

AFL Sydney Seniors



BY-LAWS 2020

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Introduction

The following By-Laws have been made by [Insert League] pursuant to its role to administer Australian Football Competitions in the [Insert Region].

Definitions

All capitalised terms not defined in these By-Laws have the same meaning as in the Regulations.

In these By-Laws, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meaning.

AFL Extreme Weather Policy means the policy that sets out the approach that the League should adopt when assessing extreme weather conditions.

Host Club means the first named Club or Team in the official Season Fixture, but not always the venue of the first named Club (i.e. the Host Club), even when the Match is transferred to another venue.

Junior means a Player in the nine (9) to twelve (12) years age bracket, or Competition covering this age bracket.

Match means an official match in a Competition conducted by the League.

Melee Matrix grading system means the melee matrix grading system notified to all Clubs prior to the start of the home and away season, as updated or superseded from time to time.

Prospective Players (Juniors) means a person displaying intention to play for a Club up to three (3) days after the initial approach who is not registered yet.

Prospective Players (Seniors) means a person displaying intention to play at a club for up to four (4) weeks after initial approach.

Regional Variation means a change or inclusion to the By-Laws of the Competition as provided for under By-Law 3.3

Season Fixture means the official schedule of matches in a Competition as determined by the League prior to the commencement of a season.

Senior means a Player over the age of eighteen (18) years, or Player participating in a Competition conducted for players in this age bracket.

Team means a Club’s team participating in a Match in a Competition conducted by the League.

Team Sheet means the list of Players and Officials in Footyweb or as provided for practice matches as required, to participate in a Match.

Youth means a player in the thirteen (13) to eighteen (18) years age bracket, or Player participating in a Competition covering this age bracket.

Interpretation

In the interpretation of these By-Laws, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (a) words importing the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa;
- (b) words importing any gender shall be deemed to include the other gender;
- (c) headings are included for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of these By-Laws;
- (d) "including" and similar words are not words of limitation;
- (e) any words, terms or phrases defined in the remainder of these By-Laws shall have the meaning prescribed within the By-Laws; and words, terms or phrases not otherwise defined in these By-Laws shall be given their ordinary meaning.

BY-LAWS

1. AFL NSW/ACT REGULATIONS

- (A) All Leagues, Clubs, Players and Officials must comply with the Regulations.
- (B) In the event of any inconsistency between the Regulations and these By-Laws, the Regulations will prevail.
- (C) AFL NSW/ACT may suspend any By-Law from operation. Any such suspension shall be advised to Leagues and Clubs in writing and shall remain in force until AFL NSW/ACT determines otherwise.

2. CLUB AFFILIATION

- (A) All Clubs must affiliate with the League in the form and on such conditions as determined by the League and AFL NSW/ACT from time to time pursuant to a Club Participation Agreement.
- (B) Affiliation with the League and participating in League Competitions is granted to a Club by the League on an annual basis.
- (C) To be affiliated with the League and participate in League's Competition(s), a Club must lodge a signed application for affiliation or participation, along with any prescribed fee (which may also include, in addition to or in lieu of a prescribed affiliation fee, the lodgement of a bond) to the Competition Management Committee and have such application approved by the Competition Management Committee.
- (D) The amount of any affiliation fee, or the terms of any bond, are to be prescribed by the Competition Management Committee from time to time.
- (E) The Competition Management Committee may:
 - a. approve a Club's affiliation application;
 - b. approve the Club's affiliation application on terms and conditions as it reasonably requires;
 - c. approve the Club's affiliation application with a request for further or additional information, or amend or revise the application;
 - d. refuse to grant the Club's affiliation application; or
 - e. defer same.
- (F) In determining whether to grant a Club's affiliation application or in making any decision pursuant to By-Law 2(E), the Competition Management Committee shall take into account:
 - a. the Club's structure, governance and administration, including succession plans and long-term planning and development;
 - b. the promotion of AFL by the Club and its contribution to the ongoing development of Australian Football;
 - c. the financial health of the Club;
 - d. the behavioural and conduct history of the Club, its Teams, Players, Officials, volunteers and spectators, and the Club's relationships with other Clubs and the League;

- e. any other matter that the Competition Management Committee deems appropriate.
- (G) In accordance with the Club Participation Agreement, the Competition Management Committee may with prior approval from AFL NSW/ ACT, terminate the Club Participation Agreement at any time after each football season by giving 3 month's written notice to the Club. No reasons are required to be provided by the Competition Management Committee. The Club acknowledges and agrees that the Club Participation Agreement does not create a right or expectation of continued participation in any particular Competitions or any future competition/s administered by AFL NSW/ACT.
- (H) Notwithstanding the above, immediately upon notice where:
- a. the Club unreasonably fails to duly and promptly comply with its Obligations in the Club Participation Agreement;
 - b. if the Club or any of its officers, players, official or volunteers does or permits to be done any act or thing which reflects unfavourably upon the reputation, standing or goodwill of the League or the game of Australian Football or engages in any unbecoming conduct or conduct which is prejudicial or likely to be prejudicial to the interests of the League, AFL NSW/ACT or the playing of Australian Football;
 - c. any event occurs which in the opinion of the League or AFL NSW/ACT materially and prejudicially affects the financial position of the Club or the ability of the Club to duly and promptly observe and perform any of its obligations under this Agreement;
 - d. the League is of the opinion that the Club is otherwise unable to pay its debts as and when they fall due;
 - e. the League is of the opinion that the Club is unable to field a team(s) in a Competition administered by AFL NSW/ACT;
 - f. the Club threatens to or ceases to carry on all or part of its operations or disposes of the whole or any substantial part of its assets.

3. COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

The Competition Management Committee controls the day-to-day operation of the League's Competitions.

3.1 Attendance at Meetings

The League will determine the number of representatives required in attendance at League meetings for which notice is to be properly given.

3.2 Interpretation of the By-Laws

Where there is a dispute with respect to the interpretation of these By-Laws, the opinion of the Competition Management Committee will prevail and will be final.

3.3 Amendments

Regional variations to these By-Laws may be agreed by the League on the recommendation of the Competition Management Committee in consultation with the Clubs.

3.4 Compliance

- (A) All Clubs are required to comply with all legal (including statutory) and other provisions and requirements governing their operations, including but not limited to the regulation of their operations and child protection.

- (B) Whilst AFL NSW/ACT and the League will provide information, guidance and assistance to Clubs where it is able on issues affecting their governance and operations, the responsibility to ensure compliance with all legal (including statutory) and other provisions and requirements affecting their operations lies with each Club.
- (C) To assist each Club in managing legal compliance regarding child protection or other requirements, each Club must utilise and maintain the EverProof Management System or equivalent system as prescribed by the League from time to time.

3.5 Minimum Standards

- 1. Clubs must comply with the minimum standards applicable to a Competition or Competitions as prescribed by the League from time to time.
- 2. The following Competitions currently operate under minimum standards:
 - a. Men's Premier Division
 - b. Women's Premier Division
- 3. If a Club fails to meet the relevant minimum standards of a Competition or Competitions, the Competition Management Committee may impose disciplinary sanctions, including but not limited to expulsion or relegation from the relevant Competition.

3.6 Player Points System

- (A) Clubs must comply with the Player Points System applicable to a Competition or Competitions as prescribed by the League from time to time.
- (B) A Player Points System will be regulated by a Player Points System Policy applicable to the relevant competition (see Appendix D and E)
- (C) To qualify for a year of service deduction for the 2020 season a player must have played a minimum of three (3) games for their Club (this has been reduced down from the standard 5 games). If a player is eligible to receive a year of service deduction for season 2020 this will be applied in 2021

- (D) The following Competitions currently operate under a Player Points System:
 - a. Women's Premier Division
 - b. Men's Premier Division

3.7 Competition Ranking

These rankings will be applied to by-law 9.6 and 10.7, along with any other relevant by-laws at the discretion of the CMC.

If a club has two teams playing in the same competition the club will rank these teams prior to the commencement of the season. This ranking will be consistent with by law 3.7

- (A) Premier Division Clubs

Rank	Competition
1.	Men's Premier Division
2.	Under 19 Division One
3.	Men's Premier Division Reserves
4.	Men's Division One
5.	Men's Division Two
6.	Under 19 Division Two
7.	Men's Division Three

8.	Masters
(B) Platinum and Division Clubs	
Rank	Competition
1.	Men's Platinum Division
2.	Men's Platinum Division Reserves
3.	Men's Division One
4.	Men's Division Two
5.	Under 19 Division Two
6.	Men's Division Three
7.	Masters
(C) Women's Clubs	
Rank	Competition
1.	Women's Premier Division
2.	Women's Division One
3.	Women's Division Two
4.	Women's Division Three

4. LAWS OF THE GAME AND POLICIES

4.1 Governing Laws and Policies

- (A) Except where otherwise noted in these By-Laws, Matches shall be played under the Laws of the Game as prescribed by the AFL from time to time.
- (B) All Clubs, Players and Officials agree to comply with AFL, AFL NSW/ACT and League By-Laws and Regulations including:
- a. the Laws of the Game;
 - b. the National Player Registration and Transfer Regulations;
 - c. the National Member Protection Policy;
 - d. the National Extreme Weather Policy;
 - e. the National Vilification and Discrimination Policy;
 - f. the National Gambling Policy;
 - g. the National Player and Official Deregistration Policy;
 - h. the Anti-Doping Policy;
 - i. the Sports Trainers in Community Australian Football Policy;
 - j. the Working With Children Policy;
 - k. the AFL NSW/ACT Statement on Electronic Communications;
 - l. the National Age Dispensation Policy – NSW/ACT;
 - m. the National Coaching Accreditation Policy
 - n. the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT;
 - o. the State & Territory Disciplinary Committee Guidelines;
 - p. the AFL NSW/ACT Regulations;
 - q. the AFL NSW/ACT Code of Conduct;
 - r. these By-Laws.
- (C) To the extent that these By-Laws are inconsistent with any AFL or AFL NSW/ACT regulation, rule or policy, the AFL or AFL NSW/ACT regulation or policy will prevail to the extent of that inconsistency.

4.2 Not Applicable

4.3 Player Aids & Protective Equipment

- (A) Use of gloves by Players in junior Competitions is prohibited for development purposes. The field umpire may permit or allow the use of a glove(s) by a junior Player in a Match under exceptional circumstances, such as injury.
- (B) No Player shall be permitted to play in a Match wearing apparel or protective equipment which may cause injury to himself/herself or other Players. The field umpires may at their discretion inspect Players' equipment either before or at any time during the Match.
- (C) Full length undergarments (items other than the playing jumper or shorts) may only be worn with the prior approval of the League. Short sleeved or sleeveless undergarments are acceptable.
- (D) Players who wear spectacles during matches and training must wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses and must be held on securely by a band.

4.4 Alcohol Policy

- (A) Alcohol is permitted to be sold at a League venue by the Host Club. In such cases the Host Club must have the appropriate liquor licence issued by the relevant authority and consent, if required, of the local council.
- (B) Alcohol is not permitted to be brought into any League venue.
- (C) Each Club is required to ensure that its members and spectators abide by this By-Law. Should a Host Club find that alcohol has been brought to the venue they must report the matter to the League and advise an Official of the offending member's or spectator's Club, who in turn shall take the necessary action.
- (D) Should the Club fail to act, or the Club members or spectators fail to adhere to the Official's request, the Club will be deemed to be in breach of the Code of Conduct.
- (E) Alcohol is not permitted to be taken onto the field of play at any time during the course of a Match. Clubs are required to fix notices to the boundary fence or elsewhere if there is no boundary fence, advising that alcohol is not to be taken onto the field of play.
- (F) Alcohol is not to be consumed by a Club Official either before or whilst they are fulfilling an official Match day role (e.g. timekeeping, ground manager, Umpire escort, Umpire etc.).
- (G) In accordance with the Australian Football Match Policy, alcohol is prohibited during junior Matches. Where both Senior and Junior Matches are played on the same day at the same venue, League Policy will apply.
- (H) Alcohol is only to be consumed in areas specifically provided for in the Host Club's liquor licence which must be clearly marked.

4.5 Loss of Points

Where a Team is determined as losing a Match as a result of a breach of the Laws of the Game, the Regulations or these By-Law, the Competition points or 'win' for the Match concerned will be credited to the opposing Team:

- a. The team receiving the win shall:
 - i. Be attributed a 'win'
 - ii. Have its "points for" increased by the average of the points scored by the winners of the other matches in the round of that competition
 - iii. Have no points added to its "points against"

- b. The team losing the game shall:
 - i. Be attributed a 'loss'
 - ii. Have no points added to its "points for"
 - iii. Have its "points against" increased by the average of the points scored by the winners of the other matches in the round of that competition

4.6 Not Applicable

4.7 50 Metre Penalties

A free kick or a fifty (50) metre penalty may be awarded against a Team if a Player, Official or clearly identifiable supporter of a Team:

- a. uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards an Umpire;
- b. behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards an Umpire;
- c. intentionally, recklessly or negligently engages in conduct which affects, interferes with or prevents an Umpire from performing his or her duties.
- d. Players may not play on during the advancement of any 50 metre Penalty and must wait until the field Umpire signals time back on (variation from 2020 Laws of the Game).

4.8 Spectator Distance from Boundary

In cases where boundary fencing is not in place, the field umpire may require spectators to provide more space beyond the boundary and may refrain from recommencing the Match until the request is complied with.

4.9 Traditional playing positions at Centre Bounce – Senior Men's and Senior Women's Competitions

(A) Players must start in traditional playing positions at centre bounces.

(B) Each Team must have Players starting inside both 50 metre arcs, with one player inside the goal square

(C) Based on a Team's Based on a Team's on-field playing numbers, the number of Players in each area of the field will be as follows:

- 18 per Team = 6/6/6 (6 forwards/ 6 centres (max 4 in centre square)/ 6 backs)
- 17 per Team = 6/5/6 (6 forwards/ 5 centres (max 4 in centre square)/ 6 backs)
- 16 per Team = 5/6/5 (5 forwards/ 6 centres (max 4 in centre square)/ 5 backs)
- 15 per Team = 5/5/5 (5 forwards/ 5 centre (max 4 in centre square)/ 5 backs)
- 14 per Team = 5/4/5 (5 forwards/ 4 centres/ 5 backs)
- 13 per Team = 5/3/5 (5 forwards/ 3 centres (max in centre square 3)/ 5 backs)
- 12 per team = 4/4/4 (4 forwards/ 4 centres (max in centre square 4)/ 4 backs)

4.10 Not Applicable

5. COMPETITIONS

5.1 Season Fixture

- (A) The League will determine dates, locations and times of all Competition Matches in its ultimate discretion.
- (B) The League will prepare Season Fixture for each grade of Competition for distribution to Clubs prior to the start of the season.
- (C) Other than in exceptional circumstances as determined by the League, the Season Fixture will not be varied once the season has commenced.
- (D) Not Applicable
- (E) Not Applicable
- (F) Each Competition Season Fixture will consist of a series of home and away Matches followed by a finals series of Matches.

5.2 Ladder

A premiership ladder for each Competition shall be maintained in Footyweb throughout the duration of the home and away season as determined by the Competition Management Committee.

5.3 Match wins

- (A) In 2020 all premiership ladders shall be maintained as Match Ratio ladders.

The teams will be positioned in the order of club's "Winning Percentage" or "Match Ratio" in place of total premiership points accrued. A Club's match ratio will be the percentage of wins against matches played (draws will be 0.5 of a win). Where more than one club has the same "Match Ratio" those clubs will be positioned on the premiership ladder in order of percentages calculated from the points scored for and against, by such clubs.

The premiership ladder will not count cancelled matches as matches played and thus 'Match Ratio' is only affected by the number of games played where a win, loss or draw can be affected.

5.4 Forfeits

- (A) Any Club unable to play a Match for which it is scheduled is to advise the opposing Club and the League no later than midday the day prior to the Match or as otherwise prescribed by the League. The Match will be treated as a forfeit and, provided an explanation is furnished to the League to its reasonable satisfaction, no sanction or penalty other than those specified in this By-Law will be imposed.
- (B) If there is a forfeit the forfeiting club must inform the Opposition Club, Competition Management Committee and Umpire Manager as soon as reasonably practical.
- (C) Not Applicable.
- (D) Where the League is unable to advise the appointed Umpires prior to such Umpires attending a forfeited Match, the League will pay the Umpires any Match fees or expenses and the forfeiting Club will be responsible to reimburse the League.

- (E) Subject to By-Law 5.4 (D), if for any reason a Team is not ready to commence play 20 minutes after the scheduled commencement time for a Match with the minimum match number, the opposing Club shall claim the Match as a forfeit.
- (F) All Clubs must field a senior grade Team in the home and away Competition. Should a Club play in a lower grade fixture and subsequently forfeit their senior grade Match in the same round, that Club will not be awarded any points for the lower grade Match and will be liable to disciplinary sanctions as the Competition Management Committee may determine in its absolute discretion. U19 competitions are exempt from this By-Law. Where a club has two U19 teams, the higher ranked U19 team must be played (i.e. a Club cannot choose to forfeit U19-1 and not U19-2).
- (G) A Club's Team shall forfeit a Match if it is unable or fails, refuses or neglects to complete a Match already commenced.
- (H) For Matches where there is a forfeit, only the non-forfeiting Club may enter a Team into Footyweb for the purposes of player eligibility. Entry of a Team is to be completed within seven (7) days of the match being forfeited.
- (I) In the event of a forfeit, the result of the Match will be determined as follows:
- a. The team receiving the forfeit shall:
 - i. Be attributed a 'win'
 - ii. Have its "points for" increased by the average of the points scored by the winners of the other matches in the round of that competition
 - iii. Have no points added to its "points against"
 - iv. Submit an invoice to the league for \$150 compensation or \$250 if the forfeit is communicated to the league after 8pm Friday (not applicable if a practice match is played)
 - b. The forfeiting team shall:
 - i. Be attributed a 'loss'
 - ii. Have no points added to its "points for"
 - iii. Have its "points against" increased by the average of the points scored by the winners of the other matches in the round of that competition
 - iv. Be fined \$300 if communicated by 8pm Friday or fined \$500 if communicated after this deadline (not applicable if a practice match is played)
- (J) Competition Ladders will be adjusted accordingly by the League.

5.5 Results of Matches

Results of matches will be determined by the League in accordance with the Laws of the Game in its absolute discretion.

5.6 Other Matches

- (A) No Club shall arrange or play in any match other than Matches outlined in the Season Fixture schedule without the prior approval of the Competition Management Committee.
- (B) For Senior practice matches the following provisions will apply:
- a. A Practice Match Request Form, as designated by the League, shall be completed and submitted to the League by mid-day the Tuesday before the practice match;
 - b. Where a senior practice match is being organised involving Clubs from different League's or a carnival involving multiple Clubs is being organised, the Club hosting the event will be required to submit the Practice Match Request Form.

- c. A Team Sheet using the prescribed template as provided by the League is to be used to list the names and jumper numbers of Players for the match;
 - d. All Players must be either registered on Footyweb or be a Prospective Player prior to taking the field;
 - e. In all practice matches, Umpires may report players as per the Laws of the Game.
 - a. A Person suspended or disqualified by the Tribunal may still participate in practice/training Matches with his registered Club however such Matches will not count as part of the Person's suspension or disqualification.
 - b. The League will determine the fees payable to League appointed Umpires where a Club or Clubs request the appointment of League Umpires for a practice match.
- (C) Not Applicable

6. REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

6.1 Participation

- (A) Competition representative Teams shall participate in inter-league Matches as directed by the League and sanctioned by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time.
- (B) The League shall have first call on the services of all Players for its representative Matches and representative training sessions. Any Player who does not make himself/herself available or declines selection for such training sessions and Matches, without the written approval of the Competition Management Committee, may automatically be suspended for the next two (2) Matches in which the Player's Club is participating immediately subsequent to the representative Match concerned.
- (C) Any Player who declares himself/herself unavailable because of injury or illness must make themselves available for a medical examination by a medical practitioner of the League's choice.
- (D) Any Player who fails to attend a scheduled representative training session of which he/she has been properly notified must tender an explanation to the Competition Management Committee. If in the opinion of the Competition Management Committee the Player's explanation is unacceptable, such Player may be dealt with as the League thinks fit.
- (E) Except in exceptional circumstances as approved by the Competition Management Committee, Players selected in a representative Team will not be permitted to play with their Club on the same weekend of the representative Match concerned. Any Player who takes part in a Match in violation of this By-Law shall be liable for further disqualification. The Team with which the Player participates for may lose any Competition points gained and his/her Club may be fined up to two hundred and fifty (250) dollars.
- (F) Any Player selected in a representative team must be a registered Player with a Club participating in Competitions of that League.

6.2 Venue Selection

- (A) Where the League schedules a representative Match to be played, the Competition Management Committee shall select a venue taking into consideration the standard of playing surface and facilities, ground hire costs and the ability to charge admission.
- (B) The League may allocate catering rights to the Host Club or any other Club which is prepared to undertake all ground management duties for the Representative Match. Any gate takings will be used by the League to offset staging costs.

6.3 Offences in Interleague Matches

Player Reports in an inter-league/ representative Match or in a Match between clubs of different leagues will be dealt with as provided for in Regulation 11 of the AFL NSW/ACT Regulations.

7. UNIFORM AND LOGO REGULATIONS

7.1 Changes to Club Names and Logos

The process relating to the approval of Club names and logos including any changes to Club names and logos is governed by the AFL NSW/ACT Regulations.

7.2 Uniform Design

- (A) New Clubs are required to submit complete details of the proposed colour and design of its uniform to the Competition Management Committee for approval. Once approved, such Club has exclusive rights to its uniform design.
- (B) Existing Clubs must submit details of any proposed variation of their uniforms design for prior written approval of the Competition Management Committee.

7.3 Jumper Numbers

- (A) Players of each Team must play in their Club uniform as registered with the League and wear numbers on the back of their jumpers corresponding to the numbers shown on the Club's Team Sheet.
- (B) All numbers must be whole numbers between 1 and 99 inclusive and recognisable from one hundred (100) metres. No Players from the same Team are permitted to wear the same number in a Match.
- (C) Numbers must be between 20cm and 28cm in height and in plain font.

7.4 Uniform Clashes

- (A) To avoid clashes of uniforms in Matches, the following provisions will apply:
 - a. Not Applicable
 - b. All clubs are to have available clash shorts for their Club's Highest Ranked Men's and Women's Team, as per by law 3.7, and must wear a clash shorts as directed by the Competition Management. A Club's Failure to comply will be in breach of table 17.2
 - c. Where Teams play in uniforms that are similar in design or colour as determined by the Competition Management Committee, the away Club's Highest Ranked Men's and Women's Team, as per by law 3.7, must wear a clash jumper as approved by the Competition Management Committee. A Club's Failure to comply will be in breach of table 17.2

7.5 AFL NSW/ACT and Club Approved Suppliers

AFL NSW/ACT approved suppliers are licensed and authorised as the only suppliers to use the AFL NSW/ACT logo in accordance with Regulation 14 of the AFLNSW/ACT Regulations.

7.6 Sponsor's Logos / Approved Suppliers

- (A) Sponsor's logo may be worn on the Players' jumpers as follows:

- a. Front – the logo may be positioned on the left breast, directly opposite the AFL NSW/ACT logo and/or in the centre of the jumper (below the AFL NSW/ACT logo). The size of the logo must not exceed 8 cm in size if being placed on the left breast or 200mm wide and 120mm high if placed in the middle of the jumper.
 - b. Back – the logo must be positioned and centred above or underneath (or both) the player number. The size of the logo must not exceed 60 mm high and 200 mm wide if being placed above the number, or 100 mm high and 300 mm wide, if underneath the number.
- (B) Jumpers worn by Clubs must have the AFL NSW/ACT logo on the right breast and must not exceed 8cm x 8cm in size.
- (C) Not Applicable
- (D) Sponsor’s logo may only be worn on shorts if approved by the Competition Management Committee in its absolute discretion and provided:
- a. The logo does not exceed 70cm² with a maximum width of 11cm and a maximum depth of 6.3cm
 - b. The logo is placed on the front of the right leg and left leg only.
- (E) Any alternate request will be assessed by the Competition Management Committee in its ultimate discretion.

8. TEAMS

8.1 Number of players – Senior Men’s Competitions

- (A) The requirements on Team nominations and the provisions for divisionalisation, joint ventures or Club alliances (if applicable) will be determined by the League in its absolute discretion.
- (B) The acceptance of any late team nominations will be at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee and will be subject to the competition structures and will also incur a Late Entry Fee of \$500.
- (C) Should a club withdraw a nominated team from a competition where they have been already accepted, the following financial penalties will apply to the club at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee:
- a. If prior to the commencement of the season, a maximum fine of \$1000,
 - b. If after the commencement of the season, a maximum of \$1500

8.2 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Arrangements

- (A) The purpose of an MOU is to allow a club with surplus player(s) on a given match day to give these player(s) a game of football with another club.
- (B) Clubs may enter into an MOU agreement to allow the movement of players between clubs in the following divisions:
- (C)
- a. Lower Division Men’s competitions (Division One, Two and Three); and
 - b. Lower Division Women’s competitions (Division One, Two and Three).
- (D) The following clubs cannot enter into an MOU:

- a. Men's Premier Division Clubs, to allow player movement between the Premier Division and Platinum Division competitions or within the Premier Division competition;
 - b. Men's Platinum Division Clubs, to allow player movement between the Premier Division and Platinum Division competitions or within the Platinum Division competition; and
 - c. U19s teams (which can instead enter into a Joint Venture arrangement, outlined below).
- (E) All MOU agreements must be approved by the Competition Management Committee.
- (F) The following conditions apply to all MOU arrangements:
- a. A player can only play for one club on any weekend;
 - b. Two (2) clubs can only enter into an MOU arrangement for their lowest grade
 - c. If Two (2) clubs enter into an MOU arrangement whereby their respective lowest grades are not in the same division, the MOU team receiving surplus players must be in the same division or in a higher division than the MOU team they are receiving players from.
 - d. A player cannot play for their interchange club on a weekend when his or her club has a bye or is otherwise not playing; and
 - e. An MOU arrangement must be in place by round 2 of the home and away season.
 - f. Games played under permit are not included as season of service, under a Player Points System.

8.3 Player Interchange Between Women's Premier Division and Women's Lower Divisions

- (A) The purpose of this by-law is to allow a lower division player the opportunity to trial playing in the Women's Premier Division competition.
- (B) All player interchanges must be approved by the Competition Management Committee.
- (C) A Lower Division player can only play a maximum of five (5) games in the Women's Premier Division competition in a season for their interchange club.
- (D) A Women's Premier Division Club can only have a maximum of two (2) permit players per round.
- (E) A Women's Premier Division player cannot play for a Lower Division Club under this By-Law.
- (F) A player can only play for one (1) club on any weekend.
- (G) A player cannot play for a Women's Premier Division Club on a weekend when her club has a bye or is otherwise not playing.
- (H) Games played for a player's interchange club (Premier Division Club) do not count towards finals qualification for the player's primary club (Lower Division Club). The games will count towards finals qualification in the Premier Division Competition if the player fully transfers to the interchange club in accordance with the National Player Transfer Regulations.
- (I) A lower division player cannot play finals for their Women's Premier Division interchange club unless the player fully transfers to the interchange club in accordance with the National Player Transfer Regulations.
- (J) Games played under permit are not included as season of service, under a Player Points System.

8.4 Joint Venture (JV) Arrangements

- (A) The purpose of a JV is to allow two (2) clubs to come together and enter one (1) or multiple teams under the following conditions:
 - a. Where neither club can field a standalone team; or
 - b. To develop a pathway where in the short term neither club can establish a pathway on a standalone basis.
- (B) All JV agreements must be approved by the Competition Management Committee.
- (C) Where a JV is applicable to the U19s competitions, an U19s player can only play senior football for their primarily registered club.
- (D) Standard home and away and finals eligibility rules apply to JV arrangements.
- (E) A JV arrangement must be in place by round 2 of the home and away season.
- (F) Under 19 JVs are to submit Restricted Player List as per By Law 9.6 (F).
- (G) Under 19 games played under permit are not included as season of service, under a Player Points System.

9. PLAYER NUMBERS

9.1 Number of players – Senior Competitions

- (A) The minimum number of on-field Players required for a Team to commence and complete a Match is fourteen (14). An exception to this rule is U19 Division Two where the minimum number is twelve (12).
- (B) Instances of non-compliance with By-Law 9.2(A) will be deemed to be a forfeit by the relevant team. Should a team commence with the minimum number or more of required players and subsequently have players leave the field during the match, which reduces the team to less than the minimum number of required players, the club will have fifteen (15) minutes to restore the on field numbers back to the minimum (i.e. fourteen (14) players or twelve (12) players as the case may be). If this cannot be achieved the match is to be stopped, scores recorded, and details forwarded to the Football Operations Manager. The match will subsequently be awarded to the non-offending team as a forfeit in line with By-Law 5.5, with no goal kickers or best and fairest votes recorded.
- (C) The number of available players for a team is considered the number of players listed on the team sheet not the number of players at the ground. A match can only commence however if there are 14 players ready to take the field at the commencement time of the match.

9.2 Number of Players – Senior Men’s Competitions

- (A) The maximum number of Players that can be listed on the Team Sheet for a Team in a Match is twenty-two (22).
- (B) There will be eighteen (18) on field plus four (4) interchange players for all competitions with the exception of Division Two and Division Three where the following shall apply:
 - a. If one or both teams have eighteen (18) Players or less listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on field at the start of the Match shall be sixteen (16) Players per team, unless both

Teams agree in consultation with the Umpires to start with either seventeen (17) or eighteen (18) 'on field' Players.

- b. If both Teams have more than eighteen (18) Players listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on-field at the start of the Match shall be eighteen (18) Players.

9.3 Number of players – Senior Women's Competitions

The maximum number of Players that can be listed on the Team Sheet for a Team in a Match is twenty one (21).

- (B) There will be sixteen (16) on field plus five (5) interchange players for all competitions with the exception of Division Two and Division Three where the following shall apply:

- a. If one or both teams have sixteen (16) Players or less listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on field at the start of the Match shall be fourteen (14) Players per team, unless both Teams agree in consultation with the Umpires to start with either fifteen (15) or sixteen (16) 'on field' Players.
- b. If both Teams have more than sixteen (16) Players listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on-field at the start of the Match shall be sixteen (16) Players.

9.4 Number of players – U19s Division One Competition

- (A) The maximum number of Players that can be listed on the Team Sheet for a Team in a Match is twenty-two (22).

- (B) There will be eighteen (18) on field plus four (4) interchange players for all competitions with the following exceptions:

- a. If one or both teams have eighteen (18) Players or less listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on field at the start of the Match shall be sixteen (16) Players per team, unless both Teams agree in consultation with the Umpires to start with either seventeen (17) or eighteen (18) 'on field' Players.
- b. If both Teams have more than eighteen (18) Players listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on-field at the start of the Match shall be eighteen (18) Players.

9.5 Number of players – U19s Division Two Competition

- (A) The maximum number of Players that can be listed on the Team Sheet for a Team in a Match is twenty (20).

- (B) There will be sixteen (16) on field plus four (4) interchange players for all competitions with the exception of Division Two where the following shall apply:

- a. If one or both teams have sixteen (16) Players or less listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on field at the start of the Match shall be fourteen (14) Players per team, unless both Teams agree in consultation with the Umpires to start with either fifteen (15) or sixteen (16) 'on field' Players. If one or both teams have fourteen (14) Players or less listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on field at the start of the Match shall be twelve (12) Players per team, unless both Teams agree in consultation with the Umpires to start with either fourteen (14) or thirteen (13) on field Players.
- b. If both Teams have more than sixteen (16) Players listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on-field at the start of the Match shall be sixteen (16) Players.

- c. U19 Division 2 teams are required to advise opposition club and CMC of expected player numbers by 9am Friday preceding the fixture.

9.6 Home and Away Season Player Eligibility

(A) Age Requirements

- a. A player must be under the age of 19 years as at 1 January in the year of commencement of the season in which he is registered to play in an Under 19 competition.
- b. The minimum age for AFL Sydney's football shall be 16 years as at 1 January preceding the commencement of the season in which the player intends to play.
- c. Special exemption may be granted to players who have not reached the minimum age requirement as defined in the Regulations as at 1 January preceding the commencement of the season in which they intend to play by written application to the AFL Sydney. Match Committee. Application **must** include:
- Signed Parental or Guardian AFL Sydney Consent
 - Approval of junior club President or Coach
 - Reason exemption is required
- d. All applications for special exemption, including required documentation, must be received by Friday 2pm, preceding match.

- (B) During the Men's and Women's and Under Age home and away season any player who has played five (5) or more matches in one grade is not permitted to drop back more than one grade (i.e. seniors to thirds; reserves to fourths etc) with the exception of U19 eligible players who may drop back from U19 Division 1 to U19 Division 2 (excluding RPL players).

- (C) During the home and away season where clubs have senior football teams playing on separate days on the same weekend, players are only permitted to play on both days if the second or subsequent match the player plays is in a higher division. (i.e. if a player plays Division Two on Saturday, he is permitted to play Division One on Sunday but not Division Three). Where clubs have senior football teams playing on the same day, up to two (2) players are permitted to play in a lower division in a second or subsequent game. For the purposes of clarity, Under 19 competitions are exempt from this By-law. If however an Under 19 player plays a higher senior grade, he is not permitted to play in a lower senior grade.

- (D) Individual Clubs or Clubs under a JV partnership who field an U19's Division 1 and an U19's Division 2 team must submit for approval by the Competition Management Committee prior to the beginning of the home and away season a restricted players list of eleven (11) players who are ineligible to play in U19's Division 2. Remaining listed players will be eligible to play in either the U19's Division 1 or U19's Division 2 competitions throughout the season. Clubs can make up to two changes to this list prior to Round 6. This rule applies to the home and away season as well as the finals series.

- (E) Where a club has two teams in the same competition, these teams are to be ranked at the start of the season in accordance with by-law 3.7 and treated in all respects as if they were consecutively ranked teams in two different divisions. In accordance with by law 9.6 (B) once a player has played five (5) or more matches in a higher ranked team, they are not permitted to drop back more than one team.

- (F) If a team is scheduled for a bye or has its fixture washed out or cancelled, no player who was in that team the previous week can play in a lower grade. Under 19 eligible players are exempt from this rule however;

(G)

- a. They cannot be selected for a lower grade senior football team as per By-Law 3.7
- b. RPL players cannot play lower U19 Divisions

(H) In the case of playing a catch up match which was originally postponed due to weather, any player who played in a club's higher grade the previous week to the catch up match is ineligible for selection. Under 19's are exempt from this rule. The following exceptions apply:

- a. If a club has two or more teams playing catch up matches (or a combination of catch up matches and regular season matches), a player can play in a consecutively ranked lower grade (e.g. seniors and reserves) if both the grade they played the previous week and the consecutively ranked lower grade are playing a catch up match on the same weekend.
- b. If a club has all grades playing on a designated wet weather catch up round (can be a combination of catch up games and regular season games) players can be selected in any grade regardless of what grade they played the previous week. Men's (seniors and U19s) and Women's grades are treated separately under this exception clause (eg. if a club's Women's grades are not playing but all Men's grades are, male players can still be selected in any grade, and vice versa).
- c. U19 eligible players cannot be selected for a lower grade senior football team.
- d. If an U19 player is listed on RPL they are ineligible to play catch up game in the clubs lowest U19 division.
- e. If in the previous week a team received a forfeit, players listed on team sheet are ineligible to play catch up game for a lower division.

(I) For U19s Competitions, Clubs can only include a maximum eight (8) players under the age of 17 (as at Jan 1) per team for any given match. There is no restriction on Swans and GIANTS Academy players meaning they are not included in the eight (8) player maximum.

(J) AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division Clubs cannot have more than three (3) current AFLW players on their list (unless exceptional circumstances apply as determined by the CMC). A current AFLW player is defined as a player that was contracted to an AFLW Club in the AFLW season held immediately prior to the relevant AFL Sydney season. Once a Club reaches the cap, they can only exceed the maximum if a player is drafted to an AFLW Club and that player played at least 1 match with their AFL Sydney Club in the AFL Sydney season immediately prior to being drafted to the AFLW Club. The following player eligibility criteria applies to current AFLW players:

- a. Current AFLW players registered at a Women's Premier Division Club must play for the Club's Premier Division team (this applies to finals as well). Only under exceptional circumstances (eg. returning from a long term injury) may a player be given dispensation by the CMC to play a game in a lower division.

10. FINALS

10.1 Finals Structure

The Competition Management Committee will use the following guidelines to determine the length of any finals series upon release of the Competition Season Fixture prior to the first home and away match. In 2020 the Competition Management Committee reserves the right to defer from these guidelines on the basis of "scheduling/fixturing purposes"

- a. Platinum Seniors and Reserves, Men's Divisions 1-3, Women's Divisions 1-3, U19s Division 2

Match 1 First Semi-Final Team 1 v Team 4

Match 2 Second Semi-Final Team 2 v Team 3
 Match 3 Grand Final Winner Match 1 v Winner Match 2

b. Premier Division, Women's Premier Division, Premier Division Reserves and U19s Division 1

Match 1 Elimination Final Team 4 v Team 5
 Match 2 Qualifying Final Team 2 v Team 3
 Match 3 First Semi-Final Loser Match 2 v Winner Match 1
 Match 4 Second Semi-Final Team 1 v Winner Match 2
 Match 5 Preliminary Final Loser Match 4 v Winner Match 3
 Match 6 Grand Final Winner Match 4 v Winner Match 5

c. Competitions comprising thirteen (13) teams or more:

Match 1 Elimination Final 3rd v 6th
 Match 2 Elimination Final 4th v 5th
 Match 3 Qualifying Final 1st v 2nd
 Match 4 Preliminary Final (1) Winner Match 3 v Winner Match 2
 Match 5 Preliminary Final (2) Loser Match 3 v Winner Match 1
 Match 6 Grand Final Winner Match 4 v Winner Match 5

The Competition Management Committee will determine the days the respective finals will be played.

10.2 Venue Selection

The Competition Management Committee will determine the venues for finals series Matches in its absolute discretion. Factors which will be taken into consideration in the selection of grounds include location, condition of the playing surface and facilities, ability to charge admission, catering rights, cost and any special circumstances, which may exist at the time.

10.3 Match Duration

The duration of finals Matches will be as follows (refer to By-Law 11.5 for home and away match durations).

Competition	Quarter Length (min)	Time On (yes or no)	Quarter Time (min)	Half Time (min)	Three Quarter Time (min)
Men's Premier Division	20	Yes	5	15	5
Men's Premier Division Reserves	18	Yes	5	12	5
Platinum Division	18	Yes	5	12	5
Platinum Division Reserves	17	Yes	5	12	5
Men's Division One	17	Yes	5	12	5
Men's Division Two	15	Yes	5	10	5
Men's Division Three	15	Yes	5	10	5
Women's Premier Division	15	Yes	5	10	5
Women's Division One	15	Yes	5	10	5
Women's Division Two	15	Yes	5	10	5
Women's Division Three	15	Yes	5	10	5
U19s Division One	17	Yes	5	12	5
U19s Division Two	15	Yes	5	10	5
Masters	18	No	5	10	5

10.4 Match Conditions

Subject to By-Laws 10.3 and 10.5, all other Match conditions applicable to the home and away season will apply to all finals Matches.

10.5 Drawn Finals

In the event of scores being equal at the end of a finals Match, the following procedure will apply:

- (A) The goal umpires will confirm the scores;
- (B) The field umpires will re-commence the Match to play extra time, initially for a further duration of five (5) minutes (plus time on) and the Teams will not change ends;
- (C) The siren will sound after the initial period of extra time, the Teams will change ends and a further five (5) minutes (plus time on) is to be played;
- (D) If the Match is still drawn after the second five (5) minute (plus time on) period of extra time, the Match will continue until the next score at which time the siren will sound; and
- (E) At no stage before or during extra time are Coaches permitted to address Players.
- (F) For a Grand Final where the scores are less than six (6) points the difference with two (2) minutes remaining in the final quarter, an announcement is to be made to the Goal Umpires to confirm the final score before spectators enter the field of play.

10.6 Emergency Umpires

Emergency umpires, when appointed to officiate, shall have the power to order Players from the field as well as the ability to report Players.

10.7 Player Eligibility

- (A) The following eligibility provisions shall apply to the finals series, except where By-Law 10.7 (J) applies:
 - a. **Men's Premier Division** – a player must have played a minimum of three (3) home and away games in the current season for his club.
 - b. **U19s Division 1** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) U19s home and away games in the current season for his club or with a lower ranked division as per by law 3.7 for that club.
 - c. **Men's Premier Division Reserves** – a player must have played a minimum of three (3) home and away games in the current season in either Men's Premier Division Reserves, or a lower ranked division, as per by law 3.7, for that club.
 - d. **Men's Platinum Division** – a player must have played a minimum of three (3) home and away games in the current season for that club
 - e. **Men's Platinum Division Reserves** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) home and away games in the current season in either Men's Platinum Division Reserves or a lower ranked division, as per by law 3.7, for that club.
 - f. **Men's Division 1** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) home and away games in the current season in either Division 1, or a lower ranked division as per by law 3.7 for that club.
 - g. **Men's Division 2** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) home and away games in the current season in either Division 2, or a lower ranked division as per by law 3.7 for that club.
 - h. **U19s Division 2** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) home and away games in the current season in either U19s Division 2, or a lower ranked division as per by law 3.7 for that club.

- i. **Men's Division 3** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) home and away games in the current season in either Men's Division 3, or a lower ranked division as per by law 3.7 for that club.
- j. **Women's Premier Division** – a player must have played a minimum of three (3) home and away in the current season for that club.
- k. **Women's Division 1** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) home and away games in the current season in either Women's Division 1, or a lower ranked division as per by law 3.7 for that club
- l. **Women's Division 2** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) home and away games in the current season in either Women's Division 2, or a lower ranked division as per by law 3.7 for that club.
- m. **Women's Division 3** – a player must have played a minimum of two (2) home and away games on the current season in this division for her club.
- n. **Masters** – a player must have played a minimum of three (3) home and away games in the current season in this division for his club.

Where a player plays more than one match on the same day/weekend during the home and away season, only the match in the highest grade will be counted towards finals eligibility. (This excludes Under 19's players. If a player plays an Under 19 and a senior match on the same day / weekend, this counts as both an Under 19 match and senior match for finals eligibility).

(B) A player is only permitted to play in one finals match for their club on any given weekend.

(C) Subject to By-laws 10.7(D), 10.7(E) and 10.7(F):

- a. Any senior men's and U19's player who has played in a combined total of five or more home and away matches in any higher men's or U19's division(s) (including Sydney Uni NEAFL), shall not be eligible to play finals matches in a lower division;
- b. Any women's player who has played in a combined total of five or more home and away matches in any higher women's division(s), shall not be eligible to play final matches in a lower division; and
- c. Any U19s Players listed on the clubs RPL shall not be eligible to play finals in U19s Division 2.

(D) Where a club has all senior men's and under age teams playing in finals on the same weekend, to be eligible to play in any of those finals a player must have played:

- a. Three (3) club home and away matches to participate in Premier Division, Premier Division Reserves and Platinum Division
- b. Two (2) club home and away matches to participate in Platinum Reserves, Men's Division 1, Men's Division 2, Men's Division 3, U19 Division One or Under 19 Division Two

(E) Where a club has all senior women's teams playing in finals on the same weekend, to be eligible to play in any of those finals a player must have played;

- a. Three (3) club home and away matches, to play in the Women's Premier Division
- b. Two (2) club home and away matches to participate in Women's Division 1, Women's Division 2 or Women's Division 3

- (F) Where a club has multiple consecutively ranked teams playing in finals on the same weekend (as per by law 3.7), clubs may play players one club grade lower than the lowest grade for which they are eligible on a standalone basis in terms of By-Law 10.7(A). For the purpose of this rule U19 Division 1 and U19 Division 2 are considered consecutively ranked, in addition to any rankings set out in By-Law 3.7.
- (G) Where a club has a Lower Division team playing in a Final on the same weekend that the club has a higher grade team which has earned a week off in its finals series (i.e. won through to a subsequent final) the competition management committee may grant an exemption from By-Law 10.7 (A) for up to two (2) players, however the following restrictions will apply;

- a. The teams referred to above must be consecutively ranked.
- b. The players will be ineligible to play in the higher grade Final the following week, except in exceptional circumstances upon approval of the competition management committee

To be considered, the application must be received by 12pm Wednesday prior to the scheduled match.

- (H) On application by a player's club, the Competition Management Committee may vary the number of qualifying games required where Services personnel are posted a significant distance away during the home and away matches; or where a player misses a significant number of matches due to injury, COVID-19 illness or pregnancy (more than three (3) consecutive matches or two (2) consecutive matches for Masters); or under other exceptional circumstances. To be considered, applications must be received by 12pm Monday prior to the first round of finals and must include the following:

- a. For service personnel, a signed deployment letter from relevant institution.
- b. For injuries, COVID-19 illness or pregnancy, a completed AFL Sydney Medical Exemption Request form plus any relevant supporting documentation; or
- c. For exceptional circumstances a signed letter by the player and club plus any relevant supporting documentation.

Exemption will only be given to players who have not already played enough games to qualify for finals in another division on a stand alone basis, regardless of whether the team in that division has made finals or not.

The approval of exemption requests is at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee who may request further information prior to approving or denying an application.

- (I) Players who have played for two clubs under a Memorandum of Understanding are only permitted to play finals for the club in which they have played the most Home & Away games during the season, subject to By-Law 10.7(A). If a player has played an even number of games for both clubs, they may choose which club they play finals for, subject to By-Law 10.7(A).

- (J) Where a Club has two teams competing in the same competition during the home and away season, to be eligible to participate in finals for one of those teams a player must have played at least two (2) home and away games in that season for the team they intend to play finals for, or a lower ranked team as per by law 3.7 and team competition ranking prior to the season.

- (K) The following matches will count towards finals eligibility for the player's AFL Sydney club:

- a. Men's Competitions – NSW State Academy Series, U18 Allies, U17 Allies & U16 National Championship matches, Swans and GIANTS TAC Cup
- b. Women's Competitions - NSW State Academy Series, U16 & U18 National Championship

- (L) Up to three (3) Sydney Swans and GWS Giants NEAFL 'Top Up' matches and GIANTS VFLW matches will count towards finals eligibility for the player's AFL Sydney club.
- (M) Under By-Law 10.7(J) and 10.7(K) the 'player' is only permitted to apply these matches towards the club's highest Men's or Women's senior grade, or U19s Division One team. The match will only be applied where it is played during the official AFL Sydney home and away season.
- (N) The following provisions apply to Sydney University NEAFL Listed Players:
- a. When the Sydney University NEAFL team is competing on the same weekend as the player's aligned AFL Sydney Premier Division finals match, if not selected in the NEAFL team, the player will be eligible to play in the AFL Sydney Premier Division match irrespective of qualification; and
 - b. Subject to By-law 10.7(M)a, any player who is a listed Sydney University NEAFL player (primary or rookie list), must have played a minimum of six (6) home and away games in the current season for his AFL Sydney aligned club to be eligible to compete in the AFL Sydney Premier Division finals.
- (O) Student permits issued under Appendix E of the Regulation shall apply to home and away matches only. Matches played under such a permit will not be counted towards finals eligibility.

10.8 Club Eligibility

- (A) If any club is financially in arrears to the League at a date which is seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the finals then the teams of such club shall be ineligible to compete in finals series matches. In such event the teams placed next on the respective competition table shall take the place of the ineligible team and so forth.
- (B) For the purposes of this by-law, clubs, which are under, a financial scheme of arrangements with the League as provided for under by-law 17.9 and are up to date with all payments under that scheme including the current year, shall be considered financial.

10.9 Provision of Officials

During finals series Matches, non-competing Clubs may be required (as determined by the Competition Management Committee) to provide personnel to assist with event and ground management duties including as gatekeepers, timekeepers, interchange stewards, scoreboard attendants and with other operational requirements.

10.10 Catering and Gate Receipt Rights

AFL Sydney will determine the operation of the finals series in its absolute discretion.

11. MATCH DAY REQUIREMENTS

11.1 Match Day Paperwork

- (A) Where online facilities are not utilised, paper documents as prescribed by the League in By-Law 11.1 will be provided:

<p>Team Sheets Retained by Clubs unless otherwise directed by the League</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) copies produced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One (1) handed to <u>opposition</u> team manager ○ One (1) retained by Club team manager ○ One (1) provided to <u>ground manager / Timekeeper</u> ○ One (1) provided to the <u>Field Umpires</u> • The Team Sheet must include the name of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coach ○ Team Manager ○ Runner(s) ○ First Aid Official • Each Club to verify each other's list and each to sign off each Club's copies. Both Clubs to retain. • Umpires sign the ground manager's copy after completing end of Match duties. • Clubs must retain for four (4) weeks after the season and be able to present if required within seven (7) days or as determined by the League
<p>Goal umpire Score Cards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated Host Club must enter results on Footyweb or as required by the League.
<p>Send Off Form and timekeepers Card</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided to the Timekeeper.
<p>Match Report Completed by Umpires</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Umpires to record Match day presentation and issues / incidents via online facility or as required by the League.
<p>Umpire Review Completed by Coaches</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where required by the League submission to Umpire Manager via online facility or as determined by the League.
<p>Umpire Best and Fairest Votes completed by Umpires</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Umpires to submit via online facility or as determined by the League.
<p>Umpire Notice of Report sheet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process to be used by the Umpires to submit Notice of Report is as determined by the League
<p>In the event of a forfeit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Umpire Votes should be taken • No goal Umpire cards to be kept • Record result on Footyweb noted as a forfeit 	

11.2 Team Sheet

(A) The official Team Sheet for each Match must contain:

- a. the name and jumper number of each Player;
- b. the name of the Coach: and
- c. the name of each Team Official.

(B) A copy of the official Team Sheet is to be provided by each Club to:

- a. the timekeeper, to be clearly marked with the quarter-by-quarter scores and goal-scorers at the conclusion of the Match and returned to the League Office with the relevant Match paperwork; and
 - b. the opposing Club.
- (C) Player and Official names on Team Sheets are to be completed in alphabetical order.
- (D) Alterations or additions may be made to the original Team Sheet up until the commencement of the match by arrangement with the field Umpires. No amendments may be made to any team list after the commencement of the match, however players who are not in attendance at the beginning of the match may be left on the team sheet, however they are only permitted to enter the field of play if they are in attendance prior to the end of the half time interval.
- (E) Not Applicable
- (F) Goals not listed on the Team Sheet at the time it is received at the League shall not be credited to a Player's tally if subsequently disclosed.
- (G) Clubs providing incorrect or incomplete Team Sheet may be subject to disciplinary sanctions including a determination that the Club's Team be recorded as losing the Match (with a score of sixty (60) to nil (0) for Juniors and one hundred and twenty (120) to nil (0) for U19's and Senior competitions).
- (H) When requested by the League, each club is required to provide a list of names and jumper numbers (in numerical order) of their players who are likely to play senior grade matches, for publication. These lists must be updated with the League as changes occur. Clubs are to ensure that players wear those jumper numbers listed
- (I) Team sheets will be locked on Footyweb at 12pm Monday following the match.
- (J) Premier Division Men's and Women's clubs are required to have available to the Competition Management Committee their selected senior team (in positions) for that weekend's match by 10am Friday. The teams are to be as accurate as possible and include
- a. a maximum of twenty five (25) players (18 on field, 4 interchange, and 3 emergencies) for Men's Premier Division
 - b. a maximum of twenty four (24) players (16 on field, 5 interchange, and 3 emergencies) for Women's Premier Division

11.3 Identification Checks

- (A) Any Club questioning an opposing Player's eligibility may ask the Player's team manager to confirm the identification of the Player in question. To facilitate administration of this provision, or if unable to be satisfied by evidence on the day, the following procedure must be followed:
- a. The Player in question shall sign the reverse side of the Club's Team Sheet;
 - b. The Club requesting proof shall apply in writing to the League;
 - c. The Player's Club must produce satisfactory evidence within three (3) working days of receiving an official request from the League, otherwise all Match wins gained by that Team in which the Player took part shall be forfeited to the opposing Team.
- (B) Should any Player fail to comply with either a request pursuant to By-Law 11.3 (A) or assist in the provision of identification of the Player, the Player may be subject to disciplinary process pursuant to the State & Territory Disciplinary Committee Guidelines. It is the responsibility of the ground manager to arrange for the safe delivery of these particulars to the League. Should any

discrepancies be found, the matter will be dealt with at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee in accordance with these By-Laws.

11.4 Match Times

- (A) Starting time of all Matches are as outlined in the Season Fixture. The starting times of Matches may be varied subsequently by the Competition Management Committee in writing in its absolute discretion.
- (B) Competing Clubs may vary the times by mutual agreement subject to the Competition Management Committee receiving notification at least seven (7) days before the initial scheduled starting time. Any approval will be subject to umpire availability.
- (C) Clubs are to schedule multiple opposition club teams together when submitting game times.
- (D) Any Team failing to enter the playing field after receiving a second warning from the Umpire/s may incur a fine. At that point, at the field umpire's discretion, they may commence play.
- (E) If the start of a Match is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances and the Match is rescheduled by the Competition Management Committee or by agreement between the competing Clubs, the Clubs must agree on a shortened time of play.
- (F) Not applicable
- (G) If for any reason a Club cannot or does not complete a Match, the field umpire must report the matter to the Competition Management Committee for investigation.

11.5 Match Duration

- (A) The duration of quarters and breaks for all home and away Matches will be as follows. If both teams are ready to commence play prior to the conclusion of a break, the siren may be sound.

Competition	Quarter Length (min)	Time On (yes or no)	Quarter Time (min)	Half Time (min)	Three Quarter Time (min)
Men's Premier Division	20	Yes	5	15	5
U19s Division One	20	No	5	12	5
Men's Premier Division Reserves	22	No	5	12	5
Platinum Division	22	No	5	12	5
Platinum Division Reserves	20	No	5	12	5
Men's Division One	20	No	5	12	5
Men's Division Two	18	No	5	10	5
U19s Division Two	18	No	5	10	5
Men's Division Three	18	No	5	10	5
Women's Premier Division	18	No	5	10	5
Women's Division One	18	No	5	10	5
Women's Division Two	18	No	5	10	5
Women's Division Three	18	No	5	10	5
Masters	18	No	5	10	5

- (B) For Matches where time on is to be implemented, the following is to apply:|

The Timekeepers shall stop the clock which is used for timing when:

- a. directed to do so by a field umpire by blowing the whistle and raising one arm above his or her head.
- b. the goal umpire first signals that a goal has been scored

- c. the goal umpire first signals a behind has been scored
- d. the field umpire crosses their arms to indicate they are going to throw the football up

The Timekeepers shall recommence the clock when:

- a. directed to do so by a field umpire by blowing the whistle and raising one arm above his or her head.
 - b. the football is bounced or thrown up by the field umpire
 - c. the football is brought back into play after a behind has been scored.
 - d. the football is obviously in play
- (C) In the event of a Player being replaced under the blood rule, timekeepers are to stop the clock from the time that the blood rule signal is given by the field umpire until the field umpire signals time back on or the ball is clearly in play.
- (D) In case of a Player being replaced using a stretcher, the field umpire shall signal time off as outlined in By-Law 11.5 (B) a.
- (E) For Matches where time on is not applicable, the following will apply:
- a. The clock is only to be stopped for the blood rule or when a Player is replaced using the stretcher with the procedure as follows:
 - i. In the event of a Player being replaced under the blood rule, timekeepers are to stop the clock from the time that the blood rule signal is given by the field umpire until the field umpire signals time back on or the ball is clearly in play.
 - ii. In case of a Player being replaced using a stretcher, the field umpire shall signal time off as outlined in By-Law 11.5 (B) a.

11.6 Incomplete Match

Subject to By-Law 5.5 (Forfeits) if a Match is unable to commence or conclude within the time scheduled for the Match for reasons beyond the control of either Team (including circumstances where it is unsafe for the Match to proceed) the following shall apply:

- (A) Match not commenced: The result of a Match shall be determined by the League.
- (B) Prior to half time:
- e. If a Match has commenced but is not able to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the Match, the Teams shall depart from the field.
 - f. If the Match is unable to recommence within a 30-minute period, the Match shall be deemed to be drawn and the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be used in calculating the percentage of each Team.
- (C) Half time & beyond:
- a. If the half time interval has been reached and the Match is unable to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the Match, the Teams shall leave the field, or in the case of half time, not return to the field.
 - b. If the Match is unable to recommence within a thirty (30) minute period, the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be deemed to be the final scores of the Match.
 - c. The Team with the highest score shall be deemed the winner of the Match and the scores shall be used in calculating the percentage of each Team.

- (D) Determination of Match not able to proceed:
- a. 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.
 - b. A field umpire must determine that a Match is unable to commence or proceed when lightning is present at or within the immediate proximity of the venue where the Match is being conducted, in line with the AFL Extreme Weather Policy.
- (E) Recommencing Play: 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 and By-Law 5.5 shall apply.
- (F) The League may vary the length and scheduling of the intervals of Matches as reasonably required.
- (G) During the AFL Sydney Finals the ground manager may after consultation with AFL Sydney alter the start and finish times of matches in order to complete a match provided there are no significant delays to match day.

11.7 Sirens

- (A) Timekeepers are to sound the siren as follows:
- a. As Umpires enter the playing field prior to the start of a Match and after half-time – Once;
 - b. Five (5) minutes prior to scheduled starting time of the Match and start of the third quarter – Once;
 - c. Two (2) minutes prior to scheduled starting time of each quarter – Twice;
 - d. One (1) minute prior to scheduled starting time of each quarter – Once;
 - e. Scheduled starting time of each quarter – Once.
- (B) Clubs must also have available an emergency sounding device in the event of the failure of the siren/sounding device.

11.8 Extreme Weather

- (A) From time to time the League may vary the playing conditions due to adverse weather.
- (B) Umpires and Clubs should be aware of the dangers of allowing play to proceed during dangerous or extreme weather, such as thunder, electrical storms, lightning or hail. The Match should be terminated by the field umpire, or the ground manager, in the instance of dangerous weather such as if lightning is seen in the vicinity of the playing field.

11.9 Wet Weather Procedures

- (A) Where wet or adverse weather conditions prevail, Clubs are to advise the League as early as possible of the likelihood of ground closures to enable alternative arrangements for the playing of scheduled Matches to be considered.
- (B) Where a venue to which a Match has been scheduled is unfit for play or has been closed and the home Club does not have access to a suitable alternate venue, the League will reschedule the match to the oppositions home ground if the oppositions home ground is available. If the oppositions home

ground is not available due to other matches scheduled there or because the ground has also been closed, the match will be deemed as cancelled. Please note the following requirements:

- a. The game will only be re-scheduled to the opposition Club's home venue if the venue can accommodate the match at the original time it was scheduled (or within half an hour)
- b. In the case of multiple venues closing resulting in an opposition club needing to host 2 or more games at their ground at the same time, priority will be given to the higher ranked team (eg. If a Premier Division game and a Men's Division 1 game involving the same opposition Club were due to start at the same time at different venues that have both been closed, the Men's Premier Division game will be given priority)

- (C) The only exception to 11.9 (B) is that every effort will be made to get Men's and Women's Premier Division games played as a priority over all other division matches, noting that Clubs whose venues are vacant and playable will be expected to co-operate with the League by making their venue available to minimise the likelihood of cancellations. In this situation, the Host Team responsibilities will be assumed by the Host Team as nominated in the fixture. In the case of Premier Division matches, they will only be re-scheduled if they can be accommodated on another venue within 2 hours of the original match time

Wet Weather Priority Order:

- a. Premier Division
- b. Women's Premier Division
- c. Platinum Division
- d. U19s Division 1
- e. Premier Division Reserves
- f. Platinum Division Reserves
- g. U19's Division 2
- h. Men's Division 1
- i. Women's Division 1
- j. Men's Division 2
- k. Women's Division 2
- l. Men's Division 3
- m. Women's Division 3
- n. Masters

- (D) Should it appear likely that more than one Match in a round may be unable to be played, the Competition Management Committee may postpone or cancel all Matches for that round.
- (E) If any Match is cancelled, the Match does not contribute to either Team's "Match Ratio" pursuant to By-Law 5.3 (A) and such Match shall not count towards player eligibility for finals. Where two or more of a Club's home and away Matches are cancelled due to wet or adverse weather, the Competition Management Committee will determine player eligibility for finals.
- (F) The Club named first on the official Season Fixture is the Host Club and is responsible for ensuring that the following provisions for Matches are adhered to.
- (G) Each Club is required to have procedures in place which enable them to contact their Players and Officials at short notice regarding any changes to scheduled Matches.
- (H) All adjustments to Wet Weather affected games will be communicated prior to 7pm on the day preceding the fixture. No transfers are permitted after this time or on game day.

11.10 Ground Marking

- (A) The following lines must be clearly marked:
- a. Goal-squares, boundary lines, centre square;

- b. Arc at each end of the ground, three (3) metre centre circle (with intersecting line), ten (10) metre centre circle (with intersecting line);
 - c. Interchange Gates should be marked on one wing and adequate seating provided equal distance on either side be not less than fifty (50) metres apart for the interchange Players and Team Officials of each Club;
 - d. The boundary line must be marked at least three (3) metres inside the fence line.
- (B) A Coach's line should be marked comprising five (5) metres in length and 1 metre in from the fence / fence line or if no fence line, two (2) metres out from the boundary. It should be marked in front of the Coach's box / area. No Official or bench Player is allowed to stand in front of this line during play.
- (C) Ground markings for Junior Matches should be marked in accordance with the Australian Football Match Policy.

11.11 Goal Post Pads

Padding must be provided on all fixed goal and behind posts to a height of at least two point five (2.5) metres from the ground

11.12 Scoreboard

A suitable scoreboard with numbers and Team names clearly visible to Players, Umpires and spectators must be in operation for all Matches.

11.13 Change rooms

- (A) Separate and adequate changing facilities and showers must be provided for each Club and the Umpires
- (B) These rooms must be presented in a clean and tidy condition at the commencement of each Match.

11.14 Timekeeping Facilities

A table and seating with an unobstructed view of the playing area must be provided for Club timekeepers together with a suitable time clock and a sounding device which can be clearly heard at any location on the playing surface.

11.15 Footballs

'KB' Footballs for men's competitions and 'KB' Size 4 Footballs for women's competitions are the only football to be used in AFL Sydney matches. The only exception to this is Men's and Women's Divisions One, Two and Three and Under 19's Division Two matches where Sherrin Match size 5 (Men) and size 4 (Women) may be used. Red footballs should be used for day matches (matches starting prior to 3pm), and yellow 'Veg Tan' footballs should be used for night matches (matches starting at 3pm onwards).

For all Men's and Women's Premier Division matches a new football is to be used. The host club is to provide this football as well as two spare balls for Men's Premier Division and one spare ball for Women's Premier Division which is only to be used should the game ball be unable to be retrieved within a reasonable period of time. Should a spare ball need to be used, it should be replaced by the game ball at the earliest practical time. The spare ball(s) should only have been used for a maximum of two games previously.

For all other matches, two suitable used Sherrin footballs shall suffice, with the umpire to determine which ball will be the game ball. A suitable used ball is one that has been used for a maximum of two games previously.

12. CLUB MATCH RESPONSIBILITIES

12.1 Coaches

- (A) The minimum requirements for Coach Accreditation are either a “Level 1” or “Foundation Coach” accreditation as applicable.
- a. The minimum accreditation requirement for Men’s and Women’s Premier Division Coaches is “Level 2”.
- b. The minimum accreditation requirement for all club Coaches, except those listed in 12.1 (A) a. is “Foundation Coach”.
- (B) Restrictions applied to Suspended Players and Coaches are outlined in the Regulations.
- (C) All AFL Sydney team coaches must be accredited each season by Round 1 using the coach.afl accreditation platform.
- (D) If a team head coach is not accredited or registered as defined by By-Law 12.1, the club may be subject to disciplinary sanctions including loss of Match points and/or a fine as determined by the Competition Management Committee.

12.2 Ground Manager

- (A) The Host Club must appoint a ground manager (or designate the following tasks to a nominated person(s) who will be responsible for the Match day requirements and Match paperwork for the day). The Ground Manager is expected to wear a clearly visible jacket or bib so that he/she is readily identifiable.
- (B) The ground manager must introduce him/herself to the Umpires and Officials of the visiting Club on arrival and acquaint them with the ground facilities as well as provide details of the closest emergency medical facilities. Should the ground manager be replaced during the day, the newly appointed person should immediately inform both the Umpires and both Clubs accordingly.
- (C) Prior to the commencement of play, the ground manager must identify compliance of the Host Club with the Sports Trainers Policy as outlined in By-Law 12.10.
- (D) Prior to the commencement of play in each Match, the ground manager should distribute the following paperwork provided by the League .

Scorecards	To Club goal umpires
Timekeepers Card	To the Timekeeper

- (E) Not Applicable
- (F) At the completion of each Match, the ground manager should collect all the following documentation unless the tasks for Umpires are completed online. on-line.

From Umpires	From Timekeepers	From Team Officials
Goal umpire scorecards	Timekeepers Report	Completed Team Lists (Note 1)
Team Lists		

Note 1: The ground manager should ensure that each Club has entered the quarter-by-quarter scores; best Players and the goals scored by Players on their Team Sheets/ lists. The tally of goals entered for Players must equal the number of goals scored by the respective Teams.

- (G) The ground manager also has the additional responsibility of overseeing the League's Code of Conduct at a venue. (see clause 10 of Appendix A of the AFL NSW/ACT Regulations).
- (H) At the end of the Match, the ground manager should collate all paperwork and arrange to have it returned in the prescribed manner, to reach the League by no later than the designated time.
- (I) Finally, it shall be the ground manager's responsibility to ensure that a representative of the Host Club:
 - a. Not Applicable
 - b. Inputs all results and Player information (i.e. Team lists, goal kickers & best players) of all the days Matches into the Footyweb on-line results system by 7.00pm on the day of the match. Any matches concluding after 6.00pm must have the full results input into Footyweb within an hour of the match concluding
 - c. Submits to the league via Cognito Forms all paperwork collected as per By-Law 12.2 (F) by 9am on the Monday following the match

12.3 Team Managers

- (A) Each Club shall appoint a manager for each Team it fields in the Competition
 - a. It shall be the Team Manager's responsibility to ensure that his or her Teams' Players and Officials comply with the requirements specified in these By-Laws and with any request reasonably made by the Umpires officiating in a Competition Match in which their Team is participating.
 - b. The club appointed Team Manager is responsible to alter their team sheet on Footyweb prior to the match and after the match to ensure that the players listed participated.
- (B) Each team manager shall introduce themselves to the Umpires prior to a Match for identification and to ensure that the Team Sheets are handed in on time (no later than 30 minutes or as designated by the League prior to the scheduled start time). The team managers should also arrange for the Team Sheets to be exchanged with the opposition Club at this time.
- (C) Each team manager is to ensure that at the conclusion of the Match, the goal kickers and best Players for their respective Teams are noted on the official Team sheet, which is held by the timekeeper.
- (D) It shall be the team manager's responsibility to ensure that a representative of the Club waits on the Umpires at the conclusion of each Match to ascertain whether or not any reports of Players or Officials have arisen from the Match or to receive the "all clear".

12.4 Team Runner

- (A) The sole duty of the team runner is to deliver messages to his or her Club's Players and then leave the field immediately having done so. Umpires shall ask runners to leave the field if they remain on the playing surface for an unnecessarily long period of time as determined by the Umpire.
- (B) The Team runner must wear an iridescent pink top with the club's name and the word "Runner" clearly marked on the back. The Runner must also wear (1) iridescent pink shorts or (2) tracksuit pants – which may be either black or pink. Footwear must be either running shoes or football boots. The

Competition Management Committee may vary the uniform requirement for Runners from time to time.

- (C) Suspended Players or Officials are not permitted to act as the official team runner.
- (D) Each Team is permitted to use a maximum of one (1) team runner. Team runners are not required to enter the field via the interchange area.
- (E) Runners are permitted to enter the field at any stage throughout the match (variation from 2020 AFL Laws of the Game).

12.5 Trainers, Other Medical Support Staff and Water Carriers

- (A) Clubs may utilise a maximum of six (6) trainers, other medical support staff and water carriers per Team.
- (B) These personnel are only permitted onto the field during play to attend to injured Players or to provide Players with water. They must not be used to deliver messages to Players. These personnel may enter the field at any stage during play (variation from 2020 AFL Laws of the Game).
- (C) Trainers, other medical support staff and water carriers for each Team must be dressed in light blue 'trainer's shirts'. Either black tracksuit pants or club shorts are to be worn (jeans are not permitted), together with running shoes or football boots.
- (D) Umpires will ask any Trainer/Medical/water carrier to leave the ground if they do not have a compliant uniform and they should not return unless they have changed into the compliant uniform. Umpires shall also ask water carriers to leave the field if they are delivering messages to players.
- (E) Water carriers shall not be younger than fourteen (14) years.
- (F) Team Coaches and suspended players/officials are not permitted to act as trainers, medical support staff or water carriers

12.6 Umpires Escort

- (A) For each Match, the Host Club must appoint a suitable person to act as an escort for the Umpires (ideally the ground manager or appointee). The Umpires escort is to escort the Umpires (including Club Umpires):
 - a. From their change-rooms to the centre of the field prior to the commencement of a match
 - b. From their assembly point on the field to their change-rooms at half-time
 - c. From their change-rooms to the centre of the field after the half time break
 - d. From their assembly point on the field to their change-rooms at the conclusion of the match
- (B) An Umpire exclusion zone should be implemented at quarter and three-quarter time encompassing the centre square. The Umpires Escort is to stand with the Umpires during the quarter and three-quarter time intervals and arrange for water to be provided to the Umpires, if required.
- (C) The Umpires Escort is expected to wear a clearly visible jacket or bib so that he/she is readily identifiable.
- (D) Any Umpire Escort provided is expected to assist in providing and/or obtaining details of any alleged breach of the Code of Conduct immediately after completing his/her duties in liaison with/at the request of the Umpires or ground manager.

12.7 Timekeepers

- (A) The Host Club must provide a timekeeper for each Match.
- (B) The away Club is entitled to also appoint or supply a timekeeper for each Match. The only exception to this is for Men's Premier Division Matches the away club must supply a timekeeper.
- (C) The timekeeper(s) are to perform the duties as set out in the Laws of the Game, these By-Laws and Regulations and as otherwise specified by the Competition Management Committee from time to time.
- (D) In the event of a dispute or disagreement between the two timekeepers, such dispute shall be reported to the field umpire, at half time if the dispute occurs during the first half or at the conclusion of the Match if it occurs during the second half. The field umpire(s) shall report the matter to the Competition Management Committee for attention.
- (E) In addition to performing timekeeping duties, timekeepers will be required to record the scores of each Match in which they officiate.
- (F) Timekeepers are also required to record the time that Players, who are ordered off by the field umpires, leave the field and shall be the sole judges as to when such Players may resume playing (if applicable). It is the Club of the offending Player's responsibility to obtain the all clear from the timekeepers for such Players to resume playing. The timekeepers are to acknowledge the Umpires decision to send off a Player by showing the appropriate red or yellow card to the controlling Umpire.
- (G) The field umpire(s) shall have the power to dispense with the services of either or both timekeepers during a Match.

12.8 Officials on the Bench

In addition to the maximum number of game day officials as provided in By-Laws 12.3 to 12.5 each Team is permitted a maximum of four (4) other Officials on the bench area inside the ground during play.

12.9 Not Applicable

12.10 Injury Treatment

- (A) All Clubs must comply with the Infectious Diseases Policy as issued by Sports Medicine Australia.
- (B) It is the Host Club's responsibility to ensure that appropriate injury treatment processes are in place on Match days. The telephone numbers and addresses of the nearest medical services including ambulance, medical centres and hospitals must be available for use in an emergency.
- (C) The League has adopted the AFL Sports Trainers in Community Australian Football Policy ("Sports Trainers Policy"). All Clubs must comply with the Sports Trainers Policy.
- (D) Training courses will be available to Clubs that do not have the appropriate access to the necessary resources as required under the Sports Trainers Policy.
- (E) The Host Club is responsible for ensuring compliance to the minimum requirements of the Sports Trainers Policy for all Matches for which it is the Host Club.
- (F) There must be at least one person with the minimum competencies outlined in the Sports Trainers Policy at any Match as follows:
 - a. Junior (Under 12s and below): First Aid Certificate
 - b. Youth and Seniors (Under 13s and over): Emergency Response Coordinator (ERC) Certificate

- (G) The visiting Club should confirm with the ground manager prior to the commencement of each Match that the Host Club is able to comply with the requirements of this By-Law. In the event that the Host Club is unable to comply with these requirements, then, if the visiting Club agrees, the Match will be postponed or rescheduled. Any decision to replay a postponed Match must be agreed to by both Clubs and the Competition Management Committee within seven (7) days of the scheduled Match.
- (H) The Match may proceed if the visiting Club is able to provide the appropriate resources under the Sports Trainers Policy.
- (I) In the event that neither Club has the appropriate requirements at the scheduled commencement of the Match a delayed start of twenty (20) minutes may be applied. If there are additional fixtures following the Match it should be shortened appropriately to not delay the commencement of Matches following.
- (J) If the visiting Club does not agree to postponement or cancellation of the Match, then the visiting Club may claim a forfeit. The By-Laws in relation to forfeits will apply.
- (K) If a Match is started or played without the attendance of a First Aid Official (as defined), the Host Club will forfeit the Match and may be subject to a maximum fine of two hundred (200) dollars.
- (L) The Sports Trainers Policy refers to first aid usually being provided by sports trainers or by other volunteers with medical or higher-level allied health qualifications. If a Club has a person present in any of the following occupation's they are deemed as acceptable under the Policy:
- a. Nurse;
 - b. Physiotherapist;
 - c. A certified Sports Trainer;
 - d. St John Officer;
 - e. Paramedic;
 - f. Medical Doctor.
- (M) A "scoop" or similar stretcher in good condition must be in a quick and easily accessible location for the duration of the days play. The home Club must ensure that it can promptly facilitate ambulance access to the field of play if necessary.
- (N) The first aid official should be located alongside or as near as practical to the ground manager. Where more than one Match is being played at any one time, a first aid official must be supplied for each game.
- (O) If first aid is needed and the advice is that the Player should not continue playing, the Coach shall abide by the decision of the First Aid Official (as defined).

12.11 Concussion

- (A) Management of concussion should be in accordance with the Management of concussion in Australian Football which can be found at: <http://www.aflcommunityClub.com.au>
- (B) Primary responsibility for the management of concussion lies with the Club of the Player, and their Officials, and where applicable, the Player's Parents / Guardian.

- (C) Any Player who is suspected of having a concussion:
- a. must be medically assessed as soon as possible after the injury or incident, and
 - b. must not be allowed to return to play in the same Match or participate in the same practice session. Initial decisions regarding potential incidents of concussion should be made by a medical doctor or, if there is no medical doctor in attendance, the head trainer.
- (D) Decisions regarding return to play after a concussive injury (a disturbance of brain function) should only be made by a medical officer with experience in concussive injuries. A Player who has suffered concussion or is suspected of having a concussion must not be allowed to return to training or playing until and unless the Player has received a formal medical clearance which has been provided to the Club.

12.12 Match-Day Safety Check

A representative of all competing Clubs is required to conduct a Match day health and safety check prior to the commencement of the first Match and at any other time during the day if conditions change. The representatives must complete the checklist online via the JLT app. If a Club is unable to complete the checklist online they are to complete a manual JLT checklist. Completed checklists are to be retained by Host Clubs for a period of seven (7) years for future reference by the League or its insurers if so required.

13. UMPIRES

13.1 Appointments

The League or delegate will appoint official Umpires to all Matches as available and the names of the appointed Umpires will be issued to participating Clubs prior to each Match.

13.2 Availability

All members of the Umpires' panel must make themselves available to the League for appointment as a field, boundary or goal umpire as required. All Umpires must conform to the By-Laws and arrangements of the League and shall appear when called upon by the Competition Management Committee.

13.3 Umpire Requirements

Umpires must attend at the ground before the official starting time of the Match and must be on the field correctly attired a minimum of ten (10) minutes before the scheduled Match start time.

13.4 Field and Goal Umpire Numbers

- (A) A minimum of two field umpires are required in order for a Match to commence unless determined otherwise by the League. These must be registered League appointed Umpires or Club appointed Umpires (or a combination of both).
- (B) In the event that two Umpires are not available, the Match will be cancelled and the matter referred to the Competition Management Committee for determination.
- (C) Where two (2) field umpires commence a Match and for any reason one (1) of the field umpires is unable to complete the Match the remaining field umpire may continue to control the Match as a single Umpire in the event that there is not a suitable replacement Umpire.
- (D) As a minimum, two (2) goal umpires are required prior to a Match commencing. These can be League appointed or Club Appointed umpires or a combination of both. Should two Umpires not be available, the Match must not to commence and the matter referred to the Competition Management Committee for determination.

13.5 Umpires' Fees

The Umpires' fees for the ensuing season will be determined by the Competition Management Committee and communicated to all Clubs no later than February in the year the season in which they are applicable.

13.6 Payment of Umpires

- (A) Appointed Umpires are to sign the Umpires' Match Report prior to the commencement of their scheduled Match. Clubs will be invoiced for the appropriate fee based on actual attendance of officially appointed Umpires.
- (B) In the event of a Match being cancelled, other than because of forfeit as provided for in By-Law 5.4 (G), no payment shall be due to the Umpires appointed to the Match.

13.7 Umpire's Match Report

- (A) At the conclusion of each Match, the field Umpire(s) shall provide a report to the Competition Management Committee on the prescribed online Umpires Match Report form by 7pm Sunday of the weekend of the match. Umpire payments will only be paid to those Umpires who sign the Match Report.
- (B) The field Umpires shall also complete the best & fairest player voting online.
- (C) Not Applicable
- (D) The Goal Umpire scorecards and Team Lists will be provided to the Ground Manager to send electronically to the League by 7pm Sunday.

13.8 Club Report on Umpires

To assist the League in its assessment of Umpires, Clubs may at their discretion, provide a report on the Umpire(s) performance to the League. Such report must be provided on the form as prescribed by the League and forwarded to the Umpire Development Manager – AFL Sydney during the week following the match.

13.9 Minimum Umpire Age

- (A) The minimum age of Field, Boundary and Goal Umpires (Official or Club Umpires) for all open age and under age Competitions is no younger than fourteen (14) years as at January 1.
- (B) Not Applicable

13.10 Club Umpires

- (A) From time to time each Club is required to provide suitable persons for the League Club Umpire Program. Such persons will be provided minimum level accreditation and support. Clubs will be advised of the Club Umpire commitment for the season prior to the start of the season as designated.
- (B) A minimum of two field umpires are required for a match to commence unless where directed by the League. Where the League has not appointed any Official Field Umpires, it shall be each Club's responsibility to arrange for a suitable person to umpire the Match. Where the League has appointed only one Official Field Umpire, only the home team is required to provide an umpire.
- (C) Club field umpires are required to complete all the necessary Match Paperwork (i.e. Umpires Match Report (which they are to sign)) and Best & Fairest Votes.
- (D) Each competing Club is responsible for the payment of their own Club Umpires, or in the case of one Club providing both Club Umpires, the payment of one of the Club Umpires.

- (E) Where Official goal and boundary umpires have not been appointed by the League, each competing Club must be prepared to provide a suitable goal and boundary umpire to officiate. Club goal umpires must be equipped with two white flags and attired in a uniform as approved by the League and Club boundary umpires must be attired as approved and equipped with a suitable whistle
- (F) Official field umpires shall have the power to overrule decisions by Club goal and/or boundary umpires and remove them should they consider that such Club Umpires are not competent to carry out the required duties.
- (G) Any person officiating as a club goal or boundary Umpire in a Match is to adhere to the Code of Conduct as it applies to an Official, and, in addition, is to refrain from engaging in any form of coaching of, or instruction to Players in the course of the Match other than for the purpose of conducting umpiring duties.
- (H) Payment of Club goal and boundary umpires (if any) shall be the responsibility of the respective Clubs or as determined by the Competition Management Committee. Club goal and boundary umpire's names must not be added to the Umpire's attendance sheet.
- (I) Club Field Umpires are to be attired in a 'green umpire shirt', black shorts and runners or football boots.
- (J) Club Field Umpires must be registered and accredited in accordance with League requirements.
- (K) Two Goal Umpires are required for a match to commence unless where directed by the League. Where Official Goal Umpires have not been appointed by the League, each competing club must be prepared to provide a suitable goal umpire. If only one goal umpire has been appointed by the league it is the responsibility of the home club to provide a suitable goal umpire. Club goal umpires must be equipped with two white flags and be attired in a club shirt or white coat.
- (L) Where Official Boundary Umpires have not been appointed by the league, the following rules shall apply:
 - a. Premier Division, Premier Division Reserves, Platinum Division, U19s Division 1 and Women's Premiers Division - the home club is required to supply 2 boundary umpires where the league is unable to appoint both boundary umpires, or 1 boundary umpire where the league has only appointed 1 boundary umpire. A match should not commence until there are two boundary umpires in place. If a league appointed boundary umpire does not turn up to a match without prior warning, the field umpire can throw the ball up 20 metres from the boundary line where the ball left the field of play if the home club cannot find a suitable boundary umpire.
 - b. All other grades - the home club must supply 2 boundary umpires where the league is unable to appointment them. If boundary umpires cannot be supplied by the home club the field umpire will have a ball up 20 metres from the boundary line where the ball left the field of play. The field umpires should only be doing a ball up if no boundary umpires can be supplied.
- (M) Club boundary umpires must be attired in white shirt, club shorts, runners or football boots and equipped with a suitable whistle

13.11 Reporting of Players and Officials

- (A) Umpires may report to the League any Player or Official who, during the progress of a Match or within the immediate proximity of the ground on the day of the Match, commits a reportable offence. The procedure for making and lodging such a report shall be as specified by the Laws of the Game and by the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT.
- (B) For the purposes of Section 3 of the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT, registered field, registered boundary and/or registered goal umpires are permitted to report Players. Unregistered Club field umpires, Club boundary and goal umpires are not permitted to report Players.

- (C) All reporting Umpires are required to reference the Offence Grade Template as outlined in clause 5.2(b) of the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT when lodging a report.
- (D) For Men's Premier Division Matches, a Field Umpire may request that the League review match footage to determine whether a Player or Official should be placed on report for an incident. The request should be submitted via the online Umpire Match Report form.

13.12 Melees

- (A) If an incident occurs prior to, during (including the quarter time, half time and three quarter time interval) or following the completion of a Competition Match involving **three (3) or more players and/or officials per team** and if, in the opinion of the Competition Management Committee, such incident is likely to prejudice the interests or reputation of the Competition, AFL or bring the game of Australian Football into disrepute, the Club/s involved in such incident shall be sanctioned by the Competition Management Committee by way of a fine calculated in accordance with the Melee Matrix grading system as defined by the League.
- (B) Any amount payable by a Club, under this By-Law, shall be paid by the Club to the League within fourteen (14) days.
- (C) Individual players may still be reported under the Laws of Australian Football.

13.13 Approaching Umpires

- (A) No person, except as listed in By-Law 13.13 (B), shall approach or talk to an Umpire (field, boundary and goal) prior to, during or after the conclusion of a Match, or leaving the playing arena.
- (B) The excepted persons referred to in By-Law 13.13 A above include:
- a. AFL NSW/ACT staff;
 - b. Ground manager, including any designated assistant, umpire escort;
 - c. Umpire Manager.

14. CONDUCT – DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

14.1 Prescribed Penalties

- (A) A prescribed penalty system will operate in the Competitions in accordance with Appendix "A" of these By-Laws.
- (B) Any player suspensions incurred at NEAFL level apply to the AFL Sydney competition.

14.2 Code of Conduct

- (A) Clubs agree to comply with the Regulations and Code of Conduct through affiliation.
- (B) Players and Coaches agree to comply with the Code of Conduct through the Online Registration in Footyweb.
- (C) Clubs are required to ensure that all Club's Players, Officials, Coaches, administrators and parents receive a copy of the Code of Conduct.
- (D) Parents, Officials and Coaches are bound by the By-Laws, including the relevant Code of Conduct in Appendix "A" of the AFL NSWACT Regulations, as issued from time to time, irrespective of whether they have signed any specific conduct codes or Codes of Conduct.

14.3 Power to Investigate

- (A) The Competition Management Committee may investigate or nominate a person (League designate) to investigate any matter which it considers relevant to whether a person, or a Club as the case may be, may have committed a Reportable Offence or a breach of any Regulation, By-law or policy.
- (B) Without limiting the powers and discretions conferred upon the Competition Management Committee in By-Law 14.3 (A), the League designate may investigate any matter:
 - a. of their own motion; or
 - b. on the basis of video evidence; or
 - c. upon the written request of an authorised officer of a Club pursuant to By-Law 14.8; or
 - d. upon the written request of either an authorised officer of a Club or a non-aligned individual pursuant to By-Law 14.2 Code of Conduct

14.4 Co-operation

- (A) For the purpose of conducting an investigation under this By-Law, a person shall if requested by the Competition Management Committee:
 - a. fully co-operate with the investigation;
 - b. truthfully answer any questions asked; and
 - c. provide any document in that person's possession or control requested by the investigating person.

14.5 Failure to Co-operate

A person who fails to observe and comply with By-Law 14.4 or who provides any information or has acted in a manner which is in any respect false or misleading or likely to mislead, is deemed to have engaged in conduct which is unbecoming or prejudicial to the interests of the League and may be referred to the Tribunal by the League for determination.

14.6 Interpretation

For the purposes of this By-Law, a reference to the League designate shall be read as a reference to the League and/or any person nominated by the League to conduct an investigation on the basis of video evidence or otherwise.

14.7 Power to Report

- (A) If the League designate is of the opinion that a person may have committed a Reportable Offence, whether on the basis of an investigation, video, photographic evidence or otherwise, the League Designate may report such person and refer the matter to the Tribunal for hearing and determination by the Tribunal. Should video or photographic evidence be available, the Competition Management Committee can offer the reported person a Prescribed Penalty however if the offence is of serious nature and no video or photographic evidence is available the Football Operations Manager may refer the matter to the Tribunal for hearing and determination by the Independent Tribunal. The person who has been reported will be notified in writing of the charge laid against him and the date and time for the hearing and determination of the charge by the Tribunal.

- (B) Not Applicable

14.8 Citings by Clubs

- (A) Where a Club wishes to lodge a complaint against a Player or Official for an alleged "on field" offence (a citing), such complaint must be noted on the appropriate League Incident Referral Form (see sample Appendix 'B') which must be lodged in writing with the League no later than midday on the second business day after the incident out of which the complaint arises. An Incident Referral Form must be submitted for each citing. An intermediate advice on the incident form may be initially emailed with the written lodgement to follow as required. The Incident Referral Form should be submitted to the Football Operations Manager (dean.lee@afl.com.au).
- a. This By-Law provides a means for the investigation of serious incidents which escaped the attention of Umpires.
- b. A serious incident for definition is a matter which may draw a base sanction of more than three (3) matches in accordance with the grading table contained in the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines 2020, or as otherwise determined by the Competition Management Committee, based on the recommendation of the investigating officer.
- (B) In the event a Club requests extra time to prepare the Incident Referral Form, the Competition Management Committee may, after receiving a notice of intent within the time requirements of By-Law 14.8 (A), extend the deadline to Thursday 5.00pm following the incident.
- (C) Not Applicable
- (D) Any and each such citing by a Club must be accompanied by a five hundred (500) dollar citing fee which may be forfeited should the Competition Management Committee deem in its ultimate discretion the complaint to be frivolous. The citing fee shall be paid by cheque or be evidenced as paid by attaching to the Incident Referral Form evidence that the citing fee has been electronically or deposited manually to the League's bank account. The Competition Management Committee will, at its absolute discretion, determine whether the fee will be reimbursed in part or full to the Club lodging the citing at the conclusion of the matter.
- (E) The Competition Management Committee shall decide whether the matter should be referred to the Tribunal for consideration. The person against whom such a complaint is lodged will be notified in writing of his or her rights (via Club Secretary or President) and the procedures to be followed for the investigation. Each of the Clubs concerned will receive a copy of such correspondence.
- (F) For Men's Premier Division, a Club may request the Competition Management Committee to review footage of an incident by submitting a completed Incident Referral Form and a non-refundable fee of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250). The Competition Management Committee may proceed with processing a Report or a Code of Conduct breach. If it is determined not to take the matter further the Club will be provided with an explanation within two (2) days. If the Competition Management Committee decide to proceed the matter further the Club is not required to submit a citing. The Incident Referral Form should be submitted to the Football Operations Manager (dean.lee@afl.com.au).
- (G) Allegations relating to the conduct of Matches involving persons other than Players or Officials will be dealt with by a Code of Conduct Committee as designated by the League in accordance with Rule 14.8 (A) to 14.8 (C) above.

14.9 Appointment and Role of Tribunal

- (A) A panel of independent Tribunal members shall be appointed by the League in accordance with the requirements in the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines 2020 or the State & Territory Disciplinary Committee Guidelines NSW/ACT (as the case may be).
- (B) The Tribunal shall hear the following matters in accordance with the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines 2020, or the State & Territory Disciplinary Committee Guidelines (as the case may be):

- a. reports by Umpires against Players or Officials participating in League Competitions, pre-season or practice Matches;
- b. such other matters (including citings by Clubs) as may be referred to it by the League;
- c. referrals pursuant to By-Law 14.8;
- d. any other matter as appropriate.

14.10 Tribunal Hearings

- (A) A reporting Umpire, the reported person and a representative of the reported person's Club shall attend a hearing at a time and place specified by the Competition Management Committee.
- (B) If a reported person is unable to attend the hearing, the procedures as set out in the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines 2020, and the National Disciplinary Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT (as applicable) will apply.
- (C) Should the reporting Umpire be unable to attend the hearing, the Competition Management Committee may defer the hearing in which case the reported Player or Official may continue to play or act until the hearing is held.
- (D) Should any of the above persons be unable to attend a hearing the Competition Management Committee may allow appropriate communication devices such as telephones or video links to be utilized to proceed with the Tribunal hearing.
- (E) The Tribunal may, in its ultimate discretion, utilize photo or video evidence for the purposes of the hearing.
- (F) Legal representatives are permitted to attend Tribunal hearings, but are not permitted to act in the role of Player, Official or Umpire advocate unless agreed to by the Tribunal.
- (G) The Tribunal has jurisdiction over any Player whether registered, unregistered or ineligible as the case may be.

14.11 Not Applicable

14.12 Player and Official De-registration

The League and Clubs must comply with the AFL Player and Official Deregistration Policy (where applicable).

14.13 Club Websites

- (A) Any Club that operates or having operated on its behalf a website, blog or social media account representing the Club and its activities ("Club Website"), agrees that it is prohibited from publishing, displaying or otherwise disseminating on the Club Website any content, information, images or other form of communication that is inappropriate, offensive or damaging to the reputation of a Player, Official, Club, the League or AFL NSW/ACT ("Offending Material"), including by providing links to other websites that may contain Offending Material.
- (B) Any Club that is found to be in breach of By-Law 14.13 (A) as determined by the League or the Competition Management Committee in its absolute discretion, must immediately upon receipt of notification of the breach remove the Offending Material, confirm in writing to the League that it has done so and shall be liable to sanctions as is deemed appropriate by the League or Competition Management Committee in their absolute discretion.

14.14 Media / Statements

- (A) Conduct occurring in Media or public forums is governed by the Code of Conduct.
- (B) Only authorised and approved personnel may make public statements regarding League matters.
- (C) For the By-Laws, "statement" includes any declaration, comment or remark, whether verbal, in print or by electronic media or social media.
- (D) A Club whose Official or Player has made a statement contrary to the provisions of By-Law 14.14 (A), or 14.14 (B) in the case of any other person, with the apparent authority, agreement, consent or approval of the Club, may be referred to the Competition Management Committee or Conduct Committee which may, in the event of a breach, levy a fine of up to a maximum of one thousand dollars (1,000) dollars and forfeit past or future Match points.

14.15 Lodging of Incidents – Non-Reportable Offences

In order for the League to investigate a match day incident that is not a reportable offence, clubs must advise the League by 12pm on the third business day following the match. The Competition Management Committee may alter this deadline in its absolute discretion.

15. ORDER OFF RULE

15.1 Yellow Card

- (A) A player who is reported by a field umpire or field umpires for a breach of the Laws of the Game may be ordered from the field of play for a period of fifteen (15) minutes. In this instance, an Umpire will hold up a yellow card. At the discretion of the field Umpire, the Player may not be reported.
- (B) A Player ordered off with a yellow card is required to leave the playing area immediately through the interchange area. The offending Player's Club is responsible for obtaining the approval from the timekeepers for such Player to resume playing in the Match.
- (C) For the purposes of this By-Law, a yellow card will result in the Player concerned remaining off the field of play for a total period of fifteen (15) consecutive playing minutes, excluding breaks between quarters only. E.g. a Player sent off five (5) minutes before half time would be permitted to resume playing ten (10) minutes after the third quarter commenced.
- (D) Unless determined otherwise by the Competition Management Committee, all Players who are ordered from the field of play with a yellow card can be replaced immediately.

15.2 Red Card

- (A) A Player who is reported by a field umpire or field umpires for a breach of the Laws of the Game twice in the same Match for separate incidents, or who is reported for a serious breach (as listed in By-Law 15.2 (B) below), shall be ordered from the field for the remainder of the Match. In this instance, an Umpire will hold up a red card.
- (B) Serious breaches include but are not limited to where a Player:
 - a. Intentionally, recklessly or negligently makes contact with or strikes an Umpire;
 - b. Attempts to make contact with or strike an Umpire;
 - c. Behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to an Umpire;
 - d. Intentionally, recklessly or negligently kicks another person;

- e. Commits an act of misconduct - if the Umpire is of the opinion the act constituting misconduct is serious in nature.
- (C) A Player ordered off with a red card is required to leave the playing area immediately through the interchange area. The offending Player is not permitted to sit on the bench or enter the playing arena at any time (including breaks) for the remainder of the Match.
- (D) Unless otherwise determined by the Competition Management Committee in its ultimate discretion, all Players who are ordered from the field of play with a red card can be replaced after a period of fifteen (15) minutes has elapsed. The offending Player's Club is responsible for obtaining approval from the timekeepers for the replacement Player to resume playing.
- (E) For the purposes of this By-Law, a red card will result in the Player concerned being unable to be replaced for a total period of fifteen (15) consecutive playing minutes, excluding breaks between quarters only. E.g. a Player sent off five (5) minutes before half time would not be permitted to be replaced until ten (10) minutes after the third quarter commenced.
- (F) An Official reported for a breach of the Laws of the Game will be automatically ordered from the field (regardless of whether they have been issued a red or yellow card) but can be replaced after a period of fifteen (15) minutes has elapsed.
- (G) All red cards are reportable offences and a Notice of Report must be submitted to the League.

15.3 Recording of Send Offs

- (A) When a Player is sent off from the field of play in accordance with this By-Law, the Umpire will show the appropriate yellow or red card to the timekeeper who will in turn acknowledge the send-off by showing the same colour card to the Umpire.
- (B) Timekeepers are required to record the time that Players, who are ordered off by the field umpires, leave the field of play and determine when such Players may resume playing in the Match, or be replaced in the Match (whichever is applicable). It is the offending Player's Club's responsibility to obtain approval from the timekeepers for such Player to resume playing in the Match

16. APPEALS

Any Player, Official, Umpire or Club who feels aggrieved by any decision relating to these By-Laws may appeal to the League and / or AFL NSW/ACT in accordance with the appeal procedures as outlined in the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT, the State & Territory Disciplinary Committee Guidelines and AFL NSWACT Regulations, as the case may be.

17. FINANCE

17.1 Fees

- (A) The Competition Management Committee will prepare a detailed budget each season taking into account all known and projected income and expenditure items.
- (B) Clubs will be levied an annual licence fee, which will be used to offset the operational cost of the respective competitions.
- (C) Licence fees and other relevant charges will be levied on an annual basis each season.

17.2 Fines

- (A) The following table of penalties shall apply to match day breaches. The value of a point is \$5.

Breach	Penalty Points per Breach
Clubs	
Failure to attend a compulsory AFL Sydney meeting	10
Officials	
Ground Manager not provided or not identifiable	10
Umpire Escort not provided or not identifiable	10
Water Carriers, Team Runner not in correct uniform	5
Timekeepers not supplied (home club only except for Men's Premier Division)	5
Club umpire not supplied (where required)	15
Pre-Match	
Team Sheets incorrectly completed (eg. incorrect jumper numbers, officials missing, etc.)	5
Team Sheets not handed to Umpires and Opposition at least 30 minutes prior to match	5
Ground set-up inadequate (ground markings, goal post pads, interchange bench)	5
Umpires change room not adequately clean	5
Away change room not adequately clean	5
JLT Inspection Form not completed	5
Incorrect Footballs (number and condition)	5
During Match	
Failure to meet time - Match commencement or Quarter commencements not on time	5
Failure to meet time - Match commencement or Quarter commencements more than 5 minutes late	10
Players not in correct uniform	5
Teams not in correct clash uniforms as instructed by the league	20
Number of Officials in Team interchange area more than allowed	5
Alcohol Policy breached (any stage during a match day)	20
Siren not audible	5
Scoreboard not attended	5
Stretcher not available at the beginning of the match	5
Post Match	
Team Manager failed to seek all Clear or otherwise from Umpires	5
Umpire Match Report not entered online by Sunday 7pm (Club umpires)	5
Goal kickers and best players not provided to Ground Manager	5
Match result (including goal kickers and best players) not input into Footyweb by 7pm (matches concluding after 6pm must be input within an hour of the match concluding)	10
Correct match day paperwork not submitted per match by 9am Monday (2 x goal umpire scorecards, timekeepers report, home and away team sheets with goal kickers and best players identified). Photo must be clear.	10

(B) An initial breach will result in a warning (per category), with any subsequent breaches to result in fines.

(C) Where a Club, Player, Official or Umpire has been fined by the Competition Management Committee or incurs an automatic fine, such fine shall be paid within fourteen (14) days of notification of the penalty except where otherwise specified by the League. Failure to pay such fine by the specified time without a satisfactory explanation may result in the fine being increased by the Competition Management Committee.

- (D) Where a fine has not been paid within three (3) months of the invoice date, the Player's or Official's Club or, in the case of an Umpire, the Umpires Association, is responsible to pay the fine to the League.

17.3 Outstanding Accounts

- (A) Except as provided for under By-Law 17.3 (B), any Club which is in arrears to the League for a period more than sixty (60) days from the date of the invoice, will be ineligible to receive any Competition points which may be accrued by its Teams and ineligible to play finals Matches, from that point in time until the overdue amount has been paid.

- (B) Where extenuating circumstances exist, the Competition Management Committee may in its discretion, place a Club on a financial scheme of arrangements for the repayment of outstanding accounts. Any Club operating under such an arrangement shall be considered financial with the League provided that it is up to date with all payments specified by the scheme and for the current year.

17.4 Dishonoured Cheques

Any Club which pays an account to the League by an instrument which is not honoured by its bank or other institution upon presentation, shall automatically be fined fifty (50) dollars on each occasion.

17.5 Club Finances

- (A) Each Club shall be required to furnish to the League 31 January each year, or as otherwise designated by the League in the Club Licence Agreement, a Financial Statement or Profit and Loss Statement of its operations for the previous season.
- (B) Each Club shall provide the League with a Club Budget for the ensuing season by 31 January each year or as otherwise designated by the League.

17.6 Insurance

- (A) Each Club is covered by the League's compulsory insurance cover with JLT Sport under the AFL's National Risk Program. All Players and Officials of a Club will have minimum cover for public and products liability, association liability (subject to the Club being an incorporated body), personal accident and non-Medicare medical.
- (B) Each Club may elect higher levels of cover directly through JLT Sport. Specific details of cover shall be provided to Clubs each year and can also be viewed at www.jltsport.com.au/Afl/.

18. ELECTRONIC AND OTHER IMAGES GUIDELINES

The Guidelines in Appendix "C" are designed to assist Clubs, Officials, Players, families and supporters in dealing with the use of electronic and other images in Matches.

19. AWARDS

- (A) Each season, the Competition Management Committee shall arrange for the presentation of designated awards.
- (B) In 2020, a Best and Fairest medal will be awarded in all division listed in 19.2 (A) below however all other awards are currently under review and will be communicated to Clubs when finalised

19.1 Club Championship Trophy

The award criteria for the Club Championship Trophy is currently under review.

19.2 Best and Fairest Players

(A) A medal will be presented each year to the Best & Fairest player in each grade of competition. The medals shall be known as:

Phelan Medal	Men's Premier Division
Snow Medal	Men's Premier Division Reserves
Sanders Medal	Platinum Division
McFarlane Medal	Platinum Division Reserves
Armstrong Medal	Men's Division One
Apted Medal	Men's Division Two
Granland Medal	Men's Division Three
Mostyn Medal	Women's Premier Division
James Medal	Women's Division One
Andrews-Burgmann Medal	Women's Division Two
TBD	Women's Division Three
Kealy Medal	U19s Division One
Hart Medal	U19s Division Two

(B) The winner of the Best and Fairest medals shall be determined by votes cast by the field umpires on a 3-2-1 basis for the best, second best and third best players in each home and away match.

(C) In the event that two or more players have been awarded the same number of votes at the end of the home and away series, no count back shall be applied and the players concerned will be declared joint winners and each will be awarded a best & fairest medal.

(D) Should a player be found guilty and suspended for one or more match by the tribunal or prescribed penalty for an on-field offence arising out of a match during the current season for which best & fairest votes are cast by the umpires, he / she shall be ineligible to receive any League best & fairest award. (i.e. if a player is found guilty but only given a reprimand by the tribunal or accepts a reprimand through the prescribed penalty system, he or she is still eligible to receive any League best & fairest award).

(E) Where a player has moved to another club within the same competition within the same season, their votes will be carried over and combined with any votes received at the new club (in the same grade). However, where a club has two sides in the same division and a player plays at some stage for both, their votes will not be combined.

19.3 Leading Goal Kickers

(A) The League shall maintain records of goal-kickers in each grade of competition from the information recorded on the club team lists, which are returned to the League following each match throughout the season. The goal-kicking award for each grade shall be presented to the player who scores the most number of goals during the home and away matches. Goals not recorded on club team lists shall not be added to a player's tally if subsequently disclosed.

(B) Where a player has moved to another club with the same competition within the same season, their goals will be carried over and combined with any goals kicked for the new club (in the same grade). However, where a club has two sides in the same division and a player plays at some stage for both, their goals will not be combined.

(C) The trophy awarded to the Leading Goalkicker in the Premier Division Competition shall be known as the "Stan Milton Medal". The Leading Goalkicker in the Women's Premier Division Competition shall be known as the "Belinda Pride Medal".

19.4 Premiership Awards

- (A) A Premiership Trophy shall be presented to the winning club in the Grand Final of each grade of competition.
- (B) The Premier Club in each grade shall also receive a premiership pennant suitably inscribed and manufactured in their club colours.
- (C) A maximum of thirty (30) Premiership medallions shall be presented to the players/officials of the Premiership winning team.

19.5 Best Player in the Grand Final

- (A) A Medallion shall be presented to the players adjudged as the best player in the Grand Final of each competition. The field umpires, or a person or person(s) appointed by the Football Operations Manager, will decide the winning player in each respective grade.
- (B) The Medallion awarded to the best player in the AFL Sydney Premier Division Grand Final shall be known as the “Rod Podbury Medal”.
- (C) The Trophy awarded to the best player in the AFL Sydney Women’s Premier Division Grand Final shall be known as the “Deborah Rogers Memorial Trophy”.

19.6 Representative Player of the Year

- (A) If AFL Sydney participates in a representative program, the AFL Sydney Representative Player of the Year, from either the Men’s or Women’s competitions, will be awarded at the League’s annual award dinner. The winner will be adjudged by the Representative Coaching Panel and will be based upon performance, training and leadership during AFL Sydney representative commitments scheduled in a given season.
- (B) The Trophy awarded to the AFL Sydney Representative Player of the Year shall be known as the “Howarth Trophy”.

19.7 Rising Star Award

The award criteria for the Rising Star Award is currently under review.

19.8 Team of the Year

The award criteria for the Team of the Year Award is currently under review.

19.9 Awards Night

AFL Sydney Clubs are required to fill the following number of tables at the League’s annual awards night – the Phelan-Mostyn Medal Night – as a minimum:

- a. Men’s Premier Division Clubs – two tables
- b. Men’s Premier Division Clubs (with a women’s team) – three tables
- c. Platinum and Men’s Lower Division Clubs – one table
- d. Platinum and Men’s Lower Division Clubs (with a women’s team) – two tables
- e. Women’s Clubs – one table

20. GENERAL

20.1 Resolution of disputes within Clubs

- (A) Unless criminal in nature, issues or disputes arising within Clubs are in the first instance to be resolved in accordance with the provisions of the Club Constitution and to the reasonable satisfaction of the members of that Club in a timely and appropriate manner.
- (B) All Clubs and their members have a responsibility to participate in the Club's dispute resolution processes subject to the Club's Constitution.
- (C) If the matter is unable to be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties a Club may seek the assistance of the Competition Management Committee.
- (D) All persons involved in any dispute must act in a genuine attempt to resolve the dispute.

20.2 League Colours

The official colours of the AFL Sydney competition shall be royal blue, white and red. The design of the League's representative jumpers shall be the responsibility of the Competition Management Committee.

20.3 Matters not provided for

The Competition Management Committee may regulate any matters not provided for in these By-Laws in its sole and absolute discretion.

20.4 Amendments to By-Laws

The League may from time to time amend or repeal any of these By-Laws as may be necessary for the proper conduct and management of League and the regulation of its affairs.

21. MASTERS COMPETITION

The AFL Sydney Masters competition shall be governed as per the AFL Sydney By-Laws with the exception of the following rules.

21.1 Team Numbers

The maximum number of 35-39 year old players on the team sheet is nine (9).

21.2 On-Field Numbers

- (A) The maximum number of players on the field at any one time is eighteen (18).
- (B) The minimum number of players on the field at any one time is twelve (12).
- (C) The maximum number of 35-39 year old players on the field at any one time is three (3). These players will be marked by a coloured arm band on their wrist.
- (D) The match number is sixteen (16).
- (E) A team with a surplus of players must borrow/loan available players to the opposition up to the match number.
- (F) To encourage maximum participation where the two teams do not have the same number of players, clubs may borrow available opposition players up to the maximum on-field number for that age group or division. If as a result of a Coach not accepting the Players offered, the Team loaning additional Players will be able to play with such additional Players up to the maximum on-field number. If the coach accepts the players, they must be rotated so that no single player plays more than one (1) quarter per match for the opposition team.

Competition	Min #	Max on field	Max 35-39 year olds on field	Max 35-39 year olds on team sheet	Max. interchange
Masters	12	18	3	9	9

21.3 Match Length

- (A) The duration of quarters will be eighteen (18) minutes, with no time on
- (B) The duration of quarter, half and three-quarter time breaks are as follows:
- a. Quarter-time – five (5) minutes
 - b. Half-time – ten (10) minutes
 - c. Three-quarter time – five (5) minutes

21.4 Finals Eligibility

- (A) A player must play a minimum of three (3) games to be eligible to play Masters Finals.
- (B) A player who has played nine (9) games or more in AFL Sydney Seniors, is ineligible for the Masters Finals.

21.5 Home and Away Eligibility

Where clubs have AFL Sydney senior teams and a Masters team playing on the same day, up to two (2) players are permitted to play Masters in a second or subsequent game.

21.6 Rucking

A free kick shall be awarded against any ruckman who raises his knee or leg against his opponent when contesting any ruck knock.

21.7 Marking

The player in front of a pack competing for a mark is to be given every protection and opportunity to take the mark. Any unnecessary or deliberate interference by opponent player/s in attempting to mark or prevent the player in front of the pack from taking the mark shall result in a free kick being awarded to the player in front of the pack. The interference could take the form of a knee or boot being put into a player's body.

21.8 60 Year Old Players

Should there be any player who wishes to not be tackled they wear fluoro coloured plastic tape (arm bands) on both arms. In the case of the player who can't be tackled (wearing tape), this player can only be blocked. If so, they then have a reasonable time to dispose of the ball (not unlike the existing rules), failing to do so would incur a free kick to be paid against them, in other words they can't just stand there and hold the ball.

21.9 Deliberate Behinds and Deliberate Out of Bounds

There will be no penalty for deliberate rushed behind or deliberate out of bounds.

21.10 Prior to Match

All players and coaches are to meet in the centre of the ground 5 minutes prior to scheduled commencement of match to shake hands and discuss philosophy of Masters football.

Appendix “A”

PRESCRIBED PENALTY SYSTEM FOR REPORTED PLAYERS



Introduction

The League has adopted the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines for the purposes of dealing with Reportable Offences. Section 5 of the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines contains grading templates for various classifications of offences and outlines the prescribed penalties which can be offered to reported Players (where applicable).

The system will not apply to Officials who are reported. Those Reports will be heard by the Tribunal.

Procedure

Umpires shall report and charge Players in the usual manner. The reporting Umpire shall complete the Player Report Form template and forward it to the League by midnight on the Sunday immediately following the Match (where reasonably practicable).

Once the Player Report Form and Report Template has been received, the League’s Football Operations Co-ordinator will process the report and decide whether:

1. the offence by the Player is suitable for determination under the Prescribed Penalty System; or
2. the Report should be referred to the Tribunal for determination.

If the offence and/or Player is suitable for determination under the Prescribed Penalty System, the prescribed penalty shall be offered to the Player (via the Club) on the Monday following the Match in which the Player was reported.

The Player (either directly or via the Club) shall notify the League of the acceptance or refusal to accept the set penalty by no later than 4.00pm on the Tuesday following the Match in which the Player was reported (or at a later date as reasonably prescribed by the League if the prescribed penalty was provided later than Monday). If accepted, the penalty shall be recorded against the player’s record kept by the League. If the prescribed penalty is rejected the Report shall be referred to the Tribunal for hearing at a time to be advised the League.

Appendix "B"

INCIDENT REFERRAL FORM

TO: [Insert League]
E mail
Fax]

I, the undersigned give notice I wish to refer an incident which may constitute a Reportable Offence under the Laws of the Game or a Breach of the Code of Conduct.

Round: _____ Match: _____ vs _____

Venue: _____ Date: _____

Person(s) involved (please state offending person/s): _____

Reportable Offence or Code of Conduct Breach: _____

Type of Reportable Offence/ Infringement (s): _____

Note:

The spirit of a Citing by-law is to provide a means for the investigation of serious incidents which occur behind the play or which go unnoticed by the Umpires.

A serious incident for definition is a matter that may draw a base sanction of three or more matches in accordance with the grading table contained in the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines - NSW/ACT, or as otherwise determined by the CMC based on the recommendation of the investigating officer. See over for suggested grading Table.

With all citing submissions at least one witness statement should be included.

Vicinity at Venue: _____

Quarter: _____ Time of Incident: _____

Other relevant information: _____

Where a Classifiable Offence, as defined under 5.3 (a) of the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT is the reason for the citing use the table on next page to indicate the level of conduct alleged.

	Impact	Area struck	Tick suggested
Intentional Conduct	High	High/Groin	
		Body	
	Medium	High/Groin	
		Body	N/A
	Low	High/Groin	N/A
		Body	N/A
Careless Conduct	High	High/Groin	
		Body	N/A
	Medium	High/Groin	N/A
		Body	N/A
	Low	High/Groin	N/A
		Body	N/A

Impact Guidelines	
Low	Minimal or no impact on the match - the Player continued to play the majority of the match and suffered no or minimal ongoing issues.
Medium	Clearly some impact on the Player, and / or the Player left the field for a lengthy period of time, and/ or some possible lower level ongoing treatment(s) required.
High	Major impact on the Player, and / or the Player was unable to participate in the remainder of the game, and / or major ongoing issues that require medical intervention and / or may miss some matches.
Severe	Major impact and serious injury to the Player, and / or likely to miss a significant number of matches.

Print Name: _____ Club: _____ (if applicable)

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Umpire / Umpire Observer / Umpire Coach / Club Official / other _____

(Please Circle)

This form is to be completed and lodged, along with the deposit in accordance with the League By-Laws

League use only: Lodged with League on ____ / ____ / ____ at ____ (time)
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Appendix “C” – Recording of Images

- (A) This Appendix governs the recording of images, video and/or audio by way of electronic or any other means (recording) of League activities where used by or for the use of or on behalf of Clubs and/or for, by or on behalf of their Officials (recorder). It must be read in conjunction with relevant Codes of Conduct and the Registration Terms and Conditions. Where this Appendix is inconsistent with specific provisions in the Registration Terms and Conditions, such specific provisions of the Registration Terms and Conditions will prevail.
- (B) This Appendix sets out the terms and conditions on which such recording can take place, seeking to balance the reasonable expectations of privacy by the participants and the reasonable use of such recordings for legitimate purposes.
- (C) In this Appendix, participant means all Players, Club appointed Umpires and Team Officials, and does not include spectators and officially appointed Umpires.
- (D) The law surrounding the taking of recordings, particularly of minors, is complex. AFL NSW/ACT takes this issue very seriously and the provisions below are designed to assist Clubs, Officials, Players, families and supporters, as stakeholders, to deal with this complex issue. However, these provisions are not legal advice, and all stakeholders must make their own enquiries. Whilst AFL NSW/ACT will provide information, guidance and assistance on these issues, the responsibility to ensure compliance with all legal (including statutory) provisions lies with individual stakeholders, as appropriate.
- (E) When a person enters private land, they consent to any requirements that the property owner may impose on them. This may include restrictions, including prohibitions on the making of a recording of events held on their land. There is nothing, however, to prevent a person from making a recording from outside of the borders of private land, regardless of the property owner’s preferences. In the absence of conduct that is offensive or threatening and unlikely to interfere with the public enjoyment of a public place, there is nothing to prevent a person from making a recording of minors in public places.
- (F) It is thus not generally illegal to make a recording of minors at sporting events, but a common-sense approach needs to be taken.
- (G) Persons making a recording and persons using such recordings must be mindful of the complex issues surrounding privacy.
- (H) Unless consent is specifically withdrawn, by reason of the Registration Terms and Conditions, the Player’s image in any form or medium is able to be used for general marketing and promotional activities.
- (I) These provisions seek to strike a balance between concerns regarding privacy and the reasonable use of such images
- (J) Recordings may only be used within the spirit of the game and within the Laws of the Game and consistent with the Code of Conduct.
- (K) By agreeing to the Registration Terms and Conditions, the participant irrevocably consents to the use of participant’s footage and likeness for competition management and administrative purposes
- (L) The recorder may only record Matches and other AFL related activities such as practice Matches, training and drills (**activity** or **activities**) for legal, instructional, Coaching and promotional purposes (**the accepted purposes**) and must not record activities for commercial, indecent, inappropriate or illegal purposes.

- (M) Subject to the direction and supervision of the League, and the direction or ruling by the relevant Conduct Committee or Tribunal, such recording may be used for legitimate purposes in Code of Conduct investigations and/or Tribunal hearings.
- (N) The recorder must inform the Ground manager (where appointed), the Coach and/or Team manager of the Club and any Club (**other Club**) whose participants are involved in the activity to be recorded, before the recording is commenced. The other Club may not object to the recording being made. The Coaches and/or Team managers must use their best endeavours to inform participants, and the parents and guardians of all participants who are minors, of the recording.
- (O) If a copy of the recording is requested by an official of the other Club (the **requestor**), the recorder must provide a copy within 3 working days after being provided by the requestor with suitable media on which to copy the recording. The requestor shall pay the amount identified in Table 1. The League may request a copy of the recording and advise the recorder of the media on which it wishes to receive the recording and such copy shall be provided to the League without charge within 3 working days.
- (P) None of the recorder, the requestor or the League shall provide a copy of the recording to any other party except with the written consent of both Clubs.
- (Q) None of the recorder, the requestor or the League shall post, stream or otherwise share the recording, including on the internet or social media. The recording may be shared for instructional, Coaching, Tribunal /Code of Conduct purposes but only by the Club, the other Club or the League. Except where used for the accepted purposes, none of the Applicant, the requestor or the League may make any other form of publication of the recording.
- (R) The requestor and the League may only use the recording for the purposes outlined in the clause above.
- (S) A recording may be used for promotional purposes unless the consent of the parent or guardian of any Players who are minors for the use of such recording has been withdrawn prior to its use (informed consent).
- (T) Where informed consent is required, it is the sole responsibility of the party who is required to obtain the informed consent to obtain such informed consent.
- (U) The provisions of this document apply to recordings however and by whomever made or obtained.
- (V) Table 2 sets out various activities and how they are covered by this Appendix. However, the Table is for guidance only, and if there is any discrepancy between the Table and this Appendix, the provisions of this Appendix prevail.
- (W) Breach of the terms of this Appendix, or the spirit of the game or the Code of Conduct is an act of Misconduct under the Laws of the Game, and will be dealt with pursuant to the By-laws accordingly

Table 1

Amount to be paid by the requestor pursuant to Clause (O) – Forty (40) dollars

Table 2

Consent of participants not required	Prior consent to use not required but consent may be withdrawn prior to use	Prohibited
Instruction* Coaching* Tribunal/Code of Conduct* <i>* no post, stream or otherwise sharing of the recording, including on the internet, social media</i>	Promotional (for example, use in Club newsletter, Club Annual report, Club social media or by the League.	Commercial Illegal Inappropriate Indecent

Appendix “D” – Women’s Premier Division Player Points System



AFL NSW/ACT

Player Points System Policy

AFL Sydney Women’s Premier Division

November 2019

AFL SYDNEY WOMEN'S PREMIER DIVISION

PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM POLICY

1. OBJECTIVES

1.1. AFL NSW/ACT believes that ensuring competitions are competitively balanced is critical to safeguarding the ongoing viability and sustainability of competitions and clubs. Even and fair competitions lead to increased interest and provide a better experience for stakeholders, which leads to stronger competitions and clubs.

1.2. The objectives of this Player Points System Policy (**PPS Policy**) are to:

- (a) Assist the equalisation of competitions and enhance competitive balance;
- (b) Improve the sustainability of community clubs by limiting player movement;
- (c) Promote player loyalty and junior development; and
- (d) Support the role that volunteers undertake in managing their clubs by:
 - i. Providing a more competitive environment on field, that encourages more volunteers to support at club level; and
 - ii. Providing resources and education.

1.3. This PPS Policy sets out the rules and principles in relation to a Player Points System which applies to specified AFL Sydney Women's Premier division competition to achieve the above objectives.

2. DEFINITIONS

AFL means the Australian Football League (ACN 004 155 211).

AFL Sydney means the Australian Football League currently known as 'AFL Sydney' comprising of senior men's and women's competitions conducted by AFL NSW/ACT in the greater Sydney region including Home and Away Matches and Finals Series matches.

Administration Committee means and shall consist of any two (2) of the following positions, the AFL Sydney Football Operations Manager, the State Football Operations Manager, the Community Football Manager, the Football Operations Coordinator or their nominees.

AFL NSW/ACT means AFL (NSW/ACT) Commission Limited (ABN 53 086 839 385).

Category means the Player points category which determines the base allocation of the Player Points Allocation for a Player.

Club means a club affiliated to AFL NSW/ACT with a team participating in the Women's Premier Division Competition.

Competition means any Australian Football Competition conducted and organised within New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory.

Current AFLW Player means a player who was contracted to an AFLW Club in the AFLW season held immediately prior to the relevant AFL Sydney season.

First Home and Away Match means the first official Competition Match for the home and away Season of a Competition.

Footyweb means the AFL Competition Management System & Membership Database implemented for Competitions within New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory.

Junior means Players up to and under the age of 17 as at 1 January in the year of the relevant season.

Juniors or Junior Competition means Competitions up to and including Junior Players.

Match means any football match played between or directly or indirectly involving any club or Independent School, including without limitation any practice match, competition match, representative match or exhibition match.

National Player Transfer Regulations means the AFL's rules and regulations, as issued from time to time, regulating the transfer of players between clubs.

Player means a Player registered with a Club.

Player Membership Details means a Player's individual details provided for on the Footyweb system.

Player Points Allocation means the total number of points allocated to an individual Player in a Senior Team taking into consideration the Player Points Category that applies to each Player and any additional points or deducted points in accordance with this PPS Policy.

PPS Policy means this Player's Point System as amended by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time.

Season means the community football season between first competitive Match until Grand Final of a Competition.

Season of Service means a Season where a Player has played a minimum of five (5) senior or reserves games in one Season for a particular Club. A Player who has completed a Season of Service is eligible for a reduction of one point should they play for the same community Club in the following Season(s) in accordance with this PPS Policy.

Women's Premier Division Team means the team representing a Club in the AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division Competition.

Total Team Points means the total amount of points allocated to a specific Senior Team for each Season in accordance with this PPS Policy.

Women's Premier Division Competition means the Women's top division competition in AFL Sydney.

3. TOTAL TEAM POINTS

3.1. The allocation of Total Team Points caps for each Women's Premier Division team will be assessed and determined by the Administration Committee, in its ultimate discretion.

3.2. The Administration Committee:

- (a) Will consider all applications from Clubs for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy;
- (b) May allocate additional points or apply deductions to Total Team Points to specific Clubs in accordance with this PPS Policy, and in consideration of existing unique local conditions to meet the objectives of this PPS Policy.
- (c) Will allocate the final figure for Total Team Points to each Senior Team for each Club for the following Season in accordance with this PPS Policy.

3.3. In considering the Total Team Points allocation for each Women's Premiership team, the following may be considered by the Administration Committee:

- (a) The location of a Club and the size of the population within its region vis a vis other Clubs (which may impact a Clubs ability to be competitive against other Clubs).
- (b) The level of success a Women's Premier Division team has achieved (e.g. multiple premierships or last place finish) including their ability to retain players with players attracting a one point deduction each Season with the Club.
- (c) A Women's Premier Division team's lack of competitiveness over a sustained period a (e.g. low ladder finish over multiple seasons).
- (d) AFL Sydney will implement a process in relation to assessment of Club's submissions regarding a Team Total Points cap and an individual Player's Points Allocation.

3.4. The base Total Team Points allocation for AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division teams is outlined in Appendix B.

3.5. AFL Sydney and Clubs acknowledge that:

- (a) For each Match, a Club must ensure that the Total Team Points allocation is calculated based on the maximum number of Players allowed to participate in a Match for the Women's Premier Division Competition and this should be consistent for each Match within a Season.
- (b) A Club must list the maximum number of Players allowed for its Women's Premier Division team on its team sheet in calculating its Total Team Points for each Match.

3.6. AFL Sydney will communicate the allocation of each Club's Total Team Points to each Club for the following Season in accordance with this PPS Policy by 1 December in each Calendar year (or such other date as determined by AFL Sydney).

4. CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Club:

- 4.1. Must determine each individual Player's Player Points Allocation for its Women's Premier Division team in accordance with this PPS Policy, including any additions or deductions applicable to each Player in accordance with this PPS Policy;
- 4.2. Must submit to AFL Sydney the Player Points Allocations for each Player by the deadline of 1 March, and in the form prescribed by AFL Sydney. Any subsequent Player Point Allocation must in all cases be prior to the Player's first Match of the Season;
- 4.3. Acknowledges that if the Club does not follow this procedure and plays a Player for a Women's Premier Division team in a Match in AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division Competition, who has not had their Player Points Allocation approved and entered into Footyweb, that Club will be subject to a subsequent enforcement penalty or disciplinary sanction (including loss of competition points) as determined by AFL Sydney in accordance with this PPS Policy;
- 4.4. Must ensure that for each Match the Women's Premier Division team does not exceed the Club's Total Team Points, noting however that Clubs may recruit above their allocated Total Team Points in any given Season but must comply with the Total Team Points allocation for each Match;
- 4.5. May make an application to the Administration Committee for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy (i.e. for unique local circumstances). The application is to be in writing via the Football Operations Manager.

5. PLAYER POINTS CATEGORIES AND ALLOCATION

- 5.1. AFL Sydney will liaise with its Clubs to ensure that Total Team Points and Player Point Allocations are entered into the Footyweb System prior to any Player's first Senior Home and Away Match of each Season.
- 5.2. As part of the Player Point Allocation process, AFL Sydney may provide the opportunity for Clubs to seek a reassessment of any Player's Player Point Allocation by the Administration Committee. Any reassessment against a Player Point Allocation should be made to the AFL Sydney Football Operations Manager no later than five (5) days before the Player's first Senior Home and Away Match of the Season.
- 5.3. A Player's Category and the subsequent Player Points Allocation will be determined by that Player's playing history and achievements and is structured in a way to promote Player development, loyalty, and retention.
- 5.4. Each Player expected to play in the AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division Competition will be allocated a Category and a Player Points Allocation as detailed in Appendix A.
- 5.5. A Club that has a Player that does not meet any of the Player Categories will need to apply to AFL Sydney for determination by the Administration Committee, of the appropriate Player Points Allocation. In determining the Player Points Allocation, the Administration Committee will have regard to all relevant factors so as not to unreasonably restrict the Player's movement.
- 5.6. For the purpose of a Player Points Allocation, a playing coach or playing assistant coach is classified as a Player and will be assessed in accordance with this PPS Policy and Appendix A.
- 5.7. A Player playing in a Match under an Interchange Agreement as detailed at clause 3.9 of the National Player Transfer Regulations (i.e. a permit Player) will be assessed on the same basis as a transferred Player.
- 5.8. A Club may make an application to AFL Sydney for a reassessment by the Administration Committee in accordance with clauses 6.3 and 7.
- 5.9. A player should be assessed to determine their point allocation only when they first move to a new club, with standard deductions occurring for each year of service from that point on, rather than annual reassessment.

6. DEDUCTIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATIONS

- 6.1. Once a Player's Player Points Allocation has been determined, a reduction of one (1) point will apply for each 'Season of Service' with that Player's Club (minimum five (5) senior games per Season), even if not in consecutive years, until the Player reaches no less than one (1) point (this is the minimum number of points a Player can have). For the avoidance of doubt, if a Player's primary registration is with a Junior Club, any prior games for a Senior Club will not be considered a year of service.
- 6.2. Where a Player qualifies in more than one Category based on their playing history in the current Season or any of the previous three (3) Seasons, the Category with the highest points will apply (Category 1 – Home Players excluded).
- 6.3. AFL Sydney may, acting reasonably, reassess an individual Player's Player Points Allocation where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history or circumstances. Clubs may make an application detailing relevant evidence regarding the reassessment of a Player to the Administration Committee. The determination of an application for reassessment will be at the discretion of the Administration Committee.

7. ENFORCEMENT

- 7.1. Clubs are required to submit to the AFL Sydney Football Operations Manager as prescribed by AFL Sydney, the individual Player Points Allocations in accordance with this PPS Policy. AFL Sydney will review and enter the final individual Player Points Allocations into Footyweb.
- 7.2. Player Points Allocations will be managed via Footyweb. Footyweb will not permit a Club to enter a Women's Premier Division team into an electronic team sheet that has a combined Total Team Points allocation of more than that Women's Premiership team's permitted Total Team Points cap for a Match.
- 7.3. Should any Club knowingly make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations, the Club may be penalised by AFL NSW/ACT or AFL Sydney in accordance with this clause 8.
- 7.4. The potential penalties or sanctions may include (without limitation):
- (a) Fines;
 - (b) Termination or suspension of a Club's licence or affiliation;
 - (c) Loss of premiership points (current Season and/ or in future Seasons);
 - (d) Suspension from a Senior Team's participation in the finals (current Season and/ or in future Seasons);
 - (e) Player/Official suspensions – for those Players/Officials that knowingly provide false information to the Club;
 - (f) Suspension or ban on registration of players;
 - (g) Any other sanction or penalty considered appropriate by AFL Sydney.
- 7.5. AFL NSW/ACT or AFL Sydney may enforce the terms of this PPS Policy and invoke the sanctions only if it has given the Club alleged to have infringed this PPS Policy:
- (a) reasonable details of the alleged infringement;
 - (b) notice of possible sanctions; and
 - (c) the opportunity to be heard in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction.
- 7.6. In applying any enforcement provisions in relation to any breach of the PPS Policy, AFL Sydney shall take into consideration whether the breach was assessed as:
- (a) Unintentional – where a Club had not been provided with accurate information;
 - (b) Interpretive – where a Club had reasonably applied the PPS Policy;
 - (c) Intentional – where a breach had occurred with little or no regard to the relevant requirements.
- 7.7. All appeals against a decision to apply a provision under this PPS Policy will be heard by the Administration Committee and will be final and binding.
- 7.8. AFL NSW/ACT and AFL Sydney will review this PPS Policy annually and amendments and variations may be made from time to time.

APPENDIX "A"

1. PLAYER CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS

Category 6	6 points	AFLW Player	Player who has played a minimum of one AFLW competition match in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons. Includes interstate players.
Category 5	5 points	VFL Women's and/or AFL/AIS Academy Players	Minimum five (5) VFL Women's games in the current season or any of the previous 3 seasons. AFL/AIS Academy Player in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.
Category 4	4 points	WAWFL/QWAFL/SANFLW State League Players	Minimum five (5) State League games in the current season or any of the previous three (3) seasons.
		GWS Giants AFLW squad, VFLW squad and/or AFLW train on squad members	Player who has been selected in the GWS Giants AFLW/VFLW squad and/or AFLW train on squad in the current or previous three (3) seasons.
Category 3	3 points	NTWFL/TWL State League Players	Played the same or more senior (i.e. highest division) than reserves (i.e. non-highest division) games in in any of the current or previous three (3) seasons
		Senior Community Player	Played the same or more senior (i.e. highest division) than reserves (i.e. non-highest division) games in a community league in any of the current or previous three (3) seasons.
		U16s and/or U18s Nationals Players	Player who has been selected in an U16 state team squad and/or an U18 Nationals squad in any of the current or previous three (3) seasons (includes interstate Youth Girls Nationals players).
Category 2	2 points	Development Community Player	Played more reserves (i.e. non-highest division) than senior (i.e. highest division) games in a community league in the previous season.
		NSW/ACT Youth Girls Academy Players	Player selected in an U18 Youth Girls Academy Program and/or selected in the Swans or GIANTS U16 state squad trial teams in

			any of the current or previous three (3) seasons. Includes interstate Youth Girls Academy Players (includes Interstate Youth Girls Academy Programs).
		Talent ID Player	Player selected in a State or National Team in an alternate sport in the current or previous three (3) seasons.
Category 1	1 point	Home Player	A player who has only played football at their current AFL Sydney club and for no other club or a player with no prior playing experience (unless defined as a Talent ID Player).
		Junior Player	A transferred junior player who does not fit into categories 2 – 6.

2. PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATIONS

ADDITIONS	Add 1 point	If the player is transferring from another community club and will be competing against their former club, only if the player played five (5) or more games for the senior team of their previous Club in the current or previous three (3) years (does not include Category 2 Development Community Players).
		If the player transferred to three (3) or more community clubs in past 36 months. Does not include players moving on permit.
		If the player has played two (2) or more games in AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division as a registered junior player in any of the previous two (2) seasons, but then registers as a senior player with a different AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division club.

DEDUCTIONS	Deduct 1 point	For each season of service with the club (minimum 5 senior or reserves games per season), until the player reaches one (1) point.
	Revert to 1 point	Where player is returning to their home club.
		Where player has not played football in the previous 36 months.

3. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE ASSESSMENT

1) The Administration Committee may reassess an individual player's points classification where the Administration Committee determines in its ultimate discretion that the prescribed points allocation is inappropriate based on the player's playing history or exceptional circumstances.
2) Where a player qualifies in more than one category based on their playing history over the previous three (3) seasons, the category with the highest points will apply (refer to the flow chart). Note: Home players are excluded.
3) Any player that does not meet any of the prescribed point categories must apply to the Administration Committee who will determine the appropriate points allocation in its ultimate discretion.
4) The Administration Committee may take into account the following in determining whether or not to vary the standard points allocation in the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature and location of the player's employment; • The principle place of residence of player's family members; • The principle place of residence of the player's partner or spouse; • The player's previous history and/ or relationship with the Club; and • Any other factors deemed appropriate by the assessment panel in its absolute discretion (e.g. Serious injury, pregnancy)

APPENDIX “B”

The Total Team Points allocations for the 2020 AFL Sydney Women’s Premier Division competition are set out below.

- Base Total Team Points Cap – 40 points
- UNSW/ES Bulldogs and Macquarie University Total Team Points Cap – 38 points
- Manly Warringah Wolves, North Shore Bombers and Pennant Hills Demons Total Points Cap – 44 points

The following local variations to the Player Point System Policy will apply:

1. Current AFLW players who have a points value of 2 points or less will have their points value increased to 3. This weighting will be removed when the player is no longer a Current AFLW player.



**AFL NSW/ACT
Player Points System Policy**

AFL Sydney Men’s Premier Division

Season 2020

October 2019

AFL Sydney Men's Premier Division

PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM POLICY

8. OBJECTIVES

1.1. AFL NSW/ACT believes that ensuring competitions are competitively balanced is critical to safeguarding the ongoing viability and sustainability of competitions and clubs. Even and fair competitions lead to increased interest and provide a better experience for stakeholders, which leads to stronger competitions and clubs.

1.2. The objectives of this Player Points System Policy (**PPS Policy**) are to:

- (e) Assist the equalisation of competitions and enhance competitive balance;
- (f) Improve the sustainability of community clubs by curbing the inflationary nature of player payments as a result of player movement;
- (g) Promote player loyalty and junior development; and
- (h) Support the role that volunteers undertake in managing their clubs by:
 - i. Capping the need to fundraise money for player payments;
 - ii. Providing a more competitive environment on field, that encourages more volunteers to support at club level; and
 - iii. Providing resources and education.

1.3. This PPS Policy sets out the rules and principles in relation to a Player Points System which applies to specified AFL NSW/ACT Competition/s in order to achieve the above objectives.

9. DEFINITIONS

Administration Committee means and shall consist of any two (2) of the following positions, the League Football Operations Manager, League Football Operations Coordinator, Community Football Manager, Regional Manager or State Football Operations Manager, or their nominees.

AFL means the Australian Football League (ACN 004 155 211).

AFL NSW/ACT means AFL (NSW/ACT) Commission Limited (ABN 53 086 839 385).

AFL Sydney Premier Division means the Premier Division Men's senior competition conducted by AFL NSW/ACT in the metropolitan Sydney region including Home and Away Matches and Final Series matches.

Category means the Player Points category which determines the base allocation of the Player Points Allocation for a Player.

Club means a Club affiliated to the League with teams participating in a Competition.

Competition means any Australian Football Competition conducted and organised within New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory.

First Home and Away Match means the first official Competition Match for the home and away Season of a Competition.

Football Operations Manager means the League's Community Football Manager, Football Operations Manager or Football Operations Coordinator responsible for administering the League's Competitions as the case may be.

Footyweb means the AFL Competition Management System & Membership Database implemented for Competitions within New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory.

Junior means Players up to and under the age of 18 as at 1 January in the year of the relevant season.

Juniors or Junior Competition means Competitions up to and including Junior Players.

Junior Aligned Club means a Junior Club or Independent School aligned to a club by AFL Sydney under the PPS Policy.

League means AFL Sydney which is governed by AFL NSW/ACT.

League Equalisation Panel means the Administration Committee or the independent equalisation panel established by the League to administer the PPS Policy prescribed for a Competition.

Match means any football match played between or directly or indirectly involving any club or Independent School, including without limitation any practice match, competition match, representative match or exhibition match.

National Player Registration & Transfer Regulations means the AFL's rules and regulations, as issued from time to time, regulating the registration and transfer of players between clubs.

NEAFL means the North East Australian Football League competition run by the AFL consisting of teams from Queensland, New South Wales, and the Australian Capital Territory.

Player means a Player registered with a Club.

Player Membership Details means a Player's individual details provided for on the Footyweb system.

Player Points Allocation means the total number of points allocated to an individual Player in a Senior Team taking into consideration the Player Points Category that applies to each Player and any additional points or deducted points in accordance with this PPS Policy.

PPS Policy means this Player Point System as amended by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time.

Season means the community football season between first competitive Match until Grand Final of a Competition.

Season of Service means when a Player has played a minimum of five (5) senior or Under 19s matches in one (1) Season for a particular Club in the relevant League (excluding service for a Club's team when participating in a higher tier of competition such as the NEAFL). A Player who has completed a Season of Service is eligible for a reduction of one (1) point should they play for the same community Club in the following Season(s) in accordance with this PPS Policy.

Senior Competition means the men's open age senior competition of a League.

Senior Team means the men's open age team representing a Club in a Senior Competition.

Tier 1 Community Leagues means AFL Sydney Premier Division, AFL Canberra 1st Grade, Farrer FL Seniors, Riverina FL Seniors, Hume FL Seniors, Black Diamond Cup, QAFL, QFA Division 1, NTFLL and any senior community competition affiliated to AFL Victoria, the SANFL or the WAFC.

Total Team Points means the total amount of points allocated to a specific Senior Team for each Season in accordance with this PPS Policy.

10. TOTAL TEAM POINTS

- 3.1. The allocation of Total Team Points caps for each Senior Team is subject to the assessment of the League Equalisation Panel, in its ultimate discretion, subject to clause 3.2 below.
- 3.2. The League Equalisation Panel:
- (a) Will consider all applications from Clubs for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy;
 - (b) May allocate additional points or apply deductions to Total Team Points to specific Clubs in accordance with this PPS Policy, and in consideration of existing unique local conditions to meet the objectives of this PPS Policy.
 - (c) Will allocate the final figure for Total Team Points to each Senior Team for each Club for the following Season in accordance with this PPS Policy.
- 3.3. In considering the Total Team Points allocation for each Senior Team, the following may be considered by the League Equalisation Panel:
- (a) The location of a Club and the size of the population within its region vis a vis other Clubs (which may impact a Clubs ability to be competitive against other Clubs).
 - (b) The level of success a Senior Team has achieved (e.g. multiple premierships) including their ability to retain players with players attracting a one point deduction each Season with the Club.
 - (c) A Senior Team's lack of competitiveness over a sustained period a (e.g. low ladder finish over multiple seasons).
 - (d) Additional points may be added to teams where a Club is unable to field a competitive U18 or U19 team due to geographic and demographic factors, or does not have aligned junior youth teams.
 - (e) Additional points may be added to teams if they did not qualify for finals in the previous season or has been recently promoted to the Competition.
- 3.4 The League will implement a process in relation to assessment of Club's submissions regarding a Team Total Points cap and an individual Player's Points Allocation.
- 3.5. The base Total Team Points allocation for all Senior Teams is outlined in Appendix B.
- 3.6. The League and Clubs acknowledge that:
- (a) For each Match, a Club must ensure that the Total Team Points allocation is calculated based on the maximum number of Players allowed to participate in a Senior Competition and this should be consistent for each Match within a Season.
 - (b) A Club must list the maximum number of Players allowed for its Senior Team on its team sheet in calculating its Total Team Points for each Match.
- 3.6. Leagues will make every attempt to communicate the allocation of each Club's Total Team Points for the following Season in accordance with this PPS Policy by 1 December in each Calendar year (or such other date as determined by the League).

11. CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Club:

- 4.1. Must determine each individual Player's Player Points Allocation for its Senior Team in accordance with this PPS Policy, including any additions or deductions applicable to each Player in accordance with this PPS Policy;
- 4.2. Must submit to the League the Player Points Allocations for each Player by the deadline of 1 March and in the form prescribed by the League. Any subsequent Player Point Allocation must be prior to the Player's first Match of the Season;
- 4.3. Acknowledges that if the Club does not follow this procedure and plays a Player for a Senior Team in a Match in any League, who has not had their Player Points Allocation approved and entered into Footyweb, that Club will be subject to a subsequent enforcement penalty or disciplinary sanction (including loss of Competition Points) as determined by AFL NSW/ACT or the League in accordance with this PPS Policy;
- 4.4. Must ensure that for each Match the Senior Team does not exceed the Club's Total Team Points, noting however that Clubs may recruit above their allocated Total Team Points in any given Season but must comply with the Total Team Points allocation for each Match;
- 4.5. May make an application to the League for the allocation of additional Total Team Points in accordance with this PPS Policy (i.e. for unique local circumstances). The application is to be in writing via the Football Operations Manager.

12. PLAYER POINTS CATEGORIES AND ALLOCATION

- 5.1. The League will liaise with its Clubs to ensure that Player Point Allocations are entered into the Footyweb System prior to any Player's first Senior Home and Away Match of each Season.
- 5.2. As part of the Player Point Allocation process, the League may provide the opportunity for Clubs to seek a reassessment of any Player's Player Point Allocation by the League Equalisation Panel. Any reassessment against a Player Point Allocation should be made to the League's Football Operations Manager no later than five (5) days before the Player's first Senior Home and Away Match of the Season.
- 5.3. A Player's Category and the subsequent Player Points Allocation will be determined by that Player's playing history and achievements and is structured in a way to promote Player development, loyalty, and retention.
- 5.4. Each Player expected to play in a League will be allocated a Category and a Player Points Allocation as detailed in Appendix A.
- 5.5. A Club that has a Player that does not meet any of the Player Categories will need to apply to the League for determination by the League Equalisation Panel of the appropriate Player Points Allocation. In determining the Player Points Allocation, the League Equalisation Panel will have regard to all relevant factors so as not to unreasonably restrict the Player's movement.
- 5.6. For the purpose of a Player Points Allocation, a playing coach or playing assistant coach is classified as a Player and will be assessed in accordance with this PPS Policy and Appendix A.
- 5.7. A Player playing in a Match under an Interchange Agreement as detailed at clause 3.9 of the National Player Registration & Transfer Regulations (i.e. a permit Player) will be assessed on the same basis as a transferred Player. Matches played by a Player on permit will not count towards a Season of Service.
- 5.8. A Club may make an application to the League for a reassessment by the League Equalisation Panel in accordance with clauses 6.3 and 7.

13. DEDUCTIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATIONS

- 6.1. Once a Player's Player Points Allocation has been determined, a reduction of one (1) point will apply for each 'Season of Service' with that Player's Club (minimum five (5) senior and/ or Under 19s matches per Season), even if not in consecutive years, until the Player reaches no less than one (1) point (this is the minimum number of points a Player can have). For the avoidance of doubt, if a Player is eligible for underage football at their Club, they must play five (5) senior matches to meet the criteria for a Season of Service point reduction.
- 6.2. Where a Player qualifies in more than one Category based on their playing history in the current Season or any of the previous three (3) Seasons, the Category with the highest points will apply (Category 1 – Home Players excluded).
- 6.3. The League may, acting reasonably, reassess an individual Player's Player Points Allocation where it is deemed inappropriate based on playing history or circumstances. Clubs may make an application detailing relevant evidence regarding the reassessment of a Player to the League Equalisation Panel. The determination of an application for reassessment will be at the discretion of the League Equalisation Panel.

14. ENFORCEMENT

- 7.1 Clubs are required to submit to the League's Football Operations Manager as prescribed by the League the individual Player Points Allocations in accordance with this PPS Policy. The League will review and enter the final individual Player Points Allocations into Footyweb.
- 7.2 Player Points Allocations will be managed via Footyweb. Footyweb will not permit a Club to enter a Senior Team into an electronic team sheet that has a combined Total Team Points allocation of more than that Senior Team's permitted Total Team Points cap for a Match.
- 7.3 Should any Club knowingly make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations, the Club may be penalised by AFL NSW/ACT or the League in accordance with this clause 7.
- 7.4 The potential penalties or sanctions may include (without limitation):
 - (a) Fine or fines;
 - (b) Termination or suspension of a Club's licence or affiliation;
 - (c) Loss of premiership points (current Season and/ or in future Seasons);
 - (d) Suspension from a Senior Team's participation in the finals (current Season and/ or in future Seasons);
 - (e) Player/Official suspensions – for those Players/Officials that knowingly provide false information to the Club;
 - (f) Suspension or ban on registration of players;
 - (g) Any other sanction or penalty considered appropriate by the League.
- 7.5 AFL NSW/ ACT or the League may enforce the terms of this PPS Policy and invoke the sanctions only if it has given the Club alleged to have infringed this PPS Policy:
 - (a) reasonable details of the alleged infringement;
 - (b) notice of possible sanctions; and
 - (c) the opportunity to be heard in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction.

- 7.6 In applying any enforcement provisions in relation to any breach of the PPS Policy, the League shall take into consideration whether the breach was assessed as:
- (a) Unintentional – where a Club had not been provided with accurate information;
 - (b) Interpretative – where a Club had reasonably applied the PPS Policy;
 - (c) Intentional – where a breach had occurred with little or no regard to the relevant requirements.
- 7.7 All appeals against a decision to apply a provision under this PPS Policy will be heard by the League Equalisation Panel and will be final and binding.
- 7.8 AFL NSW/ACT and the League will review this PPS Policy annually and amendments and variations may be made from time to time.

APPENDIX “A”

4. PLAYER CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS

Category 7	7 points	AFL Player	Minimum five (5) AFL matches in any of the previous three (3) Seasons.
Category 6	6 points	State League Tier 1 - VFL, WAFL, SANFL	Minimum five (5) senior matches in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.
Category 5	5 points	NAB League	Minimum five (5) matches in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons for a Victorian based NAB League Club.
		State League Tier 2 - NEAFL, TASFL	Minimum five (5) senior matches in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.
		State League Tier 1 Reserves Player	Played more reserves than senior matches in a Tier 1 State League in the previous season.
		U16/U18 Nationals Players – Vic, SA, WA	Minimum one (1) match in the U16 or U18 AFL Nationals Series in the current or previous three (3) seasons.
Category 4	4 points	Premium Community Player	Minimum five (5) senior matches in any of the current or previous three (3) seasons in a Tier 1 Community League.
			Participated in the Swans or GIANTS U16-U18 or NDS Academy Squads in the current or previous three (3) seasons.
			Minimum one (1) match in the U16 or U18 AFL Nationals Series for the Rams or Allies in the current or previous three (3) seasons.
Category 3	3 points	Senior Community Player	Played the same or more senior than reserves (or non-highest division) matches in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons (excluding Tier 1 Community Leagues). For clarity, this includes any players from AFL Sydney Platinum Division.
			Played more reserves than seniors matches in a Tier 1 Community League in the previous season.
		Transferred Junior	Player recruited from an U19's or younger competition and does not meet the Home Club definition (minimum one (1) match in the previous season for U19 players).
Category 2	2 points	Development Community Player	Played more reserves (or non-highest division) than senior (or highest division) matches in the previous Season (excluding Tier 1 Community Leagues).
Category 1	1 point	Home Player	Played forty (40) or more matches at the aligned junior club up to and including U17 competition or younger.
			Played a minimum of five (5) matches at the aligned Independent Schools Program team, and do not meet the Home Player criteria based on games with the junior club (as above).
			Player who has only played at that Club.
			Player who has not played any football for three (3) or more full seasons.

2. PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATIONS

ADDITIONS & DEDUCTIONS – POINTS ALLOCATION		
ADDITIONAL PENALTY PLAYER POINTS	Additional 1 point	If Player transferring from another community club and will be competing against their former club (does not include Category 2 Development Community Player).
		If Player transferred to three or more community clubs in past thirty-six (36) months. <i>Note: Does not include Players moving on permit (e.g.: VFL, TAC Cup, NTFL or Local Interchange).</i>
DEDUCTIONS FOR PLAYER POINTS	Deduct 1 point	For each Season of Service to the Club (minimum five (5) senior and/ or Under 19s matches per Season), even if not in consecutive years, until the Player reaches one (1) point.
		Where Player is returning to their home Club, (i.e. meets the Home Player criteria).
	Revert to 1 point	Where Player has not played football in the previous thirty-six (36) months.

3. LEAGUE EQUALISATION PANEL ASSESSMENT

ADDITIONS & DEDUCTIONS – LEAGUE EQUALISATION PANEL ASSESSMENT
1) League Equalisation Panels may reassess an individual Player’s points classification where the Panel deems in its ultimate discretion that the prescribed points allocation is inappropriate based on the Player’s playing history or exceptional circumstances.
2) Where a Player qualifies in more than one category based on their playing history in the previous three (3) seasons, the category with the highest points will apply (Note: Home Players are excluded).
3) Any Player that does not meet any of the prescribed point categories will need to apply to the League Equalisation Panel who will determine the appropriate points allocation in its ultimate discretion.
4) The League Equalisation Panel may take into account the following in determining whether or not the imposition of the additional point is appropriate in the circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature and location of the Player's employment; • The principle place of residence of Player's family members; • The principle place of residence of the Player's partner or spouse; • The Player's previous history and/ or relationship with the Club; and • Any other factors deemed appropriate by the assessment panel in its absolute discretion (e.g. serious injury).

4. TOTAL TEAMS POINTS ALLOCATIONS

When allocating total team point caps, the League may apply any of the following variations to the relevant base total team points cap due to unique local considerations such as;

TOTAL TEAM POINTS ALLOWANCES / REDUCTIONS #	Small Population Base	Additional points to team allocation where the club is located in a region with low population base.
	Ladder Position	Additional points to team allocation if team did not qualify for finals in previous Season or has been promoted from previous Season.
		Reduction in points to team allocation for multiple premierships in defined number of Seasons.
		Additional points to team allocation if finished in bottom three of competition and not relegated.
	Junior Pathway	Additional points to team allocation, or a cap on individual players points, where a club has no U18/19 or younger underage sides aligned to it, and not capable of developing a junior program due to reasons outside of its control, or if a club is formally aligned with a university and the team is based around Players coming and going over a 3-4 year period.
Promotion	Additional points to team allocation if a team is newly promoted into the relevant competition.	

APPENDIX “B”

The base Total Team Points allocation for Senior Teams in the AFL Sydney Premier Division Competition will be capped as follows for the 2020 Season:

- 52 Points – Camden Cats and UTS Bats
- 49 Points – Inner West Magpies
- 44 Points – East Coast Eagles, Manly Warringah Wolves, North Shore Bombers, Pennant Hills Demons, St George Dragons, Sydney University Students and UNSW/ES Bulldogs

The following local variations to the Player Point System Policy will apply

1. To incur an additional one (1) point for competing against a former Club, the player must have played at least five (5) Premier Division and/or U19s matches (for the former Club’s top U19s teams) in the current or previous three (3) seasons;
2. Matches played by players on permit from a Junior Club or on permit from another Senior League under an interchange agreement do not count towards years of service deductions;
3. NEAFL listed players will receive years of service deductions for their aligned AFL Sydney Club, provided they play a minimum of five (5) AFL Sydney matches in the relevant season for their aligned AFL Sydney Club;
4. NEAFL listed players who are aligned to an AFL Sydney Club via the mini draft will revert to one (1) point whilst they remain a NEAFL listed player;
5. NEAFL listed players who do not meet the Home Player definition will be assigned a Player Points Allocation when they are first NEAFL listed and will then be re-categorised when they are no longer a NEAFL listed player. Note: years of service deductions obtained whilst on the NEAFL list are taken off the base points value.

APPENDIX “C”

JUNIOR PATHWAY CLUBS

Premier Division Club	Junior Club/s	Independent School/s
Camden Cats	Blue Mountains Junior AFL Club Inc*	N/A
	Camden Junior Australian Football Club	
	Campbelltown Junior AFL Club*	
	Fairfield Falcons Junior Australian Football Club*	
	Greystanes Goannas Junior AFL Club*	
	Ingleburn Junior AFL Club*	
	Liverpool Junior AFL Club*	
	South Campbelltown Junior AFL Club*	
	South West Tigers Junior AFL Club*	
	Wollondilly Junior Australian Football Club*	
East Coast Eagles	Baulkhan Hills Australian Football Club	N/A
	Blacktown Junior Australian Football Club*	
	Emu Plains/Glenmore Park Junior AFL Club*	
	Hawkesbury Saints Junior Australian Football Club*	
	Kellyville/Rouse Hill Junior A.F.L. Club	
	Parramatta Lions Junior AFL Club*	
	Penrith GIANTS Junior AFL Club*	
	St Clair Junior AFC Inc*	
Manly Warringah Wolves	Balgowlah Suns J AFL	St Pius College
	Forrest Districts Australian Football Club	
	Manly Bombers Junior AFL Club	
	Pittwater Tigers Junior AFL Club	
North Shore Bombers	Lane Cove Cats Junior AFL Club*	Shore School St Ignatius Riverview St Alyoysis College Redlands College
	Mosman Junior AFL Club	
	St Ives Australian Football Club	
	Willoughby Junior AFL Club	
Pennant Hills Demons	Hornsby Berowra Eagles Junior AFL Club	Barker College Knox Grammar
	North Ryde Dockers Australian Football Club*	
	Pennant Hills Junior AFL Club	
	Westbrook Junior AFL Club	
St George Dragons	Bankstown Sports AFL Club*	N/A
	Bangor Junior AFL Club*	
	Cronulla Junior AFL Club*	
	Heathcote-Engadine Australian Football Club*	
	Miranda Bombers Australian Football Club*	
	Penshurst RSL Junior AFL Club*	
	Ramsgate Rams Junior AFL Club*	

Sydney University	Concord Giants Junior AFL Club*	Newington College St Josephs College
	Drummoyne Junior AFL Club*	
	Glebe Junior AFL Club*	
	Leichhardt Cygnets JAFC*	
	Newtown Junior Australian Football Club	
Western Suburbs Magpies	Auburn GIANTS Junior Australian Football Club*	Trinity College St Patricks College
	Concord Giants Junior AFL Club*	
	Drummoyne Junior AFL Club*	
	Western Suburbs Junior AFL Club	
UNSW Eastern Suburbs Bulldogs	East Sydney Junior AFL Club	Cranbrook School*
	Maroubra Saints Junior Australian Football Club*	Waverley College*
UTS Bats	Maroubra Saints Junior Australian Football Club*	Cranbrook School*
	Moore Park Tigers Junior AFL Club	Waverley College*

Notes:

1. The no. of aligned Clubs and Schools does not correlate to the no. of players.
2. *Junior Club or School is shared with more than one Senior Club.