



FFSA Competition Rules and Regulations

Amended, Updated and Implemented

As of January 2019

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A. DEFINITIONS

In these Regulations:

The 'CEO' means the Chief Executive Officer employed by the Football Federation South Australia (FFSA).

The 'Competition' means all games and tournaments that are played by the Clubs that are organised and sanctioned by the FFSA.

The 'Clubs' means all clubs playing football at either the Elite level or Amateur Level, which shall include Open Age, Male & Female, Junior Boys & Girls competitions or any other league or Cup Competitions organised and sanctioned by FFSA.

'Association' means an Affiliated Association.

The 'Football Federation of South Australia' means the governing body of the sport in South Australia and is referred to as FFSA.

The 'Federation' means FFSA.

The 'Football Federation of Australia' means the governing body of the sport in Australia and is referred to as FFA.

The 'Tribunal' means a committee or sub-committee appointed by FFSA.

'Match officials' means the Referees, Assistant Referees, Referees inspectors and match stewards.

'Registered Club officials' means the persons registered under the rules and regulations as being officers of the Club.

'Prescribed officials of the FFSA' means Board members and administrative officers of FFSA and such other persons as the Board may from time to time appoint.

'Rules' means the rules contained in the FFSA Rules and Regulations and related policies and guidelines.

1. Team Names

- (1) Each Club shall register its Team Name and logo with FFSA.
- (2) No Club shall register or use any Team Name or logo which has not been approved by FFSA.
- (3) All teams of a Club shall use and be known by the Club's registered Team Name.
- (4) The Team Name and logo must be in accordance with the FFA National Club Identity Policy.
- (5) Any Club which in the opinion of FFSA has a Team Name or logo which does not comply with the preceding Clause shall change its Team Name or logo within two (2) calendar months of being requested to do so by FFSA.

2. **Nomination Form**

- (1) Each Club shall nominate to participate in competitions conducted by FFSA on the prescribed form as required and provided by FFSA.
- (2) Once the nomination form is submitted, if a club makes any changes to the information contained on the form, any changes must be immediately notified to the competition administrator.
- (3) All new clubs are required to complete the Football Federation Australia (FFA) Application for Registration of Football Club – **Prescribed Form NRR02**. This form must be completed and submitted with any required nomination form.

3. **Financial Obligations**

- (1) Each club and affiliated association shall abide by FFSA financial obligations as determined by FFSA. Notification of the fees to be paid by clubs will be provided on an annual basis.
- (2) All membership fees and any outstanding accounts due to FFSA shall be paid within 30 days of invoicing or as stipulated by FFSA.
- (3) No teams or players will be permitted to be registered unless the club and affiliated association are financial.
- (4) Failure to adhere to Rule 2 will result in a club being sent a reminder notice to settle the account.
- (5) A club that fails to settle the account within 60 days from the invoice date (“the default date”) will incur a debtor management fee (“the fee”):
 - (a) The fee will be calculated as a one-off fee, being 10% of the invoices total value unpaid after 60 days.
 - (b) If a club anticipates that it will have difficulty paying the account within the 60 day period then a payment arrangement may be negotiated with the FFSA SUBJECT TO:
 - I. The request for payment arrangement being agreed to by FFSA prior to the default date
 - II. The club agreeing to the payment arrangement being a direct debit from their nominated bank account

NOTE: If the club falls into arrears with its payment arrangement then the debtor management fee will be immediately applied and will be calculated from the default date.

- (6) At the time the debtor management fee is applied, FFSA will issue a 21-day notice to settle the outstanding account (including Debtor Management Fee). If the club fails to pay the amount within 21 days, 3 competition points will be deducted from the clubs most senior side. In addition, any games played whilst the account remains unpaid will be for no competition points.
- (7) If at the end of a season a team has been promoted but the club has not paid all amounts owing to FFSA by 31 October of each year, the team shall not be promoted.
- (8) If the deduction of any points under Rule 5 results in a team or teams being relegated, the relegation will stand even if the outstanding monies are subsequently paid.

4. Club Colours and Playing Strip

- (1) All Clubs shall register their playing strip with FFSA.
- (2)
 - (a) Each Club shall register its colours, logo and the design of its first choice playing strip and its alternative playing strip with FFSA including a photograph of each of the full playing strips.
 - (b) The alternative playing strip shall be of a different colour to the home team playing strip, to avoid a clash between the home and visiting teams. A club's alternative playing strip must include a change of colour for shirts, shorts and socks. Where possible the club should have one light coloured strip and one dark coloured strip. If a club intends to have a third playing strip, this must be registered with FFSA.
 - (c) The registration of Club playing strips shall be subject to the prior approval of the FFSA.
 - (d) Priority of registration shall determine the exclusive right to wear the playing strip.
 - (e) Any Club intending to make changes to its playing strips including the colours or design shall apply to FFSA giving full details of the proposed new strips or alterations.
 - (f) FFSA shall refuse its approval if in the opinion of the Competition Administrator the proposed new, or changed, playing strip is not sufficiently different from that of any other Club.
- (3) Playing strips must be numbered on the back of the shirt with each shirt displaying a different number. As a guide each number should be 25cm to 35cm in height and 3cm to 5cm in thickness.
- (4)
 - (a) If required by FFSA, Clubs playing in any competition shall wear on their playing strips the name, logo, emblem or other mark of any sponsor of FFSA or the competition.
 - (b) The logo of FFSA is to be placed on the playing shirt of all teams that compete in FFSA Competitions. The logo is to be placed on the shirt in accordance with the relevant Competition Operating Regulations. Where the Competition Operating Regulations do not specify, the FFSA logo is to be placed on the breast of the shirt or the left sleeve and is to be 60mm x 60mm in size.
 - (c) The only logos to appear on the playing shirts of the players, including the goalkeeper shirt, are to be the FFSA logo, club logo and competition and/or sponsor logos as outlined by FFSA.
 - (d) Any sponsorship logos placed on junior playing strips must be age appropriate. For example, logos advertising gambling or alcohol is not permitted.
- (5)
 - (a) The goalkeeper's shirts or uniforms must be clearly distinguishable from, and not contain any of the basic colours of, the playing shirt of the other players of their team or the opposing team.
 - (b) The goalkeeper may wear shorts and socks of the same colour and design as his own team.
- (6) Clubs which are not playing at home shall take their first choice and their alternative playing strips to the ground where the match will be played.

- (7) If, in the opinion of the Match Official of any match, the uniforms of the teams or goalkeepers taking part are not sufficiently different, the Match Official shall direct the **away team**, or the goalkeeper of the **away team** as the case may be, to change to the nominated alternative playing strip or to make such other change as the Match Official may consider appropriate for the match; no direction under this clause shall affect the right of the home team to play in its registered uniform.
- (8) (a) A Club in breach of Clause 4 (1) – (5) shall be issued with a Level 2 Fine (refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations for fines).
- (b) A forfeit penalty and a level 2 fine will be imposed for breach of the following rules:
- (i) a Competition Fixture does not commence due to an inability to resolve a clash of strips, and it can be established that such Club or Team did not comply with Rule 4(7).
 - (ii) a Club changed their playing strip without notifying FFSA five (5) days prior to the competition fixture and FFSA endorsed the use of the playing strip and the change results in a Competition Fixture being postponed as a result of a strip clash.

5. Insurance

- (1) All clubs shall ensure at all times they have all of the necessary insurance cover for their club. All clubs must ensure they have current public liability, personal accident insurance, directors and officer's insurance policies and other insurance coverage as FFSA may prescribe from time to time. If the insurance cover is not provided through FFSA, the onus is on the club to ensure they have the required insurance cover. Failure to comply may result in the club's deregistration by FFSA.
- (2) FFSA will provide personal accident insurance and other types of insurances as determined on a year by year basis to clubs as part of their membership application and registration. This personal accident insurance will cover all players and club officials including club volunteers.
- (3) FFSA will provide details of each of the insurance policies to clubs on an annual basis. This information will also provide details on how a club or individual person may make an insurance claim.

6. Clubs to Field Teams

- (1) All clubs that field a team/s in a FFSA Competition, the team and club agree to abide by FFA Statutes, including the National Registration Regulations, National Disciplinary Regulations, National Code of Conduct, Grievance Resolution Regulations and all related FFSA Rules, Regulations and Competition Operating Regulations.
- (2) The National Training Centre (NTC) squads and FFSA Development Squads may enter team/s into the competitions on approval of FFSA.

7. School Football

Where a junior player is selected to play for a school team the player shall have a first obligation to play in his or her school team except where the player is a registered professional player and is selected to play for his or her Club.

8. Player/Club Relations

- (1) Each club shall inform and make available to all players copies of;
 - (a) FIFA laws of the game;
 - (b) FFA and FFSA Rules and Regulations, Policies and Procedures and Codes of Conduct;
 - (b) the club rules and regulations, policies and procedures and codes of conducts;
 - (c) any agreement entered with the player.

9. Termination of Professional Player Contracts

Refer to FFA National Registration Regulations [here](#).

10. Suspension of Players by Clubs

Refer to FFA National Registration Regulations [here](#).

11. Appeals

Refer to FFA Grievance Resolution Regulations and FFSA Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations.

GROUNDS

12. Ground Registrations

- (1) All Clubs shall register their playing grounds with FFSA.
- (2) Clubs must be committed to the development of their grounds and facilities and must fulfil the minimum standards as required by FFSA to compete in the relevant competition. FFSA at its discretion may provide a specific timeframe for clubs to fulfil the ground requirements.
- (3) All grounds may be inspected annually and FFSA will notify Clubs no later than the 30th day of November of each year, where possible, of any deficiencies at the club's ground that must be remedied before the commencement of the next league season.
- (4) FFSA shall require any Club that does not remedy any deficiency specified in a notice at least 30 days before the commencement of the league season to play its home matches at the ground of another club as approved by FFSA until the deficiencies have been remedied and the ground has been inspected and passed by FFSA.
- (5) If a club does not meet the ground criteria requirements of the relevant competition, FFSA may direct the club to play at an alternative venue approved by FFSA or not permit entry into the competition.

13. Ground Facilities & Club Signage

Clubs and affiliated associations should provide appropriate and suitable playing facilities to a minimum standard. FFSA has set minimum facility requirements for all Senior Men's Competitions and Elite Women's Competitions. Please refer to the minimum standards relating to these competitions available on the FFSA website.

- (1) A maximum of ten (10) people shall be permitted in their team's technical area unless otherwise specified in the relevant Competition Operating Regulations. This includes five (5) registered team officials and no more than five (5) substitute players. No team official is permitted to be in the technical area unless they have registered in the FFSA Registration System.
- (2) Clubs shall prominently display appropriate signage:
 - (a) on spectator fences surrounding the field of play, stating that it is an offence for unauthorised persons to be inside the fence;
 - (b) on the entrance to all dressing rooms, stating that it is an offence for unauthorised persons to enter the dressing rooms; and
 - (c) indicating the location of the First Aid areas for players, officials and the general public during training and competitions.
 - (d) to promote FFSA and such Sponsors as FFSA may determine from time to time.

Any club who breaches the signage rules shall be subject to a Level 2 fine.

Any club who breaches the sponsor's signage rules may incur a loss of league points and be subject to a Level 4 fine minimum.

14. Facilities and Ground Arrangements

- (1) Each Club must ensure that it complies fully with the criteria set out below;
 - (a) Any club which does not meet the minimum criteria for each relevant competition will not be eligible for entry or promotion into that competition in accordance with the relevant Competition Operating Regulations
 - (b) Clubs that do not comply with these criteria by 30 November of each season will not be eligible for promotion into a higher-grade competition;
 - (c) FFSA may grant special dispensation to clubs who are in the process of upgrading their facilities in accordance with FFSA's requirements however this will be at the discretion of the FFSA and in a timely manner so that all requirements are fulfilled prior to the commencement of any season.

15. Installation of Goals

It is the responsibility of all clubs to ensure they provide a safe environment for their participants. To minimise risk and to prevent Injury, football goals are to be constructed and installed to the correct safety standards. The main areas of concern are:

- (1) Construction of goal frames for either fixed or portable use;
 - (a) Securing and stability of the goal frame;
 - (b) Securing of the net to both the goal frame and the ground;
 - (c) The net.

(2) **Fixed Football Goals**

All football goals installed as a permanent structure on a football field must be properly secured, installed at the regulation width and height, as per the Laws of the Game, and should have no sharp edges protruding that may cause injury.

(3) **Portable Football Goals**

If a Club uses portable goals for training or competition, it must ensure that these goals conform to the current Standards Australia Handbook HB227-2003 for "Portable Football Goalposts — Manufacture, use and storage". The manufacturer of portable goals should provide the Club with a certificate of conformity. All portable goals must carry a goal post warning sticker. These stickers and further information can be obtained from FFSA.

16. Use of Line Marking Substance

(1) As a general rule and which should form part of a Club's Tenancy Agreement with the Local Council, pesticides, herbicides and other products such as 'Round Up', can be harmful to a person's health and may cause damage to the playing surface and therefore are not to be used under any circumstances.

(2) Products such as agricultural limestone, or water-based spray paint or other similar material which will not endanger ground users or damage turf grasses are the substances that should only be used for line marking. All clubs should ensure they consult with their local council relating to permitted substances to be used in the marking of fields.

(3) To ensure the safety of all players, match officials and spectators, any club found to be in breach of these requirements, will not be able to play any home matches until the breach has been rectified or FFSA grants dispensation from these requirements.

Penalty

(4) Any home club whose match is postponed/abandoned due to the use of prohibited substances for marking their grounds (as above), will forfeit the match to the opposing team with a three (3) goals to nil (0) score line being recorded. The Home Club will also incur a forfeit fine as outlined in the relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

For more information on required ground facilities refer to the relevant FFSA Competition Operating Regulations.

17. Change of Grounds

(1) No Club shall change its playing ground without the permission of FFSA.

(2) Any Club which desires to change its ground shall apply to FFSA giving full particulars of the proposed new ground.

All requests for changes of grounds are subject to approval by FFSA in accordance with the minimum ground requirements of the competition.

18. Match Venue

The venue of any match shall not be changed by the competing Clubs without the prior permission of the Competition Administrator.

19. Marking Field of Play

- (1) Each Club shall keep and maintain its grounds in the best possible condition.
- (2) (a) The Club on whose ground a match is to be played shall mark and equip the field of play in accordance with the Laws of the Game and shall re-mark the field of play during the interval if so directed by the Referee.

Penalty

If a game is not played due to the match official determining the field is not marked according to the Laws of the Game, the host team will forfeit the game three (3) goals to nil (0) and incur a forfeit fine in accordance with the relevant Competition Operating Regulations. The penalty may not be applied if FFSA determines that the marking of the field was outside of the control of the host club.

- (b) Where a ground is not surrounded by a spectator fence, a boundary line shall be marked not less than one (1) metre from the sideline of the field on the opposite side to the Technical Areas. Spectators are only permitted to be on the side where the boundary line is marked.
- (c) Any official, spectator or other person who enters within the boundary line shall be deemed to have entered the field of play.

20. Use of Club Grounds

- (1) FFSA may from time to time use the ground or grounds of any Club for any special match or matches except where such use is not permitted under the terms of a Club's lease of the ground.
- (2) In default of agreement, FFSA shall negotiate the amount to be paid to the Club for the use of its ground or grounds provided the amount shall not be less than the prescribed amount for an enclosed ground in good condition.
- (3) Where a match is played at a neutral venue, the teams involved in the match may be required to pay a ground hire fee. This fee will be set by the venue. Gate and canteen revenue will remain with the venue unless otherwise negotiated.

21. Laws of the Game

All Football matches organised or authorised by FFSA or any affiliated associations and all matches played by any Club, Affiliated Association or any Affiliated Association shall be played under and in accordance with:

- (a) the Laws of the Game of Association Football as laid down by the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and all additions, alterations and amendments thereto from time to time of which notice is given by the FFA and/or FFSA to Clubs, members and Affiliated Associations; and
- (b) the Competition Rules and Regulations and related policies and Competition Operating Regulations of FFA and FFSA.

22. Control of Competitions and Matches

- (1) No person other than the participating players, team officials, match officials, and ground stewards shall be permitted inside the spectator fence or boundary line as per Clause 19 (2) while a match is in progress.
- (2) Each team shall provide at each match the required number of ground steward/s per team, in accordance with competition requirements. Please refer to relevant competition operating regulations.
- (3) No person other than the participating players, and the match officials shall enter the field of play while a match is in progress unless medical personnel are directed to enter the field of play by the match official in accordance with Clause 24.
- (4) Only the substitutes and registered team officials shall occupy their team's technical area.
- (5) No person shall coach a team from within the spectator fence or boundary line, other than the appointed coaches of the competing teams, who may coach their players from their clubs technical area.
- (6) In this Clause, a club's technical area means the area in front of the club's substitutes' bench plus one (1) meter on either side of the bench and extending to a distance one (1) metre from the touch line.
- (7)
 - (a) No person other than team members/officials shall enter the teams dressing rooms.
 - (b) No person other than the match officials shall enter the Match Official's dressing room except with the permission of the Match Official.

23. Ground Stewards

- (1) All teams must provide a minimum of one (1) person to act in the role of Ground Steward for all FFSA sanctioned games except in the case of FFSA Senior Men's First Grade and Reserve Grade Games, three (3) people from each team must be appointed to the role of Ground Steward. Prior to the commencement of each game, the Ground Steward/s are required to introduce themselves to the match official.
- (2) If the required number of ground stewards are not provided, the match official will not commence the game. If the game is unable to be commenced within the allotted time, 15 minutes after the nominated kick-off time, the match official will abandon the game. Process relating to abandonment of games will be implemented. Refer Clause 29.
- (3) Ground Stewards must be 18 years of age and over and are responsible for undertaking the following role:
 - (a) Ensure that only players and officials are within the technical areas;
 - (b) Accompany match officials on and off the field of play;

- (c) Ensure the FFA Spectator Code of Conduct is being implemented with **THEIR OWN SUPPORTERS**. If a spectator is not behaving in accordance to the FFA Spectator Code of Conduct, a Ground Steward may approach the person and remind him/her of the requirements;
 - (d) Assist Match Officials as requested; and
 - (e) Submit a written report to FFSA, where applicable, reporting any inappropriate behaviour.
- (4) Grounds Stewards should not at any time engage in any verbal or physical altercations. A Ground Steward may approach a person that is associated with **THEIR CLUB** and make a request to that person, however if this is not followed, the Ground Steward should submit a report to FFSA outlining the incident. All Ground Stewards are responsible for their **OWN SPECTATORS**, Ground Stewards **should not** become involved with the opposition spectators. If spectators from the opposing club are not behaving in accordance with the FFA Spectator Code of Conduct and no action is being taken by that clubs ground stewards, a report should be submitted to FFSA during normal business hours within 48 hours of the match to which the report relates.
- (5) While acting in the role of a Ground Steward, the person must not consume alcohol or smoke.
- (6) All reports must be submitted on the Ground Steward Report Template and shall be submitted to the FFSA during normal business hours within 48 hours of the match to which the report relates
- On receipt of the report, the relevant competition coordinator will determine what action is required. Please note that further information may be sought from the Ground Steward.
- (7) Once the report has been actioned and an outcome is known, this information will be provided to the Club that the ground steward represented.
- (8) **Penalty** – Refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations. A sanction will be applied to a club that does not provide the required number of ground stewards and/or the ground stewards do not fulfil the role as outlined above when appointed.
- (9) The Disciplinary Committee has the discretionary power to require a club to allocate more Ground Stewards where the club has been reported for inappropriate behaviour.

24. Medical Requirements

- (1) Each Club shall ensure medical personnel are appointed and in attendance at games in accordance with the relevant Competition Operating Regulations. Where no requirements are stipulated, the club must have a person that holds a minimum of a senior first aid qualification in attendance.
- (2) No medical personnel shall enter the field of play except with the permission of the match official and for the purpose of attending an injured player.
- (3) Each club must ensure that an appropriate stretcher is available at the venue. A stretcher should only be used under the direction of qualified medical personnel.

- (4) FFSA strongly encourages each Club to install a defibrillator at their venue/s. FFSA acknowledges this is a decision for the individual Club and will not be held responsible for any Club that does not install a defibrillator or maintain it in a state fit for purpose.

25. Unauthorised Matches and Tours

- (1) No Club, team or players from any Club shall take part in any match whether in the State of South Australia or elsewhere other than in competitions organised by FFSA unless the Club has first obtained the permission of FFSA in writing.
- (2) No Club or team or players from any Club shall take part in any pre-season trial or practice match against another club unless:
 - (a) all players taking part in the match are registered with the Club for which they play or are on trial with that club.
 - (b) the match is played under and in accordance with the Laws of the Game and FFSA Rules, and Regulations and related policy guidelines and under the control of a registered match official, where applicable.
 - (c) each club taking part in the match prepares a detailed team sheet and submits it to the match official, where applicable at least 30 minutes prior to kick off.
 - (d) the team sheets are to be submitted to FFSA by the club or match official within 48 hours of the end of the match.
- (3) If club/team/player/official participates in an unauthorised match or in any match which contravenes sub-Clause (1) or (2), the Club or individual shall be liable to such penalty as determined by FFSA or appointed committee.
- (4) Contravention of sub-Clause (1) or (2) means that the club/team/player/official shall not be covered by insurance benefits provided through FFSA.

26. Match Results - Inducements

No Club or official, player or member of any Club shall give or receive, or attempt to give or receive, any inducement to or from any person to wrongfully affect or influence the result of any match. Any Club who breaches this match rule shall be liable to such penalties as determined by FFSA or any appointed committee.

27. Match Result - Protests

- (1) Any protest against the result of a match shall be in writing and shall be submitted to FFSA within 48 hours of the end of the match to which the protest relates.
- (2) No protest may be made with regard to a decision of a match official. The decision of the match official is a decision of fact. No admitted or proved error can lead to the questioning of the result of the match.
- (3) Protests shall be heard and determined by FFSA or such Committee or person as FFSA may appoint.

28. Disturbances

- (1) If any match is abandoned or terminated before the completion of the time specified in the Laws of the Game or the relevant competition regulations because of a disturbance involving players, officials or spectators, the case shall be referred to FFSA or such committee or person as it may appoint for determination.
- (2) Both clubs shall be responsible for taking all possible measures to ensure the orderly behaviour of the crowd and the safety of the match officials, players and the officials of the participating teams.
- (3) All Clubs and affiliated associations shall be responsible for the behaviour of their players, members and supporters whether at their home ground, at their opponent's ground or at a neutral ground.
- (4) (a) If at any game, a club official or a spectator:
 - (i) uses abusive, threatening or insulting language;
 - (ii) interferes with a match official in any way; or
 - (iii) enters the field of play,

The match official may:
 - (i) stop the game; and
 - (ii) confer with the officials of the teams participating in the game; and
 - (iii) require the exclusion of the official or spectator from the ground before re-starting the game.
- (b) If after speaking with the club officials, and the game cannot be restarted due to the behaviour of the spectators or officials, the match official may abandon the game.
- (5) Where a match is abandoned or terminated under this rule or the match official stops a game under this rule, the match official shall include details of the matter in the match report.

29. Abandoned Matches

- (1) If any fixture is abandoned or terminated before the completion of the time specified in the Laws of the Game or relevant competition guidelines for any reason whatsoever, the Clubs whose teams took part in the fixture shall within 48 hours of the game submit a full report in writing to the Competition Administrator.
- (2) FFSA or any appointed Disciplinary Committee shall have discretionary power to determine the outcome of any abandoned game. Where the abandonment of a game has occurred due to events outside of the control of the teams involved, the result of an abandoned match may stand as long as at least 75% of the game has been completed.
- (3) If a match is abandoned prior to or at half time all match officials will be entitled to receive 50% of their normal match fee. If the match is abandoned once the second half has commenced, all match officials will be entitled to receive a 100% of their normal match fee. If it is determined by FFSA that the result of the abandoned match will stand, then the match official will be entitled to receive a 100% of their normal match fee.
- (4) A yellow card issued during an abandoned match will be annulled if the match is replayed and upheld if the match is not replayed.

- (5) A red card issued during an abandoned match will be upheld regardless of whether the match is replayed or not.
- (6) In accordance with the National Disciplinary Regulations clause 13.1, if a match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the Team to which the suspended Participant belongs is not responsible for the conduct that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture.

30. Walk Offs

No Club shall walk off or refuse to allow play to continue for the full duration of the time specified in the Laws of the Game or relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

31. Abandoned Matches and Walk offs - Penalties

If any match is abandoned or terminated before the completion of the time specified in the Laws of the Game or relevant competition guidelines because of a disturbance involving players, officials or spectators for which a Club is responsible or because a team of a Club walks-off or refuses to allow play to continue:

- (1) Any points allocated for the match shall be forfeited to the Club's opponent which shall be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0). If at the time of the abandonment or walk off, the opposing team is winning the game by a greater margin than three (3) goals, the score line at the time of the abandonment or walk off, will stand.
- (2) The Club and the players and officials of the Club shall be deemed guilty of serious misconduct and shall be liable to such further penalty as FFSA or the Committee it appoints to hear the matter may determine.

32. Postponed Matches

- (1) If a match is postponed because of the weather or any other cause over which the Clubs have no control or the teams are ordered to re-play a match, the match shall, if practicable, be played within seven (7) days of the original fixture for Senior Men's Competition or 14 days of the date of the original fixture for all other competitions or unless otherwise approved to by the Competition Administrator.
- (2) The match shall be played at a time and place agreed between the Clubs with the approval of the Competition Administrator.
- (3) Where a game has been postponed, the home team is required to notify the Competition Administrator within 48 hours of the postponed game, the date, time and venue of when the game will be played. Where the two clubs cannot agree to reschedule the game within the required timeframe, the Competition Administrator will;
 - (a) direct that the match be played at a time and place fixed by the Competition Administrator; or
 - (b) implement a forfeit result; or
 - (c) Class the game as a no played game.

- (4) If a match is postponed prior to it being commenced, all match officials are entitled to receive an inconvenience fee of 25% of their normal match fee. This fee is only to be paid if the match officials are present at the ground when the match was postponed.

33. Inability to Field Teams

- (1) If a Club is unable to field a team because of illness or other exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the club;
 - (a) the Club may apply to the Competition Administrator for approval for the postponement of the match, and
 - (b) if the Competition Administrator approves the postponement of the match, the match shall be played at a time and place as sanctioned by FFSA in accordance with clause 32.

34. Match Officials

- (1) FFSA may establish a Match Officials Appointments Committee. This committee shall comprise of a minimum of three and a maximum of five people, which will include at least one person from the Competition Department as appointed by the FFSA. The appointments committee may allocate suitably qualified match officials to FFSA Sanctioned games as available.
- (2) All requests for match officials by clubs shall be made to the Competition Administrator at least five (5) business days prior to a game.
- (3) Payment conditions and any inconvenience fees related to trial and competition matches, postponed or abandoned matches for match officials shall be approved by FFSA prior to the commencement of each season. A detailed copy of the seasons match fees, method of payment shall be distributed to all relevant clubs and officials prior to the commencement of the season or related competition.
- (4) FFSA may support interstate exchange programs for match officials.
- (5) Nominations of match officials for interstate competitions and fixtures shall be made by FFSA, except for appointments made by FFA.
- (6) In the absence of match officials, refer to the relevant competition regulations.
- (7) FFSA may appoint Match Commissioners and/or request clubs to appoint a Referee Liaison Officer to games. Where this is required, FFSA will provide timely notification and information.

35. Competitions

- (1) All clubs and affiliated Associations registered with FFSA shall take part in all league competitions and such other special competitions as FFSA may determine from time to time.
- (2) No player shall play for more than one club in any competition, except where a player registration is transferred in accordance with FFA National Registration Regulations.

36. Competitions - Leagues

- (1) In each season, FFSA shall conduct such competitions including Men's, Women's and Junior Competitions. Final composition of league structures will be based on nominations received and subject to clubs meeting competition criteria. Competition Operating Regulations can be accessed [here](#). FFSA will have the final determination on all competitions.

37. Withdrawal of Teams

- (1) If a Team is withdrawn before all teams have played each other once, all matches will be recorded as a no played game. All goal scorer statistics and referee votes gained in Competition Fixtures played involving the withdrawn Team will be removed.
- (2) If a Team is withdrawn after the point of the season at which all teams have played each other an equal number of times the following will apply:
 - (a) all results will be retained;
 - (b) goals scored for and against will be retained;
 - (c) referee votes will be retained;
 - (d) a forfeit result of three (3) goals to nil (0) will apply to all remaining games.

38. Fixtures & Match Forfeits

- (1) FFSA shall prepare and publish lists of fixtures for the various games and tournaments organised by FFSA.
- (2) All matches in any competition shall be played on the dates and at the times fixed in FFSA's official list of fixtures unless abandoned or postponed by the match official in accordance with the Laws of the Game or changed in accordance with the relevant Competition Operating Regulations. FFSA has the authority to change dates and times of scheduled matches by giving reasonable notice.
- (3) Any Club whose team or teams fail to play or complete any league or cup match on the date and at the time fixed by FFSA shall;
 - (a) be deemed to be guilty of serious misconduct and any points allocated for the match shall be forfeited to the club's opponent which shall be deemed to have won the match by a score of three goals to nil or if the opposing team has won the game by three goals or greater, the score line will stand; and
 - (b) be fined the prescribed amount as stipulated in the relevant competition regulations; and
 - (c) be liable to such further penalties as the FFSA or the committee it appoints to hear the matter may determine.
- (4) Where a forfeit has been applied, the statistics of the club that did not forfeit the game, that being goal scorers and best and fairest votes will be retained. Red and yellow cards will be applied in accordance with the National Disciplinary Regulations.
- (5) If a fixture has been changed by the FFSA and notification is not provided to the match officials, who attend the fixture, the match official shall be entitled to 50% of their normal fee.

- (6) If a club fails to notify FFSA of any changes to a fixture, this includes any changes to kick-off times, the club will forfeit the game, be fined the forfeit fee and will be required to compensate the match officials, if they attend the game, 50% of their normal fee.

39. Team Sheets & Match Reports

- (1) Each Club shall hand to the match official a completed team sheet in the format approved by FFSA. The team sheet is to contain the correct names and initials in block letters, the registered numbers and shirt numbers of the club's players taking part in the match, the club's nominated substitutes for the match and the names of the club coach, manager and ground stewards at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the game. No game is to commence prior to the match officials receiving the team sheets from both teams.

A team will be deemed to have submitted an incomplete team sheet if they have not correctly provided the following details;

- (a) FFA Numbers for all players;
- (b) Shirt numbers for all players;
- (c) Players correct name;
- (d) Team Officials;
- (e) Ground Stewards.

Penalty – Refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

- (2) If a situation occurs where a club may need to make an amendment to a team sheet that has already been submitted to the match official, a club official may approach the match official prior to the commencement of the game to make the amendment. Once the game has commenced no amendments will be permitted to the team sheet.

Penalty - Refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations

- (3)
 - (a) Where a team participates in a competition that permits substitutions or interchange, the team must select 11 starting players and up to a maximum 5 substitutions. These players must be clearly identified in the relevant area of the team sheet as either starting or as a sub. No additional player can be selected as a starting player or a sub.
 - (b) A Club shall not play in any match a player who is not named on the team sheet for the match.

Penalty – The team will forfeit the game and will be issued with a fine – Refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations

- (4) At the completion of each match, an official from each competing Club shall attend the match official's room and shall:
 - (a) record on the team sheet any injuries to players of his or her Club;
 - (b) ensure goal scorers and any cautions or send off of players are correct;
 - (c) receive any reports of players; and

(d) sign the team sheet.

Note: Players may not be entitled to accident insurance benefits if their injuries are not noted on the team sheet.

- (5) Once the club official has signed the team sheet, the match official shall enter the relevant information on the team sheets and submit them to the Competition Administrator as directed by FFSA.
- (6) The post mark on the envelope containing the team sheet shall be taken as proof of the time of dispatch.
- (7) Team Sheets and any related match reports from match officials, or clubs shall be submitted to the FFSA within 48 hours of the completion of the match. Fines and or disciplinary action may be imposed as determined by the FFSA Competition Administrator for late submission.

40. Match Balls

- (1) Before the start of each match in all competitions, or any other competition organised and sanctioned by FFSA, the home team shall present to the match official at least two (2) balls of a type and brand approved by the FFSA, 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the game
- (2) The match official shall select one (1) of the balls for use in the match.
- (3) The ball selected by the match official shall be used during the entire match unless it is lost, is not returned promptly after being kicked out of touch or becomes unfit for play.
- (4) The home team shall keep the second ball presented to the match official before the match at the substitute bench and shall supply it to the match official immediately upon request.
- (5) **Penalty** - Any club that breaches the match ball rule shall be subject to a Fine – Refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

41. Players Bleeding and Concussion Guidelines

If a player on the field of play is bleeding or has blood on his or her body or clothing the match official shall order the player to leave the field of play until the bleeding has stopped and any blood on the player's body or clothing has been removed. The player must be provided with a clean playing shirt free of blood prior to returning to the field of play.

[FFA Concussion Guidelines](#) have been developed to provide guiding principles in relation to the management of concussion and return to play. The guidelines are of a general nature, individual treatment will depend on the facts and circumstances of the individual.

42. Substitution of Players

Unless the Competition Rules, Competition Operating Regulations and or FFSA policies relating to a particular competition otherwise provide;

- (1) A team may only use in a match, substitutes named on the team sheet.
- (2) Clubs shall not nominate more than five (5) substitutes on their team sheets. Refer to the relevant competition regulations for the number of players to be used.
- (3) Where a game goes into extra time, the team may use an additional substitute from their allocation of five.

43. Interchange of Players

The rules, regulations and/or related policies and guidelines relating to a competition may permit the interchange of players where;

- (1) The players playing in the competition are junior players, or players participating in a masters/social competition or out of season trial games or events. In all cases refer to FFSA Competition Rules and Regulations and Competition Operating Regulations.

44. Interchange Procedure

In matches where interchange is used, the following provisions shall apply:

- (1) An 'interchange zone' shall be marked on the touch-line on one side of the field of play.
- (2) The interchange zone shall extend for one metre on either side of the halfway line and shall be marked by lines at right angles to the touch line off the field of play.
- (3) A team may only use an interchange player who is named on the team's team sheet.
- (4) A player nominated as an interchange player shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the match official whether called upon to play or not,
- (5) An interchange may only be made at a stoppage of play and with the permission of the match official.
- (6) When making an interchange, the following conditions shall be observed:
 - (a) the player leaving the field shall do so by crossing over the interchange zone;
 - (b) the player entering the field ("the interchange player") shall not enter the field until the player leaving the field has passed completely over the interchange zone;
 - (c) the interchange player shall enter the field by crossing over the interchange zone;
 - (d) when the interchange is complete, the interchange player becomes a player and the player who was replaced ceases to be a player.
- (7) The number of interchanges that may be made during a match is unlimited; a player who has been replaced may return to the field by being interchanged for another player.
- (8) The match official shall caution any player who:

- (a) enters the field of play as an interchange player before the player being replaced has completely left the field; and
- (b) leaves or enters the field from a place other than the interchange zone.

45. Gate Takings

- (1) Where appropriate FFSA shall fix the maximum admission charges and charges for season tickets for all competition matches conducted by FFSA. Refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

46. Prize Money

- (1) FFSA may allocate prize money for League, Cup and other competitions as determined on an annual basis.
- (2) FFSA shall announce the amount of the prize money for League, Cup and other competitions before the commencement of the competition.
- (3) Prize money shall be presented where possible within two (2) months of the conclusion of the competition for which it is awarded, subject to the club being financial with FFSA.

47. League Points

- (1) Subject to sub-Clause (2), in competitions conducted on a league points basis, the number of points awarded to the teams shall be:
 - (a) for a win - three (3) points;
 - (b) for a draw - one (1) point; and
 - (c) for a loss - nil (0) points.
- (2) FFSA may provide in the rules, regulations or related policies and guidelines for any particular competition the manner in which points will be awarded in the competition.
- (3) Where two (2) or more teams have the same number of points, the standings of the teams will be determined by goal difference, the team with the better goal difference shall hold the higher position.

48. Goal difference

- (1) Goal difference shall be determined by subtracting the number of goals scored by and goals scored against the team.
- (2) Where two (2) or more teams have the same number of points, the team with the better goal difference shall be deemed to hold the higher position, as follows:
 - (a) the team with the higher positive goal difference shall be deemed to have the better goal difference;
 - (b) the team with a positive goal difference shall be deemed to have a better goal difference than a team with a negative goal difference;

- (c) the team with the lower negative goal difference shall be deemed to have the better goal difference;
- (d) where goal differences are the same, the team which scored the greater number of goals shall be deemed to have the better goal difference;
- (e) head to head results;
- (f) Disciplinary record, the number of red cards that a team has accumulated, team with the lowest number of red cards. If red cards are equal the number of yellow cards that a team has accumulated, team with the lowest number of yellow cards.
- (g) where teams cannot be separated through the implementation of (a) through to (f), FFSA may direct the teams to play off on a neutral ground to decide which of the teams will be placed in the higher position. Where a playoff game is required, FFSA will schedule the game within 7 days, where practical

49. Casual Vacancies in Competitions

FFSA may fill any casual vacancy in any competition at its discretion. Where a team is coming from an Affiliated Association, FFSA will undertake a consultation process with the association.

50. Promotion and Relegation - League Competitions

(1) FFSA shall determine the number of teams to play in each competition in any particular season.

51. Number of teams to be Promoted and Relegated

(1) FFSA shall determine the manner and the number of teams to be promoted and relegated for any particular season.

(2) Where no determination is made under this clause, two (2) teams shall be promoted and two (2) teams shall be relegated. FFSA will have the sole and absolute determination on all decisions relating to the promotion and relegation of teams.

52. Qualification for Promotion and Relegation

(1) When a team or teams are to be relegated from a division, the team or teams which were lowest in the league table of that division in the previous season shall be relegated.

(2) When a team or teams are to be promoted to a higher league, the team or teams which were highest in the next lowest League in the previous season shall be eligible for promotion to the next highest League subject to the provisions of Clause 53.

(3) Any promotion is subject to the club fulfilling the minimum requirements of the competition. Competition Operating Regulations can be accessed [here](#).

53. Admission to Competitions organised or sanctioned by FFSA

- (1) Admission into a competition is subject to the club fulfilling the minimum competition requirements of the relevant competition and available positions.
- (2) FFSA will have the sole and absolute determination on admission into a competition.
- (3) FFSA may decide to admit an applicant upon or subject to any terms or conditions it may think fit.

54. Register of Clubs

The FFSA shall keep and maintain a register of clubs and affiliated associations.

55. Annual returns

- (1) FFSA shall require clubs and affiliated associations to submit reports in accordance with the competition entry requirements. For further information please refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

56. Register of Team Officials

- (1) FFSA shall keep and maintain a register of all Team Officials employed or engaged by Clubs that participate in FFSA Competitions and affiliated associations.
- (2) No Team Official shall be named on a team sheet and occupy the technical area, at any match;
 - (a) unless they are registered with FFSA prior to the commencement of the competition that they are participating in; and
 - (b) have completed a Criminal History Record Check in accordance with the FFSA Security Clearance Procedure.
- (3) Unless FFSA shall otherwise determine, the registration of all Team Official shall expire on the 31st December in each year.
- (4) All coaches that coach within FFSA must hold a recognised FFA coaching accreditation. The minimum level of coaching accreditation required is stipulated in the minimum competition requirements of the relevant competition. For further information refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations.
- (5) Prior to a club publicly announcing the appointment of a coach, the club must notify FFSA of the appointment, ensuring that the coach meets the coaching accreditation required of the competition. Coaches not meeting the required accreditation are not to be appointed.
- (6) Medical personnel are required to provide a copy of relevant qualifications to FFSA. This would be either Sports Trainer Accreditation or certificate of registration as a doctor or physiotherapist

Penalty - The following penalties will be applied if a team official does not complete the registration requirements:

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------|--|
| (a) | First offence | A level 2 fine and is permitted to be a team official until all registration requirements are fulfilled. |
| (b) | Second offence | Forfeit of the game and level 3 fine |
| (c) | Subsequent Offence | Disciplinary Hearing |

57. Coaches Registration Fee

FFSA may provide an opportunity for all coaches to join an annual coaching registration program. The fee for this program will be determined by the FFSA on an annual basis.

58. Change in Registered information

If there are any changes to the registration of a team official this must be updated in the registration system by the team official/club within 72 hours of the change occurring.

59. Register of Players

FFSA shall keep and maintain a register of all players including amateur, professional, junior and indoor Football or Futsal players and players who play in competitions conducted by FFSA, or any club or Affiliated Association.

60. Registration Procedure

- (1) FFSA, participating clubs and affiliated associations shall abide by the FFA National Registration Regulations and related FFA statutes.
- (2) All players must be registered with FFSA to be eligible to play within the competitions. FFSA will provide to all clubs, on an annual basis, the registration process that is to be undertaken to register a player. This process will be undertaken in accordance with the National Registration Regulations
- (3) A professional player may be registered only during one of two registration periods set or approved by FFSA from time to time comprised of:
 - (a) a maximum twelve (12) week period to begin after the completion of a season and before the start of the next season; and
 - (b) from the 1st to the 30th of June during each season.
- (4) Professionally contracted players shall not play or train with another club without the written approval of both clubs.
- (5) Players shall not register with a new club unless their financial obligations with their previous clubs have been met. Clubs which determine that a player has outstanding fees must provide written notification to FFSA. The procedure of providing this information will be provided to clubs on annual basis.

For further information on registration of players refer to FFA National Registration Regulations and relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

61. Unregistered, Ineligible and Suspended Players

- (1) No player shall play in any competition conducted by FFSA or any Affiliated Association or in any match authorised by FFSA or any Affiliated Associations unless he/she is registered with FFSA or affiliated association and he/she has been issued with a registration number by FFSA. The exemption to this rule is the participation in trial games.
- (2) If, in any match, a club plays or where interchange is applicable, names a player on the team sheet, an unregistered, ineligible or suspended player, a player who is not registered with it or a player who is ineligible or suspended for a particular match or period, or a player whose registration has been suspended:
 - (a) the club shall forfeit the match to its opponent which shall be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0). If the opposing team has won the game by a greater margin than three goals, the score line will stand.
 - (b) if the match was played in a league competition, any points that were awarded to the club that played an unregistered, ineligible or suspended player will be deducted and the forfeit result will be applied.
 - (c) a forfeit fine will be applied for each unregistered, ineligible or suspended player who played or was named in the match in accordance with the relevant competition regulations.
 - (d) if the player is a registered player, FFSA may suspend or cancel the player's registration.
 - (e) Where a forfeit has been applied, the statistics of the club that did not forfeit the game, that being goal scorers and best and fairest votes will be retained. Red and yellow cards will be applied in accordance with the National Disciplinary Regulations.

The penalty to be implemented for playing an unregistered, ineligible or suspended player is forfeit of the game and the relevant forfeit fine as outlined in the relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

62. Ring-Ins (Playing players under assumed or false names)

- (1) If a club knowingly or willingly plays a player in any match under a false or assumed name:
 - (a) the Club shall be deemed guilty of serious misconduct;
 - (b) the Club shall forfeit the match to its opponent which shall be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0), unless the team that is being provided the forfeit has won the game by a greater margin than three (3) goals, the score line will stand;
 - (c) if the match was played in a league competition, the points awarded to the Club in the competition shall be reduced by the number of points awarded for a win in the competition; and
 - (d) a Level 5 fine will be applied in accordance with the relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

Refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations for fine details.

- (e) The player and any club official or member who knowingly or willingly authorised a player to play in a match under a false or assumed name shall be liable to such penalty as FFSA or the committee it appoints to hear the matter, may determine.

63. Visa Players

- (1) Professional or Amateur Visa Players permissible - a maximum of two (2) Visa Players are permitted to be registered with the club's first team in the National Premier Leagues and State Leagues.
- (2) Unlimited number of visa players are permitted in all other competitions who meet the Visa requirements to be in Australia and the requirements of the competition.

Refer to FFA National Registration Regulations for details [here](#)

64. Registers Prima Facie Evidence

Entry on a register maintained by FFSA shall be prima facie evidence of the facts and matters contained therein.

65. Status of Players

As per the FFA National Registration Regulations:

- (1) A Player participating in football is either an Amateur or a Professional.
- (2) A Professional is a Player who has a written contract with a Club, under which he or she is paid to play football for that Club.
- (3) An Amateur is any player that is not a professional.
- (4) A Club may pay or reimburse a player any expenses incurred by that Player without affecting the amateur status, including for travel, kit, equipment or insurance premiums. If however, an Amateur is reimbursed more than the amount permitted by a Club, the onus is on the Club to demonstrate to the Competition Administrator that the amount paid accurately reflects the expenses incurred by the Amateur player. If the Club fails to satisfy this onus, that player will be deemed to be a Professional.
- (5) A Player may only be registered with one club at any one time in line with the FFA National Registration Regulations (NRR) and FIFA. FFSA has discretion to permit players to play in multiple clubs that do not compete in the same competition.

66. Juniors

Refer to [FFA National Registration Regulations](#).

- (1) A junior player is a player that does not turn 18 years of age during the year of competition.
- (2) (a) Junior players who are amateurs shall be registered each year.

- (b) The registration of junior players who are amateurs expires at midnight on the day of last league match in each year.
- (3) A junior player may play in any junior or senior team of his or her club as long as the player is age eligible.
- (4) All junior players must be registered in accordance with the registration process outlined by FFSA on an annual basis.
- (5) No player under the statutory school leaving age may sign a professional player's contract. (Refer to FFA National Registration Regulations).

67. National Training Centre (NTC) Squad

The National Training Centre (NTC) squads shall be deemed as representative teams for registration purposes and may enter team/s into the competitions following approval by the Competition Administrator. Players shall be registered in accordance with FFA National Registration Regulations and Competition Operating Regulations.

68. Permission to Interview

Refer to FFA National Registration Regulations [here](#).

69. Offers to Players

Refer to FFA National Registration Regulations [here](#).

70. New contracts with Professionals

Refer to FFA National Registration Regulations [here](#).

71. Compensation, Training Fees and Solidarity Contribution

Refer to FFA National Registration Regulations [here](#).

72. Registration of Match Officials

- (1) FFSA shall keep and maintain a register of all match officials.
- (2) No match official shall officiate in any FFSA sanctioned game unless:
 - (a) they have registered through the FFSA Registration System;
 - (b) they have provided a Criminal History Record Check in accordance with the FFSA Security Clearance Procedure;
 - (c) hold the appropriate accreditation;
 - (d) are financial with FFSA.

- (3) Match Officials will be registered with FFSA from 1 January to 31 December of each year.
- (4) The Match Official must be financial with FFSA to be eligible for registration.

73. Disciplinary Provisions - [Refer to FFA National Disciplinary Regulations.](#)

- (1) The Competition Administrator shall inform the player’s club when a player is suspended under this clause.
- (2) Each Club is required to keep a record of their players' cautions and suspensions and ensure it does not play a suspended player.

74. Disciplinary and Grievance Provisions

FFSA will follow the FFA National Disciplinary and Grievance Regulations, FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary and the FFSA Rules and Regulations.

75. Mandatory Match Suspensions for Minor Infringements

- (1) A player must serve a mandatory match suspension when he or she accumulates the following number of yellow card minor infringements during the course of the home and away league season or as determined by FFSA.

<u>Number of Minor Infringements</u>	<u>Period of Suspension</u>
5 cautions	one match
8 cautions	one match
11 cautions	one match
14 cautions	one match
17 cautions	one match

Fines shall apply to clubs for players that accumulate a number of Yellow Cards Minor Infringements during the season.

Penalty: Fine \$25.00 for 5, 8, 11, 14 and 17 Cautions.

A player that receives 17 cautions in the competition will be referred to the FFSA Disciplinary Committee.

- (2) Minor infringement yellow cards received during the FFSA Cup Competition, FFSA Finals Series, or any other FFSA sanctioned event shall be recorded separately. Refer to the appropriate rules of each event.
- (3) Any mandatory match suspension gained due to the accumulation of yellow cards is to be served in the competition in which the accumulation occurred.

A player is eligible to play the day after the suspension has been served.

For the avoidance of doubt if the suspension is being served in the league competition, the player must serve the suspension in the league competition in which they gained the highest number of

accumulated yellow cards. If the yellow cards are accumulated evenly across grades, the suspension will be served in the grade that the player gained their last accumulated yellow card.

- (4) If a player receives two (2) yellow cards during the same game, a red card will be issued.

Penalty: One match suspension - \$50.00 fine

- (5) If a player receives two (2) yellow cards during the same match and therefore receives a red card, the two (2) yellow cards are expunged from his or her record.
- (6) If a player receives one (1) yellow card and then one (1) red card in the same match, the yellow card will not be expunged and will be counted in the player's accumulation of yellow cards.
- (7) A player who receives a mandatory suspension in a Friendly, must serve that suspension in the next Friendly. A player who receives a match suspension in addition to a mandatory match suspension for an offence that occurs in a Friendly may be requested by the Disciplinary Committee to serve the suspension in the next official match(es) in which his or her club participates rather than the next Friendly.
- (8) A match suspension means a ban from taking part in a match or to attend in the area immediately surrounding the field of play. Each club shall keep a record of their players' yellow and red cards. All clubs are responsible for ensuring a suspended player is not played.
- (9) The accumulation of yellow cards will be reset at the end of the last match of the pre-season, the competition proper and any final series respectively. This means that yellow cards accumulated in the pre-season competition do not carry over to the competition proper and yellow cards accumulated in a competition do not carry over to any final series. Match suspensions incurred as a result of the accumulation of yellow cards will not however be cancelled. Any variation on the resetting of yellow cards may be outlined in the relevant Competition Operations Regulations accessed [here](#).
- (10) Each club shall keep a record of their players' yellow and red cards. All clubs are responsible for ensuring a suspended player is not played.
- (11) The Competition Administrator shall send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice to the club stipulating the name of player that has received the mandatory match suspension for minor infringement within two (2) business days, where possible, following the alleged incident.
- (12) If a Competition Administrator has determined in accordance with the National Disciplinary Regulations that an Offence by a Participant was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the mandatory match suspension, the Competition Administrator will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the club of the details of the Offence and of the disciplinary sanction imposed.
- (13) Where a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the suspension being served. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the fact that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture of the game.
- (14) Competition Operating Regulations may stipulate slight variations to the calculation of accumulated yellow cards consistent with the number of yellow card accumulations outlined above.

76. Expulsion of Team Official

- (1) A match official may take action against Team Officials as per the FFA regulations who fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner and may expel the Team Officials from the field of play and its immediate surroundings, including the technical areas.
- (2) If a team official is expelled, the team official must move directly away from the playing field and its surrounds including the technical area. If available, the official should go directly to the teams changing room or grandstand.
- (3) A Team official who has been expelled from the field of play by the match official must serve a minimum mandatory one (1) match suspension.

Penalty Fine \$50.00 per offence.

- (4) A coach is eligible to coach the day after the suspension has been served.

77. Mandatory Match Suspensions for Serious Infringements

- (1) A player that receives a direct red card must serve a suspension in accordance with the National Disciplinary Regulations (NDR). For avoidance of doubt any suspension incurred through a direct red card must be served in the next competitive game that the player participates in.
- (2) A player must serve an additional mandatory match suspension when they accumulate a number of red cards (serious infringements) being R1, R2, R3 and R6 during the course of the competition.

Fines shall apply to clubs for players that receive Red Cards Serious Infringements during the season.

Penalty Fine \$50.00 per offence.

1st occasion equates to a one (1) match suspension
2nd occasion equates to a two (2) match suspension
3rd occasion equates to a three (3) match suspension
4th occasion equates to a four (4) match suspension

- (3) A club may only appeal a red card that has been issued to a player where clearly there must have been a wrong decision (such as a right decision against the wrong player or mistaken identity) and it must not have been a discretionary decision by a referee as to whether an action was a foul or red card.
- (4) The Competition Administrator shall send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the relevant club of the player or team officials mandatory match suspension for major infringement within two (2) business days where possible following the alleged incident.
- (5) Where a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the suspension being served. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the fact that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture of the game.
- (6) A player is eligible to play the day after the suspension has been served.

78. Suspensions

Refer to FFA National Disciplinary Regulations [here](#).

79. Identity of Offender

If the Disciplinary Committee or the Disciplinary Appeals Committee is satisfied that a report or complaint does not correctly identify the offender, the Disciplinary Committee or the Disciplinary Appeals Committee may:

- (1) Direct that no penalty be imposed or no cautions be recorded against the person named in the report or complaint; and
- (2) If the identity of the offender is established, impose on the offender the penalty that would have been imposed if he had been correctly identified and reported.

80. Disciplinary Committee – [Refer to the FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations](#)

The Disciplinary Committee shall inquire into, hear and determine any report that is referred to it by FFSA

- (1) Any report, charge or matter referred to the Disciplinary Committee under or pursuant to the rules, Clauses or by-laws.
- (2) Any other report, charge or matter referred to the Disciplinary Committee by the FFSA.

81. Procedure at Hearings

(Refer to FFA Grievance Resolution Regulations and FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations)

- (1) If a player or official does not appear before the Disciplinary Committee at the time and place appointed for the hearing, the Disciplinary Committee may;
 - (a) determine the report, charge or matter in the absence of the person, or
 - (b) adjourn the hearing of the report, charge or matter, in which case, the player or official shall be suspended until he appears before the Disciplinary Committee and the report, charge or matter is heard and determined.
- (2) Subject to sub-Clause (3), the match official who reported a person:
 - (a) shall, if so required, attend and give evidence at the hearing of the report;
 - (b) may call witnesses to give evidence in respect of the report; and
 - (c) may question all witnesses who give evidence at the hearing.
- (3)
 - (a) At the hearing of a report, charge or matter, any player, member of a Club or a Club may be represented by a member of the executive committee of the Club and a Match official may be represented by a nominated person/s.
 - (b) The calling and questioning of witnesses shall be undertaken at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee and/or Appeal Committee.

82. Appeals from Disciplinary Committee ([Refer to FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations](#))

- (1) An appeal against any decision of the Disciplinary Committee or FFSA may be made in accordance with FFA Grievance Resolution Regulations and FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.
- (2) An appeal must be submitted in writing to the FFSA within seven (7) days of receiving the initial findings.
- (3) An appeal fee must be paid and must be provided at the time of submitting the appeal. Refer to the relevant Competition Operating Regulations for fee.
- (4) The Appeal Committee shall be established in accordance with the FFSA Disciplinary Procedure.

83. Reports of Contravention of Rules and Regulations

- (1) Match officials, registered Club officials and prescribed officials of the FFSA shall report in writing to the Competition Administrator any contravention of any rule or regulation which they observe or at which they are present within 48 hours of the end of the match to which the contravention relates.
- (2) Any Club or person affected by any contravention of any rule or regulation may report the contravention to the Competition Administrator within 48 hours of the end of the match to which the contravention relates.
- (3) If the Competition Administrator observes any contravention of any rule or regulation or is present when any such contravention occurs, they may prepare a report on the contravention and act on that report as if it was a report lodged under clause (1).
- (4) The FFSA may at any time in their discretion extend the time limits specified in clause (1) and (2).

84. Action on reports

On receipt of a report, FFSA Competition Department may request further information relating to the incident and on completion of the investigation take the following action:

- (1) Implement no further action;
- (2) Implement a sanction in accordance with the FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations;
- (3) Refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee; and
- (4) Refer the matter to any other committee or FFSA Board as required.

85. Scale of Penalties

Refer to relevant Competition Operating Regulations for scale of penalties.

86. Aiding, Abetting and Attempts

- (1) A person who aids, abets, counsels or procures, or by any act or omission is in any way directly or indirectly concerned in or a party to, any contravention of any rule or regulation shall be taken to have committed the contravention and shall be liable for the penalty for the contravention.
- (2) Any person who attempts to contravene any rule or regulation shall be punishable as if the attempted contravention had occurred.

87. Contravention by Clubs and their officers

- (1) If a Club or Association contravenes a rule or regulation each officer of the Club or Association shall be taken to have contravened the rule or regulation and shall be liable for the penalty for the contravention if they knowingly authorised or permitted the contravention.
- (2) If an officer or member of a Club or Association contravenes a rule or regulation the Club or Association shall be taken to have contravened the rule or regulation and shall be liable for the penalty for the contravention if it authorised or permitted the contravention.

88. Offences

- (1) No club, Affiliated Association, life member, officer, player, Referee or official of:
 - (a) FFSA;
 - (b) any club or Affiliated Association; or
 - (c) any member of any club or Affiliated Association, shall:
 - (i) fail, refuse or neglect to observe and comply with the rules, regulations and by-laws or any directions of FFSA;
 - (ii) use abusive, threatening or insulting language to, or interfere with, or assault any match official, officer, life member, player, official or employee of FFSA or of any club or Affiliated Association;
 - (iii) obtain or attempt to obtain admission to any football stadium or ground without producing a proper entrance pass or paying the proper admission charge;
 - (iv) engage in any conduct which is, or in the opinion of the FFSA is:
 - (A) in contravention of the FFSA Code of Conduct;
 - (B) prejudicial to the welfare, spirit, image or the interests of the game of football or the FFSA; or
 - (C) likely to bring the game or the FFSA into disrepute.
 - (v) make any public comment that is prejudicial to the welfare, spirit, image or the interests of the game of football or FFSA.
- (2) Any report or complaint under this Clause:

- (a) may be made by any member or person who or which is or may be affected by the contravention, dispute or question or by FFSA.
- (b) shall be heard and determined by the Disciplinary Committee.

89. Expulsion, Disqualification, and Suspension of Clubs and Affiliated Associations

- (1) FFSA will determine if a club or Affiliated Association should be expelled or disqualified or suspended from a competition or FFSA. The CEO shall report the matter to the FFSA Board and recommend that the Club or Affiliated Association be expelled, disqualified or suspended from the competition or FFSA (as the case may be).
- (2) Where any committee empowered to impose any penalty under the rules or the regulations is of the opinion that a Club or Affiliated Association should be expelled, disqualified any competition or suspended from a competition or FFSA:
 - (a) the committee shall report the matter to FFSA and recommend that the Club or Affiliated Association be expelled, disqualified or suspended from the competition or FFSA (as the case may be); and
 - (b) that the report and recommendation be submitted to the FFSA Board and that the FFSA Board have final discretionary power over the expulsion, disqualification or suspension of the club or Affiliated Association.
 - (c) if the FFSA Board resolves that the Club or Affiliated Association should not be expelled, disqualified or suspended the FFSA Board may:
 - (i) impose such other penalty on the Club or Affiliated Association as he/she deem fit; or
 - (ii) refer the matter back to the Committee for it to impose such other penalty on the Club as it deems fit.
- (3) Where any matter is reported to the FFSA Board under this rule, the FFSA Board may:
 - (a) expel, disqualify or suspend the Club or Affiliated Association in accordance with the recommendation;
 - (b) impose any other penalty on the Club or Affiliated Association; or
 - (c) resolve that the Club or Affiliated Association should not be expelled, disqualified or suspended and refer the matter back to the Competition Administrator or committee for it to impose such other penalty on the Club or Affiliated Association as they deem fit.

90. Penalties

- (1) Any Club or Affiliated Association which or any of whose officials, players or members contravenes any of the rules, regulations or related policy guidelines unless the particular rule, regulation or policy guidelines specifies a penalty, shall be liable to any one or more of the following:
 - (a) expulsion;
 - (b) disqualification from any competition;

- (c) suspension;
 - (d) a fine of an amount not exceeding the prescribed amount;
 - (e) a reprimand;
 - (f) the deduction of premiership points; and
 - (g) the refusal of registration or cancellation of its registration.
- (2) Any person who contravenes any of the rules, regulations or related policy unless the particular rule, regulation or related policy specifies a penalty, shall be liable to any one or more of the following:
- (a) expulsion, if he is a member;
 - (b) disqualification from any competition;
 - (c) suspension;
 - (d) a fine of an amount not exceeding the prescribed amount;
 - (e) a reprimand; and
 - (f) the refusal of registration or cancellation of his registration.
- (3) Any natural person, other than a player, who is suspended shall be refused admission to the grounds of the FFSA and of all Clubs and Affiliated Associations for the term of his suspension.

91. Bonds

- (1) A bond may be applied in addition to any sanction imposed or a bond may be applied, only where extenuating circumstances exist, in lieu of the sanction that was to be imposed in accordance with the rules and regulations or competition operation regulations of the competition.
- (2) The bond shall be for such period, in such form and contain such terms and conditions as may be decided by the committee that requires the bond.

92. Hearing and Grievance Resolution

Refer to Grievance Procedure By-Law, the Judicial Bodies By-Law, the National Arbitration Tribunal and FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.

93. Powers of Committee

Refer to the Grievance Procedure By-Law, the Judicial Bodies By-Law, the National Arbitration Tribunal and FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.

94. Constitution of Committees

Refer to Grievance Procedure By-Law, the Judicial Bodies By-Law, the National Arbitration Tribunal and FFSA Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations.

95. National and State Representative Teams

- (1) Clubs shall release players selected to play in representative teams of FFA and FFSA or the State Federation for the State for which the player is eligible to play.
- (2) The player shall be released for a period that includes travelling time and time for training as set down by the body which selects the player.

- (3) This Clause applies to all representative teams of FFA and FFSA.
- (4) If three (3) or more players from any Club team are selected to play in a representative team, any match arranged for the Club team during the period that the players are released under this Clause may be postponed until such time as FFSA may determine.
- (5) To request a postponement of a game under Clause 4, a club must submit the request in writing to the competition administrator at least 14 days prior to the game.
- (6) A Club which releases a player under this Clause shall not be entitled to any financial or other compensation for the release of the player.
- (7) The body which selects a player shall:
 - (a) notify FFSA, if it is a body outside of FFSA.
 - (b) notify the player and his or her Club in writing of the selection of the player not less than 14 days before the date of the match for which the player is selected.
 - (c) ensure that the player is covered by accident insurance during the entire period of his or her release including insurance against injury sustained in training or in the match or matches for which he or she is released.
- (8) Players selected to play in representative teams shall not fail or refuse to play in the match or matches for which they are selected.
- (9) A player who is unable to play because of injury or illness shall, if so required by the body which selected him or her, undergo a medical examination by a medical practitioner nominated by that body.
- (10)
 - (a) A player who is selected to play in a representative team shall not be eligible to play for his or her club during the period for which he or she is, or should be, released under this Clause and, if the player fails, refuses or is unable to play in the match for any reason whatsoever, during the five (5) days immediately after the end of that period.
 - (b) A Club which plays a player who is not eligible to play for it under this Clause shall be deemed to have played an unregistered player.
- (11) Any Club which does not comply with this Clause shall be sanctioned as determined by FFSA or appointed committee.

96. Enforcement of Rules

- (1) All Clubs and Affiliated Associations shall be bound by and shall observe these rules and regulations.
- (2) FFSA is responsible for the governance of FFSA competitions, the enforcement and determination of the rules is at the discretion of FFSA.
- (3) Each Club and Affiliated Association shall be responsible for the actions of its officials, players and members and shall enforce these rules on its officials, players and members.

97. Rules of FIFA and the FFA

- (1) Subject to these rules, all Clubs and Affiliated Associations shall comply with the statutes, regulations, memorandum, articles and rules of the Federation Internationale De Football Association (FIFA) and FFA.
- (2) All clubs, affiliated associations, players, and officials must comply with the FFA Codes of Conduct.

98. Extreme Weather Policy -Training/Competitions

Refer to the [FFSA Extreme Weather Policy](#).

RECOMMENDED SANCTIONS FOR SERIOUS INFRINGEMENTS

(In accordance with the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations & Table of Offences for Players)

Offence No.	Offence	Minimum Sanction
1 (R4 or R5 for Players)	Denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity	The Mandatory Match Suspension
2 (R6 for Players)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	The Mandatory Match Suspension
3 (R1 for Players)	Serious Foul Play (e.g. when challenging for the ball)	The Mandatory Match Suspension
4 (R2 for Players)	Assault on a Player (e.g. violent conduct when not challenging for the ball)	1 additional match plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
5 (R6 for Players)	Serious Unsporting Conduct	1 additional match plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
6 (R6 for Players)*	Use of discriminatory language and/or gestures, including racist, religious, ethnic or sexist	4 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
7 (R3 for Players)	Spitting at a player	5 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
8 (R2 or R6 for Players)	Inciting a brawl	5 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
Specific Offences Against a Match Official		
9 (R6 for Players)	Use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures against a match official	The Mandatory Match Suspension
10 (R6 for Players)	Unsporting conduct toward a match official	3 additional matches plus the Mandatory Match Suspension
11 (R2 for Players)	Assault of a match official	6 months including the Mandatory Match Suspension
12 (R3 for Players)	Spitting at a match official	12 months including the Mandatory Match Suspension

CLUB INCIDENT REPORT FORM

Club Information:

Name of Club:

Name of Club Official:

Position held:

Match Details:

Date of Match:

Location:

Competition:

Grade:

Home Team:

Away Team:

Referee:

Assistant Referees:

Description of Incident:

E.g. Limited first aid facilities, dressing rooms and toilets untidy, admission charges incorrect no canteen facilities, poor spectator behaviour or ground stewards not fulfilling their assigned duties.

Competition Administrator Use Only:

Date Received:

FFSA Action:

DC Hearing Yes/No

Hearing Date:

Competitions Administrator:

Signature:

GROUND STEWARD INCIDENT REPORT FORM**Name of Ground Steward:****Name of Club:****Date of Game:****Venue of Game:****Competition:**
_____**Details of the Incident**

Please outline the details of the incident. Please provide specific details relating to the incident that is being reported including the nature of the incident, who was involved in the incident, please provide names if known, any action that was taken prior to the incident or at the time of the incident and if any action was taken by the match officials or any other club officials. Please attach additional pages if required.

This report must be submitted within 48 hours of the incident occurring.***Signed:******Print Name:***
_____**Competition Administrator Use Only:**

Date Received:

FFSA Action:

DC Hearing Yes/No

Hearing Date:

Competitions Administrator:

Signature:

FFSA CLUB REFEREE FEES 2019-2020

Competition	Grade	CLUB FEE	
		Referee	Assistant
NPL Men	Senior	\$190.00	\$95.00
	Reserve	\$120.00	\$60.00
	Under 18	\$110.00	\$55.00
NPL Grand Final	Senior	\$300.00	\$150.00
	Reserve	\$150.00	\$75.00
	Under 18s	\$130.00	\$60.00
WNPL	Senior	\$110.00	\$55.00
	Reserves	\$80.00	\$40.00
WNPL Grand Final	Senior	\$200.00	\$100.00
	Reserve	\$100.00	\$50.00
State League 1 Men	Senior	\$150.00	\$75.00
	Reserve	\$110.00	\$55.00
	Under 18	\$95.00	\$47.50
State League 1 Grand Final	Senior	\$250.00	\$125.00
	Reserve	\$130.00	\$65.00
	Under 18s	\$110.00	\$55.00
State League 2 Men	Senior	\$140.00	\$70.00
	Reserve	\$100.00	\$50.00
	Under 18	\$85.00	\$42.50
State League 2 Grand Final	Senior	\$200.00	\$100.00
	Reserve	\$110.00	\$55.00
	Under 18s	\$100.00	\$50.00
FFA Cup/FFSA Cup Round 1	Senior	\$120.00	\$60.00
	Reserve	\$90.00	\$45.00
	Under 18	\$75.00	\$37.50
FFA Cup/FFSA Cup Round 2-4	Senior	\$150.00	\$75.00
	Reserve	\$100.00	\$50.00
	Under 18	\$85.00	\$42.50

Competition	Grade	Referee	Assistant
FFA Cup/FFSA Cup Final	Senior	\$250.00	\$125.00
	Reserve	\$150.00	\$75.00
	Under 18	\$120.00	\$60.00
Collegiate Soccer League (Men)	All Divisions	\$75.00	\$37.50
	Trial Matches	\$60.00	\$30.00
Masters League	All Divisions	\$75.00	\$37.50
Senior Women	All Divisions	\$75.00	\$37.50
Junior Boys (all Leagues)	Under 12	\$55.00	\$27.50
	Under 13	\$60.00	\$30.00
	Under 14	\$60.00	\$30.00
	Under 15	\$65.00	\$32.50
	Under 16	\$65.00	\$32.50
	Under 17	\$65.00	\$32.50
Junior Girls	Under 13	\$60.00	\$30.00
	Under 15	\$65.00	\$32.50
	Under 17	\$65.00	\$32.50
School Matches	SAPSASA Soccer	\$35.00	\$17.50
	Year 8/9	\$40.00	\$20.00
	Year 10	\$45.00	\$22.50
	Open Age	\$50.00	\$25.00
Special Matches	Senior Men Trials	\$100.00	\$50.00
	Reserve Men Trials	\$70.00	\$35.00
	Under 18 Men Trials	\$55.00	\$27.50
	Tournaments/Carnivals	TBA by FFSA	
	Special Events & Representative Matches	TBA by FFSA	

Regional Travel Allowances		
Location	Travel Allowance	Car Allowance
Broken Hill	\$100.00	
Mt Gambier	\$100.00	
Port Lincoln	\$100.00	
Roxby Downs	\$100.00	
Whyalla	\$100.00	\$253.00
Port Pirie	\$50.00	\$150.00
Riverland	\$50.00	\$170.00
Port Augusta	\$50.00	\$202.00

* Car Allowances where applicable will be paid to the driver using their private vehicle

NOTES

1. Fourth Official fees same as Assistant Referee
2. Games postponed on match day, Referees will receive payment in accordance with FFSA Rules and Regulations
3. FFSA will be responsible for the payment of all Referees appointed to FFSA Competitions
4. Car allowances will only be paid to the driver of the car.
5. Travel allowances will be paid by FFSA via EFT.
6. Allowances will be paid in addition to the corresponding Match Fee.