



# **AFL RIVERINA BY-LAWS 2019**

AFL Riverina Senior Competition – Farrer & Riverina

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Topic	Sub Topic	Rule
INTRODUCTION		
DEFINITIONS		
1. AFL NSW/ACT REGULATIONS		
2. CLUB AFFILIATION		
3. COMPETITION MANAGEMENT	Attendance at Meetings	3.1
	Interpretation of the By-Laws	3.2
	Amendments	3.3
	Compliance	3.4
4. LAWS OF THE GAME AND POLICIES	Alcohol Policy	4.1
	Kick in Rule	4.2
	50 Metre penalties	4.3
	Loss of Points	4.4
	Conduct of Matches - Juniors	4.5
5. COMPETITIONS	Season	5.1
	Season Fixture	5.2
	Ladder	5.3
	Match Wins	5.4
	Forfeits	5.5
	Results of Matches	5.6
	Other Matches	5.7
6. REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL	Participation	6.1
	Venue Selection	6.2
	Offences in Interleague Matches	6.3
7. UNIFORMS AND LOGO REGULATIONS	Changes to Club Names and Logos	7.1
	Uniform Design	7.2
	Jumper Numbers	7.3
	Uniform Clashes	7.4
	AFL NSW/ACT & Club Approved Suppliers	7.5
	Sponsors Logos /Approved Suppliers	7.6
8. TEAMS		8
9. PLAYER NUMBERS	Number of Players – Senior Men's Competition	9.1
	Minimum Number of Players – Senior Competitions	9.2
	Number of Players – Senior Women's Competition	9.3
	Number of Player's – Junior & Youth Competitions	9.4
10. FINALS	Finals Structure	10.1
	Venue Selection	10.2
	Match Duration	10.3
	Match Conditions	10.4
	Drawn Finals	10.5
	Emergency Umpires	10.6

	Player eligibility	10.7
	Provision of Officials	10.8
	Catering and Gate Receipt Rights	10.9

11. MATCH DAY REQUIREMENTS	Match Day Paperwork	11.1
	Team Sheet	11.2
	Identification Checks	11.3
	Match Times	11.4
	Match Duration	11.5
	Incomplete Match	11.6
	Sirens	11.7
	Extreme Weather	11.8
	Wet Weather Procedures	11.9
	Ground Marking	11.10
	Goal Post Pads	11.11
	Scoreboard	11.12
	Change Rooms	11.13
	Timekeeping Facilities	11.14
12. CLUB MATCH RESPONSIBILITIES	Coaches	12.1
	Ground Manager	12.2
	Team Managers	12.3
	Team Runners	12.4
	Trainers, Other Medical Staff and Water Carriers	12.5
	Umpires Escort	12.6
	Timekeepers	12.7
	Officials on the Bench	12.8
	Injury Treatment	12.9
	Concussion	12.10
	Match Day Safety Check	12.11
13. UMPIRES	Appointments	13.1
	Availability	13.2
	Umpire Requirements	13.3
	Field and Goal Umpire Numbers	13.4
	Umpire Fees	13.5
	Payment of Umpires	13.6
	Umpire Match Report	13.7
	Club Report on Umpires	13.8
	Minimum Umpire Age	13.9
	Club Umpires	13.10
	Reporting of Players and Officials	13.11
	Approaching Umpires	13.12
14. CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES	Prescribed Penalties	14.1
	Code of Conduct	14.2
	Power to Investigate	14.3
	Co-operation	14.4
	Failure to Co-operate	14.5
	Interpretation	14.6
	Power to Report	14.7
	Cittings of Clubs	14.8
	Appointment and Role of Tribunals	14.9
	Tribunal Hearings	14.10
	Report of Junior Players	14.11
	Player and Official De-Registration	14.12

	Club Websites	14.13
	Media / Statements	14.14
15.ORDER OFF RULE	Yellow Cards	15.1
	Red Cards	15.2
	Recording of Send-Off	15.3
16.APPEALS		
17. FINANCE	Fees	17.1
	Fines	17.2
	Outstanding Accounts	17.3
	Dishonoured Cheques	17.4
	Club Finances	17.5
	Insurance	17.6
18. ELECTRONIC & OTHER IMAGES		
19. AWARDS		
20. GENERAL	Resolution of Disputes Within Clubs	20.1
	League Colours	20.2
	Matters not Provided For	20.3
Appendix "A"	Prescribed Penalty System for Reported Player	
Appendix "B"	Incident Referral Form	
Appendix "C"	Recording of Images	
Appendix "D"	Player Points System Policy (If applicable)	
Appendix "E"	Player Payment Rules (if applicable)	

**Attachment A – Player Eligibility in Finals**

**Attachment B – Match Times**

**Attachment C – Awards**

**Attachment D – Player Numbers**

## **Introduction**

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

## **Definitions**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Team Sheet** means the list of Players and Officials in Footyweb as required, to participate in a Match.

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

## **Interpretation**

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

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

## **BY-LAWS**

### **1. AFL NSW/ACT REGULATIONS**

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

### **2. CLUB AFFILIATION**

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

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

### **3. COMPETITION MANAGEMENT**

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

#### **3.1 Attendance at Meetings**

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

#### **3.2 Interpretation of the By-Laws**

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

#### **3.3 Amendments to By-Laws**

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

#### **3.4 Compliance**

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



- (B) Whilst AFL NSW/ACT and the League will provide information, guidance and assistance to Clubs where it is able on issues affecting their governance and operations, the responsibility to ensure compliance with all legal (including statutory) and other provisions and requirements affecting their operations lies with each Club.

#### **4. LAWS OF THE GAME AND POLICIES**

- (A) Except where otherwise noted in these By-Laws, Matches shall be played under the Laws of the Game as prescribed by the AFL from time to time.
- (B) Use of gloves by Players in junior Competitions is prohibited for development purposes. The field umpire may permit or allow the use of a glove(s) by a junior Player in a Match under exceptional circumstances, such as injury.
- (C) No Player shall be permitted to play in a Match wearing apparel or protective equipment which may cause injury to himself/herself or other Players. The field umpires may at their discretion inspect Players' equipment either before or at any time during the Match.
- (D) Undergarments in junior Matches, such as Lycra shorts, must be beige. Full length undergarments (items other than the playing jumper or shorts) may only be worn with the prior approval of the League. Short sleeved or sleeveless undergarments are acceptable.
- (E) All Clubs, Players and Officials agree to comply with AFL, AFL NSW/ACT and League By-Laws and Regulations including:
- a. the Laws of the Game;
  - b. the National Player Registration and Transfer Regulations;
  - c. the National Member Protection Policy;
  - d. the National Extreme Weather Policy;
  - e. the National Vilification and Discrimination Policy;
  - f. the National Gambling Policy;
  - g. the National Player and Official Deregistration Policy;
  - h. the Anti-Doping Policy;
  - i. the Sports Trainers in Community Australian Football Policy;
  - j. the Working With Children Policy;
  - k. the AFL NSW/ACT Statement on Electronic Communications;
  - l. the National Age Dispensation Policy – NSW/ACT;
  - m. the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT;
  - n. the National Disciplinary Tribunal Guidelines
  - o. the AFL NSW/ACT Regulations;
  - p. the AFL NSW/ACT Code of Conduct;
  - q. the AFL NSW/ACT Code of Practice for infectious diseases;
  - r. these By-Laws.
  - s. National Coaching Accreditation Policy
- (F) To the extent that these By-Laws are inconsistent with any AFL or AFL NSW/ACT regulation, rule or policy, the AFL or AFL NSW/ACT regulation or policy will prevail to the extent of that inconsistency.

##### **4.1 Alcohol Policy**

- (A) Alcohol is permitted to be sold at a League venue by the Host Club. In such cases the Host Club must have the appropriate liquor licence issued by the relevant authority and consent, if required, of the local council.
- (B) Alcohol is not permitted to be brought into any League venue.

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

#### **4.2 Kick-In Rule**

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

#### **4.3 50 Metre Penalties**

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

- (A) uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards an Umpire;
- (B) behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards an Umpire;
- (C) intentionally, recklessly or negligently engages in conduct which affects, interferes with or prevents an Umpire from performing his or her duties; or
- (D) in cases where boundary fencing is not in place, the field umpire may require spectators to provide more space beyond the boundary and may refrain from recommencing the Match until the request is complied with.
- (E) Players may not play on during the advancement of any 50 metre Penalty and must wait until the field Umpire signals time back on (variation from 2019 Laws of the Game).

#### **4.4 Loss of Points**

- (A) Where a Team is determined as losing a Match as a result of a breach of the Regulations or these By-Laws, the Competition points or 'win' for the Match concerned will be credited to the opposing Team.
- (B) Points scored for and against each Team and goals kicked by Players remain unchanged

#### **4.5 Conduct of Matches – Juniors**

All junior & youth Matches will be conducted according to the principles outlined in the Australian Football Match Policy unless otherwise approved by AFL NSW/ACT.



## **5. COMPETITIONS**

### **5.1 Season**

The football season for Leagues will commence and conclude on the dates prescribed by the Competition Management Committee.

### **5.2 Season Fixture**

The League will prepare Season Fixture for each grade of Competition for distribution to Clubs prior to the start of the season.

- (A) Other than in exceptional circumstances as determined by the League, the Season Fixture will not be varied once the season has commenced.
- (B) Where a Season Fixture is prepared for a divisional structure, any byes, where possible, should be in the lower division.
- (C) Where the League does regrade a Team(s) after the commencement of a Competition, the Match Ratio (wins and losses) are included in the regraded Competition.
- (D) Each Competition Season Fixture will consist of a series of home and away Matches followed by a finals series of Matches.

### **5.3 Ladder**

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

### **5.4 Match wins**

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

### **5.5 Forfeits**

- (A) Any Club unable to play a Match for which it is scheduled is to advise the opposing Club and the League no later than midday the day prior to the Match or as otherwise prescribed by the League. The Match will be treated as a forfeit and provided an explanation is furnished to the League to its reasonable satisfaction, no sanction or penalty other than those specified in this By-Law will be imposed.
- (B) If there is a forfeit the Host Club must inform the Competition Management Committee as soon as reasonably practical.
- (C) Should a Club forfeit a Match without the required notice, a fine of up to \$1,000.00 may be imposed at the absolute discretion of the Competition Management Committee.

- (D) Where the League is unable to advise the appointed Umpires prior to such Umpires attending a forfeited Match, the League will pay the Umpires any Match fees or expenses and the forfeiting Club will be invoiced for the full amount.
- (E) Subject to By-Law 5.5 (D), if for any reason a Team is not ready to commence play 20 minutes after the scheduled commencement time for a Match, the opposing Club may claim the Match as a forfeit to be determined by the Competition Management Committee.
- (F) All Clubs must field a senior grade Team in the home and away Competition unless otherwise agreed by the Competition Management Committee. Should a Club play in a reserve grade fixture and subsequently forfeit their senior grade Match in the same round, that Club will not be awarded any points for the reserve grade Match and will be liable to disciplinary sanctions as the Competition Management Committee may determine in its absolute discretion.
- (G) A Club's Team shall forfeit a Match if it is unable or fails, refuses or neglects to complete a Match already commenced.
- (H) For Matches where there is a forfeit, only the non-forfeiting Club may enter a Team into Footyweb.
- (I) In the event of a forfeit, the result of the Match will be determined as follows:
  - a. Juniors / Youth Competitions: In the case of a forfeit win, or where ineligible Players have been played, the forfeiting or ineligible Club's Team will be awarded zero (0) points for and sixty (60) points against. The non-forfeiting or eligible Club's Team will be awarded sixty (60) points for and zero (0) points against.
  - b. Senior Competitions (under 19's and over): a one hundred and twenty (120) to nil (0) point win to the Club's Team who did not forfeit the Match.
- (J) Competition Ladders will be adjusted accordingly by the League.

## **5.6 Results of Matches**

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

## **5.7 Other Matches**

- (A) No Club shall arrange or play in any match other than matches outlined in the Season Fixture schedule without the prior approval of the Competition Management Committee.
- (B) By-Law 5.7 (A) does not apply to any pre-season trial or practice match.

## **6. REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL**

### **6.1 Participation**

- (A) Competition representative Teams shall participate in inter-league Matches as directed by the League and sanctioned by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time.
- (B) The League shall have first call on the services of all Players for its representative Matches and representative training sessions. Any Player who does not make himself/herself available or declines selection for such training sessions and Matches, without the written approval of the Competition Management Committee, may automatically be suspended for the next two (2) Matches in which the Player's Club is participating immediately subsequent to the representative Match concerned.

- (C) Any Player who declares himself/herself unavailable because of injury or illness must make themselves available for a medical examination by a medical practitioner of the League's choice.
- (D) Any Player who fails to attend a scheduled representative training session of which he/she has been properly notified must tender an explanation to the Competition Management Committee. If in the opinion of the Competition Management Committee the Player's explanation is unacceptable, such Player may be dealt with as the League thinks fit.
- (E) Except in exceptional circumstances as approved by the Competition Management Committee, Players selected in a representative Team will not be permitted to play with their Club on the same weekend of the representative Match concerned. Any Player who takes part in a Match in violation of this By-Law shall be liable for further disqualification. The Team with which the Player participates for may lose any Competition points gained and his/her Club may be fined up to two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250).

## **6.2 Venue Selection**

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

## **6.3 Offences in Interleague Matches**

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

# **7. UNIFORM AND LOGO REGULATIONS**

## **7.1 Changes to Club Names and Logos**

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

## **7.2 Uniform Design**

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

## **7.3 Jumper Numbers**

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

## **7.4 Uniform Clashes**

- (A) To avoid clashes of uniforms in Matches, the following provisions will apply:
- a. The Host Team shall play in dark coloured shorts (e.g. black, dark-brown, blue, green etc.) whilst the away Club's Team will play in white shorts; and
  - b. where the Host Club plays in white shorts, the away Team may play in any colour shorts, other than white.
  - c. Where Teams play in uniforms that are similar in design or colour as determined by the Competition Management Committee, the away Club's Team must wear a clash jumper as approved by the Competition Management Committee.

### **Regional Law – Farrer FNL**

**7.4 ( c )** All Farrer FL clubs will wear coloured shorts at all home competition matches and white club shorts at all away competition matches. Any clubs breaching this rule will be reported to the Competition Management Committee for consideration.

## **7.5 AFL NSW/ACT and Club Approved Suppliers**

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

## **7.6 Sponsor's Logos / Approved Suppliers**

- (A) Sponsor's logo may be worn on the Players' jumpers as approved by the Competition Management Committee in its ultimate discretion.
- (B) Jumpers worn by Clubs must have the AFL NSW/ACT logo on the right breast and must not exceed 8cm x 8cm in size.
- (C) Jumpers worn by Clubs may have the League or club logo on the left breast and must not to exceed 8cm x 8cm in size.
- (D) Sponsor's logo may only be worn on shorts if approved by the Competition Management Committee in its absolute discretion and provided:
- a. The logo does not exceed 39cm<sup>2</sup> with a maximum width of 7cm; and
  - b. The logo is placed on the front of the right leg.
- (E) The Competition Management Committee will consider any other proposals for the display of Club or sponsors logos on Player's uniforms.

## **8. TEAMS**

The requirements on Team nominations and the provisions for divisionalisation, joint ventures or Club alliances (if applicable) will be determined by the League in its absolute discretion.

## **9. PLAYER NUMBERS**

### **9.1 Number of players – Senior Men's Competitions**

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

**Regional Law**

Refer to Attachment D – Player Numbers

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

**9.2 Minimum Number of Players – Senior Competitions**

- (A) The minimum number of on-field Players required for a Team to commence and complete a Match is fourteen (14).
- (B) Instances of non-compliance with By-Law 9.2(A) will be deemed to be a forfeit by the relevant Team.

**9.3 Number of players – Senior Women's Competitions**

- (A) The maximum number of Players that can be listed on the Team Sheet for a Team in a Match is twenty (20).
- (B) The maximum number of Players that can be on-field equals sixteen (16) Players
- (C) If one or both Teams have sixteen (16) Players or less listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on field at the start of the Match shall be fourteen (14) Players per Team, unless both Teams agree in consultation with the Umpires to start with either fifteen (15) or sixteen (16) 'on field' Players.
- (D) If both Teams have more than eighteen (18) Players listed on the Team Sheet, the number of Players on-field at the start of the Match shall be eighteen (18) Players.

**9.4 Number of players – Junior and Youth Competitions**

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

**Regional Law**

Refer to Attachment D – Player Numbers

- (B) The maximum number of Players that can be on-field equals sixteen (16) Players
- (C) Teams must have the minimum number of Players available at the scheduled commencement of a Match to constitute an official Match.
- (D) To encourage maximum participation where the two Teams do not have the same number of Players, Clubs must borrow or loan available Players up to the maximum on-field number for that age group or division. If as a result of a Coach not accepting Players, the Team loaning additional Players will be able to play additional Players up to the maximum on-field number. The maximum number of Players on the Team Sheet still applies.
- (E) The following table shows the on-field minimum and on field maximum number of Players by age group. During school holidays minimum player numbers and ground sizes may be reduced after



agreement between Umpires and Coaches of both Club's Teams. During school holidays, the minimums below can be reduced by two (2) Players.

- (F) Other than as outlined in Rule 9.4 (D) or in the case of a send-off, Player numbers at all times must be equal.
- (G) If during the Match, an injured Player has to leave the ground but there are no replacements in that Team, the field umpire, the Opposition Coach and the ground manager must be advised accordingly. The other Club's Team is to remove a Player to keep the numbers on the ground even (except for send offs). When a Player returns to the field, in such circumstances the same process applies in reverse.

## **10. FINALS**

### **10.1 Finals Structure**

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

### **10.2 Venue Selection**

The Competition Management Committee will determine the venues for finals series Matches in its absolute discretion.

### **10.3 Match Duration**

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

### **10.4 Match Conditions**

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

### **10.5 Drawn Finals**

In the event of a drawn finals Match, the following procedure will apply:

- (A) The goal umpires will confirm the scores;
- (B) The field umpires will re-commence the Match for a further duration of five (5) minutes (plus time on) and the Teams will not change ends;
- (C) The siren will sound after the initial period of extra time, the Teams will change ends and a further five (5) minutes (plus time on) is to be played;
- (D) If the Match is still drawn after the second five (5) minute (plus time on) period, the Match will continue until the next score at which time the siren will sound; and
- (E) At no stage before or during extra time are Coaches permitted to address Players.

### **10.6 Emergency Umpires**

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

### **10.7 Player Eligibility**

- (A) The League will determine the eligibility provisions prior to the commencement of the Season Fixture.

## **Regional Law – Farrer FNL & Riverina FNL**

Refer to Attachment A for Player Eligibility in Finals

- (B) A Player is only permitted to play in one finals Match for his Club on any given weekend or round unless determined otherwise by the League pursuant to this By-Law 10.7.
- (C) Any Player who has played in a total of 50% or more of home and away Matches of a higher grade or grades in the relevant season will not be eligible to play final Matches in a lower grade unless the Matches in the higher and lower grades are to be played on the same day (as defined by the League).
- (D) On application by a Player's Club, the Competition Management Committee may vary the number of qualifying Matches required for
  - a. where Services personnel are posted a significant distance away during the home and away Matches or
  - b. where a Player misses a significant number of Matches due to serious injury or pregnancy (more than six (6) Matches), transfers in employment, or
  - c. under other exceptional circumstances as determined by the Competition Management Committee. Any transfer in employment should follow three (3) calendar months of continuous employment preceding the transfer date with the existing employer, unless otherwise approved by the League.

### **10.8 Provision of Officials**

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

### **10.9 Catering and Gate Receipt Rights**

Catering and gate receipt rights for finals Matches will be determined by the League.

## **11. MATCH DAY REQUIREMENTS**

### **11.1 Match Day Paperwork**

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

<b>Team Sheets Retained by Clubs unless otherwise directed by the League</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three (3) copies produced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ One (1) handed to <u>opposition</u> team manager</li> <li>○ One (1) <b>retained by Club</b> team manager</li> <li>○ One (1) provided to <u>ground manager / Timekeeper</u></li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Team Sheet must include the name of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Coach</li> <li>○ Team Manager</li> <li>○ Runner(s)</li> <li>○ First Aid Official</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Each Club to verify each other's list and each to sign off each Club's copies. Both Clubs to retain.</li> <li>• Umpires sign the ground manager's copy after completing end of Match duties.</li> <li>• Clubs must retain for 4 weeks after the season and be able to present if required <b>within seven (7) days</b> or as determined by the League</li> </ul>
<b>Goal umpire Score Cards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designated Host Club must enter results on Footyweb or as required by the League.</li> </ul>
<b>Send Off Form and timekeepers Card</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided to the Timekeeper.</li> </ul>
<b>Match Report Completed by Umpires</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Umpires to record Match day presentation and issues / incidents via online facility or as required by the League.</li> </ul>
<b>Umpire Review Completed by Coaches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where required by the League submission to Umpire Manager via online facility or as determined by the League.</li> </ul>
<b>Umpire Best and Fairest Votes completed by Umpires</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Umpires to submit via online facility or as determined by the League.</li> </ul>
<b>Umpire Notice of Report sheet</b>	The process to be used by the Umpires to submit Notice of Report is as determined by the League
<b>In the event of a forfeit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No Umpire Votes should be taken</b></li> <li>• <b>No goal umpire cards to be kept</b></li> <li>• <b>Record result on Footyweb noted as a forfeit</b></li> </ul>	

## 11.2 Team Sheet

- (A) The official Team Sheet for each Match must contain:
  - b. the name and jumper number of each Player;
  - c. the name of the Coach: and
  - d. the name of each Team Official.
- (B) A copy of the official Team Sheet is to be provided by each Club to:
  - a. The timekeeper, to be clearly marked with the quarter-by-quarter scores and goal-scorers at the conclusion of the Match and returned to the League Office with the relevant Match paperwork; and
  - b. The opposing Club.
- (C) Player and Official names on Team Sheets are to be completed in alphabetical order.
- (D) Alterations or additions may be made to the original Team Sheet up until the end of the half time interval by arrangement with the field umpires. Players arriving late may take the field prior to being listed on the Team Sheet provided that the opposition team manager and Umpires are advised. Such Players must be included on the Team Sheet before the second half commences.
- (E) Players included on the Team Sheet but not in attendance at the Match venue at the commencement of the Match must be removed from the Team Sheet before the Match commences. No amendments may be made to any Team after the half time interval.
- (F) Goals not listed on the Team Sheet at the time it is received at the League shall not be credited to a Player's tally if subsequently disclosed.
- (G) Clubs providing incorrect or incomplete Team Sheet may be subject to disciplinary sanctions including a determination that the Club's Team be recorded as losing the Match (with a score of sixty (60) to nil (0)).

## 11.3 Identification Checks

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

#### 11.4 Match Times

- (A) Starting time of all Matches will be advised when the Season Fixture is released. The starting times of Matches may be varied subsequently by the Competition Management Committee in its absolute discretion.

#### Regional Law – Farrer FNL & Riverina FNL

Refer to Attachment B for Match Times

- (B) For Junior Matches the competing Clubs may vary the times by mutual agreement subject to the Competition Management Committee receiving notification at least seven (7) days before the initial scheduled starting time. A shorter time period may apply if determined by the League, but a fee as determined by the League may be payable, by the Club requesting any such change.
- (C) Any Team failing to enter the playing field after receiving a second warning from the Umpire/s may incur a fine. At that point, at the field umpire's discretion, they may commence play.
- (D) Matches must start and finish on time. If a Match commences after its scheduled start time, or there is a lengthy delay during the Match, the ground manager and field umpires will decide on the duration of the breaks at quarter time, half time and three-quarter time and if necessary will also reduce the length of quarters to ensure that the following Match can commence as scheduled.
- (E) Subject to By-Law 11.4 (F) and (G), if for any reason a Team is not ready to commence play twenty (20) minutes after the scheduled time, the opposing Club's Team may claim the Match as a forfeit, to be determined by the Competition Management Committee.
- (F) If the start of a Match is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances and the Match is rescheduled by the Competition Management Committee or by agreement between the competing Clubs, the Clubs must agree on a shortened time of play.
- (G) If the minimum Player numbers are not available at the scheduled commencement of a Junior Match, but Players sufficient for minimum numbers are expected to arrive, then a scratch Match will be played. In such circumstances, the scratch Match shall commence but with reduced Player numbers on each Team. Teams must still have equal numbers on the field. If minimum numbers become available at any time prior to the end of the first quarter, then they may take the field after a goal is scored, the Teams are to be adjusted accordingly and the scratch Match then becomes an official Match. The scores at the time when the Match becomes an official Match will stand. If minimum numbers are not available at the end of the first quarter, the Match remains a scratch Match and the Team with less than the minimum number or Players forfeits the Match.
- (H) If for any reason a Club cannot or does not complete a Match, the field umpire must report the matter to the Competition Management Committee for investigation.

#### 11.5 Match Duration

- (A) The duration of quarters and breaks for all home and away Matches will be determined by the League.
- (B) For Matches where time on is to be implemented, the following is to apply:
- To indicate the commencement of the time added period, the field umpire shall blow his/her whistle and raise one arm above his/her head. To indicate that the time added period has elapsed, the field umpire shall raise one arm above the head.
  - Where the field umpire fails to signal the completion of the time added period, or the timekeepers fail to hear his/her whistle or see his/her signal, the timekeepers must restart the clock when the ball is clearly back in play.

- c. In the case of a goal or behind being scored, the time added is that which elapses between the time that the goal umpire first signals the goal or behind and:
  - (i) the bouncing of the ball or ball up by the Umpire in the centre (after a goal); or
  - (ii) the ball being brought back into play (after a behind).
- (C) In the event of a Player being replaced under the blood rule, timekeepers are to stop the clock from the time that the blood rule signal is given by the field umpire until the field umpire signals time back on or the ball is clearly in play.
- (D) In case of a Player being replaced using a stretcher, the field umpire shall signal time off as outlined in By-Law 11.5 (B) a.
- (E) For Matches where time on is not applicable, the following will apply:
  - a. The clock is only to be stopped for the blood rule or when a Player is replaced using the stretcher with the procedure as follows:
    - (i) In the event of a Player being replaced under the blood rule, timekeepers are to stop the clock from the time that the blood rule signal is given by the field umpire until the field umpire signals time back on or the ball is clearly in play.
    - (ii) In case of a Player being replaced using a stretcher, the field umpire shall signal time off as outlined in By-Law 11.5 (B) a.

## **11.6 Incomplete Match**

If a Match is unable to commence or conclude within the time scheduled for the Match for reasons beyond the control of either Team (including circumstances where it is unsafe for the Match to proceed) the following shall apply:

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

- a. If a Match Unless otherwise determined by the League, a field umpire shall, having regard to the health and safety of the Players and any other relevant circumstances, determine whether a Match is unable to commence or proceed.
  - b. A field umpire must determine that a Match is unable to commence or proceed when lightning is present at or within the immediate proximity of the venue where the Match is being conducted, in line with the AFL Extreme Weather Policy.
- (E) Recommencing Play: Where a Team is directed to recommence play by a field umpire and the Team fails, refuses or neglects to recommence play, the Team shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match and By-Law 5.5 shall apply.
- (F) The League may vary the length and scheduling of the intervals of Matches as reasonably required.

## **11.7 Sirens**

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

## **11.8 Extreme Weather**

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

## **11.9 Wet Weather Procedures**

- (A) Where wet or adverse weather conditions prevail, Clubs are to advise the League as early as possible of the likelihood of ground closures to enable alternative arrangements for the playing of scheduled Matches to be considered.
- (B) Where a venue to which a Match has been scheduled is unfit for play or has been closed, the League will, in consultation with the Clubs concerned, provisionally reschedule the Match to be played on the away Club's ground if available.
- (C) Where a Match is transferred to the opposing Club's venue, that Club will assume the Host Team responsibilities. Where practicable, the venue of the next Match between the two Clubs concerned will be reversed to compensate for the loss of the home ground privilege.
- (D) Where neither venue is available, the League will make every effort to reschedule the Match to an alternative venue. Clubs whose venues are vacant and playable will be expected to co-operate with the League by making their venue available to minimise the likelihood of cancellations. In this



situation, the Host Team responsibilities will be assumed by the Host Team as nominated in the fixture.

- (E) If a Match is not played because neither venue nor an alternative venue is available, the Competition Management Committee will decide whether or not the Match is to be rescheduled to another date or cancelled.
- (F) Should it appear likely that more than one Match in a round may be unable to be played, the Competition Management Committee may postpone or cancel all Matches for that round.
- (G) If any Match is cancelled, the Match does not contribute to either Team's "Match Ratio" pursuant to By-Law 5.5 (A) and such Match shall not count towards player eligibility for finals. Where two or more of a Club's home and away Matches are cancelled due to wet or adverse weather, the Competition Management Committee will determine player eligibility for finals.
- (H) The Club named first on the official Season Fixture is the Host Club and is responsible for ensuring that the following provisions for Matches are adhered to.
- (I) Each Club is required to have procedures in place which enable them to contact their Players and Officials at short notice regarding any changes to scheduled Matches.

#### **11.10 Ground Marking**

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

#### **11.11 Goal Post Pads**

Padding must be provided on all goal and behind posts to a height of at least 2.5 metres from the ground

#### **11.12 Scoreboard**

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

#### **11.13 Change rooms**

- (A) Separate and adequate changing facilities and showers must be provided for each Club and the Umpires

- (B) These rooms must be presented in a clean and tidy condition at the commencement of each Match.

## 11.14 Timekeeping Facilities

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

## 12. CLUB MATCH RESPONSIBILITIES

### 12.1 Coaches

- (A) The minimum requirements for Coach Accreditation are either a “Level 1” or “Foundation Coach” accreditation as applicable.
- (B) Restrictions applied to Suspended Players and Coaches are outlined in the Regulations.

### 12.2 Ground Manager

- (A) The Host Club must appoint a ground manager (or designate the following tasks to a nominated person(s) who will be responsible for the Match day requirements and Match paperwork for the day).
- (B) The ground manager must introduce him/herself to the Umpires and Officials of the visiting Club on arrival and acquaint them with the ground facilities as well as provide details of the closest emergency medical facilities. Should the ground manager be replaced during the day, the newly appointed person should immediately inform both the Umpires and both Clubs accordingly.
- (C) Prior to the commencement of play, the ground manager must identify compliance of the Host Club with the Sports Trainers Policy as outlined in By-Law 12.9.
- (D) Prior to the commencement of play in each Match, the ground manager should distribute the following paperwork provided by the League unless submission of any of the Match Day paperwork is completed online by the Umpires.

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

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

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

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

*Note 2: The ground manager should ensure that each Club has entered the quarter-by-quarter scores; best Players and the goals scored by Players on their Team Sheets/ lists. The tally of goals entered for Players must equal the number of goals scored by the respective Teams.*

- (G) The ground manager also has the additional responsibility of overseeing the League's Code of Conduct at a venue.
- (H) At the end of the Match, the ground manager should collate all paperwork and arrange to have it returned in the prescribed manner, to reach the League by no later than the designated time.
- (I) Finally, it shall be the ground manager's responsibility to ensure that a representative of the Host Club:
  - a. As directed by the League, either SMS or telephones the results of all the day's Matches to the required person(s), prior to 5.30 pm (or as defined by the Competition Management Committee) on the day concerned (this is not required for Matches played on Saturday or if the results have been input into "Footyweb" for Matches played on Sunday)
  - b. Inputs all results and Player information (i.e. Team lists, goal kickers & best Players) of all the days Matches into the Footyweb on-line results system by the League designated time on the day of the Match.

### **12.3 Team Managers**

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

#### **Regional Law – Farrer FNL & Riverina FNL**

The Team Manager is to seek umpires for verbal confirmation as to whether or not there were any reports from the game. The Team Managers have until 30 minutes after the final siren of that competition match to receive the all clear from the umpires.

### **12.4 Team Runner**

- (A) The sole duty of the team runner is to deliver messages to his or her Club's Players and then leave the field immediately having done so. Umpires shall ask Runners to leave the field if they remain on the playing surface for an unnecessarily long period of time as determined by the umpire.
- (B) The team runner must be clearly identifiable as determined by the League.
- (C) Suspended Players or Officials are not permitted to act as the official team runner.
- (D) Each Team is permitted to use a maximum of one (1) team runner. Team runners are not required to enter the field via the interchange area.

- (E) Runners are permitted to enter the field at any stage throughout the match (variation from 2019 AFL Laws of the Game).

**Regional Law – Farrer FNL & Riverina FNL**

12.4 (D) Each team is permitted to use a maximum of two (2) Runners. Only one runner per team shall be allowed on the field of play at any one time. Runners are not required to enter the field via the interchange area.

**12.5 Trainers, Other Medical Support Staff and Water Carriers**

- (A) Clubs may utilise a maximum of six (6) trainers, other medical support staff and water carriers per Team.
- (B) These personnel are only permitted onto the field during play to attend to injured Players or to provide Players with water. They must not be used to deliver messages to Players. These personnel may enter the field at any stage during play (variation from 2019 AFL Laws of the Game).
- (C) Trainers, other medical support staff and water carriers for each Team must be dressed as approved by the League.
- (D) Umpires will ask any Trainer/Medical/water carrier to leave the ground if they do not have a compliant uniform and they should not return unless they have changed into the compliant uniform. Umpires shall also ask water carriers to leave the field if they are delivering messages to players.
- (E) Water carriers shall not be younger than an age approved by the League.

**Regional Law – Farrer FNL & Riverina FNL**

12.5 (E) Water Carriers need to be 12 years and older to be an approved Water Carrier.

**12.6 Umpires Escort**

- (A) For each Match, the Host Club must appoint a suitable person to act as an escort for the Umpires (ideally the ground manager or appointee). The Umpires escort is to escort the Umpires (including Club Umpires) to and from the venue at the commencement of and conclusion of each quarter and at the commencement and conclusion of the match as designated by the League.
- (B) An Umpire exclusion zone should be implemented at quarter and three-quarter time encompassing the centre square. The Umpires Escort is to stand with the Umpires during the quarter and three-quarter time intervals and arrange for water to be provided to the Umpires, if required.
- (C) The Umpires Escort is expected to be identifiable as required by the League.
- (D) Any Umpire Escort provided is expected to assist in providing and/or obtaining details of any alleged breach of the Code of Conduct immediately after completing his/her duties in liaison with/at the request of the Umpires or ground manager.

**12.7 Timekeepers**

- (A) The Host Club must provide a timekeeper for each Match.
- (B) The away Club is entitled to also appoint or supply a timekeeper for each Match.

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

## **12.8 Officials on the Bench**

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

## **12.9 Injury Treatment**

- (A) All Clubs must comply with the Infectious Diseases Policy as issued by Sports Medicine Australia.
- (B) It is the Host Club's responsibility to ensure that appropriate injury treatment processes are in place on Match days. The telephone numbers and addresses of the nearest medical services including ambulance, medical centres and hospitals must be available for use in an emergency.
- (C) The League has adopted the AFL Sports Trainers in Community Australian Football Policy ("Sports Trainers Policy"). All Clubs must comply with the Sports Trainers Policy.
- (D) Training courses will be available to Clubs that do not have the appropriate access to the necessary resources as required under the Sports Trainers Policy.
- (E) The Host Club is responsible for ensuring compliance to the minimum requirements of the Sports Trainers Policy for all Matches for which it is the Host Club.
- (F) There must be at least one person with the minimum competencies outlined in the Sports Trainers Policy at any Match as follows:
  - a. Junior (Under 12s and below): First Aid Certificate
  - b. Youth and Seniors (Under 13s and over): Emergency Response Coordinator (ERC) Certificate
- (G) The visiting Club should confirm with the ground manager prior to the commencement of each Match that the Host Club is able to comply with the requirements of this By-Law. In the event that the Host Club is unable to comply with these requirements, then, if the visiting Club agrees, the Match will be postponed or rescheduled. Any decision to replay a postponed Match must be agreed to by both Clubs and the Competition Management Committee within seven (7)

days of the  
scheduled Match.

- (H) The Match may proceed if the visiting Club is able to provide the appropriate resources under the Sports Trainers Policy.
- (I) In the event that neither Club has the appropriate requirements at the scheduled commencement of the Match a delayed start of 20 minutes may be applied. If there are additional fixtures following the Match it should be shortened appropriately to not delay the commencement of Matches following.
- (J) If the visiting Club does not agree to postponement or cancellation of the Match, then the visiting Club may claim a forfeit. The By-Laws in relation to forfeits will apply.
- (K) If a Match is started or played without the attendance of a First Aid Official (as defined), the Host Club will forfeit the Match and may be subject to a maximum fine of \$200.
- (L) The Sports Trainers Policy refers to first aid usually being provided by sports trainers or by other volunteers with medical or higher level allied health qualifications. If a Club has a person present in any of the following occupations they are deemed as acceptable under the Policy:
  - (i) Nurse;
  - (ii) physiotherapist;
  - (iii) A certified Sports Trainer;
  - (iv) St John Officer;
  - (v) Paramedic;
  - (vi) Medical Doctor.
- (M) A stretcher in good condition must be located in a quickly accessible location for the duration of each match. The Host Club must ensure proper ambulance access to the field of play, if necessary.
- (N) The first aid official should be located alongside or as near as practical to the ground manager. Where more than one Match is being played at any one time, a first aid official must be supplied for each game.

#### **12.10 Concussion**

- (A) Management of concussion should be in accordance with the Management of concussion in Australian Football which can be found at: <http://www.aflcommunityClub.com.au/index.php?id=66>
- (B) Primary responsibility for the management of concussion lies with the Club of the Player, and their Officials, and where applicable, the Player's Parents / Guardian.
- (C) Any Player who is suspected of having a concussion:
  - (i) must be medically assessed as soon as possible after the injury or incident, and
  - (ii) must not be allowed to return to play in the same Match or participate in the same practice session. Initial decisions regarding potential incidents of concussion should be made by a medical doctor or, if there is no medical doctor in attendance, the head trainer.
- (D) Decisions regarding return to play after a concussive injury (a disturbance of brain function) should only be made by a medical officer with experience in concussive injuries. A Player who has suffered concussion or is suspected of having a concussion must not be allowed to return to training or

playing until and unless the Player has received a formal medical clearance which has been provided to the Club.

#### **12.11 Match-Day Safety Check**

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



## **13. UMPIRES**

### **13.1 Appointments**

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

### **13.2 Availability**

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

### **13.3 Umpire Requirements**

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

### **13.4 Field and Goal Umpire Numbers**

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

### **13.5 Umpires' Fees**

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

### **13.6 Payment of Umpires**

- (A) Appointed Umpires are to sign the Umpires' Match Report prior to the commencement of their scheduled Match. Clubs will be invoiced for the appropriate fee based on actual attendance of officially appointed Umpires.
- (B) In the event of a Match being cancelled, other than because of forfeit as provided for in By-Law 5.5 (G), no payment shall be due to the Umpires appointed to the Match.

### **13.7 Umpire's Match Report**

- (A) At the conclusion of each Match, the field umpire(s) shall provide a report to the Competition Management Committee on the prescribed Umpires Match Report form. All Umpires, including Club field umpires, are required to sign the Match Report. Umpire payments will only be paid to those Umpires who sign the Match Report, unless using the online report facility.
- (B) The field umpires shall also complete the best & fairest player voting slip.

- (C) The Umpires' Match Report form and best and fairest voting slip will be placed in the envelope provided and sealed and submitted to the League as designated with the Match day paperwork.

### **13.8 Club Report on Umpires**

To assist the League in its assessment of Umpires, Clubs may at their discretion, provide a report on the Umpire(s) performance to the League. Such report must be provided on the form as prescribed by the League.

### **13.9 Minimum Umpire Age**

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

### **13.10 Club Umpires**

- (A) From time to time each Club is required to provide suitable persons for the League Club Umpire Program. Such persons will be provided minimum level accreditation and support. Clubs will be advised of the Club Umpire commitment for the season prior to the start of the season as designated.
- (B) Where the League has not appointed official field umpires or accredited Club Umpires, it shall be each Club's responsibility to arrange for a suitable person or persons to umpire the Match. Club field umpires are to be attired as approved by the League.
- (C) Club field umpires are required to complete all the necessary Match Paperwork (i.e. Umpires Match Report (which they are to sign)) and Best & Fairest Votes.
- (D) Each competing Club is responsible for the payment of their own Club Umpires, or in the case of one Club providing both Club Umpires, the payment of one of the Club Umpires.
- (E) Where Official goal and boundary umpires have not been appointed by the League, each competing Club must be prepared to provide a suitable goal and boundary umpire to officiate. Club goal umpires must be equipped with two white flags and attired in a uniform as approved by the League and Club boundary umpires must be attired as approved and equipped with a suitable whistle.
- (F) Official field umpires shall have the power to overrule decisions by Club goal and/or boundary umpires and remove them should they consider that such Club Umpires are not competent to carry out the required duties.
- (G) Payment of Club goal and boundary umpires (if any) shall be the responsibility of the respective Clubs or as determined by the Competition Management Committee. Club goal and boundary umpire's names must not be added to the Umpire's attendance sheet.

### **13.11 Reporting of Players and Officials**

- (A) Umpires may report to the League any Player or Official who, during the progress of a Match or within the immediate proximity of the ground on the day of the Match, commits a reportable offence. The procedure for making and lodging such a report shall be as specified by the Laws of the Game and by the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT.
- (B) For the purposes of Section 3 of the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT, registered field, registered boundary and/or registered goal umpires are permitted to report Players. Unregistered Club field umpires, Club boundary and goal umpires are not permitted to report Players.
- (C) All reporting Umpires are required to reference the Offence Grade Template as outlined in clause 5.2(b) of the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT when lodging a report.

### **13.12 Approaching Umpires**

- (A) No person, except as listed in By-Law 13.12 (B), shall approach or talk to an Umpire (field, boundary and goal) prior to, during or after the conclusion of a Match, or leaving the playing arena.
- (B) The excepted persons referred to in By-Law 13.12 A above include:
  - a. AFL NSW/ACT staff;
  - b. Ground manager, including any designated assistant, umpire escort;
  - c. Umpire Manager.

## **14. CONDUCT – DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

### **14.1 Prescribed Penalties**

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

### **14.2 Code of Conduct**

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

### **14.3 Power to Investigate**

- (A) The Competition Management Committee may investigate or nominate a person (League designate) to investigate any matter which it considers relevant to whether a person may have committed a Reportable Offence or a Code of Conduct Breach.
- (B) Without limiting the powers and discretions conferred upon the Competition Management Committee in By-Law 14.3 (A), the League designate may investigate any matter:

- a. of his/her own motion; or
- b. on the basis of video evidence; or
- c. upon the written request of an authorised officer of a Club pursuant to By-Law 14.8; or
- d. upon the written request of either an authorised officer of a Club or a non-aligned individual pursuant to By-Law 14.2.

#### **14.4 Co-operation**

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

#### **14.5 Failure to Co-operate**

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

#### **14.6 Interpretation**

For the purposes of this By-Law, a reference to the League designate shall be read as a reference to the League and/or any person nominated by the League to conduct an investigation on the basis of video evidence or otherwise. The League designate may report a person and refer the matter to the Tribunal for hearing and determination by the Tribunal following their investigation of a matter. The person who has been reported will be notified in writing of the charge laid against him or her and the date and time for the hearing and determination of the charge by the Tribunal.

#### **14.7 Power to Report**

- (A) If the League designate is of the opinion that a person may have committed a Reportable Offence, whether on the basis of an investigation, video evidence or otherwise, the League Designate may report such person and refer the matter to the Tribunal for hearing and determination by the Tribunal. The person who has been reported will be notified in writing of the charge laid against him and the date and time for the hearing and determination of the charge by the Tribunal.
- (B) Report where Notice of Report not completed – Juniors
  - a. This Rule applies where a Player is sent off twice or more in a season (i.e. yellow and/ or red cards), but the Umpire has not completed a Notice of Report in any sending off. Following the Player being sent off for the second time, the Player will automatically receive a one Match playing suspension. The League will inform the Club President or delegate of the Player and the Tribunal Chairperson as soon as reasonably practical following the Match of the referral.

- b. Where a Player receives notice of an automatic playing suspension as provided by this Rule, the Player may, through the Club President or delegate, request the automatic suspension be referred to the Tribunal for hearing. The Tribunal may impose such conditions on the Player as it deems appropriate, pending the hearing. The Tribunal may, after the hearing, affirm or vary the suspension (including increasing the suspension), or apply any other penalty as it deems appropriate.

#### **14.8 Citings by Clubs**

- (A) Where a Club wishes to lodge a complaint against a Player or Official for an alleged "on field" offence (a citing), such complaint must be noted on the appropriate League Incident Referral Form (see sample Appendix 'B') which must be lodged in writing with the League no later than midday on the second business day after the incident out of which the complaint arises. An Incident Referral Form must be submitted for each citing. An intermediate advice on the incident form may be initially emailed with the written lodgement to follow as required.
  - a. This By-Law provides a means for the investigation of serious incidents which escaped the attention of Umpires.
  - b. A serious incident for definition is a matter which may draw a base sanction of more than two (2) matches in accordance with the grading table contained in the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT 2018, or as otherwise determined by the Competition Management Committee, based on the recommendation of the investigating officer.
- (B) In the event a Club requests extra time to prepare the Incident Referral Form, the Competition Management Committee may, after receiving a notice of intent within the time requirements of By-Law 14.8 (A), extend the deadline to Thursday 5.00pm following the incident.
- (C) After advising of its intention to submit an Incident Referral Form in accordance with By-Law 14.8 (A), the citing Club may request extra time to negotiate an outcome with the opposing Club. In such circumstances, an agreed outcome is required to be received by the League in writing by Sunday 5.00pm following the incident and is subject to approval by the League.
- (D) Any and each such citing by a Club must be accompanied by a \$500 citing fee which may be forfeited should the Competition Management Committee deem in its ultimate discretion the complaint to be frivolous. The citing fee shall be paid by cheque or be evidenced as paid by attaching to the Incident Referral Form evidence that the citing fee has been electronically or deposited manually to the League's bank account.
- (E) The Competition Management Committee shall decide whether the matter should be referred to the Tribunal for consideration. The person against whom such a complaint is lodged will be notified in writing of his or her rights (via Club Secretary or President) and the procedures to be followed for the investigation. Each of the Clubs concerned will receive a copy of such correspondence.
- (F) A Club may request the Competition Management Committee to review footage of an incident by submitting a fee of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) such fee which is only refundable if the matter results in an outcome as requested by the Club. The Competition Management Committee may proceed with processing a Report or a Code of Conduct breach. If it is determined not to take the matter further, the Club will be provided with an explanation within seven (7) days. If the Competition Management Committee decide to proceed the matter further the Club is not required to submit a citing.
- (G) Allegations relating to the conduct of Matches involving persons other than Players or Officials will be dealt with by a Code of Conduct Committee as designated by the League in accordance with Rule 14.8 (A) to 14.8 (C) above.

#### **14.9 Appointment and Role of Tribunal**

- (A) A panel of independent Tribunal members shall be appointed annually by the League in accordance with the requirements in the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT or the National Disciplinary Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT (as the case may be).
- (B) The Tribunal shall hear the following matters in accordance with the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT or the National Disciplinary Tribunal Guidelines NSW/ACT (as the case may be):
  - a. reports by Umpires against Players or Officials participating in League Competitions, pre-season or practice Matches;
  - b. such other matters (including citings by Clubs) as may be referred to it by the League;
  - c. referrals pursuant to By-Law 14.8;
  - d. any other matter as appropriate.

#### **14.10 Tribunal Hearings**

- (A) Attendance and provision of evidence at a Tribunal hearing is provided for under Competition Tribunal Rules 2.8 and 2.9 of the State & Territory Tribunal Guidelines – NSW/ACT.
- (B) Legal representatives are permitted to attend Tribunal hearing's, but are not permitted to act as a Player, Official or umpire advocate unless agreed to by the Tribunal Chair.
- (C) The Tribunal has jurisdiction over any Player whether registered, unregistered or ineligible as the case may be.

#### **14.11 Report of Junior Players**

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

#### **14.12 Player and Official De-registration**

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

#### **14.13 Club Websites**

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

#### **14.14 Media / Statements**

- (A) Conduct occurring in Media or public forums is governed by the Code of Conduct.

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

## **15. ORDER OFF RULE**

### **15.1 Yellow Card**

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

### **15.2 Red Card**

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

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

### **15.3 Recording of Send Offs**

- (A) When a Player is sent off from the field of play in accordance with this By-Law 24, the Umpire will show the appropriate yellow or red card to the timekeeper who will in turn acknowledge the send-off by showing the same colour card to the Umpire.
- (B) Timekeepers are required to record the time that Players, who are ordered off by the field umpires, leave the field of play and determine when such Players may resume playing in the Match, or be replaced in the Match (whichever is applicable). It is the offending Player's Club's responsibility to obtain approval from the timekeepers for such Player to resume playing in the Match

## **16. APPEALS**

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

## **17. FINANCE**

### **17.1 Fees**

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

### **17.2 Fines**

- (A) The League will determine a schedule the fines that may be imposed for specific operational breaches of the By-Laws as follows.
- (B) Notwithstanding 17.2 (A), the Competition Management Committee may impose such sanctions as it sees fit.
- (C) Where a Club, Player, Official or Umpire has been fined by the Competition Management Committee or incurs



an automatic fine, such fine shall be paid within fourteen (14) days of notification of the penalty except where otherwise specified by the League. Failure to pay such fine by the specified time without a satisfactory explanation may result in the fine being increased by the Competition Management Committee.

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

### **17.3 Outstanding Accounts**

- (A) Except as provided for under By-Law 17.3 (B), any Club which is in arrears to the League for a period more than sixty (60) days from the date of the invoice, will be ineligible to receive any Competition points which may be accrued by its Teams, from that point in time until the overdue amount has been paid.
- (B) Where extenuating circumstances exist, the Competition Management Committee may in its discretion, place a Club on a financial scheme of arrangements for the repayment of outstanding accounts. Any Club operating under such an arrangement shall be considered financial with the League provided that it is up to date with all payments specified by the scheme and for the current year.

### **17.4 Dishonoured Cheques**

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

### **17.5 Club Finances**

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

### **17.6 Insurance**

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

## **18. ELECTRONIC AND OTHER IMAGES GUIDELINES**

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

## **19. AWARDS**

- (A) Each season, the Competition Management Committee shall arrange for the presentation of designated awards.

**Regional Law:**

Refer to Attachment C for Awards

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

**20. GENERAL****20.1 Resolution of disputes within Clubs**

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

**20.2 League Colours**

The official colours of the League will be as designated by the League. The design of the League's representative jumpers is the responsibility of the Competition Management Committee.

**20.3 Matters not provided for**

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

**Regional Law – Farrer FNL & Riverina FNL****20.3 (a) - Record**

(A) Teams list for each team representing the club, such lists showing the correct jumper number together with the given and family name of each player.

(B) Clubs will be allocated one round per season to be featured in the AFL Riverina Record. Clubs will be required to supply the following information: a nomination for Blast from the Past, a nomination of a Rising Star Footballer and a Rising Star Netballer.

**Regional Law – Farrer FNL & Riverina FNL****20.3 (b) - Season Match Passes**

(A) The Board shall issue season match passes to appropriate persons. These season match passes allow free access to all home & away and finals matches for the card holder.

(B) The Board will have Life Member badges and Badges of Office for the Board, such badges admitting all bearers to all League games.

## Appendix “A”



### PREScribed PENALTY SYSTEM FOR REPORTED PLAYERS

#### **Introduction**

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

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

#### **Procedure**

Umpires shall report and charge Players in the usual manner. The reporting Umpire shall complete the Player Report Form template and forward it to the League by 10.00 am on the Monday immediately following the Match (where reasonably practicable).

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

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

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

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

#### **Regional Law – AFL Riverina**

Club will be notified of report via Operations Staff over the course of the weekend with report, grading and offered prescribed penalty if applicable.

Club President or Secretary to confirm whether the player/club will accept or contest the charge at a Tribunal by Monday, 5.00pm.

If the prescribed penalty is rejected the Report shall be referred to the Tribunal for hearing at a time to be advised by the League.

## Appendix “B”

### INCIDENT REFERRAL FORM

TO: AFL Riverina  
[thomas.walker@afl.com.au](mailto:thomas.walker@afl.com.au)

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

Round: \_\_\_\_\_ Match: \_\_\_\_\_ vs \_\_\_\_\_

Venue: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) involved (please state offending person/s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reportable Offence or Code of Conduct Breach: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Reportable Offence/ Infringement (s): \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Note:

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

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

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

Vicinity at Venue: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Incident: \_\_\_\_\_

Other relevant information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Umpire / Umpires Observer / Umpires Coach / Club Official / Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Circle)

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

**League use only:**

Lodged with League on \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_ (time)

## Appendix “C”

### RECORDING OF IMAGES

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

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

**Table 1**

Amount to be paid by the requestor pursuant to Clause (O) - \$40

**Table 2**

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



## Appendix “D”

### AFL Canberra, Riverina FNL, Farrer FNL & Hume FNL PLAYER

#### POINTS SYSTEM POLICY

##### 1. OBJECTIVES

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

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

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

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

##### 2. DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Farrer FNL** means the senior men’s Competition based in the Riverina and MIA regions, currently known as Farrer Football and Netball League.

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

**FNL** means Football and Netball League.

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

**Hume FNL** means the senior men's Competition based in the Hume region, currently known as Hume Football and Netball League.

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

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

**League (or Leagues)** means AFL Canberra, Farrer FNL, Riverina FNL and Hume FNL which are governed by or affiliated to AFL NSW/ACT.

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

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

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

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

**Player** means a Player registered with a Club.

**Player Membership Details** means a Players individual details provided for on the Footyweb system.

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

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

**Riverina FNL** means the Senior Competition based in the Riverina region, currently known as Riverina Football Netball League.

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

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

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

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

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

### 3. TOTAL TEAM POINTS

3.1. The allocation of Total Team Points caps for each Senior Team is subject to the assessment of the relevant League Equalisation Panel, in its ultimate discretion, subject to clause 3.2 below.

3.2. The relevant League Equalisation Panel:

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

3.3. In considering the Total Team Points allocation for each Senior Team, the following may be considered by the relevant League Equalisation Panel:

- (a) The location of a Club and the size of the population within its region vis a vis other Clubs (which may impact a Clubs ability to be competitive against other Clubs).
- (b) The level of success a Senior Team has achieved (e.g. multiple premierships) including their ability to retain players with players attracting a one point deduction each Season with the Club.
- (c) A Senior Team's lack of competitiveness over a sustained period a (e.g. low ladder finish over multiple seasons).
- (d) Additional points may be added to teams where a Club is unable to field a competitive U18 or U19 side due to geographic and demographic factors, or does not have aligned junior youth teams (such as University Clubs).
- (e) Each League will implement a process in relation to assessment of Club's submissions regarding a Team Total Points cap and an individual Player's Points Allocation.

3.4. The base Total Team Points allocation for all Senior Teams is outlined in Appendix B.

3.5. Leagues and Clubs acknowledge that:

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

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

#### **4. CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES**

Each Club:

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

#### **5. PLAYER POINTS CATEGORIES AND ALLOCATION**

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

- 5.8. A Club may make an application to the League for a reassessment by the League Equalisation Panel in accordance with clauses 6.3 and 7.

## **6. DEDUCTIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATIONS**

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

## **7. ENFORCEMENT**

- 7.1 Clubs are required to submit to the League's Football Operations Manager as prescribed by the League the individual Player Points Allocations in accordance with this PPS Policy. The League will review and enter the final individual Player Points Allocations into Footyweb.
- 7.2 Player Points Allocations will be managed via Footyweb. Footyweb will not permit a Club to enter a Senior Team into an electronic team sheet that has a combined Total Team Points allocation of more than that Senior Team's permitted Total Team Points cap for a Match.
- 7.3 Should any Club knowingly make a false or incorrect declaration regarding Player Points Allocations, the Club may be penalised by AFL NSW/ACT or the League in accordance with clause 8.
- 7.4 The potential penalties or sanctions may include (without limitation):
- (a) Fines;
  - (b) Termination or suspension of a Club's licence or affiliation;
  - (c) Loss of premiership points (current Season and/ or in future Seasons);
  - (d) Suspension from a Senior Team's participation in the finals (current Season and/ or in future Seasons);
  - (e) Player/Official suspensions – for those Players/Officials that knowingly provide false information to the Club;
  - (f) Suspension or ban on registration of players;
  - (g) Any other sanction or penalty considered appropriate by the League.
- 7.5 AFL NSW/ ACT or the relevant League may enforce the terms of this PPS Policy and invoke the sanctions only if it has given the Club alleged to have infringed this PPS Policy:
- (a) reasonable details of the alleged infringement;
  - (b) notice of possible sanctions; and
  - (c) the opportunity to be heard in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction.
- 7.6 In applying any enforcement provisions in relation to any breach of the PPS Policy, the League shall take into consideration whether the breach was assessed as:

- (a) Unintentional – where a Club had not been provided with accurate information;
- (b) Interpretive – where a Club had reasonably applied the PPS Policy;
- (c) Intentional – where a breach had occurred with little or no regard to the relevant requirements.

7.7 All appeals against a decision to apply a provision under this PPS Policy will be heard by the League Equalisation Panel and will be final and binding.

7.8 AFL NSW/ACT and the Leagues will review this PPS Policy annually and amendments and variations may be made from time to time.

## APPENDIX “A”

### 1. PLAYER CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS

Category 6	6 points	AFL Player	Minimum one (1) AFL match in any of the previous three (3) Seasons.
Category 5	5 points	State League Tier 1 - VFL, WAFL, SANFL	Minimum five (5) senior matches in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.
Category 4	4 points	TAC Cup	Minimum five (5) matches in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.
		State League Tier 2 - NEAFL, TASFL	Minimum five (5) senior matches in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.
Category 3r	3 points	Senior Community Player	Played the same or more senior (or highest division) than reserves (or non-highest division) matches in any of the current or previous three (3) Seasons.
		Transferred Junior	Player recruited from an U19's or younger competition and does not meet the Home Player definition.
Category 2r	2 points	Development Community Player	Played more reserves (or non-highest division) than senior (or highest division) matches in the previous Season.
Category 1	1 point	Home Player	Played forty (40) or more matches at the aligned junior club up to and including U18 competition or younger.
			Player who has only played at that Club.

### 2. PLAYER POINTS ALLOCATIONS

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

### 3. LEAGUE EQUALISATION PANEL ASSESSMENT

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

### 4. TOTAL TEAMS POINTS ALLOCATIONS

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



## **APPENDIX “B”**

The Total Team Points allocations for the AFL Canberra, Riverina FNL, Farrer FNL & Hume FNL senior competitions in 2019 are set out below.

- (a) The base Total Team Points allocation will be capped at 35 points for AFL Canberra Senior Teams.
- (b) The base Total Team Points allocation will be capped at 38 points for Riverina FNL Senior Teams.
- (c) The base Total Team Points allocation will be capped at 38 points for Farrer FNL Senior Teams.
- (d) The base Total Team Points allocation will be capped at 38 points for Hume FNL Senior Teams.

The following local variations to the Player Point System policy and Team Points Caps will apply for each League are as follows:

### **1. AFL Canberra:**

- (a) Individual Total Team Points Cap variations:
  - i. Ainslie Tricolours – 33 points.
- (b) Participation in the Rising Stars U18s competition does not constitute service for the purposes of a season of service.
- (c) Rising Stars U18s competition constitutes a junior competition for the purposes of Home Player status.
- (d) School-based players will be classified as follows:
  - i. Players who commenced playing football at either Marist or St Edmunds College will be classified as a Home Player and thus a one (1) point player for the Senior Club based in the geographical area of the Player’s residence at that time. For example, if a player who they lived in Gordon they would be classified as a one (1) point player at Tuggeranong.
  - ii. Players who play for a AFL Canberra Club outside their geographical area will be classified as a four (4) point player in their first season with that Club.
  - iii. Players who commenced playing junior football at an AFL Canberra Club (and have not played 40 junior competition matches at such Club), will have their matches played at Marist and/ or St Edmunds College counted towards the number of matches played at their initial junior AFL Canberra Club.
- (e) Each Club’s Senior Team must include a minimum of ten (10) Home Players (Home Player Quota). A Home Player currently on playing for the Canberra Demons or GWS Giants NEAFL team when that Club’s Senior Team is participating in a Match will count towards the Senior Team’s Home Player Quota.

### **2. Riverina FNL:**

Not applicable.

### **3. Farrer FNL:**

Current Charles Sturt University students who have transferred to the Charles Sturt University Football Club from a community club outside of AFL Riverina Competitions will be allocated two (2) points.

### **4. Hume FNL:**

- (a) The four bottom place teams from 2018 season will receive additional points as follows:
  - i. 40 points – 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> place teams
  - ii. 42 points – 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> place teams

(b) Accordingly, the Clubs with additional points dispensation for the 2019 season:

- i. CDHBU = 40 points
- ii. Billabong Crows = 40 points
- iii. Lockhart = 42 points
- iv. Murray Magpies = 42 points

(c) If a player transfers from a Community Club located in a Premier Competition to a Community Club in a non-premier competition an additional one point penalty will apply. This clause does not apply to Category 3 – Transferred Junior Player, or if the player is transferring from a Premier Competition, but has already met the definition of a State League Category 5 or TAC Cup Category 4 player due to playing on a permit at the higher level.

Premier Community Competitions:

- i. Eastern FL Division 1
- ii. Ballarat FNL
- iii. Essendon DFL Premier
- iv. Bendigo FNL
- v. Northern FL Division 1
- vi. Geelong FNL
- vii. Southern FNL Division1
- viii. Gippsland FL
- ix. VAFA Premier Division
- x. Goulburn Valley FL
- xi. Western Region FL Division 1
- xii. Hampden FNL
- xiii. Murray FL
- xiv. Ovens & Murray FNL
- xv. Peninsula FNL
- xvi. South East FNL

Note: this includes players in the reserves of these competitions.

## **Appendix “E”**

### **AFL Riverina Player Payment Rules**

**December 2018**

#### **Objectives**

In order to maintain, support and grow Australian football at the community football level it is important that teams fielded by community Clubs are as strong and well matched as possible.

The support for community football competitions and participating Clubs and the opportunity for players to develop and display their skills depends upon those competitions being conducted between evenly matched and financially viable Clubs.

It is also important that stronger Clubs do not obtain an unfair proportion of the best Players at the expense of the weaker Clubs, and that there is sufficient stability in the membership of Club teams to enable team spirit and public support to be maintained.

The pursuit of these objectives assists in attracting and maintaining the interest of players, supporters, officeholders, sponsors and volunteers, all of whom are essential for community football competitions and Clubs.

The League formally manages the player payment framework, with support and guidance from AFL NSW/ACT.

#### **Player Payments not to exceed Allowable Player Payments**

- (a) Subject to any guidelines that may be issued from time to time or in any particular case by AFL NSW/ACT:
  - i. a Club shall not in any Football Year, give or provide to or apply for the benefit of, or offer to give or provide to or apply for the benefit of, any Player or any Associate of a Player any Player Payments or cause or offer to cause any Player Payments to be so given, provided or applied if the aggregate of all the Player Payments given, provided or applied by the Club or any Associate of a Club, would exceed the Allowable Player Payments for that Club for that Football Year; and
  - ii. a Person must not engage in conduct in breach of the Allowable Player Payment provisions contained in this Player Payment Rule.
- (b) Any conduct in breach of this Rule engaged in:
  - i. by a Club Official, Player, servant or agent of a Club; or
  - ii. by any other person at the direction or with the knowledge, consent, agreement or authorisation (whether express or implied) of a Club Official, Player, servant or agent of a Club,

shall be deemed for the purposes of this Rule to have also been engaged in by the Club.
- (c) For the purposes of this Rule, "knowledge" includes reckless indifference to whether the conduct in question was occurring or not.

#### **Determination of Allowable Player Payments and Individual Player Payments Threshold**

- (a) The League in consultation with AFL NSW/ACT shall determine from time to time:
  - the Allowable Player Payments; and

the Individual Player Payments Threshold,

to apply in any Football Year.

- (b) The League will notify each Club of the amount of the Allowable Player Payments and the Individual Player Payments Threshold for the forthcoming Football Year no later than 30 August in the Football Year immediately before the commencement of the forthcoming Football Year or such other date before the commencement of the forthcoming Football Year as determined by the League.
- (c) A Club may apply to the League for an increase in the Allowable Player Payments that will apply to that Club in a Football Year and the League, subject to approval by AFL NSW/ACT may, in its absolute discretion, decide to increase the Allowable Player Payments for that Club.
- (d) The League may, in its absolute discretion take into account one or more of the following factors when determining whether, if at all, to increase the Allowable Player Payments for a Club following a request from a Club under Rule 3(c):
  - i. the location of the Club's training venue and venue for the Club's home Matches and, in particular, the distance of such venues from any town or city with a large population base;
  - ii. if the Club has endured significant hardship or lack of on-field success;
  - iii. if the Club has recently come into existence or merged with another Club; and
  - iv. if the Club has no or limited under age teams or is otherwise not capable, due to reasons outside of its reasonable control, to develop junior players who will play in the Club's Senior Team.
- (e) One whole amount

The Allowable Player Payments shall so far as practicable be a gross amount with all margins, payments, expenses and allowances included in one whole amount.

#### **4. Reporting**

##### **(a) Player Payments**

The process for storage of player payment information is via a secure online portal.

##### **(b) Player Declaration**

- i. If the Club expects that it, or any Associates of the Club, will make Player Payments to a Player and/or Associates of the Player in a Football Year which are in excess of the Individual Player Payments Threshold then, by no later than 30 April in each Football Year, the Club must lodge, or procure that the Player lodge, with League a statement in the form prescribed by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time and such statement shall:
  - (A) set out the name of the Player;
  - (B) set out the total Player Payments which the Club expects that it, or an Associate of the Club, will make to the Player and/or any Associates of the Player in that Football Year, which may be expressed in whole or in part as an amount per Match; and
  - (C) be signed by the Player and one of the president (or their equivalent), the secretary, treasurer or football manager of the Club,

- ii. If a Player Declaration in respect of a Player has not already been lodged in accordance with Rule 1.1(e)i and the Club or Associate of the Club comes to an agreement, arrangement or understanding with the Player or an Associate of the Player to make any Player Payment to the Player or an Associate of the Player which means that Player Payments received by the Player and any Associate of the Player in the Football Year will be in excess of the Individual Player Payments Threshold then, within 7 days of entering the agreement, arrangement or understanding, the Club must lodge, or procure that the Player lodge, with the League a Player Declaration for that Player.

(c) **Non-Declared Player**

- i. In respect of any Player of the Club for the relevant Football Year who, for that Football Year:
  - (A) will play a Match in the Senior Team but either the Player or an Associate of that Player will not receive any Player Payments; or
  - (B) either the Player or an Associate of that Player will receive Player Payments and those Player Payments will be less than the Individual Player Payments Threshold (Non-Declared Player),

then by no later than 30 April or, where a player is not included in the 30 April lodgement, within 7 days of that Non-Declared Player playing a Match for the Club in the Football Year the Club must lodge, or procure that each Non-Declared Player lodge, with the League a statement in the form prescribed by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time and such statement shall:

- (C) set out the name of the Non-Declared Player;
- (D) state that the Player will:
  - ii. play a Match (or has played a Match) in the Senior Team but either the Player or an Associate of that Player will not receive any Player Payments; or
  - iii. receive total Player Payments by either the Player or an Associate of the Player for the relevant Football Year less than the Individual Player Payments Threshold; and
  - iv. be signed by the Non-Declared Player and one of the president (or their equivalent), the secretary, treasurer or football manager of the Club.
  - v. if a Player Declaration or Non-Declared Player statement is not lodged in accordance with, and within the prescribed times in Rule 4(a) or 4(b), the Club and Player to which the Player Declaration relates shall be liable to a sanction.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

(d) **Player Payments budget**

- i. By no later than 30 April in each Football Year or such other date as determined by AFL NSW/ACT, each Club shall lodge with the League a statement in the form prescribed by AFL NSW/ACT from time to time and such statement shall:
  - (A) set out the name of each person who is expected to be a Player of the Club for that Football Year who:

1. will play a Match in the Senior Team for that Football Year; or
  2. either the Player or an Associate of that Player, will receive Player Payments for that Football Year;
- (B) set out the total Player Payments which the Club expects that it, or an Associate of the Club, will make in that Football Year;
  - (C) set out the name of any person who is to be a Player of the Club for that Football Year and also employed or engaged by the Club or an Associate of the Club (including as coach or assistant or specialty coach of the Club) and the details of that employment or engagement, including job description and consideration paid, or to be paid, to the Player for the employment or engagement;
  - (D) be accompanied by such other documents and information as specified or requested from time to time by the League; and
  - (E) be signed by the president of the Club (or their equivalent) and one of the secretary, treasurer or football manager of the Club.
- ii. Within 14 days of the request by the League, a Club shall provide to the League with an updated statement with the information prescribed in Rule 4(c)i.
  - iii. If:
    - (A) the Club lodges a statement under Rule 4(c)(i) which shows that the amount or value of all Player Payments that are budgeted to be given to or applied in the Football Year by the Club or Associates of the Club for the benefit of Players and the Associates of the Players of the Club is greater than 80% of the Allowable Player Payments; and
    - (B) the Player Payments made, or budgeted to be made, by the Club or Associates of the Club for the benefit of Players and the Associates of the Players of the Club increases by 10% or more of the amount set out in the statement lodged under Rule 4(c)(i). or
    - (C) there is a material increase in the amount or value of all Player Payments that are budgeted to be given to or applied in the Football Year by the Club or Associates of the Club for the benefit of Players and the Associates of the Players of the Club,

the Club must immediately provide the League with an updated statement with the information prescribed in Rule 4(c)i.

- iv. A Club who does not complete and lodge the statement or updated statement within the prescribed time in Rule 4(c)i shall be liable to a sanction.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

(e) **Player Payments reporting**

- i. By no later than 31 October after the conclusion of each Football Year and at such other times as requested by the League, each Club shall lodge with the League a

statement in the form prescribed by the League from time to time and such statement shall:

- (A) disclose all of the Players of the Club for the relevant Football Year who received or will receive, or any Associate of that Player received or will receive, Player Payments for the relevant Football Year;
  - (B) identifies all of the Players who participated in the Club's Senior Team;
  - (C) disclose the total Player Payments for the relevant Football Year (including any Player Payments which have been committed in respect of the Football Year but have not yet been paid to the relevant Player or Associate of the Player);
  - (D) disclose any Player who was employed or engaged by the Club or an Associate of the Club (including as coach or assistant or specialty coach of the Club) during the relevant Football Year and the details of that employment or engagement, including job description and consideration paid, or to be paid, to the Player for the employment or engagement;
  - (E) be accompanied by such other documents and information as specified or requested from time to time by the League; and
  - (F) be signed by the president of the Club (or their equivalent) and one of the secretary, treasurer or football manager of the Club.
- ii. If a statement is not lodged in accordance with, and within the prescribed times in, Rule 4(d)i, the Club shall be liable to a sanction.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

## **5. Integrity Officer**

### **(a) Appointment of Integrity Officer**

The League, in consultation with AFL NSW/ACT, may from time to time appoint an Integrity Officer. The Integrity Officer may exercise any of the powers conferred upon them under these Rules or such other powers conferred upon or delegated to them by the League.

### **(b) No false or misleading information**

No Person shall knowingly provide to the Integrity Officer or the League (including under Rules 4, 6 and 7) any statement or information which is in any respect false or misleading or likely to mislead.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

## **6. Clubs to do all things necessary to assist Integrity Officer**

### **(a) Full and free access**

Each Club shall permit the Integrity Officer to have full and free access to:

- i. any premises occupied by or in the control of the Club;
- ii. copies of all financial statements (including bank statements) relating to the Club and all cheques issued and financial transfers made by or on behalf of or for the benefit of

the Club together with copies of all cash payments journals and other accounts kept by or for the Club; and

- iii. such books, files, documents, records, articles or things in the possession or control of the Club or any person or entity controlled by the Club as the Integrity Officer believes may be relevant to their enquiries,

and the Club shall provide the Integrity Officer with a copy, including electronic copy, of any of the items referred to in paragraphs ii and iii above within 7 days of a request from the Integrity Officer.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.



(b) **Provision of information**

Upon a request by the Integrity Officer and within 7 days of that request, a Club shall provide to the Integrity Officer such information or details concerning or relating to any payments promised, given or provided to, or applied for the benefit of a Player or any Associate of a Player, by the Club or any Associate of the Club.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

(c) **Attendance before Integrity Officer**

- i. Each Club shall within 7 days of a request by the Integrity Officer procure and ensure the attendance before the Integrity Officer of a Player, any Associate of a Player or any Associate of a Club, including without limitation any director, Club Officer, servant, agent, supporter, sponsor or financial contributor to the Club and the Club shall ensure that such person or persons:
  - (A) fully co-operates with the Integrity Officer;
  - (B) fully and truthfully answers any questions asked by the Integrity Officer; and
  - (C) provides any document in his, her or its possession or control as requested by the Integrity Officer.
- ii. Where a Player, any Associate of a Player or any Associate of a Club including without limitation any director, Club Officer, servant, agent, supporter, sponsor or financial contributor to the Club, fails to attend before the Integrity Officer, fails to fully co-operate with the Integrity Officer or otherwise fails to comply with any of the requirements under Rule 6(c)i, the Club shall be liable to a sanction.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

**7. Players to assist Integrity Officer**

(a) **Full and free access to Players' records**

Each Player shall permit, and procure that any Associate of a Player permits, the Integrity Officer to have full and free access to such of the Players' books, files, documents, records, articles or things as the Integrity Officer believes may be relevant to their enquiries and the Player shall provide, and procure that any Associate of a Player provides, the Integrity Officer with a copy, including electronic copy, of any of the items referred to in this paragraph within 7 days of a request from the Integrity Officer.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

(b) **Companies, trusts and accounts**

Without limiting the foregoing each Player shall provide or ensure that any Associate of a Player and any other relevant person provides to the Integrity Officer within 7 days of any request:

- i. full and complete details of any and all companies in respect of which the Player or any Associate of a Player is a shareholder or otherwise entitled to the benefits which normally

accrue to a shareholder or where there is any contract, agreement, arrangement or understanding for the Player to acquire a shareholding or rights akin to a shareholding or where the Player or any Associate of a Player is in a position to control or direct any votes which may be cast either at a general meeting of the company or a meeting of the board of directors of the company;

- ii. full and complete details of any trusts in respect of which the Player or any Associate of a Player holds a power of appointment or is a trustee, a primary, general or other beneficiary (discretionary or otherwise) or where the Player or any Associate of a Player holds any units or is legally or beneficially interested in any person or entity which holds any units in any unit trust;
- iii. full and complete details of all and any partnerships or joint ventures in which the Player or any Associate of a Player has a legal or beneficial interest;
- iv. satisfactory evidence of all income earned or otherwise received by or on behalf of the Player or any Associate of a Player for any period up to three (3) years;
- v. full and complete details of each account with any bank, building society, credit union or other financial institution held by or conducted on behalf of the Player or any Associate of a Player including copies of all statements in relation thereto; and
- vi. full and free access (with the right to make copies) to the books, files, papers, documents, records, articles or things of any manager or financial or other adviser of the Player or any Associate of a Player.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

**(c) Provision of information**

- i. Upon a request by the Integrity Officer and within 7 days of that request, a Player shall provide to the Integrity Officer such information or details concerning or relating to any payments promised, given or provided to, or applied for the benefit of the Player or any Associate of the Player, by the Club or any Associate of the Club.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

- ii. Upon a request of the Integrity Officer and within 7 days of that request, a Player shall provide a signed statutory declaration in relation to information or details concerning or relating to any payments promised, given or provided to, or applied for the benefit of the Player or any Associate of the Player, by the Club or any Associate of the Club.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

**(d) Player to ensure attendance of persons**

- i. Within 7 days of a request by the Integrity Officer each Player will attend, and will procure and ensure the attendance of any Associate of a Player, before the Integrity Officer. The Player shall ensure that they and each such person:

(A) fully co-operates with the Integrity Officer;

(B) fully and truthfully answers any questions asked by the Integrity Officer; and

- (C) provides any document in their possession or control as requested by the Integrity Officer.
- ii. Where the Player or any Associate of a Player fails to attend before the Integrity Officer, fails to fully co-operate with the Integrity Officer or otherwise fails to comply with any of the requirements under Rule 7(d)i, the Player shall be liable to a sanction.

Sanction: A monetary sanction up to a maximum of \$15,000. In respect of a Player, in addition or alternatively to any monetary sanction, a suspension from playing a Match or Matches.

(e) **No breach of statute**

Each of the powers, requirements and obligations hereinbefore set out shall be read and construed so as not to infringe or breach any statute or law and shall be limited or severed to the extent that any statute or law requires.

## **8. Determination of payments**

(a) **Extent of Player Payments**

The Integrity Officer or the League may determine that the value of all or any part of any payment, consideration, advantage or other benefit given or provided to, or applied for the benefit of, a Player or an Associate of a Player by or at the direction of a Club or any Associate of a Club, or pursuant to any contract, agreement, arrangement or understanding between a Club, an Associate of a Club, and a Player or an Associate of a Player, constitutes a Player Payment for the purpose of these Rules.

(b) **Payments to be included if explanation unsatisfactory**

The League or the Integrity Officer may seek an explanation from a Club or a Player as to the nature of any payment made by or on behalf of the Club or an Associate of the Club in relation to a Player or an Associate of a Player. In the event that the Club or Player (as applicable) fails to explain the payment to the satisfaction of the League or the Integrity Officer then the League or Integrity Officer may deem such payment to be a Player Payment to a Player of the Club for the purposes of these Rules.

(c) **The League may issue guidelines**

The League may from time to time issue guidelines as to the application of the Allowable Player Payments provisions in this Player Payment Rule and valuation of Player Payments, provided those guidelines are not inconsistent with the Rules.

(d) **Rulings**

A Club may at any time submit to the League true, complete and accurate particulars of all payments, consideration, advantages or other benefits given, provided or applied or proposed to be given, provided or applied to or for the benefit of a Player and/or any Associate of a Player with a request that the League issue a ruling as to whether such payments, consideration, advantages or other benefits constitute Player Payments and as to their value for the purposes of these Rules. Any ruling of the League or AFL NSW/ACT shall be final and binding on the Club.

## **9. Laying of charge**

(a) **The League may lay charge**

If the League suspects that any Person has or may have engaged in conduct in breach of the Allowable Player Payments provisions or otherwise in breach of this Player Payment Rule, the League may lay a charge against:

- i. where the Person is a Club or Player, the Club or Player;
- ii. where Rule 0(b) applies, the Club.

**(b) Player Payments Disciplinary Committee**

- i. Subject to the approval of AFL NSW/ACT, the League shall from time to time appoint persons, to a body to be known as the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee.
- ii. Any charge laid by the League under this Player Payment Rule shall be heard and determined by the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee.
- iii. The Player Payments Disciplinary Committee shall consist of 3 persons, being:
  - (A) a Legal Practitioner nominated by the League, who shall be the chairperson of the Player Payment Disciplinary Committee; and
  - (B) two other persons nominated by the League.
- iv. A person shall not be appointed to the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee to hear a charge if that person:
  - (A) has been a Club Official of a Club; or
  - (B) has been a Player of a Club,in the twenty-four months preceding the appointment.

**(c) Notice of charge and hearing**

Where a charge is laid under Rule 9, the League shall give notice of the charge to each Club and Player charged and the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee appointed to hear the charge. The League shall fix a time and date for a hearing of the charge by the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee and inform each member of the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee and each Club and Player charged of those particulars at least 7 days before the date for the hearing.

**(d) Statement of grounds**

- i. A notice of charge under Rule 9(c) shall be accompanied by a statement of the grounds for the laying of the charge.
- ii. The grounds for the laying of the charge shall constitute sufficient reasons for the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee to declare the charge sustained, unless the Club or Player charged discharges the burden of proof referred to in Rule 10(h).

**(e) The League may vary time and place of hearing**

The League may vary the time or place specified under Rule 9(c), and the League shall give to each member of the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee and each Club and Player charged at least 3 days' written notice of any such variation.

**10. Hearing by Player Payments Disciplinary Committee**

**(a) Conduct of hearing**

At the time and place referred to in the notice of charge, or as varied under Rule 9(e), the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee shall conduct a hearing into the matters the subject of the charge.

(b) **Informal**

The hearing shall be conducted with as little formality and technicality, and with as much expedition, as a proper consideration of the matters before the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee permits.

(c) **Rules of evidence not to apply**

The Player Payments Disciplinary Committee is not bound by the rules of evidence or by practices and procedures applicable to courts of record but may inform itself of any matter in such manner as it thinks appropriate.

(d) **Procedure**

Subject to Rule 10(e), the procedure of the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee at a hearing conducted under Rule 10(a) is within the discretion of the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee.

(e) **Procedural fairness**

At any hearing conducted under Rule 10(a), the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee shall:

- i. provide to every Club and Player charged an opportunity to be heard and to be represented by any person including a Legal Practitioner; and
- ii. hear and determine the matter before it in an unbiased manner.

(f) **Statement of grounds prima facie evidence**

The statement of grounds and any report prepared by the Integrity Officer shall be prima facie evidence of the matter or matters therein contained, provided that a copy of the statement of grounds and report has been provided to any Club and Player charged prior to the commencement of the hearing.

(g) **Standard of proof**

The Player Payments Disciplinary Committee shall decide any charge laid under Rule 9 on the balance of probabilities whether a Club or Player has or has not engaged in the alleged conduct.

(h) **Onus of proof**

A Club or Player charged by the League under Rule 9 shall bear the onus of establishing on the balance of probabilities that the alleged conduct was not engaged in.

(i) **Decision**

- i. At the conclusion of its hearing, the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee may:
  - (A) declare the charge sustained and may impose a sanction as provided for under Rule 11;
  - (B) declare the charge dismissed; or

- (C) adjourn the hearing to a fixed date or indefinitely.
- ii. Any decision of the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee under this Rule is final and binding, subject to any appeal under Rule 12.
- (j) **No reasons**  

The Player Payments Disciplinary Committee shall not be obliged to give reasons for a decision under Rule 10(i).
- (k) **Validity of hearing**  

Where there is any procedural irregularity in the manner a matter has been brought before the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee, the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee may still hear and determine the matter unless it is of the opinion that the irregularity has caused or may cause injustice if the matter was heard.

## 11. Sanctions

- (a) **Imposition of sanctions**
  - i. Subject to Rule 11(a) ii, the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee may impose any sanction on any Club or Player contravening this Player Payment Rule that, in their absolute discretion they think fit.
  - ii. Where a Rule provides for a maximum sanction, the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee must not impose any sanction on a Club or Player for contravening that Rule that is in excess of the maximum sanction set for a breach of that Rule. For the avoidance of doubt, no maximum sanction is specified for a breach of Rule 0.
  - iii. Without limiting the ordinary and legal meaning of any of the words in Rule 11(a) i, if a Club or Player contravenes this Player Payment Rule the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee may do one or more of the following:
    - (A) impose no sanction on the Club or Player;
    - (B) reprimand the Club or Player;
    - (C) impose a monetary sanction on the Club or Player;
    - (D) order that a Club has forfeited the right to register as a Player of the Club the Player or any of the Players to whom the conduct relates for an unlimited period or for a specified period;
    - (E) order that a Club has forfeited the right to employ or engage or register as a Club Official of the Club a Club Official involved in the conduct for an unlimited period or for a specified period;
    - (F) order that a Player has forfeited the right to play for, or be a registered Player of, any Club for an unlimited period or for a specified period;
    - (G) order that no club shall for such period as the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee may determine permit or allow a person to occupy any office or perform any functions (including without limitation attendance at matches and training sessions) for or on behalf of a club;
    - (H) declare, in respect of a Club, the loss of or ineligibility to receive Premiership Points for past or future Matches in which a team or teams of the Club participated or will participate;

- (I) declare, in respect of a Club, the loss of or ineligibility to receive Total Team Points for past, current or future Football Years;
- (J) in respect of a Club, relegate any of the Club's teams to a competition or league in a lower division to the division that the team is currently competing in; and
- (K) impose a sanction on any terms or conditions seen fit.

(b) **Matters that may be taken into account regarding sanctions**

Without limiting the ordinary and legal meaning of any of the words in Rule 11(a) the Player Payment Disciplinary Committee may, in its absolute discretion take into account one or more of the following factors when determining what sanction, if any, to impose on a Club or Player for any contravention of this Player Payment Rule:

- i. whether, and if so to what extent, the Club authorised the conduct;
- ii. whether, and if so to what extent, the Club benefitted from the conduct;
- iii. whether the conduct was intended or likely to have the effect of enabling the Player to play with a particular Club;
- iv. the period of time over which the conduct occurred;
- v. any prior contraventions of this Rule;
- vi. whether, and if so to what extent, the Club or Player has provided substantial assistance to the League which results in the League discovering or establishing a contravention of this Player Payment Rule; and
- vii. whether the Club or Player had knowledge of the breach and/or wilfully engaged in the breach.

(c) **Club or Player may be excused for co-operation**

Subject to prior approval from AFL NSW/ACT the League may excuse any Club or Player in whole or in part from any liability under this Player Payment Rule in consideration of that Club's or Player's co-operation and assistance in establishing a breach of these Rules by any other Club or Player.

## 12. Appeals

- (a) A Club or Player may appeal to the AFL NSW/ACT Appeals Board (in accordance with the AFL NSW/ ACT Regulations) in respect of a determination by the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee under this Player Payment Rule in respect of a charge laid against that Club or Player by:
  - i. making payment to AFL NSW/ACT of any applicable appeal fee; and
  - ii. submitting a notice of appeal to AFL NSW/ACT (in any form prescribed by AFL NSW/ACT), on one or more of the following grounds:
    - (A) that there was an error of law;
    - (B) that the decision was so unreasonable that no Player Payments Disciplinary Committee acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it; or
    - (C) that the sanction imposed was manifestly excessive,

no later than 12.00 noon on the fifth business day following the decision of the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee.

- (b) The League may appeal to the AFL NSW/ACT Appeals Board in respect of a determination of the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee under this Player Payment Rule within the time and on one or more of the grounds referred to in Rule 12(a) or on the ground that the sanction imposed was manifestly inadequate.
- (c) Any appeal heard by the AFL NSW/ACT Appeals Board shall be held in accordance with the AFL NSW/ACT Regulations governing the AFL NSW/ACT Appeals Board applicable from time to time.

### 13. Rule paramount

To the extent that any Rule in this Player Payment Rule is inconsistent with any other rule of the League, the provisions of this Player Payment Rule shall prevail.

### 14. Premiership Points, Final Premiership Ladder and Total Team Points

All other rules of the League relating to or impacting on Premiership Points, the Final Premiership Ladder and Total Team Points shall be read subject to and as including any sanctions imposed by the Player Payments Disciplinary Committee under Rule 11.

### 15. Relevant Definitions

In this Player Payment Rule, unless there is something in the subject or context inconsistent therewith, the following expressions will have the following meanings:

**Allowable Player Payments** means the amount from time to time determined by the League as the maximum aggregate amount or value of all Player Payments that may be given to or applied in any Football Year for the benefit of Players with each Club and the Associates of a Player of the Club.

**Associate of a Club** includes any of the following:

- (a) a Club Official;
- (b) a sponsor, member, supporter or financial contributor of the Club;
- (c) a body corporate which is related to the Club within the meaning of s. 50 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), and any director, secretary or other officer of a related body corporate;
- (d) a partner of the Club or a partnership in which the Club is a member;
- (e) a trustee of a trust estate where the Club, or another person who is an associate of the Club by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition, benefits or is capable (whether by the exercise of a power of appointment or otherwise) of benefiting under the trust, either directly or through any interposed companies, partnerships or trusts;
- (f) a body corporate:
  - i. in which the Club, or a person who is an associate of the Club by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition, has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in shares in the body corporate, or an entitlement thereto, where the nominal value of those shares is not less than 10% of the nominal value of all issued shares of the corporation falling within the same class;
  - ii. where the body corporate is, or its directors are, accustomed or under an obligation, whether formal or informal, to act in accordance with the directions, instructions or wishes



of the Club or of another person who is an associate of the Club by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition; or

- iii. the Club is, or persons who are associates of the Club by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition are, in a position to cast, or control the casting of, more than 50% of the maximum number of votes that might be cast at a general meeting of the body corporate.
- (g) any person who is or was acting, or who proposes to act, on behalf of or in concert with the Club.

**Associate of a Player** includes any of the following:

- (a) any relative of the Player;
- (b) the spouse or partner (legal or de facto) of the Player or any of his or her relatives;
- (c) a body corporate where:
  - i. the Player or a person referred to in sub-paragraph (a) or (b) has, or two or more such persons together have, a direct or indirect beneficial interest in shares in the body corporate, or an entitlement thereto, where the nominal value of those shares is not less than 10% of the nominal value of all issued shares of the corporation falling within the same class;
  - ii. the body corporate is, or the directors are, accustomed or under an obligation, whether formal or informal, to act in accordance with the directions, instructions or wishes of the Player, or of another person or body corporate who or which is an associate of the Player by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition; or
  - iii. the Player is, or a person or persons who are associates of the Player by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition is or are, in a position to cast or control the casting of, more than 50% of the maximum number of votes that might be cast at a general meeting of the body corporate;
- (d) a body corporate which is related to a corporation referred to in sub-paragraph (c) above within the meaning of s. 50 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth);
- (e) a director, secretary, or officer of a corporation referred to in sub-paragraph (c) or (d) above;
- (f) a partner of the Player of any partnership which the Player or any person referred to in sub-paragraphs (a), (b), (c) or (d) above is a member;
- (g) a trustee of a trust estate where the Player, or another person who is an associate of the Player by virtue of another sub-paragraph of this definition, benefits or is capable (whether by the exercise of a power of appointment or otherwise) of benefiting under the trust, either directly or through any interposed companies, partnerships or trusts;
- (h) any person who is or was acting, or who proposes to act, on behalf of or in concert with the Player.

**Club** means a football club which participates in a Football League.

**Club Officer** means an 'officer' (as defined in the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)) of a Club and without limitation shall include the president, chairman, vice president, vice chairman, general manager, chief executive, football manager, coach, assistant coach, specialist coach, any director or committee member of the Club and any servant or agent who makes or participates in the making of decisions that affect the whole, or a substantial part, of the business of the Club.

**Club Official** means:

- (a) any Club Officer, employee (excluding Players), servant or agent of a Club; or
- (b) any other person, whether volunteer or paid, who is engaged by a Club or engaged by a contractor or sub-contractor of a Club:
  - i. to work with, treat, advise or assist a Player or the football operations of a Club; or
  - ii. to at any time undertake official duties for the Club in connection with the playing of a Match.

**conduct in breach of the Allowable Player Payments provisions** means conduct which has the purpose or has or is likely to have the effect of contravening, circumventing or evading the operation of the Allowable Player Payments provisions in these Rules and, without limiting the foregoing, includes:

- (a) conduct in contravention of this Player Payment Rule;
- (b) entering into, making or being a party to any agreement, arrangement, understanding, promise or undertaking, whether express or implied and whether or not enforceable or intended to be enforceable, or entering into or carrying out any scheme, plan, proposal, action, course of action or course of conduct which has the purpose or which would have or would be likely to have the effect of:
  - i. contravening, circumventing or evading the operation of the Allowable Player Payments provisions in these Rules; or
  - ii. offering or paying to a Player or an Associate of a Player benefits in cash or kind which would result or would be likely to result in the Allowable Player Payments limit of a Club being exceeded.

**Final Premiership Ladder** means the ranking of Clubs in a Football League as determined by the League at the conclusion of the final series of Matches for a Football Year taking into account any sanctions imposed under this Player Payment Rule.

**Football League** means an Australian Football league or competition controlled by the League.

**Football Year** means the twelve-month period commencing on 1 November in one year and concluding on 31 October in the next year.

**Individual Player Payments Threshold** means the amount from time to time determined by the League (which may be expressed as an amount per Match) as the maximum amount or value of Player Payments that may be given to or applied in any Football Year for the benefit of a Player with each Club and the Associates of a Player of the Club before the Club is required to lodge a Player Declaration in respect of the Player.

**Integrity Officer** means any person from time to time appointed by the League with the prior approval of AFL NSW/ACT to that position. A reference to the Integrity Officer in these Rules shall include a reference to any person or persons appointed by the Integrity Officer to act on their behalf.

**Legal Practitioner** means a person duly qualified to be admitted or who has previously been admitted to practice as a barrister and/or solicitor in the State of New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory.

**Match** means any football Match played between or directly or indirectly involving any Club including without limitation any practice Match, trial Match, representative Match or exhibition Match.

**League** means AFL Riverina.

**Person** includes a Club, Player, Club Official, servant or agent of a Club, trainer, runner, medical officer, employee, independent contractor or volunteer of a Club.

**Player** means save as otherwise provided a person who is registered to play for the Club, including any person who is registered to compete in any of the Club's under age teams during the relevant Football Year.

**Player Declaration** has the meaning given to it in Rule 4(b).

**Player Payments Disciplinary Committee** means the independent disciplinary committee appointed pursuant to Rule 9(b).

**Player Payments** means in respect of a Player, any payment, consideration, award, advantage, advance, bonus, fringe benefit, remuneration, salary, superannuation benefit, property or other rights or benefit directly or indirectly given or provided to, or applied for the benefit of, the Player or any Associate of the Player and which:

- (a) relates in any way to, or which is connected with, the Player's past, present or future services with a Club as a football player, or any agreement, arrangement or understanding for the Player to join a Club or to refrain from joining a Club; or
- (b) is so given, provided or applied by a Club, or by any Associate of a Club, unless the Player, the Club or the Associate of a Club proves to the satisfaction of the Integrity Officer that the payment, consideration, advantage or benefit was paid, given or provided to the Player, or applied for the benefit of the Player or any Associate of a Player, in consideration of bona fide:
  - i. employment with the Club or the Associate of a Club; or
  - ii. provision of services to the Club or the Associated of a Club,not falling within sub-paragraph (a), rendered by the Player.

**Premiership Points** means the points awarded to a Club during home and away Matches.

**Senior Team** means a team fielded by a Club in the League's Senior Men's competition, including all persons selected as interchange Players in such team.

**Underage Player** means any Player who is eligible to compete in any of the Club's under age teams during the relevant Football Year.

## **Attachment A – Player Finals Eligibility**

### **10.7 FARRER FNL Player Eligibility for Finals**

10.7.1 Definition A First Grade player for the purpose of qualifying in the Reserve Grade finals shall be one who has actually played in one or more First Grade games during the current season. Selection as an interchange player in the First Grade side shall be classed as a First Grade game for the purpose of qualifying in the lower grades.

10.7.2 Any player who has represented his club in 50% (8 games) or more available home and away First Grade games in a season shall not be eligible to play within a lower grade, and a player other than those referred to above shall play at least 25% of available home and away games (4 games) with the Reserve Grade or Under 17.5's Grade before becoming eligible for the finals subject to Rule 10.7.4.

10.7.3 A First Grade player must play at least 25% of available home and away games (4 games) with the Reserve Grade and or Under 17.5's Grade to the start of the final series before he shall be eligible for play in the Reserve Grade or Under 17.5's Grade finals subject to rules of qualification for each grade.

If any club has the First Grade, Reserve Grade and Under 17.5's or First and Reserve Grade or Reserve and Under 17.5's playing on the one weekend then all restrictions shall be lifted for players, as between these teams, no player shall play more than one game per weekend during the final series except in the following circumstance.

In the event a club requires a player to play on both the Saturday and then again either on the same Saturday or the Sunday of the same weekend throughout the Finals Series in a different grade, due to unexpected illness or injury, they are to advise AFL Riverina and their opposition no later than ONE (1) hour prior to the start of play in the relevant competition game. In exceptional circumstances, this time line can be extended, for example a serious injury during the warm up of the respective game.

10.7.4 If any Club has the first and Reserve Grades playing on the one weekend than any player who has played Reserve Grade on that weekend will be able to play in any remaining Reserve Grade finals the Club participates in.

10.7.5 All players participating in matches must be recorded on the applicable team sheet. For the purpose of the above rules players who have been recorded on the team sheets will be regarded as having played that match.

10.7.6 To be eligible to play in an Under 17.5's finals game, a player must fulfil the age conditions and have played the minimum of 25% of available home and away games Under 17.5's games provided, he has not played any First (1st) Grade games throughout the season. In the event of an Under 17.5's player playing First Grade within the current season for his club, he must play 25% of the available home and away games to qualify to play in the Under 17.5's finals. After qualifying (playing 25% of available home and away games) he can play UNLIMITED 1st Grade games within the same season.

10.7.7 Players may play in more than one game on the same day at the same ground in the same round. However, these provisions will apply;

- a.) A player who plays in an Under 17.5's and a Reserve Grade game will be deemed to have played an Under 17.5's and Reserve Grade game.
- b.) A player who plays in an Under 17.5's and a First Grade game will be deemed to have played a Under 17.5's game and a First Grade game.
- c.) A player who plays in a Reserve Grade and a First-Grade game will be deemed to have played a First-Grade game only.

10.7.8 This special provision will also apply;

If in the home and away matches, a club's Reserve Grade team shall be playing on a day when its First Grade team is not engaged, then in such cases any player who has played in the First Grade team in the immediately preceding match of the current season, shall be ineligible to play with the Reserve or Under 17.5's team on that day.

#### 10.7.9.1 Finals Eligibility – AFL NSW/ACT Talent Program

Games played on match permit in the AFL (NSW/ACT) RAMS competition, GWS Academy and the NEAFL competition shall count towards finals eligibility for their community club

### 10.8 RIVERINA FNL Player Eligibility for Finals

10.7.1 Definition: A First Grade player for the purpose of qualifying in the Reserve Grade finals shall be one who has actually played in one or more First Grade games during the current season. Selection as an interchange player in the First Grade side shall be classed as a First Grade game for the purpose of qualifying in the lower grades.

For the purpose of qualifying for the First Grade during the current season a player who has played 25% or more available home and away games (4 games) in either First, Reserve or Under 17.5's Grades shall be deemed eligible.

10.7.2 Any player who has represented his club in 50% (8 games) or more First Grade games in a season shall not be eligible to play with Reserve Grade and a player other than those referred to above shall play at least 25% or more available home and away games (4 games) with the Reserve Grade or Under 17.5's before becoming eligible for the finals subject to Rule 10.7.4.

10.7.3 A First Grade player must play at least 25% (4 games) of available home & away games with the Reserve Grade prior to the start of the final series before he shall be eligible for play in the Reserve Grade subject to rules of qualification for each grade.

If any club has the First Grade, Reserve Grade and Under 17.5's or First and Reserve Grade or Reserve and Under 17.5's playing on the one weekend then all restrictions shall be lifted for players, as between these teams, no player shall play more than one game per weekend during the final series except in the following circumstance.

In the event a club requires a player to play on both the Saturday and then again either on the same Saturday or the Sunday of the same weekend throughout the Finals Series in a different grade, due to unexpected illness or injury, they are to advise AFL Riverina and their opposition no later than ONE (1) hour prior to the start of play in the relevant competition game. In exceptional circumstances, this time line can be extended, for example a serious injury during the warm up of the respective game.

10.7.4 If any Club has the First and Reserve Grades playing on the one weekend then any player who has played Reserve Grade on that weekend will be able to play in any remaining Reserve Grade finals the Club participates in.

10.7.5 All players participating in matches must be recorded on the applicable team sheet. For the purpose of the above rules players who have been recorded on the team sheets will be regarded as having played that match.

10.7.6 To be eligible to play in an Under 17.5's finals game, a player must fulfil the age conditions and have played the minimum of 25% of available home and away games (4 games) for his club in any Grade.

10.7.7 Players may play in more than one game on the same day at the same ground in the same round.

However, these provisions will apply;

a). A player who plays in an Under 17.5's and a Reserve Grade game will be deemed to have played an Under 17.5's and Reserve Grade game.

b). A player who plays in an Under 17.5's and a First Grade game will be deemed to have played a Under 17.5's game and a First Grade game.

c.) A player who plays in a Reserve Grade and a First-Grade game will be deemed to have played a First-Grade game only.

10.7.8 This special provision will also apply;

If in the home and away matches, a club's Reserve Grade team shall be playing on a day when its First Grade team is not engaged, then in such cases any player who has played in the First Grade team in the immediately preceding match of the current season, shall be ineligible to play with the Reserve or Under 17.5's team on that day.

10.7.9.1 Finals Eligibility – AFL NSW/ACT Talent Program

Games played on match permit in the AFL (NSW/ACT) RAMS competition, GWS Academy and the NEAFL competition shall count towards finals eligibility for their community club

## Attachment B – Match Times

### Home & Away Season

	Grade	Competition	Game Time	Game Duration	Break Durations	Ball Size & Type
Senior Football	First Grade	Competitive	2.10pm	4 x 20 minute quarters (with time on)	5-15-5 minutes	Full Size Leather
	Second Grade	Competitive	12.00 Noon	4 x 20 minute quarters	5-15-5 minutes	Full Size Leather
	Under 17.5's	Competitive	10.20am	4 x 20 minute quarters	5-15-5 minutes	Full Size Leather

### Finals

	Grade	Competition	Game Time	Game Duration	Break Durations	Ball Size & Type
Senior Football	First Grade	Competitive	2.30pm	4 x 20 minute quarters (with time on)	5-15-5 minutes	Full Size Leather
	Second Grade	Competitive	11.45am	4 x 17 minute quarters (with time on)	5-15-5 minutes	Full Size Leather
	Under 17.5's	Competitive	9.30am	4 x 20 minute quarters (with time on)	5-15-5 minutes	Full Size Leather

During all finals matches with the exception of the Grand Final, First Grade games should be prepared to commence where possible at the earlier starting time of 2.15pm.

## **Attachment C – Awards**

### **Riverina FNL**

#### **Premiership Trophies**

A premiership trophy and a premiership flag will be awarded to the winning club in each grade. These trophies will be:

- I. First Grade – Narrandera Argus / Narrandera Ex Serviceman Cup
- II. Reserve Grade
- III. Under 17.5's

#### **Premiership Medals**

Players in each winning team in each grade in each competition will be presented with an appropriately inscribed premiership medallion.

#### **Best and Fairest Player Awards**

The Association will award best and fairest player medals to the player adjudged by the umpires to be the best and fairest player during the home and away matches in each grade in each competition. These medals will be:

First Grade - The Jim Quinn Medal

Reserve Grade - The Gaynor Medal

Under 17.5's - The Lou Brown Medal (Under 17.5's)

#### **Voting Rules**

- I. In the event of a tied vote, all players tying for first place will each receive the best and fairest award.
- II. Any player suspended by the Association during the home and away games for an on-field offence will be ineligible to receive a best and fairest award.
- III. The winners of each award will be decided on the votes cast by the field umpire or field umpires if two are appointed to any game.

#### **Best on field awards for Grand Finals**

Medals will be awarded to the player judged to be the best on the field in these grand finals:

- I. First Grade - The Hutchins Medal
- II. Reserve Grade - The Ryan / Stewart Medal
- III. Under 17.5's - The Kohlhausen Medal

#### **Goal Kicking Award**

A Goal Kicking trophy will be awarded to the highest goal kicker in the home and away season in each grade:

- I. First Grade - Stewart Fraser Trophy
- II. Reserve Grade - Grigg Trophy
- III. Under 17.5's - Dalco Trophy

#### **Minor Premiers**

The minor premiers in each grade will be awarded the following trophies:

- I. First Grade - Ron Hutchins Trophy
- II. Reserve Grade - Max Croker Trophy
- III. Under 17.5's - Phillip Wines Trophy



## **Farrer FNL**

### **Premiership Trophies**

A premiership trophy and a premiership flag will be awarded to the winning club in each grade. These trophies will be:

- I. First Grade; John Yates Trophy
- II. Reserve Grade;
- III. Under 17.5's;

### **Premiership Medals**

Players in each winning team in each grade in each competition will be presented with an appropriately inscribed premiership medallion.

### **Best and Fairest Player Awards**

The Association will award best and fairest player medals to the player adjudged by the umpires to be the best and fairest player during the home and away matches in each grade in each competition. These medals will be:

- I. First Grade - The Gerald Clear Medal
- II. Reserve Grade - The Allan Carroll Medal
- III. Under 17.5's Grade - The David 'Sandman' Oehm Medal

### **Voting Rules**

- I. In the event of a tied vote, all players tying for first place will each receive the best and fairest award.
- II. Any player suspended by the League during the home and away games for an on-field offence will be ineligible to receive a best and fairest award.
- III. The winners of each award will be decided on the votes cast by the field umpire or field umpires if two are appointed to any game.

### **Best on field awards for Grand Finals**

Medals will be awarded to the player judged to be the best on the field in these grand finals:

- I. First Grade - The Schmidt–Nitschke Medal
- II. Reserve Grade – The Malcolm Levitt Medal
- III. Under 17.5's Grade

## **Attachment D – Player Numbers**

### **Farrer FNL**

9.1.1 First Grade clubs may use three (3) interchange players during home and away matches and three (3) during finals matches.

9.1.2 Reserve Grade clubs may use a maximum of 22 players for the home and away season (maximum 18 or 16 players on the field at any one time). The final matches will consist of 18 players on the field and 4 interchange players.

9.1.3 In the event that both clubs are agreeable the Reserve Grade may use a maximum of (18) players on the field with 3 interchange players for home and away games. No Under 17.5 players or Under 16 players are to double up to make the maximum number of players up to (18) on the field.

### **Riverina FNL**

9.1.1 First Grade clubs may use three (3) interchange players during home and away matches and four (4) during finals matches.

9.1.2 Reserve Grade clubs may use a maximum of 22 players for the home and away season (maximum 18 or 16 players on the field at any one time). The final matches will consist of 18 players on the field and 4 interchange players.

9.1.3 In the event that both clubs are agreeable, the Reserve Grade may use a maximum of (18) players on the field with (3) interchange players for home and away games. No Under 17.5 players or Under 16 players are to double up to make the maximum number of players up to (18) on the field.

### **Farrer FNL & Riverina FNL Under 17.5's Competitions**

9.4.1 Clubs Fielding an Under 17.5's side (maximum 18 or 16 players on the field at any one time) may have an unlimited number of interchange players for home and away matches. Clubs will field 24 players for finals (18 players on the field at any one time plus 6 interchange).

9.4.2 If any Club is unable to field an Under 17.5's team of at least 14 eligible players, then and only then that Club may field up to two over age players provided such players are no more than one year older than the eligible age, and the opposing Club's Team Manager and Coach are notified of the names and dates of birth of the over age players prior to the game beginning.

9.4.3 If any Club plays over age players in an Under 17.5's team without the notification required in Clause (ii) above, any premiership points won by that team will be forfeited.

9.4.4 Over age players will be ineligible to receive any votes in an Under 17.5's best and fairest award.

9.4.6 Over age players must be indicated on the team sheets by drawing a circle around the player's jumper number.