



Competition Operating Regulations

Specific to Limestone Coast Competitions

As of April 2023

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Application

These Competition Operating Regulations specify the requirements and regulations specific to the Limestone Coast Football Competitions. These regulations are to be implemented in conjunction with the Football Australia Statutes and Regulations and Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations.

In the event of inconsistency between these regulations and any other Football Australia, Football SA or Limestone Coast Football Association regulations, the interpretation will prevail in the following order:

1. Football Australia Statutes
2. National Registration Regulations
3. National Disciplinary Regulations
4. Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations
5. These regulations

Scope

These Regulations apply to all participating teams, players and officials participating in competitions in the Limestone Coast.

Definitions

Abandoned

If a fixture which has failed to commence for any reason or did commence but was stopped by the Match Official prior to the game concluding.

Affiliated Association

An Association that is aligned to Football SA and adheres to the rules, regulations, and policies of Football SA.

Amateur Player

Is any Player that is not a Professional, as defined in article 4.1. of the National Registration Regulations.

Amateur Competition

A competition that does not have any professional registered players.

Away Team

Is a team or club not playing the fixture or match at its home ground and / or appears second on the fixture list where a match is conducted at a neutral venue.

Club

Means an entity affiliated to or Licenced to Football SA for the purpose of playing football in the Competitions.

Club Associate/Official

Is any person involved with the administration, management or organisation of a club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, directors, representatives and volunteers.

Coach

Is any person with the required coaching qualifications, registered with Football SA and is appointed to a football team.

Competitions

Is any or all the football fixtures, matches or competitions conducted by Football SA.

Competition Administrator

Is a person appointed by Football SA to administer a competition.

Competition Fixtures

Are the matches scheduled and sanctioned by Football SA that form the competition.

Field of Play

Is the area that meets the competition requirements to play a fixture or match.

FIFA

Is the Federation Internationale de Football Association, the governing body for football internationally.

Final

Is a fixture or match that will determine the winner of a competition.

First Team

Is the highest-grade team that represents a club in any competition.

Fixture

Is the scheduling and sanctioning of a game of football involving two teams as part of a competition.

Football Australia

Is the governing body for football in Australia.

Football SA

The governing body for football in the state of South Australia.

Forfeit

Is a match or fixture that is awarded to one team due to another team not fulfilling their competition obligations.

Goal Difference

Is the difference between the number of goals scored by a team (Goals For) and the number of goals scored against the team (Goals Against).

Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations

Means the regulations utilised by Football SA to address grievances and disciplinary matters.

Home Team

Is a Team or Club playing the Fixture or Match at its home ground and/or appearing first on the fixture list in a match that is conducted at a neutral venue.

Host Club

Means a Club which hosts competition fixtures at their home venue regardless of whether the club is participating in the fixture.

Interchange

Is the ability to replace one player for another player during a game. Interchange permits a player that has been replaced to come back into the game when required.

Laws of the Game

Means the official laws of the game of football and futsal as proclaimed by FIFA.

Limestone Coast Football Referee Association (LCFRA)

Is the Association responsible for the management of match officials in the Limestone Coast region.

League

Is a competition conducted and sanctioned by Football SA comprised of specific gender and age grades.

Manager

Is a Person registered with Football SA and is appointed to administer aspect of a Team's training and game requirements.

Match

Is a fixture sanctioned by Football SA and played.

Match Official

Is a referee, assistant referee or fourth official who has been appointed by Football SA to take responsibility of a match.

Match Report

Is a written report submitted by a Match Official or Club Official providing details relating to a game.

Misconduct

Inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour that does not comply with the Football Australia and/or Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations, Policies, Code of Conducts or any other document governing the sport.

Participant

Is a Player, Team Official or Match Official.

Permit Committee

A Committee established by Football SA and the Limestone Coast Football Association comprised of a Football SA Competitions Staff person and two (2) LCFA Directors to review Player Permit requests for junior players to play down a grade.

Played

Is a game that has been completed or is a player that has participated in a game.

Player

Is any person who participates in a Match (irrespective of whether he or she is registered with Football Australia, junior or senior or an Amateur or Professional).

Postponed

Is a game that has not been played for any reason and is intended to be rescheduled.

Professional Competition

A competition where there is at least one (1) professional player registered.

Professional Player

Is a player registered with a Club under a written contract to play football for payment.

Registered

Is a person that is registered in accordance with Football SA rules and regulations.

Representative Team

Is a team that is selected to represent the Association, State or Nation.

Season

Is the duration of a Competition, from the commencement of the first game to the conclusion of the last game.

Spectator

Is a person that attends a Match.

Substitution

Is the ability to replace one player for another player during a game. Once a player has been replaced, the player that has come off is not permitted to return to the game.

Suspension

Is a ban from attending and/or participating in matches and/or competitions sanctioned by Football SA.

Team

Is an individual group of Players and Officials nominated by a Club to represent the Club in a Competition.

Team Official

Is any person involved with the management, preparation or participation of a Team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff, other support staff or any other person acting for or on behalf of a Club or association.

Technical Area

Is a designated area where team officials and substitutes are located during a game. Minimum requirements of a Technical Area are outlined in relevant Competition Operating Regulations.

Trial Match

Is a fixture that is sanctioned by Football SA that is played by two Clubs which does not form part of a Limestone Coast Football Association or Football SA competition.

Visa Player

Is any player that has not been issued an indefinite stay within Australia on their visa.

LIMESTONE COAST COMPETITIONS

Minimum Requirements

FIELD OF PLAY AND TEAM AMENITIES		
Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comments
Field Dimensions	Field of Play must satisfy the requirements of the Laws of the game; minimum length of 90m and maximum length of 120m and minimum width of 45m and maximum width of 90m. Field must be rectangular.	
Playing Surface	The pitch shall be natural grass, or a FIFA approved synthetic surface with all internal field markings in accordance with the Laws of the Game.	Clubs must ensure they consult their council in relation to permitted substances that can be used on playing surfaces.
Field Markings	Line markings must be clearly visible and in accordance with the Laws of the Game.	Clubs must ensure they consult their council in relation to substances that can be used to mark the fields or that can be used on fields.
Field Fence	A permanent fence or fencing is strongly recommended by Football SA fully enclosing the field of play and that is a minimum of 2m in distance from the side lines and goal lines. The fence must be in a good condition and safe.	
Player's Race	A player's race that leads directly from the dressing room of the players and match officials to the field of play is strongly recommended.	The player's race must be secured ensuring the safety of the players and match officials as they move between the two areas and be inaccessible by spectators and unauthorised persons.

FIELD OF PLAY AND TEAM AMENITIES

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comments
Technical Area	Two covered coaches/substitutes benches/dugouts or as approved by Football SA, with adequate seating for at least 10 people.	
Field Equipment	Goalposts, goal nets and corner flags of approved material, colour and dimensions as per the current Laws of the Game.	Laws of the Game stipulate that a corner posts, not less than 1.5m high, with a non-pointed top and flag must be placed at each corner. Flag posts may also be placed at each end of the halfway line, not less than 1m outside the touch line.
Team Changing Rooms	Allocation of separate changing rooms to accommodate home and away teams. Each changing room must be lockable and provide the following minimum requirements; - Sufficient space to comfortably accommodate at least 16 players and 5 officials at any one time. - Shower facilities with a minimum of two shower heads providing hot and cold water. - Toilet facilities that are adequately maintained and include at least one hand basin. - Lockers or hanging facilities for player's clothing.	All dressing room facilities are to be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition at all times. All dressing room facilities must be permanent buildings or as approved by Football SA and have the appropriate council approval. Other equipment recommended: - Whiteboard and pens - Power Points - Fridge or esky with ice Each room is to be clearly signed as home and away.
Match Officials Changing Room	Allocation of a changing room that comfortably accommodates up to four match officials at any given time. If possible, where male and female match officials are appointed, a separate changing room should be provided for female match officials. - Sufficient space to comfortably accommodate up to four match officials at any given time. - Shower facilities providing hot and cold water. - Toilet facilities that are adequately maintained and that include a hand basin. - Locker or hanging facilities for match officials clothing.	All dressing room facilities are to be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition at all times. All dressing room facilities must be permanent buildings or as approved by Football SA and have the appropriate council approval. Other equipment recommended: - Power Points - Fridge or esky with ice Match Officials room is to be clearly signed.

FIELD OF PLAY AND TEAM AMENITIES		
Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comments
Floodlighting	Football SA stipulates that the <i>Australian Standard AS2560.2:2021, Sports Lighting</i> is to be implemented. To be eligible to play senior fixtures, the field floodlighting must be a minimum of 100 lux with a uniformity of 0.5.	Prior to a club being sanctioned to conduct night fixtures, a lighting certificate must be submitted to Football SA verifying the floodlighting meets the minimum lighting standards. A lighting certificate is valid for a period of two years. On expiry, a club will be required to provide Football SA a new lighting certificate prior to Football SA sanctioning of games.
Medical Room and Equipment	A first aid room including basic first aid equipment including a suitably approved stretcher and a massage table. A stretcher is to be located on the sideline of the field of play from the commencement of a game.	All must be maintained in a clean and sterile condition.

- A. Football SA reserves the right not to sanction the use of a venue if any of the ground criteria is not fulfilled.
- B. Football SA reserves the right to modify the ground criteria for non-competitive games and competitive games.
*Football SA reserves the right not to sanction the use of a venue if any of the venue criteria is not fulfilled.
- C. For a full outline of venue requirements please refer to the Football SA Venue Requirements document.

SPECTATOR AND OTHER VENUE FACILITIES		
Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comments
Spectator Amenities		
Spectator amenities preferably fully enclosed with a perimeter fencing ensuring admission into the ground is controlled.		
Canteen and Bar	Serving hot and cold drinks and foods compliant with all health and council regulations. The serving of alcohol must be in accordance to the license regulations.	Alcohol consumed outside of the clubrooms must be in plastic containers. An area designated as a dry zone free from alcohol consumption must be allocated.
Car Parking	Car parking is to be available that is in close proximity to the venue. Car Parking located at the venue must be made available to the appointed match officials.	
VEO Recordings	All Clubs are required to share a link of the match footage to an account provided by Football SA no later than 9:00am, Tuesday following the match.	
Scoreboard	A scoreboard is recommended which is clearly visible to spectators.	Preference is for the scoreboard to include a clock that displays the match time
Smoke Free Venues	All venues are to be designated smoke free.	It is the responsibility of venue management to police and enforce a smoke free venue.
Toilets	Male and Female public toilets including disabled toilet access that are situated in the venue.	A public disabled toilet must be provided.

*Football SA reserves the right not to sanction the use of a venue if any of the venue criteria is not fulfilled.

TEAMS AND COACHING REQUIREMENTS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Senior Teams	Each club is to field two grades of senior men's teams: a. First Team b. Reserves	
Junior Teams	It is strongly recommended that clubs field at least three junior teams:	
Technical Director	Each club is encouraged to appoint a Technical Director accredited with a minimum Senior Licence to oversee the football operations of the Club.	
Senior Coaching Accreditation	First Team Coach Skill Training Certificate Reserve Team Coach Skill Training Certificate All Assistant Coaches Skill Training Certificate *Coaches that hold overseas accreditation must have their accreditation recognised and endorsed by AFC.	All coaches must have the minimum accreditation to coach at the appointed level. It is strongly recommended that the First Team Coach have an AFC C Licence . All coaches must be registered on Football Australia Registration System and must, if working with minors, Under 18, provide the club a Working with Children Check. Goalkeeper Coaches are recommended to have a <u>minimum of a Football Australia Goalkeeper Level 1</u>
Junior Coaching Accreditation	Under 13 – 17 Coach Skill Training Certificate MiniRoos – Under 12 Skill Training Certificate.	All coaches must be registered on Football Australia Registration System and must, if working with minors, Under 18, provide the club a Working with Children Check.
Football for Girls and Women	Each club is required to demonstrate a commitment to football for girls and women. This may be achieved by developing a partnership with a local girls' and women's club or by fielding girls' and/or women's teams.	

CLUB PERSONNEL AND REPORTING MECHANISMS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Club Liaison Officers	Each club is required to implement people to the following positions to assist with communication between Football SA and the club: • Club Delegate • Club Registrar - Football Australia Registration System • Junior and MiniRoos Club Delegate • Club Development Liaison Officer • Child Safe Officer All appointed officers must be registered on Football Australia Registration System and must, if working with minors, Under 18, provide the club a Working with Children Check	Job descriptions for each role will be provided by Football SA and is available on the Football SA website.
Annual Report	Clubs are to submit an Annual Report to Football SA summarising the activities undertaken by the club for the year and providing audited financials.	Due date 1 February each year.
Business Plan	Clubs are encouraged to develop and implement a Business Plan and a longer-term Strategic Plan that outlines the vision, goals and action plans of the club in all areas. These plans should include facility development.	
Date of AGM	Each club is to notify Football SA of the date and time of the Club's Annual General Meeting for each year.	14 days prior to the date of the AGM.
Child Safe Environment	Each club is required to implement the Child Safe Environment Guidelines. This includes ensuring that all volunteers that have direct contact with participants under the age of 18, undertake a Working with Children Check. Each club is also required to undertake reference checks when appointing all volunteers.	A copy of the Child Safe Environment Requirements can be obtained from Football SA. All clubs are required to abide by the Football Australia Member Protection Policy.

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Senior Team Medical Personnel	All Clubs must have a qualified First Aid Officer available and identified to match officials on match days.	It is strongly recommended that Clubs have a qualified Level 1 Sports Trainer .
Junior Teams Medical Personnel	U12s – 17s Teams Minimum Senior First Aid Officer MiniRoos Teams Minimum Senior First Aid Officer Each appointed person is to register in the Football Australia Registration System and provide proof of accreditation/ qualification to their club. Appointed junior medical staff must, if working with minors, Under 18, provide their club with a Working with Children Check.	
Medical Room	A first aid room including basic first aid equipment including a suitably approved stretcher and a massage table. A stretcher is to be located on the sideline of the field of play from the commencement of a game.	All must be maintained in a clean and sterile condition.
Medical Equipment	Each club is required to provide medical equipment, including strapping. Each team is to be provided by their Club a first aid medical kit that is to be used by the nominated medical personnel.	Medical personnel should be responsible for the first aid kit ensuring that it is restocked as required. All clubs will be required to a defibrillator installed by 2024 and maintained at their venue.

SIGNAGE AND LOGOS		
Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Ground Signage	Each club is to provide space for Football SA signs to be displayed at all home venues. The signage will take no more than 9 metres of length and must be displayed on the half way line facing the spectators and/or broadcast.	Football SA will determine the signage to be displayed and may include the major sponsor of the Competition or any other sponsor as determined by the Football SA.
Playing Strip Logos and Sponsors	Refer playing kit guidelines.	This will be mandated for the 2024 competition onwards.

Non-Compliance

Football SA will not sanction the use of a clubs playing strip if it does not meet the logo requirements. If a club uses a playing strip that does not meet the logo requirements, a level 3 fine will be imposed.

Competition Operations

1. Nomination of Teams

- a. Each Club shall nominate to participate in competitions in the Limestone Coast on the prescribed form as required and provided by Football SA.
- b. Once the nomination form is submitted, if a club makes any changes to the information contained on the form, any changes must be immediately notified to the competition administrator.
- c. All new clubs are required to complete the Football Australia Application for Registration of Football Club – Prescribed Form NRR02. This form must be completed and submitted with any required nomination form.

2. Competition Fixtures

- a. Competition fixtures are to be played as scheduled by Football SA
- b. Prior to the release of official fixtures, Football SA will consult Clubs by providing draft fixtures for comment.
- c. If a club wishes to change the date, time and/or venue of a match fixture, the club must submit in writing the requested change and the reasons for the change. This request must be provided to Football SA no later than 21 days prior to the scheduled game. If the request is granted, Football SA will notify the participating clubs via e-mail. Any changes will be at the discretion of Football SA.
- d. If a club does not submit a request for a change of fixture within the timeframe outlined in Clause 2 c., a change may only be granted if both teams involved in the fixture agree to the requested change and the requested change is provided to Football SA fourteen (14) days prior to the fixture. No requests will be sanctioned by Football SA outside of the fourteen (14) day timeframe unless there are exceptional circumstances that exist.
- e. Final approval for any changes to fixtures will be at the sole and absolute discretion of Football SA.

3. Admission Charges and Season Passes

- a. The following admission charges shall apply for all Limestone Coast Competition matches played at local club grounds. Admission charges shall be reviewed on an annual basis.

Limestone Coast Premier League (Men's)

\$6.00 Adults \$3.00 Concession Under 17 Free

Limestone Coast Premier League (Women's)

\$6.00 Adults \$3.00 Concession Under 17 Free

Limestone Coast Grand Finals

\$10.00 Adults \$6.00 Concession Under 17 Free

- b. The LCFA will provide each Club with a list of free passes for the Season. The passes will be valid for any final series conducted and grand finals unless otherwise determined by the LCFA.

4. Kick off Times and Duration of Matches

Seniors Men's:	2 x 45 minute halves, with a 10 minute interval at half time
Reserves	2 x 45 minute halves, with a 10 minute interval at half time
Senior Women's	2 x 40 minute halves, with a 10 minute interval at half time
Under 17	2 x 40 minute halves, with a 5 minute interval at half time
Under 16 Girls	2 x 35 minute halves, with a 5 minute interval at half time
Under 14	2 x 35 minute halves, with a 5 minute interval at half time
Under 13 Girls	2 x 30 minute halves, with a 5 minute interval at half time
Under 12 / 12D	2 x 30 minute halves, with a 5 minute interval at half time
MiniRoos U10 – U11	2 x 25 minute halves, with a 5 minute interval at half time
MiniRoos U6 – U9	2 x 20 minute halves, with a 5 minute interval at half time

If for any reason a game starts later than its scheduled time, both halves will be shortened equally, however the game still must finish on time.

5. Registration of Players

- a. All players must be registered to participate in the Football SA Competitions. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that a player is registered prior to them being played.
- b. The registration of a player is to be completed using the online Football Australia Registration System. A process of self-registration will be used, requiring the player and parent or carer to go online and register. Full details relating to the registration process will be provided to clubs on annual basis.
- c. All players must be registered each season in accordance with the process notified by Football SA on an annual basis.
- d. All Players must be registered, approved and financial by 5:00pm Thursday to participate in the following weekend's game.

- e. A player must be registered in accordance with Clause 5 b., prior to participating in any game in a sanctioned Football SA Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, a player may register at any time leading up to the first competitive game of the season that the player participates in.
- f. A junior player that is registered and plays in the Limestone Coast junior competition may dual register with another Football SA affiliated junior club in any other association including the Football SA Junior Premier League, Junior State League or Junior Girls competitions.
 - i. All dual registrations are required to be submitted and approved by Football SA and LCFA prior to registration and is only applicable to players which participate in junior competitions.
- g. A player may not register with a club after the 30 June of that season except for new players who have not previously been registered with any Football SA club in that season or as approved by Football SA.
- h. For further information on registration of players refer to the Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations and the National Registration Regulations.

6. Eligibility of Players

- a. A junior player is defined as a player that is 17 and Under during the year of competition.
- b. A junior player is able to participate in the grade of which age they are classified at as at 31 December each year. For example:
 - (i) Players who turn 17 in the year of competition are eligible to play in the Under 17
 - (ii) Players who turn 15 in the year of competition are eligible to play in the Under 15
 - (iii) Players who turn 13 in the year of competition are eligible to play in the Under 13
 - (vi) Players who turn 10 in the year of competition are eligible to play in the Under 10
 - (vii) Players who turn 7 in the year of competition are eligible to play in the Under 7
- c. Age eligible players are only permitted to play one (1) grade up. For clarity, please see below:
 - (i) an Under 17 player can play Seniors/Reserves;
 - (ii) Under 16 Girls can play Under 17's and Senior Womens;
 - (iii) Under 14 players can play Under 17;
 - (iv) Under 13 Girls players can play Under 14 Boys and Under 16 Girls;
 - (v) Under 12 players can play Under 14;
 - (vi) Under 8 and Under 10 can play in Under 12 or Under 12 Development; and
 - (vii) Under 5 and Under 7 can play in Under 8 or Under 10.

7. Player Permits

- a. Clubs can apply for Player Permits via Football SA and the LCFA Board to the Permit Committee.
- b. The Permit Committee will review and make a determination for all Player Permit submissions.

- c. Permits allow players who are within 12 months of age from playing in the age group below, to do so.
- d. A Club may obtain a maximum of two (2) Player Permits in any grade per season.
- e. Permit Players will only be granted if in the opinion of the Permit Committee, the player is not considered developed enough either physically or skilfully to participate in their age group.
- f. The Permit Committee reserves its right to revoke a player permit if the player is assessed by Football SA and the LCFA Board and deemed to be capable of playing in their eligible age group based on performance.
- g. Any determination to grant or revoke a Player Permit will be at the sole and absolute discretion of Football SA.

8. Match Sheets

- a. Each Club shall submit via Dribl a completed match sheet in the format approved by Football SA. It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure the match sheet is completed in full and correctly.
- b. The match sheet will list up to a maximum of 16 players; eleven (11) starting players and up to five (5) substitutes, one (1) of whom may be a goalkeeper.
- c. The match sheet will list up to a maximum of 5 team officials.
- d. The match sheet is to contain the correct names and shirt numbers of the club's players taking part in the match, the club's nominated substitutes for the match and the names of the club coach, manager and ground stewards.
- e. The match sheet is to be submitted at least 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the game. The Match Official is not to commence the match until the match sheets from both teams are completed.
- f. A team will be deemed to have submitted an incomplete match sheet if they have not correctly provided the following details:
 - (i) Shirt numbers for all players:
 - (ii) Players correct name:
 - (iii) Team Officials:
 - (iv) Ground Stewards and
 - (v) Any other details specified by Football SA

Penalty – The penalty for an incomplete Match Sheet is outlined in the Summary of Fines and Penalties.

- g. If a situation occurs where a club may need to make an amendment to a match sheet that has already been submitted to the Match Official, a club official may approach the match official prior to the commencement of the game to make the amendment. Once the game has commenced no amendments will be permitted to the match sheet.

Penalty – The penalty for changing a team sheet outside of Clause 8. e. is outlined in the Summary of Fines and Penalties.

- h. Where a team participates in a competition that permits substitutions or interchange, the team must select 11 starting players and up to a maximum of 5 substitutions. These players must be clearly identified in the relevant area of the match sheet as either starting or as a sub. No additional player can be selected as a starting player or a sub.
- i. A Club shall not play a player in a match who is not named on the match sheet for that match.

Penalty – The team will forfeit the game and will be issued with a fine – Refer to the Summary of Fines and Penalties.

- j. At the completion of each match, an official from each competing Club shall attend the Match Official's room and shall:
 - (i) record on the match sheet any injuries to players of their Club;
 - (ii) ensure goal scorers and any cautions or send off of players are correct;
 - (iii) be notified of any reports to be submitted to Football SA

Note: Players may not be entitled to accident insurance benefits if their injuries are not noted on the match sheet.

- k. Match Sheets and any related match reports from Match Officials, or clubs shall be submitted to Football SA within 24 hours of the completion of the match. Fines and or disciplinary action may be imposed as determined by the Football SA Competition Administrator for late submission.

9. Substitution and Interchange of Players

- a. Senior Mens
 - (i) The Senior Mens competition will utilise substitutions.
 - (ii) A team may only use the substitutes that are named on the team sheet for that match.
 - (iii) Clubs shall not nominate more than five (5) substitutes on their team sheets.
 - (iv) Where substitute rules apply, the player is deemed to have participated if they have entered the field of play as a substitute.
- b. Senior Womens, Mens Reserves and Junior Competitions
 - (i) The Senior Womens, Mens Reserves and Junior Competitions will utilise interchange.
 - (ii) Clubs shall not nominate more than five (5) substitutes on their team sheets.
 - (iii) Where interchange rules apply, the player is deemed to have participated if they are listed on a team sheet.

10. Interchange Procedure

- a. In matches where interchange is used, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (1) An 'interchange zone' shall be marked on the touchline on one side of the field of play.

- (2) The interchange zone shall extend for one metre on either side of the halfway line and shall be marked by lines at right angles to the touch line off the field of play.
- (3) A team may only use an interchange player who is named on the team's team sheet.
- (4) A player nominated as an interchange player shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the Match Official whether called upon to play or not.
- (5) An interchange may only be made at a stoppage of play and with the permission of the Match Official.
- (6) When making an interchange, the following conditions shall be observed:
 - (a) the player leaving the field shall do so by crossing over the interchange zone unless otherwise directed by the match official:
 - (b) the player entering the field ("the interchange player") shall not enter the field until the player leaving the field has completely left the field of play:
 - (c) the interchange player shall enter the field by crossing over the interchange zone; and
 - (d) when the interchange is complete, the interchange player becomes a player and the player who was replaced ceases to be a player on the field of play.
- (7) The number of interchanges that may be made during a match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced may return to the field by being interchanged for another player.
- (8) The Match Official shall caution any player who:
 - (a) enters the field of play as an interchange player before the player being replaced has completely left the field; and
 - (b) leaves or enters the field from a place other than the interchange zone if not directed by the match official.

11. Mandatory Match Suspensions for Minor Infringements

- a. A player must serve a mandatory match suspension when he or she accumulates the following number of yellow card minor infringements during the home and away league season or as determined by Football SA.

<u>Number of Minor Infringements</u>	<u>Period of Suspension</u>
5 cautions	one match
8 cautions	one match
11 cautions	refer to Disciplinary Committee
14 cautions	refer to Disciplinary Committee

Fines shall apply to clubs for players that accumulate a number of Yellow Cards Minor Infringements during the season. Refer to Summary of Fines and Penalties.

- b. Minor infringement yellow cards received during the Premier League, Womens, and Juniors shall be recorded separately. To clarify, an Under 17 player receives a yellow card in their Under 17 match and also receives a yellow card in a Senior Match, the player will be

deemed to have accumulated 1 yellow card in the Junior competition, and 1 yellow card in the Senior Mens competition.

- c. Any mandatory match suspension gained due to the accumulation of yellow cards is to be served in the competition in which the accumulation occurred.

A player is eligible to play the day after the suspension has been served.

For the avoidance of doubt if the suspension is being served in the League Competition, the player must serve the suspension in the League Competition in which they gained the highest number of accumulated yellow cards. If the yellow cards are accumulated evenly across grades, the suspension will be served in the grade that the player gained their last accumulated yellow card.

- d. If a player receives two (2) yellow cards during the same game, a red card will be issued.
Penalty - One match suspension - \$50.00 fine.
- e. If a player receives two (2) yellow cards during the same match and therefore receives a red card, the two (2) yellow cards are expunged from his or her record.
- f. If a player receives one (1) yellow card and then one (1) red card in the same match, the yellow card will not be expunged and will be counted in the player's accumulation of yellow cards.
- g. A player who receives a mandatory suspension in a Friendly, must serve that suspension in the next Friendly. A player who receives a match suspension in addition to a mandatory match suspension for an offence that occurs in a Friendly may be directed by the Competition Administrator to serve the suspension in the next official match(es) in which his or her club participates in rather than the next Friendly.
- h. A match suspension means a ban from taking part in a match or from attending the area immediately surrounding the field of play.
- i. The accumulation of yellow cards will be reset at the end of the last match of the pre-season, the League Competition, and any final series, respectively. This means that yellow cards accumulated in the pre-season competition do not carry over to the League Competition and yellow cards accumulated in a League Competition do not carry over to the final series. Match suspensions incurred because of the accumulation of yellow cards will not however be cancelled.
- j. Each club shall keep a record of their players' yellow and red cards. All clubs are responsible for ensuring a suspended player is not played.
- k. The Competition Administrator shall send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice to the club stipulating the name of the player that has received the mandatory match suspension for the minor infringement within two (2) business days, where possible, following the alleged incident.
- l. The imposition of a Mandatory Match Suspension is immediate. A Competition Administrator will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Participant (through his or her Club) of the Mandatory Match Suspension within the timeframes specified,

provided that the Mandatory Match Suspension is effective regardless of whether or not such notice is received.

- m. If a Competition Administrator has determined in accordance with the National Disciplinary Regulations that an Offence by a Participant was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the mandatory match suspension, the Competition Administrator will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the club of the details of the Offence and of the disciplinary sanction imposed.
- n. Where a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the suspension being served. If a match is abandoned, cancelled or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the team to which the suspended player belongs to is not responsible for the fact that led to the abandonment, cancellation or forfeiture of the game.

12. Mandatory Match Suspensions for Team Officials

- a. A Team Official must serve a mandatory match suspension when he or she accumulates the following number of yellow cards during the home and away league season or as determined by Football SA.

<u>Number of Minor Infringements</u>	<u>Period of Suspension</u>
5 cautions	one match
8 cautions	one match
11 cautions	refer to Disciplinary Committee
14 cautions	refer to Disciplinary Committee

- b. Fines shall apply to clubs for Team Officials that accumulate a number of Yellow Cards Minor Infringements during the season.

Penalty: Fine \$25.00 for 5, 8, 11, 14 and 17 Cautions.

- c. A Match Official may take action against Team Officials as per the Football Australia regulations who fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner and may expel the Team Official from the field of play and its immediate surroundings, including the technical areas.
- d. If a team official is expelled, the team official must move directly away from the playing field and its surrounds including the technical area. If available, the official should go directly to the teams changing room or grandstand.
- e. A Team official who has been expelled from the field of play by the Match Official must serve a minimum mandatory one (1) match suspension.

Penalty Fine \$50.00 per offence.

- f. A Team Official is eligible the day after the suspension has been served.

13. Mandatory Match Suspensions for Serious Infringements

- a. A player that receives a direct red card must serve a suspension in accordance with the National Disciplinary Regulations (NDR). For avoidance of doubt any suspension incurred through a direct red card must be served in the next competitive game that the player participates in.
- b. A player must serve an additional mandatory match suspension when they accumulate a number of red cards (serious infringements) being R1, R2, R3 and R6 during the course of the competition.
- c. Fines shall apply to clubs for players that receive Red Cards Serious Infringements during the season.

Penalty Fine \$50 per offence.

1st occasion	equates to a one (1) match suspension
2nd occasion	equates to a two (2) match suspension
3rd occasion	equates to a three (3) match suspension
4th occasion	equates to a four (4) match suspension

- d. A club may only appeal a red card that has been issued to a player where clearly there must have been a wrong decision (such as a right decision against the wrong player, mistaken identity) and it must not have been a discretionary decision by a referee as to whether an action was a foul or red card.
- e. The Competition Administrator shall send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the relevant club of the player or team officials mandatory match suspension for serious infringement following the alleged incident.
- f. Where a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches played count towards the suspension being served. If a match is abandoned, cancelled, or forfeited, a suspension is only considered to be served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the fact that led to the abandonment, cancellation, or forfeiture of the game.
- g. A player is eligible to play the day after the suspension has been served.

14. Match Officials

- a. Football SA will work with LCFRA to appoint match officials, being a Referee and two (2) Assistant Referees where possible.
- b. In the case of Senior Men's, Women's & Reserves matches, if the Referee is not present within 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time, the host club will provide a suitable person, agreed to by both Clubs.
- c. If no suitable person can be agreed to, the match will be postponed. The preference is always for the game to be played.
- d. If a club referee is appointed, they must ensure that both teams have completed a team sheet.

- e. The club referee must ensure that they receive the match sheets from both teams prior to the commencement of the game. No game should proceed until the team sheets have been provided;
- f. The club referee has the same decision-making capacity as an officially appointed referee. This means that they can enforce cautions, send-offs and submit any reports regarding team and/or spectator behaviour.,
- g. On completion of the game, the club referee must ensure that the match sheet is completed on Dribl in conjunction with the Home Club by including, where required:
 - (i) Goal scorers
 - (ii) Cautions and red cards
 - (iii) Player injuries

15. Notification of Results

- a. Unless directed otherwise, the Match Official of each match shall be responsible for reporting the result of each match, by way of completing the Dribl match sheet no later than one (1) hour after the completion of the match.
- b. A rule relating to goal difference will apply to all Junior Competitions. This rule applies to any results with a goal difference greater than eight (8). These results will be amended so that the goal difference is equal to eight (8).

Example: If the score line is 15 goals to nil, it will be recorded as an 8-0 result. If the score line is 16-2, it will be recorded as a 10-2 result.

16. League Points

- a. Subject to clause 16. b, in competitions conducted on a league points basis, the number of points awarded to the teams shall be:
 - (i) for a win - three (3) points:
 - (ii) for a draw - one (1) point; and
 - (iii) for a loss - nil (0) points.
- b. Football SA may provide in the rules, regulations or related policies and guidelines for any competition, the manner in which points will be awarded in the competition.
- c. Where two (2) or more teams have the same number of points, the standings of the teams will be determined by goal difference, the team with the better goal difference shall hold the higher position.

17. Goal Difference

- a. Goal difference shall be determined by subtracting the number of goals scored by the team from the number of goals scored against the team.

- b. Where two (2) or more teams have the same number of points, the team with the better goal difference shall be deemed to hold the higher position, as follows:
- (i) the team with the higher positive goal difference shall be deemed to have the better goal difference;
 - (ii) the team with a positive goal difference shall be deemed to have a better goal difference than a team with a negative goal difference;
 - (iii) the team with the lower negative goal difference shall be deemed to have the better goal difference;
 - (iv) where goal differences are the same, the team which scored the greater number of goals shall be deemed to have the better goal difference;
 - (v) head to head results. The team that has gained more points from the other team during the season, will be deemed to hold a higher position.
 - (vi) where teams cannot be separated through the implementation of (a) through to (e), Football SA may direct the teams to play off on a neutral ground to decide which of the teams will be placed in the higher position.

Where a playoff game is required, Football SA will schedule the game within 7 days, where practical.

18. Ground Stewards

- a. All teams must provide a minimum of two (2) persons to act in the role of Ground Steward for all sanctioned games. Prior to the commencement of each game, the Ground Steward/s are required to introduce themselves to the Match Official.
- b. If the required number of ground stewards are not provided, the Match Official will not commence the game. If the game is unable to be commenced within the allotted time, 15 minutes after the nominated kick-off time, the Match Official will abandon the game. Process relating to abandonment of games will be implemented. Refer to Clause 29.
- c. Ground Stewards must be 18 years of age and over and are responsible for undertaking the following role:
 - (i) Ensuring that only players and officials are within the technical areas;
 - (ii) Accompanying Match Officials on and off the field of play;
 - (iii) Ensuring the Football Australia Spectator Code of Conduct is being implemented with **THEIR OWN SUPPORTERS**. If a spectator is not behaving in accordance to the Football Australia Spectator Code of Conduct, a Ground Steward may approach the person and remind him/her of the requirements. Neutral spectators, spectators that are not aligned to either team participating, the Ground Stewards from the home team will be responsible for monitoring and enforcing the Football Australia Spectator Code of Conduct with these spectators;
 - (iv) Must wear the provided White Coat;
 - (v) Under no circumstances will the Ground Steward act as a referee or Assistant in any game whilst acting as a Ground Steward;
 - (vi) Ensure spectator lines are clearly marked and advise spectators to remain behind the designated line at all times;
 - (vii) Ensure that only the people listed on the team sheet are present in the technical areas;

- (viii) Under no circumstances is the Ground Steward to coach and/or engage with the players during the match;
 - (ix) The Ground Marshall must continually make rounds of the grounds and must not remain in the technical area and must not be a coach or manager of the team playing;
 - (x) Assisting Match Officials as requested; and
 - (xi) Submitting a written report to Football SA, where applicable, reporting any inappropriate behaviour.
- d. Grounds Stewards should not at any time engage in any verbal or physical altercations. A Ground Steward may approach a person that is associated with **THEIR CLUB** and make a request to that person, however if this is not followed, the Ground Steward should submit a report to Football SA outlining the incident. All Ground Stewards are responsible for their **OWN SPECTATORS**, Ground Stewards should not become involved with the opposition spectators. If spectators from the opposing club are not behaving in accordance with the Football Australia Spectator Code of Conduct and no action is being taken by that clubs ground stewards, a report should be submitted to Football SA during normal business hours within 48 hours of the match to which the report relates.
- e. While acting in the role of a Ground Steward, the person must not consume alcohol or smoke.
- f. All reports must be completed and submitted on the Ground Steward Report Template and shall be submitted to the Football SA during normal business hours within 48 hours of the match to which the report relates.
- g. On receipt of the report, the relevant competition coordinator will determine what action is required. Please note that further information may be sought from the Ground Steward.
- h. Once the report has been actioned and an outcome is known, this information will be provided to the Club that the ground steward represented.

Penalty – A sanction will be applied to a club that does not provide the required number of Ground Stewards and/or the Ground Stewards do not fulfil the role as outlined above when appointed.

- i. Football SA and/or Disciplinary Committee has the discretionary power to require a club to allocate more Ground Stewards where the club has been reported for inappropriate behaviour.

19. Forfeit of Matches

- a. Notification of forfeitures must be submitted via Dribl when a Club/Grade will forfeit a match.
- b. For Junior Competitions, notification must be submitted by Thursday, 5:00pm prior to that match.
- c. For Senior Men, Women, Reserves, notification must be submitted by Thursday, 5:00pm prior to that match.

Penalty – Refer Summary of Fines and Penalties for forfeit.

20. Match Balls

- a. Match Balls will be provided to every Club (7 x size 5 and 2 x size 4) which must be used for all competitions.
- b. Both Clubs participating must have match balls available, not just the home venue. Each Club involved in Finals must supply a spare match ball.
- c. All Clubs must use the match ball type and brand as stipulated by the Football SA on an annual basis.
- d. Each team must use the match ball size suitable to the age group:

Under 6-7	Size 3
Under 8-9	Size 3
Under 10 - 12	Size 4
Under 13 and above	Size 5

21. Video Footage of Matches

- a. Clubs must supply a link of their match footage to a designated Football SA account by no later than 5pm, Tuesday.
- b. The Competitions Disciplinary Committee will use the provided match footage for review of any send off reports.

22. Meetings

- a. All Clubs shall ensure a Club representative attends Presidents meetings as scheduled.
- b. A minimum of four (4) Presidents meetings, excluding the AGM, will be scheduled each year.
- c. Meetings will be notified in a timely manner, where possible.

Penalty – First non-attendance; No fine

Non-attendance thereafter; \$50.00 per meeting

Note – Apologies do not negate any penalty.

Finals Series

23. The Competition

- a. A finals series will be conducted at the conclusion of the respective Home and Away Season.
- b. The finals series may involve Senior Men, Senior Women, Reserves, Under 17, Under 16, Under 14, Under 13 and Under 12 teams.

- c. Refer Appendix 1 for finals series structure.

24. Determination of Finals Venue

- a. Football SA and the LCFA will have sole discretion over the allocation of venues for all games in the finals series. Grounds will be inspected by the LCFA fourteen (14) days prior to confirm suitability. The LCFA will be overseer/supervisor for the day.

25. Host Club Responsibilities

- a. LCFA will be responsible for the payment of all match officials during the finals series.
- b. The LCFA shall receive all gate receipts and will appoint a gatekeeper. The host club shall receive all bar and catering profits.
- c. Football SA may require the host club to provide additional ground stewards and/or security. If security is required, the cost will be halved between LCFA and the Clubs involved in the fixture.

26. Kick off Times and Duration of Matches

- a. Kick off times will be determined by Football SA in consultation with Clubs.
- b. Senior Men
 - (i) 2 x 45 minute halves with a 10 minute half time interval
 - (ii) In the event the match is a tie at the end of normal time, two periods of extra time being 2 x 15 minute halves will be played.
 - (iii) In the event the match is a tie at the end of extra time, the result will be decided by penalty kicks in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game.
- c. Senior Women and Reserves
 - (i) 2 x 40 minute halves with a 10 minute half time interval
 - (ii) In the event the match is a tie at the end of normal time, two periods of extra time being 2 x 15 minute halves will be played.
 - (iii) In the event the match is a tie at the end of extra time, the result will be decided by penalty kicks in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game.
- d. Juniors
 - (i) Juniors will play the same half lengths as per these regulations in the Season.
 - (ii) In the event the match is a tie at the end of normal time, the result will be decided by penalty kicks in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game. No extra time periods will be played.

27. Eligibility of Players

- a. Senior Men, Women and Reserves
 - (i) To be eligible to participate in the finals series, players must have participated in a minimum of five (5) matches for their respective Club in their respective grade during the home and away season.

- (ii) A player which has participated in six (6) or more senior matches is not eligible to play finals for the Reserve team unless both teams are playing on the same day. This rule does not include Juniors.

b. Juniors

- (i) To be eligible to participate in the finals series, players must have participated in a minimum of six (6) matches for their respective grade during the home and away season. Once a junior player meets this criteria, they may move up one (1) grade without having played five (5) matches.
- (ii) Examples:
 - A. An U12 player has played five (5) matches for the U12 team during the home and away season, but only one (1) U14 match during the season. The player is eligible to play in the U14 finals matches.
 - B. An U16 player has played five (5) matches for the U16 team during the home and away season, but only three (3) Senior Women's matches during the season. The player is eligible to play in the Senior Women's finals matches.
 - C. An U17 player has played five (5) matches for the U17 team during the home and away season, but only two (2) matches for the Senior or Reserve team during the season. The player is eligible to play in the Senior or Reserve finals matches.

- c. Senior Mens, Womens and Reserves are not Team/Grade tied if the Senior Mens, Womens and/or Reserves are playing on the same day.

28. Yellow Card Accumulation

- a. All suspensions incurred during the home and away season carry into the finals series.
- b. The accumulation of yellow cards will restart at the commencement of the finals series, noting that match suspensions incurred because of the accumulation of yellow cards will not however be cancelled.
- c. A player must serve a mandatory match suspension when he or she accumulates the following number of yellow card minor infringements during the finals series.

<u>Number of Minor Infringements</u>	<u>Period of Suspension</u>
3 cautions	one match

- d. If the team does not have any remaining matches in the finals series, the suspension will be served in the first round of the home and away season.

Penalties and Fines

29. Scale of Penalties

- a. Unless otherwise specified in the rules and regulations, the following penalties will be applied.

Level 1 fine:	A fine of \$10.00 for the first offence and \$20.00 for a second offence within 12 months.
Level 2 fine	A fine of \$25.00 for a first offence and a fine of \$50.00 for a second offence within 12 months.
Level 3 fine	A fine of \$50.00 for the first offence and a fine of \$100.00 for the second offence within 12 months.
Level 4 fine	A fine of \$100.
Level 5 fine	A fine of \$500

30. Summary of Fines

Penalties relating to breaches of rules and regulations and operating guidelines are stipulated at the end of each rule or regulation where a penalty is applicable. The above scale of penalty is to be implemented unless otherwise stated.

a. Forfeit of games

Senior Men/Women Team:	Level 4 Fine
Reserve Team:	Level 4 Fine
Junior Team (U12-U17):	Level 3 Fine

b. Playing of an Unregistered, Ineligible or Suspended Player

The match automatically awarded to the opposing side three (3) goals to nil (0), plus the loss of three (3) competition points.

Senior Men/Women Team:	Level 4 Fine per player
Reserve Team:	Level 4 Fine per player
Junior Team (U12-U17):	Level 3 Find per player

c. Incomplete Team Sheet

Senior Men/Women Team:	Level 2 Fine
Reserve Team:	Level 2 Fine
Junior Team (U12-U17):	Level 1 Fine

d. Altering a team sheet after match commencement

Senior Men/Women Team:	Level 3 Fine
Reserve Team:	Level 3 Fine
Junior Team (U12-U17):	Level 2 Fine

e. Use of Incorrect Match Balls

Senior Men/Women Team:	Level 2 Fine
Reserve Team:	Level 2 Fine
Junior Team (U12-U17):	Level 1 Fine

f. Late submission of team sheet

Senior Men/Women Team:	Level 1 Fine
Reserve Team:	Level 1 Fine
Junior Team (U12-U17):	Level 1 Fine

g. Sanctions

League Accumulation of 5, 8, 11, 14 and 17 Yellow Cards	\$25 for each accumulation
Cup Competition Accumulation of Yellow Cards	\$25 for each accumulation
Red Card issued to player	\$50 for each offence
Dismissal of a Team Official from the Technical Area	\$50 for each offence

h. Appeals

A Club may appeal the any disciplinary sanction in line with the Football Australia National Disciplinary Regulations. To appeal, the Club must submit an appeal fee to Football SA, along with an appeal fee of \$250.00 within seven (7) days of the infringement notice. If the appeal

Appendix 1 – Finals Series Format

The finishing position of teams at the conclusion of the home and away season will determine the team's position in the Final Series.

Week 1				
Match	Home Team		Away Team	Type of Final
Match A	1 st Place	vs.	2 nd Place	Qualifying Final
Match B	3 rd Place	vs.	4 th Place	Elimination Final

Week 2				
Match	Home Team		Away Team	Type of Final
Match C	Loser Match A	vs.	Winner Match B	Preliminary Final

Week 3				
Match	Home Team		Away Team	Type of Final
Match D	Winner Match A	vs	Winner Match C	Final

Appendix 2 – Referee Fees

Competition	Grade	Referee	Assistant
Senior Men's	A Grade/Seniors	\$90.00	\$45.00
	B Grade/Reserves	\$65.00	\$32.50
Senior Women's	A Grade/Seniors	\$65.00	\$32.50
Juniors	Under 17's	\$55.00	\$27.50
	Under 16 Girls	\$45.00	\$22.50
	Under 14	\$30.00	\$15.00
	Under 13 Girls	\$30.00	\$15.00
	Under 12/ 12 Development	\$30.00	\$15.00
Travel Allowance			
From Mount Gambier	To Naracoorte	\$90.00	
	To Millicent	\$50.00	

Appendix 2 - Under 12 and Under 13 Girls Playing Format and Rules