

# Annexure 3

## Women's Premier League

## Article 1 - Competition Format

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1. Each club is required to field first and Under 23s teams.
2. A club may not enter more than one First and Under 23s team in the Women's Premier League.
3. The club finishing in first place at the end of the season will be crowned the champion team for that season. The order in which teams finish the competition will be determined by the criteria specified in Article 2.
4. The club finishing in first place of State League 1 at the end of the season will hold a promotion position for the Premier League in the following season.

## Article 2 - Competition Points

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1. Three points will be awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat. Points are not transferable between divisions.
2. If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of the season, the following criteria are applied in order to determine the higher ranking team.
  - a) the team with the superior goal difference
  - b) the team with the higher number of goals scored
  - c) the number of points gained in matches between the teams concerned
  - d) the superior goal difference in matches between the teams concerned
  - e) the team with the lower number of red cards
  - f) the team with the lower number of yellow cards
  - g) the drawing of lots

## Article 3 - 2019 Promotion & Relegation Play-Off

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1. The club whose team finishes first in the State League Division One will occupy a promotion position to Premier League. Promotion is not compulsory, but if the club wishes to accept promotion, it must inform Football West of its intention to do so no later than **5:00pm on Monday 9 September 2019**. For the avoidance of doubt, a club may NOT accept promotion after this date.
2. Should the club who finishes in first place in State League 1 not accept promotion, by the date stipulated in Annexure 3 Article 1 Paragraph 4, the club with the highest placed State League 1 team that finishes in the top 3 positions, and would accept the promotion position by the date stipulated, will compete in a two-legged play-off tie against the first team of the last placed Premier League.
3. The winner of the tie over two legs will earn the right to play in Premier Division the following season. The loser of the tie over two legs will play in State League 1 in the following season.
4. The tie will comprise 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.
5. The dates and times of the matches will be determined by Football West and may not be challenged by either club.
6. A draw will be held to determine the order of the matches. Where a match is required to be completed after sunset, and one of the competing clubs has a home venue that is equipped with suitable floodlighting, Football West may organise the play-off tie in such a way as to

ensure that the match required to be completed after sunset is played at the ground of the club with suitable floodlighting.

7. The winner of the tie will be the club that scores the most goals over the two legs.
8. Should both teams score an equal number of goals over the two legs, the winner of the tie will be the club that scores the most goals in its "away" leg. For the avoidance of doubt, the club playing its "away" leg is the second-named club in the match, regardless of the venue at which the match is played.
9. If a winner cannot be determined through the application of paragraphs 6 and 7, then 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.
10. At the end of the second period of extra time, the provisions of paragraph 6 will be applied to determine the winner of the tie. The provisions of paragraph 7 do not apply once the match moves into extra time.
11. If a winner cannot be determined through the application of paragraph 6 after extra time, the winner of the tie will be decided by kicks from the penalty mark as described in the FIFA Laws of the Game.

## Article 4 - Individual Awards

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1. A Fairest and Best prize will be awarded to the best player in the Premier Division
2. The match referee for each match will award votes. Three votes will be awarded to the best player, two votes to the next best player and one vote awarded to the third best player.
3. The player who receives the most votes over the course of the season will win the Fairest and Best prize.
4. If two or more players tie for the highest number of votes, then a medal will be awarded to each of those players.
5. If a player receives a suspension as a result of being shown a red card, or as a result of a sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Committee during the regular season, she will be ineligible to win the Fairest and Best Award or the Goalkeeper of the Year for that season.
6. An award will be presented to the player who scores the most goals in her division in league matches throughout the season. If two or more players score an equal number of goals, an award will be presented to each player of those players.
7. An award will be presented to the best Goalkeeper of the Year based on votes cast by the referees at each game in the first team of the Premier Division. If two or more goalkeepers have an equal number of votes, an award will be presented to each of those players.

## Article 5 - Venue

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1. The home venue of a Women's Premier League club must meet the criteria of a Class C venue as specified in the Football West Competition Management Regulations.
2. A club may request to change its home ground venue but may do so only by written application to Football West. Football West reserve the right to refuse any application if the facilities do not meet the criteria as specified in the Football West Competition Management By-Law.

3. Football West reserve the right to reject any application for a change of venue if the proposed new venue is within 5 kilometres of another Women's Premier League club.
4. Football West reserve the right to require that its sponsors' signage is prominently displayed at all Football West matches.
5. Football West reserve the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary in the event that Women's Premier League Matches are affected by changes to the availability of any venue or venues.

## Article 6 - Matches

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1. With the exception of abandoned matches, each period of a match must last for a minimum of 30 minutes in order that a result may be recorded.
2. The duration of the half time interval will be 15 minutes.
3. The referee may 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.
4. When a match is shortened in accordance with paragraph 3, each match official is entitled to receive the full amount of his normal match fee.
5. The Under 23s must have no more than 4 outfield players and one goal keeper over the age of 23 years in that season.

### Penalty: Forfeit

6. In the event that a club does not have sufficient players to field both a First Team and a Under 23s team, then the First Team will take priority.
7. In the event that a club does not have sufficient players to field a Under 23s team, and that club has one or more teams in the Women's Premier League or Metropolitan League, then the Under 23s team will take priority over all teams in the Women's State League and Metropolitan League.
8. On days in which the temperature is expected to be high, the referee may use his discretion to allow players to take drink breaks. During any such break, all players must remain on the field of play.
9. The home club must provide one stretcher which is to be placed 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.
10. Each team must have a first aid kit available at the venue on the date of the match.
11. The result of each match must be entered into Sports TG by the home club no later than 8:00pm on the day of the match, unless the match kicks off after 3:30pm.

### Penalty for Breach      \$50

12. Each club is responsible and accountable for the behaviour of its spectators and their adherence to the Spectator Code of Behaviour, whether playing at home, away or at a neutral venue. It is the responsibility of the ground marshals to inform spectators of any breach of the Spectator Code of Behaviour and request immediate compliance.
13. Football West may from time to time nominate any match 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.
14. Substitutes in the Women's Premier League Under 23s 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 Premier League Under 23s are able to be substituted on and off the field of play on multiple occasions.

15. No more than five named substitutes may be listed on the team list of which a maximum of five may be used in any one match.

## Article 7 - Postponed or Forfeited Matches

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1. A postponed match may be rearranged at a mutually convenient time and venue by the participating clubs. Football West must be notified in writing of the date, time and venue of the rescheduled match at least 72 hours prior to the rescheduled kick-off time.
2. If a postponed match cannot be rescheduled through mutual agreement, Football West will determine the date, time and venue of the match and any such decision will be final.

## Article 8 - Ground Marshals

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1. Each club must appoint a ground marshal who are 18 years of age or older whose duties are:
  - a) to ensure the security and safety of players, match referees and club officials;
  - b) to supervise the conduct of ball persons if provided;
  - c) to liaise with club officials and emergency services if required;
  - d) to ensure the security of the venue, players, match referees and club officials at the conclusion of the match; and
  - e) to provide an escort for the referee to and from the field of play at the start and finish of each playing period.
2. Neither the coach nor manager of a team involved in a match may act as ground marshal for that match.
3. It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that the ground marshals are fully briefed on their responsibilities.
4. All ground marshals must have access to all areas of the ground at all times. Ground marshals may not be limited to a specific location (for example, the person working in a canteen may not be a ground marshal).
5. All ground marshals must wear the ground marshal vests which have been supplied by Football West for the duration of the match. Lost vests may be purchased from Football West.
6. Ground marshals must be visible at all times.
7. The ground marshals may not smoke or drink alcohol while on duty.
8. All ground marshals must identify themselves to the appointed match referee at least fifteen minutes prior to the commencement of each match.

## Article 9 - Match Documentation

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1. The team list for each match must clearly indicate the match result, the half-time score, goal scorers if any, times of any goals scored and misconduct offences. Each team list must be correctly signed by the authorised representative of each club and the match referee.
2. The referee must provide the facts relating to the match to the home club within 15 minutes of the completion of the match.
3. The appointed referee must ensure that the team list arrives at Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match.

4. The appointed referee must complete a match report according to the instructions dictated by the Referees Technical Committee. Such reports are to be lodged with Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match.
5. If no referee is appointed by Football West, it is the responsibility of the referee appointed by the home club, under the conditions of Article 13 paragraph 4, to ensure that all match documentation is received by Football West within 2 business days of the completion of the match, including any reports of red cards.
6. 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 2 business days of the completion of the match.

## Article 10 - Players

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1. Only female players are eligible to compete in the Women's Premier League.  
**Penalty for Breach      Forfeit**
2. To be eligible to play in the Women's Premier League, a player must be born in or before 2004.
3. A player who was born in 2005 or later may apply to Football West to be assessed as being competent to play in the Women's Premier League but is ineligible to play until such competency has been provided to the club in writing.
4. Once a player has played for the Women's Premier League First Team, she may not participate in the Metropolitan League in the same season. As a goalkeeper is a specialised position, goalkeepers are exempt from this competition rule.
5. Once a player has taken the field for a team of the Women's Premier League First Team on nine occasions, she may not participate in any matches for any other team in the Women's State League for the remainder of the season.
6. A player who has taken to the field for the Women's Premier League First Team, may not be listed on the team list of a team in the Women's State League on the same day.
7. Once a player has been listed on a team sheet of the Women's Premier League Under 23s on 9 occasions, she may not appear on the team list of any team in the Women's Metropolitan League for the remainder of the season.
8. A player who was recorded on the player roster in a Westfield W-League team in the most recent Westfield W-League season may not play for any team in the Women's League except for a club's Premier League.
9. An unused substitute in a First Team match is deemed NOT to have played in a match.

## Article 11 - Playing Strips

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1. All clubs must nominate a "home" and "alternative" playing strip.
2. In any match, if the shirts or socks of the participating teams are alike or similar, or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion, then players of the away team will be required to change its shirts or socks or both. In the event of any dispute with regard to the strip to be worn by either team, the referee's decision is final.
3. If the shirts or socks of the participating teams are alike or similar, or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion, and the away team is unable to change that part of its attire

which is causing that confusion, then the match may not proceed. For the avoidance of doubt, bibs may NOT be worn.

## Article 12 - Match Balls

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1. The home club will provide the referee with three match balls no later than 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.
2. All Premier League First and U23s team matches must use the FIFA approved Select "Super" match ball. Three match balls will be provided free of charge to each Women's Premier club. Additional balls may be purchased from Evolution Sports Imports Pty Ltd.

## Article 13 - Match Officials

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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 season.
2. Match official fees are payable in cash to the match official(s) on the day.
3. 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.
4. In the event that a referee is not allocated to the match by Football West, or that none of the match officials allocated to a match is ready and able to commence the match within 5 minutes of the scheduled kick-off time, then the home club will allocate a referee.
5. In the absence of one or both assistant referees, each team will provide a club assistant referee to assist the match referee. If either club does not comply, then the match may not proceed.
6. If the appointed referee postpones or delays any match, he must submit a report in writing to Football West within 72 hours of the scheduled conclusion of the match outlining the reasons for his actions. The appointed referee is 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.
7. When a match is forfeited by a club, the referee is entitled to receive 100% of the prescribed match fee to be paid by the club which forfeited the match, unless the forfeiting club informed Football West in writing at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off.
8. When a match is abandoned, the match officials are entitled to receive the full amount of their normal match fees.

## Article 14 - Representative Teams

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1. If a club has 3 or more players from one team participating in a representative match, it may seek the postponement of any club match which clashes with the representative match.
2. To be considered as a qualifying player under paragraph 1, and subject to the conditions of paragraph 3, the player must have been recorded on that team's team lists for a minimum of 80% of all matches up to and including the date of the request to postpone.
3. If the player is required to participate in a representative match prior to round six of the season, Football West will determine the team of a player from the team sheets available. Football West's decision in determining the team of a player is final.