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# **RULES & REGULATIONS**

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of Country Football WA  
Incorporated

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**MARCH 2025**

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## **OBJECTIVES**

Country Football WA (CFWA) wish to ensure that teams fielded in competitions conducted by an affiliated League are as strong and well matched as possible.

The continuing support of such competitions and the opportunity for players to develop and employ their skills both depend upon a League continuing to conduct vigorous competitions between evenly matched and financially viable clubs.

In order to achieve these objectives, CFWA has adopted these Rules & Regulation to supplement the provisions of contract of service agreements between players and their clubs to provide a system that will:

- (a) ensure sufficient stability in the membership of Club teams to enable team spirit and public support to be maintained;
- (b) prevent stronger Clubs from obtaining an unfair proportion of the best players at the expense of the weaker Clubs;
- (c) provide opportunities for players to enter competitions conducted by the Leagues and for an orderly system for:
  - i) players to move between Clubs; and
  - ii) Clubs to move between Leagues;
- (d) provide Clubs with an incentive to expend time, effort and resources in the development of Australian Football;
- (e) provide Junior Leagues and Clubs with the opportunity to expand participation within all levels of underage football.

The CFWA Rules & Regulation have been prepared taking into consideration the rules and regulations set nationally by the AFL, WAFC and their other affiliated competitions and have been written in the best interests of Country Football.

These Rules & Regulation also establish relevant bodies and a mechanism by which reportable offences and alleged conduct of persons can be referred to, heard and determined by the relevant body.

## 1. LEAGUE AFFILIATION RULES

- 1.1** Prior to the commencement of an affiliated League season, each League must provide CFWA with the following documentation:
  - a)** A signed copy of the CFWA Affiliation & Funding Agreement.
  - b)** A copy of the League Constitution and details of any amendments thereto within 14 days of approval by the Department of Mines, Industrial Regulation and Safety.
  - c)** A copy of the League Rules & Regulations. Any amendments to CFWA Rules & Regulations needs to have been submitted approved by CFWA.
  - d)** A copy of the League's Financial Report that has been submitted and accepted at the Annual General Meeting of the League.
- 1.2** Leagues are required to ensure that they and their clubs abide by CFWA's Brand Guidelines document regarding the use of CFWA logos in general and on footballs and League and Club apparel.
- 1.3** Leagues are required to participate in the AFL's combined insurance program with Marsh Insurance.
- 1.4** Leagues or Clubs which are responsible for the booking of grounds should refer to the 'Spectator Management Policy' to manage individuals that detract from positive game day environments.
- 1.5** Leagues and Clubs are to introduce appropriate Risk Management procedures.
- 1.6** All Clubs are to use the Marsh Insurance Match Day Check List or App\* prior to each match day. Each League shall be responsible for ensuring that each Club completes the Check List as outlined and that the Check Lists are kept in a safe and secure place for a period of seven (7) years from the date of the Check List.
- 1.7** Enter a Memorandum of Understanding to utilise the WAFC Community Football Tribunal.
- 1.8** Leagues are to appoint an Umpire Development Coach/Coordinator whose role is to recruit, assist with online registration, accreditation, train, make umpire appointments and represent umpires within the League. The information of this appointment needs to be provided to the Regional Football Specialist before the commencement of the season.
- 1.9** Unless a specific rule is contradicted in the following Rules & Regulations, Leagues must comply with the AFL's Laws of Australian Football and National Community Guidelines
- 1.10** Leagues which have underage competitions (under 18s and below) must comply with the WAFC's Junior Rules & Regulations.
- 1.11** Leagues must apply CFWA's "Match Day Process Paperwork" documents to the management of all sanctioned matches.
- 1.12** Leagues and Clubs must adhere to Play HQ player registration and competition management principles and policies at all times.
- 1.13** Leagues and Clubs must ensure they adhere to CFWA's Duty of Care Policy.
- 1.14** Leagues, Clubs and Players are subject to Fines and Penalties (financial or otherwise) for breaches to CFWA Rules & Regulations, Rules of Australia Football (AFL Laws of the Game) or CFWA approved League Rules & Regulations from the relevant controlling body.

- 1.15** Leagues, Clubs and Players are bound by CFWA's Paid Player Rules & Regulations (Rules & Regulations Rules 4) including the enforcement of fines and sanctions on Clubs and their members.
- 1.16** Leagues may apply to have Rules & Regulations which vary from those included within the CFWA Rules & Regulations as long as they are Rules & Regulations which are restricted to, and limited to, their own domestic competition for the convenience of that competition, do not have any negative impact (perceived or otherwise) on rival competitions and have been applied for and approved by CFWA.
- 1.17** CFWA, at its discretion, will enforce player, coach and official suspensions handed down by other competitions for the breaching of their competition Rules & Regulations.
- 1.18** Country Football WA will act in the best interests of all Affiliate Leagues & Associations without undue formality and without being bound by associated Affiliate League or Association governing rules, if they consider it is not in the best interests of the competition concerned.

Any matter of any kind whatsoever not dealt with or provided for in this document (CFWA) may be dealt with in such manner as CFWA determines.

## **2. PLAYER REGISTRATIONS AND TRANSFERS**

- 2.1** A person wishing to play for a CFWA Club must self-register, including the approval of the terms and conditions, with their Club using the Play HQ Registration System or qualify under a suitable CFWA permit (see Rules & Regulations 3 Permits).
- 2.2** Any official form, manual or online, (e.g. permit, registration or transfer form) signed by a player under the age of eighteen (18) years will not be considered valid unless it is counter-signed by their parent or legal guardian.
- 2.3** Any player who desires to transfer to another Club shall be required to obtain a transfer using the Play HQ Registration System.
- 2.4** The minimum age for any player in a senior grade (League, Reserves, Women's) with a club in an affiliated League is 15 years of age in the year of playing. Any player 15 years of age or younger playing in a Senior CFWA match must first have completed the requirements as per CFWA's Underage Playing Up Policy.
  - 2.4.1** Should there be no suitable junior competition to accommodate the player; the minimum age may be reduced upon application to Country Football WA.
  - 2.4.2** Leagues are to encourage any player 15 years of age or younger to wear distinguishing shorts to identify them as an underage player.
- 2.5** A player who wishes to apply for a transfer shall lodge an application on the Play HQ Registration System between 12:01am (AEST) on 1 November to 11:59 (AEST) on 30 November and 12:01am (AEST) on 1 February to 11:59pm (AEST) on 30 June in each calendar year.
  - 2.5.1** At any stage, additional transfer periods may be opened by the National Body and will be limited to the specific times and dates as communicated to clubs.

- 2.6** A player who gives false information on an Application for Transfer or on a Registration Form shall be liable to fines and/or suspension as determined by the controlling body to whom such application was made and any application granted as a result of such false information shall be deemed void.
- 2.7** If an application for a transfer is not actioned within six (6) calendar days of having been lodged with the transferring League, then the transfer shall be automatically approved on the Play HQ Registration System.
- 2.8** A player's former club can refuse the transfer within the six (6) calendar days by notifying their affiliated League of the refusal via using the Play HQ Registration System. A refusal can only occur where the Club can substantiate that the player:
- a)** is a Declared Player whose current player arrangement requires the player to continue to play for the Club; and/or
  - b)** is indebted to the Club; and/or
  - c)** is in possession of Club property (e.g. jumper) that needs to be returned;
  - d)** wishes to withdraw their application.
  - e)** Any combination of the circumstances in a) – d).
- A Club refusing to Transfer a player must provide evidence (written documentation acknowledged by both parties) in order to substantiate the refusal upon request by its affiliate Football Body within four (4) Calendar Days of the request. Failure to provide such evidence may result in the Football Body approving the Transfer upon resubmission of the Transfer Request by the player or, where the player is a Junior Player, that player's parent or guardian.
- 2.9** Any player not having played during the previous 24 calendar months is entitled to a "free" transfer. If the player does have an existing registration with a current club, and desires to register with a new club after 30 June, their intending Club will require the assistance of CFWA to process their application.
- 2.10** The Registrar of a League shall not refuse to endorse an application for transfer that has been approved by its Clubs except if the player making the application is financially encumbered to that League or is under 18 years of age and does not have the supporting signature of their parent/guardian.
- 2.11** A player whose Application for Transfer is refused by a Club is able to lodge a second or subsequent application immediately after the transferee registrar has been advised that the previous application has been refused.
- 2.12** If an Application for Transfer is refused, and the player considers that the reason for refusal is not genuine, the player may appeal to Country Football WA in accordance with the Rules of Appeals – Transfers (Rules & Regulations 11.3) Where it is a local matter between Clubs within an individual League, such appeals shall be heard initially by that League's Appeals Board.
- 2.13** A player under suspension by a League can transfer to a club in another League but cannot transfer from that new club until 28 days after the suspension has been completed.
- 2.13.1** In the case of a player or official who has been suspended from playing or participating in a competition conducted primarily between 31 March and 30 September, the player/official may, upon obtaining the prior written approval of the controlling body which imposed the suspension, play or participate in a competition conducted primarily between 1 October and 31 March.

- 2.13.2** In the case of a player or official who has been suspended from playing or participating in a competition conducted primarily between 1 October and 31 March, the player/official may, upon obtaining the prior written approval of the controlling body which imposed the suspension, play or participate in a competition conducted primarily between 31 March and 1 October.
- 2.14** A State Football Body may permit an intrastate Transfer Request, or the relevant State Football Bodies may jointly permit an interstate Transfer Request, outside of the Transfer Periods where:
- (A) exceptional and compelling circumstances apply to the Transfer Request; or
  - (B) the '24-month rule' set out in Section 3.4(c) applies to the Transfer Request.
- 2.15** In exceptional circumstances CFWA may approve an intrastate Transfer after June 30.
- 2.16** A Club is required to submit a team sheet in Play HQ for each game in which the Club partakes. Each player partaking in the match must be included along with a coach(s). Captain(s) must also be identified on the team sheet as they are the only person sanctioned to officially approach an umpire throughout the match.
- 2.16.1** Any player included on the team sheet must be present and in a playing uniform. If it is found they are not present or not in a playing uniform, then the player will be deemed as an ineligible player and the Club subject to a fine or sanction at the League's discretion.
- 2.16.2** Any players arriving late cannot take the field until they are presented to the umpires at quarter time or half time. The player must be added to the team sheet before they can take the field. Any player arriving after the third quarter has commenced, is unable to play in the remainder of the match and should not be registered on the Team Sheet as having played in that match.
- 2.17** When a team plays a player who is ineligible to play, the team shall be liable to lose premiership points gained and to further penalties as the League shall determine. The game will be deemed as a forfeit.
- 2.17.1** The application of Rules & Regulations 2.17 is to occur via a ladder adjustment in the Play HQ competition management system.
- 2.17.2** Both teams' best players and goal kickers for all eligible players are to be included in match results, excluding any ineligible players.
- 2.18** The window for the reporting and penalising for the playing of ineligible players;
- 2.18.1** Regular Season: Throughout the regular season, the window for reporting an ineligible player closes at the commencement of the final round of scheduled fixtures for the season.
- 2.18.2** Finals: Throughout the finals, the window for reporting the playing of ineligible players closes at 5:00pm Monday prior to the upcoming fixture.
- 2.18.3** Grand Final: Following a Grand Final, the window for reporting an ineligible player closes Monday 5:00pm following the Grand Final.
- 2.18.4** Issues referred to the Leagues after these windows would be subject to fines, however the match result shall stand.



- 2.19** Clubs which make team sheet errors, including the incorrect recording or non-recording of eligible players, will be liable to sanctions as determined by their League.
- 2.20** A player's Club of Origin is defined as the Club which is recognised to be their 'primary development' Club. Consideration of Club of Origin would be determined by the player's parents' residence, where he/she played junior football (and subsequent time spent there) and the Club that last cleared the player to the WAFL or another competition. Any transfers under the term 'Club of Origin' shall be subject to the approval of that League. If a player disputes the league's ruling they can appeal to CFWA who will make a final decision regarding the player's Club of Origin claims.
- 2.21** A player who participates in a League is unable to participate in a CFWA affiliated or non-affiliated League on the same weekend. For CFWA purposes (and if the CFWA Club they play for is the second game of the weekend), this player would be deemed to be ineligible.
- The only exceptions may be;
- 2.21.1** A player partakes in a senior and junior competition.
- 2.21.2** A player plays for a CFWA Club and a Masters WA Club in the same weekend.
- 2.21.3** A player plays for a CFWA Club and a WA State Country team in the same weekend.
- 2.22** No CFWA Club shall offer, pay, demand or receive a transfer fee for a player transferring between two CFWA Clubs. In the event of a CFWA Club being found in breach of this rule, the matter shall be referred to the CFWA for adjudication and, if necessary, penalty.
- 2.22.1** Should a Country Club wish to transfer a player currently under declaration either from the WAFL or another Community Club, they may be required to negotiate a declaration exiting fee for that player to be released.
- 2.23** For a CFWA player to qualify for finals, they must have played a minimum of 20% of the home and away games within that specific grade of competition prior to the finals commencing.
- 2.23.1** In the case of a player playing multiple matches for the same Club on the same weekend, only the highest-ranking fixture will count towards finals qualification.
- 2.23.2** In the case of a player who misses a Club fixture due to participation in a State Country or other WAFC endorsed state fixture, that fixture counts towards finals eligibility.
- 2.23.3** In the event that multiple grades for the same Club are playing in finals matches on the same day/weekend, a player is able to play in a lower grade despite not playing a minimum of 20% of matches in that grade provided the player is qualified in higher grade (i.e. a league qualified player misses selection in the league side, he can play in the reserves final if it is played on the same day/weekend).
- 2.23.4** Any player qualified for finals in a lower grade is able to play finals in a higher grade providing they meet other competition criteria (i.e gender, age requirements).
- 2.24** A player registered with a junior country league is able to qualify for a Season Permit to play in a senior CFWA League, provided the player is playing for a senior league within the same district as their junior one, and subject to player welfare and Rules & Regulations 2.2 and 2.20. The League that has the player's primary registration will be given precedence in the event of any disputes.



- 2.25** A pregnant player is provided with the same personal accident insurance coverage that is provided for all registered members of CFWA. However, the player is not covered if the resultant injury is found to be due to the pregnancy. No coverage is provided for the unborn baby.
- 2.26** Participation in a CFWA League for a pregnant player should only be allowed under the following conditions:
- 2.26.1** The player has obtained professional medical advice prior to playing which has been presented to the League.
  - 2.26.2** The player automatically assumes any risks of injury to herself or her unborn baby in the event of a pregnancy related complication as a result of her participation in the League.

### **3. PERMITS**

Game Permits should only be used for country students residing away from their home wishing to return to their local Club (Rules & Regulations 3.1).

Season Permits should be used for players in a country region through FIFO based employment (Rules & Regulations 3.4), players transitioning between Country football and the WAFL system (Rules & Regulations 3.2), junior players that have a junior metro and country club (Rules & Regulations 3.1.2), and junior aged players wishing to participate in a senior competition within their district (Rules & Regulations 2.25).

Players who are entered into the Play HQ Player Registration System under a permit and have not adequately qualified for that permit should be deemed ineligible and the offending Club penalised under Rules & Regulations 2.17

Season Permits can be applied for at any time during the season, providing the player is eligible to play on a Season Permit.

#### **3.1 Students Living Away**

- 3.1.1** Students living away from home attending a High School, TAFE, Agriculture College or University must be transferred before being eligible to play with a Club at their temporary location.
- 3.1.2** Students living away from home attending a boarding school or agriculture college and who play in another Country or Metropolitan competition may return to play with their Country Club of Origin (2.20) at any time during the season using either a Game or Season Permit dated to current season's end, subject to Rules & Regulations 2.21
- 3.1.3** University, TAFE or Agricultural College students who have been transferred to play with a Club at their temporary location during the past 24 months may be granted a Game Permit to return to play with their Country Club of Origin (2.20) during recognised semester or term breaks, subject to Rules & Regulations 2.21.
- 3.1.4** A Game Permit or Season Permit game counts as a regular qualifying game for finals purposes, so players are permitted to play in final round games in both Leagues provided they meet the qualifying criteria and subject to Rules & Regulations 2.21.

### **3.2 WAFL Permitting**

- 3.2.1** The WAFL and CFWA allow Season Permits between the WAFL and country clubs. Players are able to play with a country club on an unlimited basis provided they only play in either the WAFL or for their country club on a weekend.
- 3.2.2** WAFL Players can play on multiple season permits with multiple Country Clubs prior to June 30 but will be prohibited from applying for any additional permits post June 30 (i.e. the CFWA Club that they are permitted to as of July 1st will remain until seasons end).
- 3.2.3** The only exemption to 3.2.2 is if a WAFL registered player has not yet applied for a season permit to a country club prior to June 30. In this instance the player will be eligible to apply for a season permit to a solitary country club post June 30.
- 3.2.4** For players wishing to play for a country club whilst currently permitted to both the WAFL and another Community/Country Club in the current season, the WAFL Club must cancel their existing Season Permit and the Country Club must apply to the WAFL Club and have their Season Permit approved prior to them playing.

### **3.3 Reports while on Permit**

Should a player be reported and suspended in either of their registered competitions, the player will not be eligible to play in either competition until such time as the full period of their suspension (i.e. 4 games) has expired in the league that they were originally suspended from. The League is required to correctly enter the details of the report, and any subsequent suspension, into Play HQ.

### **3.4 Fly In/Fly Out (Drive in Drive out) Employment.**

Employees who consistently relocate to country locations on a “Fly in-Fly out” or “Drive in Drive Out” employment basis will be permitted to play with a Club in the district of their temporary residence without the need to obtain a transfer from their original Club. Work should be under FIFO type arrangements under the following Rules & Regulations:

- 3.4.1** On the request of the League, a player must supply a certificate from their employer certifying that they are employed on a “Fly in-Fly out” arrangement and a copy of their work schedule.
- 3.4.2** These players will be permitted to play with their secondary Club using the Season Permit in the Play HQ Registration System. This permit will be valid for a season or a part thereof and will expire at the end of the season.
- 3.4.3** These players will be eligible to play in finals in both competitions providing they satisfy the qualifying number of games in each. A player may play in only one affiliated League on any one weekend.
- 3.4.4** Players are only permitted to play with their secondary Club on those weekends they are in their temporary location on their employer designated “Fly in-Fly out” employment schedule.
- 3.4.5** Should the employment of the “Fly in-Fly out” arrangement cease, the Season Permit will also cease and the player, if remaining at their temporary location, must seek a transfer from their original Club before being permitted to continue playing with their secondary Club. Such application can be made at any time during the season.

- 3.4.6** Should a player be employed on a “Fly in-Fly out” basis but desire to transfer to another Club/League, the player must seek the permission of their secondary club to have their Season Permit cancelled before being permitted to play with any new Club.

### **3.5 Masters Football**

- 3.5.1** Players who intend to play for a Masters WA Club are able to do so on a Season Permit dated to season’s end.

## **4. PAID PLAYERS & COACHES**

A Paid Player Payment is categorised as:

- Football Match Payments,
- Approved Relocation Payments,
- After Match Best Player Awards,
- Fairest and Best Awards;
- Approved Travel Payments.

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

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

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

- 4.1** No CFWA Team is to pay out a combined total of greater than \$3,500 in total player payments in any given match unless Rules & Regulations 4.4(b), 4.4(c) and 4.4(d) can be applied, in which case the amount may increase by that applied amount.
- 4.2** No CFWA Club is to pay a player a ‘Sign on Fee’ or provide any subsidiary benefits (outside of employment, relocation costs and match fees) to any player. Any relocation costs must be provided to the CFWA for tracking and approval. Insurance provided to players specifically adding protection around the playing of football is deemed to be outside of the CFWA Paid Player Rules & Regulations and is allowed.
- 4.3.1** Clubs can make reimbursement to a player to for any medical gap expenses associated with an injury sustained whilst playing football. Clubs are required to keep copies of the invoices (such as Medicare statements) that clearly identify the insurance gap for which reimbursement payments are being made.
- 4.3** The maximum match payment a player can receive is \$550 per match.
- 4.2.1** Any player receiving the maximum amount of \$550 per match must have a contract submitted to CFWA for recording prior to playing a game.
- 4.4** The only possible exceptions to Rules & Regulations 4.3 are as follows:

- a) Each CFWA Club is allowed to pay one 'Marquee Player' up to \$1,000 per match provided the player meets the listed criteria (see Rules & Regulations 4.8). All Marquee payments must be included within the clubs weekly cap of \$3,500.
- b) Each CFWA Club is allowed to pay a 'one off' undisclosed match payment to a celebrity footballer who transfers in for one match to promote football. This payment will sit outside of the salary cap. This payment must be approved by the League prior to him playing. Each club is only permitted to do this on one occasion in a season.
- c) A player can qualify to receive a travel fee for matches in which the player travels greater than 200km (return) from their suburb of residence to attend. Players, upon request, must be able to demonstrate that they are residing at the address provided. This payment must be approved by the CFWA via a Travel Payment Application Form prior to any payment being made. Payments must be recorded on the CFWA's Paid Player Spreadsheet.
- d) Flights to and from matches are exempt from Paid Player Rules & Regulations.

The following payment schedule is applicable.

Distance (km's return)	\$ Amount Applicable
200km - 299km	\$50
300km - 399km	\$100
400km - 499km	\$150
500km +	\$200

- 4.5** Any CFWA Club paying individuals match payments relating to Country Football must ensure payments are legally compliant and all player payments must be recorded on the CFWA's Paid Player Spreadsheet for auditing purposes. For all CFWA Clubs paying players the following paperwork must be supplied by the club directly to the CFWA where appropriate:
- 4.5.1** All Club Presidents must submit to CFWA (prior to the start of the season) a signed Club Paid Player Declaration as per the CFWA's Club Paid Player Declaration paperwork.
  - 4.5.2** All proposed Marquee Player payments must be submitted to the CFWA for approval using the CFWA Marquee Player Approval form.
  - 4.5.3** All Clubs making player payments must submit a completed CFWA Paid Player Spreadsheet to the CFWA no later than the Tuesday following the match 12:00pm. Sanctions will be applied to clubs who do not meet the timelines.
  - 4.5.4** All proposed Travel payments must be submitted to the CFWA for approval using the CFWA Travel Payment Approval form.
  - 4.5.5** All Paperwork needs to be submitted electronically on the CFWA approved forms. No handwritten forms will be accepted.
- 4.6** No CFWA Club is to pay out greater than \$500 in total player awards (or goods to the value of) for any given match. A player is unable to receive greater than \$100 in prize money (or goods or services to the value of) per match. All prizes must be recorded and able to be presented to CFWA upon request.

- 4.7** A maximum amount of \$1,000 can be paid out to a Club Best and Fairest winner, with a maximum of \$500 for a Runner Up and a maximum of three more descending (<\$500) amounts allowed. No other ex gratia payments should be provided to players during or at the completion of the football season. Any end of season award payments must be recorded and able to be presented to CFWA upon request.
- 4.8** For Marquee Players receiving greater than \$550 in payments per match, the Club must ensure the following conditions are met:
- a)** The Marquee Player must have a signed Standard Playing Declaration lodged with the CFWA prior to three business days before the player participates in a sanctioned match.
  - b)** Payment to a Marquee Player does not alter Rules & Regulations 4.1.
- 4.9** For a player to qualify as a Marquee Player he must fill a minimum of one of the following criteria:
- a)** Been on an AFL Club list (including Rookie List).
  - b)** Played a minimum of 50 State League (League grade) games.
  - c)** Have written approval from the CFWA based on elite performances in Country League and Representative achievements. This will be at the CFWA's discretion.
- 4.10** CFWA reserves the right to investigate any Ex-Gratia Payments (or services provided) made to a player, or his family, which it deems (or suspects) to have been made with the intention of circumventing the requirements of the Paid Player Rules & Regulations and in exchange for the payment of playing in football matches for the Club. This includes payments made either by the Club or by a third party.
- 4.11** CFWA reserves the right to investigate any Club based Employment Payments made to a player, or his family, which it deems (or suspects) to be in exchange for the payment of playing in football matches for the Club rather than in exchange for the services rendered.
- 4.12** The CFWA Paid Player Rules & Regulations are all encompassing across all Affiliated Country Leagues. The individualisation of these Rules & Regulations to suit a specific League will only be valid should the League have first obtained the CFWA's approval.
- 4.13** A Club team is able to pay a maximum of \$20,000 to coaches, playing or non-playing, to coach their league team.
- a)** A playing head coach cannot receive a weekly match payment
  - b)** A playing assistant coach (league team) is limited to \$3,000 and can receive match payments. This is limited to 2 assistant coaches.
  - c)** Players can receive a one-off payment to coach another team in the club to maximum amount of \$5,000 and can receive match payments.
  - d)** Players can receive a one-off payment to assistant coach another team in the club to maximum amount of \$1,500 and can receive match payments. This is limited to 2 assistant coaches per team.
  - e)** All League head coaches (playing or non-playing) must have a contract submitted to CFWA.
  - f)** All other playing coaches or playing assistant coaches for any grades must have a contract submitted to CFWA.
  - g)** All coaches, including assistants, must have completed their coach.afl requirements & be actively coaching.

## INVESTIGATIONS

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

- 4.14** CFWA reserves the right to investigate Club financial activity including the auditing of Club accounts, paid player paperwork and interviewing of Club officials and players regarding player remuneration. There is also an expectation that Leagues will provide paid player paperwork (such as approvals granted) should this be requested as part of any investigation. Any such penalties handed down by the CFWA will be binding across affiliated Leagues and Clubs. Players or officials unable to participate in audit interviews will be stood down from participating in matches until such time as they are made available.
- 4.15** Each CFWA Club that pays players must be able to provide to the CFWA within 24 hours of being requested:
- a) An up-to-date CFWA's Paid Player database.
  - b) Standard Playing Declaration for Marquee Players paid greater than \$500 per match.
  - c) Coach contracts and payment information.
  - d) Club financial statements including bank statements.
  - e) Written approval granted by the League for any claims under these Rules & Regulations for Marquee Players, Celebrity Players, Second Tier Coaching Payments
- 4.16** Information provided to the Investigator at the conclusion of a season may lead to penalty for future seasons.
- 4.17** The CFWA Investigator may summon any CFWA affiliated Player, League or Club Official as witness to player payment investigations. Following the investigation process, individuals may be requested to complete a Statutory Declaration confirming the findings (at the CFWA's discretion).
- 4.18** Individuals found to have not cooperated or acted dishonestly or deceitfully with the CFWA Investigators are liable to be banned from playing or participating in a CFWA competition for such time as the CFWA sees fit, whilst Clubs are liable to financial sanctions and loss of match points either in the current or future seasons.
- 4.19** For the sake of the policing of these Rules & Regulations, the assumption made from the CFWA Investigator is that they are '*reasonably satisfied*' on the basis of the information (and evidence) presented that a breach has or has not been made.

## INVESTIGATIONS/INTEGRITY OFFICER

- 4.20** The CFWA appointed staff member, or WAFC Integrity Unit, may at any time investigate (formally or informally) any matter that may undermine the integrity of any CFWA competition including but not limited to alleged breaches of the CFWA Paid Player Rules & Regulations, Vilification and Player, Coach and Spectator Behaviour.
- 4.20.1** The CFWA appointed staff member shall have the authority to;
- a) Conduct investigations as he/she sees fit.
  - b) Hear and determine matter of alleged breaches of the paid player Rules & Regulations.
  - c) Hear all witnesses to the matter as he/she in their absolute discretion deems to be relevant and give such weight to the evidence he/she hears as he/she determines in their absolute discretion.
  - d) Reopen any matter previously dealt with and determine accordingly.



- e) Issue a caution or impose penalties and or fines as he/she sees fit.
- f) Refer any matter to a tribunal or disciplinary committee.
- g) Compel any player or club official for interview.

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

## INVESTIGATIONS PROCESS

- 4.21 A Club that receives official notification, via email and telephone, that it is requested to partake in an investigation will be provided with detail of the requested documentation and appropriate timelines in which documentation should be delivered and the investigation will take place.
- 4.22 Upon review of the requested Club documentation, CFWA may request the Club to arrange a series of interviews with requested players and officials within a period of the following seven (7) days.
- 4.23 It is required that requested players and officials will make themselves available to attend such sessions within the seven (7) day period unless extenuating circumstances can be proven. CFWA reserves the right to suspend (indefinitely) any Player or Official unable to attend a Paid Player hearing within a reasonable timeframe. There is a requirement that Players and/or Officials will cooperate with the processes of the Investigation, including the answering of questions directed to them concerning alleged payments or actions.
- 4.24 If the CFWA Investigator believes there are sufficient grounds to suspect a breach of Paid Player Rules & Regulations (following an investigation held in accordance with these rules), the CFWA Investigator shall make recommendations to the Executive Manager Country Football based on their findings.

## PENALTIES

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

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

### \*Penalties Post Finals

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

## APPEALS

- 4.26 Any Club aggrieved by a finding or penalty imposed under the Investigatory Process may appeal against such finding and/or penalty directly to the CFWA Executive Manager in accordance with CFWA Rules & Regulations Rules, 11.1. **The appealing club has the sole responsibility to provide evidence that disproves the original findings.**



## 5. UMPIRES

- 5.1 A person wishing to umpire in a CFWA League must register using the Officials HQ Registration System.
- 5.2 The only persons able to approach an umpire throughout a match are the nominated team captains for that match. Any other player or club official that approaches the umpires either; throughout the match; at breaks; or after the match in a threatening or demonstrative manner, will be subject to sanctions such as fines or suspensions from the League.
- 5.3 Each Club shall appoint a responsible senior person to act as Umpire Welfare Officer, and his/her responsibilities shall be:
  - a) meet and assist the umpire upon arrival.
  - b) join umpires at quarter time (1/4) and three quarter (3/4) time intervals, together with the boundary and goal umpires to escort them from the ground at half time and after the match.

This regulation shall apply to officials from the home/host Club/League at all matches, irrespective of where the match is played.

## 6. REPORTABLE OFFENCES

- 6.1 CFWA Leagues are required to utilise the WAFC Grading Matrix.
- 6.2 Leagues must apply the timeline of accepting Early Guilty Plea & Tribunal deadlines in accordance with the those set out by the WAFC Community Football Tribunal processes
- 6.3 A league must ratify any set penalty offered, ensuring it is in line with the WAFC Grading Matrix, and ensure that players and clubs are provided with all information and options available to them.
  - 6.3.1 If the initial grading of an incident is not aligned with the WAFC Grading matrix, a league may amend the grading of the incident as required.

## 7. ORDER OFF RULE

- 7.1 Leagues should refer to the AFL Laws of the Game and the order of rule to have a full understanding of the rules on the order off process.
- 7.2 A player or official such as a runner, watercarrier or trainer ordered from the playing arena for a yellow card infringement shall leave the ground for a period of 15 minutes of actual playing time and can be replaced immediately, as long as they are already named on the team sheet. In situations where an official such as a Club member on the bench, i.e., coach, assistant coach, team manager; or a Club appointed boundary or goal umpire, is issued with a yellow card, that card is to be accepted as a “warning” and the official can continue with their duties. However, any further issue of a yellow card on that day is to be regarded as a red card, and that official is to leave the playing arena and not permitted to return.

- 7.3** A player or official ordered from the playing arena for a red card infringement shall leave the ground for the remainder of the game and will be reported. The player cannot be replaced for a period of 15 minutes actual playing time. The player or official is not permitted to enter the playing arena at any time during the playing of the current game or any subsequent game on that day as either a player or official. Officials cannot be replaced.
- 7.4** A player or official who receives two yellow cards on the one day, whether in the same game or in two separate games, shall be given a consequential red card infringement. Should they not have committed a reportable offence they shall be suspended for a minimum of one match. Upon receiving the second yellow they should not be allowed to return to the playing field but can be replaced immediately.
- 7.5** A player or official who is issued with three Yellow Card offences over the duration of a season, then the third and every yellow card received thereafter shall be upgraded to a Red Card at the conclusion of the match, resulting in an automatic one-week suspension.

## 8. MELEES

- 8.1** A Melee/Wrestle is defined as an incident involving Persons who are grappling or otherwise struggling with one another, and which is likely to bring the game of Australian Football into disrepute or prejudice the interests or reputation of the Controlling Body. In determining if a Person's conduct constitutes Engaging in a Melee/Wrestle, the following factors will be considered:
- A) the duration the Person is involved in the Melee/Wrestle;
  - B) the vigour applied by the Person;
  - C) whether the Melee/Wrestle occurs at a break in play, particularly at quarter breaks and half time;
  - D) whether the Person contributed to an escalation of the Melee/Wrestle; and
  - E) the role of the Person (for example, Player or Football Official).
- 8.2** Instigator of a Melee/Wrestle  
Where a Person's conduct results in retaliatory action which leads to a Melee/Wrestle, that Person's conduct may constitute a Reportable Offence of Instigator of a Melee/Wrestle. The Reportable Offence of Instigator of Melee/Wrestle is separate to the Reportable Offence of Engaging in a Melee/Wrestle and a Person may be found guilty of both Reportable Offences.
- 8.3** Should it be deemed that a club(s) has been involved in a melee incident they will be;
- a) subject to fines and penalties in line with the CFWA Fines and Penalties table.
  - b) following a second occurrence in one season, a Club will be issued with a \$1,000 fine and a further suspended penalty of the same amount will be imposed and remain in place for the duration of the season, to be invoked should any team within the Club be found guilty of engaging in a melee during that time.
  - c) any Club found to be involved in three or more melees in any one season will be deemed to be bringing the game into disrepute and subject to fines and possible suspensions from the League accordingly to the Bringing the Game into Disrepute Rules & Regulations 20.3.
  - d) subject to fines and possible suspensions from the League according to the Bringing the Game into Disrepute Rules & Regulations 21.3 should the melee be deemed to be of a serious enough nature.
- 8.4** Any Officials of a Club involved in a melee, including any Director, committee member, employee, coach, team support person or any person acting as or holding themselves as an agent of a Club, will be investigated by the league through Rules & Regulation 10.

## 9. TRIBUNALS

- 9.1** Leagues must apply the *WA Community Football Tribunal Guidelines* to ensure consistency in processes and the imposition of penalties for all on field indiscretions.
- 9.1.1** All other League incidents and/or indiscretions shall be dealt with by the League.
- 9.2** Following a reportable on field incident, match day umpires must complete and submit the appropriate report form.
- 9.3** A Set Penalty (and potentially early guilty plea incentive) may only be offered to reportable incidences that qualify in accordance with the WAFC Grading matrix. More serious incidences will be referred to the WA Community Football Tribunal.
- 9.4** A player who is suspended by the tribunal, or offered a Set Penalty, will be suspended from playing in all grades and competitions for the duration of the suspension. The duration of the penalty is determined by the fixturing of the grade in which the player was reported.
- 9.5** A player shall be ineligible to win the League Fairest & Best award if they receive a penalty that results in the player missing a game of football during the Home & Away season due to being suspended for a reportable offence or a breach of Code of Conduct
- 9.6** Should a player under suspension transfer to another league they will be required to serve the remainder of their suspension in line with that league's fixtures and will be subject to Rules & Regulations 2.13.

## 10. LEAGUE INVESTIGATION

- 10.1** The CFWA or League may, in its absolute discretion, investigate any matter it deems necessary to ensure compliance with its rules, regulations, policies and ethical standards.
- 10.2** Any League, Club or Person requesting an investigation of an alleged breach of the CFWA or League Rules and Regulations, must notify the League Administrator in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of becoming aware of the alleged breach. This notification must include;
- The nature of the alleged breach
  - The individual(s) or team(s) involved
  - Dates, times and locations of the alleged breach
  - Any evidence that supports the claim (witness statements, documentation, video footage etc)
- 10.3** A League, Club or Person must not knowingly submit a request for investigation that includes information that is untrue, vexatious or malicious.
- 10.4** Any request for investigation submitted by a Club or Person must be accompanied with a fee of \$500.
- 10.5** As soon as practicable after the League receives a written complaint, they must undertake a preliminary assessment of the allegation and following its assessment, the League must either;
- Investigate the matter in accordance with these rules and regulations; or
  - Delegate the matter to the CFWA to be processed; or

- Refer the matter to a government authority (including the police); or
- Refer the matter to the League Match Review Committee to be assessed as an alleged Reportable Offence relating to a match.

- 10.6** Should a matter require investigation, the League will appoint an impartial investigation team composed of at least two individuals not involved with the parties in question. Investigators may be internal League Officials or external experts, depending on the nature of the breach.
- 10.7** All individuals involved in the investigation and decision-making process must act with integrity, fairness, and impartiality. Any conflicts of interest or bias must be disclosed, and those with conflicts may be excluded from the investigation.
- 10.8** The CFWA or League (with prior written consent from the CFWA) may stand down any individual subject to any investigation, from participating in or in connection with a Competition.
- 10.9** All Leagues, Clubs and individuals must cooperate fully and in a timely manner with any investigation carried out by the CFWA, League or its representative. Leagues, Clubs and Individuals must act in good faith by providing truthful and complete information to support the investigation.
- 10.10** Failure to cooperate with an investigation may result in penalties, including reprimand, suspension, fines, removal from competition or any other disciplinary action as determined by the CFWA or League at its full discretion.
- 10.11** Once an investigation is initiated, the Club(s), team(s) or individual(s) under investigation must be notified in writing within five (5) business days. They will be informed of the specific allegation, investigation process and their right to provide evidence to be considered as part of the investigation.
- 10.12** The Investigation Team will facilitate the collection and review of evidence including;
- Reviewing the request for investigation and any submitted evidence;
  - Collect additional evidence as required, including records, video footage, photographs, witness statements or other documentation.
  - Maintaining confidentiality of all information gathered during the investigation, except where disclosure is required by law or league policy.
- 10.13** Any investigation should be completed within seven (7) calendar days of commencing. If the investigation cannot be concluded within this time frame due to the complexity of the breach or other extenuating circumstances, the Investigative Team will notify the League in writing of the delay and provide an updated estimated timeline.
- 10.14** Upon completion of the investigation, the Investigation Team will prepare a report summarising their findings for the League. This report will include;
- An assessment of the evidence
  - A determination whether a breach has occurred
  - A recommendation for appropriate action, if any.
- 10.15** The League will review the Investigation Team's report and determine any disciplinary action, which may include penalties such as reprimand, suspension, fines, removal from competition or any other disciplinary action as determined by the CFWA or League at its full discretion.

## **11. APPEALS**

### **11.1 Appeals – Administrative**

- 11.1.1** Any person or body affiliated with CFWA may apply to have an appeal heard by Community Football Appeals Board. Prior to the CFWA approving appeal hearing, the person or affiliated body must have appealed the decision within their League to the highest possible level.
- 11.1.2** Any request for appeal must be received within 72 hours of the relevant league's having handed down the decision in question and notified the club/individual of the outcome.
- 11.1.3** An appeal by a Club or individual against an administrative decision of a League shall submit an application to Country Football WA stating the reasons and be accompanied by the prescribed fee of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750). This fee is non-refundable.
- 11.1.4** Should Country Football WA decide that the appeal shall proceed, a copy of the details of the appeal shall be forwarded by email to all parties involved in the appeal, with at least seven business (7) days of notice to proceed. This timeframe may be shortened by CFWA if it is satisfied that both parties have suitable time to prepare for the hearing and there is a suitable availability of Panel members.
- 11.1.5** The Community Football Appeals Board shall hear and make judgements on appeals in the best interests of Australian Football in general. The decision of the Community Football Appeals Board shall be deemed as final.

### **11.2 Appeals - Tribunal**

- 11.2.1** An appeal against a WAFC Community Tribunal or offered penalty, shall submit an application to the Community Football Appeals Board based on one of the following criteria:
- An error of the law
  - The decision of the Tribunal is so unreasonable that no Tribunal acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it.
  - The classification of the offence by the Tribunal was manifestly excessive or inadequate, or the sanction imposed by the Tribunal was manifestly excessive or inadequate.
- 11.2.2** Any request for appeal must be received within 48 hours of notification of the Tribunal decision. All supporting evidence that articulates how the decision fits into one of the appeal criteria in 11.2.1 must be sent in with the application. The appeal must be accompanied by the prescribed fee of one thousand dollars (\$750). This fee is non-refundable.
- 11.2.3** The grounds for appeal must first be reviewed and confirmed to meet the criteria by a majority vote of 3 independent WAFC staff members, including no less than 1 member of the WAFC Integrity Unit. This determination is final.
- 11.2.4** For appeals to the Community Football Appeals Board, a previous decision made by a League Tribunal to suspend a participant shall remain valid, until and unless it is overruled by the Community Football Appeals Board.

**11.3 Appeals - Transfers**

- 11.3.1** Where the player disputes the reason for a Transfer refusal, the player or the Destination Club should resolve the dispute with the Former Club. Where a dispute between the parties cannot be resolved, the player or the Destination Club may appeal against the refusal of Transfer in accordance with the relevant Football Body's appeal procedure.
- 11.3.2** An appeal involving Clubs associated with the same Football Body will be heard by the Football Body's appeals tribunal (in accordance with the appeals procedure for the respective Football Body).
- 11.3.3** A player or person who has had an application to transfer from one Country Club to another refused, may appeal to the CFWA Appeal Tribunal against such refusal if they consider the reasons for that refusal are not genuine. Where it is a local matter, i.e. between Clubs within an individual League, such appeals shall be heard initially by that League's Appeal Board.
- a)** An appeal to the Appeals Tribunal shall be lodged in writing with Country Football WA, together with the two hundred and fifty dollars (\$750) fee, within ten (10) days of the date upon which the application was been refused. The Appellant player/club must lodge a completed Player Appeal Form and a copy of the latest Player Transfer Refusal Form for the player. The fee may be totally or partially refunded at the discretion of the CFWA.
  - b)** The defendant Club must also lodge a fee of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$750), together with a letter outline the reasoning behind a request for an appeal. The fee may be totally or partially refunded at the discretion of the CFWA.
  - c)** The Manager of Country Football Development shall inform each affected Country League of the appeal as soon as practical after the lodgement by the player/club of the notice of appeal.
  - d)** Should the defendant Club fail to lodge in writing with the Appeal Body the Intention to Appeal within four (4) days of being notified of the appeal details by CFWA; and/or
  - e)** the fee of \$750, within six (6) days of being notified of the appeal, it shall be deemed to have granted the transfer. In this case, the application will be reactivated, and the transfer approved.
  - f)** The Appeal Tribunal may decide to grant a transfer on such conditions as it shall consider fair and reasonable. In the event of the Appeal Tribunal deciding that it will grant a transfer subject to conditions, the Appeal Tribunal may not grant the transfer until the conditions imposed have been fulfilled.
- 11.3.4** An appeal involving Clubs affiliated to different Football Bodies within the same State will be heard in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State Football Body to which the Football Bodies are domiciled.
- 11.3.5** An appeal involving Clubs from two different States will find a resolution in accordance with the procedure set out in the National Player Registration and Transfer Regulations.



## **12. DEREGISTRATION**

- 12.1** CFWA players and officials shall be automatically deregistered, and not allowed further registration with the same or another League throughout Australia if they accumulate a combined total of sixteen weeks or greater suspension in a football career. For the avoidance of doubt, the sixteen (16) week accumulated suspension relates to suspensions imposed as a result of Reportable Offences under the Laws of Australian Football.
- 12.2** Any suspension period served by a player during their AFL career shall carry over; however, such suspension period shall be reduced by 25% for the purposes of this deregistration policy. For example, if a player receives a total of four (4) weeks suspension whilst playing in the AFL, only three (3) weeks shall carry over for the purposes of this deregistration policy. In the case of an odd number of weeks being accrued, the suspension will be rounded to the nearest whole number.
- 12.3** For the avoidance of doubt, only suspension periods served by a player after attaining the age of 16 years will count for the purposes of this deregistration policy.
- 12.4** Once a player/official has accumulated a suspension history of ten (10) weeks or more, the WAFC must advise the player/official and their Club in writing that the player/official faces the risk of automatic deregistration should the player/official incur further suspension(s) that results in them reaching or exceeding the sixteen weeks total suspension history.
- 12.5** Notification of deregistration shall be made in writing to the player/official and their Club by the WAFC.
- 12.6** Should a player's/official's tribunal history already have reached or exceeds a combined total of sixteen weeks suspension at the time of implementing this policy, the League is to formally advise the player/official and the player's/official's Club that the player/official faces automatic deregistration should he/she incur another suspension.
- 12.7** It is a Club's responsibility to ensure they have advised all their players/officials of this policy.
- 12.8** After a player/official has been deregistered in accordance with Rules & Regulations 12.1, that player/official may appeal to the WAFC's Appeals Panel after serving out final suspension plus 12 months. A decision to reinstate a deregistered player will be at the WAFC Appeals Panel discretion.
- 12.9** It is the obligation of the player/official to present their case with all necessary witnesses and relevant documents to the WAFC Appeals Panel and show cause why he/she should be reregistered.
- 12.10** Such appeal shall be heard after the player has served out their final suspension plus 12 months of serving out life ban. It will then be up to the WAFC Appeals Panel to determine when it will be heard.
- 12.11** The decision of the WAFC Appeals Panel shall be final and binding on all parties.
- 12.12** A deregistered player or official cannot play in or officiate or participate in or at any Australian Football match unless an exemption is given by the WAFC Appeals Panel.
- 12.13** A deregistered player/official who is successful in gaining an exemption to play/officiate and subsequently re-offends will automatically be deregistered with no further right to apply for an exemption or to appeal.



## 13. DOPING

- 13.1** CFWA players, coaches and officials are bound by the AFL's Anti-Doping Code under the Laws of Australian Football.
- 13.2** Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) is responsible for implementing the AFL's Anti-Doping Code at all levels of competition. SIA's responsibilities for investigation extend to CFWA affiliated Leagues.
- 13.3** It is possible that SIA can test players, coaches and officials at CFWA level and, if asked by SIA to undertake a drug test, it is a requirement to comply with the request. Non-complying individuals are subject to an automatic **four-year ban** from participating in any sport. SIA adopts a Strict Liability Principle, meaning individuals are to be held responsible for what they put into their bodies. If unsure, substances can be checked by downloading the SIA App. or the Global Drug Reference Online website <https://www.globaldro.com/AU/search>

CFWA Players, Coaches and Officials can violate (and receive a penalty or suspension) under SIA's Anti-Doping Rule Violations Code through:

- a) Presence - Athlete tests positive
- b) Use or Attempted use of a prohibited substance
- c) Refusal - Refusing to take a test
- d) Tampering with any part of the drug testing process or procedure
- e) Possession of a prohibited substance
- f) Trafficking or attempted trafficking
- g) Complicity - assisting, encouraging, aiding, conspiring, or covering up any other type of intentional complicity involving an Anti-Doping Rule violation
- h) Prohibited Association - Athlete is found to be receiving private one-on-one coaching from someone who is currently sanctioned
- i) Retaliation - Athlete is sanctioned for punishing someone who attempts to report information

Suspicious behaviour can be reported to the WA Football Commission Integrity Unit anonymously via the WAFC website [www.wafc.com.au](http://www.wafc.com.au)

- 13.4** CFWA has an *Illegal Drug Policy* and Leagues and Clubs should refer to this document to assist with the management of illegal drug occurrences within their environments.
- 13.5** It is a CFWA League and Club's responsibility to ensure a *Duty of Care* on all football participants by not allowing any of their players, coaches or officials to participate in a League or Club event under the influence of illegal or illicit drugs.

## 14. VILIFICATION

- 14.1** Every CFWA Football Club is responsible for fostering an environment which promotes racial and religious tolerance by prohibiting certain conduct and providing a means of redress for victims of racial and religious vilification and/or racial discrimination.
- 14.2** Every CFWA Football Club is bound by the Discrimination Act 1975 (Cth), and WA Legislation with regards to Tolerance and Equal Opportunity.
- 14.3** Every CFWA Football Club is responsible for ensuring that this Policy is communicated to spectators and participants of the Club.

RULE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
1.	<b>An Alleged Incident</b> Conduct that threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person on any basis, including but not limited to, a person's race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, special ability/disability, illness, disease or sexual orientation, preference or identity.	Vilified Player
2.	<b>Game Day Resolution</b> The clubs and individuals concerned will take immediate action to resolve the matter at the ground between the two teams concerned. If the matter is resolved a written report is required to be submitted to Club President by the Team Manager of the complainant within 24 hours. No public statement (including via social media) is allowed by the clubs, players, umpires or any representative of the club(s) involved. If the matter cannot be resolved immediately it is the responsibility of both Team Managers to inform their respective Club President of the issue immediately.	Team Managers
3.	<b>Club Resolution</b> The Club President of the complainant is then required to make contact with the opposition President within 24 hours of the incident. The clubs then have 48 hours to mediate and resolve the matter. If the matter is resolved a written report is required to be submitted by both Club Presidents to the League Operations Manager and/or President within 24 hours post resolution. No public statement (including via social media) is allowed by the clubs, players, umpires or any representative of the If the matter cannot be resolved at a club level, then it is the responsibility of the complainant's Club President to contact the League Operations Manager and/or President no later than 48 hours after the incident requesting that they investigate the matter.	Club Presidents
4.	<b>Competition Resolution</b> The League will investigate the matter and determine the appropriate next course of action. This may involve mediation or referral directly to the Tribunal. No public statement (including via social media) is allowed by the clubs, players, umpires or any representative of the of the club(s) involved.	League
5.	<b>A) Mediation</b> The League will arrange for a mediation meeting between the individuals and clubs to be held at the earliest convenience. This should be held no later than 7 days of receiving the complaint. If no resolution can be reached the matter will be referred to the Tribunal for determination. No public statement (including via social media) is allowed by the clubs, players, umpires or any representative of the club(s) involved. <b>B) Tribunal</b> The Tribunal to make a determination on the matter in accordance with the guidelines and By-Laws of the Competition.	League

## **15. CONCUSSION POLICY**

- 15.1** All CFWA affiliated Leagues and clubs are required to adhere to the WA Football Return to Play Guidelines and Reporting Procedures.

## **16. FORFEITED MATCHES**

- 16.1** Clubs are encouraged to play with a maximum number of players on the field and on the interchange as set by the league. Clubs can play with reduced numbers, for example 14, but both sides must play with equal numbers on the field. In these cases, Clubs might consider the loaning/borrowing of players to ensure more players are involved in the match, a more competitive game is provided and unwanted forfeits are avoided.
- 16.1.1** At all times both teams should have an equal number of players on the field, unless a player has been sent off under the order off rule (Rules & Regulations 7).
- 16.2** Loaned players should be recorded on their registered Club's team list and identified with an asterisk. All players are eligible for best and fairest votes and any goals scored.
- 16.3** The minimum number of players required to commence an official match is 14. In the event of the number of on-field players being reduced to less than 14 due to injury or red card infringements, the match should continue.
- 16.4** At all times, Clubs are expected to adhere to the AFL spirit of the laws.
- 16.5** If the match is not able to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the match, the teams shall depart the arena for twenty (20) minutes.
- 16.6** If the match is unable to recommence within such twenty (20) minutes period, should the game be terminated before half time, then the result would be declared a draw and each team awarded two premiership points. Their respective scores at the time would count for the purposes of percentage. If the match has progressed beyond the half time interval and is unable to proceed at any time within the time schedule for the match, then the result would be declared on the basis of scores at half time.
- 16.7** Unless otherwise determined by the League, a field umpire shall, having regard to the health and safety of the players and any other relevant circumstances, determine whether a match is unable to commence or proceed. A field umpire may determine that a match is unable to commence or proceed for player welfare reasons, i.e., lightning is present within close proximity of the venue.
- 16.8** Where a team is directed to recommence play by a field umpire and the team fails, refuses or neglects to recommence play, the team shall be deemed to have forfeited the match, in which case Rules & Regulations 16.10 applies.
- 16.9** Where a team forfeits a match, the full match premiership points shall be awarded to the team receiving the forfeit.
- 16.9.1** In the case of a forfeit in a Men's game the team receiving the forfeit will be credited with 90 points and the team forfeiting will receive 1 point.
- 16.9.2** In the case of a forfeit in a Women's game, the team receiving the forfeit will be credited with 45 points and the team forfeiting will receive 1 point.

- 16.10** Where a team forfeits a match, the team receiving the forfeit can submit a team sheet for the forfeited match. The team sheet must be submitted in the Play HQ system prior to when the scheduled match was due to commence. If the forfeit occurs within an hour of the advertised match time each player must be able to be presented to a league official at the scheduled match time if requested.
- 16.11** Where a match result is altered by protest or dispute, the team winning the protest or dispute is to be awarded full premiership points. Points scored for and against in such a match to be recorded as usual.

## **17. COACH ACCREDITATION**

- 17.1** All coaches are required to have completed the appropriate AFL Coach Accreditation prior to coaching a game.
- 17.2** CFWA will impose financial sanctions on Leagues that contain unaccredited coaches after the commencement of the season. CFWA encourage Leagues to apply penalties such as loss of match points for matches won to non-complying Clubs.
- 17.3** CFWA and its affiliated Leagues are bound by the WAFC and AFL Policies around Coaching and, as such, applies the WAFC's Coach Citation Process to manage coaching misdemeanours.
- 17.4** If a coach receives a red or yellow card, is reported or mentioned in an umpire report for any act of misconduct, the relevant league must provide details to CFWA within 48 hours of the report occurring:  
a) Coach's name and date of birth  
b) Incident details  
c) Charge/s against the coach  
A coach on report cannot be offered a Set Penalty suspension.
- 17.5** Each coach is required to be included each week on the official Play HQ team sheet.

## **18. MEDIA POLICY (INCLUDING SOCIAL MEDIA)**

- 18.1** All CFWA Leagues, Clubs, players, officials, coaches, members, and umpires are bound by CFWA's Social Media Policy.
- 18.2** League decisions, including those from the WAFC Community Football Tribunal, are to be treated as confidential at the League's discretion. Any breaches of this confidentiality may be subject to penalty for bringing the game into disrepute.
- 18.3** Any social media platform, including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Tiktok, Snapchat and X (formerly Twitter), are regarded as public spaces and therefore should not be used to discredit or criticise CFWA or any member League or Club's decisions, actions, or personnel, or bring the game of AFL into disrepute.
- 18.4** Breaches of this policy are liable for sanctions for bringing the game into disrepute.

- 18.5** CFWA takes any breaches of the social media policy reserves the right to penalise any person (including, but not limited to players, officials, coaches, members and umpires) or Clubs who breach the CFWA Social Media Policy to be determined Country Football WA in line with the CFWA Fines and Penalties Table (Appendix 2).

## **19. OFFICIAL CLUB UNIFORM/RUNNERS/TRAINERS/WATER CARRIERS**

- 19.1** Each club is required to ensure that they abide by CFWA's Brand Guidelines document regarding CFWA logos on Club apparel (playing jumpers and playing shorts).
- 19.2** Unless the League determines otherwise, each player participating in a League competition must wear the registered uniform of their Club. The playing number of each player must comply with CFWA's Branding Style Guide and have securely fixed number to the back of the guernsey before the commencement of each match.
- 19.3** No person who is a registered player or an official of any Club who is under disqualification or suspension by their home Club or League shall act in any official capacity in any competition match or any other match in which a CFWA affiliated Club or League is participating.
- 19.4** All official runners, trainers and water carriers are to be dressed in a uniform determined by the League.
- 19.5** The sole duty of a water carrier shall be to convey water to player and to immediately leave the playing arena.
- 19.6** The duty of a trainer shall be to render medical assistance.
- 19.7** The officiating Field Umpire may, upon infringement of the rule, order the runner, trainer or water carrier of the offending Club from the arena for a period of 15 minutes by the issuing of a yellow card.
- 19.8** Any infringement, or other infringement reported by the officiating Field Umpire shall be referred to the League.

## **20. CLUBS TRANSFERRING, AMALGAMATING, DISBANDING AND IN RECESS**

### **20.1 Clubs Transferring**

- 20.1.1** Where a Country Club wishes to transfer from one League to another, that Club must apply to CFWA, after seeking comment from both Leagues concerned.
- 20.1.2** Application to transfer must be lodged with CFWA by 30 November to be considered for the following football season. The hearing of an application will be completed within twenty-one (21) days. When unusual circumstances prevail, the Executive Manager may extend the period, but the spirit of the rule is that any such application shall be heard as soon as possible.
- 20.1.3** If permission to transfer is granted, players of that Club shall be automatically cleared to the new League, except those players financially encumbered to the original League. The League Official from which the Club is transferring shall supply a certified list of all registered eligible players of the Club concerned to the Club's new League.

## **20.2 Clubs Amalgamating or Disbanding**

- 20.2.1** If a player's Club has disbanded, the player must obtain a clearance from his/her Club's League. The disbanded Club/League retains the right to refuse applications from players who are financially indebted to the Club.
- 20.2.2** Where a player's Club amalgamates with another Club, the player shall automatically become aligned to the combined Club.

## **20.3 Clubs in Recess**

- 20.3.1** Clubs in recess must pay an Affiliation Fee including public liability to the level of one senior team.
- 20.3.2** After a period of two years in recess, the Club in recess will be deemed to have disbanded unless, after an application from the Club, the League extends the term.

# **21. DOMESTIC MATTERS**

- 21.1** Each league shall have the power to draw up varying rules & regulations to provide for the management of its own domestic affairs. Any such rule or regulation must be submitted to CFWA Rules & Regulations committee for approval.
- 21.2** Each League has the authority to impose fines and/or suspension on a Club, its players and officials for bringing the game into disrepute in line with the fines and penalties outlined in CFWA Rules & Regulations.
- 21.3** Should a Club's Members or Spectators be found to have brought the game of football into disrepute, CFWA and the Affiliated League, reserves the rights to apply sanctions on the subsequent Club if they are found to be guilty or negligent in their behaviours.
- 21.4** CFWA Codes of Conduct apply to all participants and CFWA and the affiliated League reserves the right to issue fines and sanctions on Clubs, Players, spectators or officials who operate outside of these Codes.
- 21.5** Where a match is unable to proceed, the League's General Manager, or official deemed responsible, at their absolute discretion, may determine the result or order the match be replayed at such time and place as they see fit.

# **22. LIGHTING**

- 22.1** The CFWA applies the Australian Standard (AS2560.2.3-2007) in terms of lighting for football:
- a)** Junior and Senior Community training minimum lighting standards – 50 lux
  - b)** Junior and Senior Community game minimum lighting standards – 100 lux
  - c)** WAFL game minimum lighting standards – 200 lux
  - d)** AFL game minimum lighting standards – 500 lux

# **23. EXTREME HEAT**

- 23.1** Refer to National Community Football Policy Handbook.

## **24. LIGHTNING**

- 24.1** Refer to the AFL Rules of the Game

## **25. COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- 25.1** Only Leagues directly affiliated with the Country League are eligible to participate in events sponsored by CFWA such as the Country Football Championships.
- 25.2** CFWA has the authority to permit combined League/Association sides upon request.

## **26. REPRESENTATIVE TEAM AVAILABILITY**

- 26.1** Any CFWA registered player who is unavailable for selection in a CFWA or Affiliated League Representative Team, without providing an adequate reason to the Selection Committee, is subject to a penalty of not being permitted to play in the following fixtures in which their Club is engaged for a maximum of two matches at the CFWA's or the subsequent League's discretion.

## **27. ALTERATIONS OF THE RULES & REGULATIONS**

- 27.1** Should any situation arise which is not covered in these Rules & Regulations then the Rules, Codes, Policies and Regulations of the AFL Laws of the Game and National Community Football Policy Handbook shall apply.
- 27.2** The CFWA may elect to resolve any matter, which is not provided for in these Rules & Regulations and any such resolution shall immediately become an amendment to these Rules & Regulations and shall automatically be included herein.



## APPENDIX 1 – CODES OF CONDUCT – SENIOR FOOTBALL

### Coach:

1. Respect all individuals within the context of my involvement in Australian football, and will refrain from any discriminatory practices including, but not limited to, discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender, ethnic background, special ability/disability or sexual orientation, preference or identity.
2. Abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the Game and the Rules of my Club and League/Association.
3. Be reasonable in the demands I make on the time commitments of the players in my care, having consideration for their health and well-being.
4. Be supportive at all times and I will refrain from any form of personal or physical abuse and unnecessary physical contact with the players in my care.
5. Show consideration for varying maturity and levels of ability of my players when designing practice schedules, practice activities and involvement in football competition.
6. Where responsible for players in the 5-18 year old age group, use best endeavours to ensure that players gain equal playing time.
7. Monitor and ensure the safety of players in my care.
8. In recognising injury and sickness, seek and follow the physician's advice concerning the participation and / or return to training of injured or ill players.
9. Keep up to date with the principles of coaching and skill development, and of factors relating to the welfare of my players.
10. At all times display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practice fair play.
11. Display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, officials, parents and spectators.
12. Ensure that players are involved in a positive environment where skill learning and development are priorities and are not overshadowed by a desire to win.
13. Reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines in the AFL Anti-Doping policy.
14. Acknowledge that the AFL, or a body affiliated with the AFL, may take disciplinary action against me if I breach any part of this Code of Conduct. I understand that the AFL, or a body affiliated with the AFL, is required to implement a complaints handling procedure in accordance with the principles of natural justice, in the event of an allegation against me.
15. Acknowledge that disciplinary action against me may include de-registration as a Coach and a member of CoachAFL.
16. Read, understood and agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of Accreditation as a coach and member of CoachAFL.

### Senior Umpires:

1. Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
2. Be familiar with the *Laws of Australian Football* and the rules and conditions of your League.
3. Regularly attend training, coaching sessions, social and League activities in a bid to improve your umpiring.
4. Be aware of the need to recruit more umpires and speak enthusiastically about umpiring to encourage others to become involved in umpiring.
5. Be a positive role model in behaviour and appearance.
6. Promote the umpiring fraternity and present yourself in a friendly and professional manner before, during and after games.
7. Avoid any situation that may lead to a conflict in interest.
8. Support activities designed to encourage participation of people in umpiring and football in general.
9. Never swear, use abusive, derogatory or vilifying language during the game or when addressing the players, other umpires or officials.
10. Understand the leadership role that an umpire plays in controlling the game day environments on match day and the behaviour of players, officials and supporters.

11. Avoid verbal and physical confrontation with players, officials and spectators at all times.

### **Senior Players:**

1. Be familiar with the *Laws of Australian Football* and abide by the rules and conditions of your League/Club.
2. Avoid verbal and physical confrontation with players, officials and umpires at all times. Under no circumstances should you engage in physical violence on the field of play.
3. Never swear, use abusive, derogatory or vilifying language during the game or when addressing other players, umpires or officials. Be mindful of the presence of young people, females and spectators.
4. Support activities designed to encourage participation of young players at junior clubs, schools and development programs.
5. Ensure that both on and off the field behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship.
6. Do not abuse, dispute or react in an obviously provocative or disappointed manner towards an umpire.
7. Conduct yourself at a high level of personal behaviour on and off the field in such a manner so as not to bring the Club or the game of Australian Football into disrepute. Negative or disparaging comments on social media must not be used.
8. Be aware of the differing needs and attitudes of players at your Club.
9. Under no circumstances should you play in a match under the influence of alcohol.
10. Under no circumstances should you play in a match under the influence of recreational or banned performance enhancing drugs.

### **Runners/Water Carriers:**

1. The sole duty of the runner shall be to confer with the player or players of his/her Club and to immediately leave the playing arena.
2. Must not be under suspension from the League
3. Must be clearly identified.
4. The runners name must be entered on the team sheet.
5. Runners should not engage in abusive or insulting language directed at opposition players.
6. Runners must never dispute an umpire's decision.
7. Not to be involved in melees or man-handle players in any way.

### **League/Club Officials:**

1. Value the involvement of umpires and officials in the game. Without them matches wouldn't be possible.
2. Never swear, use abusive, derogatory or vilifying language when addressing players, umpires or officials. Be mindful of the presence of young people, females and other spectators.
3. Do not abuse, dispute or react in an obviously provocative or disappointed manner towards an umpire.
4. Avoid verbal and physical confrontation with players, officials, umpires and other spectators at all times. Under no circumstances should you engage in physical violence.
5. Value the importance of other volunteers. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for the community.
6. Drink responsibly and discourage binge drinking. CFWA venues are bound by the State's Liquor Licencing Laws.
7. Under no circumstances should you attend a CFWA match under the influence of recreational drugs.
8. Support other League and Club officials in maintaining the highest standard of behaviour both on and off the field for the betterment of the League.
9. The CFWA and our Leagues have a *Spectator Management Policy* to prevent anti-social spectators from attending our matches. This can be viewed at [CFWA.com.au](http://CFWA.com.au)

**Spectators:**

1. Value the involvement of umpires and officials in the game. Without them matches wouldn't be possible.
2. Never swear, use abusive, derogatory or vilifying language when addressing other players, umpires or officials. Be mindful of the presence of young people, females and other spectators.
3. Avoid verbal and physical confrontation with players, officials, umpires and other spectators at all times. Under no circumstances should you engage in physical violence.
4. Value the importance of volunteers. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for the community.
5. Drink responsibly and discourage binge drinking. CFWA venues are bound by the State's Liquor Licencing Laws.
6. Under no circumstances should you attend a CFWA match under the influence of recreational drugs.
7. Support Club officials in maintaining the highest standard of behaviour both on and off the field for the betterment of the League.
8. Abide by the CFWA and our Leagues have a *Spectator Management Policy* to prevent anti-social spectators from attending our matches. This can be viewed at [CFWA.com.au](http://CFWA.com.au)

## APPENDIX 2 – FINES AND PENALTIES

Leagues	
Bringing Country Football into Disrepute	Max \$5,000
Allowing unaccredited coaches to coach	\$500 per coach
Failing to comply with CFWA Affiliation Agreement (1 <sup>st</sup> )	\$500
Failing to comply with CFWA Affiliation Agreement (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	Max \$5,000
Failing to comply with CFWA Brand Guidelines (1 <sup>st</sup> )	\$500
Failing to comply with CFWA Brand Guidelines (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	Max \$2,000
Players & Officials	
Bringing the Game into Disrepute (includes social media or breaches to the code of conduct)	Max \$500 + Life Ban
False declaration made on registration form	\$300
Threatening or Abusive Behaviour Towards an Official (1 <sup>st</sup> Offence)	2-4 Weeks
Threatening or Abusive Behaviour Towards an Official (2 <sup>nd</sup> Offence)	4-8 Weeks
Failing to cooperate or acting dishonestly with a Paid Player Investigation	Up to 10 Weeks suspension
Breaching Paid Player By-Laws	Up to 10 Weeks suspension
Club	
Bringing the Game into Disrepute (includes social media or breaches to the codes of conduct) – 1 <sup>st</sup> Offence	Max \$1,000
Bringing the Game into Disrepute (includes social media or breaches to the codes of conduct) – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offence within the same season	Max \$2,000
Bringing the Game into Disrepute (includes social media or breaches to the codes of conduct) – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Offence within the same season	Max - Expulsion
Deliberate Team Sheet Errors	\$250
Playing an unregistered player (1 <sup>st</sup> Offence)	\$250
Playing an unregistered player (2 <sup>nd</sup> Offence)	Max \$500
Head count requested and numbers found to be wrong	Max \$500
Melee	Max \$1,000
Threatening or Abusive Behaviour Towards an Official (1 <sup>st</sup> Offence)	\$250
Threatening or Abusive Behaviour Towards an Official (2 <sup>nd</sup> Offence)	Max \$500
Umpire Abuse by a club official (1 <sup>st</sup> Offence)	\$250
Umpire Abuse by a club official (2 <sup>nd</sup> Offence)	Max \$500
Failing to comply with CFWA Brand Guidelines (1 <sup>st</sup> )	\$500
Failing to comply with CFWA Brand Guidelines (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	Max \$2,000
Failing to cooperate or acting dishonestly with a Paid Player Investigation	Max \$5,000 + Loss of Premiership points
Breaching the Paid Player Rules & Regulations	Max \$5,000 + Loss of Premiership points
Tribunal	
Non-attendance at tribunal when summoned to appear	Max \$500
Misconduct by any person at a tribunal	Max \$500
Equipment/Club Personnel	
First aid stretcher not supplied or not on boundary	\$100
Goal post padding not applied – game not legally able to proceed	\$100
Rub down bench not provided for opposition team	\$100
Runners or water carriers incorrectly dressed	\$50
Scoreboard Attendant or Timekeeper not supplied	\$50
Team sheets not provided to umpires before game	\$50
Match Day Checklist not completed – 1 <sup>st</sup> offence	Max \$250
Match Day Checklist not completed – 2 <sup>nd</sup> offence	Max \$500
Sundry	
Misconduct by not complying with CFWA Rules & Regulations	Max \$5,000
Media, website or social media indiscretions	Max \$2,000
No penalty prescribed in Rules & Regulations	Max \$1,000

## **APPENDIX 3 – PRIVACY POLICY – Paid Player Rules & Regulations**

The following document sets forth the Privacy Policy for the CFWA with regards to its Paid Player Legislation.

1. Collection of your personal information as part of the CFWA's investigations, CFWA may request information around payments (or supposed payments) made to yourself (and your associates), deemed to be in exchanged for football services. Collection of personal information may also be in the form of an interview.
2. Sharing of your personal information CFWA may occasionally hire other companies to provide investigatory services on our behalf. Those companies will be permitted to obtain only the personal information they need to carry out the investigation. CFWA takes reasonable steps to ensure that these organisations are bound by confidentiality and privacy obligations in relation to the protection of your personal information.
3. Use of your personal information Collected information is used solely internally for the purpose of Paid Player Investigations. If our information practices change at some time in the future, we will use for these new purposes only, data collected from the time of the policy change forward will adhere to our updated practices. CFWA will endeavour to keep all information around player payments and sensitive personal details private, however, CFWA accepts no responsibility should the details of an indiscretion against the Paid Player Rules & Regulations by a Club make it into a public forum (such as the media) unless it can be substantiated that the media, in fact, received their information from the CFWA Office or Official directly.
4. CFWA reserves the right to make amendments to this Privacy Policy at any time. If you have objections to the Privacy Policy, you should not access or use the site.
5. CFWA welcomes your comments regarding this Privacy Policy. If you have any questions about this Privacy Policy and would like further information, please contact us by any of the following means during business hours Monday to Friday.



# APPENDIX 4 – 6 Point – Player Points Template



2025 PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATION GUIDE			
POINTS VALUE	CATEGORY	COMPETITION	GAMES QUALIFICATION
6	- AFL (1 game in previous 4 years)	- AFL	- 1+ in any one season
5	- WAFL League or - Played at an identified equivalent level interstate	- WAFL, SANFL and VFL	- 5+ in any one season
4	- WAFL Reserves (+10 games in a season) or - Played at an identified equivalent level interstate	- WAFL, SANFL and VFL – Reserves - AFLQ, AFL NSW/ACT, AFL Tas and AFL NT Top Divisions	- 10+ in any one season - 5+ in any one season
3	- League from another community club (Metro or Country) - WAFL Colts or - Played at an identified equivalent level interstate	- CFWA League Grades - PFL A, B, C Grades - Sunday Football League - Colts - WAFL, SANFL, NEAFL, TSL, NTFL, TAC Cup	- 5+ in any one season
2	- Reserves or Colts from another community club* (metro or Country) - Nonaligned Juniors / Not considered Club of Origin or - Played at an equivalent level interstate	- CFWA Reserves and Colts - PFL Colts and Reserves - *PFL D and E Grades	- 1+ in any one season
1	- Club of Origin player as per CFWA Bylaw 2.21 - Hasn't played anywhere for 3 or more full football seasons (36 months)	- N/A	- Nil



# **RULES & REGULATIONS 2025**



1) ABBREVIATION DEFINITION	
AFL Auskick Competition	Kindy to Year 2
Club	Means any football club which affiliates with the Goldfields Football League (GFL).
Club of Origin	A player's Club of Origin is defined as the Club which is recognised to be their 'primary development' club. Consideration of Club of Origin would be determined by the player's parents' residence, where he/she has played junior football (and subsequent time spent there) and the club that last cleared the player to the WAFL or another competition. Any transfers under the term "Club of Origin" shall be subject to the approval of that League. If a player disputes the League's ruling they can appeal to the WA Football who will make a final decision regarding the player's Club of Origin claims.
Commission	Means the GFL Board of Commissioners
Goldfields Football League Inc. <b>GFL</b>	Means the incorporated body in charge of senior and junior football in the Goldfields
Juniors	Year 3 to Year 6
Member	Means a club or person elected to membership of the GFL
Seniors	Includes Colts, Women, Reserves and League grades.
Western Australian Football <b>WAF</b>	
Country Football Western Australian <b>CFWA</b>	The body that the GFL is affiliated with.
Youth	Means teams playing in Years 7 to Year 10

## 2)APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO THE GFL

Applications from a club for admission to the GFL shall be in accordance with the Constitution and these Rules & Regulations and must be in writing accompanied by a nomination fee as determined by the Commission, which shall be refunded should the club not be granted affiliation.

The date for final nomination of teams shall be as determined yearly by the Commission and may vary for each club depending on their circumstances. Nominations will not be accepted any later than six weeks prior to the season commencement date for the current season. Unfinancial clubs from the previous season will not be considered for nomination in the current season.

### 30.1 Applications

- 30.1.1 The names and addresses of the club's office bearers.
- 30.1.2 The proposed uniform of the club.
- 30.1.3 The position and description of playing grounds, changing rooms and clubrooms and whether such grounds and facilities are shared or not, and if so, upon what basis and with whom.
- 30.1.4 The number of teams from the club desiring to compete in the GFL's competition. At a minimum the expectation is that clubs will field a League, Reserves and Colts team.

### 30.2 Team Nominations

Team nominations shall only be accepted if, when the coach is nominated, he/she has a current coaching accreditation from the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme in the sport of Australian Football or an application to attend a coaching course is confirmed. The coach must complete a Coach Accreditation prior to the first game of the season.

### 30.3 Commission Decision

For the purposes of considering any application for admission to the GFL or any nominations of teams for a playing season, the Commission may, prior to determining whether such club should either be admitted to the League or accepted into the current season to continue playing, examine and inspect the club records, grounds, changing rooms and facilities.

The Commission may make any recommendations as it sees fit concerning such club's grounds and/or facilities and that the club shows good governance and the ability to facilitate and follow all procedures, Rules & Regulations, regulations, registrations, attendance at Presidents' meetings and weekly match day requirements that the GFL Commission requires from participating/nominated clubs/teams.

The Commission may make any recommendations or request any information or impose any conditions that must be met prior to the season commencing in order to be able to accept admission to the GFL or acceptance of nominations for teams for the current season.

- 30.3.1 Where the club has more than one team desiring to compete in the League's competition, the Commission may reject such application in respect of one or more of the Club's teams. Once admitted to the League, clubs must nominate three teams – being Colts, Reserves and League to continue to participate in the competition in each season. Women's teams will be able to be nominated and admitted providing clubs can demonstrate the ability to field a team.
- 30.3.2 Such applications or nominations of teams shall be dealt with by the Commission. Clubs must demonstrate an ability to show good governance of their club, be able to field teams nominated and sustain these teams for the season and if the Club is admitted as a member to the competition or the nominations of teams for a current season accepted by a resolution carried by the GFL Commissioners by a majority present, the club and all its members shall in all respects be bound by and conform to these Rules & Regulations.

#### **30.4 Feedback from Existing Clubs**

Before any new application for new membership of the GFL is considered by the Commission, existing member clubs which may be affected by the applicant's admission will be asked to comment on the application.

#### **30.5 Home Ground – Approval for Change**

If a member club wishes to change their home ground from that which has been previously approved, they must obtain permission from the Commission.

#### **30.6 Clubs' Office Bearers**

Each club shall submit to the GFL by a time set by the Commission in each year, a list of office bearers for the ensuing season. Any club failing to comply with this R&R shall be fined (*refer to APPENDIX*).

#### **30.7 Attendance at Presidents' Meetings**

Any club which is not represented at any duly convened Presidents' meeting shall be fined (*refer to APPENDIX*). Failure to attend three convened Presidents' meetings in any one season without prior leave approved may result in expulsion.

#### **30.8 Clubs' Financial Statements**

Clubs must provide to the treasurer of the GFL a copy of the financial statement tabled at their AGM no later than 28 February each year. If a club does not provide its accounting and financial records as required by this R&R, the Club shall be deemed to be unfinancial and no nomination or re-nomination shall be accepted for the following season and the provisions of Rules & Regulations 37.1, 37.2 and 37.3 shall apply.

Clubs unable to meet the deadline for submission of financial statements must apply for an extension prior to 31 December from the GFL to ensure re-nomination is accepted for the following season.

#### **30.9 Withdrawal of Nominated Teams**

A club which withdraws a team or teams from any competition after the commencement of the season without a reason acceptable to the GFL Commission may be liable to a penalty or a fine as determined by the Commission.

#### **30.10 Club Registrars**

Each member club shall elect or appoint a registrar who shall be responsible for the registration of players for that club and shall keep a record of the achievements of those players as may be required by the Commission. Failure to appoint a club registrar may result in player registrations not being accepted and team nominations not being accepted.

#### **30.11 Communication with the GFL Commission**

Direct communication with members of the GFL Commission is limited to club presidents and vice presidents. No-one outside of those two people are permitted to make direct contact by phone, email or other means with Commissioners with any football related matter unless a commissioner has been delegated by the chairman as part of their portfolio to have contact with club **representatives**.

All written communication must be on club letterhead and signed by the President/Secretary.

Issues will not be dealt with until the correct protocol has been adopted.

Queries relating to operational matters such as registrations, clearances or match day issues may be directed to the GFL Operations Manager by the appropriately appointed person at each club – ie President, Vice President, Secretary, Junior Delegate or Registrar.

## 30.12 Club Officials

- 30.12.1 Each member club shall elect Club administrators and officials who will be responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the Club in accordance with their respective constitutions.
- 30.12.2 Clubs are to have in place a policy on "Duty of Care" relevant to coaches, administrators and club officials. When adults have responsibility of care for children, clubs must ensure the safety, health and protection of children.
- 30.12.3 A Working with Children Check (WWC) application must be completed by all club administrators and officials involved with junior football clubs. The Commission reserves the right to request copies of WWC checks. For the purposes of Champion club points, WWC Checks must be submitted by 30 June in each season.
- 30.12.4 All volunteers involved with junior football must sign a [Prohibited Persons Declaration form](#) (PPD).

## 30.13 Team Officials

- 30.13.1 Each competing team shall supply a timekeeper for each game. Failure to supply a timekeeper will result in a penalty (**refer to APPENDIX**).
- 30.13.2 The home team must have the means of keeping time and of indicating the end of each quarter to the field umpire.
- 30.13.3 The Coach is not permitted to intimidate, dispute decisions or interfere with the Umpire or their role at any time.
- 30.13.4 Junior competing teams shall supply a goal umpire who will have a minimum of two signalling flags and a scorecard. Failure to supply a goal umpire will result in a penalty (**refer to APPENDIX**).
- 30.13.5 The goal umpires in the junior competition will keep a record of each team's score during the game, will compare score cards at the end of every quarter and will change ends at half time.
- 30.13.6 At the conclusion of the game the junior goal scorers will date and sign the scorecards and hand same to the field umpire.
- 30.13.7 The goal umpires will endeavour to keep the area immediately behind the goal line clear of spectators and other obstructions.
- 30.13.8 All Clubs must supply competent boundary umpires aged over 13 years for all league matches during the home and away season and finals unless they have had the permission of the Commission to use a younger boundary umpire who has been deemed competent. Failure to do so will result in a penalty either financial or premiership points as decided by the GFL Commission.

## 30.14 Junior Competition Policies, Rules & Regulations

Junior players are bound by both the GFL Rules & Regulations and the most recently available ([j4SAcj3UNuVS0vzu5mnWp0jMvX\\_3lhtfXOIwe1loLr0](#)) In the event of conflicting rules, the Commission will adjudicate.

## 30.15 Sponsorship Policy

Sponsors who could involve football in controversial issues or expose football to adverse criticism must be avoided. All potential sponsors must have company values that are in line with and complement the values of Australian football.

These are:

- To be determined by the GFL Commission.
- Egalitarianism (social equality).

- Participation
- Integration and inclusion.

The following sponsors are regarded as inappropriate:

- Religious organisations
- Programs that denigrate, exclude or offend minority community groups.
- Sponsors who create environmental hazards.
- Sponsors who do not reflect community standards.
- Companies and organisations which conflict with existing WAF, CFWA or GFL sponsors.
- Alcohol sponsors for junior sport

### 30.16 Exclusive supply of beer – Carlton United Brewery

The Goldfields Football League have entered into an agreement that has been agreed to by the GFL clubs with Carlton United Brewery for the exclusive supply of beer to all GFL clubs. The agreement covers the full year inclusive of football and non-football events. It will expire

on 31 October 2025 after which there is an option to extend that has been agreed to by the CFWA.

There is a three-strike policy for clubs in breach of the agreement, summarised below:

- **1<sup>st</sup> breach** – CFWA will provide a verbal or written warning.
- **2nd breach in same year** – League/club will not be paid share of sponsorship payment for one year.
- **3rd breach in same year** – the CFWA will not be paid one year of the sponsorship.

#### • Equal Opportunity Policy

The GFL will ensure that equal opportunities for participation in football are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic origin.

Junior footballers may participate in all levels of football but may only play up to a maximum of one grade higher than the age group in which they would normally play. To play up two years higher they must request permission via their club by way of parental and club request for the GFL Commission to review first and approve before playing in any GFL sanctioned match.

Single sex (all boy/girl) competitions are preferred if teams can be arranged. Alternatively, females may play in mixed competitions up to the age of 15 years.

After the age of 15 years, females can apply to play in a mixed competition in the Youth Boys Competition only.

#### • Alcohol Policy

There is absolutely no place for alcohol within junior sporting environments, and subsequently:

**AS PER THE INDIVIDUAL CLUB'S LIQUOR LICENCE, THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AT JUNIOR FOOTBALL IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

#### • Smoke and Vape Free Environment Policy

The GFL supports Smoke and Vape Free Environments at all football grounds. To maintain and implement, the following strategies should be followed:

- Smoke and vape free change rooms at all times.
- Smoke and vape free clubrooms at all times.
- Smoke and vape free interchange benches, including coaches and managers' area at all times.
- Smoke and vape free viewing areas, in particular those close to where juniors are coached.

### **30.17 Player Rotation Policy – Equal Opportunity**

The on-field rotation of players is a policy developed to enhance the participation and skill development of all players from Auskick (five to seven years), junior football (eight to 12 years) through to youth participants (13-16 years).

The rotation of all players through a variety of positions in a game and season is designed to allow players to experience the skills and roles required in different positions, and to ensure all players are provided with equal opportunity.

The policy states that every player in a team should play at least half a game, and that no player should spend more than half a game in any one position. Further, every player should experience playing on each of the five lines of field position over a three-match period.

**NOTE:** Players should be rotated through a variety of positions on the field in each line, not straight up and down the “spine” or only on the left or on the right side of the field. Coaches and team managers must ensure that this policy is adopted and relates directly to [R&R # 1 – “The Spirit of Junior Football”](#) in the [Junior Football Competition Policies, Rules and Regulations](#).

### **30.18 Prohibited Persons Declaration Form (PPD) – Policy**

The [Prohibited Persons Declaration form](#) conveys a message to all members and prospective members, responsible for junior football activities, particularly those involving members under 18 years of age, about minimising risk exposure. Managers, coaches, officials, leaders, trainers and management personnel, have a responsibility to provide safeguards dedicated to the wellbeing of those under the age of 18 years.

### **30.19 Privacy Policy**

All information collected by the GFL will be kept in a secure location and compliant with the Privacy Act.

Player identification required for PlayHQ will be deleted from all electronic devices once the bona fides have been established.

### **30.20 Photos and Video policy**

The GFL always recognises the privacy concerns of certain participants and requests that it can be demonstrated that all reasonable efforts have been made to secure the consent of GFL participants where images may be captured on photo or film prior to

these images being taken. GFL participants should be made aware by their clubs that whilst all reasonable efforts have been made to secure this consent this is not always possible.

### **30.21 Risk Management Policy**

A detailed copy of the WAF Risk Management Policy for junior football clubs can be found in the [Junior Competition, Policies, Rules and Regulations](#).

### **30.22 Infectious Diseases Policy**

Football clubs should refer to WA Health Department safety protocols for the recommended policy covering infectious diseases including current COVID protocols.

The GFL Commission may adjust the playing conditions or fixtures to accommodate COVID protocols, including but not restricted to the moving of sanctioned matches, number of players required (not less than 14) and adjustment of player points clubs require.

### 3. AGE GROUPS

GRADE	Maximum No. players per team in a match on the ground	Minimum No. of players in a match on the ground	Maximum No. of registered players in the team	Fairest & Best	Scores Recorded
Year 3	12	No minimum	18	No	No
Year 4	15	No minimum	20	No	No
Years 5/6	15	12	23	No	No
Years 7/8	18 per team	Minimum of 14	30	Yes	Yes
Years 9/10	18 per team	Minimum of 14	30	Yes	Yes
Colts	18 per team	Minimum of 14		Yes	Yes
Reserves	18 per team	Minimum for 14		Yes	Yes
Womens	18 per team	Minimum if 14	35	Yes	Yes
League	18 per team	22		Yes	Yes

**A Colts player must be 19 years or younger as at 31<sup>st</sup> December.**

**CFWA UNDER AGE (13-15/16) PLAYING UP POLICY -**  
[UtG0devjHCkBFPOVJtGBotYH2xGEaRp8o6sEilqiFgk](#)

**A Colts player must be 19 years or younger as at 31st December and if not:**

**Approval:** Coach or senior club representative must get written approval from the child's parent or guardian, presented to the League Secretary.

**Identification:** Approved child can wear yellow shorts during the match to identify as underage.

**Registration:** Child must be registered on the Play HQ System and listed as underage on the team sheet.

**Benefit:** Player should benefit from playing up based on skills and strength; duty of care is the primary concern.

**Matching:** Coaches should match underaged players by age and ability according to the AFL Junior Match Guide.

**Umpire Notification:** Umpire must be informed and should protect the underaged player, discouraging rough conduct.

**Age Limit:** Players turning 14 in the current season can only play in a senior competition if no suitable local underage competition is available.

#### Playing Up

- Eligibility:** Players can play up a maximum of one year group with GFL approval.
- Criteria:** Players should only play up if they can compete adequately at the higher level and it's beneficial for them.
- Temporary Play:** Allowed if not displacing a registered player in the higher age group.
- Game Limit:** Maximum of four games in the older group without WAFC approval. (exemption from GFL can be applied for in special circumstance ie when evidence can be provided when both junior and colt participation numbers are low.)
- Permanent Move:** After the 5th game, players are part of the older group for the season. (exemption from GFL can be applied for in special circumstance ie when evidence can be provided when both junior and colt participation numbers are low.)
- Ineligibility:** Playing a 5th game without approval results in ineligibility and match forfeiture. (exemption from GFL can be applied for in special circumstance ie when evidence can be provided when both junior and colt participation numbers are low.)
- Awards:** Eligible for fairest and best votes in the higher age group.



### 30.23 Registration Cap Policy for Women's Grade

1. **Registration Cap:** The cap is set at 35 players. This limit will only be reconsidered once all club teams show increased participation and team numbers encroaching the cap.
2. **Injury Protocol:** If a female player suffers a season-ending injury, the club must provide a doctor's certificate. To register a replacement player, the club must submit a written application. The injured player cannot participate or be listed on the team sheet for the rest of the season. This protocol also applies to player relocations.
3. **Compliance:** Clubs failing to adhere to this protocol may face penalty or fines as determined by the commission.

### WAFL Permit

If the player is permitting to the club of origin, they can be added as an additional number to the registration cap. However, once they meet the finals eligibility criteria (three games), they will be considered a women's player for that team and included in the cap. If the intention is to qualify a player for finals, this must be considered in the registration numbers to ensure the cap is not exceeded. The attached form must be completed to notify the commission of their participation in each game.

### Regarding Juniors

If a player is participating in the junior competition, they do not count towards the registration cap. However, once they reach three games (finals eligibility), they will be considered a women's player and included in the cap.

If a junior player is not participating in the junior competition, they will count towards the registration cap. If the intention is to qualify a player for finals, this must be considered in the registration numbers to ensure the cap is not exceeded. The attached form must be completed to notify the commission of their participation in each game.

approved by CFWA

### 31.1 Having more than one team in an Age Group

In the event that a club enters more than one team in any age group and both teams are approved to play in the competition then the following is to apply:

- a) Prior to the season the Club should allocate players to each team in such a way that each team is considered of equal strength. The GFL Commission has the power to order a reallocation of players if club teams are viewed as unequal by Round 4.
- b) Team sheets are to remain constant. Players are not to move from team to team.
- c) Each team is to be treated separately.

### 31.2 Disability

A junior player with a disability may apply to the Commission to play down an age group during the current season.

31.2.1 Approval will only be granted if the player submits with their application to play down, written authority by a sports physician or registered medical practitioner.

31.2.2 The granting of any such request shall apply to the current season only.

31.2.3 A player granted permission to play down an age group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which the player has received permission to play.

### 31.3 Physical Size and Development Criteria

Junior players may apply to the Commission for permission to play down an age group during the current season.

3.4.1 Approval will only be granted if the player submits with their application to play down, written authority by a sports physician or doctor that addresses:

- That he is less than sex maturity rating 4; and
- Falls below the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile for height or weight.

3.4.2 The granting of any such request shall apply to the current season only.

3.4.3 A player granted permission to play down an age group will be eligible for the fairest and best votes for the grade in which he has been granted permission to play.

## 4. MATCHES

### 32.1 Playing Surface

- 32.1.1 The ground requirements are as stated in the [Laws of Australian Football](#) booklet.
- 32.1.2 For the Year 5/6 age group the recommended field dimensions are 110m in length and 75m in width.
- 32.1.4 For Year 7/8 and older the dimensions can range between 135m to 185m in length and 110m to 155m in width.
- 32.1.5 Games do not commence until padding is placed around all fixed goal and behind posts as per the Law 3.3.2 in the [Laws of Australian Football](#).
- 32.1.6 Clubs must have access to a telephone and emergency telephone numbers for ambulance, doctor and police.
- 32.1.7 Where a game is allocated to a neutral venue, the GFL shall nominate a home team, which shall be responsible for all provisions as if the game was being played on the home ground of that team.

### 32.2 Sanctioning of Matches

- 32.2.1 No Club shall play in any match including a scratch match or pre-season match without the sanction of the GFL.
- 32.2.2 Except as laid down in the Rules & Regulations, no club shall forfeit any match, nor abstain from playing any match without first obtaining permission of the League.
- 32.2.3 In the event of both captains and the field umpire in any match agreeing that the ground is unfit for play, the match shall be played at a time and place as determined by the Commission.
- 32.2.4 Teams are not permitted to leave the playing arena except at the half time interval.
- 32.2.5 The Commission shall have power to cancel the scores of any match and to order such match to be replayed at such time and place as it may think fit.
- 32.2.7 Except in the case of junior coaches, non-playing coaches may not enter inside the boundary whilst the match is in progress.

### 32.3 Team Sheets – as per CFWA RULES AND REGS 2.16

- 32.3.1.1 League players cannot take the field once the league game has commenced.

### 32.4 Footballs

Each competing team shall supply a football of a size approved for that age group and be in good condition and ready for match play.

- 32.4.1 The GFL will provide footballs for the grand final only.
- 32.4.2 Clubs will purchase footballs through the GFL with the GFL's football sponsor's logo placed on the football. Clubs may also have a sponsor as approved by the GFL Commission..
- 32.4.3 Footballs of the following sizes are approved for the use in the respective age groups.

Grade	Size of football
Year 3	2
Year 4	2
Year 5/6	3
Year 7/8	4
Year 9/10	5 (League sized)
Women	4
Colts, Reserves & League	5 (League sized)

## 32.5

### Duties before Matches

- 32.5.1 In the list of fixtures for the season for all grades, the team named first shall be called the "home" team and must supply a new League approved football for League games (or a good condition football for lower grades). The home team must also supply a suitable ball for use in emergencies. Should any home team not supply a new ball for playing the match, the club shall be fined an amount equal to the cost of a new ball (*refer to appendix*)
- 32.5.2 Each Team Manager must provide one red and one yellow flag to indicate to umpires and coaches when players who have been sent off can go back on the ground.
- 32.5.3 The home team is responsible for ensuring that a stretcher is available on the boundary and goal post pads are affixed to the goal (*refer to appendix*)
- 32.5.4 It shall be the duty of every grade as specified by the Commission to provide for each of its matches at least a timekeeper and one boundary umpire who should be suitably qualified.
- (a) The boundary umpire(s) must be dressed in the approved uniform.
- (b) No boundary umpire, goal umpire, trainer or water carrier shall advise or coach his/her team by signal or word of mouth.
- Any club which fields a player or players incorrectly dressed in any match conducted by the GFL shall be fined the sum as laid down by the Commission for each player reported for such breach (*refer to appendix*)

## 32.1

### Playing Times for Qualifying Matches

- 32.1.1 The following times and breaks shall apply to GFL qualifying matches:

GRADE	NORMAL START TIME	APPROX FINISH TIME	LENGTH QUARTERS	OF ¼ and ¾ TIME	HALF TIME	GAME TIME
Year 3	8.00am	8.50am	No more than 10 minutes	3 minutes	3 minutes	49 minutes
Year 4	8.00am	8.50am	No more than 10 minutes	3 minutes	3 minutes	49 minutes
Years 5/6	9.00am	9.51am	No more than 10 minutes	3 minutes	5 minutes	51 minutes
Years 7/8	10.00am	11.05am	No more than 12.5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes	65 minutes
Years 9/10	11.15am	12.45pm	Not more than 17.5 minutes	5 minutes	7 minutes	87 minutes
Women	9.00am	10.45am	No more than 15 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes	75 minutes
Colts	10.30am	12.40pm	20 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes	100 minutes
Reserves	12.30pm	2.40pm	20 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes	100 minutes
League	2.30pm	4.50pm +	20 minutes + time on	5 minutes	20 minutes	110 minutes +

- 32.1.1 Time-on may not be added to any junior game.
- 32.1.2 Night games will be fixtured at the League's discretion. Times for night games are set out above, however, the Commission may alter senior game times at their discretion.
- 32.1.3 Any club not ready to commence play within five (5) minutes of the prescribed starting time shall be fined the sum determined by the Commission unless a suitable explanation for such delay shall be accepted
- 32.5.5 Any club not ready to commence play within 15 minutes of the prescribed starting time shall automatically forfeit the match.
- A. Any club which forfeits shall be fined (**refer to appendix**) and premiership points awarded to the team receiving the benefit of the forfeit. All match costs will be borne by the forfeiting club. An appointing field umpire who attends the ground where a game is forfeited shall be paid the full fee for such game, provided they are not notified by 7pm the previous day of such forfeit. A League or Reserves team receiving the benefit of the forfeit shall either be credited with 90 points OR be awarded with the average number of goals and behinds for the season (after 5 games have been played by each club)- which ever option is a greater advantage for the team receiving the benefit of the forfeit. A Colts or Women's team receiving the benefit of the forfeit shall be credited with 60 points OR be awarded with the average number of goals and behinds for the season (after 5 games have been played by each club)- which ever option is a greater advantage for the team receiving the benefit of the forfeit.
  - B. A club which forfeits three qualifying matches in one season may be withdrawn from the competition and, subject to the Commission's discretion, may be ineligible for renomination in the following year. (**refer to appendix**) for the maximum fine that shall be imposed.
- 32.5.6 It is the responsibility of the home team in all senior grades to have an operational and attended scoreboard. Where no scoreboard attendant is supplied a fine shall be imposed in accordance with the Rules & Regulations (**refer to appendix**)
- 32.5.7 If a Colts, Reserves or Women's team can only field fourteen to eighteen (14 to 18) players at the commencement of a game, then the opposing team must field the same number of players (one on one). The remaining players may act as reserves. A match shall be deemed to be forfeited if either team consists of less than 14 players.
- 32.5.8 In the junior competition a match shall be deemed to be forfeited if either team consists of less than 14 players. Provided that if an opposing team is willing to loan players to the other team, then the match will not be classified as a forfeit and all points and allocation of fairest and best votes will be classified official.
- 32.5.8.1 If a team can only field between 14 and 18 players and the opposing team offers players to the lesser-numbered team, should the Coach/Club official for this team refuse the players offered, then their *Right of Refusal* revokes the even-up. Should no offer of players be extended to the lesser-numbered team, both teams must field the same number of players. This **does not** apply to final round matches.
- 32.5.8.2 Umpires are to be informed and noted on team sheet.
- Where players are loaned to another team, their names must be entered on the team list of that team and their original team's name shall be shown in brackets beside their names.
- i. Where a team fails to appear or where a team forfeits a match, full premiership (4) points shall be awarded to the team receiving the forfeit.
  - ii. The team receiving the forfeit should be credited with 60 points and debited with one point.

- iii. The team that forfeited the match shall be debited the 60 points and credited with one point.
- iv. In the case of a forfeited match, team lists showing the names of all players of both teams in attendance shall be submitted to the field umpire.

32.5.8.3 In the event of any forfeit both clubs involved shall advise the Commission in writing within 48 hours of the date of the match and the reasons for the forfeit.

32.5.8.4 The Commission shall be empowered to fine either or both clubs, if in its opinion the reasons given for the forfeit are not acceptable.

32.5.8.5 All players listed on the team sheet of the non-forfeiting team shall be credited as having played that game for the purposes of finals eligibility and historical records. Players from the forfeiting team shall not be credited as having played that game. No fairest and best votes or goals can be applied for such a match.

32.5.9 When a League match has been called off for any reason prior to the scheduled end of the game, determination of the match result, whether by replay, by later completion of the remaining match time, by forfeit or by the ruling score at the time, is to be decided following a properly constituted hearing involving the Commission, umpires, and representatives from both sides.

## **32.6 Alternative Dates**

32.6.1 Should it not be possible to play a match on the allotted date, such match shall be played on another date as early as possible thereafter, or where possible beforehand, and in any event prior to the end of the qualifying round of matches.

Should a postponed match be unable to be played prior to the end of the qualifying round, the team which caused the postponement shall forfeit such match and Clause 32.8 shall apply provided that the Commission is satisfied that both teams have used all their reasonable endeavors to have the match played.

## **32.7 Removal of Players from Arena**

If a coach or any official removes a team from the playing arena whilst a game is in progress, such person and a responsible official from the person's club shall be required to appear before the Commission and show cause why a penalty should not be imposed on the club and/or person for their actions.

## **32.8 Social Matches / Interclub Matches**

The Commission may arrange social matches or excursions for teams of registered players provided that:

- 32.8.1 Clubs must notify the GFL of social matches or excursions for teams of registered players.
- 32.8.2 Each member club shall, if possible, have an equal or near equal number of representatives in such match or excursion.
- 32.8.3 Players and team officials shall be sent on such terms as may be decided by the Commission.
- 32.8.4 If not set by the Commission, the rules for such matches may be agreed upon by the competing teams.

## **32.9 Duties During and After Matches**

32.9.1 In all qualifying matches and finals matches, all players and team sheets in all grades shall have been entered into the PlayHQ system prior to the match commencing.

- 32.9.2 In all qualifying matches, the GFL Umpires' Association shall be responsible for communicating the correct scores to the Operations Manager within two hours of the conclusion of the last match of the day.
- 32.9.3 Each team shall be responsible for having a team official present its match report sheets to the umpire after the match. **(refer to appendix)**
- 32.9.4 An official from both clubs shall escort the Umpire(s) from the playing arena to the change room at half time and at the completion of the match.

### 32.10 Final Round Matches

- 32.10.1 In the event of a club having two different grades in the finals, all matches will be fixtured at the highest-grade club's home ground, or a ground deemed to be suitable by the Commission regardless of the position of the opposing team in a lower grade. This is to facilitate best use of officials and umpires and the umpires and will be at the Commission's discretion.
- 32.10.2 The duration of quarters will remain the same as during the normal home and away season.

### 32.11 Timing of Quarters (Finals)

TIMING OF QUARTERS (Finals)				
	Women	Colts	Reserves	League
Day games	15 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes <b>PLUS time-on</b>

Time-on to be added where there is undue delay in any quarter, such as a stretcher coming onto the ground for an injured player or where an umpire stops the game because of a serious injury or melee, lost or damaged ball. In these circumstances, timekeepers will be directed by the Field umpires

### 32.12 Timekeepers

- 32.12.1 In the event of any disagreement between the two timekeepers as to the length or variation of the time of any quarter, such dispute shall, in the case of the first or second quarter, be reported to the field umpire at the half time interval and in the case of the third or fourth quarters, it shall be reported at the conclusion of the game. The field umpires shall note such a disagreement in a report to the Commission, and in the event of a protest on the result of the match on the grounds of an error in timekeeping, a copy of the report will be made available to the Tribunal, who shall adjudicate as to the result of the game.
- 32.12.2 Any club may protest the result of a match to the Commission on the grounds that the result was affected by an error in timekeeping. The Commission may refer the protest to the Tribunal who may confirm the result of the match to both affected clubs. The total points scored by both teams shall stand and count in the general percentages.

### 32.13 Protests

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

### 32.14 Counting of Players

The captain or acting captain of a team may at any time during a match request that the field umpire count the number of players of the opposing team who are on the playing surface.

- 32.14.1 Where a request is made the field umpire shall:
- a) stop play at the first available opportunity.
  - b) call into line within the centre square the players of both teams who at the time are on the playing surface and count the number of players.
  - c) upon completing the count, ensure that each team has the permitted number of players on the playing surface and then recommence play at the position on the playing field where the field umpire stopped play; and as soon as practicable after the match, report to the Commission that a request was made to count the number of players in a team and the number of players actually counted as well as the stage of the game and the scores at that point (**refer to appendix**) if count was unjustified
- 32.14.2 The maximum number of players permitted on the playing surface at the same time is 18 per team, or in the circumstances where a player/s has been ordered off, 18 less the players ordered from the playing surface.
- 32.14.3 Where a team has more than the permitted number of players on the playing surface, the following shall apply:
- a) should an extra player(s) be counted, the extra player(s) shall be removed from the field of play.
  - b) The field umpire shall award a free kick and a 50- metre penalty to the captain or acting captain of the opposing team, which shall be taken at the centre circle or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending team.



- c) the offending team shall lose all points it has scored in the match since the last quarter time break up to the time of the count.

### **32.15 GFL Umpires' Association**

32.15.1 All umpires shall be appointed by the GFL Umpires' Association which may discharge any umpire so appointed at any time.

32.15.2 The remuneration to be paid to each umpire shall be determined by the GFL Umpires' Association in agreement with the GFL.

32.15.3 Approaches to umpires or umpires' officials during a game:

- a) Senior officials, coaches and players must not approach an umpire officiating in a game at any time. The officiating umpire may report such persons.
- b) The junior club delegates are permitted to approach umpires during breaks to help diffuse volatile situations.
- c) The captain or the acting captain, may approach umpires during the quarter, half or three-quarter-time breaks.
- d) Any other player or club official who approaches the umpires either throughout the match, at breaks or after the match in a threatening or demonstrative manner will be subject to sanctions such as fines or suspensions from the League.

### **32.16 Runners, Trainers and Water Carriers**

32.16.1 All Runners, Trainers, and Water Carriers must wear enclosed shoes and either the supplied top or vest in the specified colors. Tops or vests must always be visible for all grades

32.16.1.1 **Runner: Pink shirts and shorts**

32.16.1.2 **Trainer/Medical: Orange shirt**

32.16.1.3 **Water Runner: Fluorescent yellow**

### 33. FINALS MATCHES

#### 33.1 Finals' Format

Final round matches shall be played as follows:

- (a) 1<sup>st</sup> semi-final – 3<sup>rd</sup> vs 4<sup>th</sup>
- (b) 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-final – 1<sup>st</sup> vs 2<sup>nd</sup>
- (c) Preliminary final – loser of 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-final vs the winner of the 1<sup>st</sup> semi-final.
- (d) Grand final – winner of 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-final vs winner of the preliminary final.

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

#### 33.2 Finals' Venues

	SENIORS	JUNIORS
<b>1<sup>st</sup> semi-final</b>	Ground selected by the league team who are 3 <sup>rd</sup> on the ladder at the conclusion of the Home and Away series	Ground selected by the Year 9/10's team who are 1 <sup>st</sup> on the ladder at the conclusion of the Home and Away series
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> semi-final</b>	Ground selected by the league team who are 1 <sup>st</sup> on the ladder at the conclusion of the Home and Away series	
<b>Preliminary final</b>	Ground selected by the League team who lose the 2 <sup>nd</sup> semi-final or provisioned by the Commission.	Ground selected by the Years 9/10's team who lose the 2 <sup>nd</sup> semi-final
<b>Grand final</b>	Ground selected by the League team who win the 2 <sup>nd</sup> semi-final	Ground selected by the Years 9/10's team who win the 2 <sup>nd</sup> semi-final

In the event that the chosen grounds are not up to standard, the Commission shall make the final decision on the venue for all finals.

Semi-finals are to be deemed as one fixture, whether the 1<sup>st</sup> semi-final and 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-finals are on the same day, Saturday/Sunday, weekdays or split over different weekends.

#### 33.3 Eligibility for Finals – League, Reserves & Women

A player who wishes to participate in League, Reserves or Women's final round matches may do so, provided he/she is qualified under the following conditions. **Note** the GFL final eligibility listed below is

- 33.3.1 A player must play at least one (1) qualifying match in the League grade in the current season before finals matches commence to be eligible to appear in any final round match of League grade competition. Players on permits must ensure that they also qualify under any permitted players' Rules & Regulations.
- 33.3.2 A player must play at least four (4) qualifying matches in the Reserves grade in the current season before finals matches commence to be eligible to appear in any final round match of Reserves grade competition. Players on permits must ensure that they also qualify under any permitted players' Rules & Regulations.
- 33.3.3 A player must play at least three (3) qualifying matches in the Women's grade in the current season before finals matches commence to be eligible to appear in any final round match.
- 33.3.4 If the League and Reserves teams are both in the Grand Final, a player may play in either the League or Reserves team subject to having played a minimum of four club games. Players on permits must ensure that they also qualify under any permitted players' Rules & Regulations.
- 33.3.5 A player who takes part in a finals match in League shall be eligible to play in Reserves (after the League team is eliminated from the finals) if the player concerned has played four (4) Reserves qualifying matches. Players on permits must ensure that they also qualify under any permitted players' Rules & Regulations.
- 33.3.6 When a club has more than one team playing in a final on the same weekend, a player from the League grade may play for the lower grade team provided it is the Club's next lowest grade and the player has played the required four (4) club games. No player, except those of Colts age, is permitted to play in both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-finals. Players on permits must ensure that they also qualify under any permitted players' Rules & Regulations.
- 33.3.6.1 To qualify for finals, a player playing under a season permit from a WAFL Club for a GFL Club of Origin must have met GFL qualifying games for that grade.
- 33.3.6.2 To qualify for finals, a player playing under a season permit from a WAFL club who is not playing for a GFL Club of Origin must have

played more GFL games than games played for the other club in which he is dual registered.

**33.3.6.3** A player who is playing under a FIFO/DIDO season permit from a CFWA or Perth Football League (PFL) club must have played more GFL games than games played for the other club in which he is dual registered. This does not apply to a GFL player playing for a GFL Club of Origin.

**33.3.6.4** In the case of a player who misses a club fixture due to participation in a State Country game, that fixture counts towards finals' eligibility.

**33.3.7** Players playing on permits must have played more GFL games than games played for the player's home club in order to play in GFL finals.

**33.3.8** A forfeited or abandoned game shall count as a qualifying match. The team being forfeited against must still complete their match/team list as per normal procedure. This rule only applies to the team receiving the benefit of the forfeit or abandonment.

**33.3.9** Anyone who has served overseas in the Army Reserves may apply to the Commission for permission to play and participate in finals and permission may be granted at the discretion of the Commission.

**33.3.10** In the case of a player playing multiple matches for the same Club on the same fixture/round during the qualifying rounds, all games played will count towards finals qualification.

#### **33.4**

##### **Eligibility for Finals - Colts**

**33.4.1** A Colts player must play at least four (4) qualifying matches in Colts in the current season before finals matches commence to be eligible to appear in any final round match for the Colts.

**33.4.2** A player who takes part in a finals match of League grade shall be eligible to play in a Colts match if the player concerned has played four (4) Colts qualifying matches.

**33.4.6.1** To qualify for finals, a player playing under a season permit from a WAFL Club for a GFL Club of Origin must have met GFL qualifying games for that grade.

**33.4.6.2** To qualify for finals, a player playing under a season permit from a WAFL club who is not playing for a GFL Club of Origin must have played more GFL games than games played for the other club in which he is dual registered

**33.4.4** Games played in the State Under 16's and 18's shall count as qualifying games for Colts. Lower grade State games such as state school system will not count towards qualifying games for senior football.

**33.4.5** A Colts player can only play in one Grand Final.

#### **33.5**

##### **Eligibility for Finals – Juniors**

**33.5.1** To be eligible to take part in any final round match, a player must have played a minimum of four matches for that team in the qualifying rounds of that season. State age group games such as state school system teams and state 16's will be considered a qualifying match.

**33.5.2** For a player to be eligible to play finals in a higher age group, the player MUST have played a minimum of four matches for that team in the qualifying rounds.

**33.5.2.1** If a club allows an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player

to play in any team in a final round game the team will be disqualified, and the game awarded to the opposing team.

### **33.6**

#### **Drawn Matches in Finals**

- 33.6.1** There shall be no drawn match results in GFL League finals matches. All games will be decided by two five-minute periods of extra time. If scores are level in all grades at the designated end of extra time then the siren will sound and the goal umpires will confer and if they are agreeable that the game is drawn, the game will recommence and the team captains will decide which team will kick to which end of the ground by the toss of a coin and play will then resume. If the scores are level after the completion of the first two periods of extra time teams will change ends then golden score will determine the winner.
- 33.6.2** For League games, if the scores are level after the completion of the first two periods of extra time, then two more periods of extra time will be played. This will continue until a result is reached.
- 33.6.3** On receiving confirmation that the scores are level, the field umpires shall advise both captains that two additional five- minute periods with time-on shall be played. Colts, Reserves and Women's teams will not have time-on included in the extra time. In the first additional period, teams shall kick to the opposite end to which they kicked in the final quarter.
- 33.6.4** The interval between the siren to conclude the fourth quarter and the commencement of the first period of additional time shall be six minutes. Coaches shall be permitted to address teams during this period and other club staff entitled under the GFL Rules & Regulations to enter the arena at the intervals, may also attend their team.
- 33.6.5** Timekeepers shall sound the sirens in accordance with the normal start of each quarter:
- Two minutes prior to the official start time - three sirens;
  - One minute prior to official start time - two sirens;
  - Official start time - one siren.

At the conclusion of the first period of additional time, teams shall immediately change ends. Coaches and other club staff shall not be permitted to enter the arena at this time

## **34. UNIFORMS**

### **34.1 Commission Approval**

Every club, upon admission to the League, shall apply for and obtain permission of the GFL Commission to use the colours, uniform, sponsors logo and design under which the Club proposes to play. Upon the Commission approving the uniform of the member, such uniform shall be deemed to be the registered uniform of that member and shall be registered in the GFL Rules & Regulations.

### **34.2 Exclusive Rights to Colours and Design**

Registration of such colours, uniform and design by Clubs shall give such clubs exclusive right to such colours, uniform, and design as against any other Club subsequently attempting to register the same colours, uniform, and design.

### **34.3 Determination of Dispute**

In the event of more than one club designing the same uniform and colours, the Commission shall determine the uniform and colour in accordance with the following priorities:

**34.3.1** The club whose uniform was approved by the Commission first.

**34.3.2** Time of application for admission.

### **34.4 Variation or Alteration of Colours or Design**

Any club desiring to vary or alter its colours, uniform or design shall first apply for and obtain the permission of the GFL Commission to make such variation or alteration and when approved, the same shall be registered by the same process.

### **34.5 Materials Used in Manufacture of Uniforms**

The materials used and the manufacturing process of Club uniforms must be approved by the GFL Commission who will have regard to the **product license agreements** from time to time in force. Any variation to the approved material or manufacturing process must be approved by the GFL Commission.

### **34.6 Jumper Design and Colours**

The following guernseys are the current approved designs for the respective clubs:



**BOULDER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB**

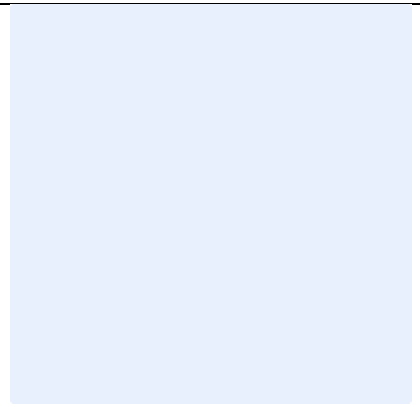
**LEAGUE HOME GUERNSEY**



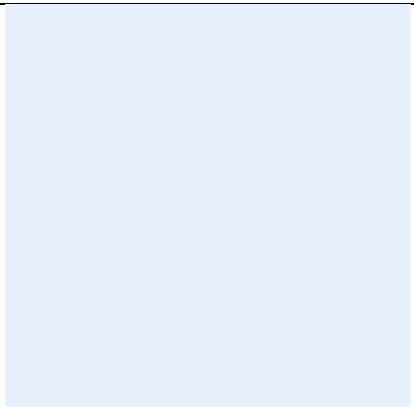
**LEAGUE AWAY**



**ALTERNATE GUERNSEY**



**INDIGENOUS GUERNSEY**



**KALGOORLIE CITY FOOTBALL CLUB**

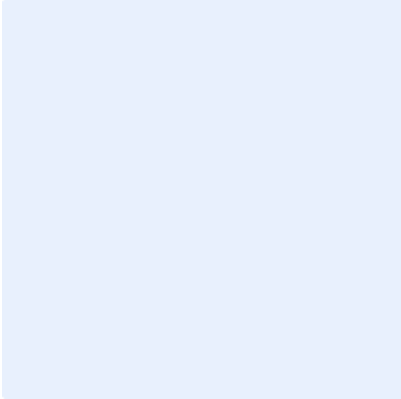
**LEAGUE HOME GUERNSEY**



**AWAY GUERNSEY**



**ALTERNATE GUERNSEY**



**INDIGENOUS GUERNSEY**

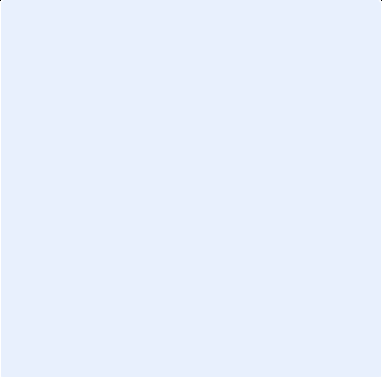


**MINES ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB**

**HOME GUERNSEY**



**ALTERNATE GUERNSEY**



**INDIGENOUS GUERNSEY**



**LEAGUE HOME GUERNSEY**



# KAMBALDA FOOTBALL CLUB

HOME GUERNSEY	ALTERNATE GUERNSEY
	
INDIGENOUS GUERNSEY	LEAGUE HOME GUERNSEY
	

# RAILWAYS FOOTBALL CLUB

HOME GUERNSEY	ALTERNATE GUERNSEY
	
INDIGENOUS GUERNSEY	LEAGUE AWAY GUERNSEY
	

**33.1 Jumper Advertising**

Clubs must apply annually to the Commission to place advertising on their jumpers. Clubs must also obtain approval for the type of sponsor from the League prior to any new sponsors' logos being displayed on the Club uniform. Failure to gain the necessary approvals will invoke a penalty.

**33.2 Jumper Numbers**

The playing number of each player must be securely affixed to the back of his/her guernsey before the commencement of each match. Playing numbers are to be a minimum of 200mm high.

**33.1 Shorts**

33.1.1 All teams shall wear Club coloured shorts at home.

33.1.2 League players must wear white shorts when playing away. It is optional for the other grades to wear white shorts when away.

33.1.3 Any club which permits its players to take the field in a uniform which does not comply with these requirements commits an offence in each match in which such uniform is worn.

33.1.4 In any dispute on the question of coloured shorts, the final say will rest with the Commission.

33.1.5 Approval for all shorts logos must be sought from the Commission.

**33.2 Socks**

Players must wear their club's agreed colour socks. These socks may have a sponsor's badge/logo on them. All changes to sock designs and/or sponsor logos must be approved by the Commission.

No restriction on size and can be placed anywhere but must be endorsed by the Commission.

**33.3 Football Boots**

Football boots must be worn when playing in the Goldfields Football League competition and form a part of the official uniform.

**33.4 Players suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition**

Where a player is aware that he/she has an actual or potential disability or medical condition which could result in an injury he/she will require a certificate from a medical practitioner, certifying that the player will, in the view of the medical practitioner, receive adequate protection in respect of such potential injury from the protective headgear. The necessary form is available at **APPENDIX 7 – Forms**.

**33.4.1 Players not suffering from any known disabilities or medical condition.**

The Protective Equipment form requires a parent or guardian to state that a player does not suffer from any known disability or medical condition which will be affected if injuries are received to the head whilst wearing the said protective headgear.

33.4.2 The Protective Equipment form must be shown to the

umpire before each match. The umpire is authorised to forbid the player from participating in the game if the form of approval is not shown.

- 33.4.3 It is compulsory for junior players to wear protective mouth guards in all junior matches.
- 33.4.4 The Commission does not recommend the wearing of playing gloves; these should only be worn on the recommendation of a Sports Physician, supported by a valid medical certificate, and approved in writing by the Commission.
- 33.4.5 Players are not permitted to wear a plaster cast during a game.
- 33.4.6 Players wishing to wear spectacles during matches and training must wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses and they must be held on securely by a band.
- 34.11.7 Players must not wear compression garments (skins) that are not flesh coloured.

## **34. PROTESTS & DISPUTES**

All protests, disputes and disciplinary matters or charges by Umpires, may first be heard by the Commission if they so decide, or they may refer any matter to the Tribunal at their discretion for hearing and determination.

The Commission may impose such fines or penalties as it deems fit and may refer matters to the Tribunal for deliberation at their discretion.

## **35. CHARGES BY UMPIRES**

- 35.1 Umpires preferring charges against players shall do so in accordance with, and shall otherwise comply with, the [Laws of Australian Football](#).
- 35.2 Umpires may also prefer charges against clubs, coaches or other officials of any club in respect of matters arising out of or in the course of any game, and in relation to, shall so far as possible, follow the same procedure as in the case of charges against players.

## **36. DEFAULT OF PLAYERS AND CLUBS**

- 36.1 If any Club shall fail to pay any annual fees, contribution, fine or other payment for which the Club is liable under these Rules & Regulations within the time prescribed for payment of same, or before commencement of the final round of fixtures for that current playing year, the Club shall be deemed to be unfinancial and unable to participate in finals in any grade of football and no nomination or re-nomination shall be accepted for the following season.
- 36.2 An unfinancial club shall also lose its representation to the League until they shall have made the payment and if a resolution be carried by the Commission, in favour of expulsion, the Club may be expelled from the League unless a satisfactory explanation of the default is given to the Commission and as to the sufficiency of the explanation the Commission shall be the sole judge.
- 36.3 Any club expelled from the League shall lose and forfeit all interest and benefit of the club in the League and in funds and property of the League as from the date of expulsion.

- 36.4 If any player shall fail to pay any fine incurred by him under these Rules & Regulations, he/she shall be disqualified from playing in any matches until the fine has been paid.
- 36.5 For the purpose of these Rules & Regulations, a club or player shall be deemed to be in default if the fine is not paid prior to the next game after notice that the fine has been incurred.
- 36.6 Any club expelling a player from its ranks shall forward to the Operations Manager within seven (7) days the name of the player, together with particulars of the offence for which he/she was expelled.
- 36.7 The Commission may by resolution from time to time, declare any acts or omissions by clubs or players not specifically mentioned in these Rules & Regulations and may also declare the penalty for any such offences, provided always that no penalty shall be imposed until notification setting forth the offences so declared and the penalties for them shall have been first sent to every club.

## **37. GROUND HIRE**

The total cost of all ground hire for training shall be borne by all clubs proportionate to usage. Ground hire for official matches shall be paid by the GFL.

## **38. FINES, AFFILIATION FEES AND LEVIES**

- 38.1 The Commission may, at their discretion, impose a fine upon clubs for any offence committed under the rules or Rules & Regulations of the GFL in cases where specific penalties are not prescribed for such offence.
- 38.2 Any club affiliated with the GFL who acts inconsistently against the Rules & Regulations of the GFL, or who compromises or jeopardises any GFL sponsorship agreement with any sponsor, shall be liable for loss of all benefits from the Sponsor to the offending clubs. A penalty as determined by the Commission may be imposed which may be a fine, loss of premiership points or decrease in Player Points allocation for the following season(s) or any other penalty that the Commission determines appropriate.
- 38.3 All fines incurred by any clubs, officials or members of clubs, players or spectators shall be paid into the funds of the League.
- 38.4 All outstanding invoices must be settled within seven days of the end of each round of football
- 38.5 No club may participate in final round games if it has any money outstanding on the day of the last qualifying fixture apart from any fines incurred from that last qualifying fixture of which those monies must be paid in full before the finals round games commence or within seven days of receipt of the invoice from the GFL.
- 38.6 If at any time the funds of the League shall not be sufficient to meet the expenditure of the League, the Commission may, by resolution carried by a majority of two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote, order a call to be made upon the clubs. Notice in writing that the call has been ordered and specifying the amount thereof shall be sent to the clubs by the Secretary and each club so notified shall pay the amount of the call into the funds of the GFL within thirty (30) days after notice shall have been sent.
- 38.7 Each club will be levied an annual affiliation fee as determined by the GFL Commission based on the number of teams. The current structure is \$3,000 for a league team, \$1,500 each for Reserves, Colts and Women's teams. All clubs will pay \$50 per head per junior player registered who have been registered under the GFL PlayHQ system. These amounts can be reviewed at the determination of the GFL Commission each season/year



## 39. PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATION

The GFL points system outlined below supersedes the CFWA player points system for all GFL Players. All GFL shall be allocated a Player Points Value using the following criteria:

1.1 Players shall be allocated a Player Points Value using the following criteria:

POINT RATING	DESCRIPTION	COMPETITION	# GAMES TO MEET QUALIFICATION
<b>1 Point</b>	- Club of Origin Player as per CFWA Rule & Regulation 2.21 - Hasn't played anywhere for three or more full football seasons	NA	Nil
<b>2 Points</b>	- Reserves or Colts from another community club* (Metro or Country) - Nonaligned Juniors / Not considered Club of Origin or - Or played at an equivalent level interstate	CFWA Reserves & Colts PFL Colts & Reserves *PFL D & E Grade	1+ in any one season
<b>3 Points</b>	- League from another community club (Metro or Country) - WAFL Colts - Or played at an identified equivalent level interstate	CFWA League Grades PFL A, B, C Grades Sunday Football League WAFL Colts	5+ in any one season
<b>4 Points</b>	- WAFL Reserves (+10 games in a season) - or played at an identified equivalent level interstate - AFLQ, AFL NSW/ACT, AFL TAS, & AFL NT Top Divisions	WAFL, SANFL, & VFL Reserves	10+ in any one season
		AFLQ, AFL NSW/ACT, AFL NT, AFL TAS Top Divisions	5+ in any one season
<b>5 Points</b>	- WAFL League - or Played at an identified equivalent level interstate	WAFL, SANFL, VFL	5+ in any one season
<b>6 Points</b>	- AFL (1 game in previous 4 years)	AFL	1+ in any one season

- 1.2 For the 2025 season, any player transferring into the league will be graded at the highest points value that they have achieved in the previous 3 years, in addition to the current season, where they have meet the relevant games played threshold in a season, unless they either:
- Haven't played football for three seasons;
  - Have received a PPV reduction through loyalty for their club.
  - Any player who has played, but has not met a games threshold, will be rated as a 2-point player. The only exception is if they have played WAFL League or WAFL Reserves (or identified interstate equivalent). In these instances, they will be rated at the player points value below the highest level played. (i.e. if the highest level the player has played is 6 games of WAFL reserves, they will receive a three-point rating).
  - Are a CFWA player who participates in the NTFL, in what is the CFWA off season, and then returns to play with a CFWA club the following year. In this instance the player's points value does not change (unless a loyalty reduction is applicable)
  - Any GFL player who has played less than 10 league games of football in the previous three years who seeks transfer to another GFL club will be rated in as a 3 point player.
  - Any GFL player who has played 10 or more league games of football in the previous three years who seeks transfer to another GFL club will be rated as 4 point player.
  - Any GFL player who has only ever played Reserves or Colts for his respective GFL club or hasn't played League football within the last three years and seeks transfer to another GFL club will be rated a 2 point player.
- 1.3 Existing GFL players will maintain their 2024 player point rating, unless applicable for a reduction in line with 1.5.
- 1.4 A 3 year look back, in addition to the current season, is rolling and should be reviewed prior to the commencement of each season upon the league receiving a request from the player's club to do so.
- i.e. A player transferring into a club in 2025 will be rated at their highest level played (that they have meet the minimum games threshold) across seasons 2022, 2023, 2024 + any qualified rating in the 2025 season).
- 1.5 For players who are valued at more than one point and remain at the same club, their value will reduce by one point for each season, beginning in their second consecutive season at the club in which they either;
- Play for the solitary club (a minimum of 1 game) or;
  - Play a minimum of five games in each season for the club (in the case that they play for more than one club in a season)

- 1.5 If any club considers that the points allocated to a player is incorrect or the player is eligible for a Points reduction, the club must submit an appeal/request to the League's Operations Manager. The league's match and permit sub-committee, or other person's as identified by the league, will be responsible for confirming the correct number of points.
- 1.6 All player points allocations will be deemed final as of the 1<sup>st</sup> July in the current season and will not be amended thereafter.
- 1.7 The Total number of points assigned to Clubs for the 2025 season will be:
- | CLUB            | POINTS CAP |
|-----------------|------------|
| Boulder City    | 48         |
| Kalgoorlie City | 48         |
| Kambalda        | 55         |
| Mines Rovers    | 48         |
| Railways        | 48         |
- 1.8 Every player that is currently a member of, or transfers into, a club will be allocated a PPV on their Play HQ profile by a league administrator on request of the players club. The deadline for submitting a request for a PPV allocation to a player is 12:00pm on Friday (day of the week) prior to that weekend's games, unless the league indicates otherwise.
- 1.9 Teams are required to enter 22 players onto a team sheet to be eligible to submit the team sheet. A team sheet will not be able to be submitted should fewer than 22 players be selected.
- 1.10 If a club wins a game and is found to have exceeded the points limit, the following penalties may be enforced at the leagues discretion:
- loss of premiership points;
  - credited with "no score" and debited with the full score of their opponents;
  - fined \$250.00.
- Their opponents will receive the premiership points and be credited and debited with the full scores as registered for the game.
- 1.9 If the club loses the game and is found to have exceeded the points limit the following penalties may be enforced at the leagues discretion:
- fined a total of \$250.00;
  - credited with "no score" and debited with the full score of their opponents.
- Their opponents will be credited and debited with the full scores as registered for the game.

#### **PLAYER POINTS STATUS DETERMINATION**

Player points status will be determined by the GFL Commission utilising information from Sports TG and Play HQ records to capture that player's history.

All existing players will be rated, and their new points ratings provided to all GFL clubs by the end of February each season.

Clubs will need to complete a spreadsheet of all players and their playing history and submit it to the GFL two weeks prior to the first fixtured game. The GFL will review all points allocated by clubs and confirm this. Post this date, all new players being cleared into the league will have their points allocated to them by the GFL Commission within seven days of their clearance being finalised.

For players coming to a club by transfer or permit during the season and whose transfer or permit is approved on PlayHQ less than seven days prior to them wishing to play on a Saturday or Sunday and where the Operations Manager or GFL Commissioner for Compliance have been unavailable to provide a player rating, clubs must undertake a self-assessment rating of that player's points status. Any incorrect rating will result in penalties applying should total points exceed that what is allowable.

PENALTIES – BREACHING POINTS ALLOCATION	
For exceeding the allocated points allocated in a winning game.	<p>Loss of premiership points and/or fine of \$500.</p> <p>Match shall be awarded to the opposing team (premiership points).</p> <p>The team awarded the premiership point will be credited with 90 and debited with</p>
	<p>one point.</p> <p>ii. The team that breached the points cap shall be debited the 90 points and credited with one point.</p>
For exceeding the allocated points allocated in a losing game.	<p>Fine of \$500.</p> <p>There will be no penalty with points scored for and against.</p>

FALSE DECLARATIONS	
For knowingly presenting false or Misleading information for player's ratings.	Liable to a fine of up to \$500.
AnyClub official complicit in the submission of a false declaration.	Liable to a fine of up to \$500 and / or disqualification.
Any player providing false or misleading information.	<p>Shall be liable to penalties including but not limited to:</p> <p>Fine (as detailed above) Dereistration Suspension</p> <p>The Club of such player or official maybe liable to a fine of up to \$500 and / or loss of competition points.</p>

TEAM SHEET	
Deliberate errors or omissions on team sheet.	Fine of up to \$500.
Failure to list 22 players on a League game team sheet in Home and Away season.	<p>Loss of premiership points and/or fine of \$500.</p> <p>(Unless a club can satisfy the GFL Commission it does not have 22 players available, and approval is sought from the Chairman or Vice Chairman to play with less than 22 players prior to the game commencing).</p>
Failure to list 22 players on a League game team sheet in the finals' series.	Loss of the game and/or fine of \$1000.

### APPEAL BOARD - PROCESS

Any club seeking to appeal must lodge an amount of \$250 with GFL Operations Manager. All appeals must be in writing detailing grounds for the Appeal. Refund of monies will be determined by the Commission.

### Appeal Penalties

Clubs / Players have the right to appeal Club / Player penalties by making a written detailed lodgement emailed to the GFL Secretary.

### Player ratings

Clubs have the right to appeal the decision made by the GFL Commissioner for Compliance or the Operations Manager in the event they have evidence an incorrect rating has been made. Appeals will be heard by the full GFL Commission

## APPENDIX 3 – Fines, Penalties and Fees

Players	
False declaration made on Play HQ	\$300
Incorrectly dressed players (cost per player)	\$20
Ineligible player	\$250
Playing an unregistered player (+ loss of premiership points, percentage and Champion Club points in a winning game)	\$250
Games	
Forfeited game – 1 <sup>st</sup> forfeit (same club, excluding Juniors)	\$500
Forfeited game – 2 <sup>nd</sup> or subsequent occurrence (same club, excluding Juniors)	\$1,000
Forfeited game – 3 <sup>rd</sup> game – club may be eliminated from competition (same club, excluding Juniors)	
Head count requested and found to be unjustified	\$200
Late starting	
• 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter	\$50
• 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter	\$20
• 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter	\$50
• 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter	\$20
Melee	\$500
Tribunal	
Non-attendance at Tribunal when summoned to appear.	\$150
Misconduct by any Person at a Tribunal	Max \$500
Equipment/Club Personnel	
First aid stretcher not supplied or not on boundary	\$100
Goal post padding not applied or removed after game	\$50
New ball not supplied by home team	\$100
Rub down bench not provided for opposition team	\$50
Runners or water carriers incorrectly dressed	\$50
Scoreboard attendant not supplied (not applicable to juniors)	\$50
Sundry	
Not advising the names of office bearers when requested	\$100
Failure to supply a timekeeper	\$100
Failure to supply boundary umpires	\$200
Misconduct by not complying with Rules & Regulations	Max \$2000
Media, website or social media comments	Max \$2000
Lodging a Protest/Charge against a Player/Club/Official/Member of another Club	\$200

Failing to stop the bus to let players and officials disembark outside the oval	\$500
No Penalty Prescribed in Rules & Regulations	Max \$10,000
No representation at Presidents' meeting	\$250
Protest or charge against another player or official	\$200
Removal of premiership points for serious breaches	Commission determination
Decrease on player points cap for serious breaches	Commission determination

#### APPENDIX 4 – Champion Club Points

The Champion Club will be decided on the following formula:

League wins	Four (4) points
Reserves wins	Three (3) points
Colts wins	Two (2) points
Women's wins	Two (2) points
Years 9/10 wins	Two (2) points
Years 7/8 wins	Two (2) points
Yellow card	Deduct one (1) point
Red card (either accepted set penalty or convicted at Tribunal)	Deduct three (3) points
Nutrien Ag Carnival selection	1 point per player up to a maximum of four (4) points
Great Southern Carnival selection	0.5 point per player up to a maximum of four (4) points
Tribunal appearances – officials or non-players (convicted)	Deduct five (5) points
Accredited coaches	One (1) point
Evidence provided of Working with Children's Checks by club personnel	0.5 point up to a maximum of eight (8) points

## APPENDIX 5 – Criteria for Rookie of the Year

Each year the Commission will accept nominations for up to two Colts aged players from each club for the Rookie of the Year Award. The criteria for nomination are:

- The player must be aged 21 years & under as at 31 December of the current season.
- Rookie of the year nominees must be of good character and uphold the values encouraged by the GFL and their club.
- Misdemeanours including red, yellow cards or suspensions will be taken into consideration when nominations are received.
- Participation within the community especially with the promotion of football in the Goldfields will be highly regarded. Involvement of Representative Football is highly regarded.
- Nominees must have played with a GFL junior club/program or colts' football. Must have been a consistent GFL player in transition from juniors to seniors
- If the player has played at a higher level than the GFL it must be in a representative role. For example, Great Southern Colts, Nutrien Ag, State Country or WAFL with our zone club, Subiaco.
- The nominee must not have played more than twenty (20) senior League games in GFL or equivalent level as the GFL, as at the end of the current playing season.

Clubs should check player's statistics on PlayHQ to determine eligibility

For players coming to a club by transfer or permit during the season and whose transfer or permit is approved on PlayHQ less than seven days prior to them wishing to play on a Saturday or Sunday and where the Operations Manager or GFL Commissioner for Compliance have been unavailable to provide a player rating, clubs must undertake a self-assessment rating of that player's points status. Any incorrect rating will result in penalties applying should total points exceed that what is allowable.

## APPENDIX 6 – Kambalda Roatations

The Kalgoorlie based clubs will sacrifice one home game to play three games in Kambalda on the years listed below.

YEAR	CLUB
2025	Boulder
2026	Kalgoorlie
2027	Railways
2028	Mines
2029	Boulder
2030	Kalgoorlie
2031	Railways
2032	Mines
2033	Boulder
2034	Kalgoorlie
2035	Railways
2036	Mines
2037	Boulder
2038	Kalgoorlie
2039	Railways
2040	Mines
2041	Boulder
2042	Kalgoorlie
2043	Railways
2044	Mines
2045	Boulder
2046	Kalgoorlie
2047	Railways
2048	Mines
2049	Boulder
2050	Kalgoorlie
2051	Railways

## APPENDIX 7 – forms and resources

[Application for Honorary GFL membership](#)

[Junior Code of Conduct form](#)

[Junior Medical form](#)

[Permission to Wear Protective Gear form](#)

[Player Transfer Refusal form](#)

[Player Withdrawal of Transfer form](#)

[Prohibited Persons Declaration form](#)

[Report of Umpire form](#)

[Standard Disciplinary Record of Tribunal Proceedings form](#)