



# Competition Rules

## Season 2018 – Junior Football

(Revised on 30/03/2018)



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## DEFINITIONS

**Away Team** means the Team that is the second named on the draw.

**Board** means the body made up of elected Directors of the Federation.

**Club** means any Club registered with FFA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations from time to time. A reference to Club includes a Club admitted by a Competition Administrator to field a Team in a Competition.

**Club Official** means any person involved with the administration, management or organisation of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, consultants, officers and directors and representatives.

**Code of Conduct** means the national football code of conduct as promulgated by FFA from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on [www.footballaustralia.com.au](http://www.footballaustralia.com.au) or on request).

**Competition** means any Competition or tournament registered with FFA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations for the Federation, including the pre-Season, Season proper, finals series and any post Season tournament or knockout cup Competition.

**Competition Administrator** means the entity responsible for the conduct and staging of a Competition.

**Competition Rules** means the rules governing the administration and conduct of a Competition under the auspices of the Federation.

**Delegate** means the representative nominated by a Club to represent that Club at meetings and to be authorised to deal with the Competition Administrator or Federation regarding Club issues.

**Disciplinary Committee** means the FFNT Disciplinary Committee constituted in accordance with the Grievance Resolution Regulations that has jurisdiction over the Competition.

**Disciplinary Regulations** means the national football disciplinary regulations as promulgated by FFA from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on [www.footballaustralia.com.au](http://www.footballaustralia.com.au) or on request).

**Federation or FFNT** means the Football Federation Northern Territory Incorporated.

**FFA Statutes** means FFA's statutes and regulations as promulgated by FFA from time to time, including its constitution and by-laws and rules, and policies and procedures.

FIFA or Federation Internationale de Football Association means the world governing body of Football.

**FFA or Football Federation Australia** means the governing body of Football in Australia.

**FIFA Statutes** mean the statutes and accompanying standing orders and regulations promulgated by FIFA from time to time, including the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players, Code of Ethics, Disciplinary Code, Players' Agents Rules and Regulations Governing Match Agents.

**Grievance Resolution Regulations** means the regulations promulgated by FFA from time to time setting out the procedures applying to grievances and disputes in football (which can be obtained on [www.footballaustralia.com.au](http://www.footballaustralia.com.au) or on request).

**Home Team** means the Team that is the first named on the draw.

**Institute** means any national, state or territory institute or academy of sport that has a football program including any national training centre implemented by either FFA or a Member Federation.

**Junior** means Matches or Competitions including Small Sided Football and up to but not including Youth.

**Laws of the Game** means the laws governing or regulating the playing of Football as determined by FIFA, FFA, Federation and local rules as adopted from time to time.

**Match** means any Match staged, participated in, sanctioned by or played under the auspices of FFA, a Member Federation or a Competition Administrator.

**Match Official** means a Referee, assistant Referee, fourth official, Match commissioner, Referee inspector, selector, any person in charge of safety or any other person appointed by FFA, a Member Federation or a Competition Administrator to assume responsibility in connection with a Match.

**MyFootballClub** means the national registration system provided by Football Federation Australia.

**Office of the Federation** means the postal address of the Federation being GPO Box 3105 Darwin NT 0801.

**Officer of the Federation** means any Board Member or employee of the Federation.

**Official** means any Club Official and/ or Team Official.

**Player** means any person who is, from time to time, registered to a Club whether that person is male or female, junior or senior or an Amateur or Professional.

**Registrar** means a person appointed by a Club as their representative for all matters relating to Player registrations.

**Referee** means a Referee duly appointed to officiate at a Match.

**Registration Period** means the period of time in which a Player must be registered with a Club as specified in these Rules.

**Regular Season** means the Matches played between the Clubs during the Season to determine the Clubs that compete in the Finals Series, and includes all Matches played in the Season that are not in the Pre-Season, Cup Competitions or the Finals Series.

**Representative Team** means a Team representing a State or Territory, a region, or an Institute that participates in a Competition.

**Ring In** means a Player who plays under the name of another registered Player's name or a false name.

**Rules** means Competition Rules.

**Season** means the period of time starting with the first Match of a Competition and ending on the last Match of that Competition.

**Senior** means Matches or Competitions for open-aged males or females and Youth Competitions.

**Team** means a squad of Players from a single Club competing in an authorised Federation Competition.

**Team Sheet** refers to Team Sheets or Match Cards.

**Team Official** means any personnel involved with the management, preparation or participation of a Club's Team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff (including Team or Match day doctor), physiotherapists, gear persons and other support staff.

**Weekday Fixture** means a Match scheduled to be played on a day other than those defined as a Weekend Fixture.

**Weekend Fixture** means a Match scheduled to be played on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday and on a Monday where that day is classified as a public holiday.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of these Rules is to assist in the administration of Competitions under the control of Football Federation Northern Territory (*Federation*).

### **1.2 INTERPRETATIONS**

The Federation and Competition Administrator shall be at all times empowered to interpret these Rules to make such rulings as are deemed appropriate in the circumstances. Such rulings are to be documented and are subject to the appeal processes provided for within these Rules.

### **1.3 COMPETITION MANAGEMENT**

1.3.1 Football Federation Northern Territory is the Competition Administrator who will be responsible for the management of all Competitions.

1.3.2 The Competition Administrator will at all times ensure its objectives are consistent with the objectives of the Federation.

1.3.3 The Competition Administrator shall deal with Clubs, Officials and/ or Players in respect of offences and/ or complaints and with any matter not otherwise specifically provided for in these Rules including Clubs being held to account for the actions of its Officials, Players and/ or supporters. After an inquiry if the Competition Administrator deems a Club has committed a breach of the provisions of these Rules or conducted itself in a matter prejudicial to the interests of football they may refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee and to make recommendations to the Federation.

### **1.4 IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS**

1.4.1 The Federation and Competition Administrator shall be empowered to impose sanctions in accordance with these Rules and Part V of the FFA Statutes. The sanction may be, but limited to, a reprimand, fine, loss of points or expulsion from a Competition. Clubs, Officials or Players shall be entitled to appeal against a sanction pursuant to these Rules and Grievance Resolution Regulations.

### **1.5 BROADCAST MATCHES – COPYRIGHT**

The copyright for all Matches under the jurisdiction of the Federation shall remain with the Federation. No such Match shall be recorded, telecast, streamed or broadcast without the prior written consent of the Federation.



## **2. REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS AND CLUBS**

### **2.1 PLAYERS**

- 2.1.1 All Players must be registered in accordance with the National Registration Regulations.
- 2.1.2 For a registration to be deemed valid the Club Registrar must set the Player's status as being "Active".

### **2.2 MATCH OFFICIALS**

- 2.2.1 All Match Officials must be registered in accordance with the National Registration Regulations.

### **2.3 CLUB OFFICIALS AND TEAM OFFICIALS**

- 2.3.1 All Club Officials and Team Officials must be registered in MyFootballClub.

### **2.4 CLUBS**

- 2.4.1 Each Club must be registered with FFA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations, including:
  - a) by completing the Prescribed Form NRR 02 – Application for Registration of Football Club located at [www.footballaustralia.com.au](http://www.footballaustralia.com.au). Tab on About FFA then tab on Statutes and Regulations.
  - b) for a newly formed Club, completing and lodging this form to the Federation prior to the commencement of their inaugural Season.
- 2.4.2
  - a) All Club names must be approved by the Federation.
  - b) Every Club shall complete the FFA NCAS Level 1 accreditation process by June 2019.
- 2.4.3 A Club must apply to the Competition Administrator for approval in order to enter a Competition under the jurisdiction of the Federation.
- 2.4.4 Each Club shall register its playing uniform with the Federation prior to the commencement of the Season. This shall include the shirt, shorts and socks.
- 2.4.5 Junior Clubs/Junior teams are **not** required to nominate a "Home" and "Alternate" playing uniform.
- 2.4.6 The Federation may require a Club to lodge a bond to compete in Competitions. Any such bond is be required to be paid prior to any Team representing that Club participating in any Competition including pre-Season or friendly Matches.

### **2.5 REGISTRATION PERIODS**

- 2.5.1 Junior Amateur Players can only be registered between 1 January and the last day of the regular Season.

**2.6 REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

2.6.1 A Player's registration must be made active by the Club via MyFootballClub at **least two (2)** working days before the scheduled match for that player to be eligible to play in the match.

**2.7 PRIORITY OF REGISTRATION**

2.7.1 A Player can only be registered with one Club at a time in accordance with the National Registration Regulations.

2.7.2 If a Player registers with more than one Club priority of registration shall be accorded to the Club that registered the Player in accordance with the National Registration Regulations.

2.7.3 A Club that knowingly induces a Player to sign a FFA registration form in the knowledge that the Player has already registered with another Club shall be fined \$250.

2.7.4 The Federation, at its discretion, may sanction a Player that is registered for more than one Club at any given time in the Season. Note: Dual Registration can exist between a Club and the National Training Centre program.

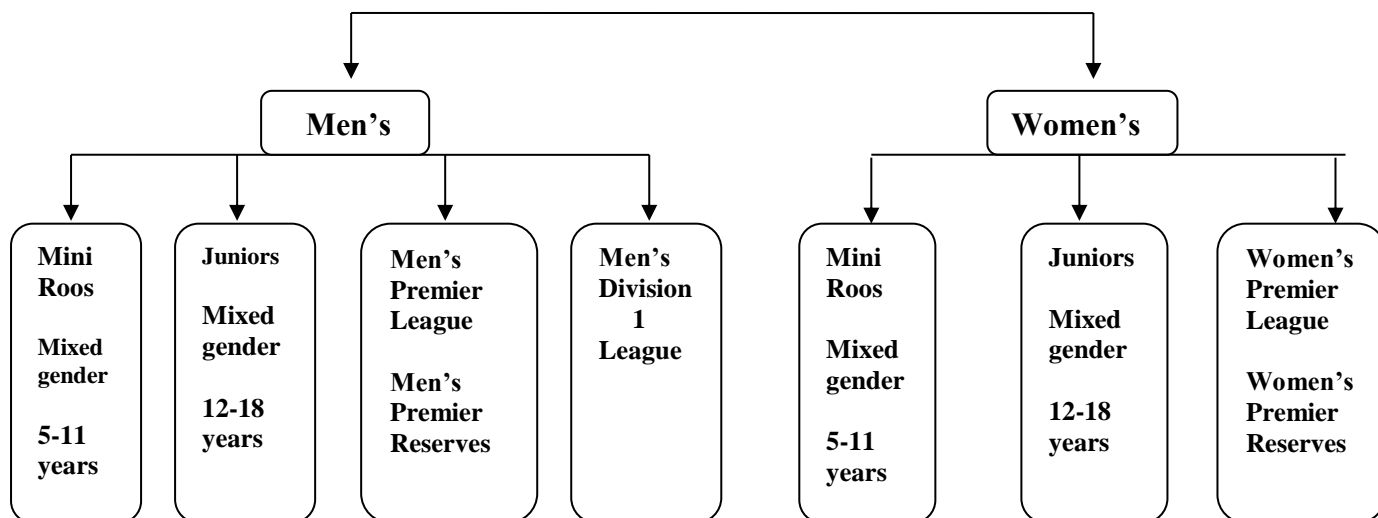
### 3. COMPETITIONS

#### 3.1 COMPETITION STRUCTURE AND NOMINATIONS

3.1.1 The Federation will conduct Competitions for Juniors and MiniRoos in consultation with the Clubs participating in the Competitions and based on the annual Team registrations for the relevant Competition Season.

3.1.2 Clubs are required to nominate Teams to be included into Competitions. The last date for Clubs to submit their nominations to the Competition Administrator is 16 March 2018.

Team Nominations' extension deadline will be 29 March 2018. Any requests to change after this date will incur a \$250 administration levy.



### **3.2 INSTITUTE AND NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE (NTC) TEAMS**

- 3.2.1 Institute and NTC Teams may apply to participate in a Competition. The Competition Administrator and the Federation will allocate these Teams to the most appropriate Competition. NTC Teams in the Junior Competition will play for points and at the discretion of the Competition Administrator may be eligible for their respective Final Series.

### **3.3 JUNIOR and MINIROOS COMPETITION**

The Junior Competition, NorZone 12's and Under to NorZone 18's and Under will be competition based. Teams will be placed into age divisions and a **minimum** of 14 rounds shall be organised for each division. Where sufficient team numbers exist, a girls' only competition shall be organised. A final series shall be organised for each competition.

NorZone 12's and Under – Players born 2006 & 2007

(NorZone 13's and Under (Girls Only) - Players born 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008)

NorZone 14's and Under – Players born 2004 & 2005

NorZone 16's and Under – Players born 2002 & 2003

NorZone 18's and Under – Players born 2000 & 2001

NorZone 6's and Under to NorZone 11's and Under are compulsory MiniRoos games for all teams. These are non- competition games.

NorZone 6's and Under – Players born 2012 & 2013

NorZone 7's and Under – Players born 2011

NorZone 8's and Under – Players born 2010

NorZone 9's and Under – Players born 2009

NorZone 10's and Under – Players born 2008

NorZone 11's and Under – Players born 2007

### **3.4 ALTERATIONS TO DRAWS**

- 3.4.1 Once fixtures have been published, no changes may be made unless otherwise provided for in these rules. A club may request a fixture change if it can demonstrate exceptional circumstances, in writing, not less than four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled kick-off date.

This request may or may not be approved by FFNT at its discretion.

- 3.4.2 Any request for a fixture change must be accompanied by written consent from the opposition club.

- 3.4.3 Failure to comply with 3.4.2 may result in the request being rejected outright without further consideration.

- 3.4.4 The Competition Administrator shall determine the date, time and venue for any re-scheduled Match to be played. The Club that requested the re-scheduling of the Match shall meet any and all costs incurred as a result of the re-scheduling of the Match.

- 3.4.5 All rescheduled Matches **must** be played prior to the last Competition round of the regular Season.

3.4.6 Decisions of the Competition Administrator under Rule 3.4 shall be binding and non-appealable.

### 3.5 REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

3.5.1 In the event of a Team having three (3) or more Players selected in a Federation Representative Team, the Club shall have the right to apply to the Competition Administrator for a deferment of Match(es) affected, or likely to be affected, by the selection of those Players. Such requests are not subject to the minimum timeframes specified in Rule 3.4.

3.5.2 Decisions of the Competition Administrator under Rule 3.5 shall be binding and non-appealable.

### 3.6 POSTPONED MATCHES

3.6.1 In the event of a Match not being played due to weather or other causes over which neither Team has any control, or in the event of a Match ordered to be replayed, the Match shall be played as determined by the Competition Administrator.

3.6.2 The Competition Administrator shall notify the Clubs within five (5) days of the postponement and shall provide a minimum three (3) days' notice of the time and venue of the postponed Match.

3.6.3 All postponed Matches shall be played prior to the last Competition round of the regular Season.

3.6.4 Decisions of the Competition Administrator under Rule 3.6 shall be binding and non-appealable.

### 3.7 TEAMS WITHDRAWING OR EXPELLED FROM COMPETITIONS

3.7.1 For the purpose of this Rule the term "removed" shall include a Team that has withdrawn or been expelled from a Competition.

3.7.2 If a Team is removed from a Competition on or before the point of the Season at which all Teams have played each other once a "bye" will be inserted to replace the removed Team in the fixture list, and all points along with goals scored (for & against) that Team will be erased. Any Player votes gained in Matches involving the removed Team **will be erased**.

3.7.3 If a Team is removed after the point of the Season at which all Teams have played each other once a "bye" will be inserted to replace the removed Team in the fixture, and:

- a. all points along with goals scored for & against that Team **will be erased** after the point of the Season at which all Teams have played each other once.
- b. All points along with goals scored (for & against) that Team after the point of the season at which all Teams have played each other once **will also be erased**.

**3.8 MATCH POINTS**

3.8.1 In all Junior Competition, NorZone 12's and Under to NorZone 18's and Under, fixtures where points are accrued Match points will be awarded as follows:

Win	3 points
Draw	1 points
Loss	0 points
Bye	0 points
No Result	0 points

3.8.2 The Competition Administrator reserves the right to record any fixture as a "No Result".

3.8.3 The Team with the greatest number of points at the end of the Regular Season shall be declared "Premiers".

3.8.4 If two (2) or more Teams are level on points at the end of the Regular Season the following criteria shall be applied, in order, until one of the Teams can be determined as the higher ranked:

- i) highest goal difference;
- ii) lowest number of red cards accumulated;
- iii) lowest number of yellow cards accumulated;
- iv) highest number of goals scored;
- v) highest number of points accumulated in Matches between the Teams concerned;
- vi) highest goal difference in Matches between the Teams concerned;
- vii) highest number of goals scored in Matches between the Teams concerned;
- viii) toss of a coin.

3.8.5 Norzone 6's and Under to NorZone 11's and Under there are no points awarded as these games are non-competitive. There are no tables for these groups.

**3.9 FINALS SERIES FOR JUNIOR COMPETITIONS**

3.9.1 To be eligible to play for a Team in the final series a Player must have played a minimum of five (5) Matches for that Team during the current Season.

3.9.2 Cup Matches are not included when determining the number of Matches played.

3.9.3 A Player can qualify for Two (2) final series. Once a Player has registered in that Competition they can play in that Competition's final series. Players are also eligible to play in the final series directly above their registered age group. (e.g. NorZone 14's and Under can also play in NorZone 16's and Under as long as they eligible by rule 3.9.1)

Should a Team eligible for the final series be unable to participate then the Competition Administrator may replace that Team with the next best placed Team from the same Competition.

3.9.4 Teams that placed third and fourth shall play in the Minor Semi-Final;

Teams that placed first and second shall play in the Major Semi-Final with the winning Team proceeding directly to the Grand Final;

The losing Team in the Qualifying Final and the winner of the Minor Semi-Final shall play in the Preliminary Final.

The winner of the Preliminary Final plays the winner of the Qualifying Final in the Grand Final.

The winner of the Grand Final shall be the "Champion".

3.9.5 If scores remain level at the conclusion of normal playing time, the winner shall be determined by penalty kicks in accordance with Laws of the Game.

**3.10 VENUES**

3.10.1 The Federation, in consultation with Clubs, shall have the power to determine venues for all Competitions.

## **4. MATCH DAY**

### **4.1 AGE ELIGIBILITY**

All players must be eligible as at the 1<sup>st</sup> of January to play in a youth competition, for example a player who is 12 as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, may play 13's and Under, but a player who is 13 as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of January cannot.

A MiniRoos Player must start the season in the competition according to their date of birth and is eligible to play up in the next age group only. A MiniRoos Player who would like to play two (2) years above their age group will be required to be assessed by the FFNT Technical Department.

#### **Player assessments are not required for the following;**

A Junior Player born 2006 can register in the NorZone 12's and Under or NorZone 14's and Under

A Junior Player born 2005 can register in the NorZone 14's and Under or Norzone 16's and Under

A Junior Player born 2002 can register in the NorZone 14's and Under, NorZone 16's and Under or Norzone 18's and Under

A junior player born 2002 or 2003 can register for the NorZone 16's and Under, NorZone 18's and Under and Seniors (Men's Premier League, Reserves and All-Age)

#### **Player assessments are required for the following;**

A Junior Player born 2006 wishing to play in the Norzone 16's and Under,

A Junior Player born 2005 wishing to play in the Norzone 18's and Under,

A Junior Player born 2004 wishing to play in the Norzone Seniors and Under,

#### **A Junior Player wishing to play down an age group.**

A (Junior or MiniRoos) player with a disability can play down two (2) years below their date of birth with an assessment upon request.

Female players are permitted to be registered to the age group below their birth year in a dual gender team. After assessment overage female players would be able to play in the 13's and Under sole gender competition.

### **4.2 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

4.2.1 A Player is only eligible to play in a Match for a Club once they:

- a. have been registered in accordance with the National Registration Regulations;
- b. has paid their full registration fee plus all outstanding moneys owed to the to the Federation and Competition Administrator or a Member Club;
- c. are not subject to a suspension;



- d. meet the applicable Competitions age group and gender guidelines; and
- e. meet Competition requirements for finals series where applicable.

4.2.2 It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure the eligibility of its Players in accordance with these Rules.

4.2.3 A MiniRoos Player can play in the same age group if the club has two (2) teams in that division or up an age group as a fill-in but cannot play down an age group as a fill-in.

4.2.4 Where a Club has more than one Team in the same Junior Competition Age Group the club must nominate which Players play for each Team. Players are eligible to play up for their Junior club but not eligible to play for the other team in the same division or a lower division. If a club needs to transfer a player between teams they have in the same division an email to the Competition Administrator is required stating the reason for the transfer. Once approved the player may change teams. Players can only transfer once in a season.

4.2.5 If there is a dispute about the eligibility of any Player, the Match Official shall note the details on the Team Sheet and submit the Team Sheet to the Competition Administrator.

4.2.6 Any Club that wishes to lodge an official protest regarding the eligibility of a Player shall do so in accordance with these Rules.

4.2.7 Any Club **found to have** played an ineligible Player shall be fined \$100 and **the Match shall be awarded** to the opposing Team with a score of 3-0 or the actual score of the Match whichever is the greater.

4.2.8 Any Club found to have knowingly or willfully engaged in the "Ring-In" of a Player or Players in any Match shall be fined \$250 and the Match shall be awarded to the opposing Team with a 3-0 score or the actual score of the Match whichever is the greater. The Club may also be cited to appear before the Disciplinary Committee.

4.2.9 Repeat offenders may incur additional sanctions as determined by the Competition Administrator at their discretion.

### **4.3 DETERMINATION OF MATCHES PLAYED**

Only Players who are recorded onto the official match card may take to the field of play during a Match. Players listed on an official match card shall be deemed to have **actually participated** when calculating the number of qualifying Matches played. The official Team Sheet shall be the sole record and determinant of Matches played.

### **4.4 NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

4.4.1 A Competition Match may not start if either Team consists of fewer than seven (7) Players.

4.4.2 A Competition Match may not continue if either Team has fewer seven (7) Players.

4.4.3 If a Match has commenced and is subsequently abandoned due to a Team being reduced to fewer than seven (7) Players, then the offending Team shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match and shall be sanctioned in accordance with Rule 4.12.

#### **4.5 DURATION OF MATCHES**

4.5.1 The duration of all Matches shall be as specified in Appendix A unless otherwise specified in the playing conditions of the Competition.

#### **4.6 FAILURE TO PLAY A MATCH**

4.6.1 Any Team who without just cause fails to play a Match at the appointed date and time shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match.

4.6.2 Any Team who has forfeited three (3) consecutive Matches shall be asked to show cause as to why they should not be suspended or expelled from the Competition.

#### **4.7 ABANDONED MATCHES**

4.7.1 Matches in any Competition including final series may only be abandoned by a decision of the Match Official.

4.7.2 A Team, or members thereof, or supporters of the team who due to their conduct, cause a Match to be abandoned shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match.

4.7.3 If both Teams are responsible for conduct that leads to the abandonment of a Match then the Match shall be deemed a “no contest” and no points shall be awarded to either Teams or Player points gained from the Match. Additional sanctions may also be imposed.

4.7.4 If a Match has been abandoned then Match reports are required to be submitted to the Competition Administrator by Match Officials and Team officials by 5.00pm of the second business day following the Match.

4.7.5 If 72 minutes or more of normal time of a Match has been played then the score at the time of abandonment will stand. (Note: Normal time does not include halftime or time added.)

4.7.6 If less than 72 minutes of normal time of a Match has been played before the time of abandonment, then the Match will be replayed in full at a time and venue to be determined by the Competition Administrator.

#### **4.8 TEAM SHEETS**

4.8.1 Each Team shall complete a Team Sheet to the match Referee prior to the commencement of the Match.

4.8.1 (a) Teams in MiniRoos and Junior Competitions shall use the ‘Team Sheet’ format prescribed by the Competition Administrator.

4.8.2 Players **cannot** be added to the Team Card after the commencement of a Competitive Match.

4.8.3 The Team Card shall contain:

- a. The first name and surname of all Players taking part in the Match including substitutes;
- b. The Player’s shirt number;

c. The first name and surname of the Team Coach and Manager.

- 4.8.4 The maximum number of Players that can be listed per Team on a Team Card is specified in Appendix A.
- 4.8.5 The numbers on the back of shirts shall correspond with the numbers on a Team Card and any change to that number may only be done with approval of the match Referee.
- 4.8.6 The only Players entitled to play in any Match are those registered Players who are listed on the Team Card at the commencement of the Match.
- 4.8.6 (a) Teams that play a Player contrary to this Rule shall be deemed to have played an ineligible Player.
- 4.8.7 The completed Team Card shall be uploaded onto Sports TG before the scheduled kick-off in accordance with the schedule outlined in Appendix A. Clubs found to be in breach of this rule shall be fined \$50 per offence.
- 4.8.8 At the conclusion of the Match the Referee shall note the scores at half time and full time, the goal scorers, any disciplinary action then sign the Team Card and lodge it with the Competition Administrator.
- 4.8.9 When a Player has been cautioned or sent off the Referee shall note on the Team Card the appropriate offence code for which the Player was cautioned or sent off. The Referee must submit an Incident Report for the send-off offence to the Competition Administrator in accordance with Rule 4.15.

**4.9 MATCH BALLS**

The Home Team shall provide the Match Officials with three (3) Match ball(s) or approved equivalent in accordance with Appendix A.  
Clubs found to be in breach shall be fined \$50 per offence.

**4.10 MATCH OFFICIALS**

- 4.10.1 FFA accredited Match Officials shall be supplied wherever possible and subject to available numbers as follows:

Junior Matches	One Centre Referee, two Assistant Referees
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- 4.10.2 Teams are obliged to play Matches regardless when FFA accredited Match Officials are not present to officiate. All matches shall commence no later than ten (10) minutes after the scheduled kick-off time.
- 4.10.3 Where no FFA accredited Match Officials are appointed to Referee Junior Matches it becomes the responsibility of the Home Team (as named in the Competition fixture list) to provide a non-accredited Centre Referee within five (5) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time. The non-accredited Centre Referee shall determine if there is a requirement for non-accredited Assistant Referees for the match to proceed.

4.10.4 Where a non-accredited Centre Referee determines that Assistant Referees are required for the match to proceed, it is the responsibility of each participating team to provide one Assistant Referee within five (5) minutes of receiving this request.

4.10.5 (a) In the event that the Home Team fails to provide a Match Official(s) in accordance with this Rule or refuses to participate in any Match in accordance with this Rule, the Home Team shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match and in addition shall have two (2) competition points deducted.

(b) In the event that both Teams fail to provide a Match Official(s) or refuse to participate in any Match in accordance with this Rule, the Competition Administrator shall award a no result and in addition both Teams shall have two (2) competition points deducted.

#### **4.11 FORFEITS**

4.11.1 Where a Match has been declared a forfeit the Match shall be recorded as a win to the opposing Team with a score of 3-0.

4.11.2 Any Team deciding to forfeit a scheduled Match shall inform the Competition Administrator in writing by 5pm of the Wednesday prior to a weekend fixture or no later than 2 working days prior to the scheduled kick-off time of a weekday fixture.

4.11.2 (a) A Team failing to notify the Competition Administrator within the required time shall have one (1) competition point deducted.

4.11.3 A Team not ready to commence a Match within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time the Team shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match and shall have one (1) competition point deducted.

4.11.3 (a) Where a Team has fewer than the minimum number of Players required for a Match the Match shall be awarded to the opposing Team with a score of 3-0 or the actual score of the Match whichever is the greater.

4.11.4 Where a Match is forfeited under this Rule any officially appointed Match Officials shall be entitled to the Match fees normally payable and these fees shall be paid by the Team that forfeits the Match.

#### **4.12 TECHNICAL AREA**

The following rules will be enforced where technical areas are provided at venues.

4.12.1 Players and Officials are subject to FIFA Laws of the Game whilst sitting on the team bench or being in the technical area or the allocated area defined by the Duty Club. Only Teams' Officials and players on the Team Sheets may sit on the Team Bench.

4.12.2 A maximum of eight (8) persons comprising five (5) Players and three (3) Team Officials are entitled to sit on the team bench or be in the technical area during any Match or the allocated area defined by the Duty Club.

Players and Team Officials are to remain seated at all times during a Match, whilst in the Team technical area, with only one (1) Team Official allowed to stand within the Team technical area to relay instructions. All Players and Team Officials must be suitably attired when present within the Team technical area. All Players must wear their Club's playing kit and boots whilst all Team Officials must wear closed shoes, shorts and their Club polo shirt as a minimum acceptable standard. Thongs, sandals or work boots will not be recognised as meeting the minimum acceptable standard. Bare feet are strictly prohibited at any time throughout a Match. Clubs that fail to comply with this rule shall be in breach and shall be fined \$100 per offence and other sanctions may apply.

4.12.3 Team Officials that are not listed on the Team Sheet are not permitted to sit in the technical area.

4.12.4 Players and Officials within the technical or the allocated area as set but the Duty Club shall behave in a responsible manner and not used offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures at any time.

Clubs found to be in breach are fined \$100 per offence in addition to any other sanctions. Any Official that is expelled from the field of play, technical area or its surrounds will incur a mandatory match suspension and any additional suspension in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.

#### **4.13 INTERCHANGE AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

4.13.1 All interchange or substitute Players must be named on the Team Sheet and shall sit on the Team bench with a neutral coloured vest within the designated technical area throughout the Match.

4.13.2 All substitutes or interchanges are to be made known to the assistant Referee or fourth official who will then notify the Referee of the proposed substitution or interchange.

4.13.3 All substitutions or interchanges in competitive Competitions are at the discretion of the Referee and shall take place at the halfway line when play has stopped.

4.13.4 The number of and process for interchange and substitutions are outlined in Appendix A.

#### **4.14 MATCH REPORTS**

4.14.1 Match reports must be submitted to the Competition Administrator by 5.00pm of the 2nd business day following the Match for which the report is being lodged.

4.14.2 FFNT will provide blank Match reports to Duty Clubs including:  
Send Off reports for Match Officials  
Incident reports for Match Officials

### **5. DISCIPLINE**

The FFA National Disciplinary Regulations shall apply to any infringement of the Laws of the Game by any Player or Official.

The Club will be responsible for any fine to their registered Player or Team Official in accordance with Rule 5.

#### **5.1**

5.1.1 Sanctions

The following sanctions shall be imposed as a result of Players accumulating cautions during a Season:

Fourth (4th) Caution	One (1) match Suspension
Sixth (6th) Caution	Two (2) match Suspension
Eighth (8th) Caution	Four (4) match Suspension
Ninth (9th) Caution	The player shall be cited to appear before the Disciplinary Committee and shall be suspended until that happens

For the purpose of this Rule cautions shall accumulate across all divisions including Cup Matches and the automatic suspensions specified are binding and non-appealable.

- 5.1.2 If a Player receives two yellow cards during the same Match and therefore receives a red card, the two yellow cards are expunged from the Player’s record.
- 5.1.3 If a Player receives a yellow card then a direct red card in the same match, the yellow card will not be expunged and will be counted in the Player’s accumulation of yellow cards.
- 5.1.4 The Competition Administrator shall advise the Player’s Club by 5.00pm of the second business day after the receipt of the Team Sheet for the Match where a Player has incurred a sanction under Rule 5.1.1.
- 5.1.5 The Player must serve the suspension within the Competition they received the caution and remains suspended from all Competitions until the suspension is served (for example if a Player receives their fourth caution in the Youth Competition the Player must serve the suspension in the next Youth Competition Match and not any other Competition).
- 5.1.6 Accumulated cautions shall not carry over from the regular Season Competition into final series or promotion/relegation Matches.
- 5.1.7 If a Player registers with another Club participating in a Competition during a Season:
  - a. Cautions are transferred with the Player for the purpose of Rule 5.1.1
  - b. Cautions are retained by the Club to which the Player was registered when the caution was received for the purpose of Rule 5.1.9.
- 5.1.8 Loss of Competition Points as a Result of accumulated Yellow Cards
  - a. Teams shall have Competition points deducted as a result of accumulating cautions during the regular Season.
  - b. The number of cautions that leads to the initial loss of Competition points shall be determined by taking the number of rounds in the regular Season and multiplying that number by two (2).

This shall be known as the “Team Caution Limit”. For example, if there are fifteen (15) rounds of Matches then the Team Caution Limit shall be thirty (30).

- c. When a Team has accumulated the number of cautions that equal the Team Caution Limit one (1) Competition point shall be deducted.
  
- d. One (1) Competition point shall be deducted for every additional ten (10) cautions accumulated by a Team in excess of the Team Caution Limit during the remainder of the Competition Season.

**5.2**

5.2.1 Where a Player is sent off (issued a red card) in a Match, they are deemed to be an ineligible Player until the final scheduled Match of the Round is completed. This means that they are not eligible to participate in any Competition in any official capacity including but not limited to Player, coach, team official, match Referee, assistant Referee or ground official.

5.2.2 The following minimum automatic sanctions shall be imposed as a result of a Player accumulating red cards during the regular Season, Cup Competitions or final series:

First expulsion	one (1) Match suspension, complete the ‘Laws of the Game’ at the FFNT Office and present the completion certificate.
Second expulsion	two (2) Match suspension, complete the ‘Laws of the Game’ at the FFNT Office and present the completion certificate.
Third expulsion	three (3) Match suspension, complete the ‘Laws of the Game’ at the FFNT Office and present the completion certificate.
Fourth expulsion	four (4) Match suspension, complete the ‘Laws of the Game’ at the FFNT Office and present the completion certificate
Such mandatory sanctions may be augmented by the addition of sanctions in accordance with the Table of Offences within the FFA National Disciplinary Regulations.	

- 5.2.3 Where a Player has incurred a sanction in excess of the mandatory sanction the Competition Administrator shall advise the Player's Club Delegate by the close of business on the second business day after the receipt of the Team Sheet for the Match in which the sendoff occurred.
- 5.2.4 If a Player transfers to another Club participating in a Federation Competition during the course of a Competition Season:
- a. Expulsions are transferred with the Player for the purpose of 5.2.2; and
  - b. Cautions are retained by the Club to which the Player was registered when the caution was received for the purpose of 5.2.5.

#### **Team Sanctions**

- 5.2.5 Loss of Competition Points as a Result of Direct Red Cards
- Teams shall have Competition points deducted as a result of accumulating red cards during the regular Season.
- For every eight (8) red cards received by a Team for any offence excluding R7 that Team shall lose one (1) Competition point.

### **5.3 SUSPENSIONS**

- 5.3.1 The Player must serve the suspension within that Division and remain suspended from all Competitions until the suspension is served
- 5.3.2 Suspensions shall carry over from the regular Season into final series or promotion/relegation Matches.
- 5.3.3 Suspensions incurred by Players (listed on that match card) in terms of Matches shall be served in consecutive fixtures of that Team after the date of suspension (this includes: regular Season, cup and final series fixtures).
- 5.3.4 Suspensions will carry over to the subsequent Season(s).
- 5.3.5 Where the Club does not field a Team in the same Competition as the suspension was incurred during the previous Season the Competition Administrator shall determine the Competition in which the Player is to serve the suspension.
- 5.3.6 A Player under suspension shall not be permitted to play in trial or friendly Matches without the written permission of the Competition Administrator who may include any conditions as they see fit.
- 5.3.7 Suspensions cannot be served in friendly Matches, unless the suspension was incurred in a friendly Match in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.
- 5.3.8 The Competition Administrator may, upon receipt of a written request from the Player, temporarily lift their suspension for representative or other Matches however under no circumstances may a suspension be lifted for any Competition, cup or final series Matches conducted under the jurisdiction of the Federation.



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5.3.9 Players or Team Officials who are under suspension are not permitted to enter the field of play, player's race, change rooms, technical area or substitute bench at any time before or after the Match or will be subject to further disciplinary action.

5.3.9 (a) The Player's Club who is in breach of this Rule will be fined \$250 per offence.

5.3.10 Players or Team Officials who are under suspension are permitted to attend any playing venues but must comply with rule 5.3.9. Players and Club Officials who are under suspension can't relay instructions to their team. Players or Team Officials who are under suspension may be allocated a place to sit or stand as directed by the Competition Administrator. Where venues have Grandstands all Players or Team Officials who are under suspension will remain there before and after the match. All Players or Team Officials who are under suspension will be a minimum of 30 meters away in all directions of the field and or technical area.

### **5.4 ASSAULTS ON MATCH OFFICIALS**

5.4.1 In the event of an alleged charge of assault (technical or otherwise) committed upon a Match Official the Match Official concerned and any witnesses to the offence should submit in writing to the Competition Administrator a report in full outlining the incident in chronological order, including any conversation.

5.4.2 Such reports shall be lodged by 5.00pm of the second business day following the date of the Match or incident.

## **6. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

### **National Disciplinary Regulation**

The National Disciplinary Regulations apply to any infringement of the Laws of the Game by a Player or an Official during a Match played under the auspices of the Federation. Clause 6 of these Rules supplements the National Disciplinary Regulations for all Competitions under the auspices of the Federation.

### **6.1 COMPOSITION OF DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

6.1.1 The Federation shall appoint a Disciplinary Committee consisting of at least three (3) members.

6.1.2 The Disciplinary Committee, wherever possible, consist of:

- a. An independent Chair with Legal qualification;
- b. a former senior Player;
- c. a former Referee.

6.1.3 The Disciplinary Committee will not consist of persons who are current Players, members or officials of Clubs participating in Federation Competitions.

6.1.4 Should the Chair of the Disciplinary Committee not be present the most senior member in continuous service shall act as Chair.

6.1.5 In the event of only two (2) members being available for a Disciplinary Committee hearing, subject to the consent of all parties, this shall constitute a quorum.

6.1.6 The Disciplinary Committee has jurisdiction to determine all grievances that arise under these Rules or matters referred to it by the Competition Administrator or Federation.

### **6.2 PROCESS FOR LODGING AN APPEAL**

6.2.1 An appeal against an appealable decision made under these Rules shall be made on Club letterhead and lodged with the Competition Administrator by 5.00pm on the second business day following the receipt of the decision being appealed.

6.2.2 An appeal lodgement fee of \$200 must accompany the appeal.

6.2.3 The lodgment of an appeal does not stay any penalty imposed under these Rules.

### **6.3 PROCEDURES OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

6.3.1 This Disciplinary Committee is to apply the Grievance Resolution Regulations to the procedural application of its hearings.

6.3.2 The Disciplinary Committee may lay down its own rules of procedure in addition to those in the Grievance Resolution Regulations, subject to the rules of procedural fairness and natural justice which it may vary as it sees fit from time to time and it shall not be subject to requirements of legal formality.

6.3.3 At a hearing by the Disciplinary Committee, the appellant's or the aggrieved party's case shall be presented first but nothing herein removes from any person the onus of proving any ground on which he relies.

6.3.4 **POWERS OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

6.3.5 The Disciplinary Committee shall deal with all matters referred to it by the Competition Administrator.

6.3.6 The types of disciplinary sanctions are specified in the Grievance Resolution Regulations.

6.3.7 The Disciplinary Committee may from time to time adjourn any hearing until such times, dates and places and for such reasons, as it thinks fit.

**6.4 EVIDENCE**

6.4.1 In any disciplinary proceedings the official reports of the Match Officials in respect of the incident or event that is the subject of the complaint/charge, are prima facie proof of the facts contained in the reports.

6.4.2 A Match Official will not be required to attend to give evidence unless:

6.4.2 (a) The person charged disputes the accuracy of the report and requests the attendance of the Match Officials, and the Disciplinary Committee is of the opinion that the request is reasonable and made in good faith; or

6.4.2 (b) The Disciplinary Committee is of the opinion that it is reasonable, and necessary, to require the attendance of the Match Officials.

6.4.3 It shall be an offence for any person giving evidence before any Disciplinary Committee to deliberately mislead the Disciplinary Committee and the penalty for such offence shall be a minimum fine of \$500 up to a maximum fine of \$10 000 and any other sanctions as determined by the Disciplinary Committee.

**6.5 DECISIONS**

6.5.1 The Disciplinary Committee shall base its determination on;

- a) The application of the Disciplinary Regulations and Grievance Resolution Regulations;
- b) The evidence provided; and
- c) The scope of these Rules.

6.5.2 The Disciplinary Committee shall advise the Competition Administrator of its determination within 48 hours of the determination being made. The Competition Administrator shall then advise the Club Delegate in writing within 48 hours of the determination being received.

6.5.3 Where no determination is advised to the Competition Administrator or where a hearing has not been held within the timeframes specified then the appeal shall be deemed to have been upheld in full.

6.5.4 The person to whom the determination refers shall not contact the Competition Administrator or Federation. The responsibility of advising the person of the outcome of the hearing is their Club Delegate.

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6.5.5 The appeal fee shall be forfeited in the event of the protest not being upheld in full.

6.5.6 If the appeal is upheld in full 100 percent (100%) of the appeal fee shall be refunded to the appellant.

### **6.6 APPEALS**

6.6.1 All parties to a Disciplinary Committee hearing and the Competition Administrator shall have the right of appeal against a determination of the Disciplinary Committee. Such appeals shall be made in accordance with the Federation's grievance process and FFA Statutes.

## **7. CHARGES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

### **7.1 NATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT**

For the purposes of these Rules, FFA has implemented a National Code of Conduct that seeks to promote and strengthen the reputation of Football in Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behavior and professionalism for its participants and stakeholders. In addition, it seeks to deter conduct that could impair public confidence in the honest and professional conduct of Matches or in the integrity and good character of its participants.

Spectator Conduct at Matches is subject to the National Spectator Code of Behavior.

### **7.2 LODGING A COMPLAINT OR CHARGE**

7.2.1 Where any Team, Club, Player, Coach, Official or Match Official is charged with an offence, the charge shall be outlined in writing by the Competition Administrator, FFNT or FFA and contain the particulars of the alleged offence.

7.2.2 If a third party wishes to make a complaint under the Code of Conduct, that complaint must be made by a written report which must be delivered during normal business hours by fax, e-mail or hand delivered and confirmed by posted mail to the Competition Administrator. The report shall be lodged within seven (7) days of the date of the incident occurring to which the complaint or charge refers.

7.2.3 Charges or complaints laid by the Competition Administrator, Federation or FFA shall not be restricted to the time limits referred to in 7.1.

### **7.3 PROTEST AGAINST MATCH RESULTS**

7.3.1 Protests regarding the incorrect recording of a Match result or the eligibility of a Player must be made in writing and lodged with the Competition Administrator by 5.00pm of the second business day following the conclusion of the Match.

7.3.2 All decisions of the Match Referee are final and binding as far as the result of a Match is concerned and no protest can be lodged.

7.3.3 The Competition Administrator shall provide a copy of the protest to the Delegate of the opposing Club participating in the Match within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving the protest.

7.3.4 All protests regarding the incorrect recording of a Match result or the eligibility of a Player shall be lodged for review to the Competition Administrator.

### **7.4 MISTAKEN IDENTITY**

7.4.1 If a Player claims genuine mistaken identity, the Club may lodge an appeal to the Competition Administrator by 5.00pm of the second business day following the issue of the Disciplinary Infringement Notice.

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- 7.4.2 The Competition Administrator will investigate the claim and decide as to whether to allow or dismiss the claim. The Competition Administrator may refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for determination at its entire discretion.
- 7.4.3 If the appeal is upheld, the Competition Administrator or Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to determine the identity of the true offender and shall impose such penalty upon that person as would have been imposed upon the appellant.

### **7.5 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Each person agrees to submit exclusively to the Federation's and FFA's Statutes and Regulations, including, the Grievance Resolution Regulations and no person may institute or maintain proceedings in any court of law or tribunal (other than the limited right of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in accordance with the FFA Statutes).

## **8. FINANCE**

### **8.1 REGISTRATION FEES**

8.1.1 The Federation shall determine the annual schedule of fees and payment timetable prior to calling for nominations from Clubs.

8.1.2 There are four components that comprise the total Registration Fee paid by a Player to a Club to enable them to register to participate within a Federation Competition:

- a. FFA National Registration Fee as determined by FFA
- b. Federation Fee as determined by the Federation that includes insurance, development and administration fees;
- c. Competition Fee set by the Competition Administrator to cover administrative costs in conducting the Competition;
- d. Club levy set by each individual Club.

8.1.3 All levies must be documented within MyFootballClub (National Registration Database) and made available to all Players at the time of registration.

### **8.2 MATCH FEES**

8.2.1 Where applicable, Clubs will be invoiced monthly for costs associated with a Match including:

- a. Match Officials payments;
- b. ground hire;
- c. line marking;
- d. security;
- e. other costs associated with staging the Match.

### **8.3 PAYMENT OF INVOICES**

8.3.1 All fees, levies, ground hire charges or fines are payable by the due date for payment as stated on the invoice.

8.3.2 For the avoidance of doubt debts shall include monies owed to the Federation or other Clubs.

8.3.3 A Club may challenge individual fees included in an invoice however payment of the unchallenged components of the invoice is required to be made by the due date for payment as stated on the invoice.

### **8.4 SANCTIONS**

8.4.1 In the event that a Club fails to make payment by the due date the following sanctions will be imposed:

- a) Where the Club has, a debt outstanding more than thirty (30) days it may be charged a late payment fee of 10% of the outstanding balance.
- b) Where the Club has, a debt outstanding more than thirty-five (35) days one (1) Competition point may be deducted against the Team for which the invoice was levied;
- c) The Team against which the invoice was levied shall be suspended from all Competitions until such time as the full amount is paid; and

- d) The Team shall pay a bond of two hundred dollars (\$200) prior to their Competition suspension being withdrawn.

8.4.3 Should the Competition Administrator not be satisfied with the given reason for non-payment of an outstanding debt payment may be pursued through a debt collection service.

8.4.4 All outstanding debts must be paid in full before nominations will be accepted for a new Season.

## **8.5 FINES**

8.5.1 At its absolute discretion the Competition Administrator or Federation may waive or reduce Club's fines and penalties.

## **8.6 GATE REVENUE**

8.6.1 No monies shall be derived through entrance fees for Junior Federation matches. The exceptions to this are age carnivals, interstate or international competitions held in NT, Arafura Games or 7-a-side.

## **8.7 RECORD MAINTENANCE**

8.7.1 All Clubs that participate in Matches sanctioned by the Federation shall maintain financial records in accordance with the Incorporations Act (Northern Territory).

## **8.8 BONDS**

8.8.1 If the Federation seeks to introduce a bond the Federation shall determine the bond prior to the commencement of a Competition. Bond monies are held in trust for a period determined by the Competition Administrator.

8.8.2 Clubs shall lodge a bond for each senior men's and women's Team at the time of the acceptance of their nomination into a Competition.

8.8.3 Outstanding debts may be deducted from any bond monies.

8.8.4 Where a Club requires their bond monies to be refunded after the playing Season:

- (a) The request must be made in writing at least fourteen (14) days prior to the end of the Competition;
- (b) Outstanding debts shall be deducted from the bond monies prior to any refund being made;

8.8.5 Clubs shall lose bond monies in the following circumstances:

- (a) Withdraws a Team(s) from the Competition;
- (b) Club official(s), Player(s) or supporters are found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute or for violent conduct.



## **9. INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

### **9.1 INTERPRETATIONS**

In these Rules unless a different intention shall appear:

- a) words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa;
- b) words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender;
- c) words denoting persons include incorporated and unincorporated Teams and Clubs; and
- d) words or expressions shall be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of the Interpretation Act and that Act as in force on the date on which these Rules are adopted by the Federation.

9.1.1 References to persons include their respective executors, administrators, personal representatives, and successors in title (as the case may be).

9.1.2 Expressions referring to writing are construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form.

**APPENDIX A – Competition Specific Information**

This Appendix provides Competition-specific information for use by Clubs, Teams and Team Officials. This Appendix is a formal part of the Competition Rules and as such breaches may incur sanctions in accordance with the Competition Rules.

**A1 SUMMARY TABLE – SMALL SIDED GAMES**

Competitions	NorZ 6's and Under	NorZ 7's and Under	NorZ 8's and Under	NorZ 9's and Under	NorZ 10's and Under	NorZ 11's and Under
Year of Birth	2012/13	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Recommended Field Size	30 x 20m		40-50 x 30-40m		60-70 x 40-50m	
Number of Players	4 v 4 Max of 6 on Team Sheet		7 v 7 Max of 10 on Team Sheet		9 v 9 Max of 12 on Team Sheet	
Substitutions / Interchange	Unlimited interchange. Interchange of Players may occur at any time but the Player coming onto the field must wait until the substituted Player has left the field.					
Playing Time	2 x 15 mins		2 x 20 mins		2 x 25 mins	
Half Time (whistle to)	5 minutes' minimum to 10 minutes maximum					
Ball Size	3				4	
Approved Ball	Umbro Strike or approved equivalent					

**A2 SUMMARY TABLE – JUNIOR COMPETITIVE**

Competition	NorZ 12 and Under		NorZ 14 and Under		NorZ 16 and Under		NorZ 18 and Under	
Year of Birth	2006	2007	2004	2005	2002	2001	2001	2000
Recommended Field Size	100 x 64m							
Number of Players	11 v 11 Min of 7 and Max of 11 on field Max of 16 on Team Sheet Max							
Substitutions / Interchange	Unlimited interchange. Interchange of Players may occur at any time but the Player coming onto the field must wait until the substituted Player has left the field.							
Playing Time	2 x 30 mins		2 x 35 mins		2 x 40 mins		2 x 45 mins	
Half Time (whistle to whistle)	10 minutes minimum to 15 minutes maximum							
Ball Size	4			5				
Approved ball	Umbro Strike or approved equivalent							

**APPENDIX B – Uniform Style Guide**

**Front**



**Back**



**STANDARD SHORTS STYLE GUIDE**

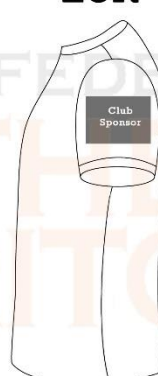
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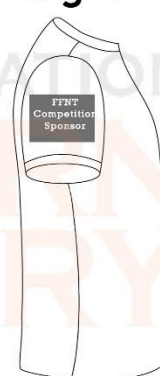
**Back**



**Left**



**Right**



**STANDARD T-SHIRT STYLE GUIDE**