

2023 Rule	Section Heading	2024 Amendment	Reason
6.7(A)(ii)	Public Health & Legislation Compliance	Removed: (ii) The ACT Public Health Directions	Not relevant to NSW competitions
7.3	Affiliated Leagues	Removed: All	Not applicable with AFL South Coast a managed league
7.9(B)	League Colours	Added: The official colours of the AFL South Coast, AFL Illawarra Juniors and AFL Shoalhaven Juniors competition shall be red and white. The design of the League’s representative jumpers shall be the responsibility of the CMC.	
9.4.3(F)	Umpire Escort	Amended: The Umpire Escort is to wear a clearly visible jacket of bib so that they are readily identifiable. This can be in the form of a Ground Manager bib	Rule pertained to umpire escort being identifiable as required by the league, but did not say how
9.5.6(G)	Water Carriers	Amended: Water carriers must be at least fourteen (14) years of age	Rule pertained to water carriers not being younger than specified by the league, but no age was specified
10.6.1(B)	Club Umpires	Amended: Club field Umpires, where appointed, shall be required to complete the minimum level accreditation and must register as a Club Umpire in OfficialsHQ within six (6) days of umpiring their first Match.	Umpires should be registered to receive further education, more opportunities to officiate, etc. Rule previously stipulated that Umpires needed to be registered prior to officiating the match, which at times would not have been possible
10.6.1(D)	Club Umpires	Amended: Club field Umpires, where appointed for a Match, are to be attired as in: I. Shirt – NSW/ACT Men’s or Women’s Field Umpire T-Shirt as listed on the Project Clothing Store II. Shorts - NSW/ACT Men’s or Women’s AFL Umpire Shorts as listed on the Project Clothing Store or black activewear III. Shoes – Runners or Football Boots	Listed as prescribed by the league for uniform
12.6	Regrading of Teams	Removed	Removed as there is no regrading process in place for AFL SC
14.2(G)	Joint Venture Teams	Added:	Addition made in this year’s JV Agreement Form

2024 Generic Rules – Amendments Summary

		As part of any Joint Venture Agreement, all involved Clubs must provide the League with an individualised Recruitment Strategy Plan by July 31.	
14.4(A)	Table 14 – Number of Players Allowed in a Team – Senior Competitions	Addition: * Teams may exceed the Maximum Number of Players allowed on a Team Sheet by one (1) player in line with Rule 14.4(H)	Relevant to Inclusion Dispensation
14.4(B)(i)	Number of Players in a Team – Senior Competitions	Addition: For Men’s Premier Division, where there is a Player Point System Policy in place, the maximum number of Players allowed on a Team Sheet as per Table 14 must be selected.	Addition required as it exists within the PPS Policy
14.4(H)	Number of Players in a Team – Senior Competitions	Addition: Under Appendix Five, a club may apply for an Inclusion Dispensation for a Player with an intellectual impairment. If a Player with dispensation is selected to a Men’s Reserve Grade or Women’s Reserve Grade Team, the Team may exceed the Maximum Number of Players allowed on a team sheet by one (1) player.	Introduced to generate more inclusive opportunities for players with intellectual impairments to still participate once aged out of junior football.
15.3.2(A)(i)	Uniform Clashes	Removed: subject to Rule 15.3.2(ii), the Host Team shall play in dark coloured shorts (e.g. black, dark-brown, blue, green etc.) whilst the away Club’s Team will play in shorts that are of reasonable contrast to the Host Team’s shorts;	Not relevant to the league with clubs having one set of playing shorts only
15.7.3	Umpire Matchday Records	Addition (highlighted section): Immediately following completion of the Match, the field Umpire (regardless of whether a League appointed Umpire or a Club Umpire) is to complete an Umpire Match Report and submit best and fairest votes (3, 2, 1) via the Award Votes form in OfficialHQ, in accordance with Rule 10.7 . If access to Officials HQ is not available, best and fairest votes are to be emailed to the League, with the host club to provide necessary contact information.	Amended to clearly outline all responsibilities and what to do in the case of no OfficialsHQ access.
15.8.1	Match Start Times	Addition: competing Clubs may vary the starting time of a Match by mutual agreement, subject to the League receiving notification at least fourteen (14) days	Clearly identifying timeframe for match time changes made by clubs

2024 Generic Rules – Amendments Summary

		prior the original scheduled Match date. League approval will be subject to umpire availability.	
Appendix 5	Inclusion Dispensation	See below – Addition:	Introduced to generate more inclusive opportunities for players with intellectual impairments to still participate once aged out of junior football.

Appendix 5 – Inclusion Dispensation

1. Purpose

- (A) To increase the opportunity for players with an intellectual impairment to participate in Open age Community Football by allowing them to be selected on a Team Sheet as an additional Player to the maximum number of players allowed as per [Rule 14.4](#).
- (B) If a Player with an Inclusion Dispensation is selected to a Men’s Reserve Grade or Women’s Reserve Grade Team, the Team may exceed the Maximum Number of Players allowed on a Team Sheet, as per [Table 14](#), by one (1) player.

2. Application Process

- (A) A Player may apply for an Inclusion Dispensation on the basis of an intellectual impairment by submitting an application in accordance with Appendix Five Clause 2(B).
- (B) An application for dispensation under Appendix Five Clause 2(A) must be:
 - (i) in the form of the AFL South Coast Inclusion Dispensation Form;
 - (ii) submitted via the Player’s Club to the Controlling Body;
 - (iii) supported by written consent from the Player’s parent or guardian where the player is an Underage Player; and
 - (iv) supported by confirmation the Player has an intellectual impairment as determined by [Sport Inclusion Australia](#) based on the Sport Inclusion Australia Athlete Registration and Primary Eligibility Application Guidance Notes;
 - (v) In relation to an application for dispensation, a Medical Specialist may, in their supporting Certificate, recommend that dispensation be approved for two seasons.
- (C) Following its assessment of an application for dispensation, the Controlling Body may:
 - (i) approve the application;
 - (ii) refuse the application; or
 - (iii) request additional information from the Player or Club and, following its assessment of such additional information, either approve or refuse the application.

3. Relevant Factors in Assessing Application

2024 Generic Rules – Amendments Summary

In assessing an application for dispensation, a Controlling Body will have regard to the following factors:

- (A) how the Player's Intellectual Impairment impacts their ability to effectively participate in Australian Football.
- (B) the supporting Certificate provided under Appendix Five Clause 2(B) and any recommendation under Appendix Five Clause 2(C);
- (C) how it is proposed that the grant of Inclusion dispensation will support the Player to overcome any barriers to their effective participation in Australian Football arising from their Intellectual impairment;
- (D) the safety and welfare of the Player and those Players they will be participating with and against; and
- (E) any other relevant factors as determined by the Controlling Body.

4. Effect of Approved Application

- (A) A Player who has received dispensation approval (Permitted Player) will be permitted to be named as a:
 - (i) twenty-third (23) Player on their Club's Men's Reserve Grade Team Sheet; or
 - (ii) twenty-first (21) Player on their Club's Women's Reserve Grade team sheet.
- (B) If, following receipt of dispensation approval, a Permitted Player plays in a higher ranked competition grade, the dispensation approval will be automatically withdrawn.
- (C) A dispensation approval applies for the season in which the dispensation approval is granted unless the Controlling Body endorses a recommendation under Appendix Five Clause 2(C) in which case the dispensation approval will apply for the season in which the dispensation approval is granted and the following season (i.e. two seasons).
- (D) A Controlling Body may, acting reasonably, revoke a dispensation approval at any time provided that the reasons for such revocation are provided to the Permitted Player.

5. Matchday Application of Inclusion Dispensation

- IV. A Player selected to a Team for a Match who has been granted Inclusion dispensation must be identified on all copies of the Team Sheet with "(ID)" handwritten next to their name.
- V. Copies of the Team Sheet must be distributed as follows:
 - (i) one (1) provided to the Ground Manager;
 - (ii) one (1) provided to the Field Umpires; and
 - (iii) one (1) provided to the opposition Club's Team Manager.
- VI. Each of the parties listed in Appendix Five 5(C) must be advised of the circumstances in which the Player will be participating in the Match and discuss any measures that need to be put in place to manage the safety and welfare of the Player while participating in the Match as approved by the CMC.

2024 Generic Rules – Amendments Summary

- VII. The Club fielding a Player with an Inclusion Dispensation should contact their opposition Club as soon as practicable to advise them of the Player's participation in the Match to allow reasonable attempts to be made by the opposition Club to inform their Players and Officials prior to the day of the Match.
- VIII. The League will communicate a list of all Clubs which have Player(s) with an approved Inclusion dispensation as soon as practicable. This list will be housed in the League's 'Club Executive' Microsoft Teams Folder and updated accordingly.
- IX. Should a Club question the status of an approved Player, they can submit a request for Proof of Player Eligibility as outlined in [Rule 11.2.6](#).

6. Appeal

A decision by a Controlling Body under Appendix Five Clause 2(D) may be appealed in accordance with [Section 26](#) of the Policy Handbook