 50.6.3.4 include the following details: (a) fixture details; (b) time of goal scored/substitution; (c) name and shirt number of misidentified goal scorer/substitute; (d) name and shirt number of alleged goal scorer/substituted.
- 50.6.4 At the conclusion of each Match, the Match Official will record best and fairest votes. This information is not to be disclosed to anybody and must be lodged with Football West within two (2) Business Days of the completion of the Match.

## 51. GROUND MARSHALS

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- 51.1 Each Club must appoint at least the number of Ground Marshals set out in the below table, and failure to do so will incur a **penalty as set out in Appendix B:**

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Minimum number of Ground Marshals</b>
NPL		
<b>NPL WA Men's First Team</b>	Home	4
<b>NPL WA Men's Under 18's and Under 21's</b>	Home	2
<b>NPL WA Women's First Team and under 21's</b>	Home	2
Night Series		
<b>NPL WA Men's Teams</b>	Home	4
<b>NPL WA Women's Teams</b>	Home	2
<b>Men's State League</b>	Home	4
<b>Women's League</b>	Home	2
<b>Amateurs</b>	Home	2
<b>All Night Series</b>	Away	1
Men's State League		
<b>First Team</b>	Home	4
<b>Reserves</b>	Home	2
<b>Under 18</b>	Home	2
Women's League		
<b>All</b>	Home	2

Men's Amateur League		
<b>First Team and Reserves</b>	Home	2
<b>First Team</b>	Away	2
<b>Reserves</b>	Away	1
Men's Senior Sunday		
<b>All</b>	Home	2
Junior League (depending on field of play utilised)		
<b>One field of play</b>	Home	1
<b>More than one field of play</b>	Home	2

51.1.1 In a Competition where Teams in different Leagues are playing, the minimum in Rule 51.1 will be the same as what applies for the Team in the higher League.

51.1.2 Football West may direct a Home Club to supply Ground Marshals in addition to the minimum required by Rule 51.1.

51.2 The Home Club will have 15 minutes following the scheduled kick-off time to appoint the required Ground Marshals. Failure to do so will result in the Club being penalised in accordance with Rule 37. If no Ground Marshals are present or the number of Ground Marshals are not met in relation to each specific Competition, the Match Official has sole discretion not to commence the Match. In the case a Match proceeds without the required number of Ground Marshals, **penalties set out in Appendix B** will apply at the discretion of Football West.

51.3 Each Club must ensure that the Ground Marshals are fully briefed on their responsibilities during a Match.

51.4 To be eligible to be a Ground Marshal, a person must:

51.4.1 be at least 18 years of age; and

51.4.2 not be the coach nor manager of a Team competing in that Match.

51.5 The Ground Marshal's duties are:

51.5.1 to provide an escort for the Match Officials to and from the field of play at the start and finish of each playing period;

51.5.2 to liaise with Club Officials and emergency services if required;

51.5.3 to supervise the conduct of ball persons if provided; and

51.5.4 to inform spectators of any breach of the Football West Spectator Code of Behaviour and request immediate compliance and request any spectator not complying with that code to leave the venue.

51.6 In the performance of their duties, a Ground Marshall must:

51.6.1 have access to all areas of the ground, at all times;

51.6.2 not be limited to a specific location (for example, the person collecting gate fees may not be a ground marshal);

51.6.3 wear the vests which have been supplied by Football West (and lost vests may be purchased from Football West);

51.6.4 be present and visible at all times for the duration of the match.

51.6.5 not smoke or drink alcohol.

51.7 Football West may direct any Host Venue to provide additional Ground Marshals for a Match where the Match is held at a non-standard venue, is assessed as high-risk, or where Football West considers additional Ground Marshals necessary to ensure the safe and orderly conduct of the Match. The Host Venue and participating Clubs must comply with any direction issued under this rule, and failure to do so may result in sanctions under these Regulations.

## G. AWARDS

### 52. PRIZE MONEY

52.1 Prize money will be paid to Clubs based on the finishing positions of each Competition as follows:

<b>NPL WA Men's and Women's</b>	
<i>First Team</i>	
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$15,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$5,000
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$3,000
4 <sup>th</sup>	\$1,000
<b>NPL WA Men's and Women's Top Four Cup</b>	
<i>Firsts</i>	
Grand Final winner	\$10,000
Grand Final loser	\$4,000
Match C loser	\$2,000
Match B loser	\$1,000
<i>Under 23's</i>	No prize money
<i>Under 21's (womens)</i>	No prize money
<i>Under 18's</i>	No prize money
<i>NPL WA Men's and NPL WA Men's Night Series</i>	
Winner	\$4,000
Runner up	\$1,000
<b>Men's State League</b>	
<i>Division 1</i>	
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$4,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$1,000
<i>Division 2</i>	
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$2,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$500
<b>Women's League</b>	
<i>Division 1</i>	
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$4,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$1,000
<b>State Cup Final</b>	
Winner	\$4,000
Runner up	\$1,000
<b>All other competitions</b>	
No prize money	

52.2 **NPL WA Women's and NPL WA Men's**

52.2.1 Perth Glory FC is not eligible to win prize money in NPL WA (in any division or Competition). In the event that Perth Glory FC finishes in a position that would otherwise earn prize money, the prize money will be redistributed as follows:

- 52.2.1.1 In NPL WA Men's Competition, prize money will be distributed to include the 5th placed Team in the NPL WA Men's Competition.
- 52.2.1.2 In NPL WA Men's Top Four Cup or Night Series, Prize money will be distributed in a manner stipulated by Football West. Football West's decision on the redistribution of prize money under this Rule is not subject to challenge.
- 52.2.2 Hyundai Football West Academy is not eligible to win prize money in NPL WA (in any division or Competition). In the event that Hyundai Football West Academy finishes in a position that would otherwise earn prize money, the prize money will be allocated in a manner stipulated by Football West towards Female Football development programs.

## 53. INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

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- 53.1 Individual Awards are awarded in each Competition Season, only in the categories and Divisions set out in the Competition-Specific Rules. The Rules below apply to the awarding of those, unless varied by those Competition-Specific Rules.
- 53.2 **Fairest and Best**
  - 53.2.1 A Fairest and Best prize will be awarded to the best Player in each Division of:
    - 53.2.1.1 NPL WA Men's and Women's;
    - 53.2.1.2 Men's State League, in each of the First Team, Reserves Team and Under 18's competitions;
    - 53.2.1.3 Amateur League, in each of the First Team, Reserves Team and Under 18's competitions;
    - 53.2.1.4 Senior Sunday Competition;
    - 53.2.1.5 Women's League Division 1; and
    - 53.2.1.6 Women's Central Divisions (2 and below).
  - 53.2.2 The Match Official for each Regular Season Match will award votes for the best Players in the Match. Three (3) votes will be given to the best Player, two (2) votes to the next best Player and one (1) vote awarded to the third best Player.
  - 53.2.3 The winner of the Fairest and Best prize is the Player who receives the most votes over the course of the Regular Season in their Division, subject to the ineligibility criteria at Rule 53.4. If two or more Players have an equal number of votes, an award will be presented to each of those Players.
- 53.3 **Other individual awards:**
  - 53.3.1 The Dylan Tombides Medal and the NPL WA Female Young Player of the Year will be awarded to the Player ranked highest in the Fairest and Best Award for Senior First Team Matches and who is no older than 21 at 31 December of the Competition Year, subject to the ineligibility criteria at Rule 53.4.
  - 53.3.2 The Top Goalscorer award will be presented to the Player who scores the most goals in a Competition or a specific Division during the Regular Season. Goals scored in pre-season, friendly, cup, or finals series matches are not included, unless otherwise specified by the Competition-Specific Variations. If two or

more Players score an equal number of goals, an award will be presented to each of those Players.

53.3.3 Subject to the ineligibility criteria at Rule 53.4, the Best Goalkeeper award will be presented to the best First Team goalkeeper of the year based on votes cast by the Match Officials at each Regular Season Match. If two or more goalkeepers have an equal number of votes, an award will be presented to each of those Players.

53.3.4 The Best Coach award will be presented to the coach who gains the highest amount of Competition points across the Competition throughout the season, subject to the ineligibility criteria at Rule 53.4, which in the case of a coach applies whether they received a Red Card when acting as a coach or a Player. If two or more Coaches have an equal number of points, an award will be presented to each of those Coaches.

53.4 If a Player or coach receives a suspension as a result of being shown a Red Card in the Regular Season of that Competition, or as a result of a sanction imposed by a Judicial Body or Football West during the Regular Season, they will be ineligible to win any individual award except Top Goalscorer for that Competition Season. For the avoidance of doubt, if that Player or coach receives a Red Card which is subsequently rescinded as a result of mistaken identity or an obvious error in accordance with the Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations, the Player will be eligible to win any individual award except Top Goalscorer.

## 54. FAIR PLAY AWARD

54.1 Football West will present a Fair Play Award to the winning Club(s) in the NPL WA Men's, NPL WA – W, State League First Teams Division 1 and 2, Amateur League First and Reserves Teams in the Premier Division and Women's League Division 1 Teams.

54.2 In each Division the award will go to the Club which receives the fewest number of Penalty points during the Regular Season as determined by Football West. In addition to any other Penalty accrued for breaches of these Rules, Penalty points are accrued as follows:

Each single Yellow Card issued	1 point
Each indirect Red Card issued (two Yellow Cards to a single Player or Team Official)	3 points
Each direct Red Card issued	5 points
Each non-playing official expelled from the technical area	5 points
Five or more Players cautioned or sent off in a single Match	5 points
Three or more Players sent off in a single Match	10 points

54.3 The winner of the Fair Play Award will receive the prize money as set out in the following table:

<b>NPL WA Men's and Women's</b>	
First Team	\$2,000
<b>Men's State League</b>	
First Team	\$1,000
Division 2	\$1,000

<b>Women's League</b>	
Division 1	\$1,000
<b>Amateur League</b>	
Firsts - Premier Division	\$1,000
Reserves – Premier Division	\$1,000
<b>All other competitions</b>	
No Fair Play Award	

54.4 In the event that two or more Clubs receive the fewest Penalty points, the prize money will be shared evenly across those Clubs.

**54.5 Exceptions**

54.5.1 The Perth Glory FC Team is not eligible to win the Fair Play Award. In the event that Perth Glory FC finishes the fewest number of Penalty points, the prize will be awarded to the 2nd placed Team.

54.5.2 Hyundai Football West NTC is not eligible to win prize money. Should Hyundai Football West NTC win the Fair Play Award, prize money will be allocated in a manner stipulated by Football West. Football West's decision on the redistribution of prize money under this Rule is not subject to challenge.

## **H. COMPETITION-SPECIFIC VARIATIONS**

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To the extent this Part H conflicts with any of the other Competition Rules this Part H will take precedence to the extent of the conflict or the inconsistency.

References to a Competition, Division, Team, Player or similar in a Rule in this Part will refer to and shall be interpreted as the applicable Competition that Rule applies to. For example, a reference to NPL in Rule 55 will be limited to NPL WA Men's.

### **55. NPL WA MEN'S COMPETITION**

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#### **55.1 Player Rosters and Periods**

- 55.1.1 Every Club must submit a draft of their Player Roster to Football West no later than 10:00am WST on 28 January 2026. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 55.1.2 Every Club must submit a valid Player Roster to Football West no later than 10:00am WST on 5 February 2026. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 55.1.3 A Player Roster must comprise of at least 20 Players and no more than 23 Players. Football West will not accept Player Rosters that do not comprise of a number of Players within this range and those Player Roster's will be deemed to be invalid.
- 55.1.4 All Players who have signed a professional contract must be placed onto the Player Roster.
- 55.1.5 All players on the Player Roster who have not signed a professional contract, will need to have the club return a signed Amateur Declaration (Football West Prescribed form 18) and as per Rule 55.2.3, will need to be signed within the National Registration Window.
- 55.1.6 To be eligible to play in First Team Matches a Player must be on a Club's Player Roster, subject to the exemption in Rule 55.1.15.
- 55.1.7 A Player must be registered on PlayFootball in accordance with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations before that Player can be named on a Player Roster. Football West may grant an exemption to this in exceptional circumstances.
- 55.1.8 If a Player has multiple FFA numbers or accounts on PlayFootball, their first created account's registration with a Club will be deemed to be the valid registration. If a Player intends to register with a later account they must inform Football West in writing or that account will not be considered valid until that Player do so.
- 55.1.9 A Player Roster is not official until it has been approved in writing by Football West.
- 55.1.10 For each non-Visa Player on the Player Roster, the Club must, upon request by Football West provide a copy of either:
  - 55.1.10.1 an Australian Passport; or

- 55.1.10.2 a foreign Passport and permanent residency visa; or
- 55.1.10.3 a Certificate of Australian Citizenship.

55.1.11 Other forms of proof of citizenship or permanent residency status may be accepted by Football West in its absolute discretion.

55.1.12 Once submitted and approved by Football West, no Player may be added to a Club's Player Roster except:

- 55.1.12.1 before 10:00am WST on Tuesday 10 February 2026;
- 55.1.12.2 between any further window confirmed by FA and Football West;
- 55.1.12.3 in the case of an Amateur Player who will be no older than 23 at 31 December of the Competition Year;
- 55.1.12.4 in accordance with the Long-Term Injury Policy; and
- 55.1.12.5 in the case where a Player originally listed on the Player Roster is removed in accordance with Rule 55.1.13, the Club may replace the Player with another age eligible Player registered for the Club's Under 23's or Under 18's as long as the replacement Player is already registered with the same Club.

55.1.13 Once submitted to and approved by Football West, no Player may be removed from a Club's Player Roster except:

- 55.1.13.1 before 10:00am WST on Tuesday 10 February 2026;
- 55.1.13.2 between any further window confirmed by FA and Football West;
- 55.1.13.3 when the Player is no longer registered with the Club they must be removed;
- 55.1.13.4 in the case of a Player who is unable to play in the NPL due to a change in work or personal circumstances accompanied by evidence acceptable to Football West; and
- 55.1.13.5 in accordance with the Long-Term Injury Policy.

55.1.14 A Player removed from a Club's Player Roster in accordance with Rule 55.1.13.4 may not be added onto any Club's Player Roster later in the same season.

55.1.15 Players that will be no older than 23 at 31 December of the Competition Year may play for the First Team for an unlimited number of games during the season even if they are not on the Player Roster.

## 55.2 **Visa Players**

- 55.2.1 A Visa Player is a Player who is not an Australian Player.
- 55.2.2 Each Club may name a maximum of 2 outfield Visa Players on its Player Roster. These players will attract 20 points on the PPS as Visa players. A Goalkeeper cannot be a visa player unless there is an exemption approved by Football West.
- 55.2.3 Each club may name one additional visa player whose country of origin is a member of the Asian Football Confederation or Oceania Football Confederation. These players will not attract 20 points.

55.2.4 For each Visa Player on the Player Roster, the Club must provide Football West with a copy of the Foreign Passport with the Player's entry visa into Australia.

### 55.3 **Player Eligibility**

55.3.1 An Under 23's Team may include a maximum of 4 Players on the Team List who do not otherwise meet the maximum age requirement in any Match. **Penalty for breach is as outlined in Appendix B.**

55.3.2 An overage Player playing for the Under 23's under Rule 55.3.1 must be registered on the First Team Player Roster during the Registration Window before they are eligible to participate in First Team Matches.

### 55.4 **Perth Glory**

55.4.1 All Players on the Perth Glory First Team Player Roster must have a relationship between the Player and Club that complies with the National League Player Contracting Regulations.

55.4.2 A Player who will be at least 22 years old on 31 December of the Competition Year must be contracted to Perth Glory on their First Team or as a Scholarship Player.

55.4.3 The Perth Glory First Team may additionally include a maximum of 1 goalkeeper who will be no older than 23 at 31 December of the Competition Year on the Team List for any Match, regardless of the goalkeeper being listed on the player roster. Written approval will also need to be granted by both Australian Professional Leagues and Football West.

### 55.5 **Match length, intervals and match scheduling**

55.5.1 Earliest start Time

55.5.1.1 Matches may not start before 8:00am.

55.5.2 Order of Matches

55.5.2.1 NPL WA Men's Matches must be played in the order Under 18's, Under 23's and then First Team unless approved by Football West.

55.5.3 NPL Senior Match Schedule Changes

55.5.3.1 A Club may request its home Matches are played on a nominated date and time during the drafting phase of the fixtures. This request does not require the consent of the other Club. For clarity the drafting phase ends at the point at which the fixtures are published by Football West.

55.6 The Individual Awards awarded in accordance with Rule 53 shall be:

55.6.1 Fairest and Best in each Division;

55.6.2 Dylan Tombides Award in Men's First Team only;

55.6.3 Top Goalscorer in each Division;

55.6.4 Best Goalkeeper in First Team only;

55.6.5 Best Coach in First Team only; and

55.6.6 Best Coach (Female) across coaches of both NPL WA Men's First Team and NPL WA Women's First Team.

**55.7 Australian Championships**

55.7.1 Subject to compliance with Rule 55.7.2, the NPL WA Men's Premiers shall be eligible to represent Football West in the Australian Championships.

55.7.2 The Club qualifying for the Australian Championships must, by the dates prescribed by Football Australia:

55.7.2.1 submit to Football Australia a duly executed Australian Championships Club Participation Agreement; and

55.7.2.2 meet Football Australia's minimum club licensing standards for Member Federation Clubs participating in the Australian Championships.

55.7.3 In the event that:

55.7.3.1 A Foundation Club finishes as the NPL WA Men's Premiers; or

55.7.3.2 An A League Club's NPL Team finishes as the NPL WA Men's Premiers; or

55.7.3.3 The Club that finishes as NPL WA Men's Premiers fails to comply with Rule 55.7.2 as above;

the allocated slot for the Australian Championships shall be awarded to the next-best placed Club, as determined under Rule 17.3.

55.7.4 Football Australia reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to make determinations regarding any aspect of the awarding of Australian Championships slots.

**55.8 Promotion and relegation**

55.8.1 The following provisions are in addition to the general rules for promotion and relegation set out in Rule 18.

55.8.2 Promotion into NPL WA Men's, and relegation down to State League 1, uses the Play-Off Tournament Model.

55.8.3 In the event that a Club's First Team attains promotion to the NPL WA Men's Competition through sporting merit but does not fulfill the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria, a vacancy will arise. This vacancy will be addressed in accordance with Rule 12.4.

55.8.4 Football West will in its sole discretion determine whether a Club meets the NPL Promotion Eligibility Criteria, in accordance with the National Club Licensing Regulations.

## **56. NPL WA WOMEN'S COMPETITIONS**

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**56.1 Player Rosters and Periods**

56.1.1 Every Club must submit a valid draft of their Player Roster Composition in writing to Football West **no later than 10:00am WST on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025**. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

56.1.2 Every Club must submit a valid final copy of their Player Roster Composition in writing to Football West **no later than 10:00am WST on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025. Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

56.1.3 A Player Roster Composition for any Team in the NPL WA Women's Competition must comply with the conditions set out in Appendix E.

56.1.4 A Player must be registered on PlayFootball in accordance with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations before she can be named on a Player Roster Composition. Football West may grant an exemption to this requirement in exceptional circumstances.

56.1.5 All Players who have signed a professional contract must be placed onto the First Team roster.

56.1.6 A Player Roster Composition is not official until it has been approved in writing by Football West.

56.1.7 Once submitted to and approved by Football West, no Player may be added to a Club's Player Roster Composition except:

- 56.1.7.1 before **10:00am WST on Monday 29 December 2025**;
- 56.1.7.2 between any further window confirmed by FA and Football West;
- 56.1.7.3 in accordance with the Long-Term Injury Policy; and
- 56.1.7.4 in the case a Player originally listed on the Player Roster Composition is removed in accordance with Rule 56.1.8 the Club may replace the Player with another Player registered for the Club's Under 21's as long as the replacement Player is already registered with the same Club.

56.1.8 Once submitted and approved by Football West, no Players may be removed from a Club's Player Roster Composition except:

- 56.1.8.1 before **10:00am WST on Monday 29 December 2025**;
- 56.1.8.2 between any further window confirmed by FA and Football West;
- 56.1.8.3 when a Player is no longer registered with the Club they must be removed;
- 56.1.8.4 in the case of a Player who is unable to play in the NPL WA Women's due to a change in work or personal circumstances accompanied by evidence acceptable to Football West; and
- 56.1.8.5 in accordance with the Long-Term Injury Policy

56.1.9 A Player removed from a Club's Player Roster Composition in accordance with Rule 56.1.8.4 may not be added onto any Club's Player Roster Composition later in the same season.

56.1.10 A Player removed from a Club's Player Roster Composition in accordance with Rule 56.1.8.5 may not play for an NPL WA Women's Team until they have been placed on that Team's Player Roster Composition.

56.1.11 A Club's Player Roster Composition may not include more than three (3) A-League Women's Players from the immediately preceding A-League Women's season.

56.1.12 Football West may grant an exemption to the limit set out in Rule 56.1.12 on application in writing by a Club if that Club can show exceptional reasons (as determined by Football West, in its discretion) as to why this limit should not apply. A Hyundai Football West NTC Team will have a presumption that exceptional reasons exist in relation to this limit.

## 56.2 **Team Lists**

56.2.1 A Club may promote a Player from its NPL WA Women's Under 21's Team to play for its First Team an unlimited number of matches throughout an NPL WA Women's season without being required to include such a Player on the First Team Player Roster Composition in this season.

## 56.3 **Promotion and Relegation to Women's Division 1**

56.3.1 The following provisions are in addition to the general rules for promotion and relegation set out in Rule 18.

56.3.2 Promotion into NPL WA Women's, and relegation down to Women's League Division 1, uses the Straight Model – One Team.

56.3.3 Should the Club whose Team finish in first place in the Women's League Division 1 not be eligible for promotion the second placed Club, will compete in a Play-Off against the First Team of the last placed NPL WA Women's Club. The winner shall be determined as described in Rule 18.5.7. A Player Roster must be provided to Football West at least three (3) Business Days prior to the scheduled Play-Off.

56.3.4 If neither Club in the top two positions in the Women's League Division 1 meets the Promotion Eligibility Criteria, then no promotion will take place from the Women's League Division 1 to the NPL WA Women's and no relegation will take place from the NPL WA Women's to the Women's League Division 1.

## 56.4 **Players**

56.4.1 To be eligible to play in the NPL WA Women's for any Club, a Player must meet the following age criteria:

56.4.1.1 Under 21's – at least 16 and no older than 21 on 31 December of the Competition Year (inclusive);

56.4.1.2 First Team – at least 16 on 31 December of the Competition Year;

56.4.2 A Player who will be 15 or younger on 31 December of the Competition Year may apply to Football West to be assessed as being competent to play in the NPL WA Women's but is ineligible to play until such competency has been provided to the Club in writing.

56.4.3 Only female Players are eligible to compete in the NPL WA Women's. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

56.4.4 An Under 21's Team may include on the Team list for any Match a maximum of four (4) Players who will be at least 22 years old on 31 December of the Competition Year. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

56.4.5 A Player on a A-League roster or who has a contact (full time or scholarship) may not play for any Team in the Women's League except for a Club's NPL WA Women's Teams. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

56.4.6 A Player listed on a Club's First Team NPL WA Women's Roster or any NPL WA Women's First team sheet that player must not appear on the team list of any team in the Women's League for the remainder of the competition season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

56.4.7 Once a Player has been listed on a Team sheet of the NPL WA Women's Under 21's, that Player must not appear on the Team List of any Team in the Women's League for the remainder of the Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

56.4.8 If a club fields a team in the Under 18's Junior Girls League any players registered to that team can play an unlimited number of matches in the same Club's Under 21's and First Team's subject to player age criteria as described in Rule 56.4.1.

56.4.9 The Under 18's Junior Girls League will be allowed to field 3 overage players who are no older than 21 on 31 December of the Competition Year born in 2004 or later. These players can be from a club's NPL WA Women's teams and may play an unlimited number of matches.

## 56.5 Match length, intervals and match scheduling

### 56.5.1 Earliest start Time

56.5.1.1 Matches may not start before 8:00am;

### 56.5.2 Order of Matches

56.5.2.1 NPL WA Women's Matches must be played in the order Under 21's and then First Team if the matches are played on the same day, unless approved by Football West. Matches will further need to be played within 4 hours of each other.

### 56.5.3 NPL Senior Match Schedule Development

56.5.3.1 A Club may request its home Matches are played on a nominated date and time during the drafting phase of the fixtures. This request does not require the consent of the other Club. For clarity the drafting phase ends at the point at which the fixtures are published by Football West.

56.5.3.2 All matches in the last round of the NPL Regular Season must be played simultaneously unless an exemption is provided by Football West.

56.6 All NPL Clubs are required to adhere to the NPL Playing Strip Guidelines as distributed by Football Australia. These guidelines must be followed for all official NPL fixtures and events to ensure consistency, fairness, and professionalism across the competition. Clubs must ensure that their playing strips, including jerseys, shorts, socks, and all associated apparel, meet the specifications outlined in the guidelines provided by Football Australia.

56.7 The Individual Awards awarded in accordance with Rule 55 shall be:

56.7.1 Fairest and Best in each Division;

56.7.2 NPL WA Female Young Player of the Year;

- 56.7.3 Top Goalscorer in each Division;
- 56.7.4 Best Goalkeeper in First Team only;
- 56.7.5 Best Coach in First Team only; and
- 56.7.6** Best Coach (Female) across coaches of both NPL WA Men's First Team and NPL WA Women's First Team.

## 57. NPL WA MEN'S AND WOMEN'S 'TOP FOUR CUP'

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### 57.1 Competition Format

- 57.1.1 The Teams that occupy the highest 4 positions in the following NPL Divisions at the conclusion of the League Season will compete in the "Top Four Cup" (TFC):
  - 57.1.1.1 NPL WA Men's First Team;
  - 57.1.1.2 NPL WA Men's Under 23's Division;
  - 57.1.1.3 NPL WA Men's Under 18's Division;
  - 57.1.1.4 NPL WA Women's First Team; and
  - 57.1.1.5 NPL WA Women's Under 21's Division.
- 57.1.2 The Matches of each Division of TFC will be structured as follows:

Match Day 1			
Match A	Team finishing 1 <sup>st</sup>	vs	Team finishing 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Match B	Team finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup>	vs	Team finishing 4 <sup>th</sup>
Match Day 2			
Match C	Loser of Match A	vs	Winner of Match B
Losing Team is eliminated			
Match Day 3			
Grand Final	Winner of Match A	vs	Winner of Match C

- 57.1.3 The designated Home Team of each Match is as follows:
  - 57.1.3.1 for Matches A, B and C – the higher finishing Team
  - 57.1.3.2 for the Grand Final – the winner of Match A
- 57.1.4 The venues and times of all Matches will be determined by Football West and communicated in writing to the participating Clubs.
- 57.1.5 Should scores be level at the full-time whistle, the outcome of the Matches will be decided in accordance with Rule 19.
- 57.1.6 One additional substitute may be used when a Match goes into extra time (whether or not the Team has already used the full number of permitted substitutes).
- 57.1.7 The Grand Final winner in each age group will be known as TFC Winner.

## 57.2 **Player Roster**

- 57.2.1 A Player Roster must be provided to Football West at least three (3) Business Days prior to each scheduled Play-Off. If a new roster is not provided the previous roster will be deemed still in effect.
- 57.2.2 A Player Roster must comprise at least 16 Players and no more than 25 Players. Player Rosters that do not comprise a number of Players in this range will not be accepted and will be deemed to be invalid.

## 57.3 **Player Eligibility**

- 57.3.1 A Player must have played in a minimum of five (5) Matches for a Club in the current season to be eligible to play in any of that Club's Teams in TFC, subject to other eligibility criteria.
- 57.3.2 A Player who has played in multiple age groups for a particular Team in their Club is ineligible to participate in any TFC Matches in a lower age group than the highest age group Team for which they have played unless:
  - 57.3.2.1 50% or more of the Matches in which they have played are for a lower age group; or
  - 57.3.2.2 they have played less than 5 Matches (Men) or 6 Matches (Women) for a higher age group.
- 57.3.3 A Player will be exempt from the restrictions specified in Rules 57.3.1 and 57.3.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club has applied in writing to Football West prior to the commencement of the Match and can establish in that application to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least 2 Business Days before the Match. Football West's decision on any application is final.
  - 57.3.3.1 Once a Player has started for a Team in the TFC, they are no longer eligible to play in a lower age group Team other than the Team for which they have played for in the TFC.
  - 57.3.3.2 For the purposes of this Rule, an unused substitute in a Senior Match is deemed not to have played.

**Penalties for breaches of each are as set out in Appendix B.**

## 57.4 **Match Officials**

- 57.4.1 The host Club will pay the Match Official fees for all of the Matches in the TFC except the Grand Finals where Football West will pay the Match Official fees.

## 57.5 **Match Balls**

- 57.5.1 The host Club will provide the Match balls for all Matches in the TFC except the Grand Finals. Football West will supply all Match balls for the Grand Finals.

## 57.6 **Squad Lists**

- 57.6.1 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a Match. If requested by Football West, the relevant Club must provide said squad list in writing four (4) Business Days prior to the Match.

## 58. MEN'S STATE LEAGUE

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### 58.1 Competition Format

- 58.1.1 The State League competition will comprise of 2 Divisions, being Division 1 and Division 2.
- 58.1.2 Should a vacancy be created in any Division of the State League before the commencement of the relevant season, then that vacancy may be offered to another Club chosen by Football West in consultation with the State League Standing Committee.
- 58.1.3 Should a club withdraw during the league season creating a vacancy in any division of the State League that club will be ranked in 12th position in Division 2 for that season and will be relegated to the Men's Amateur Premier League for the following season.
- 58.1.4 Football West reserves the right in its absolute discretion not to fill any such vacancy.

### 58.2 Players

- 58.2.1 An Under 18's Team may include a maximum of three (3) Players who turned 18 in the year immediately proceeding the Competition Year on the Team List for any Match.
- 58.2.2 The following restrictions apply to Players moving between teams unless a written exemption is issued by Football West:
  - 58.2.2.1 Once a Player has taken the field in three (3) State League First Team games, they are ineligible to participate in either Amateur League, Metropolitan League or Masters League in the same season.
  - 58.2.2.2 Once a Player has taken the field in ten (10) State League Reserve Team games, they are ineligible to participate in either Amateur League, Metropolitan League or Masters League in the same season, unless they play as a goalkeeper only.
- 58.2.3 If any Player in a State League Division is a Professional, then the league's registration rules will be conducted in accordance with Professional Registration requirements.

### 58.3 Player Rosters

- 58.3.1 Every Club must submit a valid Player Roster no later than **10:00am WST on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 58.3.2 A Player Roster must comprise at least 16 Players and no more than 25 Players. Player Rosters that do not comprise a number of Players in this range will not be accepted and will be deemed to be invalid.
- 58.3.3 All Players who have signed a professional contract must be placed onto the First Team roster.
- 58.3.4 All players on the First Team roster who have not signed a professional contract, will need to have the club return a signed Amateur Declaration (Football West

Prescribed form 18) and as per Rule 58.2.3, will need to be signed within the National Registration Window.

- 58.3.5 To be eligible to play in First Team Matches a Player must be on the Club's Player Roster, subject to the exemptions in Rules 58.3.12 to 58.3.14.
- 58.3.6 A Player must be registered on PlayFootball in accordance with the National Registration Status and Transfer Regulations before they can be named on a Player Roster unless an exemption is given by Football West. For clarity, a Player must be registered before they can play.
- 58.3.7 A Player Roster is not official until it has been approved by Football West.
- 58.3.8 Once submitted and approved by Football West, no Players may be added to a Club's Player Roster except:
  - 58.3.8.1 before **10:00am WST on Tuesday 10 February 2026**;
  - 58.3.8.2 between any further window confirmed by FA; and
  - 58.3.8.3 in the case a Player originally listed on the Player Roster is removed in accordance with Rule 58.3.9 the Club may replace the Player with another Player registered for the Club's Reserves or Under 18's as long as the replacement Player is already registered with the same Club and was no older than 24 on 31 December of the Competition Year.
- 58.3.9 Once a submitted and approved by Football West, no Players may be removed from a Club's Player Roster except:
  - 58.3.9.1 before **5:00pm WST on Tuesday 10 February 2026**;
  - 58.3.9.2 between any further window confirmed by FA; and
  - 58.3.9.3 in the case of a Player who is unable to play in the State League due to a change in work or personal circumstances accompanied by evidence acceptable to Football West.
- 58.3.10 A Player removed from a Club's Player Roster in accordance with Rule 58.3.9.3 may not be added onto any Club's Player Roster later in the same season.
- 58.3.11 No Player may be added to a Club's Player Roster outside of the transfer windows if their previous registration is with another State League WA or NPL WA Club, regardless of any exemptions.
- 58.3.12 Amateur Players no older than 23 on 31 December of the Competition Year may play for the First Team even if they are not on the Player Roster for an unlimited number of games during the competition season. Subject to other age requirements.
- 58.3.13 An Amateur Player aged 24 or older on 31 December of the Competition Year who has not been registered with another Club in the same season can play a maximum of eight (8) Matches without being added to the Player Roster. Subject to other age requirements.
- 58.3.14 A Player aged 24 or older on 31 December of the Competition Year who has been registered with another Club in the same season can play a maximum of three (3) Matches without being added to the Player Roster.

#### 58.4 **Match Scheduling**

- 58.4.1 A Club may request its home Matches are played on a nominated date and time during the drafting phase of the fixtures or up to 6 weeks prior to the designated fixture. This request does not require the consent of the other Club. For clarity the drafting phase ends at the point at which the fixtures are published by Football West.
- 58.4.2 All matches in the last round of the Regular Season must be played simultaneously unless an exemption is provided by Football West.

#### 58.5 **Promotion and Relegation**

- 58.5.1 The following provisions are in addition to the general rules for promotion and relegation set out in Rule 18.
- 58.5.2 Promotion out of State League 1 into NPL WA Men's is covered in Rule 55.
- 58.5.3 Promotion up to State League 1, and relegation down to State League 2, uses the Play-Off Tournament Model.
- 58.5.4 Promotion up to State League 2, and relegation down to Men's Amateur Premier League, uses the Hybrid Model – Two Teams as varied by Rule 58.5.5 to Rule 58.5.7.
- 58.5.5 The Club whose First Team finishes in last place in Division 2 will occupy a relegation position and may be relegated to the Men's Amateur Premier League.
  - 58.5.5.1 The Club whose First Team finishes in first position in the Amateur Premier League may, but is not compelled to, exercise its option to have its Team promoted to Division 2 of the State League provided they have met State League eligibility requirements.
  - 58.5.5.2 Should the Team that finishes in first position in the Men's Amateur Premier League choose not to exercise its option of promotion to the State League or not be eligible, the Team that finishes in second position in the Men's Amateur Premier League will compete in a Play-Off with the last placed Team in State League Division 2.
- 58.5.6 Subject to Rule 58.5.5, the Club whose First Team finishes in second last position in Division 2 will Play-Off against the Club whose First Team finishes in second position the Men's Amateur Premier League.
- 58.5.7 Subject to Rule 58.5.6, the second last placed Team in State League Division 2 will compete against the third placed Team in the Men's Amateur Premier League.
- 58.5.8 Eligibility for promotion to the State League
  - 58.5.8.1 A Club that has Teams in either the Senior NPL WA Men's or Men's State League Competitions is ineligible for promotion to State League 2.
  - 58.5.8.2 Amateur Premier League clubs who wish to be considered for promotion to the State League will be required to indicate their

interest in being considered for the promotion eligibility process to Football West in writing by **10:00am WST on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April**.

58.5.8.3 Clubs that have indicated their interest in the promotion eligibility process will be informed of a list of criteria by Football West which must be completed by **10:00am WST on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June**.

58.5.8.4 At the completion of the promotion eligibility process Football West will publish a list of all teams eligible for promotion to the State League. A Club that withdraws their application for promotion eligibility after the list shall be penalised. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B**.

58.5.9 Subject to Rule 58.4.6 and 58.4.7, should the second and/or third placed Teams be ineligible for promotion to State League Division 2 byes will be awarded to the highest ranked Team scheduled in the Play-Offs.

58.5.10 If neither of the teams that finish in first and second position in the Amateur Premier Division exercise their option of promotion to the State League 2 or are ineligible, there will no promotion or relegation in that season.

58.5.11 In a Play-Off:

58.5.11.1 the Competition Format will be as set out in Rule 18.5.4; and

58.5.11.2 a Player Roster must be provided to Football West at least three (3) Business Days prior to each scheduled Play-Off Match.

58.5.12 The winner of the Play-Off Final will be in accordance with Rule 18.5.7.

58.6 The Individual Awards awarded in accordance with Rule 55 shall be:

58.6.1 Fairest and Best in Division 1 and Division 2, in each of the First Team, Reserves Team and Under 18's Competitions;

58.6.2 Top Goalscorer in each Division and age group;

58.6.3 Best Goalkeeper in First Team only; and

58.6.4 Best Coach. In State League 1 and 2

## 59. STATE LEAGUE RESERVES AND UNDER 18'S TOP 4

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### 59.1 Competition Format

59.1.1 The teams that occupy the highest four (4) positions of each State League Division (First Team and Under 21's) following the completion of the league season will qualify to compete in the Top Four Cup.

59.1.2 The matches for each division of the Top Four Cup will be structured as follows:

Semi Finals			
<b>Match A</b>	Team finishing 1st	vs	Team finishing 4th
<b>Match B</b>	Team finishing 2nd	vs	Team finishing 3rd
Grand Final			
<b>Grand Final</b>	Highest Ranked Winner	vs	Lowest Ranked Winner

59.1.3 The designated Home Team for each match is as follows:

- 59.1.3.1 Match A: The team finishing 1st.
- 59.1.3.2 Match B: The team finishing 2nd.
- 59.1.3.3 Grand Final: Highest ranked winner of Semi-Finals

59.1.4 Both semi-final matches will be hosted by the Club with the highest-ranking team in the corresponding age group. For example, the club with the highest-ranked team in the State League Division 1 Reserves will host both State League Division 1 Reserves fixtures.

59.1.5 Grand final matches will be hosted by the club with the highest-ranking team in the Reserves age group. For example, the club with the highest-ranked Reserves team in State League Division 1 will host both the Reserves and Under-18's grand finals for State League Division 1.

## 59.2 **Players**

59.2.1 A Player must have played in a minimum of five (5) Matches for a Club in the current season to be eligible to play in any of that Club's Teams in the Top Four Cup, subject to other eligibility criteria.

59.2.2 A player who has played in multiple age groups for a particular team in their club is ineligible to participate in any Top Four Cup matches in a lower age group than the highest age-group team for which they have played, unless:

- 59.2.2.1 50% or more of the matches they have played are for a lower age group; or
- 59.2.2.2 they have played fewer than five (5) matches for a higher age group.

59.2.3 A Player will be exempt from the restrictions specified in Rule 59.2.1 and 59.2.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club has applied in writing to Football West prior to the commencement of the Match and can establish in that application to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least 2 Business Days before the Match. Football West's decision on any application is final.

59.2.4 Once a Player has started for a Team in the Top Four Cup, they are no longer eligible to play in a lower age group Team other than the Team for which they have played for in the Top Four Cup.

59.2.5 In Senior Matches, an unused substitute is deemed not to have played.

## 59.3 **Match Officials and Match Balls**

59.3.1 The host Club will pay the Match Official fees and provide the Match balls for all the Matches in the Top Four Cup.

# 60. AUSTRALIA CUP WA PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

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## 60.1 **General**

60.1.1 This Rule 60 supplements the Australia Cup Competition Regulations as promulgated by Football Australia.

- 60.1.2 This section outlines specific conditions relating to Teams competing in WA Preliminary Round Matches.
- 60.1.3 This Rule and all Rules in respect of a Team that competes in any relevant Competition is applicable to the Australia Cup, unless otherwise specified in this Rule.
- 60.1.4 Where a Rule in respect of a Team that competes in any of those relevant Competitions appears to conflict with or is inconsistent with these rules, this Rule will take precedence for this specific Competition, to the extent of the conflict or inconsistency.
- 60.1.5 In order to participate in the Australia Cup, a Club must comply with Clause 6.1 of the Australia Cup Competition Regulations.

## 60.2 **Competition Format**

- 60.2.1 Subject to Rules 60.2.2 and 60.2.4, entry into the Australia Cup for Clubs other than NPL WA Men's Clubs and Men's State League Clubs is voluntary. Entries must be received by a date to be determined by Football West, which Clubs will be notified of, in order to be considered.
- 60.2.2 Entry into the Australia Cup is mandatory for NPL WA Men's Clubs and Men's State League Clubs.
- 60.2.3 A Club that has an outstanding debt owing to Football West from the two preceding Competition Seasons will not be permitted to enter.
- 60.2.4 Perth Glory FC may not enter the Australia Cup.
- 60.2.5 There will be a maximum of seven (7) rounds of competition. Should there be insufficient entries, the competition will start at a round calculated to ensure that the final WA Preliminary Round is Round 7.
- 60.2.6 The Clubs that win their Round 7 Matches will qualify for the National Round of 32 (as defined in the Australia Regulations) and will also compete in the State Cup Final.
- 60.2.7 A Club that enters the Australia Cup will be allocated entry into the Australia Cup competition at different stages according to the following schedule:
  - 60.2.7.1 NPL WA Men's Clubs – Round 4 of the Australia Cup;
  - 60.2.7.2 Men's State League Clubs – Round 3 of the Australia Cup;
  - 60.2.7.3 Men's Amateur Premier Division Clubs – Round 2 of the Australia Cup; and
  - 60.2.7.4 all other Clubs – Rounds 1 and 2 of the Australia Cup,
 however, Football West reserves the right to alter the stage at which any Club enters the Australia Cup competition based on the number of Clubs that wish to enter or any other matter. Subject to the former and for the avoidance of doubt, Teams who occupy a lower ranked Competition will commence the Australia Cup earlier than those Teams in the higher ranked Competitions.
- 60.2.8 Football West reserves the right to facilitate the draw to ensure those Clubs outside the Metropolitan Area play against each other in Rounds 1 and 2 to minimise travel.

60.2.9 A Club that is required to travel more than 150 kilometres for a Match is entitled to a travel subsidy of \$400 plus GST on a properly formatted invoice sent to Football West. Any such invoice must be received by the last Business Day of July in the Competition Season. For the avoidance of doubt, invoices received by Football West after that date will not be accepted and will not be paid.

60.2.10 After the confirmation of the competition draw of each round, participating Clubs will be informed of the Match date, time and venue by Football West.

60.2.11 In all Rounds, should the scores of those Relevant Matches be level at the full-time whistle, two (2) periods of extra time of fifteen (15) minutes per period will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

60.2.12 Subject to Rule 60.2.11, should the scores of those relevant Matches be level at the end of the second period of extra time, the outcome of those relevant Matches will be decided by a penalty shoot-out as described in the Laws of the Game. One additional substitute may be used in those relevant Matches that proceed into extra time (whether or not the team has used the full number of substitutes).

60.2.13 Interchangeable substitutes ARE NOT permitted in the Australia Cup. Players are bound by Law 3 of the Laws of the Game.

60.2.14 Where directed by Football Australia or Football West, Clubs must use the Official Australia Cup Match Ball.

### 60.3 **Players**

60.3.1 A Player must be validly registered and active on PlayFootball to be eligible to participate in a Australia Cup Match. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

60.3.2 A Player may only play for one Club in the Australia Cup. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

60.3.3 An unused substitute is deemed not to have played in a Match.

### 60.4 **Match Officials**

60.4.1 Where an NPL WA Men's or Men's State League Club is drawn to play Matches at that Club's home venue, the relevant Home Club is responsible for all Match Official Fees.

60.4.2 Where an Amateur, Metro or Regional Club is drawn to play Matches at that Club's home venue, each participating Club is responsible for 50% each of the relevant Match Official Fees. This payment must be made even if the away Club is an NPL WA Men's, Men's State League or Men's Amateur Premier League Club.

60.4.3 In round 2 all Match Official fees will be set at the equivalent rate of an Amateur Premier League match of \$130, this payment must be made in cash on the day of the match.

60.4.4 In round 3 all Match Official fees will be set at the equivalent rate of a State League match of \$160 these fees will be paid by invoice from Football West.

- 60.4.5 From Round 4 onwards all Match Official fees will be set at the equivalent rate of an NPL WA match fee \$240 with all fees to be paid by invoice from Football West.
- 60.4.6 A full breakdown of the 2026 Match Official Fees can be found on the Football West website.
- 60.4.7 Where Football West appoints one or both assistant Match Official(s), the assistant Match Official(s) is/are entitled to payment at a rate of half the ordinary Match Official Match fee stated in Rules 60.4.3 to 60.4.5 payable according to the conditions set out in Rules 60.4.1 and 60.4.2.

## 61. STATE CUP FINAL

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### 61.1 Competition Format

- 61.1.1 The winners of Round 7 Matches of the WA Preliminary Rounds of the Australia Cup will compete in the State Cup Final. Entry into the State Cup Final is compulsory for those relevant Clubs.
- 61.1.2 Football West will hold (in a manner determined by Football West) a fixture draw to determine who the Home Club will be for the State Cup Final.
- 61.1.3 The State Cup Final will be held at a venue chosen by Football West. The decision on the venue is final and may not be challenged by any Club.

### 61.2 Players

- 61.2.1 A Player may not play for a Team in the State Cup Final if, in the same Season, that Player has previously played for a different Club in the WA Preliminary Rounds of the Australia Cup, the State Reserves Cup or State 18's Cup.
- 61.2.2 An unused substitute is deemed not to have played in a Match.

## 62. STATE RESERVES CUP

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### 62.1 Competition Format

- 62.1.1 The Under 23's Teams of the NPL WA Men's Clubs and the reserves Teams of the State League Clubs must enter into and compete in the State Reserves Cup. Entry is compulsory.
- 62.1.2 Matches will be played in a fixture draw as specified by Football West.

### 62.2 Players

- 62.2.1 A Player may not play for a Team in the State Reserves Cup if, in the same season, if that Player has previously played for a different Club in the Australia Cup, State Reserves Cup or State 18's Cup. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 62.2.2 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of 50% of that player's matches for the Reserves Team in question prior to that semi-final or final. For the avoidance of doubt, this means Under 23's Teams for those NPL WA Clubs. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 62.2.3 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 62.2.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the relevant Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football

West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Any absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate provided to Football West at least two (2) Business Days before to the commencement of the Match. Football West's decision on any such application is final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

62.2.4 An unused substitute is deemed not to have played in that Match.

## 63. STATE 18'S CUP

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63.1 The Rules set out in this section are applicable to the State 18's Cup unless otherwise specified.

### 63.2 **Competition Format**

63.2.1 The 18's Teams of every NPL WA Men's Club and every State League Club must enter into and compete in the State 18's Cup. Entry is compulsory.

63.2.2 Matches will be played in a fixture draw as specified by Football West.

### 63.3 **Players**

63.3.1 To be eligible to play in the State 18's Cup, a Player must be at least 14 and no older than 17 on 31 December of the Competition Year.

63.3.2 A Team may include on the Team List a maximum of three (3) Players who will be no older than 18 years of age on 31 December of the Competition Year.

63.3.3 A Player may not play for a Team in the State 18's Cup if, in the same Season, the Player has previously played for a different Club in the Australia Cup, State Reserves Cup or State 18's Cup. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

63.3.4 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final in the State 18's Cup, a Player must have played in a minimum of 50% of that player's matches for the Under 18's Team in question prior to that semi-final or final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

63.3.5 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 63.3.4 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the relevant Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Any absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate provided to Football West at least two (2) Business Days before the commencement of the Match. Football West's decision on any such application is final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

63.3.6 An unused substitute is deemed not to have played in a Match.

### 63.4 **Match Officials**

63.4.1 Match Official Fees for the final Match will be paid by Football West.

## 64. MEN'S AMATEUR LEAGUE

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64.1 A reference in this Rule to a Division is to a Division of the Amateur League.

### 64.2 **Competition Format**

64.2.1 All Participating Clubs are required to field a First Team and a Reserves Team.

- 64.2.2 A Club may not enter more than one (1) Team in the same Division. A Club may not enter Teams in more than three (3) Divisions.
- 64.2.3 Teams will be ranked in their Divisions according to the number of Competition points they accrue over the Competition Season as specified in Rule 17.
- 64.2.4 The Team finishing in first place of each Division at the conclusion of the Competition Season, will be declared the champion Team for that Division and for that Competition Season.

#### **64.3   Venue**

- 64.3.1 The home venue of Amateur League Clubs must meet the criteria of a Class C venue as specified in Appendix A.
- 64.3.2 Football West reserves the right to require that its sponsors' signage is prominently displayed at all Football West matches.
- 64.3.3 Football West reserves the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event that Amateur League Matches are affected by changes to the availability of any venue or venues.

#### **64.4   Match Scheduling**

- 64.4.1 A Club may request its home Matches are played on a nominated date and time within 7 days of the release of the fixtures. This request does not require the consent of the other Club. This request must be approved by Football West at its sole discretion.
- 64.4.2 All matches in the last round of the Regular Season must be played simultaneously unless an exemption is provided by Football West

#### **64.5   Matches**

- 64.5.1 With the exception of abandoned matches, each period of a Match must last for a minimum of thirty-five (35) minutes in order that a result may be recorded.
- 64.5.2 The duration of the half time interval will be fifteen (15) minutes.
- 64.5.3 Subject to Football West has discretion to allow modification for any reason it deems suitable:
  - 64.5.3.1 all Reserve Team matches must start at 12:45pm; and
  - 64.5.3.2 all First Team matches must start at 3:00pm.
- 64.5.4 The Match Official must adjust the duration of a Reserves Match to ensure that the First Team Match commences at its scheduled kick-off time.
- 64.5.5 When a Match is shortened in accordance with Rule 64.5.4, each Match Official is entitled to receive the full amount of their normal Match fee.
- 64.5.6 Substitutes in Reserves Teams are not bound by the condition in Law 3 of the Laws of the Game forbidding further participation in the Match. All substitutes in Reserves Teams are able to be substituted on and off the field of play on multiple occasions.
- 64.5.7 In the event that a Club does not have sufficient Players to field a Reserve and First Team, the First Team will take priority.

## 64.6 Players

- 64.6.1 Players who are designated Professional Players in accordance with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations may not participate in the Amateur League. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**
- 64.6.2 To be eligible to play in the Amateur League, a Player must have been born in 2008 or earlier unless otherwise deemed eligible at the discretion of Football West.
- 64.6.3 No more than seven (7) named substitutes may be listed on the Team List for the First Team. No more than five (5) named substitutes may be listed on the Team List for the Reserves.
- 64.6.4 The Men's Amateur League Competition Season will be conducted under temporarily amended version of the Laws of the Game allowing for five (5) substitutes to be made. In Men's Amateur League Matches:
  - 64.6.4.1 Each Team will be permitted to use a maximum of five (5) substitutes.
  - 64.6.4.2 To reduce disruption to the match, each Team will have a maximum of three (3) opportunities to make substitutions during the Match. Substitutions may also be made at half-time.
  - 64.6.4.3 If both Teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one of the three opportunities for each Team.
  - 64.6.4.4 Unused substitutions and opportunities are carried forward into extra time.
  - 64.6.4.5 Where competition rules allow an additional substitution in extra time, Teams will each have one additional substitution opportunity; substitutions may also be made before the start of extra time and at half-time in extra time.
- 64.6.5 The following restrictions apply to Players moving between Teams unless a written exemption is issued by Football West:
  - 64.6.5.1 Once a Player has taken the field in an NPL Senior Team Match they are ineligible to participate in either the Amateur League, Metropolitan League or Masters League in the same Competition Season.
  - 64.6.5.2 Once a Player has taken the field in three (3) State League first Team Matches, they are ineligible to participate in either the Amateur League, Metropolitan League or Masters League in the same Competition Season.
  - 64.6.5.3 Once a Player has taken the field in ten (10) State League reserve Team Matches, they are ineligible to participate in either the Amateur League, Metropolitan League or Masters League in the same Competition Season, unless they play as a goalkeeper only.
  - 64.6.5.4 Once a Player has taken the field in three (3) Amateur League first Team Matches, they are ineligible to participate in either

Metropolitan League or Masters League in the same Competition Season, unless they play as a goalkeeper only.

- 64.6.5.5 Once a Player has taken the field in ten (10) Amateur League reserve Team Matches, they are ineligible to participate in either Metropolitan League or Masters League in the same Competition Season, unless they play as a goalkeeper only.
- 64.6.6 A Player may not be named on two separate Team Lists within the Amateur League on the same day, unless the two Team Lists are those of a First Team and its associated Reserves Team.
- 64.6.7 A Team may only have two (2) Players in any one weekend who are listed on the Roster of a State League Team.
- 64.6.8 A Player on the Roster of a State League Team may only play for the First Team of the highest ranked Amateur League side at a Club.
- 64.6.9 A Player on the Roster of a State League Team may not play below Amateur Division Two regardless of any other exemptions.
- 64.6.10 Once a Player has taken the field of play in a First Team of the Amateur League on eleven (11) occasions, he may not appear on the Team List of any other Team in a lower ranked Division for the same Club. This rule does not apply to Players who may play in the First Team and associated Reserves Team of the same Division.

#### **64.7 Promotion and relegation**

- 64.7.1 Promotion up to State League 2, and relegation down to Men's Amateur Premier League, is covered at Rule 58.
- 64.7.2 The Straight Model – Two Teams will be used for:
  - 64.7.2.1 relegation out of Amateur Premier League and promotion from Amateur Division 1;
  - 64.7.2.2 relegation out of Amateur Division 1 and promotion from Amateur Division 2;
  - 64.7.2.3 relegation out of Amateur Division 2 and promotion from Amateur Division 3; and
  - 64.7.2.4 relegation out of Amateur Division 3 and promotion from Amateur Division 4.
- 64.7.3 Football West reserves the right to alter promotion and relegation rules if one or more Clubs withdraws from the Amateur League either during or after the Competition Season, or in cases where there are fewer than twelve (12) teams in any Division. Any such change in rules will be determined in consultation with the Amateur, Metropolitan & Masters Standing Committee
- 64.7.4 If promotion and relegation according to these Rules causes Rule 64.2.2 to be breached, then Football West will determine which Clubs are promoted and relegated, if any.

64.8 The Individual Awards awarded in accordance with Rule 55 shall be:

- 64.8.1 Fairest and Best in Division 1 and Division 2 in the First Team;

- 64.8.2 Top Goalscorer in each Division;
- 64.8.3 Best Goalkeeper in First Team only; and
- 64.8.4 Best Coach in Amateur Premier Division only.

## **65. AMATEUR LEAGUE AND RESERVES CUP**

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### **65.1 Competition Format**

- 65.1.1 Subject to Rule 65.1.2, all first Teams and reserve Teams in the Amateur League will compete in the Amateur Cup and Amateur Reserves Cup, respectively. Entry is compulsory.
- 65.1.2 Only one Team per Club may enter into the Amateur Cup and Amateur Reserves Cup, respectively.
- 65.1.3 Regional Clubs may lodge an application to participate in the Amateur Cup and if such an application is successful, that Club's Team will be included in the draw. A successful application from a regional Club must include a Team in both the Amateur Cup and the Amateur Reserves Cup. A regional Club travelling to the Metropolitan Area or another region, or a metropolitan Club travelling to a region will be entitled to an allowance of \$250 for each such trip payable on invoice to Football West.
- 65.1.4 The Clubs competing in each round of the Competition will be drawn in pairs at random. The pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game and the Competition Rules and relevant Annexures and the winner of each Match will compete in the next round and be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be continued until the final of the Competition.
- 65.1.5 A preliminary round may be held to ensure that the following rounds can be played by the correct number of Teams to ensure that only two Teams remain at the end of the Competition.
- 65.1.6 Amateur League Premier Division Clubs will be given a bye in the preliminary round of the Amateur Cup.
- 65.1.7 Amateur Premier League clubs who compete in the Semi- Finals of the Amateur Night Series Competition will be awarded a bye in the first round of the Amateur Cup.
- 65.1.8 After the draw of each round participating Clubs will be informed of the Match date, time and venue.
- 65.1.9 Should scores be level at the full-time whistle two periods of extra time of fifteen (15) minutes per period will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- 65.1.10 Should scores be level at the end of the second period of extra time, the outcome of the Match will be decided by kicks from the penalty mark as described in the Laws of the Game. One (1) additional substitute may be used when a Match goes into extra time (whether or not the Team has used the full number of substitutes).

## 65.2 **Players**

65.2.1 A Player may not play for a Team in the Amateur Cup if, in the same season, he has previously played for:

- 65.2.1.1 a different Club in the Amateur Cup;
- 65.2.1.2 a different Club in the Amateur Reserves Cup; or
- 65.2.1.3 an NPL Club or a State League Club in the Australia Cup, State Reserves Cup or State 18's Cup in any round after the Club's first Match in that Competition. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

65.2.2 To be eligible to participate in a Quarter Final, a Player must have played in a minimum of four (4) different fixtures for that Club prior to that Quarter Final. To be eligible to participate in a Semi-Final or Final, a Player must have played in a minimum of six (6) different fixtures for that Club prior to that Semi-Final or Final. Participation may include participation as a substitute or substituted Player. For clarity, this includes participation in Amateur League Matches for the Club's Amateur League Team in the highest Division. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

65.2.3 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 65.2.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least two (2) business days before the fixture. Football West's decision on any application is final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

65.2.4 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a Match. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing four (4) days prior to the Match.

## 65.3 **Match Officials**

65.3.1 Football West will pay Match Official fees for the Amateur Cup Final and Amateur Reserves Cup Final.

# **66. MEN'S METROPOLITAN AND MASTERS COMPETITIONS**

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## 66.1 **General**

66.1.1 Men's Senior Sunday Competitions will consist of the:

- 66.1.1.1 Men's Metropolitan League;
- 66.1.1.2 Men's Masters League (Over 35's, Over 45's and Over 55's); and
- 66.1.1.3 Associated Cup Competitions.

66.1.2 The rules in this Annexure apply only to the Men's Senior Sunday Competitions. To the extent these rules conflict with any of the other rules published by Football West, the FA and FIFA, these rules will take precedence.

66.1.3 Where a rule in this Part 1 appears to conflict with a rule in any other Part of this document dealing with a specific Competition then that Part dealing with the specific Competition takes precedence.

66.1.4 In this document a reference to the Metropolitan League, the Masters League or the Over 45's League and their associated cup Competitions refers specifically to the Men's versions of those Competitions.

66.1.5 If a Club has two Teams within the same Division, then the Club must submit a Player Roster for each Team at the start of the Competition Season. A maximum of two (2) Players may play for the other Team within that Division. For clarity this does not need to be the same two (2) Players each week.  
**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

## 66.2 **Competition Format**

66.2.1 The Club finishing in first place of each Men's Senior Sunday League Division at the end of the Competition Season will be crowned the champion Club for that season. The order in which Teams finish the Competition will be determined by the criteria specified in Rule 17.

66.2.2 The Clubs finishing in first and second place of each Men's Senior Sunday League Division at the end of the Competition Season will play in the higher Division in the following Competition Season, unless that Team is already competing in the highest Division or Competition uses a grading system.

66.2.3 The Clubs finishing in the lowest two places of each Men's Senior Sunday League Division at the end of the Competition Season will play in the division below in the following Competition Season, with the exception of those Teams already competing in the lowest ranked Division in which case there will be no movement.

## 66.3 **Matches**

66.3.1 Match Scheduling:

- 66.3.1.1 Matches may not start before 11:00am, without approval from Football West or the opposition.
- 66.3.1.2 Once fixtures have been published, the Home Club is permitted to request a change in writing or implement a change via the Competition Management System. Changes are restricted to the kick-off time and pitch number. Change requests will be considered valid if submitted by 12 pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date.
- 66.3.1.3 A request to change a fixture any time after 12 pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition Club. The approval of such requests is subject to Football West's discretion and may or may not be granted.

66.3.2 With the exception of abandoned Matches, each period of a Match must last for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes in order for a result to be recorded.

66.3.3 Subject to Rule 66.3.4, the duration of the half time interval will be ten (10) minutes.

66.3.4 The Match Official may adjust the duration of a Match to ensure that a following Match on the same field of play commences at its scheduled kick-off time.

66.3.5 When a Match is shortened in accordance with Rule 66.3.4, each Match Official is entitled to receive the full amount of their normal Match fee.

66.3.6 Football West may, from time to time, during a Competition Season, determine in its discretion the conditions, the venue, and any other such circumstances under which the Match is to be played.

#### 66.4 **Players**

66.4.1 The following restrictions apply to Players moving between Teams unless that Player has applied for and Football West has granted a written exemption to those restrictions:

66.4.1.1 Once a Player has taken the field in an NPL Senior Team game that Player is ineligible to participate in a Men's Senior Sunday Competition in the same Competition Season.

66.4.1.2 Once a Player has taken the field in one (1) State League First Team Match, that Player is ineligible to participate in Men's Senior Sunday Competition in the same Competition Season.

66.4.1.3 Once a Player has taken the field in ten (10) State League Reserve Team Matches, that Player is ineligible to participate in a Men's Senior Sunday Competition in the same Competition Season, unless that Player plays as a goalkeeper only.

66.4.1.4 Once a Player has taken the field in three (3) Amateur League First Team Matches, that Player is ineligible to participate in a Men's Senior Sunday Competition in the same Competition Season, unless that Player plays as a goalkeeper only.

66.4.1.5 Once a Player has taken the field in ten (10) Amateur League Reserve Team Matches, that Player is ineligible to participate in a Men's Senior Sunday Competition in the same Competition Season, unless that Player plays as a goalkeeper only.

66.4.2 A Player who registered with a A-League Club may not participate in the Men's Senior Sunday Competitions in the same calendar year. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

#### 66.5 **Men's Metropolitan League**

66.5.1 A Club may not enter more than one Team into the same Division unless that Club has more Teams than there are available Divisions in that Competition and Football West, at its discretion, has approved any application in writing.

66.5.2 Other Divisions will comprise of Teams, where possible, which are located in similar geographical locations.

66.5.3 The Team finishing in first place of each Division of the Men's Metropolitan League at the conclusion of the Competition Season will be crowned the champion Team for that Competition Season. The order in which Teams finish the Competition will be determined by the criteria specified in Rule 17.

66.5.4 A Club may request in writing to Football West a change to the Division of one or more of its Teams in the Men's Metropolitan League. Any such change may or may not be granted at the discretion of Football West, and if granted any

change will be subject to the applicable fees being paid to Football West by that Club. The decision as to whether or not a change request is granted by Football West is final.

## 66.6 **Over 35's League**

- 66.6.1 There will be three (3) components of the Men's Masters Over 35's League.
  - 66.6.1.1 The first (1st) component will be a top tier, comprised of clubs from the combined Metropolitan Area.
  - 66.6.1.2 A second (2nd) tier comprised of clubs from the Northern Metropolitan Area.
  - 66.6.1.3 An additional second tier comprised of clubs from the Southern Metropolitan Area.
- 66.6.2 Each Team will play a minimum of twenty (20) rounds. The composition of divisions will be decided via a collaborative process between all Clubs. One representative from each Team will be invited to attend a meeting organised by Football West that will determine how each division will be comprised.
- 66.6.3 If a Club fields more than one (1) Team across the Over 35's League, then once a player has taken the field on eleven (11) occasions, they may not appear on the team list of any other team in a lower ranked Division for the same Club.

## 66.7 **Over 45's League**

- 66.7.1 There will be three (3) components of the Men's Over 45's League.
  - 66.7.1.1 The first (1<sup>st</sup>) component will be a top tier, comprised of clubs from the combined Metropolitan area.
  - 66.7.1.2 A second (2nd) tier comprised of clubs from the Northern Metropolitan area.
  - 66.7.1.3 An additional second tier comprised of clubs from the Southern Metropolitan area.
- 66.7.2 Each Team will play a minimum of twenty (20) rounds. The composition of divisions will be decided via a collaborative process between all Clubs. One representative from each Team will be invited to attend a meeting organised by Football West that will determine how each division will be comprised.
- 66.7.3 If a Club fields more than one (1) Team across the Men's Over 45's League, then once a player has taken the field on eleven (11) occasions, they may not appear on the team list of any other team in a lower ranked Division for the same Club.
- 66.7.4 A maximum of two Players aged between 40 and 44 (inclusive) on 31 December of the Competition Year may be listed in the Team List.

## 66.8 **Over 55's League**

- 66.8.1 A Club may not enter more than one Team into the same division unless the Club enters more Teams than there are Divisions or at the discretion of Football West.
- 66.8.2 Teams will be ranked in their respective Divisions according to the number of Competition Points that Team accrues over the Competition Season.

66.8.3 The Team finishing in first place of each Division at the conclusion of the Competition Season will be crowned the champion Team for that Competition Season. The order in which a Team finishes the Competition will be determined by the criteria specified in Rule 17.

66.8.4 A Club may request in writing to Football West a change to the Division of one or more of its Teams in the Over 55's League. Any such change may or may not be granted at the discretion of Football West, and if granted any change will be subject to the applicable fees being paid to Football West by that Club. The decision as to whether or not a change request is granted by Football West is final.

66.8.5 A maximum of two Players aged between 50 and 54 (inclusive) on 31 December of the Competition Year may be listed in the Team List.

66.8.6 In addition to Rule 66.8.5, a further maximum of two Players ages 53 or older on 31 December of the Competition Year may be listed in the Team List.

66.8.7 Modifications to the Laws of the Game Over 55's League

- 66.8.7.1 The Match Official has the power to produce Yellow Cards or Red Cards or temporarily dismiss a Player for prescribed conduct by a Player.
- 66.8.7.2 Temporary Dismissal System B, as described in the Laws of the Game, shall apply only to the cautionable offence of dissent by word or action.
- 66.8.7.3 A Player who is cautioned by a Match Official for dissent by word or action will be punished by a temporary dismissal period of ten (10) minutes for Matches greater than sixty (60) minutes in duration or five (5) minutes for Matches of sixty (60) minutes or less in duration.
- 66.8.7.4 Temporary dismissals are not recorded on the Electronic Match Card submitted by the Match Official and do not count toward an accumulation of cautions which would otherwise result in the production of a Red Card.
- 66.8.7.5 Any technical error by a Match Official with respect to employing a temporary dismissal on a Player is final and not subject to challenge by a Team or Player.

## 66.9 **Metropolitan Cup**

66.9.1 Only Teams in the Metropolitan League may compete in the Metropolitan Cup unless admitted in accordance with Rule 66.9.4.

66.9.2 Entry is voluntary for all Teams participating in the Metropolitan League. All Teams will automatically be entered into the Competition and clubs will need to opt out if they do not wish to compete.

66.9.3 If a Club enters multiple Teams into the Metropolitan Cup then:

- 66.9.3.1 each Team's entry must be accompanied by a Player Roster for each Team;

- 66.9.3.2 Players may not appear on more than one Player Roster in the Metropolitan Cup;
- 66.9.3.3 only Players on the relevant Player Roster will be eligible to play for that Team in the Metropolitan Cup; and
- 66.9.3.4 the Club must also designate the associated Metropolitan League Team in its application to participate in the Metropolitan Cup.

66.9.4 Regional Teams may lodge an application in writing to Football West to participate in the Metropolitan Cup and if such an application is successful, those Teams will be included in the Metropolitan Cup draw. An entry fee of \$55 applies for those Teams.

66.9.5 A regional Club travelling to the metropolitan area or another region, or a metropolitan Club travelling to a region will be entitled to an allowance of \$250 for each such a trip payable upon that Team furnishing an invoice to Football West for that amount.

66.9.6 Clubs competing in each round of the Metropolitan Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs at random. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game, the NPL Competition Rules and the relevant Annexures. The winner of each Match will compete in the next round and in which Matches be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be continued until the final of the Metropolitan Cup Competition.

66.9.7 Football West reserves the right to require that a regional Club granted entry in accordance with Rule 66.9.4 plays any or all of its Matches in the Metropolitan Area regardless of whether or not that Club is drawn to play at home.

66.9.8 A preliminary round may be played to ensure that the subsequent rounds can be played by that number of Teams which will ensure that only two Teams remain at the end of the Metropolitan Cup Competition. Football West may determine, by any process it deems suitable, which Teams will play in any preliminary rounds.

66.9.9 After the draw of each cup round, participating Clubs will be informed of the fixture date, time and venue by Football West.

66.9.10 In all Matches played during the Metropolitan Cup, should scores be level at the full-time whistle, the outcome of that Match will be decided by kicks from the penalty mark as described in the Laws of the Game.

66.9.11 A Player may not play for a Team in the Metropolitan Cup if, in the same season, that Player has previously played for:

- 66.9.11.1 a different Team in the Metropolitan Cup;
- 66.9.11.2 an NPL WA Men's Club or a Men's State League Club in the Australia Cup, State Reserves Cup or State Under 18's Cup;
- 66.9.11.3 any Club in the Amateur Cup or Amateur Reserves Cup; or
- 66.9.11.4 any Club in the Masters Cup.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.9.12 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of six (6) different Matches for the Team in question prior to that

semi-final or final, including with its associated Metropolitan League Team as described in Rule 66.9.3. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.9.13 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 66.9.12 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least two (2) Business Days before the fixture. Football West's decision on any application is final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.9.14 Football West will pay Match official fees for Matches played in the Metropolitan Cup Final.

66.9.15 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a Match. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing at least four (4) Business Days prior to the Match.

## 66.10 **Masters Cup**

66.10.1 Only those Teams that compete in the Over 35's League, the Over 45's League and Over 55's League Competitions may compete in the Masters Cup unless admitted in accordance with Rule 66.10.4.

66.10.2 Entry is voluntary for those eligible Teams. All Masters Teams will automatically be entered into the Competition and clubs will need to opt out if they do not wish to compete.

66.10.3 If a Club enters multiple Teams into the Masters Cup then:

66.10.3.1 each Team's entry must be accompanied by a Player Roster for each Team;

66.10.3.2 Players may not appear on more than one Player Roster in the Masters Cup;

66.10.3.3 only Players on this Player Roster will be eligible to play for this Team in the Masters Cup; and

66.10.3.4 the Club must also designate the associated Over 35's League or Over 45's League Team in its application to participate in the Masters Cup.

66.10.4 Regional Teams may lodge an application in writing to Football West to participate in the Masters Cup and if such an application is successful, those Teams will be included in the draw. An entry fee of \$55 applies for those Teams who wish to play in the Masters Cup.

66.10.5 A regional Club travelling to the metropolitan area or another region, or a metropolitan Club travelling to a region will be entitled to an allowance of \$250 for each such trip payable on invoice to Football West.

66.10.6 Clubs competing in each round of the Masters Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs at random. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game, the Competition Rules and the relevant Annexures. The winner of each Match will compete in the next round and in which Matches be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be continued until the final of the Masters Cup Competition. Football West reserves the right to require that a regional

Club granted entry in accordance with Rule 66.10.4 plays any or all of its Matches in the Metropolitan Area regardless of whether or not that Club is drawn at home.

66.10.7 A preliminary round may be played to ensure that the subsequent rounds can be played by that number of Teams which will ensure that only two Teams remain at the end of the Masters Cup Competition. Football West may determine, by any process it deems suitable, which Teams will play in any preliminary rounds.

66.10.8 After the draw of each cup round, participating Clubs will be informed of the fixture date, time and venue by Football West.

66.10.9 A Player may not play for a Team in the Masters Cup if, in the same season, that Player has previously played for:

66.10.9.1 a different Team in the Masters Cup;

66.10.9.2 an NPL WA Men's Club or a Men's State League Club in the Australia Cup or State Reserves Cup;

66.10.9.3 any Club in the Amateur Cup or Amateur Reserves Cup; or

66.10.9.4 any Club in the Metropolitan Cup.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.10.10 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have taken the field in a minimum of 6 different Matches for the Team in question prior to that semi-final or final including with its associated Masters League Team as described in Rule 66.10.3. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.10.11 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 66.10.10 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least 2 Business Days before the fixture. Football West's decision on any application is final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.10.12 Football West will pay Match Official fees for the Masters Cup Final.

66.10.13 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a fixture. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing four (4) Business Days prior to the fixture.

## 66.11 **Over 45's Cup**

66.11.1 Only those Teams in the Over 45's League may compete in the Over 45's Cup Competition unless admitted in accordance with Rule 66.11.3.

66.11.2 Entry is voluntary for those eligible Teams. All Over 45's Teams will automatically be entered into the Competition and clubs will need to opt out if they do not wish to compete.

66.11.3 If a Club enters multiple Teams into the Over 45's Cup then:

66.11.3.1 each Team's entry must be accompanied by a Player Roster for each Team;

- 66.11.3.2 Players may not appear on more than one Player Roster in the Over 45's Cup;
- 66.11.3.3 only Players on this Player Roster will be eligible to play for this Team in the Over 45's Cup; and
- 66.11.3.4 the Club must also designate the associated Over 45's League Team in its application to participate in this Over 45's Cup.

66.11.4 Regional Teams may lodge an application in writing to Football West to participate in the Over 45's Cup and if such an application is successful, those Teams will be included in the draw. An entry fee of \$55 applies for those Teams who wish to play in the Over 45's Cup.

66.11.5 A regional Club travelling to the Metropolitan Area or another region, or a metropolitan Club travelling to a region will be entitled to an allowance of \$250 for each such trip payable on invoice to Football West.

66.11.6 Clubs competing in each round of the Over 45's Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs at random. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game, the Competition Rules and the relevant Annexures. The winner of each Match will compete in the next round and in which Matches be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be continued until the final of the Over 45's Cup Competition. Football West reserves the right to require that a regional Club granted entry in accordance with Rule 66.11.3 plays any or all of its Matches in the Metropolitan Area regardless of whether or not that Club is drawn at home.

66.11.7 A preliminary round may be played to ensure that the subsequent rounds can be played by that number of Teams which will ensure that only two Teams remain at the end of the Over 45's Cup Competition. Football West may determine, by any process it deems suitable, which Teams will play in any preliminary rounds.

66.11.8 After the draw of each cup round, participating Clubs will be informed of the fixture date, time and venue by Football West.

66.11.9 A Player may not play for a Team in the Over 45's Cup if, in the same Competition Season, if that Player has previously played for:

- 66.11.9.1 a different Team in the Over 45's Cup;
- 66.11.9.2 any Club in the Masters Cup;
- 66.11.9.3 an NPL WA Men's Club or a Men's State League Club in the Australia Cup or State Reserves Cup;
- 66.11.9.4 any Club in the Amateur Cup or Amateur Reserves Cup; or
- 66.11.9.5 any Club in the Metropolitan Cup.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.11.10 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of 6 different Matches for the Team in question prior to that semi-final or final including with its associated Over 45's League Team as described in Rule 66.11.3. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.11.11 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 66.11.10 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least 2 Business Days before the fixture. Football West's decision on any application is final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.11.12 Football West will pay Match official fees for the Over 45's Cup Final.

66.11.13 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a fixture. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing four (4) Business Days prior to the fixture.

## 66.12 **Over 55's Cup**

66.12.1 Only those Teams in the Over 55's League may compete in the Over 55's Cup Competition unless admitted in accordance with Rule 66.12.3.

66.12.2 Entry is voluntary for those eligible Teams. All Over 55's Teams will automatically be entered into the Competition and clubs will need to opt out if they do not wish to compete.

66.12.3 If a Club enters multiple Teams into the Over 55's Cup then:

66.12.3.1 each Team's entry must be accompanied by a Player Roster for each Team;

66.12.3.2 Players may not appear on more than one Player Roster in the Over 55's Cup;

66.12.3.3 only Players on this Player Roster will be eligible to play for this Team in the Over 55's Cup; and

66.12.3.4 the Club must also designate the associated Over 55's League Team in its application to participate in this Over 55's Cup.

66.12.4 Regional Teams may lodge an application in writing to Football West to participate in the Over 55's Cup and if such an application is successful, those Teams will be included in the draw. An entry fee of \$55 applies for those Teams who wish to play in the Over 55's Cup.

66.12.5 A regional Club travelling to the Metropolitan Area or another region, or a metropolitan Club travelling to a region will be entitled to an allowance of \$250 for each such trip payable on invoice to Football West.

66.12.6 Clubs competing in each round of the Over 55's Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs at random. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game, the Competition Rules and the relevant Annexures. The winner of each Match will compete in the next round and in which Matches be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be continued until the final of the Over 55's Cup Competition. Football West reserves the right to require that a regional Club granted entry in accordance with Rule 66.12.3 plays any or all of its Matches in the Metropolitan Area regardless of whether or not that Club is drawn at home.

66.12.7 A preliminary round may be played to ensure that the subsequent rounds can be played by that number of Teams which will ensure that only two Teams

remain at the end of the Over 55's Cup Competition. Football West may determine, by any process it deems suitable, which Teams will play in any preliminary rounds.

66.12.8 After the draw of each cup round, participating Clubs will be informed of the fixture date, time and venue by Football West.

66.12.9 A Player may not play for a Team in the Over 55's Cup if, in the same Competition Season, if that Player has previously played for:

66.12.9.1 a different Team in the Over 55's Cup;

66.12.9.2 any Club in the Over 45's Cup;

66.12.9.3 any Club in the Masters Cup;

66.12.9.4 an NPL WA Men's Club or a Men's State League Club in the Australia Cup or State Reserves Cup;

66.12.9.5 any Club in the Amateur Cup or Amateur Reserves Cup; or

66.12.9.6 any Club in the Metropolitan Cup.

**Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.12.10 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of 6 different Matches for the Team in question prior to that semi-final or final including with its associated Over 55's League Team as described in Rule Rule 66.12.3. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.12.11 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 66.12.10 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least 2 Business Days before the fixture. Football West's decision on any application is final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

66.12.12 Football West will pay Match official fees for the Over 55's Cup Final.

66.12.13 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a fixture. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing four (4) Business Days prior to the fixture.

66.13 The Individual Awards awarded in accordance with Rule 55 shall be:

66.13.1 Top Goalscorer in each Division.

## **67. WOMEN'S LEAGUE COMPETITIONS**

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### **67.1 Matches**

67.1.1 With the exception of abandoned Matches, each period of a Match must last for a minimum of 30 minutes in order for a result to be recorded.

67.1.2 Subject to Rule 67.1.3, the duration of the half time interval will be 15 minutes.

67.1.3 The Match Official may adjust the duration of a Match to ensure that a following Match on the same field of play commences at its scheduled kick-off time.

67.1.4 The result of each Match must be entered into the Competition Management System by the Home Club within 2 hours of the completion of the Match, with the exception of Women's League Division 1 whereby the referee will enter the result of each match.

67.1.5 Football West may, from time to time, nominate any Match during a Competition Season as being under the direct control of Football West will determine in its discretion the conditions, the venue, and any other such circumstances under which the Match is to be played.

67.1.6 Substitutes in the Women's League Competitions except for the Women's League Division 1 and the Women's State Cup are not bound by the condition in Law 3 of the Laws of the Game which forbids further participation in a Match from a substituted Player. All substitutes in the Women's League Competitions except for the Women's League Division 1 and the Women's State Cup are able to be substituted on and off the field of play at the will of that Player's Team.

67.1.7 No more than seven (7) named substitutes may be listed on the Team list of a Women's League Division 1 Team.

67.1.8 No more than five (5) named substitutes may be listed on the Team list of any other Women's League Competition of which a maximum of five may be used in any one Match.

## 67.2 **Players**

67.2.1 Only female Players are eligible to compete in the Women's League Competitions.

67.2.2 Once a Player has:

- 67.2.2.1 taken the field five (5) times for a Team in the Women's League Division 1 or been named on the Electronic Match Card of a Team in the Women's League Competitions they will be considered to be a Player of that League; and
- 67.2.2.2 five (5) appearances in accordance with Rule 67.2.2.1 will be considered a player of the highest League Competition for which that Player has five (5) appearances.

67.2.3 A Player who was recorded on the Player Roster in a A-League W Team may not be listed on the Team List of a Women's League Competition within 12 months of the completion of their most recent A-League W season.

67.2.4 A player listed on a club's First Team NPL WA Women's Roster may not participate in the Women's League Division 1 and all Women's Leagues competitions below in the same season without submitting a request in writing to Football West for an exemption and Football West has given approval.

67.2.5 Once a Player has been listed on a Team sheet of the NPL WA Women's Competition they may not appear on the Team List of any Team in the Women's League Competitions for the remainder of the Competition Season.

67.2.6 Once a player has been listed on a Team sheet of the NPL WA Women's Under 21's on any occasion, that player must not appear on the Team list of any Team in the Women's League Division 1, Division 2 or below for the remainder of the Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.

67.2.7 If a Club fields two (2) sides or more sides in the Women's Competition only two (2) Players may appear in the Club's next highest ranked Team on the same weekend, so long as the teams are not in the same Division. There is no requirement that the same two Players are used each week. For clarity, a Weekend means the period from 5:00 pm on the last Business Day of a week until 9:00 am on the first Business Day of the next week.

67.2.8 Once a Player has played in the Women's League Division 1 on 6 (six) occasions, they may not participate in Women's Central League in the same season without submitting an exemption request in writing to and receiving approval from Football West.

67.2.9 Clubs competing in the JDL Girls 18's League that do not have a team in the NPL WA Women's will not be subject to player movement restrictions between the JDL Under 18's league team and their highest ranked team in the Women's League provided players meet the age eligibility requirements outlined in Rule 67.2.12. A player can play in both the Women's League highest ranked team and the Junior Girls 18's league on the same weekend.

67.2.10 Once a Player has played in the Women's League Division 1 on any occasion, they may not participate in Women's North and South Divisions or Women's Masters League in the same season without submitting an exemption request in writing to and receiving approval from Football West.

67.2.11 Once a Player has been listed on a team sheet in the Women's Central League on 6 (six) occasions, they may not participate in Women's North and South divisions in the same season without submitting an exemption request in writing to and receiving approval from Football West.

67.2.12 To be eligible to play in a Women's League Competition a Player must meet the birth year requirements set out in the following table:

Competition	Age at 31 December of the Competition Year
Women's League Divisions	16 or older
Women's League North and South Divisions	16 or older
Women's Masters League	35 or older

67.2.13 A Player who will be 15 or younger on 31 December of the Competition Year may apply to Football West to be assessed as being competent to play in the Women's League Competitions but is ineligible to play until confirmation of such competency has been provided to the Club in writing. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

### 67.3 Match Scheduling

#### 67.3.1 In the Women's League except Division 1:

- 67.3.1.1 Matches may not start before 11:00am, without approval from Football West or the opposition.
- 67.3.1.2 Once fixtures have been published, the Home Club is permitted to request a change in writing or implement a change via the Competition Management System. Changes are restricted to the kick-off time and pitch number. Change requests will be considered valid if submitted by 12 pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date.
- 67.3.1.3 A request to change a fixture any time after 12 pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition Club. The approval of such requests is subject to Football West's discretion and may or may not be granted.

#### 67.3.2 In Women's League Division 1 only:

- 67.3.2.1 A Club in Division 1 may request its home Matches are played on a nominated date and time during the drafting phase of the fixtures or up to 6 weeks prior to the designated fixture. This request does not require the consent of the other Club. For clarity the drafting phase ends at the point at which the fixtures are published by Football West.
- 67.3.2.2 All matches in the last round of the Division 1 Regular Season must be played simultaneously unless an exemption is provided by Football West.

### 67.4 Women's League Division 1

#### 67.4.1 General

- 67.4.1.1 A Club may not enter more than one Team into the Women's League Division 1 Competition.
- 67.4.1.2 A Club participating in the Women's League Division 1 Competition is obligated to field a second team in the Women's Competition. This secondary team can be entered in either:
  - (i) Women's League Division 2, or below; or
  - (ii) Junior Girls League U18 or U16 divisions.
- 67.4.1.3 The Women's League Division 1 will consist of eight (8) teams.
- 67.4.1.4 Entry into the Women's Night Series is compulsory for all Women's League Division 1 Clubs.
- 67.4.1.5 Entry into the Women's State Cup is compulsory for all Women's League Division 1 Clubs.
- 67.4.1.6 Each Team will need to provide a Player Roster, with a minimum of eighteen (18) players listed.

#### 67.4.2 Players

- 67.4.2.1 Once a Player has taken to the field for a Team of the NPL WA Women's First Team/Under 21's on any occasion, those Players may not participate in any Matches for any other Team in the Women's League Division 1 and below for the remainder of the Competition season.
- 67.4.2.2 Once a Player has taken to the field of play in the Women's League Division 1 on six (6) occasions, they may not appear on the Team List of any other Women's League Central Competition for the remainder of the Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.
- 67.4.2.3 Once a Player has taken to the field of play in the Women's League Division 1 on any occasion, they may not appear on the Team List of any Women's North or South Competition for the remainder of the Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.
- 67.4.2.4 Once a Junior Girls Player has taken to the field in nine (9) Matches of the Women's League Division 1. Following the ninth Match for the Women's League Division 1, the Player must choose whether to play in either the Women's League Division 1 or the Junior Girls Team(s) for which they are eligible. This rule is not applicable to a club's Under 18's team subject to Rule 67.2.9.
- 67.4.2.5 Penalty for Breach of Rule 67.4.2 will result in forfeit to the lowest ranked Team.

67.4.3 Promotion and relegation

- 67.4.3.1 Promotion out of Women's League 1 and into NPL WA Women's is covered in Rule 56.
- 67.4.3.2 Relegation out of, and promotion into, Women's League 1, uses the Straight Model – One Team. The Team that finishes in first position has the discretion on whether to accept their promotion, and if they do not, then Football West may exercise its right to promote a different team from the Division.

67.5 **Women's League Central Divisions (2 and below)**

67.5.1 Competition Format

- 67.5.1.1 The rules in this Section apply to the Women's League Central Divisions (2 and below), but do not apply to Women's League North and South Divisions.
- 67.5.1.2 Each Division under the Women's League Division 2 and below will consist of eight (8) Teams.
- 67.5.1.3 If a Club fields more than one Team in a single division, then the Club must submit a Player Roster for each Team at the start of the season. A maximum of two (2) Players may play in the other Team

within that Division on any given week. For clarity this does not need to be the same two (2) Players each week.

67.5.1.4 Each Team will play twenty-one (21) rounds. Each Team will play every other Team three (3) times.

#### 67.5.2 Players

67.5.2.1 A Player has taken the field for a Team of the NPL WA Women's First Team/Under 21's on any occasion, those Players may not participate in any Matches for any other Team in the Women's League Division 1 and below for the remainder of the Competition season.

67.5.2.2 Once a Player has taken the field of play in the Women's League Division 1 on six (6) occasions, they may not appear on the Team List of any Women's League Division 2 or below Competitions Team for the remainder of the Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.

67.5.2.3 If a Club fields a Team in the Women's League Division 1 and has a Team in the Women's League Division 2 and below, Players who have appeared in the Division 1 Team may only appear in their Club's next highest ranked on the same weekend, subject to any other requirements in Rule 67.2.

67.5.2.4 Once a Player has been listed on the team list in the Women's League Division 2 and below on six (6) occasions, they may not appear on the Team List of any Women's League North or South Division Team for the remainder of the Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.

67.5.2.5 If a Club field two (2) or more sides in the Women's Competition only two (2) Players may appear in the Club's next highest ranked Team on the same weekend, so long as the teams are not in the same Division after the conclusion of grading. There is no requirement that the same two Players are used each week.

67.5.2.6 Penalty for Breach of Rule 67.5.2 will result in forfeit to the lowest ranked Team.

#### 67.5.3 Promotion and relegation

67.5.3.1 Promotion out of Women's League Central Division 1 is covered in Rule 67.4.3.

67.5.3.2 The Straight Model – One Team is used for:

(a) promotion into Women's League Central Division 1, and relegation down to Women's League Central Division 2;

(b) promotion into Women's League Central Division 2, and relegation down to Women's League Central Division 3;

- (c) promotion into Women's League Central Division 3, and relegation down to Women's League Central Division 4; and
- (d) promotion into Women's League Central Division 4, and relegation down to Women's League Central Division 5.

67.5.3.3 In all cases of promotion and relegation in Central League Divisions 2 to 5, the Team that finishes in first position has the discretion on whether to accept their promotion, and if they do not, then Football West may exercise its right to promote a different team from the Division.

## 67.6 Women's League North and South Divisions

### 67.6.1 Competition Format

- 67.6.1.1 This Rule 67.6 applies to the Women's League North and South Divisions only.
- 67.6.1.2 A Club may request in writing to Football West a change to the Division of one (1) or more of its Teams in the Women's North and South League. Any such change may or may not be granted at the discretion of Football West, and if granted any change will be subject to the applicable fees being paid to Football West by that Club. The decision as to whether or not a change request is granted by Football West is final.
- 67.6.1.3 Each Division under the Women's League North and South Divisions will consist of eight (8) Teams.
- 67.6.1.4 If a Club fields more than one (1) Team in the same Division, then the Club must submit a Player Roster for each Team at the start of the season. A maximum of two (2) Players may play in the other Team within that Division on any given week. For clarity this does not need to be the same two (2) Players each week.
- 67.6.1.5 Each Team will play twenty-one (21) rounds. The first section of seven (7) rounds will be known as the grading period, where teams will be fixtured against any teams in the Women's League North and South Divisions. At the completion of these rounds, each Team will play a home and away match, with seven (7) other Teams in their Division.
- 67.6.1.6 At the conclusion of the grading period, Football West will allocate teams to their appropriate Divisions for the remainder of the season. If there are an uneven number of teams, Football West reserve the right post the grading to make any decisions it sees fit to allocate teams into their relevant divisions or alter the division size.
- 67.6.1.7 Football West will utilise the Competition Management System and other methods of determination including but not limited to Points Per Game System for the grading. All decisions of the grading made by Football West are final and any such changes are at the discretion of Football West.

## 67.6.2 Players

- 67.6.2.1 A player listed on a club's First Team NPL WA Women's Roster may not participate in the Women's League North and South Competitions in the same season without submitting a request in writing to Football West for an exemption and Football West has given approval.
- 67.6.2.2 Once a player has been listed on a Team sheet of an NPL WA Women's First Team or Under 21's, that player must not appear on the Team list of any Team in the Women's North and South Divisions for the remainder of the Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.
- 67.6.2.3 Once a Player has taken the field of play in the Women's League Division 1 on any occasion they may not participate in Women's North and South Divisions or Women's Masters League in the same season without submitting an exemption request in writing to and receiving approval from Football West.
- 67.6.2.4 Once a Player has taken the field of play in the Women's League Central (Division 2 and below) on six (6) occasions, they may not appear on the Team List of any Women's League North or South Division Team for the remainder of the Competition Season without submitting a request for an exemption in writing to and approved by Football West.
- 67.6.2.5 Once a Junior Girls Player has taken to the field in nine (9) Matches of the Women's League North/South Divisions. Following the ninth Match for the Women's League North/South Division, the Player must choose whether to play in either the Women's League North and South Competition or the Junior Girls Team(s) for which they are eligible.
- 67.6.2.6 If a Club field two (2) or more sides in the Women's Competition only two (2) Players may appear in the Club's next highest ranked Team on the same weekend, so long the teams are not in the same Division. There is no requirement that the same two Players are used each week. For clarity, a Weekend means the period from 5:00 pm on the last Business Day of a week until 9:00 am on the first Business Day of the next week.
- 67.6.2.7 Penalty for Breach of Rule 67.6.2 will result in forfeit to the lowest ranked Team.

## 67.7 Women's Masters League

- 67.7.1 A Club may not enter more than one Team into the same Division unless that Club enters more Teams than there are Divisions for Women's Masters League or at the discretion of Football West.

67.7.2 A Club may request in writing to Football West a change to the Division of one or more of its Teams in the Women's Masters League. Any such change may or may not be granted at the discretion of Football West, and if granted any change will be subject to the applicable fees being paid to Football West by that Club. The decision as to whether or not a change request is granted by Football West is final.

67.7.3 Players taking part in the Women's Masters League must be aged 35 or older on 31 December of the Competition Year, unless exempt at the discretion of Football West.

67.7.4 A maximum of three (3) Players aged 30 to 34 (inclusive) on 31 December of the Competition Year may be listed in the Team List.

67.7.5 If a Club fields more than one (1) Team in the same Division, then the Club must submit a Player Roster for each Team at the start of the season. A maximum of two (2) Players may play in the other Team within that Division on any given week. For clarity this does not need to be the same two (2) Players each week.

## 67.8 **Women's State Cup**

67.8.1 Entry is compulsory for all Clubs who compete in the NPL WA Women's and Women's League Division 1.

67.8.2 Clubs from all other Women's League Competitions may lodge an application to participate in the Women's State Cup and if such an application is successful, that Club's Team will be included in the draw.

67.8.3 Entry to the Women's State Cup does not preclude any eligible team entry to the Women's League Cup.

67.8.4 Clubs competing in each round of the Women's State Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs at random. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game, the NPL Competition Rules and the relevant Annexures. The winner of each Match will compete in the next round and in which Matches be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be continued until the final of the Women's State Cup Competition.

67.8.5 A preliminary round may be played to ensure that the subsequent rounds can be played by that number of Teams which will ensure that only two Teams remain at the end of the Women's State Cup Competition. Football West may determine, by any process it deems suitable, which Teams will play in any preliminary rounds.

67.8.6 After the draw of each round, participating Clubs will be informed via the Competition Management system of the fixture date, time and venue by Football West.

67.8.7 For circumstances in which a Match Official is allocated to a Match involving Teams from different Divisions, the Match Official will be paid the Match Official fee to which he is entitled by the Team who plays in the higher-ranking Division.

67.8.8 Football West will pay Match Official fees for the Women's State Cup Final.

67.8.9 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a Match. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing four (4) Business Days prior to the Match.

#### 67.8.10 Players

67.8.10.1 A Player may not play for a Team in the Women's State Cup if, in the same Competition Season, they have previously played for a different Team in the Women's State Cup. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

67.8.10.2 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of 50% of their Matches for the Team in question. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

67.8.11 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 67.8.10.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least two (2) business days before the fixture. Football West's decision on any application is final. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

### 67.9 Women's League Cup

#### 67.9.1 Competition Format

67.9.1.1 Entry into the Women's League Cup is voluntary and open to those Teams in the Women's League Central (Division 2 and below), Women's League North and South Divisions and Women's Masters League.

67.9.1.2 Teams will automatically be entered into the draw and will need to notify Football West to opt-out of the cup competition, should they not wish to participate.

67.9.1.3 Regional Teams may lodge an application in writing to Football West to participate in the Women's League Cup and if such an application is successful, those Teams will be included in the Women's League Cup draw. An entry fee of \$55 applies for those Teams.

67.9.1.4 If a Club enters multiple Teams into the Women's League Cup then:

(a) each Team's entry must be accompanied by a Player Roster for each Team;

(b) Players may not appear on more than one Player Roster in the Women's League Cup; and

(c) Only Players on the relevant Player Roster will be eligible to play for that Team in the Women's League Cup.

67.9.1.5 A regional Club travelling to the Metropolitan Area or another region, or a metropolitan Club travelling to a region will be entitled to an allowance of \$250 for each such a trip payable upon that Team furnishing an invoice to Football West for that amount.

67.9.1.6 Football West reserves the right to require that a regional Club granted entry in accordance with Rule 67.9.1.2 plays any or all of its Matches in the Metropolitan Area regardless of whether or not that Club is drawn to play at home.

67.9.1.7 Clubs competing in each round of the Women's League Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs at random. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game, the Football West Competition Rules and the relevant Annexures. The winner of each Match will compete in the next round and in which Matches be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be continued until the final of the Women's League Cup Competition.

67.9.1.8 A preliminary round may be played to ensure that the subsequent rounds can be played by that number of Teams which will ensure that only two Teams remain at the end of the Women's League Cup Competition. Football West may determine, by any process it deems suitable, which Teams will play in any preliminary rounds.

67.9.1.9 After the draw of each round, participating Clubs will be informed of the fixture date, time and venue by Football West.

67.9.1.10 For circumstances in which a Match Official is allocated to a Match involving Teams from different Divisions, the Match Official will be paid that Match Official's fee to which he is entitled by the higher-ranking Team.

67.9.1.11 Football West will pay Match Official fees for the Women's League Cup Final.

67.9.1.12 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a fixture. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing four (4) Business Days prior to the fixture.

67.9.2 Players

67.9.2.1 A player may not play for a Team in the Women's League Cup if, in the same Competition Season, that Player has previously played for:

- (a) any Team in the Women's State Cup except in circumstances where Rule 67.8.3 applies. In such circumstances exemptions will be granted;
- (b) any Senior Team Match in the NPL WA Women's or NPL WA Men's; or
- (c) a different Team in the Women's League Cup.

67.9.2.2 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of 50% of their Matches for the Team in question prior to that semi-final or final including with its associated Women's League Team.

67.9.2.3 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 67.9.2.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least two (2) business days before the fixture. Football West's decision on any application is final.

### 67.9.3 Competition Format

67.9.3.1 This cup competition will only be conducted if there are eight (8) or more teams entered in the Women's Masters League.

67.9.3.2 Teams will automatically be entered into the draw and will need to notify Football West to opt-out of the cup competition, should they not wish to participate.

67.9.3.3 If a Club enters multiple Teams into the Women's Masters Cup then:

- (a) each Team's entry must be accompanied by a Player Roster for each Team;
- (b) Players may not appear on more than one Player Roster in the Women's Masters Cup; and
- (c) Only Players on the relevant Player Roster will be eligible to play for that Team in the Women's Masters Cup.

67.9.3.4 Regional Teams may lodge an application in writing to Football West to participate in the Women's Masters Cup and if such an application is successful, those Teams will be included in the Women's Masters Cup draw. An entry fee of \$55 applies for those Teams.

67.9.3.5 A regional Club travelling to the Metropolitan Area or another region, or a metropolitan Club travelling to a region will be entitled to an allowance of \$250 for each such a trip payable upon that Team furnishing an invoice to Football West for that amount.

67.9.3.6 Football West reserves the right to require that a regional Club granted entry in accordance with Rule 67.10.1.4 plays any or all of its Matches in the Metropolitan Area regardless of whether or not that Club is drawn to play at home.

67.9.3.7 Clubs competing in each round of the Women's Masters Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs at random. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game, the Football West Competition Rules and the relevant Annexures. The winner of each Match will compete in the next round and in which Matches be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be continued until the final of the Women's Masters Cup Competition.

67.9.3.8 A preliminary round may be played to ensure that the subsequent rounds can be played by that number of Teams which will ensure

that only two Teams remain at the end of the Women's Masters Cup Competition. Football West may determine, by any process it deems suitable, which Teams will play in any preliminary rounds.

- 67.9.3.9 After the draw of each round, participating Clubs will be informed of the fixture date, time and venue by Football West.
- 67.9.3.10 Football West will pay Match Official fees for the Women's Masters Cup Final.
- 67.9.3.11 Football West reserves the right to request a squad list for each competing Team in a fixture. If requested, such a list must be provided in writing four (4) Business Days prior to the fixture.

#### 67.9.4 Players

- 67.9.4.1 A player may not play for a Team in the Women's Masters Cup if, in the same Competition Season, that Player has previously played for:
  - (a) any Team in the Women's State Cup
  - (b) any Senior Team Match in the NPL WA Women's or NPL WA Men's; or
  - (c) any Team in the Women's League Cup except in circumstances where Rule 67.6.1 applies. In such circumstances exemptions will be granted. **Penalty for breach is as outlined in Appendix B.**
- 67.9.4.2 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of 50% of their Matches for the Team in question prior to that semi-final or final including with its associated Women's Masters Team. **Penalty for breach is as outlined in Appendix B.**
- 67.9.4.3 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 67.10.2.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. Absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least two (2) business days before the fixture. Football West's decision on any application is final. **Penalty for breach is as outlined in Appendix B.**

#### 67.10 The Individual Awards awarded in accordance with Rule 55 shall be:

- 67.10.1 Fairest and Best in Division 1 and Central Divisions (2 and below);
- 67.10.2 Top Goalscorer in each Division;
- 67.10.3 Best Goalkeeper in Division 1 only; and
- 67.10.4 Best Coach in Division 1 only.

### **68. NIGHT SERIES RULES**

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68.1 Once a Player has taken the field of play for a Team during the competition, that Player may not appear on the Team List for any other Team in any Night Series Competition. An unused substitute is deemed to NOT have played. **Penalty for breach is as outlined in Appendix B.**

## 68.2 **Night Series Suspended Players**

68.2.1 If a Club Associate is currently serving a Match Suspension which extends over One (1) or more Competition Seasons, they will be permitted to serve the suspension in Night Series matches. Example:

68.2.1.1 A Player commits Offence 1B in a Regular Season Competition and is Suspended for an AMS plus two (2) Matches.

68.2.1.2 The Player has served one (1) Match of their Suspension prior to the Night Series.

68.2.1.3 The Player must serve the remaining two (2) Matches of their Suspension in the first two (2) Night Series Matches.

68.2.2 A Club Associate who receives a Suspension as a result of Misconduct in a Night Series Match must serve that Suspension across Night Series Matches in that Competition.

68.2.3 Any Suspension as a result of Yellow Card Accumulation or Misconduct in a Night Series Match which cannot be fully served during the remaining Night Series Matches will be carried over into Regular Season Matches.

*Example 1: A Player accumulates their third Yellow Card in the last Match of the Night Series Competition. The Player must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of one (1) Match in the first Regular Season Match.*

*Example 2: A Player commits Offence 1B in the Night Series Competition and is Suspended for an AMS plus two (2) Matches. The Player has served one (1) Match of their Suspension in the Night Series. The Player must serve the remaining two (2) Match Suspension in the first two (2) Regular Season Matches.*

## 68.3 **NPL WA – Men’s and Women’s Night Series – Competition Format**

68.3.1 Entry is mandatory for and limited to NPL WA Clubs. Any Club that refuses to enter a relevant Team in the NPL Night Series Competition may be subject to a sanction at the discretion of Football West.

68.3.2 The Teams will be organised into three (3) groups of four (4) Teams.

68.3.3 Matches will be played at venues determined by Football West.

68.3.4 Teams from each group will play every other Team in the same group once.

68.3.5 The winner of each group and the best runner-up in the group stage will compete in the Semi-Final.

68.3.6 The winners of the Semi-Final will play each other in the NPL Night Series Grand Final.

#### **68.4 Men's State League Night Series – Competition Format**

- 68.4.1 Entry is mandatory for and limited to Men's State League Clubs. Any Club that refuses to enter a relevant Team in the Men's State League Night Series Competition may be subject to a sanction at the discretion of Football West.
- 68.4.2 Teams will be organised into six (6) groups of four (4) Teams.
- 68.4.3 Host Clubs will be selected to conduct group games.
- 68.4.4 Teams from each group will play every other team in the same group once.
- 68.4.5 The winner of each group and the best two runner-up Teams will qualify for the quarter finals and will play those quarter-final Matches in a pre-determined draw.
- 68.4.6 The winners of the semi-final will play each other in the Men's State League Night Series Grand Final.

#### **68.5 Women's League Night Series**

##### **68.5.1 Competition Format**

- 68.5.1.1 Entry is mandatory for Women's League Division 1 Clubs. Any Club that refuses to enter a relevant Team in the Women's League Night Series Competition may be subject to a sanction at the discretion of Football West.
- 68.5.1.2 Women's League Teams below Division 1 may nominate to play in the Women's League Night Series. Entry will be capped at sixteen (16) teams.
- 68.5.1.3 Teams will be organised into four (4) groups designated Group A, B, C and D.
- 68.5.1.4 Teams in each group will play every other Team in their group once.
- 68.5.1.5 The winner of each group will qualify for the semi-final.
- 68.5.1.6 The winners of the semi-final will play each other in the Women's League Night Series Grand Final.

##### **68.5.2 Interchangeable Substitutes in Group Matches**

- 68.5.2.1 This Rule applies to group Matches only.
- 68.5.2.2 Except under the provisions of Rule 68.5.2.3 no Interchange Events are permitted after the completion of eighty (80) minutes. For the avoidance of doubt, the Match Official is the sole judge of whether eighty (80) minutes have elapsed.
- 68.5.2.3 If, in the opinion of the Match Official, a Player is injured after the completion of more than eighty (80) minutes of a Match and is unable to continue, the Match Official may permit the injured Player to be substituted.
- 68.5.2.4 Only one (1) injured Player may be substituted under the provisions of Rule 68.5.2.3.

## 68.6 Men's Amateur League Night Series

### 68.6.1 Competition Format

- 68.6.1.1 Entry is mandatory for Amateur Premier League Clubs. Any Club that refuses to enter a relevant Team in the Men's Amateur League Night Series Competition may be subject to a sanction at the discretion of Football West.
- 68.6.1.2 Teams will be organised into three (3) groups of four (4).
- 68.6.1.3 Matches will be played at venues determined by Football West.
- 68.6.1.4 Teams from each group will play every other team in the same group once.
- 68.6.1.5 The winner of each group and the best runner- up in the group stage will compete in the semi-final.
- 68.6.1.6 The winners of the semi-final will play each other in the Men's Amateur League Night Series Grand Final.

### 68.6.2 Interchangeable Substitutes in Group Matches

- 68.6.2.1 This Rule applies to group Matches only.
- 68.6.2.2 Except under Rule 68.6.2.3, no Interchange Events are permitted after the completion of eighty (80) minutes. For the avoidance of doubt, the Match Official is the sole judge of whether eighty (80) minutes have elapsed.
- 68.6.2.3 If, in the opinion of the Match Official, a Player is injured after the completion of more than 80 minutes of a Match and is unable to continue, the Match Official may permit the injured Player to be substituted.
- 68.6.2.4 Only 1 injured Player may be substituted under Rule 68.6.2.3.

## 69. YOUTH CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

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- 69.1 The Girls YCC and Boys YCC shall be conducted as separate Competitions, independent of each other.
- 69.2 Bonus and deduction points shall be applied to the YCC Table in accordance with Rule 69.7 of these Rules.
- 69.3 Upon conclusion of the finals phase, and after the application of bonus and deduction points, the Club with the highest aggregate points across all its YCC age group teams shall be declared the Youth Club Champion.
- 69.4 For the purposes of these Rules, the highest-ranked JDL team within each participating age group for a club shall be recognised as the team representing that club in the YCC.

### 69.5 **Eligibility**

- 69.5.1 The YCC is open to clubs that meet the established entry criteria provided below, including compliance with Football West's competition, development, and operational standards.
  - 69.5.1.1 **Affiliation:** All clubs must accept and adhere to Football West's terms of affiliation.
  - 69.5.1.2 **Sanctioning:** All teams, club-run competitions, and programs must be sanctioned by Football West.
  - 69.5.1.3 **Underpinning MiniRoos Teams:** The Club must have at least one underpinning U12's team competing in Football West competitions.
  - 69.5.1.4 **Technical Director:** The Club must have a Technical Director with a B-Diploma accreditation (or higher).
  - 69.5.1.5 **Accredited coaches:** Clubs must have a C diploma coach appointed to each team participating in the YCC.
  - 69.5.1.6 **Member Protection Officer:** The Club must appoint at least one trained Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO).
  - 69.5.1.7 **First Aid:** The Club must appoint at least one trained and qualified First Aid Officer, to be present at the home venue for all home matches.
  - 69.5.1.8 **Club Changer Status:** The Club must be registered on the Club Changer Platform and hold 1-star status (or higher).
  - 69.5.1.9 Clubs must field teams in all required age groups of the JDL competition to participate in the YCC.
- 69.5.2 The competition includes both Boys and Girls YCC with eligible age groups as follows:
  - 69.5.2.1 Boys: Under 14, Under 15, and Under 16.
  - 69.5.2.2 Girls: Under 14 and Under 16.

69.5.3 Clubs must submit an Expression of Interest (**EOI**) to participate in the YCC. Football West shall assess all submissions against the established participation criteria and determine eligibility based on merit and compliance. Approval is at the sole discretion of Football West.

## 69.6 **Competition Format**

69.6.1 The competition structure may differ between the Boys and Girls competitions each year due to variations in the number of eligible clubs.

69.6.2 All teams shall play an equal number of matches throughout the competition to maintain a fair and balanced ranking system.

69.6.3 The YCC shall consist of two phases: a Group Phase and a Finals Phase.

69.6.3.1 The Group Phase shall follow a club-based format, where all age group teams from a club will compete against the corresponding age group teams from the same opposing club each match weekend.

69.6.3.2 The Finals Phase shall follow a team-based format, with each age group team ranked individually based on its results from the Group Phase.

69.6.4 In the Group Phase, match points shall be awarded as follows:

69.6.4.1 Three (3) points for a win

69.6.4.2 One (1) point for a draw

69.6.4.3 Zero (0) points for a loss

69.6.5 If two or more teams are equal on points at the conclusion of the Group Phase, the following tiebreaker criteria shall be applied in the order listed to determine the higher-ranking team:

69.6.5.1 the Team with the superior goal difference;

69.6.5.2 the Team with the higher number of goals scored;

69.6.5.3 the number of points gained in matches between the Teams concerned;

69.6.5.4 the superior goal difference in matches between the Teams concerned;

69.6.5.5 the Team with the lower number of Red Cards;

69.6.5.6 the Team with the lower number of Yellow Cards; or

69.6.5.7 the drawing of lots.

## 69.6.6 Competition Format – Boys YCC

69.6.6.1 Group Phase

(a) Clubs are allocated into four (4) groups as follows:

(i) Two (2) groups of six (6) clubs

(ii) Two (2) groups of five (5) clubs

- (b) In the groups with five clubs, an inter-group match is played between two clubs to ensure every team plays an equal number of matches.
- (c) At the end of the Group Phase, teams progress to the Finals Phase as follows:
  - (iii) The top two (2) teams from each group advance to **Pool A**.
  - (iv) The third (3rd) and fourth (4th) placed teams from each group advance to **Pool B**.
  - (v) All remaining teams advance to **Pool C**.

69.6.6.2 Finals Phase Structure

- (a) Pools A and B (Eight-Team Pools)
  - (i) Each pool will comprise eight (8) teams, seeded 1 to 8 based on Group Phase performance
  - (ii) These groups will contest quarter-finals, semi-finals, and finals/placing matches within their groups.
- (b) Pool C (Six-Team Pool)
  - (iii) Pool C consists of six (6) teams.
  - (iv) This group will contest playoff matches, semi-finals, and finals/placing matches within their group.

69.6.6.3 Pools A and B – Quarter-Finals

- (a) Quarter-final match-ups are as follows:
  - (i) Quarter-Final 1: 1st seed vs. 8th seed
  - (ii) Quarter-Final 2: 2nd seed vs. 7th seed
  - (iii) Quarter-Final 3: 3rd seed vs. 6th seed
  - (iv) Quarter-Final 4: 4th seed vs. 5th seed
- (b) The winners of the quarter-finals advance to Semi-Final Group A (1st–4th place bracket), and the losers advance to Semi-Final Group B (5th–8th place bracket).

69.6.6.4 Pools A and B – Semi-Finals and Placement Matches

- (a) Semi-Final Group A (1st–4th Place Bracket)
  - (i) Semi-Final A1: Winner of QF1 vs. Winner of QF4
  - (ii) Semi-Final A2: Winner of QF2 vs. Winner of QF3
  - (iii) The winners of Semi-Final A1 and A2 contest the Final for 1st and 2nd place, while the losers play in a 3rd/4th place playoff.
- (b) Semi-Final Group B (5th–8th Place Bracket)
  - (iv) Semi-Final B1: Loser of QF1 vs. Loser of QF4
  - (v) Semi-Final B2: Loser of QF2 vs. Loser of QF3

(vi) The winners of Semi-Final B1 and B2 contest a 5th/6th place playoff, while the losers contest a 7th/8th place playoff.

69.6.6.5 Pool C – Finals Phase

(a) Playoffs

(i) The two (2) highest-ranked teams from the Group Phase in Pool C receive a bye into the Semi-Finals.

(ii) The remaining four (4) teams contest playoff matches to determine the other two Semi-

(iii) The four teams (seeds 3 to 6) play the following playoff matches:

(A) 3rd seed vs. 6th seed

(B) 4th seed vs. 5th seed

(iv) The winners of these matches advance to the Semi-Finals.

(v) The losers contest a 5th/6th place playoff.

(b) Semi-Finals (Pool C)

(vi) Each of the two bye teams (the top two seeds from the Group Phase) is drawn against one of the playoff winners.

(vii) The Semi-Final pairings are determined by seeding, with the highest-ranked bye team facing the lower-seeded playoff winner.

(viii) The winners of the Semi-Finals advance to the Pool C Final to decide 1st and 2nd place, while the losers contest a 3rd/4th place playoff.

69.6.6.6 **Final Rankings and Points Allocation**

(a) Following the Finals Phase, teams shall be awarded points based on their final position, which shall contribute to their club's total points.

(b) Points shall be allocated as follows:

(i) 6th place in Pool C shall receive 1 point.

(ii) Points shall increase by one (1) point per position.

(iii) 1st place in Pool A shall receive 22 points.

69.6.7 Competition Format – Girls YCC

69.6.7.1 Group Phase: All clubs are allocated into a single group. Each team plays five (5) matches to ensure fair ranking.

69.6.7.2 Finals Phase: At the conclusion of the Group Phase, teams are ranked in accordance with Rule 69.6.4. Based on these rankings, teams are drawn into quarter-final pairings.

(a) In the quarter-finals:

(i) All teams compete in quarter-final matches.

- (ii) Winners advance to Semi-Final Group A, and losers advance to Semi-Final Group B.
- (b) In Semi-Final Group A (Quarter-final Winners):
- (c) The four winning teams are seeded 1 to 4 based on their Group Phase ranking.
- (d) The match-ups are:
- (e) Semi-Final A1: 1st seed vs. 4th seed
- (f) Semi-Final A2: 2nd seed vs. 3rd seed
- (g) The winners of Semi-Final A1 and A2 advance to the Final to determine 1st and 2nd place.
- (h) The losers of Semi-Final A1 and A2 contest a 3rd/4th place playoff.
- (i) In Semi-Final Group B (Quarter-final Losers):
- (j) The four losing teams are seeded 1 to 4 based on their Group Phase ranking.
- (k) The four losing teams are seeded 1 to 4 based on their Group Phase ranking.
- (l) The match-ups are:
- (m) Semi-Final B1: 1st seed vs. 4th seed
- (n) Semi-Final B2: 2nd seed vs. 3rd seed
- (o) The winners of Semi-Final B1 and B2 contest a 5th/6th place playoff.
- (p) The losers of Semi-Final B1 and B2 contest a 7th/8th place playoff.
- (q) Final Rankings and Point Allocation
- (r) Following the Finals Phase, teams are awarded points based on their final position, contributing to their club's total points.
- (s) Points are allocated as follows:
- (t) 8th place receives 2 points.
- (u) Points increase by two (2) points per position.

## 69.7 **Players**

- 69.7.1 A player may not represent more than one club in the Youth Club Championship within the same season.
- 69.7.2 To be eligible to participate in the quarter-finals, semi-finals, or final, a player must have been listed on a team list and eligible to play for that team in at least five (5) matches during the league season.
- 69.7.3 Players eligible for a lower age group may play in that lower age group, provided that no more than two (2) players play for the lower age group team on any given weekend.
- 69.7.4 Exception for goalkeepers: A goalkeeper may be permitted to play outside these eligibility restrictions if Football West determines that no other eligible goalkeeper is available. A medical certificate may be required.

69.7.5 Any breach of player eligibility rules shall result in a forfeit of the match in which the ineligible player participated.

#### 69.8 **Match Officials**

69.8.1 Each Club is responsible for 50% of Match Official fees.

69.8.2 Representatives from each Team must liaise with each other to ensure that the Match Official(s) receive payment in cash of the Match Official fees on the day of the Match.

### **70. JUNIOR LEAGUE COMPETITIONS**

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#### 70.1 **General**

70.1.1 The MiniRoos League will comprise Divisions in the 5-12s age groups. There will be a girls only MiniRoos League with Divisions in the 8s, 10s and 12s age groups.

70.1.2 For the Junior Community Leagues, a Club may not enter more than one Team into the same Division unless the Club enters more Teams than there are Divisions, or upon application in writing to and subsequent approval by Football West in its absolute discretion.

70.1.3 In the Junior Development Leagues, a Club may only have one team per age group in each Division.

70.1.4 If a Club fields more than one Team in a single Division, then the Club must submit a Player Roster for each Team at the start of the Competition Season. Subject to the exception in Rule 70.5.7 no Players on the Player Roster for a Team in the relevant League may play for another Team without an exemption in writing from Football West. Penalty outlined in Appendix B.

70.1.5 Team entries into the Junior Leagues must be made on or before **Sunday 24 May 2026**. Football West reserves the right to accept Team entries into the Juniors Leagues after **Sunday 24 May 2026** in its absolute discretion.

#### 70.2 **Match length, intervals and match scheduling**

##### 70.2.1 Start Time

70.2.1.1 Matches may not start before 8:00am.

70.2.1.2 Matches may not start after midday, without approval from Football West or the opposition.

##### 70.2.2 Match Schedule Changes

70.2.2.1 Once fixtures have been published, the Home Club is permitted to request a change in writing or implement a change via the Competition Management System. Changes are restricted to the kick-off time and pitch number. Change requests will be considered valid if submitted by 12 pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date.

70.2.2.2 A request to change a fixture any time after 12 pm on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled kick-off date must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition Club. The approval of such

requests is subject to Football West's discretion and may or may not be granted.

- 70.2.3 Subject to Rule 70.2.7, the duration of the half time interval will be 5 minutes.
- 70.2.4 Football West may, from time to time, nominate any Match during a Competition Season as being under the direct control of Football West. In such circumstances, Football West will determine the conditions under which the Match is to be played.
- 70.2.5 Spectators may only watch the Match from behind the touch line. For the avoidance of doubt, the Home Club must ensure that no spectators are situated behind the goal line while the Match is in progress.
- 70.2.6 Where two Clubs are required to play a Match that was not played on the originally scheduled date, an agreement stipulating the date and time of the Match between the two Clubs must be sent in writing to Football West. If an agreement is reached between those Clubs and one of those Clubs subsequently fails to compete at the newly agreed date and time for any reason will forfeit the Match.
- 70.2.7 The Match Official must adjust the duration of a Match to ensure that a following Match on the same field of play commences at the scheduled kick-off time. The Match Official is required to inform both Clubs if he shortens the Match in accordance with this Rule. However, for the avoidance of doubt, a failure by the Match Official to inform the Clubs does not negate the validity of the application of this Rule.
- 70.2.8 When a Match is shortened in accordance with Rule 70.2.7 each Match Official is entitled to receive the full amount of his normal Match Official fee.
- 70.2.9 No time may be added in any Match to the end of each period for stoppages or injuries. For the avoidance of doubt, a failure by the Match Official to enforce this rule does not alter the Match result, even if a goal is scored in additional time.

### 70.3 **Representative Teams**

- 70.3.1 Football West may nominate Players from any Club of its choosing to participate in Representative Matches during a Competition Season.
- 70.3.2 If a JCL Team has three (3) or more Players or a JDL Team has four (4) or more outfield Players or two (2) goalkeepers participating in a Representative Match, it may seek the postponement of any Club Match which conflicts with the Representative Match. This request for a postponement must be made within seven (7) days of the players being selected for the Representative Team.
- 70.3.3 If a Match is postponed in accordance with Rule 70.3.2 above, the postponed Match may not be played within 72 hours of the Representative Match if that Match was played in Western Australia, or seven (7) days if the Representative Match was played outside Western Australia.
- 70.3.4 To be considered as a qualifying Player under Rule 70.3.2, and subject to the conditions of Rule 70.3.5 the Player must have been recorded on that Team's

Team List for a minimum of 80% of all Matches up to and including the date of the request to postpone.

- 70.3.5 If the Player is required to participate in a Representative Match prior to round six of the Competition Season, Football West will determine the Team of a Player from the Team Lists available. Football West's decision in determining the Team of a Player is final.
- 70.3.6 Players must be released for training, preparation and participation for Representative Matches when requested in writing to do so by Football West.
- 70.3.7 Football West may select a Player for a State Representative Team. If a selected Player who has accepted selection misses a State Representative Team session without a valid medical certificate (or other extenuating circumstances to be determined by Football West), the Player will be suspended from his or her Club Team's next Match. Football West reserves the right to determine the validity of any extenuating circumstances in its absolute discretion, and any such decision is final.

#### 70.4 **Venue**

- 70.4.1 All Matches must be played on either natural or artificial grass.

#### 70.5 **Players**

- 70.5.1 Only female Players may participate in the Girls MiniRoos or Junior Girls League Competitions.
- 70.5.2 A request for a Player to participate in an age group other than that age group for which that Player is eligible must be made via application to Football West.
- 70.5.3 Regardless of the eligible years below, which create a presumption that a Player may participate in those age groups, a Player seeking to participate in an age group more than one year older than that Player's actual age, for example, a 13 year old seeking to play Under 15s, must be made in writing to Football West in accordance with the Football West Play Up Process [here](#). Such a request may be granted after the Player has been assessed by Football West. Until such time as Football West approves the request in writing, the Player is ineligible to participate in the requested age group.
- 70.5.4 If a request is made to Football West in accordance with Rule 70.5.3, the request must be accompanied by a letter signed by the Club secretary, at least one of the Player's parents or guardians and a qualified medical practitioner or other professional person who is qualified to provide evidence of physical, emotional or intellectual disadvantage. No such request will be granted until it has been assessed by Football West, and the Player is ineligible to participate in the requested age group until written notification has been received from Football West. Conditions that may affect performance intermittently or that can be remedied through conventional medication, visual aids, hearing implants or other means will not be considered. A new exemption must be applied for each year by the relevant Player.
- 70.5.5 If an exemption is based on a Player's physical size, a growth index chart signed by a medical professional will be required.

70.5.6 Applications are required to be submitted each Competition Season. Applications from a prior Competition Season will not be accepted and do not carry through to a new Competition Season. For clarity, a new application must be submitted each year so that a Player can be re-assessed by Football West.

70.5.7 If a Club has two Teams within the same Division, a maximum of two (2) Players may play in the other Team within that Division. For clarity this does not need to be the same two (2) Players each week.

70.5.8 If a Club has multiple Teams within the same age group, Players are eligible to play for any Team in that age group; however, a Player may only play for one Team per match week within that age group. For example, if a Club has teams in Under 14s JDL 1, JDL 3 and JDL 5, a Player may play for any one of those Teams on a given weekend but may not play for more than one Team in the same match week.

**Example:** *If a Club has Teams in Under 14s JDL 1, JDL 3, and JDL 5, a Player may play for any one of these Teams on a given weekend, but cannot play for multiple Teams (e.g., cannot play in both JDL 1 and JDL 3 in the same match week).*

70.5.9 A Player eligible for a lower age group may only play for the highest-ranked Team within that age group in the same Competition, subject to any Competition-specific player movement rules.

**Example:** *If a Club has Teams in Under 14s JDL 3, Under 13s JDL 2, and Under 13s JDL 4—a Player from the Under 14s JDL 3 team may move down to the Under 13s but can only play for the Under 13s JDL 2 team, not the Under 13s JDL 4 team.*

70.5.10 A Player that normally plays in a Senior Competition but is age eligible for a Junior Competition may play for the age eligible Team in the Junior Competition subject to any Competition specific player movement rules.

70.5.11 If there is disagreement about the Team in which any such Player normally plays, Football West will make a determination in its absolute discretion, and any such determination is final.

70.5.12 A Player who is age eligible to play MiniRoos Matches but competes in the Junior League must have a photograph on their PlayFootball registration card.

70.5.13 A Player participating in the Junior Competition, who is subject to a Suspension, will not have their name disclosed on the Suspension list published on the Football West website. Instead, the suspended Player will be identified solely by their FA number. If there is a need for clarification regarding the suspended Player's identity, a Club may contact Football West for additional information. Football West reserves the right to disclose the Player's identity at its absolute discretion and in accordance with the Member Protection Framework.

70.5.14 A Player who is age-eligible for two age groups may participate in both age groups within the same match week.

70.5.15 A player who participates in an age group below their usual team may only represent the highest-ranked team of the Club in that lower age group.

70.5.16 The provisions in Rule 70.5.14 and 70.5.15 do not apply during Match week nine (9) and Match week eighteen (18) of the competition.

## 70.6 **JDL Competition Format**

70.6.1 JDL Competitions will comprise of the following age groups:

- (v) **Boys** - Under 13s, Under 14s, Under 15s, & Under 16s
- (w) **Girls** - Under 13s, Under 14s, Under 15s, Under 16s, Under 17s & Under 18's

70.6.2 To enter the JDL Competition Clubs will need to apply and meet the specified criteria below to compete:

- (x) **JDL Boys Division 1 and 2** - Head Coach must hold a C-Diploma accreditation (or higher).
- (y) **JDL Boys Division 3-5** - Head Coach must hold a Foundations of Football accreditation (or higher).
- (z) **JDL Girls Division 1** - Head Coach must hold a Foundations of Football accreditation (or higher). For the commencement of the 2026 season, Head Coach must hold a C-Diploma accreditation (or higher).
- (aa) **JDL Girls Division 2 and below** - Head Coach must hold a Foundations of Football accreditation (or higher).

70.6.3 Clubs will be able to enter Teams into the relevant JDL Divisions, but no Club may field more than one Team in the same Division. No exemptions will be granted to this rule.

70.6.4 Football West will consider a Team's finishing position for that Competition Season in each relevant Division to properly assign a Team to an appropriate League and Division in the following Competition Season.

70.6.5 The order in which a Team finishes the Competition section or Season will be determined by the Competition format as specified in Rule 17.3.

70.6.6 To be eligible for entry into the JDL Under 13s Competition for 2027 Clubs will need to field a Miniroos Under 12s team in 2026.

70.6.7 In the JDL Girls Competition Teams will be ranked in their respective Divisions according to the number of Competitions points they accrue over a relevant Competition Season.

70.6.8 The Team finishing in first place of each Division of the JDL Girls will, at the conclusion of the Competition Season, be crowned the champion Team for that Competition Season in that Division.

70.6.9 The JDL Boys Competition will be split into two sections comprising of 9 Matches, each being Section A and Section B.

70.6.10 Wherever possible, Competitions will be structured so that each Team in a Division plays each other Team in that Division on an equal number of occasions. However, in circumstances where it is not possible to facilitate fixtures in this way, Football West will design a Match schedule which is, in its absolute discretion, equitable to all the Teams concerned.

70.6.11 Football West will use its best endeavours to ensure that an equal number of Matches are played by each Team in a Division. In circumstances where an equal number of Matches are not able to be played by each Team in that Division, Football West may, in its absolute discretion, implement an alternative system of ranking for the Teams that are competing in that Division.

70.6.12 In the JDL Boys Competition, an additional Football West Academy boys' team will be included in the highest Division of each age group.

70.6.13 Promotion and relegation:

70.6.13.1 Promotion and relegation will occur:

- (bb) in JDL Boy's Competition after **Section A** and **Section B**; and
- (cc) in JDL Girl's Competition at the end of the **Competition Season**.

70.6.13.2 The Straight Model – Two Teams will be used for relegation from the higher Divisions and promotion from the lower Divisions of the JDL Competition. (No promotion occurs from the highest Division in JDL, and no relegation occurs from the lowest Division in JDL.)

70.6.13.3 At the conclusion of **Section A** of the JDL Boys Competition, after teams have been promoted or relegated to their new Division, all teams will start **Section B** with **0 points**.

70.6.13.4 The Team finishing in first place of each Division of the JDL at the conclusion of Section B (for JDL Boys) or the end of the Competition Season (for JDL Girls) will be crowned the champion Team for that Competition Season in that Division.

70.6.13.5 Promotion and relegation under this Rule is subject to Football West's right not to promote or relegate a Club, or to promote or relegate more than two Clubs depending on the changing structure of any Competitions, including the requirement to incorporate development Teams in specific Competitions or any other circumstances considered appropriate by Football West in its absolute discretion.

70.6.13.6 If a Club earns promotion to a higher Division but already has a Team in that Division, the promotion will not take place. As a result, the **2nd lowest-ranked Team** in the higher Division will **not** be relegated, subject to Rule 70.6.11.

**Example:** If a Team finishes 2nd in JDL Division 2, but the Club already has a Team in Division 1, the promotion will not occur, and the 2nd lowest-ranked Team in Division 1 will retain its place.

70.6.13.7 If a Club is relegated to a lower Division and already has a Team in that lower Division, both Teams will be relegated.

**Example 1:** A Team finishes 9th in Division 2, and the same Club has another Team in Division 3 that did not finish in a promotion or relegation position. In this case, both the Division 2 and Division 3

*Teams will be relegated to Divisions 3 and 4, respectively. The Team that finished second last in Division 3 will not be relegated.*

**Example 2:** A Club has Teams that finish as follows:

*9th in Division 1*

*6th in Division 2*

*1st in Division 3*

*In this scenario, all three Teams will be relegated to the next lowest Division. The Teams that finished second last in Divisions 2 and 3 will not be relegated.*

70.6.14 The Football West Academy teams in each group will compete for competition points in Division 1 but will be ineligible to be crowned champions or relegated at the end of each competition Section.

- (dd) If the FA/FW Academy team finishes **first**, the next highest-ranked team will be declared champions.
- (ee) If the FA/FW Academy team finishes in the **bottom two**, only the **9th-placed team** will be relegated.

## 70.7 **JCL Competition Format**

70.7.1 Teams will be ranked in their respective Divisions according to the number of Competition points they accrue over a relevant Competition Season. The order in which a Team finishes the Competition Season will be determined by the Competition format as specified in Rule 17.3.

70.7.2 The Team finishing in first place of each Division of the JCL Competitions will, at the conclusion of the Competition Season, be crowned the champion Team for that Competition Season in that Division.

70.7.3 Results and Team rankings for the Under 12's age groups will be recorded by Football West for the purpose of placing a Team in the appropriate Division in the following Competition Season.

### 70.7.4 Regrading

70.7.4.1 Prior to the commencement of any Competition Season, a Club may, by written notification to Football West, request a Division change for one or more of its Teams competing in the JCL. Football West may, in its absolute discretion, grant a Division change to the requesting Club. However, any such change will be subject to payment by that Club of the applicable administration charges as per Appendix C.

70.7.4.2 Applications by a Club to regrade any of its competing Teams will only be accepted in writing to Football West, sent from either the Club Secretary or Club President.

70.7.4.3 Applications by a Club to regrade any of its competing Teams will not be considered if any such application is received by Football West between the period commencing fourteen (14) days prior to Round 1 commencing in that relevant Division and the completion of Round 3. Football West may, in its absolute discretion, approve

a regrading request for exceptional circumstances and having considered all relevant factors for any applications made inside of this period.

- 70.7.4.4 Football West will implement and process (where possible) regrading applications in the time period commencing between the completion of Round 3 and the completion of Round 4.
- 70.7.4.5 Any regrading applications received by Football West after the time period specified in Rule 70.4.3 may only be implemented at the sole discretion of Football West.
- 70.7.5 Wherever possible, Competitions will be structured so that each Team in a Division plays each other Team in that Division on an equal number of occasions. However, in circumstances where it is not possible to facilitate fixtures in this way, Football West will design a Match schedule which is, in its absolute discretion, equitable to all the Teams concerned.
- 70.7.6 Football West will use its best endeavours to ensure that an equal number of Matches are played by each Team in a Division. In circumstances where an equal number of Matches are not able to be played by each Team in that Division, Football West may, in its absolute discretion, implement an alternative system of ranking for the Teams that are competing in that Division.

#### 70.7.7 Promotion and relegation

- 70.7.7.1 There is no direct promotion and relegation between Divisions in JCL.
- 70.7.7.2 In place of promotion and relegation between Divisions, Football West will consider a Team's finishing position for that Competition Season in each relevant Division to properly assign a Team to an appropriate League and Division in the following Competition Season.

### 70.8 Regraded Teams

#### 70.8.1 For the purpose of Rule 70.8 and Rule 70.9:

**Catch-Up Game** (and **CUG**) refers to a Match that is required to be caught up because the Teams did not play as originally scheduled.

**Limitation Period** refers to a period of time that Football West will set, at the time of regrading, for Teams to organise CUG's.

**New Division** refers to the Division the Regraded A and/or Regraded B has moved into.

**New Team** refers to Team that is new and has not competed in any Competitions.

**Old Division** refers to the Division the Regraded A and/or Regraded B has moved from.

**Original Teams** refers to the Teams originally in the Division.

**Regraded A** refers to the Team moving Division.

**Regraded B** refers to a second Team that has been regraded.

**Withdrawn Team** refers to a Team that has been removed from all Competitions.

- 70.8.2 A Team in the JCL may apply to be regraded into a different Division within its age group by submitting a request in writing to Football West, which may or may not be, in Football West's absolute discretion, be granted.
- 70.8.3 If Football West grants a Team the ability to be regraded, a Limitation Period will apply in which the regraded Club must organise with the Original Teams the details of any CUG.
- 70.8.4 If Regraded A moves into a Division with a bye:
  - 70.8.4.1 Regraded A replaces the bye fixtures in that New Division.
  - 70.8.4.2 Regraded A must organise CUG's with the Original Teams in the New Division.
  - 70.8.4.3 All Competition points accrued by Regraded A in its Old Division will be annulled.
- 70.8.5 If Regraded A moves into a Division whereby Regraded B has moved into another Division:
  - 70.8.5.1 Regraded A will replace and assume Regraded B's fixtures in the New Division.
  - 70.8.5.2 Regraded A must organise CUG's with the Original Teams in the New Division.
  - 70.8.5.3 All Competition points accrued by Regraded A in its Old Division will be annulled.
- 70.8.6 Where a Team is withdrawn from all Competitions:
  - 70.8.6.1 All Competition points accrued by that Withdrawn Team are annulled.
  - 70.8.6.2 If no replacement Team moves into that Division a bye will be entered to fill the gap in the fixtures.
  - 70.8.6.3 If a Team is regraded into the Division, that Team will replace the Withdrawn Team.
- 70.8.7 Where a New Team is entered into a Division, Football West will either:
  - 70.8.7.1 replace a bye with the New Team - If the New Team replaces a bye, the New Team will need to organise CUG's with the Original Teams in the Division; or
  - 70.8.7.2 redraw fixtures to accommodate the New Team - If fixtures are redrawn, Football West will notify Teams in writing of what CUG's are required.

## 70.9 **Catch Up Games**

- 70.9.1 CUG's may be required with movement of Teams between Divisions.

70.9.2 CUG's are not required for Teams in the Under 5s to Under 12s age groups inclusive.

70.9.3 CUG's:

70.9.3.1 may be scheduled and played at any time as agreed by both relevant Teams playing the CUG and Football West must be notified in writing of this agreement between the playing Teams as soon as practicable but in any event prior to **6 September 2026**;

70.9.3.2 may not be played after the end of a regular Competition Season;

70.9.3.3 must not be played during or after the Top Four Finals Competition;

70.9.3.4 agreed to be scheduled after **6 September 2026** which may only proceed with the written permission of Football West;

70.9.3.5 required to be played within the Limitation Period must be organised by the Regraded A and its opposition Team;

70.9.3.6 not able to be played or scheduled absent of any proof that bona fide attempts have been made to organise CUG's (in Football West's reasonable opinion) with the opposition Team prior the conclusion of the Limitation Period, will result in the Original Team(s) being awarded a 3-0 win in place of a CUG.

70.9.4 If the relevant Teams cannot reach an agreement over the date and time of a CUG, Football West may, in its absolute discretion:

70.9.4.1 set the Match fixture details; or

70.9.4.2 award a 0-0 draw to the Teams.

70.9.5 If a Club provides bona fide evidence in writing to Football West that its attempts to organise a CUG with the opposing Team have not been reciprocated, Football West may at its absolute discretion:

70.9.5.1 set the Match fixture details; or

70.9.5.2 award a 0-0 draw to the Teams; or

70.9.5.3 forfeit the fixture against the non-reciprocating Team.

70.9.6 Any decision made by Football West in respect of Rule 70.9.3 to Rule 70.9.5, which results in Football West's decision to award Competition Points to a relevant Team is not subject to challenge by any Club or Team.

## 70.10 **Players**

70.10.1 Only female Players may participate in the Junior Girls League.

70.10.2 Players are eligible to play in Competitions according to the following table:

Age Group	Eligible Male Age as at 31 December in the competition year	Eligible Female Age as at 31 December in the competition year
<b>13s</b>	11*, 12, 13, 14 <sup>†</sup>	11*, 12, 13, 14, 15 <sup>†</sup>
<b>14s</b>	12*, 13, 14, 15 <sup>†</sup>	12*, 13, 14, 15, 16 <sup>†</sup>
<b>15s</b>	13*, 14, 15, 16 <sup>†</sup>	13*, 14, 15, 16, 17 <sup>†</sup>

<b>16s</b>	14*, 15, 16, 17 <sup>†</sup>	14*, 15, 16, 17, 18 <sup>†</sup>
<b>18's</b>	15*, 16, 17, 18, 19 <sup>†</sup>	15*, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 <sup>†</sup>
<b>Girls 13s</b>	-	11*, 12, 13, 14 <sup>†</sup>
<b>Girls 14s</b>	-	12*, 13, 14, 15 <sup>†</sup>
<b>Girls 15s</b>	-	13*, 14, 15, 16 <sup>†</sup>
<b>Girls 16s</b>	-	14*, 15, 16, 17 <sup>†</sup>
<b>Girls 17s</b>	-	16*, 17, 18, 19 <sup>†</sup>
<b>Girls 18's</b>	-	15*, 16, 17, 18, 19 <sup>†</sup>

70.10.3 Ages with an asterisk (\*) require an exemption from Football West to participate in the relevant age group in accordance with Rule 70.5.3.

70.10.4 Ages with a cross (†) require a medical exemption to play in the age group.

70.10.5 An Under 18's Junior Boys Team may include a maximum of three (3) Players who will be 19 on 31 December of the Competition Year on the Team List for any Match.

70.10.6 An Under 18's Junior Girls Team may include a maximum of three (3) Players who will be 21 on 31 December of the Competition Year on the Team List for any Match.

70.10.7 An Under 17s Junior Girls Team may include a maximum of three (3) Players who will be 18 on 31 December of the Competition Year on the Team List for any Match. Penalty outlined in Appendix B.

70.10.8 These age limitations do not apply to the Girls **Under 14s Football West Academy Team**, which will compete in the **JDL Boys Under-13s League**.

70.10.9 A Club (or its representative) wishing to approach a Player or a Player's parent(s) or guardian(s) for the purpose of procuring the services of that Player, must seek the express written permission of the Club with which the Player is currently registered and Football West prior to the approach being made. **Penalty for breach is as outlined in Appendix B..**

## 70.11 Match Officials

70.11.1 Each Club is responsible for 50% of Match Official fees. Football West will determine the fees payable and publish the rates prior to the commencement of each Competition Season on Football West's website.

70.11.2 Representatives from each Team must liaise with each other to ensure that the Match Official(s) receive payment in cash of the Match Official fees on the day of the Match.

## 70.12 Modifications to the Laws of the Game

70.12.1 Matches in the 13s and 14s age groups will be played over two equal playing periods of 30 minutes. With the exception of an abandoned Match, each playing period must last for a minimum of 20 minutes for a result to be recorded.

70.12.2 Matches in the 15s age group will be played over two equal playing periods of 35 minutes. With the exception of an abandoned Match, each playing period must last for a minimum of 25 minutes for a result to be recorded.

70.12.3 Matches in the 16s and 17s age groups will be played over two equal playing periods of 40 minutes. With the exception of an abandoned Match, each playing period must last for a minimum of 25 minutes for a result to be recorded.

70.12.4 Matches in the 18's age group will be played over two equal playing periods of 45 minutes. With the exception of an abandoned Match, each playing period must last for a minimum of 30 minutes for a result to be recorded.

70.12.5 Substitutes in the Junior Leagues are not bound by the condition in Law 3 of the Laws of the Game forbidding further participation in the Match. All substitutes in the Junior Leagues are able to be substituted on and off the field of play at will without limitation. All such substitutions must take place at the halfway line.

70.12.6 The Match Official has the power to produce Yellow Cards or Red Cards or temporarily dismiss a Player for prescribed conduct by a Player.

70.12.7 Temporary Dismissal System B, as described in the Laws of the Game, shall apply only to the cautionable offence of dissent by word or action.

70.12.8 A Player who is cautioned by a Match Official for dissent by word or action will be punished by a temporary dismissal period of ten (10) minutes for Matches greater than sixty (60) minutes in duration or five (5) minutes for Matches of sixty (60) minutes or less in duration.

70.12.9 Temporary dismissals are recorded on the Electronic Match Card submitted by the Match Official and do count toward an accumulation of cautions which would otherwise result in the production of a Red Card.

70.12.10 Any technical error by a Match Official with respect to employing a temporary dismissal on a Player is final and not subject to challenge by a Team or Player.

#### 70.13 **Junior Boys League Players**

70.13.1 Once a Player participates in an NPL or State League match (U18's, Reserves, U23's or First Team), the Player is ineligible to play in any JCL match on the same weekend. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

70.13.2 A Player who is defined to be a JDL Player is ineligible to participate in any JCL Match. **Penalty for breach is as set out in Appendix B.**

70.13.3 For the purposes of Rule 70.13.2, a Player will be deemed to be a JDL Player if The Player has appeared on the Electronic Match Card of that Club's JDL Teams in at least 50% of that Player's Matches during the season (where the Player has played more than two (2) Matches).

#### 70.14 **Junior Girls League Players**

70.14.1 The NPL WA Women's and JDL Girls Under 18's will not be subject to Player movement restrictions between the Leagues provided Players meet the age eligibility requirements outlined in Rule 70.10.

70.14.2 A Player may play in both the NPL WA Women's and JDL Girls 18's League on the same weekend.

70.14.3 Clubs competing in the JDL Girls 18's League that do not have a Team in the NPL WA Women's will not be subject to Player movement restrictions

between the JDL Under 18's League Team and their highest ranked Team in the Women's League provided Players meet the age eligibility requirements outlined in Rule 70.10. A Player can play in both the Women's League highest ranked Team and the Junior Girls 18's League Team on the same weekend.

70.14.4 Once a Player has taken the field of play in Women's League matches that Player is not eligible to participate in the JCL Girls League Under 15s during the same Competition Season.

## 71. JUNIOR CUPS

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### 71.1 General

71.1.1 Any protest or complaint which, if upheld, would affect the result of any Cup Match must be lodged with Football West by 12:00pm on the Tuesday following the originally scheduled weekend of that round of Matches. Protests or complaints received by Football West after that time will not be considered under any circumstances.

71.1.2 Football West will cover Match Official fees for all Boys and Girls JDL and JCL Cup Grand Finals.

### 71.2 Players

71.2.1 A Player may not play for a Team in any Junior Cup if, in the same Competition Season, that Player has previously played for a different Team in any Cup Competition.

71.2.2 Players are eligible for Cup Competitions for the highest age group in which they have participated during the Competition Season subject to the exceptions described in Rule 71.2.3.

71.2.3 If a Player has played in multiple age groups, to be eligible to play in a lower age group, that Player must:

- (ff) have played at least 50% of that Player's Matches in the lower age group; or
- (gg) have played in no more than three (3) Matches for the higher age group.

### 71.3 Junior Girls Cup Competition Format

71.3.1 All Teams in the Under 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s, 17s and Under 18's Junior Girls League Competition are eligible to compete in the Junior Girls Cup.

71.3.2 Participation is mandatory for Teams in Division 1 and Division 2.

71.3.3 Participation is voluntary for all other Teams participating in the Junior Girls League Competition. All Teams will automatically be entered into the Competition and Teams will need to opt out if they do not wish to compete.

71.3.4 Each Club proposing entry of a Team into the Junior Girls Cup must specify to Football West that Club's associated Junior Girls League Team to be eligible.

71.3.5 A Club that wishes to withdraw one or more Teams that are not in Division 1 or Division 2 from the Competition, must do so **by 5:00pm on Wednesday 22**

**April 2026.** Requests received after this date will be accepted at the discretion of Football West. Clubs should be aware that the majority of Cup Matches, including the quarterfinals, semi-finals and final may be played on Saturdays.

- 71.3.6 Clubs competing in each round of the Junior Girls Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs at random by Football West. Those drawn pairs will play a Match, subject to the Laws of the Game and the Competition Rules and relevant Annexures, and the winner of each Match will compete in the next round which will be drawn in the same manner. This drawing procedure will be repeated until the final of the Junior Girls Cup Competition.
- 71.3.7 A preliminary round Match may be held to ensure that the following rounds of Matches can be played by the correct number of Teams so that only two Teams remain at the end of the Junior Girls Cup Competition. Football West may determine by any process it deems suitable which Teams will play in these preliminary rounds.
- 71.3.8 Football West will inform each Club, via the Competition Management System, of the time, date and venue of a Match after the draw of each round Match.
- 71.3.9 In all Matches played during the Junior Girls Cup, should scores be level at the full-time whistle, the outcome of the Match will be decided by penalty shoot-out as described in the Laws of the Game.

#### **71.4 Junior Girls Cup Player Eligibility**

- 71.4.1 Player eligibility set out in this Rule 71.4 is also subject to the conditions set out in Rule 70.10 (Players), Rule 70.15 (Junior Girls League Players) and Rule 71.2 (Players).
- 71.4.2 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of five (5) Matches for the Team in question in combination with the Club's associated Junior Girls League Team as set out in Rule 71.2.3, prior to that semi-final or final.
- 71.4.3 Applications for an exemption to the eligibility criterion as specified in Rule 71.4.2, specifically in cases of injury, sickness, absence or any other reason, may be made to Football West in writing at least three (3) Business Days before the relevant Match. Football West will assess each case on its merits and make determination regarding the Player's eligibility which is final. For the avoidance of doubt, no exemption will be granted to any Player whose absence was caused by Suspension.
- 71.4.4 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 71.4.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. An exemption application to Football West which describes that Player's absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least two (2) Business Days before the Match. Football West's decision on any application is final.

#### **71.5 JDL Boys Cup Competition Format**

- 71.5.1 All Teams in the Under 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s JDL Boys League competitions are eligible to compete in the JDL Boys Cup.

- 71.5.2 Participation in the **Junior JDL Boys Cup** is **mandatory** for all teams in **JDL Division 1 – 3**.
- 71.5.3 Participation is voluntary for all other Teams participating in the JDL Boys Competition. All Teams will automatically be entered into the Competition and Teams will need to opt out if they do not wish to compete.
- 71.5.4 Each Club proposing entry of a Team into the JDL Boys Cup must specify to Football West that Club's associated JDL Team.
- 71.5.5 A Club that wishes to withdraw one or more Teams that are below Division 3 from the JDL Boys Cup Competition, must do so **by 5:00pm on Wednesday 22 April 2025**. Requests received after this date will be accepted at the discretion of Football West. Clubs should be aware that the majority of Cup Matches, including the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final may be played on Saturdays.
- 71.5.6 Clubs competing in each round of the JDL Boys Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs according to a process determined by Football West. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game and the Competition Rules and relevant Annexures, and the winner of each Match will compete in the next round which Matches will be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be repeated until the final of the Competition.
- 71.5.7 A preliminary round Match may be held to ensure that the following rounds of Matches can be played by the correct number of Teams so that only two Teams remain at the end of the Junior Boys Cup Competition. Football West may determine by any process it deems suitable which Teams will play in these preliminary rounds.
- 71.5.8 After the draw of each round, Football West will inform each participating Club, via the Competition Management System, of the Match date, time and venue.

## 71.6 **JDL Boys Cup Player Eligibility**

- 71.6.1 Player eligibility is also subject to the conditions set out in Rule 70.10 (Players), Rule 70.13 (Junior Boys League Players) and Rule 71.2 (Players).
- 71.6.2 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of five (5) different Matches for the Team in question in combination with the Club's associated Team as set out in Rule 71.2.3 prior to that semi-final or final.
- 71.6.3 Applications for an exemption to the eligibility criterion as specified in Rule 71.6.2, specifically in cases of injury, sickness, absence or any other reason, may be made to Football West in writing at least 3 Business Days before the relevant Match. Football West will assess each case on its merits and make determination regarding the Player's eligibility which is final. For the avoidance of doubt, no exemption will be granted to any Player whose absence was caused by Suspension.
- 71.6.4 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 71.6.2, if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. An exemption application to Football West which describes that Player's absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least two (2) Business Days before the Match. Football West's decision on any application is final.

## 71.7 **JCL Boys Cup Competition Format**

- 71.7.1 All Teams in the Under 13s, 14s, 15s, 16s and 18's JCL League competitions are eligible to compete in the JCL Boys Cup.
- 71.7.2 Participation is voluntary for all Teams participating in the JCL Boys Competition. All Teams will automatically be entered into the Competition and Teams will need to opt out if they do not wish to compete.
- 71.7.3 A Club that wishes to withdraw one or more Teams, must do so **by 5:00pm on Wednesday 22 April 2025**. Requests received after this date will be accepted at the absolute discretion of Football West. Clubs should be aware that the majority of Cup Matches, including the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final may be played on Saturdays.
- 71.7.4 Clubs competing in each round of the JCL Boys Cup Competition will be drawn in pairs according to a process determined by Football West. Those pairs will play a Match subject to the Laws of the Game and the Competition Rules and relevant Annexures, and the winner of each Match will compete in the next round which Matches will be drawn in the same manner. This procedure will be repeated until the final of the Competition.
- 71.7.5 A preliminary round Match may be held to ensure that the following rounds of Matches can be played by the correct number of Teams so that only two Teams remain at the end of the JCL Boys Cup Competition. Football West may determine by any process it deems suitable which Teams will play in these preliminary rounds.
- 71.7.6 After the draw of each round, Football West will inform each participating Club, via the Competition Management System, of the Match date, time and venue.

## 71.8 **JCL Cup Player Eligibility**

- 71.8.1 Player eligibility is also subject to the conditions set out in Rule 70.10 (Players), Rule 70.13 (Junior Boys League Players) and Rule 71.2 (Players).
- 71.8.2 To be eligible to participate in a semi-final or final, a Player must have played in a minimum of five (5) different Matches for the Team in question in combination with the Club's associated Team as set out in Rule 71.2.3.
- 71.8.3 Applications for an exemption to the eligibility criterion as specified in Rule 71.8.2, specifically in cases of injury, sickness, absence or any other reason, may be made to Football West in writing at least 3 Business Days before the relevant Match. Football West will assess each case on its merits and make determination regarding the Player's eligibility which is final. For the avoidance of doubt, no exemption will be granted to any Player whose absence was caused by Suspension.
- 71.8.4 A Player is exempt from the restriction specified in Rule 71.8.2 if that Player is a goalkeeper, and the Club can establish to the satisfaction of Football West that no other eligible goalkeeper is available to participate. An exemption application to Football West which describes that Player's absence due to injury must be accompanied by a medical certificate at least two (2) Business Days before the Match. Football West's decision on any application is final.

## 71.9 **Junior Girls Top 4 Cup Competition Format**

- 71.9.1 Teams that finish in the top four positions in each Junior Girls League Division in the Regular Season will compete in the Girls Top 4 Cup for that Division. Entry is compulsory for those relevant Teams with the exception of Under 14s Division 1 and Under 16s Division 1 which will not compete in a Top 4 cup.
- 71.9.2 Semi-finals will be played between the Team finishing first and the Team finishing fourth in each Division. The Team finishing first will be designated as the home Team.
- 71.9.3 Semi-finals will also be played between the Team finishing second and the Team finishing third in each Division. The Team finishing second will be designated as the home Team.
- 71.9.4 Finals will be played between those Teams who win each of their respective semi-final in each Division.
- 71.9.5 In the event that a Team is not ready to commence the Match within five (5) minutes following the scheduled kick-off time, the offending Team will be deemed to have forfeited that Match.

## 71.10 **Junior Girls Top 4 Cup Player Eligibility**

- 71.10.1 Player eligibility is also subject to the conditions set out in Rule 70.10 (Players), and Rule 70.15 (Junior Girls League Players).
- 71.10.2 A Player may not participate in more than one Top 4 Cup Competition in any one Competition Season.
- 71.10.3 To be eligible to participate in a Girls Top 4 Cup Match, a Player must have:
  - (hh) been listed on a Team List and eligible to play for the Team in question for at least five (5) Matches during the Regular Season including Cup Matches; and
  - (ii) played at least 50% of that Player's Matches for the Team in question.

71.10.4 Clubs are responsible for tracking the eligibility of their Players for the Junior Girls Top 4 Cup.

71.10.5 Applications for an exemption to the eligibility criterion in this Rule, in cases of injury, sickness, absence or any other reason, may be made to Football West in writing at least three (3) Business Days before the relevant Match. Football West will assess each case on its merit and make a determination regarding the Player's eligibility which is final. For the avoidance of doubt, no exemption will be granted to any Player whose absence was caused by Suspension.

71.10.6 Any Player eligibility protest or complaint must be made in accordance with Rule 71.1.1.

## 71.11 **JCL Top 4 Cup Competition Format**

71.11.1 Teams which finish in the highest four positions in each JCL Boys Division in the Regular Season will compete in the JCL Boys Top 4 Cup for that Division. Entry is compulsory for those Teams.

71.11.2 Semi-finals will be played between the Team finishing first and the Team finishing fourth in each Division. The Team finishing first will be designated as the home Team.

71.11.3 Semi-finals will also be played between the Team finishing second and the Team finishing third in each Division. The Team finishing second will be designated as the home Team.

71.11.4 Finals will be played between the winning Teams from each semi-final in each relevant Division.

71.11.5 In the event that a Team is not ready to commence the Match within five (5) minutes following the scheduled kick-off time, the offending Team will be deemed to have forfeited that Match.

#### **71.12 JCL Boys Top 4 Cup Player Eligibility**

71.12.1 Player eligibility is also subject to the conditions set out in Rule 70.10 (Players) and 70.13 (Junior Boys League Players).

71.12.2 A Player may not participate in more than one Top 4 Cup Competition in any one Competition Season.

71.12.3 To be eligible to participate in a JCL Boys Top 4 Cup Match, a Player must have:

- (jj) been listed on a Team List and eligible to play for the Team in question for at least five (5) Matches during the regular Regular Season including cup matches; and
- (kk) played at least 50% of that Player's Matches for the team Team in question

71.12.4 Clubs are responsible for tracking the eligibility of their Players for the JCL Boys Top 4 Cup.

71.12.5 Applications for an exemption to the eligibility criterion in this Rule, in cases of injury, sickness, absence or any other reason, may be made to Football West in writing at least three (3) Business Days before the relevant Match. Football West will assess each case on its merit and make a determination regarding the Player's eligibility which is final. For the avoidance of doubt, no exemption will be granted to any Player whose absence was caused by Suspension.

71.12.6 Any player Player eligibility protest or complaint must be made in accordance with Rule 71.1.1.

## **72. MINIROOS LEAGUE**

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#### **72.1 Competition Format**

72.1.1 In the 5 - 6s and 7s age groups, each game day will be held at the designated host venue in each Club cluster.

72.1.2 In the 8-12s age groups, where possible, the Team from each Club will play the corresponding Team from every other Club in its Division twice, once at its home venue and once at the opposition's home venue.

72.1.3 A Club may request a change of Division for one or more of its Teams in the MiniRoos League by application in writing to Football West. Requests must be made prior to the end of Round 4 of the current Competition Season. Any

such change may or may not be granted at the discretion of Football West, and if granted any change will be subject to applicable administration fees. Any decision by Football West is final.

72.1.4 MiniRoos Football must be played according to the MiniRoos Laws of the Game as published [HERE](#).

## 72.2 **Abandoned Matches**

72.2.1 Abandoned Matches in the MiniRoos League or Under 12s League will not be replayed under any circumstances.

## 72.3 **Match Documentation**

72.3.1 In the 5s, 6s and 7s age groups, it is the responsibility of each Club's Team manager or equivalent to give the completed attendance sheet to the game day co-ordinator.

72.3.2 The Game Day Co-ordinator must forward all attendance sheets from each game day to reach Football West within five (5) Business Days of the Match day.

72.3.3 Goal scorers are not to be added for MiniRoos Leagues.

72.3.4 The result of each Match must be entered into the Competition Management System by the Home Club no later than 8:00pm on the day of the Match. After this point the results will be locked.

## 72.4 **Players**

72.4.1 Players are eligible to play in Competitions according to the following table:

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Eligible Male Age as at 31 December in the competition year</b>	<b>Eligible Female Age as at 31 December in the competition year</b>
<b>5s</b>	4 or 5	4, 5 or 6
<b>6s</b>	5 or 6	5, 6 or 7
<b>7s</b>	6 or 7	6, 7 or 8
<b>8s</b>	6, 7 or 8	6, 7, 8 or 9
<b>9s</b>	7, 8 or 9	7, 8, 9 or 10
<b>10s</b>	8, 9 or 10	8, 9, 10 or 11
<b>11s</b>	9, 10 or 11	9, 10, 11 or 12
<b>12s</b>	10, 11 or 12	10, 11, 12 or 13
<b>Girls 8s</b>	-	6, 7 or 8
<b>Girls 10s</b>	-	8, 9 or 10
<b>Girls 12s</b>	-	10, 11 or 12

72.4.2 Interchangeable substitutes may be used in all MiniRoos Matches as follows:

72.4.2.1 6s & 7s age groups – maximum of 3 substitutes;

72.4.2.2 8s & 9s age groups – maximum of 4 substitutes; and

72.4.2.3 10s & 11s & 12s age groups – maximum of 5 substitutes.

## 72.5 Playing Strips

- 72.5.1 In any 8-12s age group Match, if the shirts of the participating Teams are alike or similar, then Players of the Home Team will be required to change their shirts. If the Home Team does not have a set of differently coloured shirt, they may wear differently coloured bibs.
- 72.5.2 In any 6-7s age group Match, if the shirts of the participating Teams are alike or similar, then Players of the first mentioned Team may wear differently coloured bibs.

## **I. SUPPORTING PROVISIONS**

### **73. NOTIFICATION**

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- 73.1 Where Football West is required to notify any Club of any matter then such requirement is deemed to have been satisfied by Football West by:
  - 73.1.1 sending any such notification by email to the Club's email address last identified to Football West by that Club; or
  - 73.1.2 sending such notification by ordinary mail to the Club's postal address last identified to Football West by that Club.
- 73.2 Such notification is deemed to have been received:
  - 73.2.1 in the case of notification by email, at the time at which such email is sent; or
  - 73.2.2 in the case of notification by post, at the expiration of 3 Business Days following the date on which such notification was posted.

## APPENDIX A – VENUE REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOTBALL WEST COMPETITIONS

Requirement	NPL Licensing Regulations	Class B	Class C	Class D
<b>Field of Play size in addition to requirements of the Laws of the Game</b>	Minimum width 60m Minimum length 96m		Minimum width 60m, with exceptions to 55m where approved.	N/A
<b>Technical Area</b>				
<b>Technical Area Seating</b>	12 seats			N/A
<b>Field of Play Barrier (separating spectators from the match)</b>	Must completely surround the field of play	Barrier must exist between spectators and the Field of Play and Technical Area.		N/A
<b>Floodlights</b>	Where present, they must be approved by Football West for competition matches.			
	Average 200 Lux reading	Average 100 lux reading		
<b>Players' Change Rooms</b>	Two separate and lockable rooms required. Must have hot and cold water, showers and toilets.			
<b>Match Officials' Change Rooms</b>	Separate <b>lockable</b> room which can accommodate 4 people. Must have hot and cold water, shower and toilet.	Not required		
<b>Scoreboard</b>	Fully functional and in operation for every match	Not required		
<b>Spectator Facilities</b>	Male and Female public toilets with hot and cold running water, soap and ability to dry hands. Canteen or kiosk serving hot and cold drinks and snack foods.			N/A

### 1. Competition-Specific Variations

#### 1.1 NPL WA Men's and NPL WA Women's:

- (a) A venue nominated by a Club as its home ground must be available for the entire Competition Season.

## APPENDIX B – PENALTIES

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*Pending completion and publication by **Friday 16 January 2026**.*

## APPENDIX C – FEES 2026

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### 1. Player Registration Fees 2026

*The fees shown exclude the National Registration Fee charged by Football Australia.*

*This will be added at the time of registration in PlayFootball and is set at \$18 for juniors, \$42 for seniors, \$73 for professional youth players, and \$77 for professional players aged 19+.*

#### Metropolitan Players

Category	Fee (inc. GST)
<b>In-house</b>	\$34.38
<b>12s and under</b>	\$68.80
<b>13–16 years</b>	\$91.43
<b>17–18 years</b>	\$110.28
<b>19 years and over</b>	\$160.83
<b>Professional</b>	\$221.76

#### Regional Players

Category	Fee (inc. GST)
<b>11 years and under</b>	\$26.83
<b>12–15 years</b>	\$34.36
<b>16–18 years</b>	\$26.85
<b>19 years and over</b>	\$72.12

#### WACFA

Category	Fee (inc. GST)
<b>Seniors</b>	\$81.62
<b>Juniors</b>	\$37.32

#### Other Fees

Category	Fee (inc. GST)
<b>i-League</b>	\$43.20
<b>Equal Football</b>	\$23.75
<b>Walking Football</b>	\$25.00
<b>Social Senior</b>	\$10.00
<b>Social Junior</b>	\$5.00

## 2. Team Entry Fees 2026

Competition / League	Fee (inc. GST)
<b>Hahn Australia Cup (NPL)</b>	\$392.65
<b>Hahn Australia Cup (Community)</b>	\$82.15
<b>NPL WA Men</b>	\$13,751.07
<b>NPL WA Women</b>	\$8,786.01
<b>State League 1</b>	\$6,750.68
<b>State League 2</b>	\$5,309.51
<b>Amateur Premier League</b>	\$1,011.34
<b>Other Amateur League</b>	\$910.17
<b>Metropolitan League</b>	\$328.59
<b>Masters League</b>	\$328.59
<b>Women's League Div 1</b>	\$657.35
<b>Women's League Central Div 2+</b>	\$492.97
<b>Women's League North &amp; South</b>	\$328.59
<b>Junior Club Championship – Boys</b>	\$1,144.07
<b>Junior Club Championship – Girls</b>	\$572.03
<b>Junior Development League</b>	\$126.45
<b>Juniors 8s-18s (inc. Junior Community Leagues)</b>	\$50.58

### 3. Referee Fees 2026

	Referee	Asst Ref	Referee	Asst Ref	4th Official
<b>NPL WA Men's</b>					
First Team	\$250.00	\$125.00	\$375.00	\$180.00	\$126.00
Under 23's	\$130.00	\$65.00	\$195.00	\$97.50	\$75.00
Under 18's	\$115.00	\$58.00	\$172.50	\$87.00	\$70.00
<b>NPL WA Women's</b>					
First Team	\$180.00	\$90.00	\$270.00	\$135.00	\$97.50
Under 21's	\$115.00	\$58.00	\$172.50	\$86.25	\$70.50
<b>Juniors</b>					
Under 18's	\$80.00	\$40.00	\$120.00	\$60.00	n/a
Under 16s	\$70.00	\$35.00	\$105.00	\$52.50	n/a
Under 15s	\$65.00	\$32.50	\$97.50	\$48.75	n/a
Under 14s	\$60.00	\$30.00	\$90.00	\$45.00	n/a
Under 13s	\$60.00	\$30.00	\$90.00	\$45.00	n/a
<b>State League</b>					
First Team	\$167.00	\$84.00	\$250.50	\$125.25	\$194.50
Reserves	\$115.00	\$58.00	\$172.50	\$86.25	\$70.50
18's	\$115.00	\$58.00	\$172.50	\$86.25	\$70.50
<b>Women's League</b>					
Women's League Div 1	\$110.00	\$55.00	\$165.00	\$82.50	\$70.50
All Other Divisions	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$150.00	\$75.00	\$67.50
<b>Amateur League</b>					
Premier Division First Team	\$135.00	\$67.50	\$202.50	\$101.25	\$78.00
First Division First Team	\$120.00	\$60.00	\$180.00	\$90.00	n/a
All Other Divisions	\$110.00	\$55.00	\$150.00	\$75.00	\$70.50
<b>Metro &amp; Masters Leagues</b>					
All Divisions	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$150.00	\$75.00	\$67.50
<b>Other Matches</b>					
Men's Friendly Matches	\$100.00	\$50.00	n/a	n/a	n/a
Women's Friendly Matches	\$100.00	\$50.00	n/a	n/a	n/a
Junior Friendly Matches	As per normal league fees		n/a	n/a	n/a

#### 4. Withdrawal Fees 2026

Competition	Fee
NPL WA Men's & Mens State League - on or before <b>31 January 2026</b>	\$3,500
NPL WA Men's & Mens State League - after <b>31 January 2026</b>	\$5,000
NPL WA Women's - on or before <b>31 January 2026</b>	\$3,000
NPL WA Women's- after <b>31 January 2026</b>	\$4,000
Night Series Competitions - On or after <b>17 January 2026</b>	\$2,000
Other Senior Competitions – Between <b>23 February</b> and <b>3 March 2026</b>	\$250
Other Senior Competitions – On or after <b>4 March 2026</b>	\$370
JCL & MiniRoos – Between <b>23 February</b> & <b>23 March 2026</b> inclusive	\$200
Junior Development League – On or after <b>31 January 2026</b>	\$250
Amateur Leagues - On or after <b>24 February 2026</b>	\$250
All teams - On or after <b>24 March 2026</b>	\$500

#### 5. Change Fees

Competition	Fee
Metro, Masters & Women's Competitions – after <b>24 March 2026</b>	\$370
JCL & MiniRoos – Between <b>24 February</b> & <b>6 April 2026</b> (inclusive)	\$150
JCL & MiniRoos – On or after <b>7 April 2026</b>	\$225

#### 6. Late Team Entry Fees

Competition	Fee
Senior Competitions – On or after <b>24 February 2026</b>	\$370
JCL & MiniRoos – On or after <b>24 February 2026</b>	\$150

## APPENDIX D – YCC BONUS/DEDUCTION POINTS

The below table stipulates the bonus points Clubs can receive to their total Youth Club Championship Table. Bonus points will be attributed at different times throughout the Season at the sole and absolute discretion of Football West. Bonus points will be reviewed each year and may be adjusted to encourage Clubs to focus on other categories.

Youth Club Championship – Bonus Points			
Category	Purpose	Description	Points
Coach Education & Development	Ensure YCC Head Coaches and the Youth Technical Director maintain direct engagement with Football West & Football Australia through structured education sessions, improving coaching standards across the competition.	<p>Football West will conduct at least two (2) coaching education workshops during the season.</p> <p>Dates and additional sessions will be confirmed by Football West as the season progresses.</p> <p>Attendance must be in person to qualify for points.</p>	<p><b>+2 Club Championship Points per session</b> for each YCC Head Coach in attendance.</p> <p><b>+2 Club Championship Points per session</b> for the club's nominated Youth Technical Director in attendance.</p> <p>Football West will track attendance at each session.</p> <p>Clubs do not need to submit documentation; points will be allocated automatically based on attendance records.</p>
Player Education & Welfare	Encourage clubs to implement a <b>holistic education model</b> that supports player development	Clubs will receive points for delivering player education workshops for all YCC teams during the season. Workshops must cover	<p>Clubs will receive <b>+5 Championship Points for each session</b>, up to a maximum of <b>+10 Club Championship Points</b> upon</p>

	<p>beyond on-field training.</p>	<p>topics relevant to player development and be conducted by suitably qualified professionals. Topics include (but are not limited to):</p> <p><b>Health &amp; Performance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nutrition for Athletes (Accredited Dietitians/Nutritionists)</li> <li>• Strength &amp; Conditioning (Certified Strength &amp; Conditioning Coaches)</li> <li>• Injury Prevention &amp; Recovery (Physiotherapists, Sports Medicine Professionals)</li> <li>• Sports Science &amp; Performance Data (Sports Scientists, Performance Analysts)</li> <li>• Women's Health in Sport (Sports Doctors, Women's Health Physiotherapists)</li> </ul> <p><b>Player Wellbeing &amp; Personal Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing (Registered Psychologists, Mental Health Professionals)</li> <li>• Leadership &amp; Captaincy Development (Leadership</li> </ul>	<p>successful completion of both required education sessions.</p> <p>Clubs must submit session details through a Football West-provided online submission form, ensuring consistency and ease of verification.</p> <p>The form will require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session details (date, location, presenter information).</li> <li>• Attendance list for all YCC teams.</li> <li>• Presentation materials or key discussion points.</li> </ul> <p>Submission deadline for consideration is <b>31 August 2026</b>.</p> <p>Football West will review submitted documentation to ensure the content is relevant and aligns with development objectives before awarding points.</p> <p><b><i>If a club is unsure whether a session qualifies for bonus points, they should contact Football West for clarification</i></b></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaches, Experienced Captains</li> <li>• Time Management &amp; Study Balance (Career Coaches, Educators)</li> <li>• Career Planning &amp; Life After Football (Career Advisors, Former Professional Players)</li> <li>• Conflict Resolution &amp; Communication (Mediators, Communication Specialists)</li> </ul> <p><b>Integrity &amp; Governance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Club Code of Conduct (Football West Officials, Club Governance Experts)</li> <li>• Anti-Doping &amp; Substance Awareness (ASADA/WADA Representatives, Sports Doctors)</li> <li>• Safe &amp; Inclusive Sport (Child Safeguarding Officers, Inclusion Experts)</li> </ul> <p><b>Life Skills &amp; Off-Field Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Media &amp; Digital Literacy (Media Trainers, Digital Security Experts)</li> <li>• Financial Literacy for Athletes (Financial Advisors, Sports</li> </ul>	<b>before delivery.</b>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finance Experts)</li> <li>• Media &amp; Public Speaking Skills (Journalists, Media Professionals)</li> </ul>	
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Youth Club Championship (All Tiers) – Deduction Points			
Category	Purpose	Description	Points
Competition Integrity	To enforce accountability and maintain the integrity of the competition.	If a club's teams across all age groups in the YCC forfeit two matches during the season (forfeits counted cumulatively).	A deduction of three <b>(3) Club Championship Points</b> for every two matches forfeited.
Policy	To ensure all club tournaments and programs follow sanctioned competition protocols and maintain fairness.	If a club participating in the YCC conducts a tournament/club program that is not officially sanctioned by Football West.	A deduction of <b>(22) Club Championship Points</b> and exclusion from participation in the following season.
Fair Play	Fair play ensures that players compete respectfully and within the rules, promoting sportsmanship and integrity on the field.	Each red card accumulated by any player or official from a team competing in the YCC will count as a deduction. This includes red cards received by the team during the regular home and away season.	A deduction of <b>(1) Club Championship Point</b> for each red card.
Sideline Behaviour	Proper sideline behaviour upholds respect, supports fair play, and	A Club is at risk of losing points if a participating team is found guilty of an	A deduction of <b>(2) Club Championship Points</b> .

	contributes to a positive competitive atmosphere.	offence, including verbal abuse or inappropriate behaviour by a spectator or Club Associate linked to that team. This applies to incidents occurring during the regular season or YCC matches, as determined by Football West.	
Respect for Match Officials	Respect for match officials is fundamental to upholding their authority and ensuring the integrity of the competition.	If the red card is for Offence No. 19, 21 or 22 as outlined in the Disciplinary & Grievance Regulations. This includes red cards received by the team during the regular home and away season.	A deduction of <b>(6) Club Championship Points</b> .
		If a player, team official, or spectator is found guilty of making uninvited contact with a match official. This includes red cards received by the team during the regular home and away season.	A deduction of <b>(12) Club Championship Points</b> .
		If a player, team official, or spectator is found guilty of assaulting a match official. This includes red cards received by the team during the regular home and away season.	A deduction of <b>(22) Club Championship Points</b> .
Behaviour & Values	Upholding clear behavioural standards and shared values is essential for maintaining fairness,	If a player or official is found guilty of serious violent conduct resulting in a sanction of four (4) or more	A deduction of <b>(12) Club Championship Points</b> .

	<p>respect, and a positive environment throughout the competition.</p>	<p>matches/weeks. This includes breaches incurred during the regular home and away season and YCC matches, as determined by Football West.</p>	
		<p>If a player, official, or spectator is found to breach the Football West <b>Code of Conduct</b> resulting in a sanction of three (3) or more matches/weeks. This includes breaches incurred during the regular home and away season and YCC matches, as determined by Football West.</p>	<p>A deduction of <b>(12) Club Championship Points</b>.</p>

## APPENDIX E – NPL WA WOMEN’S PLAYER ROSTER COMPOSITION

Any club that does not meet the players requirements for a specific category will have one less player slot on the roster. I.e., If a club has only four (4) loyalty players, they will only be allowed to field 20 players on the roster.

Category	No. Players	Criteria
<b>First Team Roster</b>	18-21	<p>The club must list a minimum of 18 players and a maximum of 21 players.</p> <p>Any player classified as a professional player must be included on the PRC.</p> <p>A player who has been previously listed on an NPL WA Women’s PRC in either the current season or previous season must be listed on the PRC regardless of age.</p> <p>Players no older than 21 on 31 December of the Competition Year may play an unlimited number of first team matches without the need to be included on the first team roster, unless they have previously been listed on the PRC as per the point above.</p> <p>Any player who has STARTED 9 or more NPL WA Women’s first team games in the previous season must be listed on the FIRST TEAM player roster regardless of age.</p> <p>U21 players CAN be placed on the first team roster to fulfill minimum player numbers for the first team roster.</p> <p>Any player who is on an A-League Women contract in the current season or was on an A-League Women contract in the preceding season, must be listed on your first-team roster regardless of age.</p> <p>Any player who is 21 or older on 31 December of the Competition Year must be included on the First Team roster whether they play NPLW or NPLW U21.</p> <p>Players who are 21 or older on 31 December of the Competition Year who are not listed on this roster will not be allowed to play without an exemption.</p>
<b>A-League Players</b>	Maximum 3	Any player who was on an A-League contract (full time or scholarship) in the two preceding seasons is considered an A League Player.
<b>Visa Players</b>	Maximum 3	<p>Any player not considered an Australian citizen or Permanent resident.</p> <p>A copy of the player’s passport and visa must be provided to Football West</p> <p>Football West may request a copy of a player’s Australian Citizenship or Permanent Residency for any player listed an</p>

		Australian Player.
<b>Senior Matildas</b>	Maximum 1	Any player who has appeared on the matchday card of a senior's women's Matildas game.
<b>Maximum number of switching players</b>	Maximum 3	The maximum number of players any club can recruit who were registered with the same club in the previous season.
<b>NTC Graduates from previous season</b>	Maximum 3	<p>The number of players a club can recruit from the NTC program in one calendar year.</p> <p>Players that were registered with your club immediately before entering the NTC program will not count towards this total of 3 players.</p> <p>Football West will provide a list of NTC graduates annually for the purposes of this rule</p>
<b>Home Grown Players (includes loyalty players)</b>	Minimum 8	<p>To be home grown a player must have 3 seasons in the club youth teams including the U21's competition.</p> <p>Club's youth teams are defined as Under 13s to Under 21's</p>
<b>Loyalty Players (includes home grown players)</b>	Minimum 8	<p>A player is considered a loyalty player when they have played 3 seasons in succession up to and including the current season.</p> <p>To be eligible as a Loyalty Player, a player must have been registered in the club's first team in the previous two Competition Years with no break to be considered a loyalty player. E.g., A player that played in 2022 and 2024 would not be considered a loyalty player. (A medical exemption may be given by Football West for players with injury/illness or medical condition such as Pregnancy.)</p>
<b>Youth players (18 or under)</b>	Maximum 5	Youth player is any player that is below 18 years old by 31 December of the Competition Year e.g. For 2026 any player that is born in 2009 or later will be considered a youth player for the purposes of this rule.

#### **NPLW WA Club First Team PRC Requirements**

- At all times during the season, a NPL WA Women's Club must include a minimum of 18 Players on its First Team Player Roster and may include a maximum of 21 Players on its First Team Player Roster. \* Unless minimum number of Home Grown/Loyalty Players is not met. The maximum number of roster positions which will be withheld is capped at 5.

- National Pathway Promotion – PRC Relief: Any player listed on a club's PRC in the preceding season who has now signed their first contract with an A-League W team will be classified as a National Pathway Promotion player. A club is eligible for relief of one player in either the homegrown or loyalty player category for each National Pathway Promotion player.
- Any player who is on the NPL WA Women's Player Roster of a club cannot play in a competition outside of the NPL WA Women's for that club except for the Under 18 Girls League
- Clubs can make changes to their Player Roster in the designated transfer windows and as per competition rules.
- Playing in a Match is defined as taking the field of play (i.e., in the starting 11 or entering the field as a substitute). For the avoidance of doubt, it will not constitute playing a match if the Player remains as a substitute and does not enter the field of play.
- A player who has been previously listed on an NPL WA Women's PRC in either the current or previous season must be listed on the PRC if they are over 18 years of age.
- NTC are required to submit a Player Roster; however, PRC requirements do not apply to NTC.
- Football West has the right to determine in its sole and absolute discretion as to what category a Player falls under for the purposes of the Player Roster.

### **Special Dispensation for Promoted Clubs**

- A Club promoted into the NPL WA Women's will receive the following dispensation for its first two seasons in the Competition:

#### Year 1

- One (1) additional Switching Category or A-League Women player.
- Two (2) additional players permitted if recruited from NTC.
- No Homegrown or Loyalty player requirements apply.

#### Year 2

- Minimum fifty percent (50%) of Homegrown and Loyalty requirements apply.

### **Notes and Definitions**

#### **Characteristics**

- A Player may fulfil multiple categories simultaneously i.e. A player may be classified as a Home Grown and Loyalty Player on a Player Roster.

#### **Age**

- A Player's age is based on their age as of 31st December in that NPL WA Women's competition season.
- All Players on the Player Roster and competing in the NPL WA Women's competition must as a minimum turn 15 years of age by 31 December in that competition season. This is subject to any exemption requirements set out in the NPL WA Competition Rules.

#### **A-League Woman Players:**

- For the purpose of the Player Roster, a player registered to a A-League club in the preceding A-League season will be classified as a A-League player.
- For the purpose of the Player Roster a A-League appearance is defined as a player who started or took the field as a substitute in at least 5 A-League fixtures in the preceding A-League season.
- For the purpose of the PRC the preceding A-League season refers to the 2024/2025 season.

**National Pathway player**

- A player that has signed for an A League-W Team in the preceding season.

**Visa Players:**

- Any player who is not an Australian Citizen or does not have Permanent Residency status is considered a Visa Player.