 <p><b>FOOTBALL SOUTH AUSTRALIA</b></p> <p><b>Procedures and Policies</b></p>			
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Ground Stewards Roles and Responsibilities</b>	Date Implemented	March 2012
<b>Review:</b>	<b>Biennially</b>	Date Amended	August 2023

All clubs and teams that participate in Football South Australia competitions must provide Ground Stewards.

The main role of the Ground Stewards is to ensure that they monitor the behaviour of their own players and spectators and to assist the match officials.

### 1. Number of Ground Stewards Required:

The numbers of Ground Stewards that are to be appointed at any given game are as follows:

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Senior Men's – Senior and Reserve Grade | 3 Ground Stewards per team |
| 2. Senior Men's – Under 18s                | 1 Ground Steward per team  |
| 3. All Junior Games                        | 1 Ground Steward per team  |
| 4. All Women's Games                       | 1 Ground Steward per team  |

*\*\*Football South Australia will notify clubs if additional Ground Stewards are required.*

### 2. Requirements of the Club and Ground Stewards:

- 2.1. The club must appoint the required number of people to act in the role of a Ground Steward. The name/s of the Ground Steward/s must be assigned to the team sheet prior to the commencement of each game.
- 2.2. A person acting in the role of a Ground Steward must wear the Ground Steward vest as supplied by Football South Australia.
- 2.3. A person acting in the role of Ground Steward must comply with the Football South Australia Competition Rules and Regulations.
- 2.4. A Ground Steward must be 18 years and over.

### 3. Role of the Ground Steward:

- 3.1. The Ground Steward/s is to ensure that only players and officials enter the player's race and/or changing room at all times.
- 3.2. The Ground Steward/s from each team are responsible for ensuring that only the substitutes and nominated club officials are present in their team's technical area.

- 3.3. The Ground Steward/s is to accompany the match officials off the field of play at half-time and at the conclusion of the game. Once the whistle has been blown for half-time and full-time, the Ground Steward/s is to enter the field of play and accompany the match officials off the field.
- 3.4. The Ground Steward/s is to be positioned in the areas that their own club spectators are located and ensure that the spectator's conduct is in accordance with the Football Australia and Football South Australia Spectator Code of Conduct.
- 3.5. The Ground Steward/s is to follow the direction of the Match Officials.
- 3.6. The Ground Steward is to continue in their role up until the match officials have left the field of play and are inside the changing rooms at the conclusion of the match. If requested the Ground Stewards may be required to escort the match officials from the dressing room to their car.


#### **4. Roles and Responsibilities of Ground Stewards:**

- 4.1. Prior to the commencement of the game, the Ground Steward/s is to introduce themselves to the match officials where the match officials will provide further direction.
- 4.2. The Ground Steward is to wear the Ground Steward vest provided by Football South Australia, at all times, while undertaking the role.
- 4.3. If the venue is fenced, the Ground Steward is to be positioned inside of the fence in the area that their own spectators are located or as directed by the match official.
- 4.4. While acting in the role of Ground Steward, the person is not a spectator and consequently should not question the decisions of the match officials.
- 4.5. A Ground Steward should at no time become involved in any verbal or physical altercations.
- 4.6. A Ground Steward is not to approach opposition supporters and/or club officials regarding their behaviour, this should be undertaken by the opposing team's Ground Stewards.
- 4.7. In the event that a spectator is neutral and does not align themselves with or support either team participating, then the Ground Steward from the home team will be responsible to monitor and enforce the Football Australia Spectator Code of Conduct in relation to these spectators. . If there are incidences that are not addressed by the relevant Ground Stewards of a club, these should be reported to Football South Australia.
- 4.8. A Ground Steward must not at any time engage or become involved in any verbal or physical altercations and must attempt to de-escalate any occurrences of this nature.
- 4.9. All Ground Stewards are responsible for spectators that align themselves with or support their team, Ground Stewards must not engage or become involved with the spectators who align themselves with or support the opposition team.
- 4.10. While acting in the role of a Ground Steward, the person is not to consume alcohol or smoke (including vaping).
- 4.11. If a person is appointed as a Ground Steward, this is the only role that they are to undertake on the day.

- 4.12. A Ground Steward is not to enter the field of play during the match unless directed to do so by the match official or where there are exceptional circumstances such as an assault on a match official.
- 4.13. If a Ground Steward does encounter any issues or concerns, the Ground Steward Incident Report Form is to be completed and provided to the club, the completed form is to be submitted into Football South Australia by the club. Please note that Football South Australia can only address issues if they are reported.

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**Signatures:**

Signed: 

Football South Australia President

Signed: 

Football South Australia CEO

*Next policy review date is:  
July 2025*