

AFL Sapphire Coast & AFL South Coast



BY-LAWS 2020

Version 1.2

Version	Amendment Date	By-Law	Update
1.0	15/07/2020		
1.1	19/07/2020	10	10 - Amendment to numbering of By-law 10 – Finals Eligibility
1.2	1/09/2020	10.7	10.7 - Amendment to finals eligibility to reduce the number of qualifying matches where a team has played only 6 or less matches.

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INTRODUCTION

The following By-Laws have been made by AFL South Coast pursuant to its role to administer Australian Football Competitions in the South Coast 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

AFLSC means AFL South Coast Incorporated

AFLSC Website means www.aflsouthcoast.com.au

Competition Management Committee means the Committee established in accordance with AFL NSW / ACT Regulation 2.10

Grade means a level, within a competition, based on age for junior competitions and based on the quality of football in Senior competitions.

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.

League means an AFL NSW/ACT managed or affiliated league which operates or conducts a Competition within New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory.

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the melee matrix grading system notified to all Clubs prior to the start of the home and away season, as updated or superseded from time to time.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

Regulations means the AFL NSW / ACT Regulations as published for the current season and as varied from time to time.

SCAFL means AFL Sapphire Coast

SCAFL Website means www.aflsapphirecoast.com.au

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.

Senior Football means any game of the code other than Under Age Football

Services means Army, Navy and Air Force personnel

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 regulations 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, the League may terminate the Club Participation Agreement with a Club immediately upon notice where:
- a. the Club unreasonably fails to duly and promptly comply with its Obligation 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, the AFL 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

- (A) 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.
- (B) Any binding interpretation of the By-Laws made by the Competition Management Committee will be circulated to all affiliated Clubs.

3.3 Amendments to By-Laws

- (A) 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 Competition Grades

- (A) The League has determined that the following competition grades will apply for the current season.

Competition	Gender	Grade
Sapphire Coast	Mens	Men's Division 1
		Men's Division 2
	Womens	Senior Women's
	Boys Only	Under 16's
	Mixed	Under 14's
		Under 12's
		Under 10's (development phase)
South Coast Seniors	Mens	Men's Premier Division
		Men's Division 1
		Men's Division 2
	Womens	Women's Premier Division

		Women's Division 1
Shoalhaven Juniors	Girls Only	Under 15's
	Mixed	Under 13's
		Under 11's
		Under 9's (development phase)
Illawarra Juniors	Boys Only	Under 17's
		Under 15's
	Girls Only	Under 17's
		Under 15's
		Under 13's
		Under 11's (development phase)
	Mixed	Under 13's
		Under 11's
		Under 9's (development phase)

- (B) On application of a Club, the Competition Management Committee may consider special circumstances to alter a "development phase" age group to allow a limited number of Players, who are clearly not ready to safely commence competition phase, to remain playing in a suitable development phase age group. In making a determination on this, including any applicable rules that may apply, the Competition Management Committee will consult with, and seek approval from, all Junior Clubs in the relevant League.

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" for South Coast and Appendix "E" for Sapphire Coast)
- (C) The following Competitions currently operate under a Player Points System:
- (i) South Coast Men's Premier Division; and
 - (ii) Sapphire Coast Men's Division One.

4. LAWS OF THE GAME AND POLICIES

4.1 Governing Laws & 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 Policies, Guidelines, 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 National Child Protection 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 AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines;
 - o. the National Disciplinary Tribunal Guidelines
 - p. the AFL NSW/ACT Regulations;
 - q. the AFL NSW/ACT Code of Conduct;
 - r. the AFL NSW/ACT COVID Guidelines;
 - s. 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 Conduct of Matches – Juniors

- (A) All Junior & Youth Matches will be conducted according to the principles outlined in the Australian Football Match Policy unless otherwise approved by AFL NSW/ACT or as detailed in these By-Laws.

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) Undergarments in junior Matches, such as Lycra shorts, must be beige, black or the same colour as club shorts. Full length undergarments (items other than the playing jumper or shorts) may only be worn with the prior approval of the League.
- (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.
- (I) At a ground where a Junior or Youth match is being played immediately prior to any Senior Grade match, NO alcohol will be permitted to be served from any club canteen or club house until quarter time in the Senior Grade match.
- (J) Any Club found to be selling or serving alcohol without a liquor license, or contrary to these By-Laws, may be subject of penalties determined by the League in its ultimate discretion, including a fine and/or loss of Match points.

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-Laws:

- a. the Competition points or 'win' for the Match concerned will be credited to the opposing Team.
- b. Points scored for and against each Team and goals kicked by Players remain unchanged

4.6 Kick-In Rule

The same football used to score the behind must be utilised for the resultant kick-in, unless otherwise instructed by the field umpire.

4.7 50 Metre Penalties

- (A) A free kick or a 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; or
- (B) 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 & 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 on-field playing numbers, the number of Players in each area of the field will be as follows:

Number on Field Per team	Starting Configuration	Maximum Number per Team in Centre Square
18	6/6/6 [6 forwards / 6 centres / 6 backs]	4
17	6/5/6 [6 forwards / 5 centres / 6 backs]	4
16	5/6/5 [5 forwards / 6 centres / 5 backs]	4
15	5/5/5 [5 forwards / 5 centres / 5 backs]	4
14	5/4/5 [5 forwards / 4 centres / 5 backs]	4
13	4/5/4 [4 forwards / 5 centres / 4 backs]	3
12	4/4/4 [4 forwards / 4 centres / 4 backs]	4

4.10 Ruck Contests (Prior Opportunity)

The Law in the Laws of the Game relating to “Ruck Contests (Prior Opportunity) does not apply for youth and junior Football

4.11 New Laws of the Game

- (A) In accordance with Regulation 2.5, the League (and its associated Clubs) must adopt the Laws of the Game as administered and controlled by the AFL and as endorsed by AFL NSW/ACT.
- (B) The introduction of any new Laws of the Game at a National level will be reviewed by AFL NSW/ACT to determine the extent of application of those Laws to all or some competitions, including a determination that particular Laws do not apply, or may apply in modified form, to all or some competitions.

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 a 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) Where a Season Fixture is prepared for a divisional structure, any byes, where possible, should be in the lower division.
- (E) Where the League does regrade a Team(s) after the commencement of a Competition, the Match Ratio (wins and losses) are included in the regraded Competition.
- (F) Each Competition Season Fixture will consist of a series of home and away Matches followed by a finals series of Matches.
- (G) Senior Clubs have 4 weeks from the distribution of the Season Fixture to request changes to times and venues. After that time changes to the Season Fixture can only be requested:
 - a. with 4 weeks prior notice and with the affected opponent's agreement; or
 - b. for unforeseen circumstances such as washouts
- (H) Junior Clubs may only seek to change the time and/or venue of a fixtured Match as follows:
 - a. Where it has been agreed to by both competing Clubs; and
 - b. Where it has been agreed to by the Umpires Co-ordinator; and
 - c. Where notice of the requested change has been lodged by the competing Clubs with the Competition Management Committee no later than 7 days prior to the scheduled Match.
- (I) It is at the absolute discretion of the Competition Management Committee to approve or decline any request for a change to the fixture.

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 home and away round Matches:
 - a. Match ratio will be used as the method of determining ladder position;
 - b. Match ratio is determined by dividing the number of wins by the number of Matches played;
 - c. In the case of a draw, this is determined as half (0.5) of a win and this calculation is used when determining Match ratio;
 - d. If a scheduled round of Matches is not played, the Club with the bye in that round does not receive a Match win;
 - e. Where more than one Team has the same Match ratio, Clubs will be positioned on the ladder in order of percentages calculated from the points scored for and against.

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 thirty-six (36) hours prior to the scheduled time of the Match or as otherwise prescribed by the League. The Match will be treated as a forfeit and provided an explanation for the forfeit 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 Host Club must inform the Competition Management Committee as soon as reasonably practical.
- (C) Should a Club forfeit a Match without the required notice, or without explanation for the forfeit to the Competition Management Committee's reasonable satisfaction, a fine of up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) may be imposed at the absolute discretion of the Competition Management Committee. This will not apply to a Junior team that attends a venue with the intention to play a Match but finds it has insufficient numbers for the Match to proceed as a competition Match.
- (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 5.5 (D), if for any reason a Team is not ready to commence play fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled commencement time for a Match, the opposing Club may claim the Match as a forfeit to be determined by the Competition Management Committee.
- (F) All Clubs must field a senior grade Team in the home and away Competition unless otherwise agreed by the Competition Management Committee. Should a Club play in a reserve (or lower grade) grade fixture and subsequently forfeit their senior grade Match on the same weekend, that Club will not be awarded any points for the reserve grade Match and will be liable to disciplinary sanctions as the Competition Management Committee may determine in its absolute discretion.
- (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 twenty-four (24) hours of the fixtured completion time of the match being forfeited; and
 - Accurately reflect the team that would have been selected to play.
- (I) In the event of a forfeit, or where ineligible Players have been played, the result of the Match will be determined as follows:

Grade or Age Group	Score applicable to Team forfeiting or playing ineligible players	Score applicable to other Team
Juniors and Youth Girls	Zero (0) points	Sixty (60) points
Youth (Male)	Zero (0) points	Ninety (90) points
Senior Women's	Zero (0) points	Ninety (90) points
Senior Men's & Reserve Men's	Zero (0) points	One hundred & twenty (120) points

- (J) Competition Ladders will be adjusted accordingly by the League.

- (K) The Competition Management Committee, in its absolute discretion, may determine to withdraw a Club's Team from a competition without notice where that Team has forfeited a Match on three or more occasions in the course of the season

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.
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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) For Junior practice matches, all Player's names must be listed on a Team Sheet and submitted to the Ground Manager before the commencement of the practice match.

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 dollars (\$250).
- (F) Any player selected in a representative team must be a registered player with a Club participating in Competitions of that League. A Player seeking to play in a representative team in another League may, at least seven days prior to the scheduled representative Match, apply to the Competition Management Committee of that League for approval to play. It is at the absolute discretion of the Competition Management Committee to approve or decline any such application.

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, where Teams play in uniforms that are similar in design or colour the Competition Management Committee will determine what uniforms shall be worn by either team.

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) A Club Sponsor's logo may be worn on the Players' jumpers as approved by the Competition Management Committee in its ultimate discretion.
- (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) Jumpers worn by Clubs may have the League or Club logo on the left breast and must not exceed 8cm x 8cm in size.
- (D) A Club 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 39cm² with a maximum width of 7cm; and
 - b. The logo is placed on the front of the right leg.
- (E) Any alternate request will be assessed by the Competition Management Committee in its ultimate discretion.

- (F) The terms of current sponsorship agreements between the League and particular sponsors requires Club adherence as follows:

Clubs	Sponsor	Uniform Requirement
All Sapphire Coast Clubs	East Coast Radio	East Coast Radio logo must be placed on playing shorts for any new orders placed
All Illawarra Juniors Clubs	Wave FM	WaveFM logo must be placed on playing shorts for any new orders placed
All South Coast Seniors Clubs		

8. TEAMS

- (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 League reserves the right to impose sanctions on Clubs for late submissions of team nominations or withdrawal of team nominations past a predetermined date.

8.1 Team Nominations - Senior

- (A) Senior Team nominations are due to be submitted in writing to the League by no later than 6 weeks prior to the date on which the first round is proposed to be played, or other date as specified by the League.
- (B) The acceptance of late Senior Team nominations is at the absolute discretion of the Competition Management Committee and will include regard for the impact on competition structures and will also incur a late nomination 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; or
 - b. If after the commencement of the season, a maximum of \$1500.

8.2 Team Nominations – Junior & Youth

Junior and Youth team nominations are to be in accordance with the League Policy which will be distributed Clubs no later than January of the Current Season.

8.3 Joint Ventures

- (A) The purpose of a Joint Venture is to allow two (2) clubs to come together and enter one (1) or multiple teams where neither club can field a standalone team.
- (B) Any application for a Joint Venture must:
 - a. be submitted in writing to the League no later than 21 days prior to the date on which the first round is to be played; and
 - b. contain the following minimum details:
 - i. The names of the Clubs involved
 - ii. The competition level or age group
 - iii. The name of the proposed team
 - iv. The number of registered players being contributed to the team by each Club
 - v. The name and contact details of the Head Coach and Team Manager
 - vi. Details of which jersey(s) will be worn
 - vii. Details of the preferred home game venue(s)
- (C) Notwithstanding By-Law 8.3(B), the Competition Management Committee may accept the lodgement of a late Joint Venture application if there are extenuating circumstances, and if that application does not result in significant impact on the fixture process.
- (D) The approval of any Joint Venture application is at the absolute discretion of the Competition Management Committee.
- (E) If a Joint Venture is approved by the Competition Management Committee, the Clubs involved are, within 14 days of that approval, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding ('MOU')

that covers the items referred to in By-Law 8.3(B) together with additional relevant matters including:

- a. when and where training will be conducted
- b. best and fairest voting arrangements
- c. end of season awards presentation arrangements
- d. supply of equipment
- e. expense approval / sharing arrangements
- f. terms under which the Joint Venture may be dissolved

- (F) If a Joint Venture is applicable to a junior team where players in that team may also be eligible to play in a Senior competition, those junior players are only able to play senior football for the club from which they originated.
- (G) Standard home and away and finals eligibility rules apply to any Joint Venture.

8.4 Multiple Teams in Junior or Youth Grade

- (A) Where a Club enters more than one (1) team in a Junior or Youth Grade in the same competition, the Club has two (2) Rounds to finalise its Player allocation to those teams. During those two (2) Rounds a Player may play for any of the Club's teams in that Grade, but cannot play for more than one (1) of those teams in a Round.
- (B) After Round two (2) a Player must remain in the same team for the duration of the season including finals.
- (C) During the course of the Season, a Club may make application to the Competition Management Committee to move a Player to another team in that Grade, where the Club can demonstrate that moving that Player will help bring balance to the Club's teams in that Grade. The approval of any such application is at the absolute discretion of the Competition Management Committee. If the application is approved, the Player must then remain in that team for the duration of the season, including any Finals. Matches played by that Player in the other team will be counted for finals eligibility.
- (D) Clubs are to adhere to the following when allocating players in a Grade to it's teams:
 - a. For age groups up to and including Under 13, teams are to be either:
 - i. of similar makeup of ability; or
 - ii. based on an age split where clubs have consulted with players, parents and coaches to determine that a lower age team could compete safely in the competition Grade.
 - b. For age groups over Under 13, teams are to be of similar makeup of ability.

9. PLAYER NUMBERS & ELIGIBILITY

9.1 Number of players – Senior Competitions (Men’s and Women’s)

(A) The minimum and maximum number of Players per Team for Senior Competitions is as follows:

Competition	Grade	Minimum Number of Players for Match	Max Number of Players	
			On a Team Sheet	On-Field
Sapphire Coast	Men’s Division 1	Fourteen (14)	Twenty (20)	Sixteen (16)
	Men’s Division 2	Twelve (12)	Twenty (20)	Sixteen (16)
	Women’s Seniors	Twelve (12)	Twenty (20)	Sixteen (16)
South Coast Seniors	Men’s Premier	Fourteen (14)	Twenty-two (22)	Eighteen (18)
	Men’s Division 1	Twelve (12)	Twenty-two (22)	Eighteen (18)
	Men’s Division 2	Twelve (12)	Twenty-two (22)	Eighteen (18)
	Women’s Premier	Twelve (12)	Twenty (20)	Sixteen (16)
	Women’s Division 1	Twelve (12)	Twenty (20)	Sixteen (16)

(B) Where both competing Teams in a Match have the maximum number of Players allowed on a Team Sheet as per By-law 9.1(A), the number of Players per Team on field at the start of a Match shall be the “*Max Number of Players On-Field*” as per By-law 9.1(A).

(C) Except as provided for by By-law 9.1(D), where one or both competing Teams have less than the maximum number of Players allowed on a Team Sheet as per By-law 9.1(A), the number of Players per Team on field at the start of a Match shall be as follows:

Competition	Grade Applies To	Where One or Both Teams has only...	Starting On-Field Number is...
South Coast Seniors	All Men’s Grades	Twenty-one (21)	Eighteen (18)
		Twenty (20)	Eighteen (18)
		Nineteen (19)	Eighteen (18)
		Eighteen (18)	Seventeen (17)
		Seventeen (17)	Sixteen (16)
		Sixteen (16)	Fifteen (15)
		Fifteen (15)	Fourteen (14)
		Fourteen (14)	Fourteen (14)
	Men’s Division 1 & Men’s Division 2	Thirteen (13)	Thirteen (13)
		Twelve (12)	Twelve (12)
	Womens Premier & Womens Division 1	Nineteen (19)	Sixteen (16)
		Eighteen (18)	Sixteen (16)
		Seventeen (17)	Sixteen (16)
		Sixteen (16)	Fifteen (15)
		Fifteen (15)	Fourteen (14)
Fourteen (14)		Fourteen (14)	
Thirteen (13)		Thirteen (13)	
Twelve (12)		Twelve (12)	

Sapphire Coast	All Senior Grades (Men's & Women's)	Nineteen (19)	Sixteen (16)
		Eighteen (18)	Sixteen (16)
		Seventeen (17)	Sixteen (16)
		Sixteen (16)	Fourteen (14)
		Fifteen (15)	Thirteen (13)
		Fourteen (14)	Fourteen (14)
Men's Division 2 & Women's Seniors	Thirteen (13)	Thirteen (13)	
	Twelve (12)	Twelve (12)	

- (D) The Coaches of both Teams may agree, in consultation with the Umpires, to start with a different On-field Number of Players to that stated in By-law 9.1(C) provided that:
- a. Both teams have the same on-field number of Players; and
 - b. The agreed on-field number of players:
 - i. does not exceed the Maximum Number of Players on Field for that Grade as specified in By-law 9.1(A); and
 - ii. is not less than the Minimum Number of Players for Match for that Grade as specified in By-law 9.1(A).
- (E) By-laws 9.1(C) and (D) do not apply to Finals Matches. In finals Matches either team may field up to the maximum number of on-field Players specified in 9.1(A)
- (F) At the commencement of a Match, Teams must have available the “*Minimum Number of Players for a Match*” as detailed in By-Law 9.1(A) in order for it to constitute an official competition Match. Where a Team has less than the minimum number of Players required, that Team will be deemed to have forfeited the Match.
- (G) If for any reason during the course of a Match a Team has less than the “*Minimum Number of Players for a Match*” as per 9.1(A), the Team has fifteen (15) minutes to ensure the minimum number of Players is reinstated. If a Team is unable to comply with this requirement, it will be deemed to have forfeited the Match.

9.2 Minimum Number of Players – Senior Competitions (Men's and Women's)

- (A) Not applicable. Refer to By-law 9.1

9.3 Number of players – Senior Women's Competitions

- (A) Not applicable. Refer to By-law 9.1

9.4 Number of players – Junior and Youth Competitions

- (A) Subject to By-laws 9.4(C) and 9.4(F), the minimum and maximum number of Players per Team for Junior and Youth Grades is as follows:

Competition	Grade	Minimum Number (for a Match)	Maximum on Team Sheet	Maximum on Field
Illawarra Juniors & Shoalhaven Juniors	*Under 9 mixed	6	No limit	16
	Under 11 mixed	9	24	16
	Under 13 mixed	9	24	18
	*Under 11 girls	6	No limit	16
	Under 12 girls	6	22	16

	Under 13 girls	9	22	16
	Under 15 girls	9 Illawarra 6 Shoalhaven	22	16
	Under 17 girls	9	24	16
	Under 15 boys	9	24	18
	Under 17 boys	9	24	18
Sapphire Juniors	*Under 10 mixed	6	No limit	18
	Under 12 mixed	9	No limit	18
	Under 14 mixed	9	No limit	18
	Under 16 boys	9	No limit	18

*Development Phase

- (B) To maximise on-field participation where two competing Teams have eighteen (18) or more available players on a Team Sheet and where, in accordance with By-Law 9.4(A), the “Maximum on Field” number is 16, additional players per Team will be allowed on the field in particular Grades in accordance with the following:

Competition	Grade	Where Both Teams have at least the following on a Team Sheet	Maximum on Field
Illawarra Juniors & Shoalhaven Juniors	Under 9 mixed	18 or more	18
	Under 11 girls		
	Under 11 mixed	19 or more	18
	Under 12 girls		
	Under 13 girls		
	Under 15 girls		
	Under 17 girls		

- (C) Teams must have the minimum number of Players (for a Match) available at the scheduled commencement of a competition Match, as detailed in By-Law 9.4(A), to constitute an official Match. Where a Team has less than the minimum number of Players:
- That Team will be deemed to have forfeited the Match;
 - A scratch match may still proceed to allow player participation, with the Coaches encouraged to even-up the skill levels of the Teams.
- (D) Where player numbers are impacted by Matches scheduled during school holidays, and where the minimum player numbers stated in 9.4(A) is nine (9) or greater, that minimum number may be reduced by up to two (2) Players for competition age groups.
- (E) To encourage maximum participation where the two Teams do not have the same number of available “on-field” Players, Clubs must borrow or loan available Players from the competing Team up to the maximum on-field number for that Grade. If, as a result of a Coach not accepting to receive Players to even up on-field numbers, the opposing Team will be able to play additional Players up to the maximum on-field number. This By-law does not apply to Finals Matches.
- (F) Other than as outlined in Rule 9.4 (E) or in the case of a send-off, Player numbers at all times must be equal.

- (G) If during the Match, an injured Player has to leave the ground but there are no replacements in that Team, the field umpire, the Opposition Coach and the ground manager must be advised accordingly. The other Club's Team is to remove a Player to keep the numbers on the ground even (except for send offs). When a Player returns to the field, in such circumstances the same process applies in reverse.

9.5 Minimum Age of Players

- (A) The minimum age of players to participate in each Grade is as per Regulation 4.7.
- (B) Any application for dispensation under Regulation 4.7 or 4.8 is to be in writing on the form prescribed by the League.
- (C) Regard is also to be had by Clubs to By-law 9.6 in making any application for dispensation.

9.6 Players seeking to play up a Competition Age Group (Juniors)

- (A) Subject to meeting dispensation requirements, Players are permitted to play up an age group as long the Player is not displacing a registered Player to whom that age group applies and would otherwise have been available to play. This rule does not apply to a Player who has been selected in an age group above their registered age group and only plays in the higher age group during the Season.

9.7 Home & Away Eligibility – Senior Men's Competition

- (A) Where a South Coast Seniors Club has three Men's Divisions, any player who has played four (4) or more matches in Premier Division in the home and away season is not permitted to drop back more than one grade (e.g. cannot drop back from Premier Division to Division Two)
- (B) If a Team is scheduled for a bye or has its fixture washed out or cancelled for any reason, no Player who was in that Team the previous week can play in a lower Grade. A Club may apply to the Competition Management Committee for exemption for a Player from this By-law if there are exceptional circumstances. The Competition Management Committee, may, in its absolute discretion, determine to accept or decline the application.
- (C) 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.

10. FINALS

10.1 Finals Structure

The Competition Management Committee will determine the structure of the finals series for each Competition upon release of the Competitions Season Fixture and prior to the first home and away Match of the season.

10.2 Venue Selection

- (A) The Competition Management Committee will determine the venues for finals series Matches in its absolute discretion.
- (B) The Competition Management Committee will determine the terms and conditions under which any finals matches are to be held at a host venue.

10.3 Match Duration

The duration of finals Matches will be as determined by the League in accordance with By-Law 11.5.

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 if applicable as per By-Law 11.5) 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 if applicable as per By-Law 11.5) is to be played;
- (D) If the Match is still drawn after the second five (5) minute (plus time on) period, the Match will continue until the next score at which time the siren will sound; and
- (E) The coach will be allowed to address their team during a three (3) minute break after the final siren at the end of normal Match time. The coach will not be able to address the team further during extra time.

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) Further to Regulation 4.12, the Competition Management Committee may determine additional Player eligibility requirements in its ultimate discretion provided such are not inconsistent with Regulation 4.12.
- (B) Eligibility for Senior Players

- a. Except as provided for under 10(B)(a), 10(E) and 10(F), to be eligible to play finals in a particular Grade, a player must have played the following minimum number of home and away Matches in the current season for the Club in that Grade or a lower Grade:

Competition	Grade	Minimum Number of Home & Away Matches in Season
Sapphire Coast	Men's Division 1	Three (3)
	Men's Division 2	Three (3)
	Women's Seniors	Three (3)
South Coast Seniors	Men's Premier Division	Three (3)
	Men's Division 1	Three (3)
	Men's Division 2	Three (3)
	Women's Premier Division	Three (3)
	Women's Division 1	Three (3)

- b. Where the number of fixtured regular season Matches (excluding byes and washouts) for a team in a senior competition Grade is six (6) or less, the "Minimum Number of Home and Away Matches in Season" in the table under 10(B)(a) shall be Two (2).

- (C) A Player is only permitted to play in one finals Match for his/her Club on any given weekend or round unless determined otherwise by the League pursuant to this By-Law 10.7.
- (D) Subject to By-Laws 10.7 (E) and 10.7 (F), any senior men's or women's player who has played in a combined total of five (5) or more home and away matches in any higher men's or women's division(s), shall not be eligible to play finals matches in a lower division.
- (E) Where a Club has multiple, consecutively ranked senior teams (men's or women's) playing in finals on the same weekend, to be eligible to play in any of those finals a player must have played three (3) home and away matches in the current season in the Grades that are participating in finals that weekend, or in lower Grade.
- (F) On application by a Player's Club, the Competition Management Committee may vary the number of qualifying Matches required:
- i. where Services personnel are posted a significant distance away during the home and away Matches; or
 - ii. where a Player misses a significant number of Matches due to serious injury (four (4) or more consecutive regular season Rounds), pregnancy or transfers in employment; or
 - iii. under other exceptional circumstances as determined by the Competition Management Committee.

NOTE: Any transfer in employment should follow three (3) calendar months of continuous employment preceding the transfer date with the existing employer, unless otherwise approved by the League.

- (G) Eligibility for Junior & Youth Players
- a. Where a Player is playing in only one Grade in finals, the Player must have played the minimum number of regular season matches for the Team that has made the finals, as per the following table:

Number of Fixtured Regular Season Matches for the Team (excl Byes)	Number of Games to be played for the Team to Qualify for Finals
6 or less	2
7 to 10	3
More than 10	4

- b. Where a Player is playing in two Grades in finals, the Player must have played a minimum of 50% of available regular season matches (excluding Byes) for each Team in each Grade that has made the finals.
- c. If a Player is ineligible to play in finals in a Grade due to By-Law 10.7(C)(a) or (b), the player may apply to the Competition Management Committee for dispensation where genuine reasons exist for the Player having been unable to meet the criteria e.g. serious injury. An application for dispensation must:
 - i. Be in writing; and
 - ii. Provide proper details and evidence of the reasons for the player being unable to meet the criteria; and
 - iii. Be received by the Competition Management Committee at least 7 calendar days prior to the first scheduled finals match.
- d. A Player who plays up in two Teams in the same Grade, where both those teams have qualified for finals, can only play in the Team for which the most games were played, or if an equal number of games were played in each, the one that 50% was first reached.

10.8 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.

10.9 Catering and Gate Receipt Rights

- (A) Catering and gate receipt rights for finals Matches will be determined by the League.
- (B) The host Club will be responsible for all expenses incurred in relation to the game day management of any finals matches or as determined to by the League.
- (C) For Senior competition finals, the hosting Club shall be responsible for obtaining a liquor licence where necessary and no other club shall be permitted to take alcohol into the ground.
- (D) The hosting Club will be responsible for provision of new footballs for each final unless otherwise determined to by the League

10.10 Club Eligibility

- (A) If any Club is financially in arrears to the League at a period of seven (7) days prior to the first scheduled match of the finals series, teams of that Club shall be ineligible to compete in finals series matches.
- (B) In the event that this occurs, teams placed next on the respective competition table shall fill the place of the ineligible team.
- (C) For the purpose of this By-Law, Clubs which are under a financial arrangement with the League and are up to date with the payments of that arrangement shall be considered financial.

11. MATCH DAY REQUIREMENTS

11.1 Match Day Paperwork

(A) The following Table establishes Match-day paperwork requirements.

<p>(i) Team Sheets (Pre-match)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Team Sheet is required to be prepared on FootyWeb by each Club prior to every Match. The Team Sheet must include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The name and jumper number of each Player; and○ The name of all Team officials, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Coach▪ Assistant Coach (if applicable)▪ Team Manager▪ Runner(s)▪ Trainers / First Aid Officials▪ Water Carriers• Three (3) copies of each Team's Team Sheet are to be printed and distributed prior to the Match by the Team Manager as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ One (1) provided to the Ground Manager / Timekeeper ("Official Team Sheet")○ One (1) handed to the opposition Club's Team Manager○ The third copy is to be retained by the Club Team Manager <p>[Note: The Umpires are to refer to the Official Team Sheet for the purposes of fulfilling any of their match-day requirements]</p>
<p>(ii) Team Sheets (During Match)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Players or Officials included on the Team Sheet who do not participate in the Match must be crossed off the Official Team Sheet before the Match commences (where practicable) but by no later than half time of the Match.• Alterations or additions may be made to the Players listed on Official Team Sheet up until the end of the half time interval by arrangement with the field umpires. Players arriving late may take the field prior to being listed on the Team Sheet provided that the opposition Club's Team Manager and Umpires are advised. Such Players must be included on the Team Sheet before the second half of the Match commences. No player arriving after half time may take the field.• No alterations or additions may be made to the Official Team Sheet after the half time interval of the Match (other than for the purposes of recording scores and best players post-Match).• At the half time interval of the Match, each Club's Team Manager is to check each other's Official Team Sheet and sign off on this to verify its accuracy.• As a matter of proper record keeping, any alterations or additions made to the Primary Team Sheet should also be made on the other two copies of the Team Sheet (i.e. the Team Managers' copies).• Each Club's Team Manager is to keep a record of the quarter by quarter scores, and goal kickers, on their copy of the Team Sheet (which will be transposed to the Official Team Sheet at conclusion of the Match).

<p>(iii) Team Sheets (Post-match)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the conclusion of the Match, the Team Managers from each Team are to record the following on the Official Team Sheet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ quarter by quarter scores; and ○ the Team's goal scorers; and ○ the Team's best players. <p>[Note: Goal scorers and best players are optional for Junior / Youth Matches]</p> • Goals not listed on the Official Team Sheet at the time it is received by the League shall not be credited to a Player's tally. • The Field Umpires are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sign each Official Team Sheet (i.e. Ground Manager's copy) after completing end of Match duties. ○ photograph the Official Team Sheets and both Score Cards in preparation for the Umpires Match Report (see viii below).
<p>(iv) Team Sheet Compliance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where an official Team Sheet is altered under 11.1(A)(ii), FootyWeb team sheet records are to be updated by the Club by 7.00pm (or 10.00pm for night Matches) after completion of the Match to ensure that the altered Official Team Sheet and FootyWeb records properly reconcile. • Each Club is ultimately responsible for the accuracy of its own Club's Team Sheets. Any Club that provides an incorrect or incomplete Team Sheet (including FootyWeb Team Sheet records) 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). • Clubs must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ retain <u>all</u> Team Sheets for a period of at least 4 weeks after the Season (including Finals) concludes; and ○ be able to produce these, if required, to the League within three (3) days or other timeframe as determined by the League.
<p>(v) FootyWeb Match Results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The designated Host Club is to enter the following in FootyWeb by 7:00pm (or 10:00pm for night games) of the day of the Match: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quarter by quarter scores and final Match results; and ○ Goal kickers for both teams; and ○ Best players for both teams. <p>[Note: goal kickers and best players are optional for Junior / Youth Matches but if recorded on the Official Team Sheet are to be entered in FootyWeb]</p> • The Club will incur a \$100 fine for failure to comply with this requirement.
<p>(vi) Goal Umpire Score Cards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Score Cards are required to be completed by both Goal Umpires for every competition Match.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At each Quarter interval and following completion of the Match, the Goal Umpires are to meet on the ground and compare and reconcile their Score Cards. • If there is any difference in the two Score Cards, the Goal Umpires are to consult with the Team Managers from both Clubs and the Ground Manager to determine and agree on the correct score. • The Score Cards are to be signed by both Goal Umpires once reconciled at the conclusion of the Match. Following this, the Score Cards are to be immediately provided to the Ground Manager. • Clubs must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ retain all Score Cards for a period of at least 4 weeks after the Season (including Finals) concludes; and ○ be able to produce these, if required, to the League within three (3) days or other timeframe as determined by the League.
(vii) Send Off Form / Timekeepers Card	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These are to be provided to the Timekeeper / Ground Manager.
(viii) Umpires Match Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately following completion of the Match, the field Umpire (regardless of whether a League appointed Umpire or a Club Umpire) is to complete a Match Report via the online facility or as required by the League. All sections of this Match Report are to be properly completed and must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Details of any issues / incidents; ○ The Umpires Best and Fairest Votes; ○ A photo copy of both Official Team Sheets; ○ A photo copy of both Goal Umpire Score Cards; ○ Details of any request by a Club under By-law 11.3 for identification of a Player.
(ix) Umpires Notice of Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process to be used by an Umpire to submit a Notice of Report is as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Verbally advise the League Umpire Coach / Coordinator of the Report as soon as reasonably practical after the completion of the Match; and b) Verbally advise the Ground Manager and a representative from the reported players Club that a 'Notice of Report' will be lodged; and c) Submit details of the Report via online facility.
(x) Umpires Coaches Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club Coaches are entitled and encouraged to lodge feedback on umpires performance via the online facility or other mechanism as determined by the League.
(xi) Forfeits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event of a forfeit, the following is to occur in relation to Match day paperwork; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The result is to be recorded as a forfeit in Footyweb with scores to be determined in accordance with per By-Law 5.4. ○ Only the team receiving the forfeit may enter a Team Sheet in FootyWeb in accordance with By-Law 5.4(H).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No Umpire Match Report or Best and Fairest Votes are to be submitted ○ No Score Cards are to be submitted (the final scores are determined by By-law 5.4).
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- (B) If a Match is not able to be played or completed for any reason, the Clubs involved must advise the Competition Manager of this by 7:00pm Sunday.
- (C) The League may impose penalties on any Club that fails to meet the requirements of By-Law 11.1.

11.2 Team Sheet

Not Applicable. Team Sheet requirements are detailed in 11.1.

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.
 - d. The Umpire is to include details of any such query in the match report.
- (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 National Disciplinary Tribunal 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) For Junior / Youth Matches the 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. A shorter time period may apply if determined by the League, but a fee as determined by the League may be payable, by the Club requesting any such change.
- (C) 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.
- (D) Matches must start and finish on time. If a Match commences after its scheduled start time, or there is a lengthy delay during the Match, the Ground Manager and field umpires will decide on the duration of the breaks at quarter time, half time and three-quarter time and if necessary will also reduce the length of quarters to ensure that the following Match can commence as scheduled.

- (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) If the minimum Player numbers are not available at the scheduled commencement of a Junior / Youth Match, but Players sufficient for minimum numbers are expected to arrive, then a scratch Match will be played. In such circumstances, the scratch Match shall commence but with reduced Player numbers on each Team. Teams must still have equal numbers on the field. If minimum numbers become available at any time prior to the end of the first quarter, then they may take the field after a goal is scored, the Teams are to be adjusted accordingly and the scratch Match then becomes an official Match. The scores at the time when the Match becomes an official Match will stand. If minimum numbers are not available at the end of the first quarter, the Match remains a scratch Match and the Team with less than the minimum number or Players forfeits the Match.
- (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 determined by the League and are summarised in the following Table.

League	Grade	Duration (minutes)					
		Quarter Length	$\frac{1}{4}$ Break	$\frac{1}{2}$ Break	$\frac{3}{4}$ Break	Time On	Match Total
South Coast	Men's Premier Division	25	5	10	5	Nil	120
	Men's Division 1	20	5	10	5	Nil	100
	Men's Division 2	18	5	10	5	Nil	92
	Women's Premier Division	18	5	10	5	Nil	92
	Women's Division 1	15	5	10	5	Nil	80
	U9 mixed	12	4	4	4	Nil	60
	U11 mixed	12	4	4	4	Nil	60
	U11 girls	12	4	4	4	Nil	60
	U12 girls	12	4	4	4	Nil	60
	U13 mixed	15	4	7	4	Nil	75
	U13 girls	12	4	4	4	Nil	60
	U15 girls	12	4	4	4	Nil	60
	U15 boys	15	4	7	4	Nil	75
	U17 boys	20	4	10	4	Nil	98
U17s girls	15	4	7	4	Nil	75	
Sapphire Coast	Men's Division 1	20	4	10	4	Nil	98
	Men's Division 2	15	4	10	4	Nil	78
	Women's Seniors	15	4	10	4	Nil	78
	U16 boys	15	3	8	3	Nil	74
	U14 mixed	15	3	8	3	Nil	74
	U12 mixed	12	3	8	3	Nil	62
	U10 mixed	10	3	4	3	Nil	50

- (B) For Matches where time on is to be implemented, the following is to apply:
- a. To indicate the commencement of the time added period, the field umpire shall blow his/her whistle and raise one arm above his/her head. To indicate that the time added period has elapsed, the field umpire shall raise one arm above the head.
 - b. Where the field umpire fails to signal the completion of the time added period, or the timekeepers fail to hear his/her whistle or see his/her signal, the timekeepers must restart the clock when the ball is clearly back in play.
 - c. In the case of a goal or behind being scored, the time added is that which elapses between the time that the goal umpire first signals the goal or behind and:
 - (i) the bouncing of the ball or ball up by the Umpire in the centre (after a goal); or
 - (ii) the ball being brought back into play (after a behind).
 - d. 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.
 - e. 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.

(C) 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 5.4 (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:

- a. 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.
- b. 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) 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 for such time as 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 5.4 shall apply.

(F) The League may vary the length and scheduling of the intervals of Matches as reasonably required.

11.7 Sirens

(A) Timekeepers are to sound the siren as follows:

As Umpires enter the playing field prior to the start of a Match and after half-time (not applicable to Juniors / Youth if the umpires remain on the field)	Once
Five minutes prior to scheduled starting time of the Match and start of the third quarter	Once
Two minutes prior to scheduled starting time of each quarter	Twice
One minute prior to scheduled starting time of each quarter	Once
Scheduled starting time of each quarter	Once

(B) Clubs must have available an emergency sounding device in the event of the failure of the siren/sounding device.

11.8 Extreme Weather & Other Events

(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). In these instances, the Match should be suspended by the field umpire, or the ground manager, until such time as it is deemed same to resume playing.

(C) In assessing extreme weather conditions and the impact of those on a match, regard is to be had by umpires and Clubs to the AFL National Extreme Weather Policy.

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, the League will, in consultation with the Clubs concerned, provisionally reschedule the Match to be played on the away Club's ground if available.
- (C) Where a Match is transferred to the opposing Club's venue, that Club will assume the Host Team responsibilities. Where practicable, the venue of the next Match between the two Clubs concerned will be reversed to compensate for the loss of the home ground privilege.
- (D) Where neither venue is available:
 - a. The League will make every effort to reschedule the Match to an alternative venue. 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.
 - b. The League shall make every attempt to schedule a venue that is most convenient to the home club. Where the league has advised of an alternate playing venue, the competing clubs are expected to comply with the venue change. Failure to do so will be deemed as a forfeit. Should both clubs fail to comply, both clubs will be deemed to have forfeited the match.
- (E) If a Match is not played because neither venue nor an alternative venue is available, the Competition Management Committee will decide whether or not the Match is to be rescheduled to another date or cancelled.
- (F) 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.
- (G) 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.
- (H) 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.
- (I) 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.

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, 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 not be less than 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 Competition 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 Ground Sizes for Junior & Youth Ages

- (A) Where ground space allows, the following field sizes are to be used in Junior & Youth Matches:

Competition	Grade	Length (M)	Width (M)
Sapphire Coast	U10 mixed	100	80
	U12 mixed	Full length	Full Width
	U14 mixed	Full length	Full width
	U16 Boys	Full length	Full width
Illawarra Juniors ('IJ') & Shoalhaven Juniors ('SJ')	U9 mixed	90	80
	U11 mixed	110	90
	U13 mixed	Full length	Full width
	U11 girls	90	80
	U12 girls (SJ)	110	90
	U13 girls	120	90
	U15 girls (SJ)	130	100
	U15 girls (IJ)	Full length	Full width
	U17 girls	Full length	Full width
	U15 boys	Full length	Full width
	U17 boys	Full length	Full width

- (B) The size of a ground for a Match may be reduced by agreement between the competing Clubs' coaches, where it is considered to be in the best interests of the players participating, e.g. where player numbers are low or ground conditions poor.

11.16 Match Footballs

- (A) The following table sets out the size and brand of footballs to be used in all Senior Grade Competition Matches.

Grade	Size	Brand
All Senior Men's Grades	5	Sherrin Match or Sherrin Kookaburra Brand
All Senior Women's Grades	4	Sherrin Match

- (B) The following table sets out the size and type of footballs to be used in Junior and Youth Matches.

Competition	Grade	Size	Type	Brand
Sapphire Coast	U10 mixed	2	Leather or synthetic	Sherrin Match or Sherrin Synthetic
	U12 mixed	3	Leather or synthetic	Sherrin Match or Sherrin Synthetic
	U14 mixed	4	Leather	Sherrin Match
	U16 mixed	5	Leather	Sherrin Match
Illawarra Juniors & Shoalhaven Juniors	U9 mixed	2	Synthetic	Sherrin Synthetic
	U11 mixed	3	Leather or synthetic	Sherrin Match or Sherrin Synthetic
	U13 mixed	4	Leather	Sherrin Match
	U11 girls	2	Leather or synthetic	Sherrin Match, Burley Match or Sherrin Synthetic
	U12 girls	3	Leather or synthetic	Sherrin Match, Burley Match or Sherrin Synthetic
	U13 girls	3	Leather or synthetic	Sherrin Match, Burley Match or Sherrin Synthetic
	U15 girls	4	Leather	Sherrin Match
	U17s girls	4	Leather	Sherrin Match
	U15 boys	5	Leather	Sherrin Match
	U17 boys	5	Leather	Sherrin Match

- (C) For any Matches that commence prior to 3.00pm, the colour of the football is to be red. For any Matches that commence at or after 3.00pm, the colour of the football is to be yellow.
- (D) A new football, or a football in 'suitable match condition', is to be provided by the host Club for use in all Junior and Senior Grade Matches. The host Club is to ensure that a second ball in suitable match condition, is available for each Junior and Senior Grade Match in the event of damage to or loss of the primary ball.
- (E) For the purpose of By-Laws 11.16(D) & (E), "suitable match condition" means:
- The ball has only had limited use, is clean and has no discernible scratches or damage to its surface;
 - The ball has retained its proper shape and colour;
 - All branding and writing on the ball is clearly visible and legible.

11.17 Spirit of the Game Rule – Junior & Youth Ages

- (A) This rule applies:

- a. To all competition Matches for ages up to and including Under 17s; and
 - b. Where the score differential between teams, at half time or three-quarter time, is equal to or exceeds:
 - i. Ninety (90) points for Youth ages (Under 13 to Under 17); or
 - ii. Sixty (60) points for Junior ages (Under 11 & Under 12)
- (B) This rule does not apply where the score differential is reached in the last quarter.
- (C) Where the score differential has reached that stated in By-Law 11.17(A), the Goal Umpires are to confer and notify the Field Umpire(s) at the end of the relevant quarter.
- (D) The Field Umpire is to:
- a. Instruct the Goal Umpires and any scoreboard attendants to cease further recording of any scores for the remainder of the Match; and
 - b. Advise both teams' Coaches of this.
- (E) The Match shall continue for the remainder of the allocated time of play, with the Coaches encouraged to even-up the skill levels of the teams.
- (F) The official recorded result for the Match shall be scores of each team at the time the Spirit of the Game Rule was applied.

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.
- (B) Restrictions applied to Suspended Players and Coaches are outlined in the Regulations.
- (C) Coaches of Junior and Youth Teams must be easily identifiable by the wearing of a vest as prescribed by the League (see Appendix “F”).

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).
- (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 unless submission of any of the Match Day paperwork is completed online by the Umpires.

Document	Distribute To
Scorecards	Club goal umpires
Send Off Form	Timekeeper
Timekeepers Card	Timekeeper
Envelope	Field umpires
Umpires Match Report	Field umpires
Best & Fairest Vote Slips	Field umpires

- (E) The ground manager should also have on hand an Umpire Reporting Booklet for Club Umpires wishing to make any reports, where an on-line system is not being used.
- (F) At the completion of each Match, the ground manager should collect all the following documentation unless the tasks for Umpires are completed on-line.

From Umpires	From Timekeepers
Sealed Envelope (Note 1)	Completed Team Lists (Note 2)
Umpire Player Report Form (if any)	Send Off Form
Goal umpire scorecards	Timekeepers Card & Scorecard

Note 1: The Umpires Sealed Envelope will include a copy of each Clubs Team Sheet, the Umpires Match Report & Best & Fairest Voting Slip. This envelope is to remain sealed.

Note 2: 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 ensure it is sent to the League in the prescribed manner. A hardcopy of all Matchday paperwork is to be retained by the Club for a period of four (4) weeks after the conclusion of the Season.
- (I) It shall be the ground manager's responsibility to ensure that a representative of the Host Club 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 the League designated time on the day of the Match.
- (J) The Ground Manager must be easily identifiable to all in attendance at the ground and wear a vest as detailed in Appendix "F".

12.3 Team Managers

- (A) Each Club shall appoint a team manager for each Team it fields in the Competition. It shall be the team manager's responsibility to ensure that his/her Team's Players and Officials comply with the requirements specified in these By-Laws and with any request reasonably made by the Umpires officiating in a Match in which their Team is participating.
- (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 a competition Match, the goal kickers and best Players for their respective Teams, and quarter by quarter scores, are noted on the official Team sheet, which is held by the timekeeper / ground manager.
- (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".
- (E) Team Managers must be easily identifiable. In Junior and Youth competitions, Team Managers must wear a vest as detailed in Appendix "F".

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 be clearly identifiable by wearing a vest or shirt as detailed in Appendix "F". Runners must wear appropriate enclosed footwear, e.g. running shoes or football boots.
- (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 clearly identifiable by wearing a vest as detailed in Appendix "F".
- (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 an age approved by the League.

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) to and from the venue at the commencement of and conclusion of each quarter and at the commencement and conclusion of the match as designated by the League.
- (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 be identifiable as required by the League.
- (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. The ground manager may perform the duties of timekeeper.
- (B) The away Club is entitled to also appoint or supply a timekeeper for each Match.
- (C) The timekeeper(s) are to perform the duties as set out in the Laws of the Game, these By-Laws and AFL NSW / ACT 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) 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 Players 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.

- (F) 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 for in By-Laws 12.4 and 12.5 each Team may have a Team Manager and a maximum of three Coaching staff (who must be listed on the Team Sheet) on the bench area inside the ground during play.

12.9 Players seeking to play up a Competition Age Group (Juniors)

- (B) Not applicable. Moved to By-law 9.6.

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:

Age Group	Minimum Competency	Recommended
Junior (U9 to U12)	First Aid Certificate	Qualified Sports Trainer
Youth (U13 to U17)	Emergency Response Coordinator	Qualified Sports Trainer
Senior	Emergency Response Coordinator	Qualified Sports Trainer

- (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 dollars (\$200).
- (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 occupations, 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) The Host Club must ensure there is:
 - a. A “scoop” or similar stretcher in good condition located in a quickly accessible location for the duration of each match; and
 - b. proper ambulance access to the field of play, if necessary; and
 - c. an appropriately and adequately stocked first aid kit.
- (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) An Emergency Response Coordinator must hold a current certificate and should be clearly identifiable by wearing a vest as detailed in Appendix “F”.

12.11 Concussion

- (A) Management of concussion should be in accordance with the Management of Concussion in Australian Football which can be found at: www.aflcommunityclub.com.au/index.php?id=66
- (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:
 - (i) must be medically assessed as soon as possible after the injury or incident, and
 - (ii) 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 (2) 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 (2) 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) Umpire payments will only be paid to those Umpires who submit the Umpires Match Report using the online report facility.
- (B) In the event of a Match being cancelled, other than because of forfeit as provided for in By-Law 5.5 (G), no payment shall be due to the Umpires appointed to the Match.
- (C) The process for payment of the umpires will be determined by the League.

13.7 Umpire's Match Report

- (A) At the conclusion of each Match, the field umpire(s) shall provide an Umpires Match Report to the Competition Management Committee via the online facility. If it is not practicable for an Umpire to complete the Report immediately following the Match, the Report must be submitted by no later than 7.00pm (10.00pm for night game) on the day of the match.
- (B) The field umpires shall also complete the best & fairest player voting online.
- (C) Not applicable

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.

13.9 Minimum Umpire Age

- (A) Subject to By-Law 13.9 (B), the Competition Management Committee will determine the minimum age of field and boundary and goal umpires (both League and Club appointed Umpires) for all open age and under-age Competitions.
- (B) The age of a League or Club appointed field umpire of a Junior Match must be:
 - a. a minimum of fourteen (14) years old unless agreed otherwise by the AFLNSW/ACT Umpiring Department; and
 - b. at least two (2) years older than the age group being officiated unless otherwise approved by AFL NSW/ACT Umpiring Department. For example, the Umpire should be a minimum of fifteen (15) years of age for an Under 13 Match.

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) Where the League has not appointed official field umpires or accredited Club Umpires, it shall be each Club's responsibility to arrange for a suitable person or persons to umpire the Match. Club field umpires must be registered and accredited in accordance with League requirements.
- (C) Club field umpires are required to complete all the necessary Match Paperwork e.g. Umpires Match Report (to be completed via the online facility) including 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 a 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 Umpires are to be attired / equipped as follows:
 - a. Club field umpires – attired in a 'green umpire shirt', black shorts and runners or football boots and equipped with a suitable whistle;
 - b. Club boundary umpires – attired in white shirt, club shorts, runners or football boots and equipped with a suitable whistle.
 - c. Club goal umpires – attired in a uniform approved by the League and equipped with two white flags.

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 AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines.
- (B) For the purposes of Section 3 of the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines, 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 AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines when lodging a report.

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 13.13A 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 prescribed penalty system will operate in the Competitions in accordance with Appendix “A” of these By-Laws.

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 his/her 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.

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 evidence or otherwise, the League Designate may report such person and refer the matter to the Tribunal for hearing and determination by the 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) Report where Notice of Report not completed – Juniors
- a. This Rule applies where a Player is sent off twice or more in a season (i.e. yellow and/or red cards), but the Umpire has not completed a Notice of Report in any sending off. Following the Player being sent off for the second time, the Player will automatically receive a one Match playing suspension. The League will inform the Club President or delegate of the Player and the Tribunal Chairperson as soon as reasonably practical following the Match of the referral.
 - b. Where a Player receives notice of an automatic playing suspension as provided by this Rule, the Player may, through the Club President or delegate, request the automatic suspension be referred to the Tribunal for hearing. The Tribunal may impose such conditions on the Player as it deems appropriate, pending the hearing. The Tribunal may, after the hearing, affirm or vary the suspension (including increasing the suspension), or apply any other penalty as it deems appropriate.

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.
- 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 two (2) matches in accordance with the grading table contained in the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines, 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) After advising of its intention to submit an Incident Referral Form in accordance with By-Law 14.8 (A), the citing Club may request extra time to negotiate an outcome with the opposing Club. In such circumstances, an agreed outcome is required to be received by the League in writing by Sunday 5.00pm following the incident and is subject to approval by the League.
- (D) Any and each such citing by a Club must be accompanied by a two hundred and fifty (250) dollar citing fee of which one hundred and twenty five (125) dollars of the citing fee is not refundable. The fee may be forfeited in full 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.
- (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) A Club may request the Competition Management Committee to review footage of an incident by submitting a non-refundable fee of one-hundred and twenty five (125) dollars. 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 seven (7) days. If the Competition Management Committee decide to proceed the matter further the Club is not required to submit a citing.
- (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 annually by the League in accordance with the requirements in the AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines 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 or the State & Territory Disciplinary Committee Guidelines NSW/ACT (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) Attendance and provision of evidence at a Tribunal hearing is provided for under AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines and State & Territory Disciplinary Committee Guidelines.
- (B) Legal representatives are permitted to attend Tribunal hearings, but are not permitted to act as a Player, Official or umpire advocate unless agreed to by the Tribunal Chair.
- (C) The Tribunal has jurisdiction over any Player whether registered, unregistered or ineligible as the case may be.

14.11 Report of Junior Players

The procedures for handling of reports of Junior Players 9 to 12 year's old and any subsequent disciplinary processes will be determined by the League.

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 (1000) dollars and forfeit past or future Match points.

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:
- a. For South Coast Senior Competition Matches, cannot be replaced for the duration of the send-off period.
 - b. For Sapphire Coast Senior Competition Matches, can be replaced immediately.
 - c. For Junior and Youth Matches, 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) Players who are ordered from the field of play with a red card cannot be replaced at any stage of the remainder of the game except as follows:
- a. For Sapphire Coast Competition Matches, can be replaced after a 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. The offending Player's Club is responsible for obtaining approval from the timekeepers for the replacement Player to resume playing
- (E) Not applicable.
- (F) An Official reported for a breach of the Laws of the Game will automatically be issued with red card and 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

16.1 Appeal Process

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 AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines, 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 League will determine a schedule the fines that may to be imposed for specific operational breaches of the By-Laws as follows.

Breach	Fine
Code of Conduct	
<i>Code of Conduct breach as per AFL NSW/ACT Regulations Appendix A</i>	\$500 or \$750 or \$1,000
<i>Statement breach</i>	Maximum \$1,000
Administration	
<i>Any administration breach – no warnings</i>	\$100 to \$500
Match Day	
<i>Maximum of 2 warnings for any match day breach in a season</i>	\$0
<i>Each additional breach</i>	\$50 fine per breach

- (B) Notwithstanding 17.2(A), the Competition Management Committee may impose such sanctions as it sees fit.
- (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, 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.
- (C) Any club that is financially in arrears to the league leading into finals will be ineligible to take their place in finals unless the club is under a payment scheme under By-Law 17.3 (B).

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 by 31 January each year, or as otherwise designated by the League in the Club Licence Agreement or Club Participation 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 the 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 Marsh (formerly '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 Marsh (formerly 'JLT Sport'). Specific details of cover shall be provided to Clubs each year and can also be viewed at <https://afl.jltsport.com.au/>

18. ELECTRONIC AND OTHER IMAGES GUIDELINES

18.1 Recording of Images

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

19.1 Awards Presentation

Each season, the Competition Management Committee shall arrange for the presentation of designated awards.

19.2 Best & Fairest Eligibility

Any Player who has been suspended for any offence in the home and away season will not be eligible to win a Competition Best and Fairest award.

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 League will be as designated by the League. The design of the League's representative jumpers is 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 Matters not provided for

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.

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 10.00 am on the Monday 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: AFLSC Football Operations Coordinator
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 AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines, or as otherwise determined by the Competition Management Committee 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 AFL NSW/ACT Tribunal Guidelines is the reason for the citing use the table below to indicate the level of conduct alleged.

Conduct	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 / Umpires Observer / Umpires 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)

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” – Player Points System Policy for South Coast Men’s Premier Division

Attached separately

Appendix “E” – Player Points System Policy for Sapphire Coast Men’s Division One

Attached separately

Appendix “F” – OFFICIALS & TEAM SUPPORT STAFF DRESS REQUIREMENTS

Officials & Team Support Staff Dress Requirements

As required by By-Law 12, all listed team officials are wear vests or shirts, as detailed in the tables below, for the duration of any Match for which they are officiating.

Seniors

Role	Colour of Vest / Shirt	Wording on Vest (Must be clearly visible in white)
Ground Manager	Yellow	GROUND MANAGER
Runner	Pink	RUNNER
Water Carrier	Sky Blue	WATER OR WATER CARRIER
Trainer	White	TRAINER

Juniors & Youth

Role	Colour of Vest / Shirt	Wording on Vest (Must be clearly visible in white)
Ground Manager	Yellow	GROUND MANAGER
ERC	Orange	ERC
First Aid	Red	FIRST AID
Coach	Blue	COACH
Runner	Pink	RUNNER
Water Carriers	Light Blue	WATER or WATER CARRIER
Team Manager	Maroon	MANAGER or TEAM MANAGER