



FOOTBALL TASMANIA

2021

COMPETITION AND DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS



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1. Definitions

In these Rules the following words, terms and phrases shall have the following meanings:

"Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of FT.

"By Laws" shall mean the By Laws promulgated by Football Tasmania in accordance with the Constitution.

"Club" shall have the same meaning as defined in the Constitution and in addition include unincorporated bodies entered into FT competitions.

"Chief Executive Officer" shall mean the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) from time to time of the Company.

"Company" shall mean FT.

"Competition", unless otherwise stated, shall mean any competition that is administered by FT.

"Constitution" shall mean the Constitution of FT

"Disciplinary Code" means the disciplinary code contained within the Competition Rules of FT.

"FA" shall mean Football Australia Ltd.

"FT" shall mean Football Tasmania Ltd.

"FIFA" shall mean Federation Internationale de Football Association (International Federation of Association Football).

"Home team" shall mean the team named first in any match fixture published by the Company.

"Match" shall mean any match played in any competition conducted by or under the auspices of the Company

"Member" shall have the same meaning as defined in the Constitution

"National Disciplinary Regulations" shall mean the disciplinary regulations published by FFA from time to time.

"National Registration Regulations" shall mean the registration regulations published by FFA from time to time.

"Offences" shall mean behaving contrary to or not in accordance with these Rules or the Constitution or By Laws.

"Official" shall mean any Official registered with FT in accordance with the registration requirements published by FT from time to time.

"Participant" shall have the same meaning as Participant Members, Non-Participant Members and Registered Participants as defined in the Constitution and include Clubs, Registered Players and Officials.

"Playing year" shall mean period of twelve months between the 1st day of January and the 31st day of December of the same calendar year.

"Registered Player" or **"Player"** shall mean a player competing in an FT competition and registered in accordance with the National Registration Regulations.

"Rules" shall mean these competition rules of FT.

“**Technical Area**” shall mean a designated seated area for team officials and substitutes as outlined in the FFA Laws of the Game

2 Commencement of Regulations

These Regulations shall come into effect on the date on which the Board shall resolve to adopt them and they shall replace all other rules, which prior to that date had been adopted by the Company.

3 Compliance with Regulations

These Regulations are to be read in conjunction with the National Registration Regulations, National Disciplinary Regulations, FFA Code of Conduct and National Grievance Resolution Regulations.

Each Club of FT shall comply with these Regulations and such other rules and directions as from time to time may be adopted or made by the Company.

Subject to the Constitution and By-Laws, any Club competing in a Company competition that shall breach or fail to comply with any of these Regulations, or such other rule or direction adopted or given by the Board, shall be liable to disciplinary action as may be determined by the Board.

If it is considered that Clubs, registered players and or officials have breached or failed to comply with FT Regulations, By Laws or Constitution, they may be charged accordingly and a hearing may be held as appropriate to deal with the alleged charge(s).

4 Status of Participants

All players and team officials shall be registered with the Company as per the National Registration Regulations in one of the following categories;

Senior: a player who is eligible to play senior football as defined in Regulation 5.1 .

Youth: a player who is under 16 years as at the commencement of the calendar year in which the competition is played and is playing in an FT administered competition.

Team Officials: deemed to be coaches, trainers, team managers.

Match Officials; deemed to be referees, assistant referees, fourth officials and match managers

5 Registration of Players and Age Criteria

The National Registration Regulations govern the registration of all players, and subsequent clauses are in addition to the National Registration Regulations.

A player registration and registration fee must be received by FT before midday on the Thursday immediately prior to the next round's matches, in order for the player to be eligible to play in those and subsequent matches.

The transfer deadline for all other currently registered players is the last Thursday in May. A new player (i.e. not previously registered in the current year) may not be registered after the second Thursday in September.

If any Club shall play an unregistered player or a player registered by another Club in any match it shall be deemed to have lost that match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0) plus any further penalty imposed by the Company in accordance with these Regulations. If the result is a loss exceeding 3-0 then that score will remain in place.

Any junior player registered with a Club can complete a supplementary registration with their local junior association to enable the player to compete within the association's competitions.

5.1 Age Criteria

Any player who is eligible to play for a senior open-age team (i.e. above Under 18's for males and above Senior Youth Girls for females) at any point during the season can play for that team from the start of the season.

In its simplest form this means that;

A female turning 16 years of age prior to December 31 will now be eligible to play senior football in Tasmania.

A male turning 16 years of age prior to ^t December 31 will now be eligible to play senior football in Tasmania.

It is recommended that youth players participate in competitions for their own age banding (see 14.3 Youth Competition Eligibility) with the exception of identified players who may participate in appropriate competitions agreed by FT, subject to assessment through the Player Advancement Policy.

6 Managers

6.1 Match Managers

The successful conduct of matches by way of meeting certain safety, temporal and logistical requirements is best supported by the assistance of persons to undertake roles and responsibilities that are timely and productive in the ensuring the correct conduct of games.

In the Leagues and Competitions listed below, a person shall be designated to undertake the duties set out. This person shall be known as the Match Manager.

- i. The Match Manager must be present at all Championship, Championship 1, Under 18, Women's Championship, and Statewide Cup matches and be responsible to perform the duties as defined in section 6.3 and as shall be directed from time to time by the Company.
- ii. It shall be the responsibility of the Home Club in these leagues and competitions (unless section (v) of this part applies) to nominate and provide a Match Manager.
- iii. The Match Manager must be aged a minimum of 18 years.
- iv. The Match Manager must not consume alcohol whilst performing the duties of Match Manager.
- v. For NPL, WSL and Statewide Cup competitions (except social) both clubs (Home and Away) are required to provide a Match Manager.
 - o In order to ease the logistics of providing Match Managers for travelling teams, the away Match Manager can be supplied by the home team. It is the responsibility of the away team to negotiate with the home team in supplying the second Match Manager.
- vi. Failure to provide the second Match Manager will result in penalties as prescribed in 6.6.

6.2 Match day requirements

- A Match Manager will be identified and introduced to the referee a minimum of 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.
- The Match Manager must at all times wear an identifying jacket.
- The Match Manager must be identifiable and visible to the match officials and spectators at matches.
- A Match Manager must not engage in the coaching of players (on or off the field) at any time.

6.3 The Duties of the Match Manager

The Match Manager shall:

-
- i. Ensure that an appropriate stretcher is readily available and that the stretcher complies with any relevant by-law or health regulation as may be laid down from time to time.
 - ii. Ensure that the Technical Area is properly defined as laid down in the Laws of the Game and these Rules. At matches where a Fourth Match Official is not present, the Match Manager should ensure that only the persons listed on a team's Team Sheet are present in the Technical Area.
 - iii. Ensure that all gate personnel and other persons assisting at the venue are fully conversant with their duties.
 - iv. Ensure that spectators are kept the required distances from the field of play during matches and ensure that the field of play is clear of spectators in time for the commencement of games.
 - v. Ensure that there is a means of retrieving match balls that leave the playing arena so as to provide a supply of match balls to assist with the conduct of the match. Such means of retrieval should not interfere with the Match Manager's conduct of their other duties – especially those that relate to the safety of the players or Match Officials.
 - vi. Have available to them a means of summoning the police or ambulance or other such civic personnel as may be required in the event of an emergency. (e.g. burst water main, loss of electricity supply, loss of keys).
 - vii. Take all reasonable steps to ensure the good order and behaviour of spectators.
 - viii. Assist Match Officials where required (e.g. organise assistant referees) and assist with the security of the Match Officials whilst at the venue including escorting referees from the field of play at half and full time.
 - ix. The Match Manager shall be responsible for the texting of the half time and full time scores in Championship matches to the approved FT number during matches (0458 227 169).

6.4 Team Managers

All Clubs shall nominate a team manager for each team who shall perform such duties as listed below and as shall be directed from time to time by the Company. This requirement applies to all Club teams in all Company competitions.

6.5 Duties of the Team Manager

The team manager shall:

- i. (Home Team) Ensure that match balls, which comply with the requirements of the Laws of the Game and Regulation 15 of this document, are provided to the referee at least 30 minutes prior to scheduled kick-off time.
- ii. (Both Teams) Ensure that the fully completed team sheet is provided to the referee at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time. If this does not occur referees are to report this to Football Tasmania.

- iii. (Both Teams) As soon as practical at the conclusion of the match, report the score and goal scorers to the Company via text message, email or directly via the Sporting Pulse system.
 - iv. If no Match Manager is present, the home Team Manager will assume the duties of the Match Manager and ensure that all home team responsibilities are fulfilled.
 - v. If no referee is appointed to the match, the home team manager is to ensure the match record is completed and forwarded to the Company by close of business on the Tuesday following the match.
 - vi. The match record consists of the completed Club Match Report to which is attached the team sheets for both the home and away teams on the day.
- The Club Match Report must be forwarded by post to PO Box 371, Glenorchy, 7010 or by email to competitions@footballfedtas.com.au

The Club Match Report form is available for download at <https://footballfedtas.com.au/rules-forms/>

6.6 Breaches of Rule 6

Match Officials and FT staff are responsible for reporting any breaches and/or omission of these duties.

Failure of a Match Manager to fulfil the requirements of Rule 6.3 may result in a fine of up to \$300 being imposed on the Match Manager's Club by the Company.

Failure of a Team Manager to fulfil the requirements of Rule 6.5 may result in a fine of \$100 being imposed on the Team Manager's Club by the Company.

7 Match Officials

The Company shall endeavour to appointed qualified Match Officials to fixtures that are sanctioned by the Company. For all sanctioned matches where there is an absence of either a referee or assistant referee, the home team shall be required to provide a referee or assistant referee as the case may be, for that match.

In the case where two assistant referees are required, it is the responsibility of both teams competing to provide an assistant referee.

In the case where a referee and two assistant referees are required the home team is responsible for providing the referee and one assistant referee, and the away team one assistant referee.

8 Grounds

All clubs must take all reasonable steps to ensure that a ground, nominated for any competition match throughout the season, is in a playable condition.

8.1 Team benches & Technical Areas

Only the Team and Team Staff shall be permitted in the Technical Area and allowed to sit on the bench during matches. All must be named on the team sheet submitted to the referee 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.

Where possible, seating for a maximum of 10 persons (5 substitutes, 5 non-playing team staff) for each side should be supplied and placed in position by the home team.

At all times, Technical Areas must remain clear of objects or obstructions that may cause injury to a player or Match Official or impede free movement in the Technical Area.

Substitutes are not permitted to sit or lie on the ground within the Technical Area at any time. Players requiring medical assistance should move to the change room area or to an area behind the Technical Area and Team Benches.

Only one member of the Team Staff shall be permitted to stand in the Technical Area at any one time to deliver technical messages to players on the field of play.

Smoking is prohibited on the Ground including on the team bench and in the Technical Area.

8.2 Pitch exclusion zone

All persons, apart from those named on the relevant team sheets, referees or assistant referees, must be behind fences surrounding enclosed pitches or a minimum of two (2) metres away from all sidelines or four (4) metres from all goal lines at all matches.

Such an area shall be termed the “pitch exclusion zone”.

For all NPL, WSL and Statewide Cup (Lakoseljac, Women’s and Under 20) matches, where the playing area is not enclosed by a permanent perimeter fence on all sides, the home team shall be required to erect a temporary barrier outside the field of play, identifying the pitch exclusion zone. Where a Club is found to have not erected a temporary barrier it shall be in breach of this requirement.

The offending team will be fined \$300 per offence.

8.3 Ground marking, goals and dressing rooms

The home Club is responsible for ensuring that the ground markings as per FIFA Regulations are precise and clear and in paint – no lime product is to be used for line marking.

All portable goals must be secured as per the Standards Australia guidelines, HB227-2003 Portable Football Goalposts Safety Handbook. All fixed goals must be properly secured and not have any sharp edges.

Corner posts must be provided and conform to the Laws of the Game.

For NPL, WSL and Championship and Championship 1 clubs are to provide two dressing rooms and a separate referee’s dressing room each equipped with showers and toilets that must be maintained to standards of hygiene and convenience as set out in the FT Facilities document.

8.4 Ground size

Grounds must meet appropriate size recommendations for each level of football competition. A minimum of 90 metres in length and 60 metres in width and maximum of 120 metres in length and 90 metres in width shall apply for senior football. Pitches for youth football should be appropriately modified to suit the developmental level of the players.

8.5 Lighting and night matches

Clubs wishing to host night fixtures during the season must submit field lighting audits as requested and have approval for competition play by Football Tasmania.

Recommendations for football field lighting detailed in the Australian Standard AS2560 Part 2.3 “Lighting for Football” includes; Minimum Service Illuminance Lux (Average) 100 and Minimum Uniformity Ratio (Min: Ave) 0.5 for Competition.

8.6 First Aid support/ stretcher/ Blood Rule

All clubs must provide First Aid support and provisions during scheduled matches and the home Club must ensure the availability of at least one stretcher suitable for first aid and emergency use at all fixtures.

Clubs must ensure that stretchers are placed inside the barrier/fence in a safe and accessible position to first aid staff. Unrestricted access to the field of play shall be provided for Ambulance vehicles when required and be clearly signed.

In the event a player suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood, the match official will request that the injured player receive attention outside the field of play and only when he/she is satisfied that the injury or wound is safely covered and contained, will the player be permitted to re-join the game.

In the event the player’s uniform or attire is contaminated with blood, the referee will instruct that player to change their attire before being permitted to re-join the game. Should the injured player be required to change their uniform, then the match official will show discretion in allowing the player to wear an alternative numbered shirt if necessary. This must be notified to the match official.

Any player with a suspected concussion should be immediately removed from play, and should not be returned to activity until they are assessed. In the NPL and WSL, a three-minute break in play can be requested by the team physiotherapist in order to make a sound assessment. The time used will be added on at the end of that half.

9 Laws of the Game

All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as decided by the International Football Association Board and distributed by FIFA. This is in conjunction with the Competition Regulations of FT.

10 Uniforms and Badges

No Club shall permit any of its teams to wear any uniform in any match, which has not first been approved by the Company. The colour of the shirts and socks of a Club’s away strip shall be different to that of its home strip.

A kit allocation will be issued from Football Tasmania prior to fixtures. This will relate to NPL, WSL and Championship fixtures. Failure to adhere to the allocated kit will result in a financial penalty of up to \$500.

In the event of a goalkeeper's shirt colour clashing with the referee it is the responsibility of the goalkeeper to change.

In relation to referee's uniforms, clubs must ensure that either green, black or orange is left available. For example, if the home team is wearing orange the away team cannot wear black or any colour of a similar nature.

All Clubs are required to advise the Company in writing thirty (30) days prior to the season commencing their designated "home" and "away" playing strips for the upcoming season. The Company shall make available to Clubs prior to the roster season commencing a full list of team "home" and "away" playing strips.

For the purposes of Regulation 10 there shall be deemed to be no colour clash by reason only of opposing teams wearing the same coloured shorts in a match.

All players' uniforms, including the goalkeepers, shall show legible numerals at least 23cm high on the back of the playing shirt, and such numerals shall correspond with the name of the player wearing the uniform and that player's name on the team sheet.

No Club shall permit any of its teams to wear any badge or logo on its uniform in any match, which has not first been approved by the Company.

The Company may in its absolute discretion refuse to approve any uniform, badge or logo submitted to it by a Club for approval and shall advise the Club of its reason or reasons for any such refusal.

Except with the prior written approval of the Company a Club shall not permit any form of advertising on its teams' playing uniform other than the distinguishing mark, badge or emblem of the manufacturer of that uniform.

Each Club shall ensure that its Players shall wear on their uniforms such Company sponsor's badge as shall from time to time be directed by the Company.

If thermal undergarments and/or compressions garments are worn under playing shorts and are visible, they must be the same main colour as the playing shorts. Also, they may extend beyond the knee and be full length but must be the same colour as the playing shorts. Undershirts, if they extend

beyond the shirt sleeves, must have sleeves the same colour as the playing shirt sleeves. Where an undershirt that extends below the shirt sleeve is worn, all players in the same team choosing to wear an undershirt must wear the same colour. Also, the undershirt may extend to the wrist.

Shin guards must provide 'a reasonable degree of protection'. To fulfil their protective function, shin guards must cover the shins, that is, the portion of the leg from the ankle to the knee. The most vulnerable section of the leg in Football is the lower part of the shin, so the shin guard must start there. Shin guards for adults should be a minimum of 18 cm long. Referees will ensure that the players' shin guards are providing adequate protection. If the shin guards are deemed to not provide adequate protection then the player may not take part in the game until rectified.

Players must ensure any tape placed over their socks to hold shin guards in place must be the same colour as the sock being worn by their team as required under Law 4 of the Basic Equipment section of the FIFA Laws of the Game.

It is a requirement that in the National Premier Leagues (NPL) and Women's Super League (WSL) competitions that the captain of each team be identified by wearing of a Captain's armband.

Failure to do so will result in a financial penalty of \$50.

11 Team Nomination, Payment of Fees and Fines

Subject to these Rules each Club shall pay to the Company a team nomination fee. The Company may prescribe such team nomination fees as from time to time it deems appropriate. Such team nomination fees to be payable within the time specified by the Company.

Any Club withdrawing a team from the competition that has been entered and accepted for that competition by the Company shall lose all or part of its nomination fee as the Board may determine and shall be liable to such fine or other penalty as the Board may prescribe.

The Company will advise Clubs of the payment requirements of team nomination fees prior to the season.

Except as may be otherwise prescribed in these Rules all monies due and payable to the Company by a participant shall be paid within thirty (30) days of being invoiced. All accounts that are sixty (60) days or more overdue shall incur an interest charge at the rate of 10% per annum as per the Company Credit Policy.

Once outstanding debts to FT reach 90 days, all teams in the Club will no longer accrue points for any further games, until such time that the debt has been paid.

The Australian Government has confirmed that GST is payable on all team nominations, player registrations, and player insurance imposed by the Company. GST shall be included in all invoices.

12 Substitutes

A maximum of sixteen (16) players may be named on the team sheet in any competition.

In the National Premier League (NPL), Northern Championship and Southern Championship, five (5) players may be named as substitutes. Any three players of the five may be used as substitutes in matches.

In Women's Super League (WSL), five (5) players may be named as substitutes. All five substitutes may be used.

In all other competitions, including Northern Women's Championship, Northern Championship 1, Southern Women's Championship, Southern Championship 1, Southern Women's Championship 2, Under 18s and all other social and youth competitions, the interchange of players will be permitted in accordance with the Regulation 12.1.

For interchange matches, players named on the team sheet of sixteen shall be deemed to have played regardless of whether the player takes the field. However, the player must be physically present at the match and eligible to play (i.e. not injured) to be deemed to have played.

Clubs who contravene Regulation 12 will be subject to disciplinary action which may include loss of points, forfeit of the game and/or a fine at the Company's discretion.

12.1 Interchange

Youth Leagues, Under 18, Southern Championship 1, Southern Women's Championship, Southern Women's Championship 1, Southern Women's Championship 2, Northern Championship 1, Northern Women's Championship and all social leagues.

As set out in Table 12.1, each team is permitted to use the prescribed number of interchange periods during each half in these leagues; but this is not limited to one single player. Teams may change as many players as they wish at each interchange stoppage.

Teams may make changes during the half time break in matches and must advise the referee of the changes that have occurred to the team during the break prior to the commencement of the 2nd half. The referee must be informed and give permission before any interchanges can take place. Interchanges are only permitted at stoppages in play.

All interchanges shall take place at the half-way line and players to be interchanged must leave the field of play before the replacement player can enter the field of play.

Competition	No. of Interchange breaks per half	Competition	No. of Interchange breaks per half
SC 1, NC1, NCW & SWC 1 & 2	3	Under 13s	2
Under 14/15/16/ 18	3	Junior Youth Girls	2
Senior Youth Girls	3	All Social Leagues	3

Table 12.1

In the event of a player(s) being injured following the use of the final interchange by the player's team in the second half of a match, a replacement for the injured player is permitted provided there is more

than five minutes of play remaining. The injured player who is replaced may not take any further part in the match.

In all cases there shall be no interchange permitted within two minutes of play remaining of either half of a match.

12.2.1 Playing Time – Youth Matches

In all Youth League matches, up to and including Under 18 level competitions, all players listed on the team sheet for a match MUST receive 50% of the match playing time participating on the field.

13 Player Restrictions

A Member must not engage, directly or indirectly, in any conduct or behaviour intended to unfairly affect the result of a Match, including accepting, or agreeing to accept, any Benefit connected with, or relating to, the ability of a Member to exercise control over or influence the outcome of a Match so as to bring about a result other than that which would be achieved in a fair contest between the competing teams.

13.1 Player Eligibility

Players are eligible to participate in any Company competition match provided all the following are met;

- a) they are currently registered with the Company;
- b) the Company has received the prescribed registration fee;
- c) they are not under suspension;
- d) they meet all the age requirement qualifications under the FT Player Advancement Policy;
- e) they have no outstanding debt with the Company;
- f) they are listed on the team sheet prior to the commencement of the match;
- g) that regulation 13.2 Team Stacking is not contravened.

13.2 Team Stacking

The following restrictions apply only to players who are not regular players for the team. A regular player for a team is defined as any player who has played the majority of their games in the playing year for that particular team.

The following definitions shall apply to determine which level a player is playing in;

a) Northern and Southern Championship:

To facilitate and assist clubs in maximising their players' availability, all named substitutes in the National Premier League and Women's Super League (WSL) may play in their Championship in the same round. For clarity, no player starting in the NPL or WSL can play in any other Championship match in the same round. In the event of a bye, the above rule applies to players starting in the previous NPL or WSL match.

Similarly, all named substitutes in the Southern Championship may play in the Southern Championship 1 in the same round. For clarity, no player starting in the Southern Championship may play in the in any other Southern Championship 1 match in the same round.

No player that appears on an NPL or WSL team sheet will eligible to play in the Northern or Southern Championship 1 on that same weekend.

If a player has appeared on an NPL or WSL team sheet 10 times or more throughout the season then that player will be prevented from appearing in the Northern or Southern Championship 1.

An exemption may be granted at the discretion of FT in exceptional circumstances. This exemption must be sought prior to the weekend's round of matches.

A player who has played for their club's Championship Team is unable to play for a social team (as defined in 14.2 (b)) for their club during that weekend's fixtures regardless of which match is played first.

If required, a maximum of four (4) social players are able to play for a Social League team (as defined in 14.2 (b)) and a Championship 1 team for their club in the same weekend.

A player who was listed as a substitute player but did not take the field in a Senior (Championship) match will be eligible to play for another team from their club on that weekend.

b) Social Leagues:

- I. No player who's taken the field at NPL or Southern Championship level in a season may subsequently take the field in social competition in the same season.
- II. A social side in SC2 or SC3 may play a **maximum of three players** (in any one game) who have taken the field in Southern Championship 1 in that season.
- III. A player who has taken the field in SC1 in a season must not take the field in SC4, SC5 or SC6 in the same season, unless by special and reasonable emergency exemption granted by the Social Commissioners.
- IV. A social side may play a **maximum of three non-regular players** (in any one game) - those being any combination of 'regulars' from a higher division social side, or SC1 fill-ins covered in (ii) above, unless by reasonable emergency exemption granted by Emma Brown (at a minimum of three days' notice), and to a maximum match-day team sheet of 13 players.

- V. A player who takes the field in Southern Championship 1 in a season may take the field in a **maximum of five social competition games** only in the same season.
- VI. Any club withdrawing a side from social competition must withdraw its lowest level side, and filter remaining players upwards, to ensure integrity of lower-level leagues.

The penalty for breaching these rules is a 3-0 forfeit in the social game involved + applicable club fine.

13.3 Eligibility for Youth Competitions:

For all Youth Leagues, an age group shall be considered as being an eighteen-month age band from 1st October of the previous year through until 31st March of the following year.

For example, in 2021 the U14 age group would traditionally be limited to players born in 2007. Under the new scope, players born between the 1st October 2006 and 31st March 2008, are now included in this age band.

13.3.1 Youth Competition Tier 1

Teams entering into the top level of an age-band competition shall be able to nominate up to sixteen (16) players on their team sheet for each match. Of these sixteen players, a minimum of 75% (twelve players), must fall into the correct age-band for that competition. The additional four players are either from the correct age band or are additional players identified and cleared to play at that level following consultation between the club's TD and Football Tasmania. Such consultation and agreement for variation shall have taken place no later than close of business (5pm) on the Thursday prior to a match.

Where a club, competing in a Tier 1 Youth competition, does not have 16 players available for participation in a match, then the restriction with regards to players outside of the age-band shall still apply.

# of available players	# of correct age band	# of 'exemptions'
16	12	4
15	12	3
14	11	3
13	11	2
12	10	2
11	9	2
<11		1

It is expected that Tier 1 players will not drop back to 'fill in' in lower competition levels, rather players from lower age bands are moved to higher levels when necessary to aid their development.

13.3.2 Youth Competition – Other levels

Teams entering into all other levels (divisions) of an age-band competition shall be able to nominate up to sixteen (16) players on their team sheet for each match. Of these sixteen players, a minimum of 50%, (eight players), must fall into the correct age-band for that competition. The remaining players are either from the correct age band or are additional players identified and cleared to play at that level by the club's TD.

Where a club does not have 16 players available for participation in a match, then the restriction with regards to players outside of the age-band shall still apply. Irrespective of the number of available players, eight (8) players must be of the correct age-band.

13.3.3 Minimum Age

No player, who was younger than 11 years of age on the 1st of January of the playing year in which a competition is to take place, shall be permitted to play in a youth competition.

Clubs should refer to section 5.7 and 5.8 of the FT Player Advancement Policy.

13.3.4 Female Youth Competition

Female Youth Competitions shall be graded into two levels of competition. These shall be known as the Senior Youth Girls (SYG) and the Junior Youth Girls (JYG) competitions.

Teams entering into these competitions shall be able to nominate up to sixteen (16) players on their team sheet for each match. Nominally, the age bands (18-month span) for these two competitions shall be Under 15 (SYG) and Under 13 (JYG). At the discretion of the club TD and in consideration of the developmental stage of individual players, a player from outside of these age bands may be permitted to play in the competition, subject to compliance with s13.3.3.

No girl may play senior football at Championship 1 level or higher and in a female youth competition in the same weekend.

13.3.5 Female players in youth male competitions

For their individual and/or collective development, it may be advantageous for an individual female or team of female players to participate in a youth boys' competition. Where an individual or team participates in a boys' competition it shall not be at a level lower than 2 years below the age category of the eldest female player.

For example, a female player who is in the traditional age group of Under 16 shall not be permitted to participate in a competition below the Under 14 age band of a youth boys' competition.

13.3.6 Player Advancement Policy

In all competitions, player eligibility must meet the requirements of the FT Player Advancement Policy.

13.4 Clubs with two teams in same League

In the case where Clubs have two teams in the same League, any player who played for team A in that League and intends to play for team B in that League is regarded as one of the three (3) players who are not regular players for that team.

Extra scrutiny will be awarded to matches when two teams from the same club are playing.

13.5 Special Circumstances

Senior players returning from injury are eligible to play for any senior team in which they are eligible to play without restriction in any competition as long as they have missed a minimum of one game due to injury.

A Championship player as defined in 13.2 a) may play for a Social Team when returning from injury, however, they shall be ineligible to play for both a Championship and Social League team in the same weekend of roster matches.

13.6 Penalty for Breach of Player Restriction Rules

Where a Club is found to be in breach of the Player Restriction Rules the offending team will be deemed to have lost the match by forfeit and will be fined \$200 per offence.

14 Fixtures and Forfeits

14.1 Nomination requirements

Clubs will be required to nominate teams in competitions offered by Football Tasmania. A framework of rostering principles has been developed and is located in Schedule 3.

A fixture list for each Company competition will be published and, whenever practicable, finalised by the Company no later than three weeks (3) weeks prior to the commencement of each competition. FT may at its discretion change any fixture list at any time with consultation of both clubs involved. However, if no agreement is made FT will determine the roster in consultation with the home team.

14.3 Match Duration

The duration of League matches for in each age group are outlined in the table below:

Age Group	Each Half	Half Time break
Seniors/ Under 20/18s	45 minutes	15 minutes
Under 16s/17s	40 minutes	10 minutes
Under 14s/15s	35 minutes	5 minutes
Under 13s	30 minutes	5 minutes
Senior Youth Girls	35 minutes	5 minutes
Junior Youth Girls	30 minutes	5 minutes

14.4 Forfeits

Any Club that, without just cause, fails to fulfil a fixture is deemed to have forfeited that match. The offending Club shall also be liable for any reasonable expenses incurred by its opponents and match officials cost relative to that fixture or fixtures. The Company Disciplinary Committee may then deal with the offending Club.

A request to forfeit will not be accepted for either National Premier League (NPL) or Women's Super League (WSL)

Matches shall start within fifteen (15) minutes of the stipulated starting time. Any team that is unable to begin a match after this period shall have forfeited the match. When a match starts later than the

stipulated time, the referee at their discretion can shorten the match. Two (2) equal halves shall be played at all times.

Written reasons for late kick off for NPL, WSL or Championship competitions should be sent to the Competitions Manager.

Teams must field at least seven (7) of its registered players, who are eligible to compete in that league competition, at the start of any match. Failure to do so will result in the offending team forfeiting the match.

In the event of a match being called off or abandoned due to insufficient numbers of players on one team as per Laws of the Game, then the team responsible for the match being called off or abandoned shall be deemed to have forfeited the match.

If a team other than NPL or WSL informs FT or an opposition club they are unable to field a team less than 14 days prior to the scheduled match, the match will be a FORFEIT and will not be postponed.

14.5 Penalties for Forfeits

In the event that a team forfeits its match, then full points shall be awarded to their opponent and the goals recorded being three (3) goals scored by the team getting the points to nil (0) by the team who has forfeited. Clubs must advise the Company in writing that they will be forfeiting a match by no later than 12.00 pm on the Friday prior to fixtures.

If a Club fails to provide sufficient notice and advises a forfeit less than 14 days prior to the fixture as set out in 14.4, the following penalties may be imposed on the offending Club: -

- A monetary fine of \$200.
- The requirement to pay all appropriate referee and assistant referee's fees and ground hire costs.
- The requirement to pay compensation to opposing Clubs as determined by the Company.

Teams forfeiting on three (3) occasions without a satisfactory explanation provided in writing to the Company shall be removed from the competition.

If a Northern or Southern Championship club (in Men or Women's) has a team removed from either Championship or Championship 1 due to forfeits, they will be required to play Championship 1 and will be removed from the Championship competition. They will also receive a nine (9) point penalty.

In the event of a walk-off by one Club prior to the completion of a match the team will be considered to have forfeited the match and the Club shall be liable to penalties under Rule 15.5 in addition to other penalties and/or sanctions as the Company sees fit.

14.5.1 Youth Competition forfeits

If a Club fails to provide sufficient notice as set out in 14.4 & 14.5, the following penalties may be imposed on the offending Club:

1. a fine of \$100; and
2. The requirement to pay all appropriate referee and assistant referees fees should the notice of forfeit not be received prior to the match officials attending the ground.

14.6 How Forfeits Affect Suspensions

When the forfeiting Club has a player suspended in that division, the match forfeited by their Club, will not count as a match served on their suspension.

When a Club receives a forfeit, any player under suspension in that division will have one match deducted from their suspension. If the suspended player is an irregular player then the determining factor is whether they have played the majority of their games in this division.

14.7 Postponed Matches/ Weather Conditions

In the event of any match not being played due to weather, either as a result of ground closure by the respective local council or by the home club or a decision taken by the referee under Law 5 of the Laws of the Game, or other cause over which neither Club has any control, on being ordered to be replayed, it shall be at a time and place decided by the Company. The Company shall determine a new venue and date as soon as possible. When the home team's ground is closed, it shall, where practical, promptly inform visiting teams and the Company of the closure.

If the grounds are closed by Friday by the relevant Councils, the Company shall notify the public via its Facebook page and the appropriate referees' co-ordinators of the cancellation of those games. In the event of all games in the league round being cancelled, they shall be replayed on the first available weekend.

Notifications of ground closures or roster alterations shall be made via the Football Tasmania Facebook page.

In the case of a postponement caused by wet weather and an alternative date for the game cannot be supplied by either the Clubs or the Company, the result shall be recorded as a 1-1 result.

In the event of some games being played and others not when the Company has not cancelled the games and the Councils have not closed the grounds (or the game(s) are at grounds not under the Councils' control), the results for the played matches shall stand and the unplayed games shall be played on the first available date. In the event that not all rostered games can be played in the playing year (generally as a consequence of ground unavailability), the Company will record any unplayed fixtures as 1-1 results.

Where a club believes that a team will not be able to fulfil the commitment to participate in a scheduled match due to extenuating circumstances, they may submit a request for a match to be postponed. Such application shall be provided to FT via lodgement of the online form (Fixture Change Request Form. <https://footballfedtas.com.au/rules-forms/>) and must be received no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled match date.

FT, in its discretion, shall rule on the validity of the request and shall either assist the clubs involved to arrange a revised date for the match or require the match to be played at a time determined by FT (which may include the completion of the fixture as originally scheduled).

15 Match Balls

For all matches, the home team is responsible for providing three Competition approved match balls from the FT approved ball sponsor/s.

Breach of regulation 15 will result in a \$50 fine for each offence.

All Leagues shall use size 5 match balls except for the U13 Youth and Junior Youth Girls. These two Leagues shall use size 4 match balls.

16 Match Results

All match results and goals scored in matches shall be recorded by FT from the official Match Report submitted to the Company at the conclusion of each match.

The Match Report will be submitted by the appointed referee. Where no referee has been appointed, the Match Report must be submitted by the home team manager. The online Club_Match_Report form is available at <https://footballfedtas.com.au/rules-forms/>

It is the responsibility of the home Match Manager in any Championship level game or higher to advise FT by phone or text message of the full-time score, within thirty (30) minutes of completion of the game. FT shall advise the contact number prior to the start of the rostered fixtures each year.

17 Admission Fees

NPL, Women's Super League, Southern and Northern Championship

Admission fees to all matches shall be determined by the Company prior to the commencement of each season and no Club shall charge a fee greater than that which has been determined by the Company:

NPL

Adults \$ 8

Concession \$4

Children 12 and Under Free

WSL, Southern and Northern Championship (when on the same day as NPL match)

Adults up to a maximum of \$8

Concession up to a maximum of \$4

Children 12 and Under Free

It is up to the discretion of WSL and Championship clubs on what value to set for gate prices. Please note that the value cannot exceed the maximum stipulated above.

It is up to the discretion of any NPL club on when to charge gate fees. The amount charged cannot be below the mandated amount.

18 Ladder Positions

18.1 Ladder Positions

In all roster competitions conducted by the Company, ladder placing shall be decided by awarding three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a draw and zero (0) points for a loss. The team finishing first on the table shall be deemed the League Champions.

Goals difference shall be decided by deducting the number of goals scored against a team from the number of goals scored by that team and goal difference will be applied to decide a team's placing where its points are equal to the points scored by another team.

In the event that the goal difference is also equal, the team scoring the greatest number of goals shall be deemed the better team for placing purposes.

If still equal, the position on the ladder shall be decided by the team that has scored the greater number of away goals. If teams are still equal, a playoff match between the equal teams shall take place. If this is not possible the position will be decided by drawing lots.

19 Suspension of Play & Abandoned Matches

19.1 Suspension of Play

A suspension to the commencement of play, or a suspension of a game once play has begun, may be considered necessary by the Match Officials:

- a) when participant safety is at risk (eg. extreme weather – electrical storms, blizzard, hail, fog, excessive heat – or poor crowd behaviour); or
- b) where other circumstances affect the continuation of a match (eg floodlight failure, delay due to severe injury).

Such decisions shall be made at the Match Referee's discretion, following a period of consultation with the other Match Officials and Team Staff (Coaches, Managers, Captains and Match Managers as deemed appropriate by the Match Referee).

19.2 Abandoned Matches

Where a match is delayed in its commencement or interrupted at any point during play by a decision to suspend play and that suspension of play lasts in excess of 45mins, the match shall be abandoned.

Should a match be abandoned after 65 minutes of play have elapsed, the Company shall determine whether the score shall stand.

If the match is abandoned on or before the 65th minute of play, the match shall be replayed, unless the abandonment of the match is the consequence of disciplinary or similar action taken by the referee. In such case the Company shall determine whether or not the match shall be replayed.

In such cases the home team Club shall be responsible for the payment of match fees to all referees assigned to the match in any capacity.

20 Intrastate, Interstate and Overseas Matches

At all times during a playing year a Club shall make its players available for such interstate, intrastate or representative matches as may from time to time be conducted, organised or controlled by the Company.

20.1 Overseas Matches

If a Member wishes to send a team overseas, such Member shall provide the Company with full details of its proposed itinerary together with supporting letters from the governing body proposed to be visited, and upon receipt of such material written permission for the visit shall be sought by the Company from FA in accordance with FIFA Rules and Regulations.

20.2 Interstate Matches

No Member shall send a team to play any match interstate without first obtaining the written consent of the Company.

The Company may in its absolute discretion refuse to give its approval for a member to send a team interstate and shall not be required to give any reason for such refusal.

No Member shall host a match against an interstate team without first obtaining the written consent of the Company. Written consent will only be given to matches or tournaments that adhere to FIFA Laws of the Game. No variations to the FIFA Laws of the Game will be approved.

The Company may in its absolute discretion refuse to give approval for a Member to host a match or competition against any opposition and shall not be required to give any reason for such refusal.

20.3 Intrastate Matches

This rule pertains to any game which is not a match in a Company approved competition.

No Member shall send a team to play intrastate without first obtaining written consent from the Company. The Company may in its absolute discretion refuse to give its approval for a member to send a team intrastate and shall not be required to give any reason for such refusal.

21 Disciplinary System

For the purposes of this Rule, the term “Company” does not include either the Tribunal or Appeals Board.

21.1 General (all competitive leagues)

Any breach of the FIFA Laws of the Game, Constitution, By Laws or Rules shall be dealt with, where applicable, with the imposition of either:

- a) Caution (yellow card)

- b) Expulsion (red card)
- c) Misconduct charge against a participant in accordance with the provisions of these Rules.

21.2 Caution (Yellow Card Offences)

A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player or club official during a match to sanction unsporting behaviour of a less serious nature (Law 12 of the FIFA Laws of the Game).

Minor Infringements - Yellow Card (Caution) Codes

Y1 unsporting behaviour

Y2 dissent by word or action

Y3 persistent infringements of the Laws of the Game

Y4 delaying the restart of play

Y5 failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in

Y6 entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the Referee's permission

A player or club official receiving two cautions during the same match will incur an expulsion (indirect red card and, consequently, automatic suspension from the next match).

If a Player receives two Yellow Cards during the same Match and therefore receives an Indirect Red Card, the two Yellow Cards will be expunged from the player's record.

If a Player receives a Yellow Card and 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

No Mandatory Match Suspension applies for the accumulation of Yellow Cards in Friendlies.

21.3 Administration of Cautions

The Company will regulate and record cautions (yellow cards) as follows:

- a) When a club official has accumulated three (3) cautions during the same season in the same competition, they will receive a one-match suspension, as determined by the Company. The Company will also impose a \$100 fine on the club official's club.
- b) When a club official has accumulated five (5) cautions during the same season in the same competition, they will receive a two-match suspension, as determined by the Company. The Company will also impose a \$150 fine on the player and club official's club.

- c) If any club official receives an additional three (3) cautions (that is, eight (8) cautions in the same season, in the same competition) they will receive a further one (1) match suspension and be required to appear before the Tribunal. The Tribunal will decide whether to further suspend the player or club official which may include the rest of the season. The Company will also impose a fine of \$200 on the player or club official's Club.
- d) When a player accumulates five (5) cautions during the same season in the same competition, they will receive a one-match suspension, as determined by the Company. The Company will also impose a fine of \$75 on the player's Club.
- e) The Company will use its best endeavours to notify Clubs whose players are suspended before the next rostered match. **If the company has not notified the club of the suspension it is the club's responsibility to ensure the player does not play in the next rostered match.**
- f) If any player receives an additional three (3) cautions (that is, eight (8) cautions in the same season, in the same competition), they will receive a further one (1) match suspension. The Company will also impose a fine of \$125 on the player's Club.
- g) If any player receives an additional two (2) cautions (that is, eight (8) cautions in the same season, in the same competition) they will receive a further one (1) match suspension and be required to appear before the Tribunal. The Tribunal will decide whether to further suspend the player which may include the rest of the season. The Company will also impose a fine of \$200 on the player's Club.

21.3.1 Serving of accumulated cautions suspension

A player who receives a suspension for accumulated cautions must serve that suspension in that relevant competition. For the avoidance of doubt, this means if the player receives a suspension in the Championship then it will be served in Championship and not Summer Cup, FFA Cup or Lakoseljac Cup competitions. **Clubs are responsible for tracking the accumulated cautions of their players.**

21.4 Expulsion (Red Card Offences)

An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match.

Expulsion takes the form of a red card for both players and coaches. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions serious unsporting behaviour as defined by Law 12 of the FIFA Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards.

Serious Infringements - Red Card (Expulsion) Codes

R1 serious foul play

R2 violent conduct

R3 spitting at an opponent or any other person

R4 denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his or her own penalty area)

R5 otherwise denying a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent as prescribed by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game

R6 using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures

R7 receiving a second caution in the same Match

In accordance with Law 5 of the Laws of the Game, a Referee may take action against a Team Official who fails to act in a responsible manner and may Expel the Team Official from the field of play and its immediate surrounds, including the substitutes' bench.

A player or club official shall be deemed to have served a suspension in full when the team in which the player or club official was participating when suspended has played the equal amount of games as the player's or club official's suspension allocated, and the round of matches for that week has been fully completed, even if served in a match that is later abandoned and/or cancelled.

The player or coach may not participate in any other games sanctioned by the Company during the period of their suspension.

The match referee shall record the player's identification number or obtain the name of the club official from the team sheet and lodge the send-off report and/or misconduct form with the Company.

The Company will impose a Club fine for send-off offences in the competition as per Schedule 4.

Any player sent off the field of play on two (2) occasions in the same season, will incur an additional one (1) match suspension. This suspension cannot be appealed and must be served immediately after the automatic game suspension as defined in the Fixed Penalty System (clause 21.4.1).

A non-playing Club Official who has been sent off from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area, must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 1 Match in addition to any further fixed penalty suspensions. This applies to all club matches assigned for that weekend.

The Company shall also impose a fine of \$200 (MFP 1/MFP 2) on the non-playing Club Official's club.

Any player sent off the field of play on three or more occasions in the same season will incur an additional two (2) match suspension, on top of the fixed penalty handed down by the Company. This suspension cannot be appealed and must be served immediately after the automatic game suspension. The player will be required to appear before the Tribunal. The Tribunal will decide whether to suspend the player for the rest of the season.

A non-playing Club Official who has been expelled from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area on 2 occasions during a Competition Season, must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 2 Matches in addition to any further fixed penalty suspensions. This applies to all club matches assigned for that weekend.

The Company shall also impose a fine of \$300 (MFP 1/MFP 2) on the non-playing Club Official's club.

A non-playing Club Official who has been sent off from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area on 3 occasions during a Competition Season, must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 3 Matches and will need to attend a hearing of the Disciplinary Tribunal to determine if further sanction is required. This applies to all club matches assigned for that weekend.

In addition, the Company shall also impose a fine of \$500 (MFP 1/MFP 2) on the non-playing Club Official's Club.

A medical Team Official (for example, a doctor or physiotherapist) who commits an Expulsion Offence may remain in the immediate surrounds of the field of play, including on the substitutes' bench, if the team has no other medical person available, and may act if a Player needs medical attention.

Expulsions (red cards) will be governed by the Fixed Penalty System.

21.4.1 Fixed Penalty System

A Fixed Penalty System shall apply to all expulsions (red card offences) incurred during the Company competition season.

The Company reserves the right to refer any send-off report to the Tribunal for determination, which may result in the penalty being increased above the fixed penalty suspension specified.

A player who receives a red card in a Company fixture shall be subject to the suspensions at Schedule 1.

21.4.2 Participant Misconduct

After being shown the red card and/or ordered to leave the field of play, Technical Area or surrounds of the ground, if a Participant or non-playing participant refuses to comply or commits an additional offense in particular MFP10, 11, 12 or 13 as prescribed in Schedule 2 of Misconduct Fixed Penalties, the sanction will be added to the original send-off sanction for that Participant.

For the avoidance of doubt the content of a match official's report is deemed accurate unless proven otherwise on evidence.

21.4.3 Substantiating evidence

Should a Club wish to challenge a sanction of participant misconduct based on the statements in a match official's report then the Club must present all relevant evidence to Football Tasmania, who at their discretion may withdraw the additional sanction issued after the send-off, if there is sufficient evidence to warrant this action.

21.4.4 Match suspensions

A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition or to attend it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.

The suspension is imposed in terms of matches/games, days, months or years.

Suspensions incurred by a Participant shall be served in consecutive fixtures, until such time as those suspensions are completed (and may carry over to the subsequent Playing Year).

Should a Participant be suspended in another competition and/or with another affiliated organization (excluding International and Representative Teams), that Participant will serve the suspension accordingly in the Company competition.

21.4.5 Tribunal request against Fixed Penalty Suspension

A Club whose Participant has been expelled (red card) and suspended in accordance with the Fixed Penalty System may lodge a Tribunal Request. The Tribunal Request may only relate to the severity of the additional fixed penalty.

The Tribunal cannot dismiss the expulsion (red card) and/or automatic one (1) game suspension from the participant's record.

The Club must lodge with the Company within seven (7) business days of notification of the fixed penalty:

- a letter under Club letterhead and signed by the Club secretary, containing the information referenced in clause 10.2 (b) of the National Disciplinary Regulations ;
- a payment of a fee of \$300 (GST inclusive).

Any Tribunal Request that is successful in reducing the penalty, will have 50% of the fee refunded to the Club. The Company will not accept a Tribunal Request that fails to meet all the requirements as specified under 21.4.5 .

Once a Player has served the automatic one game suspension, then the Player will be eligible to play pending the outcome of the Tribunal decision. Provided complying notification of an appeal has been lodged.

21.5 Misconduct

The Company may initiate an investigation into any matter considered relevant to whether a Participant may have committed an offence.

The investigation may be initiated on the basis of a match official's report, a Club complaint, video evidence that may be available, a report from any other relevant person or on the initiative of the Company administration. An investigation may include written or verbal communication between FT, clubs, participants and any relevant witnesses.

Where there has been a report of a matter which could constitute a serious breach of FIFA Laws of the Game, the Constitution, By Laws or Rules, the Company may appoint an Investigating Officer. An Investigating Officer has the power to call on all people that may be able to give greater clarity to the alleged breach.

Participants shall comply with all reasonable requests made to them by the Investigating Officer or the Company for the purposes of an investigation. A failure or refusal to comply with a request, without reasonable excuse, shall constitute misconduct and hence be capable of being heard, upon charge, before the Tribunal.

The Company reserves the right to decide whether any alleged breach of the FIFA Laws of the Game, the Constitution, By Laws, Rules or registration and transfer procedures is to be referred to the Tribunal as a Misconduct Charge or dealt with by the Misconduct Fixed Penalty System or whether no action is to be taken.

An additional sanction will be imposed on a Club for the misconduct of a team, including when:

- a) Five players and/or team officials are cautioned or sent off in one match; or
- b) Three players and/or team officials are sent off in one match; or
- c) 2 or more players and/or team officials together surround, make threats or show force against a match official; or
- d) Its participants engage in a melee or brawl.

21.5.1 Misconduct Charges

The Company reserves the right to charge Participants with misconduct or with behaviour prejudicial to the interests of the game and/or the Company, which shall be heard and determined by the Tribunal. The alleged misconduct or behaviour prejudicial to the interests of the game may include, but shall not be limited to breaches of the FIFA Laws of the Game, the Constitution, By Laws, FA Code of Conduct, Rules or registration and transfer procedures.

21.5.2 Misconduct Fixed Penalties

The Company has adopted a Misconduct Fixed Penalty System that may be applied to allegations of misconduct.

The Misconduct Fixed Penalty System sets out minimum penalties for each breach and are detailed in Schedule 2 of these Rules, specifically MFP1- 9.

The Company shall investigate alleged breaches detailed in a Misconduct Report, Incident Report and/or any other relevant evidence presented. This may be evidence gathered by the Investigating Officer. The participant alleged to have engaged in misconduct is not contacted by the Investigating Officer at this stage. The Company may then issue any one of or a combination of Misconduct Fixed Penalties.

A Misconduct Fixed Penalty Notice shall clearly specify the alleged conduct upon which the Notice is based.

The Company reserves the right to refer any misconduct charge to the Tribunal but reserves the right to withdraw any charge on the basis of insufficient evidence.

In the event of a team receiving 5 or more cautions in a game and the official match referee submitting a match report to that effect, FT will issue the offending club with the prescribed fine for the MFP 9.

Should a club wish to challenge the MFP finding 1-9 then it must do so under the process prescribed in section 21.5.3.

21.5.3 Tribunal request against Misconduct Fixed Penalty

The Misconduct Fixed Penalties outline the minimum penalty for each offence. Parties that have been issued with a Misconduct Fixed Penalty cannot request a Tribunal hearing against the severity of the penalty under any circumstances.

Parties that have been issued with a Misconduct Fixed Penalty can lodge a Tribunal Request against the finding of guilt only. Accordingly, such parties must enter a not guilty plea. There shall be no leniency or reduction in the penalty by the Tribunal or the Company for a guilty plea or a guilty finding. If the Tribunal finds the Club guilty of the charge, then the tribunal may only confirm or increase the initial penalty.

A Tribunal Request against the Misconduct Fixed Penalty must:

- a) be lodged with the Company within four (4) business days of notification of the penalty
- b) The Tribunal Request letter must be under Club letterhead and signed by the Club secretary, containing the information referenced in clause 10.2 (b) of the National Disciplinary Regulations be signed by the Club Secretary.
- c) A payment of \$300 must accompany each Tribunal Request.

Any Tribunal Request that is successful in reducing the penalty, will have 50% of the fee refunded to the Club.

Once a Club formally lodges a Tribunal Request against the Misconduct Fixed Penalty, no penalties issued under the Misconduct Fixed Penalty System shall be imposed while the Tribunal decision is pending.

21.6 Disciplinary Procedure

21.6.1. Rationale

As per the FA National Disciplinary Regulations, and FA Grievance Resolution Regulations, the Company has the right to impose disciplinary sanctions to enforce and encourage compliance with the FA National Registration Regulation and the FT Competition Regulations.

21.6.2 FT's Jurisdiction

21.6.2.1

This Disciplinary Procedure shall apply exclusively to facilitate the expeditious and fair resolution of disputes that arise between Participants within the State of Tasmania, including an entity (Association or Club) and/or an individual (including a Player, Official, or Coach).

21.6.2.2

Each entity and/or individual shall submit exclusively to the jurisdiction of this Disciplinary Procedure, and agrees that unless this procedure has been exhausted, it will not attempt to resolve the grievance in accordance with the FA Grievance Resolution Regulations, or in a court of law.

21.6.3. Establishment of the Tribunal

21.6.3.1

A Tribunal shall be established by the Company.

21.6.3.2

The Tribunal shall consist of at least three (3) persons appointed by the Company, one (1) of whom shall be chair. Employees of the Company and members of the Appeals Board may not be appointed to the Tribunal.

21.6.4. Jurisdiction of the Tribunal

21.6.4.1

The Tribunal shall hear and determine, and where appropriate impose sanctions against a Club and/or Participant in respect of:

- i) any report, charge or matter referred to it under the FA National Disciplinary Regulations and FA Grievance Resolution Regulations;
- ii) any report, charge or matter referred to it under the FT Competition Regulations, FT Player Code of Conduct, Officials Code of Conduct, or Coaches Code of Conduct; and/or
- iii) any other report charge or matter referred to it under this Procedure.

21.6.4.2

A member of the Tribunal shall not hear or determine any infringement if that member has a conflict of interest, actual or perceived, including if there is any reason where a private or personal interest could influence the way the member performs their duties.

21.6.4.3

Each member of the Tribunal shall have a single vote and all decisions of the Tribunal will be made by majority vote. If there is an equality of votes the sitting Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

21.6.5. Timeframes

21.6.5.1

The Club and/or Participant shall submit a signed written report to Football Tasmania.

The report shall detail any contravention of any rule or regulation which is observed and warrants a sanction greater than that determined by the FT Competition Regulations in accordance with the recommended FA sanctions for major infringements.

The report shall be submitted by post, e-mail or fax or in person within 48 hours, where possible, following the alleged infringement.

21.6.5.2

Football Tasmania shall defer the report to the Tribunal for determination at a hearing.

21.6.5.3

Football Tasmania shall send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice to the Club notifying them of a disciplinary hearing within 48 hours, where possible, following receipt of the written report.

21.6.5.4

The Disciplinary Infringement Notice shall provide:

- i) the name of the individual or club or entity to appear at the hearing
- ii) reasonable and sufficient detail of the alleged infringement
- iii) notice of possible sanctions as outlined in the rules and regulations and
- iv) date, time and place of the disciplinary hearing

21.6.5.5

Football Tasmania shall only make available to the parties to the matter those matters as detailed above prior to the Tribunal Hearing.

21.6.5.6

Football Tasmania, where possible, will set a disciplinary hearing before the next applicable match, or within five (5) business days of the alleged infringement.

21.6.5.7

The Tribunal/Appeal Hearing will proceed at the date and time specified on the Disciplinary Infringement Notice/Appeal Notice as provided by the FT. A request for adjournment can be made by the relevant party. Any adjournment will be at the discretion of the Tribunal.

21.6.5.8

The entity representative and/or individual shall have the opportunity to make submissions in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction prior to the Tribunal hearing.

21.6.6. Procedure at Tribunals

22.6.6.1

Tribunal hearings shall not be bound by the rules of evidence usually applicable to proceedings in courts of law, but all hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the principles of natural justice.

22.6.6.2

Alleged infringements shall be determined by reference to relevant FA statutes and FT rules and regulations, including the FA National Disciplinary Regulations, FA National Registration Regulations, FA Grievance Resolution Regulations, and FT Competition Regulations.

21.6.6.3

The entity representative and/or individual shall have had reasonable and sufficient notice of the alleged infringement, and the opportunity to be heard and to make submissions in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction.

21.6.6.4

The Tribunal shall hear additional evidence from the individual/entity and witnesses, prior to making a decision and determining any appropriate sanction.

21.6.6.5 Legal practitioners shall not act as advocates for respondents the Company or any other parties.

21.6.6.6 The Tribunal may:

- i. permit individuals and entities to attend the hearing in person or by telephone, with a representative;
- ii. a participant may write to the Company outlining a valid reason for not appearing before the Tribunal and agreeing to the charge being determined in their absence. In this situation the participant must present a plea (guilty or not guilty) and must outline a defence to the charge;
- iii. order the attendance of any person under the jurisdiction of these procedures as a witness for the purpose of asking questions relevant to the infringement;
- iv. refuse entry to any person not directly involved in the matter, including the media
- v. admit and request the production of documents, reports from a Match Official, statements from the parties and witnesses, expert opinion and video or audio recordings and may require documents and statements to be submitted prior to any hearing;
- vi. grant or order an adjournment to provide parties with additional time or to consider additional information;
- vii. take into account the contents of the Referee's Report;
- viii. hear and determine a matter in a party's absence if the individual or entity fails to attend a hearing, including determining an infringement and/or sanction.

21.6.7. Disciplinary Sanctions

21.6.7.1

When determining any appropriate sanction against an entity and/or individual, the Tribunal may consider:

- i. Recommended sanctions as contained in the FA National Disciplinary Regulations;
- ii. the nature and severity of the infringement;
- iii. the offender's past record and whether or not this is a repeated offence;
- iv. the culpability of the offender;
- v. any reasons prompting a player to commit an infringement;
- vi. any remorse of the offender; and/or
- vii. any extenuating circumstances;

21.6.7.2

The Tribunal may impose penalties in accordance with the FA National Disciplinary Regulations and the FT Competition Regulations.

21.6.8. Tribunal Determination

21.6.8.1

The Tribunal shall present its findings in person at the conclusion of the hearing. The Chair of the Tribunal will provide a written determination of these findings as determined by the Tribunal including any sanctions against an entity and/or an individual within five (5) business days to the club or entity where possible.

21.6.9. Appeals of a Tribunal Determination

21.6.9.1

An appeal notice against any determination of the Tribunal shall be submitted to Football Tasmania together with the appeal fee within five (5) business days after the date of which the written determination was received.

21.6.9.2

Process of appealing;

- A letter under Club letterhead and signed by an authorised officer of the Club outlining the basis for the appeal;
- A payment of a fee of \$500.00 (GST incl.)

The Company will not accept an Appeal that fails to meet all the requirements as above.

Any appeal that is upheld, or is successful in reducing the penalty, partly, or wholly, will result in 50% of the fee being refunded to the Club.

All applications for appeal must fully state the grounds of the appeal as well as include supporting documentation.

No matter from the Tribunal may be brought to the Appeals Board unless:

- The disciplinary process has not been complied with or;
- Procedural fairness has been denied to the appellant or;
- The Tribunal's decision is in breach of the Constitution, By Laws or FA Statutes and Regulations or;
- The Tribunal's penalty is either manifestly inadequate or excessive.

21.6.9.3

An appeal of any determination shall only be made by clubs through FT.

21.6.9.4

The Appeals Board shall hear and determine appeals against any determination, taking into account any information that was put before the original Tribunal, and new or additional evidence.

21.6.9.5

The Appeals Board shall dismiss, allow in whole or part, or vary (reduce or increase) the determination, and impose any appropriate sanctions.

21.6.9.6

Participants summoned to appear before the Appeals Board must attend when advised, otherwise the appeal will be determined in their absence. The Appeals Board reserves the right to fine a participant that fails to appear.

21.6.9.7

A participant may write to the Company outlining a valid reason for not appearing before the Appeals Board and agreeing to the appeal being determined in their absence. In this situation the participant must outline the reasons the appeal should be upheld.

21.6.9.8

Participants shall comply with all reasonable requests made to them by the Appeals Board. Failure to do so may constitute misconduct and may be heard at a separate hearing.

21.6.10. Establishment of the Tribunal Appeals Board

21.6.10.1

The Company will appoint an Appeals Board to hear appeals against the decisions of the Tribunal. The Appeals Board shall consist of at least three (3) persons appointed by the Board, one (1) of whom shall be chair.

Employees of the Company and members of the original Tribunal may not be appointed to the Appeals Board.

21.6.10.2

The Tribunal Appeals Board shall follow the same jurisdiction, timeframes, procedure and sanctions as the original Tribunal hearing as contained in this procedure.

21.6.11. Appeals of a Tribunal Appeals Board Decision

The decisions of the Appeals Board shall be final and binding on all parties.

21.7 Offences by non- playing participants

21.7.1 Expulsion of non-playing participants

A referee may expel a non-playing Club Official (coach, assistant coach, manager or sports trainer) from the field of play, its surrounds and the technical area if the Club Official is, in the opinion of the referee, guilty of Misconduct. This will take the form of a red card.

21.7.2

A non-playing Club Official that has been sent off may not be present inside the perimeter fence or barrier, where one is present, or within 20 metres of the field of play where no perimeter fence or barrier is present, until at least 15 minutes following the end of the Match. This applies to all club matches assigned for that weekend.

21.7.3

A non-playing Club Official who has been sent off from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area, must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 1 Match in addition to any further fixed penalty suspensions. This applies to all club matches assigned for that weekend.

The Company shall also impose a fine of \$200 (MFP 1/MFP 2) on the non-playing Club Official's club.

21.7.4

A non-playing Club Official who has been expelled from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area on 2 occasions during a Competition Season, must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 2 Matches in addition to any further fixed penalty suspensions. This applies to all club matches assigned for that weekend.

The Company shall also impose a fine of \$300 (MFP 1/MFP 2) on the non-playing Club Official's club.

21.7.5

A non-playing Club Official who has been sent off from the field of play, its surrounds and the Technical Area on 3 occasions during a Competition Season, must serve an Automatic Match Suspension of 3 Matches and will need to attend a hearing of the Disciplinary Tribunal to determine if further sanction is required. This applies to all club matches assigned for that weekend.

In addition, the Company shall also impose a fine of \$500 (MFP 1/MFP 2) on the non-playing Club Official's Club.

21.7.6

The imposition of an Automatic Match Suspension is immediate. For completeness, the Company must issue a Disciplinary Infringement Notice, but for the avoidance of doubt, the Automatic Match

Suspension is effective regardless of whether or not the Disciplinary Infringement Notice is received by the Club of the expelled non-playing Club official before the next match.

21.7.7

A non-playing Club Official who is sent off by a referee in accordance with Misconduct Fixed Penalties (MFP 1) may not participate in any Football Tasmania match on the same day either as a Player, coach, ground official, Club referee, Club assistant referee or in any other official capacity for the Club.

21.7.8

In addition to the Automatic Match Suspensions prescribed in clauses 3, 4 and 5, the non-playing Club Official will be subject to additional penalties in accordance with the Table of Offences as prescribed in Schedule 1- Fixed penalty suspensions R8 of the Competition Rules.”

21.8 Misbehaviour by Supporters/Fans

Clubs are responsible for the behaviour of their supporters and fans regardless of whether they are the home or away team in a fixture.

- a) The home team’s Club has responsibility for evicting supporters or fans that do not adhere to the conditions of entry to the ground, especially with respect to the possession or consumption of alcohol.
- b) The possession and/or lighting of flares or other flammable objects or the throwing of objects is strictly prohibited at all fixtures.
- c) As per FA Code of Conduct any behaviour that creates danger, nuisance, and serious annoyance or is of an offensive nature is strictly prohibited at all fixtures.
- d) The home team’s Club is responsible for admission into the ground or entry to the ground precinct. The home team Club may prevent entry to the ground and may evict any person suspected of being in possession or to have been in possession of flares, flammable objects or other items that are capable of creating danger, nuisance or serious annoyance at a fixture.

Any Club whose supporters, members or patrons have been found to be in breach of (b), (c) or (d) above, will be held fully accountable for the actions of their supporters, members or patrons. Clubs found to be in breach of (b), (c) or (d) shall be fined \$500 for each offence.

If the home team Club is found to have not reasonably carried out its responsibilities in this Rule 22.8, it shall be fined \$500. This is in addition to other penalties imposed under this clause.

Each Club must take steps to ensure that their supporters, members or patrons are made aware of these prohibitions and do not breach these requirements, regardless of whether they are playing at home or away.

The Company reserves the right to take further disciplinary action if it deems that it is necessary.

21.9 Code of Conduct/ Behaviour

All Clubs, players, supporters and Team Officials (coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, sports trainers) must adhere to the FA codes of conduct as adopted by the Company and available on the FT website, www.footballfedtas.com.au. The codes relate to behaviour of coaches, parents, players, spectators, Administrators and match officials at all matches.

Penalties may apply for breaching the specific codes and sanctions could include suspensions and or monetary fines dependent upon the nature of the breach.

21.10 Payment of Fines

All fines imposed for breaches of the disciplinary system will be invoiced to and be payable by the Club for which the participant who has breached the Rules is registered.

22 Awards

The following competitions will have Golden Boot and Best and Fairest awards attached to them: NPL-TAS, Women's Super League, Southern Championship, Northern Championship, Under 18s, Southern Championship 1, Northern Championship 1, Women's Southern Championship, Women's Northern Championship, Women's Southern Championship 1 .

Golden Boot awards will be awarded to the highest goal scorer in each of those competitions.

For the Best and Fairest Awards, the referee for each fixture will award votes. Three votes will be awarded to the best player, two votes to the next best player and one vote awarded to the third best player as judged by the referee.

The player who receives the most votes over the course of the season will win the Best and Fairest Medal for the competition, so long as the player has not received a single suspension offence of two or more games during the season and becomes ineligible to win the Best and Fairest Award.

If two or more players receive the same number of votes, the prize will be split and joint winners announced.



The following tables provide the recommended sanctions for offences within FT competitions. The range of sanctions fall within those set out in the NDRs which are mandatory.

Schedule 1 – Player Table of Offences

Item	Offence	Minimum Sanction
R1	Serious foul play (e.g. when challenging for the ball)	Mandatory Match + 2 matches
R2(a)	Violent conduct (e.g. assault on a player when not challenging for the ball)	Mandatory Match + 2 matches
R2(b)	Violent conduct – serious nature causing or potentially causing significant bodily harm to any person	Mandatory Match + 4 matches
R2(c)	Violent conduct – premeditated or prolonged assault or inciting a brawl	Mandatory Match + 5 matches
R3(a)	Spitting at an opponent	Mandatory Match + 5 matches
R3(b)	Spitting at a Match Official	Mandatory Match + 12 months
R4	Denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball	Mandatory Match
R5	Denies an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or penalty kick.	Mandatory Match
R6(a)	Uses offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gesture not directed at a match official.	Mandatory Match + 2 matches
R6(b)	Uses offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gesture against a match official	Mandatory Match + 4 matches
R6(c)	Use of discriminatory language and/or gestures, including racist, religious, ethnic or sexist	Mandatory Match + 12 months
R7	Receives a second caution during the same match	Mandatory Match

R8	Team Official Specific Offences (not covered in R1-R7)	
	1. Delaying the restart of play for the opposition	Mandatory Match
	2. Deliberately throwing / kick an object onto the field of play	Mandatory Match
	3. Physical aggressive behaviour towards any person other than a match official	Mandatory Match + 1
	4. Entering the field to confront a match official at half time or full time	Mandatory Match + 1
	5. Entering the field to confront a match official during a match	Mandatory Match + 2
	6. Entering the field to interfere with play or an opposing player	Mandatory Match + 1
	7. Entering the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner	Mandatory Match + 1

Schedule 2 – Misconduct fixed penalties (MFP)

Participant Misconduct

The following constitute misconduct prejudicial to the objects and/or interests of the Company and the sport of football. The following sanctions represent the minimum penalty that shall be imposed. The Company reserves the right to refer any misconduct charges directly to the Tribunal.

Item	Offence	Penalty
MFP 1	When Participants use Offensive, Insulting or Abusive language towards the match official/s during and/or after a fixture	\$200.00
MFP 2	When Participants use intimidating behaviour towards match official/s during and/or after a fixture	\$200.00
MFP 3	When Participants use Threatening language and/or behaviour towards the match official/s during and/or after a fixture. Including when 2 or more players surround any match official.	\$300.00
MFP 4	When Participants enter the field of play without the permission of the match official during a fixture	\$200.00
MFP 5	When a Club fails to take all reasonable steps to control participants during and/or after the fixture	\$500.00
MFP 6	When Club fails to complete team sheets and/or match report as per the Rules of Competition in a fixture	\$100.00
MFP 7	When several players together are involved in a melee during and/or after a fixture	\$300.00
MFP 8	When several players together use intimidating, offensive, insulting or abusive language against the match official/s after a fixture	\$300.00
MFP 9	When a team is guilty of Team Misconduct.	\$300.00

Player, non playing participant Misconduct

Item	Offence	Penalty
MFP 10	When player, or non-playing participant uses threatening language, intimidating behaviour and/or gesture/s , offensive, insulting or abusive language against the match official/s after being sent-off or removed from the technical area and/or after a fixture	Suspended for three (3) additional games in addition to any fixed penalty relating to the send off in Schedule 1.
MFP 11	When player, or non-playing participant uses obscene gesture/s against the match official/s after being sent-off or removed from the technical area and/or after a fixture	Suspended for one additional game to any fixed penalty relating to the send off in Schedule 1
MFP 12	When player, or non-playing participant fails when instructed by the match official/s to leave the field of play and the area immediately surrounding the field of play.	Suspended for an automatic two (2) games.
MFP 13	When player, or non-playing participant interferes in the officiating of a match by the match official/s.	Suspended for three (3) games in addition to any fixed penalty relating to the send off in Schedule 1.

Schedule 3 – Rostering and Nomination Principles

Nomination Process Principles	
Principle 1	Nomination Form
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nomination process will continue as an online JotForm • Once lodged there will be an automatic email receipt. • Next to each team’s nomination there will be a drop-down box that will describe the certainty that a team will be able to enter the competition
Principle 2	Cooling Off Period
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a 14-day cooling off period after nominating for a competition • If a team withdraws after the cooling off period a financial penalty will apply
Principle 3	Financial Penalties
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a team wishes to withdraw their nomination the following penalties will apply; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 15% of the Nomination Fee after the cooling off period ○ 50% of the nomination fee within four (4) weeks of the competition starting ○ 100% of the nomination fee if season has commenced • If a team wishes to nominate after the closing date the following administration fees will apply; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5% of the Nomination Fee after the cooling off period ○ 15% of the nomination fee within four (4) weeks of the competition starting ○ No nominations will be accepted after the season has commenced • Late nominations for Tier 1 Football - this is NPL and WSL – will not be accepted
Principle 4	Duplication
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football Tasmania will only accept the first nomination from the designated nomination representative

Schedule 4 – Penalty Matrix

Item	Offence	Penalty				
		Youth Football (Under 13-15)	Youth Football (Under 16)	Youth Football (Under 18)	Social Football (SC 2-6)	Senior Competition Adult Football
MFP 1	When Participants use Offensive, Insulting or Abusive language towards the match official/s during and/or after a fixture	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$200.00
MFP 2	When Participants use intimidating behaviour towards match official/s during and/or after a fixture	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$200.00
MFP 3	When Participants use Threatening language and/or behaviour towards the match official/s during and/or after a fixture. Including when 2 or more players surround any match official.	\$75	\$75	\$100	\$150	\$300.00
MFP 4	When Participants enter the field of play without the permission of the match official during a fixture	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$200.00
MFP 5	When a Club fails to take all reasonable steps to control participants during and/or after the fixture	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$250	\$500.00
MFP 6	When Club fails to complete team sheets and/or match report as per the Rules of Competition in a fixture	\$35	\$35	\$50	\$50	\$100.00

MFP 7	When several players together are involved in a melee during and/or after a fixture	\$75	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$300.00
MFP 8	When several players together use intimidating, offensive, insulting or abusive language against the match official/s after a fixture	\$75	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$300.00
MFP 9	When a team is guilty of Team Misconduct.	\$75	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$300.00
s6	Duties as a Match Manager	N/A	N/a	\$100	\$150	\$300.00
s6	Duties as a Team Manager	\$35	\$35	\$50	\$50	\$100.00
s13	Penalty for Breach of Player Eligibility Rules	\$50	\$50	\$75	\$75	\$200.00
s14.5	Penalties for Forfeits	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$200.00
s 21.3	Two Cautions for an Official	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
	Four Cautions for an Official	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
	Six Cautions for an Official	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
	Three Cautions for a Player	\$35	\$35	\$50	\$50	\$75.00
	Six Cautions for a Player	\$50	\$50	\$75	\$75	\$125.00
	Eight Cautions for a Player	\$75	\$75	\$125	\$125	\$200.00
s21.4	Minimum Send Off Penalty - First Red Card	\$35	\$35	\$50	\$50	\$75.00
	Minimum Send Off Penalty - Second Red Card	\$35	\$35	\$50	\$75	\$150.00
	Minimum Send Off Penalty - Third Red Card	\$75	\$75	\$100	\$150	\$250.00