



COMPETITION OPERATING REGULATIONS

**Specific to all Senior Women and Junior Competitions (including the
Women's National Premier League and Women's State League)**

Amended, Updated, and Implemented

As of February 2024

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Application

These Competition Operating Regulations specify the requirements and regulations that are conducted for senior women and junior girls including the Women's National Premier League. 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 or Football SA regulations, the interpretation will prevail in the following order:

- i. Football Australia Statutes
- ii. National Registration Regulations
- iii. National Disciplinary Regulations
- iv. Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations
- v. These Regulations

Scope

These regulations apply to:

- i. participating teams, players and officials participating in competitions conducted by Football SA for girls and women and
- ii. all Senior Women's and Junior Competitions including the Women's National Premier League.

Definitions

Abandoned

Is 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.

Amateur Competition

Is a competition that has no registered Professional Players.

Amateur Player

Is any Player that is not a Professional, as defined in article 3.1. of the National Registration Regulations.

Australian Player

is any Player who is a citizen of Australia; a Permanent Resident of Australia (where Permanent Resident means a person residing in Australia on a "permanent" visa class issued by the Australian Government, evidenced by either the person's Visa Grant Notice or as a listed entitlement on the person's online Visa Entitlement Verification); a person who has been granted indefinite stay in Australia on their visa; or the holder of a refugee visa, humanitarian visa or protection visa issued by the Australian government.

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 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.

Community Leagues

Are open age women's competitions that are conducted by Football SA excluding the Women's National Premier League.

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 a competition.

Cup

Are knockout competitions conducted by Football SA.

Cup Fixtures

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

Football Australia

Is the governing body for football in Australia.

Final Series

Is a competition that may be conducted following the Home and Away Season.

Fixture

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

Football SA

Is 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.

Home and Away Season

Is the competition comprising of one **home** game at each team's venue and one **away** game at each team's venue.

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.

Home Grown Player

Is a player that was registered with a club prior to being selected into the W-League, or prior to being selected into the National Training Centre Program.

Host Club

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

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).

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.

Junior Competition

Is the competition administered by Football South Australia for players under 18 years of age. For the purposes of structuring junior competitions with multiple leagues in an age group, leagues will be graded in the following order from highest to lowest; red, blue, purple, yellow.

Junior Player

Is a player that is Under 18 and participates in the Football SA Junior Competition.

Laws of the Game

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

Match

Is a fixture sanctioned by Football SA.

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.

National Training Centre Player

Is a player that was a full-time scholarship holder in the Football SA National Training Centre Program

Participant

Is a Player, Team Official or Match Official.

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).

Player Points System (PPS)

Is a mechanism that is used by clubs to define and submit their player roster to Football SA.

Postponed

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

Pre-Season Competition

Is a pre-season competition administered by Football SA. Pre-season competition matches are not considered official matches for the purpose of playing statistics.

Professional Competition

Is a competition that has one or more registered Professional Players.

Professional Player

Is a player registered with a football 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.

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 Football SA Competition.

Visa Player

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

W-League Player

Is a player that received a contract to play in the Liberty A-League the year preceding to registering with Football SA.

Women's National Premier League

It is a National Competition conducted by Member Federations for women. It is the second tier of competition to that of the Liberty A-League.

Women's State League

Is the second tier of elite competition conducted by Football SA and sits below the Women's National Premier League.

Women's National Premier League

Minimum Competition Requirements

Football SA Venues will be utilised to conduct the Women's National Premier League. Where games are scheduled away from Football SA venues, the requirements outlined below are to be met.

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.	Mandatory minimum pitch size will be 100m by 60m from 2025.
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 that 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 that they consult their council in relation to substances that can be used to mark the fields or that can be used on fields.
Perimeter Field Fencing	A permanent fence or fencing as approved 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 must be installed by the conclusion of the license period. The fence must be in a good condition and safe.	Football SA reserves the right not to sanction a venue if the field is not adequately fenced. Non-Compliance: Once the venue is sanctioned the onus is on the club to maintain fencing. If a club is compliant a Level 2 fine will be imposed, and the venue will need to be complaint prior to further use.
Access to Field of Play	A secure access to the field of play must be provided to players and match officials when moving between field of play and changing rooms	It is recommended that a player's race is in place ensuring the safety of the players and match officials as they move between the changing room and the field of play. This area must be secured and inaccessible by spectators and unauthorised persons.
Technical Area	Two covered coaches/substitutes benches/dugouts or as approved by Football SA, with adequate seating for 14 people, 7 substitutes and 7 team officials.	All team officials are required to wear the accreditation provided by Football SA at all times.
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.

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comments
Team Dressing Rooms	<p>There needs to be separate dressing rooms to accommodate home and away teams. Each dressing room must be lockable and provide the following minimum requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Sufficient space to comfortably accommodate at least 18 players and officials at any one time. ii. Shower facilities with a minimum of three shower heads providing hot and cold water. iii. Toilet facilities that are adequately maintained and Include at least one hand basin. iv. Lockers or hanging facilities for player’s clothing. v. Trainers Table. 	<p>All dressing room facilities are to be maintained and presented in a clean condition at all times.</p> <p>All dressing room facilities must be permanent buildings or as approved by Football SA and have the appropriate council approval.</p> <p>Other equipment recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whiteboard and pens • Power Points <p>Each room is to be clearly signed as home and away.</p>
Match Officials Dressing Room	<p>Sufficient space to comfortably accommodate up to four match officials at any given time. If possible, where male and female match officials are appointed, a separate dressing room should be provided for female match officials.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Sufficient space to comfortably accommodate up to four match officials at any given time. ii. Shower facilities providing hot and cold water. iii. Toilet facilities that are adequately maintained and that include a hand basin. iv. Locker or handing facilities for match officials clothing. v. Table 	<p>All dressing room facilities are to be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition al all times.</p> <p>All dressing room facilities must be permanent buildings or as approved by Football SA and have the appropriate council approval.</p> <p>Other equipment recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power Points <p>Match Officials room is to be clearly signed.</p>
Floodlighting	<p>To be eligible to play night games, field floodlighting must be a minimum of 100 lux with a uniformity of 0.5 Football SA stipulates that the <i>Australian Standard AS2560.2:2021., Sports Lighting</i> is to be implemented.</p>	<p>Prior to a club being sanctioned to conduct night fixtures, a lighting certificate must be submitted to Football SA verifying that the floodlighting meets the minimum lighting standards. A lighting certificate is valid for 2 years, a new certificate will need to be provided to Football SA following this time period.</p>
Medical Room and Equipment	<p>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.</p>	<p>All must be maintained in a clean and sterile condition.</p>

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

SPECTATOR AND OTHER VENUE FACILITIES

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comments
Spectator Amenities		
Spectator amenities shall be fully enclosed with a perimeter fencing ensuring admission into the ground is controlled.		
Access and exit to the venue	There must be more than one exit point to the venue to accommodate the evacuation of spectators. Access is available for emergency vehicles including access to the playing field	
Admission into the Venue	Each venue is to have an admission entrance of a structure and design as approved by Football SA for the collection of admission fees.	
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	
Media Area	A media area that provides unobstructed views of the playing field and scoreboard is required to be provided at each venue.	Preference is for the media area to be a scaffold, where possible, with a minimum elevation height of two (2) metres for livestreaming purposes.
Scoreboard	A fully functional scoreboard (including the names of each participating team), which is clearly visible to spectators and the media/ press box.	Preference is for the scoreboard to include a clock that displays the match time
Seating Capacity	Seating for 200 people.	Recommended that the seating is undercover.
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.
PA System	A fully operational Public Address System that is audible to all parts of the venue.	Recommended that the system can play music and announce simultaneously. Must also have the means to play music. A wireless microphone is recommended.
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 the following senior women's teams: a. Reserves b. Seniors	Non-Compliance If a club is unable to field Senior or Reserve Grade Teams, the club will not be permitted to enter the National Premier League Competition.						
Junior Teams	It is strongly recommended that each club is to field the following junior girls teams; a. At least one team in each age group of Under 13, 15 and 17. b. At least two girls or mixed MiniRoos teams in the following age groups – Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 or Under 11.							
Player Points System	Each club will be required to implement the Player Points System when selecting their senior grade team.	Football SA will provide the Player Points System to each club.						
Technical Director	Where a club fields junior teams, a Technical Director is to be appointed to oversee the football development of junior teams. The person appointed to this position is required to be accredited to a minimum of an C Diploma by the end of the license period.	It is recommended that the Technical Director is accredited to an B Diploma. The Technical Director is required to work with the Football SA Technical Director as required. Technical Director must be registered on Football Australia Registration System and must, if working with minors, Under 18, provide the club a Working with Children Check.						
Senior Coaching Accreditation	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">First Team Coach</td> <td>Minimum of C Diploma</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve Team Coach</td> <td>Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Assistant Coaches</td> <td>Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate</td> </tr> </table>	First Team Coach	Minimum of C Diploma	Reserve Team Coach	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate	All Assistant Coaches	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate	<p>All coaches must have the minimum accreditation to coach at the appointed level.</p> <p>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.</p>
First Team Coach	Minimum of C Diploma							
Reserve Team Coach	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate							
All Assistant Coaches	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate							

TEAMS AND COACHING REQUIREMENTS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Junior Coaching Accreditation	<p>Under 13 – 17 Coach Foundation of Football Certificate</p> <p>MiniRoos MiniRoos Certificate.</p>	<p>It is recommended that coaches hold the following accreditation by the end of the license period;</p> <p>Under 13-17 Coach Minimum of C Diploma</p> <p>All coaches must have the minimum accreditation to coach at the appointed level.</p> <p>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.</p>
Annual Coaching Conference	The Technical Director and Head Coach of each club are required to attend Football SA annual Coaching Conference.	Coaches should be encouraged by their club to attend the conference to assist with Professional Development and reevaluation of their coaching accreditation.
Community Club Academy	No Requirement	Each club is encouraged to establish a Community Club Academy within their club. Football SA Coaching and Development Department will assist clubs in the establishment of the club academy.

CLUB PERSONNEL AND REPORTING MECHANISMS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Club Liaison Officers	<p>Each club is required to implement people to the following positions to assist with communication between the Football SA and the club:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club Registrar – Football Australia Registration System • Senior Competition Liaison Officer • Junior Competition Liaison Officer and MiniRoos Games Liaison Officer • Club Development Officer <p>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</p>	<p>All appointed officers must be registered in the Football Australia Registration System database and must undertake the required child safe environment guidelines.</p> <p>Job descriptions for each role will be provided by Football SA and is available on the Football SA</p>
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. Where a club's financial year is in line with the calendar year. An unaudited Financial Report is to be provided by the 1 February with audited financials being provided by 1 May of each year.
Business Plan	Each club is required is to develop and implement a Business Plan and a Strategic Plan that outlines the vision, goals and action plans of the club in all areas. These plans should include facility development.	On application of the new licence period and then 1 February each year as updated.
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.

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Senior Team Medical Personnel	<p>Minimum Level 1 Sports Trainer is required</p> <p>Appointed medical staff must, if working with minors, Under 18, provide the club Working with Children Check.</p>	All appointed people must be registered in the Football Australia Registration System database and upload accreditation/qualifications on to the system.
Junior Teams Medical Personnel	<p>U13s – 17s Teams Minimum Senior First Aid Officer</p> <p>MiniRoos Teams Minimum Senior First Aid Officer</p> <p>Appointed medical staff must, if working with minors, Under 18, provide the club Working with Children Check.</p>	All appointed people must be registered in the Football Australia Registration System database and provide their accreditation/qualifications to the club.
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	<p>Each club is required to provide medical equipment, including strapping to their Senior Teams. Each team is to be provided with a first aid medical kit that is to be used by the nominated medical personnel.</p> <p>All venues are to have defibrillator installed and maintained.</p>	Medical personnel should be responsible for the first aid kit ensuring that it is restocked as required.
Medical Reporting	<p>Each club is to ensure that all players and appointed team officials complete a medical form. Medical form should be retained by medical personnel appointed to the team.</p> <p>If an injury or medical incident does occur, Sports Trainer/First aid person is to complete an injury report form.</p>	<p>All medical forms should be treated with strict confidentiality. Only appointed medical personnel, team manager and nominated club person should have access.</p> <p>Incident report forms are to be provided to the club and Football SA if required.</p>
Professional Development	Appointed medical personnel are required to attend first aid workshops as scheduled annually by Football SA	Clubs are encouraged to identify people within the club that may move into such roles.

SIGNAGE AND LOGOS		
Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Ground Signage	No requirement	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	Football SA will provide updated official Playing Strip Guidelines ahead of each season which is required to be adhered to.	

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, the following sanctions will be imposed, refer to page 30-31 for details of fines;

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| A. First Offence | A level 2 fine |
| B. Second Offence | A level 2 fine plus loss of one competition point |
| C. Third or subsequent Offence | A level 3 fine plus loss of three competition points |

CLUB DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENTATION OF GAMES

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Game Day Presentation	Each club is to implement match day guidelines as provided by Football SA.	It is recommended that each club implements the following: a. Produce a match day program. b. Conduct half time entertainment at all home league fixtures. This may involve the conducting of MiniRoos Games.
Family Friendly Area	No Requirement.	Clubs are encouraged to promote family friendly venue/environment. The inclusion of activities for children such as face painters, designated play areas are strongly encouraged and the implementation of family friendly areas free from alcohol and obscene language.
Club Development	<p>Each club must demonstrate a commitment to club development. Each club is required to complete the National Club Accreditation Program as directed by Football SA.</p> <p>Each club is required to register and work through the STARCLUB Program and the Good Sports Program.</p> <p>Each club must send a minimum of one person to attend the annual club conference conducted by Football SA.</p>	Football SA will provide assistance and guidance in relation to the club development programs.
Community Development and Engagement	<p>Each club is required to develop partnerships with their local schools and at minimum conduct the following activities with each school:</p> <p>a. Program and conduct at least 2 coaching clinics with local schools.</p> <p>b. Provide local school teams with the opportunity to participate in half-time entertainment.</p> <p>c. Provide a link for school players to progress into club-based football.</p>	

CLUB DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENTATION OF GAMES

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Respect Program	Each club is required to implement any Football Australia/ Football SA Respect Program as directed by Football SA. This includes displaying of any Respect material and resources associated with the program.	It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that all players, team and club officials and spectators are aware of their responsibilities under the Respect Program
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 provide a Working with Children Check to their club. Each club is also required to undertake reference checks when appointing all volunteers.	A copy of the Child Safe Environment Guidelines can be obtained from Football SA. All clubs are required to abide by the Football Australia Member Protection Policy.

Women's State League

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	In accordance with the Venue Requirements pitch size is recommended to be at minimum 100m by 60m.
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 that they consult with 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 that 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	No Requirement	It is recommended that a permanent fence or fencing as approved by Football SA, fully encloses the field of play and that it is a minimum of 2m in distance from the side lines and goal lines. The fence must be in a good condition and safe. Football SA reserves the right not to sanction a venue if the field is not adequately fenced.
Player's Race	No requirement	It is recommended that the venue has a player's race that leads directly from the dressing room of the players and match officials to the field of play. 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.
Technical Area	Coaches/substitutes benches/dugouts or as approved by Football SA, with adequate seating for 10 people.	The technical area should be situated on the opposite side of where the majority of spectators congregate where there is no field fence. All team officials are required to wear the accreditation provided by Football SA at all times.

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comments
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. Flagposts may also be placed at each end of the halfway line, not less than 1m outside the touch line.
Team Dressing Rooms	<p>There needs to be separate dressing rooms to accommodate home and away teams. Each dressing room must be lockable and provide the following minimum requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Sufficient space to comfortably accommodate at least 18 players and officials at any one time. II. Shower facilities with a minimum of one shower head providing hot and cold water. III. Toilet facilities that are adequately maintained and Include at least one hand basin. <p>Each room is to be clearly signed as home and away.</p>	<p>All dressing room facilities are to be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition. All dressing room facilities must be permanent buildings or as approved by Football SA and have the appropriate council approval.</p> <p>Other equipment recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hooks to hang clothes • Massage table • Whiteboard • Power points
Match Officials Dressing Room	<p>Separate changing room to accommodate match officials. If possible, where male and female match officials are appointed, a separate dressing room should be provided for female match officials.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Sufficient space to accommodate up to four match officials at any given time. ii. Shower facilities providing hot and cold water. iii. Toilet facilities that are adequately maintained and that include a hand basin. 	<p>All dressing room facilities are to be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition at all times.</p> <p>All dressing room facilities must be permanent buildings or as approved by Football SA and have the appropriate council approval.</p> <p>Other equipment recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hooks to hang clothes • Power points
Floodlighting	Football SA stipulates that the <i>Australian Standard AS2560.2:2021, Sports Lighting</i> is to be implemented by the conclusion of the license period. To be eligible to play night games, field floodlighting must be a minimum of 100 lux with a uniformity of 0.5.	Any club seeking to conduct night fixtures must meet the lighting standards. Prior to a club being sanctioned to conduct night fixtures, a lighting certificate must be submitted to Football SA verifying that the floodlighting meets the minimum lighting standards.

SPECTATOR AND OTHER VENUE FACILITIES

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comments
Access and exit to the venue	Access is available for emergency vehicles including access to the playing field	
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	
Scoreboard	No Requirement	It is recommended that the venue has a scoreboard, identifying home and away teams. 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.

TEAMS AND COACHING REQUIREMENTS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment						
Senior Teams	Each club is to field the following senior teams; 1. State League Senior Team 2. State League Reserves Team 3. At least one other Senior Team	Each club is encouraged to field additional senior teams in the women's community leagues. <i>Football SA may exercise its discretion for teams to field a Reserve and at least one other senior team.</i>						
Junior Teams	Each club is strongly encouraged to field junior girls and MiniRoos girls/mixed teams in the following age groups; Junior Teams – Under 13, 15, 17 MiniRoos Teams – Under 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11							
Technical Director	No Requirement	It is recommended that if the club fields junior teams that a Technical Director is appointed by the end of the license period. Technical Director should be accredited to a minimum of an C Diploma.						
Senior Coaching Accreditation	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Senior Women's Coaches</td> <td>Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve Women's Coaches</td> <td>Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Assistant Coaches</td> <td>Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate</td> </tr> </table>	Senior Women's Coaches	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate	Reserve Women's Coaches	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate	All Assistant Coaches	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate	It will become a requirement from the 2025 Season that the head senior coach has a minimum of C Diploma.
Senior Women's Coaches	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate							
Reserve Women's Coaches	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate							
All Assistant Coaches	Minimum of Foundation of Football Certificate							
Junior Coaching Accreditation	If a club fields Junior Girls Teams, coaches need to have the following accreditation; <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Under 13 – 17 Coach</td> <td>Foundation of Football Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MiniRoos</td> <td>MiniRoos Certificate</td> </tr> </table>	Under 13 – 17 Coach	Foundation of Football Certificate	MiniRoos	MiniRoos Certificate	It is strongly encouraged that coaches working with junior teams have a C Diploma.		
Under 13 – 17 Coach	Foundation of Football Certificate							
MiniRoos	MiniRoos Certificate							
Annual Coaching Conference	It is a requirement that the Head Coach of each club attends the Football SA annual Coaching Conference							
Community Club Academy	No Requirement							

CLUB REQUIREMENTS AND REPORTING MECHANISMS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Club Incorporation	Each club is required to be incorporated.	
Club Liaison Officers	<p>Each club is required to implement a person to undertake the following positions to assist with communication between the Football SA and the club:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club Registrar – National Registration System • Senior Competition Liaison Officer • Junior Competition Liaison Officer and MiniRoos Games Liaison Officer (if the club fields junior teams) • Club Development Officer 	<p>All appointed officers must be registered in the National Registration System and must undertake the required child safe environment requirements including a Working with Children Check.</p> <p>Job descriptions for each role are to be implemented.</p>
Annual Report	No Requirement	Each club is required to complete reporting mechanisms in line with the incorporation requirements.
Business Plan	No Requirement	Each club is 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.

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Senior Team Medical Personnel	Minimum Senior First Aid Officer.	Clubs are encouraged to appoint a Level 1 Sports Trainer. All appointed people must be registered in the National Registration System, have the appropriate accreditation and follow all Child Safe Environment Regulations including Working with Children Checks (WWCC).
Junior Teams Medical Personnel	Clubs that field junior teams must ensure that there is a person in attendance that has a minimum of a Senior First Aid certificate.	All appointed people must be registered in the National Registration System, have the appropriate accreditation and follow all Child Safe Environment Regulations including
Medical Equipment	Each team is to be provided with a first aid medical kit that is to be used by the nominated medical personnel. Each club must ensure that there is a stretcher at the venue and that the stretcher is put near the field of play prior to the commencement of each game. Each venue is to install and maintain a defibrillator.	Medical personnel should be responsible for the first aid kit ensuring that it is restocked as required.
Medical Reporting	Each club is to ensure that all players and appointed team officials complete a medical form. Medical forms should be retained by medical personnel appointed to the team. If an injury or medical incident does occur, Sports Trainer/First Aid person is to complete an injury report form.	All medical forms should be treated with strict confidentiality. Only appointed medical personnel, team manager and nominated club person should have access.
Professional Development	Appointed medical personnel are encouraged to attend any first aid workshops conducted by Football SA.	Clubs are encouraged to identify people within the club that may move into such roles.

SIGNAGE AND LOGOS

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Ground Signage	No Requirement	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	Football SA will provide updated official Playing Strip Guidelines ahead of each season which is required to be adhered to.	

CLUB DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENTATION OF GAMES

Criterion	Minimum Requirement	Comment
Game Day Presentation	Each club is to implement match day guidelines as provided by the Football SA.	It is encouraged that each club implements the following; c. Produce a match day program. d. Conduct half time entertainment at all home league fixtures. This may involve the conducting of MiniRoos Games.
Family Friendly Area	No Requirement	Clubs are encouraged to promote a family friendly venue/environment. The inclusion of activities for children such as face painters, designated play areas are encouraged and the implementation of family friendly areas free from alcohol and obscene language.
Club Development	Each club must demonstrate a commitment to club development with the club undertaking the STARCLUB Program and the National Club Accreditation Program. Each club must send a minimum of one person to attend the annual club conference conducted by Football SA.	
Child Safe Environment	Each club is required to implement the Child Safe Environment Requirements. This includes ensuring that all volunteers that have direct contact or access to information of participants under the age of 18 provide a Working with Children Check (WWCC) to their club. Each club is also required to undertake reference checks when appointing all volunteers.	A copy of the Child Safe Environment Regulations can be obtained from Football SA. All clubs are required to abide by the Football Australia Member Protection Policy.
Respect Program	Each club is required to implement all codes of conducts provided by Football SA and promote any program relating to developing positive behaviour in the sport.	

COMPETITION OPERATIONS

1. Admission Charges and Season Passes

- (1) Admission charges shall apply to all matches of the Women's National Premier League (WNPL). Football SA shall review admission charges on an annual basis.

Women's National Premier League

\$5.00 Adults

\$2.00 Concession

Under 16 Free

Note: Provisions for family tickets available all prices include GST

- (2) Admission charges for all finals will be set on an annual basis by Football SA.
- (3) Football SA shall issue on a yearly basis to designated persons a Season Pass to cover admission into specified matches throughout the season. Passes will be provided to each registered player and an allocated number to each club that participates in the WNPL. These passes shall allow individual entry into matches unless otherwise specified
- (4) The passes will not be valid for any final series conducted or grand finals unless otherwise determined by Football SA. The Competition Administrator will provide information relating to the issuing of Season Passes.
- (5) Season passes are not transferrable and are allocated by Football SA.
- (6) Where a WNPL or Women's State League (WSL) is played as a double header with a Men's NPL or State League game, the admission fee charged will be based on the game that has the higher fee.

2. Competition Fixtures and Duration of Games

- (1) Football SA shall prepare and provide to clubs all fixtures relating to Senior Women and Junior Girls Competitions.
- (2) Prior to the release of official fixtures, Football SA will consult with clubs by providing draft fixtures for comment.
- (3) Competition Fixtures for community and junior competitions are to be scheduled to be played on Sunday or as scheduled by Football SA.
- (4) Where a club fields multiple teams, and all games are scheduled to be played on the same day, the highest-grade team will be scheduled to be played as the last fixture of the day. A club may apply for an exemption to this rule by submitting a request in writing to Football SA. All decisions will be at the sole discretion of Football SA.
- (5) All competition fixtures are to be played on the dates and times as scheduled by Football SA.
- (6) Once the official fixtures have been released for the WNPL and WSL, Football SA will only permit changes to these fixtures where extenuating circumstances require. Any change is at the sole discretion of Football SA.
- (7) Once the official fixtures have been released for all other competitions, a request to change the date, time and/or venue of a fixture must be submitted to Football SA by the club no later than 14 days prior to the scheduled fixture. Where a fixture change is made, Football SA will notify participating clubs of the change via email. Any changes to fixtures are at the sole and absolute

discretion of Football SA.

- (8) If a club does not submit a request for a change of fixture within the timeframe outlined in Sub-Clause 2(8), a change may only be granted if both teams involved in the fixture agree to the change and the request is made to the Football SA 7 days prior to the scheduled fixture. Requests outside of the 7 Day timeframe will only be sanctioned by Football SA where extenuating circumstances exist.
- (9) Where a mid-week fixture is conducted, no game shall commence prior to 6.15pm or no later than 8.15pm. These times may only vary at the sole and absolute discretion of Football SA.
- (10) **Duration of Games:**
- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Women's National Premier League | 45 Minutes x 2 Halves |
| Women's State League | 45 Minutes x 2 Halves |
| Division 1 and Division 2 | 45 Minutes x 2 Halves |
| Division 3 and below | 40 Minutes x 2 Halves |
| Under 17s | 40 Minutes x 2 Halves |
| Under 15s | 35 Minutes x 2 Halves |
| Under 13s | 30 Minutes x 2 Halves |
| Under 12s | 30 Minutes x 2 Halves |
| MiniRoos | Refer to Football Australia
MiniRoos Formats |

3. Registration of Players

- (1) All players must be registered to participate in the Football SA Competitions.
- (2) Football SA will provide to clubs on an annual basis the dates that players can be registered.
- (3) Players that participate in a Professional Competition, that being a competition that has one or more registered Professional Players, are only able to register during one of two registration windows. This will be provided on an annual basis.
- (4) A player that registers to the Reserve Grade Competition outside of the Senior Grade Registration Windows, must play a minimum of three (3) games or more with the Reserve Grade, prior to being considered for promotion into the Senior Grade Team.
- (5) A player that has registered and played for a Senior Grade Team in the year of competition, may register and play for a Reserve Team with another club but is not permitted to play with the Senior Grade Team unless an exemption has been requested by the club and approved by Football SA and/or Football Australia.
- (6) The registration of an amateur player shall be permitted up to the 30 June of each season. A request to register a player after the 30 June may be submitted to Football SA for consideration in accordance with Clause 4.7 of the National Registration Regulations. Any decision is at the sole discretion of Football SA.
- (7) An amateur player may move from one club to another by cancelling their registration with their previous club via the online registration system. If a player has not paid their registration fees with their previous club, this information must be notified to Football SA within 7 days or as specified by Football SA. Where a player is owing fees, the player may be declared unfinancial and not permitted to register with another club until their fees are paid.
- (8) A player may register for a maximum of three (3) clubs during the season. However, during this period, a player is only eligible to play in matches for two clubs.

Example Jane registers for Club X at the commencement of the season but decides they are not suited to the club. Jane has not played in any games for the club. Jane then moves to Club Y and plays a few games for the club but again decides to leave the club, because they did not play any games for Club X Jane is still eligible to register and play with another club. If Jane had played games with Club X, they would not be permitted to play for another club.

- (9) For further information on registration of players refer to the Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations and the National Registration Regulations.

4. Registration of A-League W Players and NTC Players

- (1) An A-league W Player is defined as a player that is contracted to a A-League W Club prior to or as of the commencement of season.
- (2) A NTC Player is defined as a player that was last registered with the NTC.
- (3) A Club is eligible to register a maximum of three (3) A-League W Players.
- (4) A Club is eligible to register a maximum of three (3) NTC Players
- (5) If a player is both a NTC Player and a A-League W Player, the player will be defined as a A-League W Player.
- (6) Goalkeepers that are contracted to a A-League W Club or NTC are exempt from the above ruling.
- (7) The NTC Team is exempt from this rule.

5. Eligibility of Players

- (1) To be eligible to play in the Senior Women's and Junior Girls Competitions, participants need to meet the following age requirements:
 - (a) Senior Competitions 14 years and above
 - (b) U17 competition A player cannot turn 18 in the year of the competition
 - (c) Under 15s competition A player cannot turn 16 in the year of the Competition
 - (d) Under 13s competition A player cannot turn 14 in the year of the Competition
 - (e) Under 12s competition A player cannot turn 13 in the year of the Competition
 - (f) Under 11s competition A player cannot turn 12 in the year of the Competition
 - (g) Under 10s competition A player cannot turn 11 in the year of the Competition
 - (h) Under 9s competition A player cannot turn 10 in the year of the Competition
 - (i) Under 7s Competition A player cannot turn 8 in the year of the Competition

- (2) A maximum age for all junior competitions has been set. A player who exceeds the maximum age may only be considered for an exemption to the maximum age based on medical grounds, this may include learning or intellectual disabilities. To be eligible for consideration, the club must complete and submit a Request for Player Exemption Form.
- (3) A club is not permitted to recruit more than five (5) players from another team that is affiliated with the Football SA competitions. If a club has recruited more than five (5) players from another team, they must demonstrate that there are exceptional circumstances for the Football SA to consider. Any decision will be at the discretion of the Football SA.

All decisions on final placement of teams will be at the discretion of the Football SA.

6. Visa Players

- (1) A maximum of two (2) Visa Players are permitted to be on the First Team's match sheet in any competition that the WNPL Team participates in.
- (2) Unlimited number of visa players are permitted in all other competitions who meet the Visa requirements to be in Australia and the requirements of the competition.

7. Number of Players Required

- (1) In all divisions except MiniRoos through to Under 13, teams are required to commence each game with eleven players at any given time.
- (2) Where a team is unable to field eleven (11) players, a game may only commence if the team has a minimum of seven (7) players on the field.
- (3) If a team has less than seven (7) players, the game will not commence, and the team will forfeit the game. If the game has already started and a team is unable to maintain a minimum of seven (7) players on the field, the Match Official is to stop the game. The team with less than seven (7) players on the field will forfeit the game.
- (4) All MiniRoos games are to commence with the number of players as outlined in the [MiniRoos Formats](#) and [Under 13 Format](#).

8. Movement of Players

- 1) Womens National Premier League and Women's State League
 - i. A WNPL or WSL Club may move a maximum of four (4) players between the Senior Grade and Reserve Grade on any given round of games on the proviso that the four players were named as substitutes in the Senior Grade Game. Where the Reserve Grade game is played prior to the Senior Grade game, the movement of players is unlimited.
 - ii. Once a player has participated in a WNPL First Team or WSL First Team game, the Player will be classed as a WNPL or WSL Player unless a junior player as per rule 8.3)ii of these regulations. A Player deemed as a WNPL or WSL Player may only move down to the clubs Reserve Division. Goalkeepers are exempt from this rule in that a goalkeeper from a lower division may come up to the WNPL or WSL and not be classed as a WNPL or WSL Player.
 - iii. Goalkeepers are exempt from this ruling.
- 2) Community Women

- i. In all open age divisions, a maximum of four (4) players from the teams most recent league match sheet may move down or between teams in the same division. Players can only move down to the next lowest division that their club fields.
- ii. For WNPL Reserve and WSL Reserve players, a total of (4) players from the most recent league match sheet may move down from a WNPL Reserve team or WSL Reserve team to the next lowest open age division team, noting that rule 8.1)ii. is adhered to.
- iii. Goalkeepers are included as one of the four (4) players from teams the most recent league match sheet which can move down or between teams in the same division.

3) Juniors

- i. All players that are eligible to play in the Junior Competitions, have free movement between competitions if age permits. A player does not have to be playing in the Junior Competitions to be eligible under this ruling.
- ii. Once a junior player has participated in six (6) WNPL Senior or WSL Senior games, the player is subject to Clause 8.1)ii. The player will only be eligible to move down and play in the Reserve Division, they are not permitted to move back down to the Junior Competitions.
- iii. Within the Junior Age Divisions, a Club may move a maximum of four (4) players from the most recent league match sheet to the next age group, if age permits.
- iv. If there is more than one division in a junior age group, a maximum of four (4) players may move between the divisions within the same junior age group from the most recent league match sheet.
For example: A maximum of four (4) players may move between Under 13 Red and Under 13 Blue.
- v. Goalkeepers are included as one of the four (4) players from the most recent league match sheet which may move down to the next age group or between teams, if age permits.
- vi. A Junior Age Player may only appear on a maximum of two (2) match sheets on any one day.

- 4) Football SA in its sole and absolute discretion will determine if a club has breached the player movement rule.

9. Guest Players

- (1) A community or junior team may register a player as a guest player if:
 - (a) The player has not previously been registered with a girl's and/or women's club; or
 - (b) The player has not been registered with a girl's and/or women's club in the previous season.
- (2) A guest player can play a maximum of three (3) games. Where substitution rules apply the player is deemed to have played if they have entered the field of play as a substitute. Where interchange applies, if the player is named on the match sheet it will be deemed that they have participated in the game.
- (3) Once the player has played three (3) games the player must become a registered player to continue to play for any club.
- (4) If the player does not register at the conclusion of their guest player period, the club will be charged the guest player fee per player as outlined by Football SA.

Guest Player Fee \$40

10. Substitution and Interchange of Players

- (1) In the WNPL Senior team and WSL Senior team competitions, substitutions will be used.
- (2) A team is permitted to name six (6) substitutes on the match sheet in games where there will be no extra-time played. Only five (5) of the six named, can be used in the game.
- (3) Interchange will be used in all other competitions. A maximum of 16 players can be named on the match sheet and all players named can be used.
- (4) The Match Official must acknowledge all substitutes and interchanges.
- (5) Where substitution rules apply, the player is deemed to have played if they have entered the field of play as a substitute. Where interchange applies, if the player is named on the match sheet it will be deemed that they have participated in the game.
- (6) To reduce disruption to the match, each team will have a maximum of three (3) opportunities to make substitutions during the game; substitutions made at half-time are not considered a used opportunity.
- (7) If both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one (1) of the three (3) opportunities for each team.
- (8) Unused substitutions and opportunities are carried forward into extra time.
- (9) Where competition rules allow an additional substitution in extra time, teams will each have one (1) additional substitution opportunity; substitutions may also be made before the start of extra time and at half-time in extra time.
- (10) In games where there is a potential for extra-time to be played and where substitutions are used, the team may name seven (7) substitutes and can use five (5) up to the end of normal time. If the game goes into extra-time, each team is permitted to use an extra substitute. For clarification purposes, a team can use a maximum of five (5) substitutes up to the end of normal time. Once the game goes into extra-time, a sixth substitute may be used.

11. Mandatory Match Suspensions for Minor Infringements - Yellow Cards

- (1) A player must serve a mandatory match suspension for the accumulation of yellow cards in line with clause 74 of the Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations. Where a Senior league is conducted that consists of 21 or more games, if a player has not accumulated five (5) yellow cards by Round 18, a suspension will only be applied once a player has accumulated 8 yellow cards.

Example Round 17 a player has four (4) yellow cards and in Round 18 receives a fifth yellow card, the player will receive a one match suspension.

Round 18 a player has four (4) yellow cards and in Round 19 receives a fifth yellow card, the player will not receive a one match suspension. A suspension will only occur once the player has accumulated eight (8) yellow cards.

- (2) Please note that the above rule only applies prior to the player receiving five (5) yellow cards. If the player has already accumulated five (5) yellow cards, there are no further extensions.

- (3) Where there is a bye within the competition, the ruling applies once a club has played 18 matches, rather than at Round 18. This is to ensure that all clubs have played the same number of games.
- (4) Any mandatory match suspension gained due to the accumulation of yellow cards in the league competition must be served in the next competitive league match.

12. Player Points System

- (1) All clubs involved in the WNPL are required to abide by the Player Points System as outlined in Appendix 1.

13. Player Remuneration

- (1) Any remuneration paid to a player must be in accordance with the National Registration Regulations for Amateur and Professional Players:
 - (a) An Amateur Player is a player that is not paid to play football. The player may be reimbursed expenses for playing football.
 - (b) A Professional Player is a player paid to play football. A Professional Player Contract, NRR05, must be completed by the club and the player in accordance with the National Registration Regulations and no other agreement between the two parties is to exist.
 - (c) A club may reimburse an amateur player up to a maximum of \$200.00 per week. A player that is paid more than this amount must be placed on a Professional Player Contract or the onus is on the club to satisfy the Competition Administrator that the amount paid accurately reflects expenses incurred by the player.
- (2) Each club shall keep proper books and records of all remuneration paid to its players and shall make the books and records available for inspection as requested by Football SA.
- (3) Football SA may at its sole discretion undertake to audit a club. The club/s nominated will be required to follow the requirements of the audit.
- (4) Any audit conducted on a club shall be undertaken by an accountant who is a registered company auditor or a member of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants or The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.
- (5) In this Clause, "remuneration" includes:
 - (a) signing-on fees, salaries, wages, superannuation and other money paid by a Club to its players:
 - (b) the amount or value of any gift, prize or award given or made by the Club to its players:
 - (c) the value of any other benefit provided or given by a Club to its players or any of them (including, for example, the provision of accommodation or the use of a motor vehicle or other thing at no charge or less than a fair market rent or charge), and
 - (d) any such payment made, or benefit provided, by the Club to any person who is related to, or resides with, any of its players but does not include the reimbursement to the player of expenses actually incurred by the player, or the payment by the Club of expenses actually incurred by it, for:

- (i) the player's travel and accommodation necessarily incurred through the player's participation in a match, or
- (ii) the player's equipment, training and insurance.

Penalty: In accordance with the National Registration Regulations and Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations clause 61.

14. Number of Teams to be Promoted and Relegated

- (1) The team that finishes top of WSL will be promoted into the WNPL subject to the following criteria:
 - (a) The Club meets the Minimum Competition Requirements of the WNPL.
- (2) The team that finishes last in the WNPL will be relegated to WSL.
- (3) The team that finishes 9th in the WNPL and 2nd in the WSL will play-off for a position in the WNPL.
- (4) Where practical, the two highest finishing teams of each division (excluding WNPL and WSL), will be promoted and two teams, the lowest two finishing teams (excluding WNPL and WSL), will be relegated.
- (5) All decisions on promotion and relegation will be at the sole discretion of the Football SA.

15. Match Officials

- (1) All senior WNPL and WSL shall have a full complement of Match Officials, being a Referee and two (2) assistant referees where possible.
- (2) In the case of the WNPL, if the full complement of Match Officials is not present within 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time, the game shall be postponed.
- (3) In the case of the WSL, if at least one (1) referee is not in attendance within 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time, the game shall be postponed.
- (4) For all other competitions, a Referee will be appointed to all games, where possible.

16. Non-Attendance of a Match Official

- (1) Prior to all games, Football SA will, where possible, will notify all clubs via e-mail of the games that will not receive an appointed Match Official.
- (2) Where a Match Official is not appointed, the home team is responsible for the appointment of a club referee. A team has no right to request that the match be postponed due to the appointment of a Club Referee. Any team who refuses to take the field of play shall be deemed to have committed a breach of Clause 30, Walk offs, of the Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations.
- (3) The appointed club referee must ensure that both teams have completed a match sheet.

- (4) The referee must ensure they receive the match sheets from both teams prior to the commencement of the game.
- (5) 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.
- (6) On completion of the game, the Club Referee must ensure that the match sheet is completed by including:
 - (a) all Goal scorers:
 - (b) cautions and red cards:
 - (c) player injuries; and
 - (d) player votes (where required).
- (7) The home team is responsible for gaining the match sheets from the referee and forwarding them to Football SA within 24 hours.
- (8) A club that has a grievance or complaint following a game where there has been no official referee, must follow the process as outlined in the Football SA Rules and Regulations - Match Results – Protest.
- (9) Where an appointed Match Official does not attend, it is the responsibility of both teams to notify Football SA.

17. Online Team Squads

- (1) Each WNPL Club is required to submit their online team lists through the Football SA Competition Management System by 12.00pm Thursday prior to the weekend's game and no less than 24 hours prior to any mid-week game.

Penalty for not providing the match sheet within the timeframe:

Level 1 Fine - Refer to page 30-33 of these regulations for details relating to fines.

- (2) All other senior competition teams are encouraged to submit their online team lists through the Football SA Competition Management System by 12:00pm on Friday prior to the weekend game.

18. Recording of Results for Junior Competition

- (1) A maximum score line for all junior competitions will be applied. This rule stipulates that any result with a goal difference greater than eight (8) will be amended so that the goal difference is equal to eight (8).

Example	If the score line is 15 nil, it will be amended and officially recorded as an 8-0 result. If the score line is 16-2, it will be amended and officially recorded as a 10-2 result.
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19. Notification of Results

- (1) Any appointed Match Official shall be responsible for reporting the result of each match, the goal scorers and any other information that may be required by Football SA.

- (2) The result of all matches must be submitted online in the Football SA Competition Management System by the home club. Where no match official is present, the home club must submit the results and statistics no later than one (1) hour post completion of the match.
- (3) If a club dispute any of the match information on Dribl, they must submit a dispute on Dribl with reasons. Any dispute must be submitted no later than 48 hours of the scheduled kick-off. Football SA will review all submitted disputes and make determination in its sole and absolute discretion.
- (4) For further information on entering results online refer to the Dribl User Guide.

Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a Level 1 fine.

20. Coaching Accreditation

WNPL and WSL	Refer to Competition Minimum Requirements
Open Age	Foundation of Football Certificate
Under 12 – 17	Foundation of Football Certificate
MiniRoos	MiniRoos Certificate

21. Ground Stewards

- (1) All teams competing in Football SA Competitions shall provide at each match a minimum of 1 Ground Steward each.
- (2) The Disciplinary Committee and/or Football SA have the discretionary power to require a club to allocate more Ground Stewards where the club has been reported for poor behaviour or where it is deemed necessary.
- (3) For further information on Ground Stewards refer to Clause 23 of the Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations.

22. Meetings

All clubs shall ensure that a club representative attends all meetings as scheduled by the Football SA. Meetings will be notified in a timely manner, where possible.

FINALS SERIES

23. The Competition

- (1) A Final Series may be conducted in the WNPL and WSL at the conclusion of their respective home and away season. The Final Series may involve Senior and Reserves teams.
- (2) Football SA will determine the structure and format of any Final Series to be conducted. Details will be notified to clubs prior to the season commencing.
- (3) The team that finishes top of the standings at the end of the home and away season in the WNPL Seniors and Reserves, where a final series is conducted, will be referred to as League Premiers.
- (4) The winner of the Final Series Competition shall be referred to as the League Champions.
- (5) The winner of the WSL Competition shall be referred to as the League Champions.

- (6) Where there is no Final Series, the team that finishes first in their respective competition will be declared the League Champions.

24. Host Club Responsibilities

- (1) Where a Final Series is conducted, all games will be held at Football SA venues or as directed by Football SA. Football SA will have sole and absolute discretion over the allocation of venues for all games played in the Final Series.
- (2) The clubs involved in the Final Series will be required to provide the necessary Ground Stewards as per Clause 23 of Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations and Clause 21 of these Regulations however Football SA may require the host club to provide additional ground and/or crowd security.

25. Kick Off Times and Duration of Matches

- (1) Fixtures for the Final Series will be set by Football SA.
- (2) All matches shall be of 90 minutes in duration, 45 minutes each way with a 15-minute interval at half time.
- (3) In the event of a match being drawn at the end of normal time, two periods of extra time consisting of 2 x 15 Minute Halves will be played. If the match is still drawn at the end of extra time, the result shall be determined by penalty kicks in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.

Note: Football SA may not sanction any other games to be played which are deemed to be in conflict with this competition.

26. Eligibility of Players

No player shall be permitted to play for more than one Club in the Final Series.

- (1) **Seniors**
WNPL and WSL Team may move players up from their Reserves, Community and/or Junior Teams, if age eligible, to play in the Senior Grade Game, once the player has played in the Senior Grade game for that round of the Final Series, they may only move back down subject to Clause 8 of these Regulations.
- (2) **Reserve Teams - WNPL**
- (a) To be eligible to play in the Finals Series players must have played a minimum of six (6) games with the Reserve Team during the home and away season. Clubs are permitted to use players from their Community or junior teams without them having to play the required number of games, as outlined above.
- (b) Where the Senior Grade Game is played prior to the Reserve Grade Game, a WNPL Club may move a maximum of three (3) players between the Senior Grade and Reserve Grade in a Final Series Round on the proviso that the three (3) players named, were named as substitutes in the Senior Grade Game. For avoidance of doubt, the players named as substitutes are eligible to play in the Senior Grade Game.

- (c) Where the Reserve Grade Game is played prior to the Senior Grade game, the movement of players up to the Senior Grade game is unlimited.
 - (d) A club may move players up from their community and junior grade teams.
 - (e) Football SA in its sole and absolute discretion may, in extenuating circumstances, provide an exemption for a player to play who does not meet the above criteria.
- (3) **Goalkeepers**
Any Goalkeeper shall be eligible to play as a goal-keeper and the above restrictions do not apply.
- (4) **Penalty due to fielding ineligible players**
Any club that fields a team with an ineligible player that is in breach of the age and/or match qualifications as detailed in these regulations will be deemed to have breached the Ineligible, Unregistered or Suspended Rule as outlined in Clause 61 of Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations.

27. Substitution and Interchange of Players

- (1) In the WNPL substitutions will be used.
- (2) A team is permitted to name six (6) substitutes on the match sheet in games where there will be not extra-time played. Only five (5) of the six named, can be used in the game.
- (3) Interchange will be used in all other competitions. A maximum of 16 players can be named on the match sheet and all players named can be used.
- (4) The Match Official must acknowledge all substitutes and interchanges.
- (5) Where substitution rules apply, the player is deemed to have played if they have entered the field of play as a substitute. Where interchange applies, if the player is named on the match sheet it will be deemed that they have participated in the game.
- (6) In games where there is a potential for extra-time to be played and where substitutions are used, the team may name seven (7) substitutes and can use five (5) up to the end of normal time. If the game goes into extra-time, each team is permitted to use an extra substitute. For clarification purposes, a team can use a maximum of five (5) substitutes up to the end of normal time. Once the game goes into extra-time, a sixth substitute may be used.

28. Player Suspensions

- (1) Carry over suspensions from the Home and Away League shall apply.
- (2) A player who receives two yellow cards during the Final Series shall be suspended for one match.
- (3) All yellow cards at the conclusion of the Final Series shall be expunged prior to the next scheduled competition unless the player has received a suspension due to the accumulation of yellow cards.
- (4) If a player receives a suspension due to the accumulation of yellow cards, and their team is no longer in the Final Series or the next game is the Grand Final, the suspension shall be served in Round 1 of the next season's competition.

- (5) A player who receives a Red Card during this competition shall be suspended in accordance with Clause 76 of Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations and National Disciplinary Regulations. If the player receives a red card the suspension is to be served in the next competitive game/s.

29. Match Officials and Match Official Fees

Football SA shall appoint Match Officials for all matches of the Final Series. The home team or hosting club shall cover all related Match Officials fees, excluding the Grand Final, which shall be covered by Football SA.

30. Notification of Results

Please refer to Clause 19 of these regulations.

31. Admission Charges

- (1) Admission charges shall apply for all matches of this competition as outlined in Clause 1 of these regulations.
- (2) Season Passes are not permitted to be used during the Final Series.
- (3) Admission charges for the Grand Final shall be set by Football SA on an annual basis.

32. Prize Money and Presentation

Allocation of prize money will be set by Football SA on an annual basis.

33. Match Balls

Refer to clause 40 of the Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations.

CUP COMPETITION

34. Draw

- (1) A draw shall be undertaken by Football SA with the participating clubs invited to attend the draw for each round of the cup. The name of each club involved in the competition shall be placed into the draw. Teams will be drawn out one at a time to determine the fixture. The first team to be drawn will be the home team; the second team to be drawn out, will be the away team. Teams will be drawn out until no further teams are left. If there is a team left in the draw, this team will be allocated a bye.
- (2) Cup Competition fixtures shall be played as scheduled by Football SA.
- (3) Where a team from a lower division is drawn to play a team from a higher division, if there are any rule discrepancies between the two divisions, the higher division rules will be implemented. This includes the use of substitutions and duration of the game.

35. Kick Off Times and Duration

- (1) Football SA in conjunction with the host club will set kick off times for all matches. The duration of the match will be in accordance with Sub-Clause 2(11) of these regulations. Where a team from a lower division is drawn to play a team from a higher division, the higher division duration will be played.
- (2) In the event that a game is drawn at the end of normal time, two periods of extra time will be played as outlined below:
 - (a) WNPL/WSL – 2 x 15 minutes
 - (b) All Community Divisions – 2 x 10 minutes
 - (c) Junior Age Groups – No extra-time – straight to penalties
- (3) If the game is still drawn at the end of extra time the result shall be decided by penalty kicks in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.

36. Eligibility of Players

- (1) Players must play a minimum of five (5) games in the relevant league competition to be eligible to play in the respective cup competition Semi-final and Final games.
- (2) A player may move up and play in higher grade cup competition semi-final and/or final if they have played a minimum of five (5) games within their respective club.
- (3) Once a player has played for a club in a cup competition, the player is unable to play for any other club in the cup competition for that season.
- (4) Goalkeepers that are dual registered with a Football SA Development Squad and a Club team, the player can only play for one of the teams in the cup competition.
- (5) Where Football SA conducts several cup competitions, the information outlined below indicates when a player is or is not cup-tied.
 - (a) A player is permitted to play in an Under Age Cup Competition, then move up and play for their club in a higher junior age cup competition or Open Age Cup Competition, if age permits and if they have played the required number of games with their club in regards to semi-final and finals games.
 - (b) Once a player has moved up to the next age level or open age cup competition they are NOT PERMITTED to move back down.
 - (c) Once a player has played in an Open Division Cup Competition, they are PERMITTED to move up to a cup competition that is deemed to be of a higher grade if they have played the required number of games as outlined in Clause 36 of these regulations.
 - (d) Once a player has played in a higher cup competition, they are NOT PERMITTED to move back down and play in a junior or lower open age cup competition.
 - (e) Once a player has played in the girls cup competition, they are not permitted to play in the boys cup competition. Once a player has played in the boys cup competition, they are not permitted to play in the girls cup competition.

- (6) A Goalkeeper from one open age cup competition may move up and play in another open age cup competition that is deemed to be of a higher grade and then return to the original open age cup competition. This ruling is only applicable to goalkeepers. Therefore, a player cannot play in one team as a goalkeeper and then move up and play on the field for another team and then come back down as a goalkeeper.
- (7) A Goalkeeper from the Junior age competitions will not be cup tied to a specific team and may move between teams if age eligible. This rule applies only if they participate as a Goalkeeper only.
- (8) Football SA in its sole and absolute discretion may, in extenuating circumstances, provide an exemption for a player to play who does not meet the above criteria.

37. Player Suspensions

- (1) A player who receives three (3) yellow cards during the cup competition shall be suspended for one (1) match, the suspension will be served in the next competitive cup competition match.

Penalty - \$25 Fine

- (2) All yellow cards will be reset prior to the commencement of the semi-finals unless the player has received a suspension due to the accumulation of yellow cards. If a player receives a suspension due to the accumulation of yellow cards, the suspension will be served in the semi-final or if the team has been knocked out of the cup, in the **next competitive cup competition** match.
- (3) All yellow cards will be cancelled at the conclusion of the cup competition.
- (4) A player who receives a Red Card during the cup competition shall be suspended in accordance with Clause 76 of Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations and National Disciplinary Regulations. Any suspension will be served in the next competitive game/s that the club participates in.

Penalty - \$50 per red card – Refer to Fines and Penalties.

38. Substitution and Interchange of Players

- (1) In the WNPL Senior Team and WSL Senior Team, substitutions will be used.
- (2) A team is permitted to name six (6) substitutes on the match sheet in games where there will be not extra-time played. Only five (5) of the six named, can be used in the game.
- (3) Interchange will be used in all other competitions. A maximum of 16 players can be named on the match sheet and all players named can be used.
- (4) The Match Official must acknowledge all substitutes and interchanges.
- (5) Where substitution rules apply, the player is deemed to have played if they have entered the field of play as a substitute. Where interchange applies, if the player is named on the match sheet it will be deemed that they have participated in the game.
- (6) In games where there is a potential for extra-time to be played and where substitutions are used, the team may name seven (7) substitutes and can use five (5) up to the end of normal time. If the game goes into extra-time, each team is permitted to use an extra substitute. For clarification

purposes, a team can use a maximum of five (5) substitutes up to the end of normal time. Once the game goes into extra-time, a sixth substitute may be used.

39. Host Venues

- (1) The first named team shall be the Home team. Unless otherwise determined, the home team will host the game/s.
- (2) The Host club shall be responsible for hosting all games scheduled at the venue. The host club shall be responsible for all costs associated with hosting the games including payment of Match Officials for all games. The host club will retain all gate receipts and canteen and bar revenue.
- (3) Semi Final and Final games will be played at neutral venues where possible and these venues will be at the sole discretion of Football SA.

40. Match Officials and Match Official Fees

- (1) Football SA shall appoint Match Officials for all Cup Matches. The home team or hosting club shall cover all related Match Officials fees, excluding the semi-finals and final. Football SA will be responsible for the payment of Match Officials for semi-finals and final matches.
- (2) Match Official fees for cup competitions will be set by Football SA and published on an annual basis.

41. Notification of Results

In accordance with Clause 19 of these regulations.

42. Admission Charges

- (1) The admission charges to be applied by clubs hosting a cup game are to be in line with the admission charges for league games, where applicable.
- (2) If the club is not a WNPL club, the club is not required to charge a fee at their home venue.

43. Forfeits

- (1) Clubs who forfeit a Cup match, will forfeit the game by 3 goals to 0 and will incur the prescribed fine.
- (2) If a WNPL Senior Team or WSL Senior Team forfeit a Cup match, the Club will forfeit the game by three (3) goals to nil (0), will incur the prescribed fee and three (3) competition points will be deducted from the Clubs Senior Team league table.

Refer to Fines and Penalties for further information.

44. Semi-Finals and Finals

- (1) Semi-Final and Final games shall be played at neutral venues and will be allocated at the sole and absolute discretion of Football SA.
- (2) The first team named in the draw for semi-final and final games will be the home team and will wear their allocated home playing strip.

- (3) The admission fee for Semi-Final and Final games will be set by Football SA on an annual basis.
- (4) Match Official Fees for the Semi Final and Final games shall be paid by Football SA.
- (5) Football SA will be responsible for organising trophies and medals for all cup competitions and the presentation of them to teams.
- (6) A Player of the Match Medal may be presented at the final of the WNPL/WSL Cup Competition. Football SA will be responsible for determining the process to be used in awarding this medal.

PENALTIES AND FINES

45. Summary of Fines

- (1) Penalties relating to breaches of Football SA Competition Rules and Regulations and Operating Regulations are stipulated at the end of each rule or regulation, where a penalty is applicable. Clubs should also refer to the minimum competition requirements for non-compliance.
- (2) For full details of the sanction please refer to the relevant ruling in the Competition Rules and Regulations and/or Competition Operating Regulations.

46. Scale of Penalties

Level 1 fine	A fine of \$50.00 for the first offence and \$100.00 for a second offence within 12 months.
Level 2 fine	A fine of \$100 for a first offence and a fine of \$200 for a second offence within 12 months.
Level 3 fine	A fine of \$200 for a first offence and a fine of \$400 for a second offence within 12 months.
Level 4 fine	A fine of \$500 for the first offence and a fine of \$1,000 for the second offence within 12 months.
Level 5 fine	A fine of \$1,000 for the first offence and a fine of \$2,000 for the second offence within 12 months.

- (1) **Rule 4 – Competition Rules and Regulations – Club Colour and Uniform Rule**

WNPL/WSL Senior Team	Level 4 Fine
All Other Senior Competitions	Level 3 Fine
Junior Grades	Level 2 Fine

- (2) **Rule 13 – Competition Rules and Regulations – Ground Facilities and Club Signage**

Level 4 Fine for non-compliance of sponsor signage.

- (3) **Rule 23 – Competition Rules and Regulations - Ground Stewards**

Not providing the required number of Ground Stewards and/or not fulfilling roles and responsibilities

WNPL/WSL Senior Team	Level 3 Fine
All Other Senior Competitions	Level 2 Fine
Junior Grades	Level 1 Fine

(4) Rule 29 – Competition Rules and Regulations – Abandoned Matches

- (a) If the game is abandoned due to events outside of the control of the teams, the result of the game may stand if at least 75% of the game has been played.
- (b) If a game is abandoned prior to or at half-time, the Match Official is to receive 50% of prescribed fee.
- (c) If a game is abandoned after half-time, the Match Official is to receive full match fee.

(5) Rule 31 – Competition Rules and Regulations – Abandoned Matches and Walk offs.

Forfeit of game and relevant fine. Further penalties may be implemented at the discretion of the Football SA Disciplinary Committee.

(6) Forfeit of Games

WNPL Senior Team	Level 5 Fine
WNPL Reserve Team	Level 4 Fine
WSL Senior Team	Level 4 Fine
WSL Reserve Team	Level 3 Fine
All Other Competitions	Level 2 Fine

If a Match Official/s attends and the game is forfeited, the club is required to pay 50% of the prescribed match official fee.

(7) MiniRoos Cancellation of Games

A club that cancels any MiniRoos game will incur a Level 1 Fine

(8) Rule 39 – Competition Rules and Regulations – Match Sheets and Match Reports

- (a) *Incomplete Match sheets*

WNPL/WSL Senior Team	Level 2 Fine
All Other Senior Competitions	Level 1 Fine
Junior Grades	Level 1 Fine
- (b) *Altering a match sheet once a game has commenced*

WNPL/WSL Senior Team	Level 3 Fine
All Other Senior Competitions	Level 2 Fine
Junior Grades	Level 1 Fine
- (c) *If a player who is registered and eligible to participate in accordance with the FA National Registration Regulations is not listed on the team sheet prior to the match and then participates in the match, the following shall apply:*

WNPL/WSL

First Offence in season:	Warning and Level 4 Fine.
Second Offence in season:	Forfeit and Level 5 Fine.
Third Offence in season:	Show cause notice for serious misconduct and removal of team from competition.

Women's Community

First Offence in season:	Warning and Level 3 Fine.
Second Offence in season:	Forfeit and Level 4.
Third Offence in season:	Show cause notice for serious misconduct and removal of team from competition.

Junior Grades

First Offence in season:	Warning and Level 2 Fine.
Second Offence in season:	Forfeit and Level 3.
Third Offence in season:	Show cause notice for serious misconduct and removal of team from competition.

(9) Rule 40 – Competition Rules and Regulations - Match Balls

WNPL/WSL Senior Team	Level 2 Fine
All Other Senior Competitions	Level 1 Fine
Junior Grades	Level 1 Fine

(10) Rule 56 – Competition Rules and Regulations – Registration of Team Officials

Non-Compliance	First Offence	Level 1 Fine
	Second Offence	Level 2 Fine
	Subsequent Offence	Disciplinary Hearing

(11) Rule 61 – Competition Rules and Regulations - Playing of an Unregistered, Ineligible and Suspended Player

WNPL/WSL Senior Team	Forfeit and Level 3 Fine
All Other Senior Competitions	Forfeit and Level 2 Fine
Junior Grades	Forfeit and Level 1 Fine

(12) Rule 62 – Competition Rules and Regulations – Ring-Ins (Playing a player under assumed or false name)

WNPL/WSL Senior Team	Forfeit and Level 4 Fine
All Other Senior Competitions	Forfeit and Level 3 Fine
Junior Grades	Forfeit and Level 2 Fine

(13) Rule 74-76 – Competition Rules and Regulations – Red and Yellow Cards

Accumulation of 5, 8 and 11 Yellow Cards	\$25.00
Accumulation of 14 and 17 Yellow Cards	\$50.00
(No fine is to be paid if 5 cards are not received)	
Red Card issued to player or official	\$50 for each offence

(14) Rule 15 – Competition Operating Regulations – Online Team Squads

(15) Appeals

A club may appeal a decision made by the Football SA or Disciplinary Committee. If the appeal is successful, that is the Disciplinary / Appeal Committee finds that there has been no breach of Competition Rules and Regulations and imposes no sanctions, Football SA will reimburse 100% of the appeal fee.

Appeal Fee

WNPL/WSL	\$500
Women's Community and Juniors	\$250

Example 1 A club appeals the findings of the Competition Department, a player is issued with a three (3) match suspension for a R1 offence. The Appeal Committee on hearing the evidence reduces the sanction to two (2) matches. This would not constitute a reimbursement of the Appeal Fee as a sanction is recorded.

Example 2 A club appeals the findings of a Disciplinary Committee who implemented a \$1,000 fine for breach of spectator code of conduct. The Appeal Committee on hearing the evidence finds that the club undertook every possible action to prevent the breach and is found not guilty. The club would be entitled to a refund of the Appeal Fee.

(16) Withdrawal of Teams

(a) Prior to the generation of fixtures:

Penalty:	WNPL/WSL	Level 4 Fine
	Junior Girls	Level 3 Fine
	MiniRoos	Level 2 Fine

(b) Once fixtures have been generated:

Penalty:	WNPL/WSL	Level 5 Fine
	Junior Girls	Level 4 Fine
	MiniRoos	Level 3 Fine

Following the commencement of the season

Penalty:	WNPL/WSL	Level 5 Fine + inability to compete in the competition for 3 seasons.
	Junior Girls	Level 5 Fine
	MiniRoos	Level 4 Fine



WOMEN'S NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE SA PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM (PPS)

The objectives of the PPS are to:

- Provide greater opportunities to Australian Players.
- Promote a focus on the importance of youth development.
- Incentivise older and more experienced Players to remain in the WNPL.
- Promote Players through the Club youth development structures.
- Increase the stability of Club Player Rosters.
- Maintain competitive balance and parity amongst the Clubs.
- Incentivise Players progressing through to national elite pathway teams (**National Elite Pathway Team**) to return to their original WNPL Clubs; and
- Reward Clubs who develop Players that progress through to a National Elite Pathway Team.

The PPS encourages Clubs to simultaneously promote youth development and encourage players 25 years of age + to continue in the sport.

The PPS points cap (**Points Cap**) applies to each WNPL Club's First Team Player Roster (**Player Roster**) and this First Team is required to remain within the Points Cap.

The Points Cap for the 2024 season will be set at 200 points

Each Player is, as a starting point, attributed a points value of 10 points, after which the points value is adjusted depending on certain characteristics which result in points being added to or deducted from the Player's points value. A Player's points value cannot be less than 0 points.

Promoting Players from the Club's Age-Eligible Teams (e.g. U15 and U17 teams) and Reserve Team is permitted without restrictions.

Player Points System

Category	Points	Description	Criteria
Standard Player 25 and Over	A deduction of -1 for each year the Player is 25 years of age and over	Points deducted for each Player aged 25 & over in the WNPL First Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum adjustment to a Player's points value under this category is minus five points. • If a club has 4 or more players in this category in their squad a 'team bonus' of -10 points is provided
Category	Points Adjustment	Description	Criteria

Home Grown Player	-1	A Player who has risen through the youth development system within the club to be selected in the WNPL First Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One point is deducted from a Player's points value each season the player has been registered to the Club's U13, U15, U17, Community and/or Reserve Teams. The maximum adjustment to a Player's points value under this category is minus five points.
Loyalty Player	-1 for each continuous season with the Club's First Team	A Loyalty Player is a Player that has registered for the Club's First Team for at least four continuous seasons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One point is deducted from a Player's points value for each season, starting from their fourth continuous season, in which the Player is registered for the Club's First Team.
Visa Player	10	A Visa Player is any Player who is not an Australian Player in accordance with the Player Points System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ten points is added to a Player's points value if that Player is a Visa Player. A Visa Player will only incur a maximum of 20 points on a Player Roster and will not otherwise be subject to the Switching Player category. A Visa Player may still benefit from the other categories of the PPS (e.g. Loyalty Player). A Club can have a maximum of two Visa Players on their Player Roster at any one time.
Switching Player	5	Any Player who has switched Clubs from the preceding season and/or mid-season.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five points is added to a Player's points value if they were registered in the WNPL with a previous Club and played 10 or more games in that Club's First Team in the most recent WNPL season (unless the Player's last registration was with a National Elite Pathway Team).
	3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three points is added to a Player's points value if they were registered in the WNPL with their previous Club and played in less than 10 games in that Club's First Team in the most recent WNPL season (unless the Player's last registration was with a National Elite Pathway Team).
	5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five points are added to a Player's points value if they were previously registered as a Professional in Australia or Overseas and do not return to their club of origin.
	3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three points are added to a Player's points value if they were previously registered as an Amateur Player Overseas and do not return to their club of origin.
Category	Points Adjustment	Description	Criteria
Senior Player Advancement	-8	A Player who is recruited from the Club's WNPL First Team by a ALW or Football SA/NTC team for the first time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A one-off deduction to the Club's total points when a Player is recruited to the ALW, Football SA or NTC Squads for the first time.

Youth Player Advancement	-3	A Player who is recruited from the Club's Junior Teams by a ALW or Football SA/NTC team for the first time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A one- off deduction to the Club's total points when a Player is recruited to the ALW, Football SA or NTC Squads for the first time.
Pathway Player	0	A Player that has previously left the club and registered directly with a "Pathway" team (eg: NTC, U15 Girls) and are returning to the club directly from those teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Switching Player penalty for Player's who have left a Club, joined a National Elite Pathway Team and returned to the same Club.
Promoted Club	-20	A Promoted Club will receive a deduction of 20 points from their Points Total	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The points deduction only applies for the Promoted Club's first season following into, or being granted a licence to participate in the WNPL

General Definitions and Explanatory Notes

The following discussion points and examples are intended to provide with further clarity around each of the PPS categories.

General Definitions

National Elite Pathway Team

A National Elite Pathway Team is a team which participates in the National Elite Pathway, as determined by the Football Australia Technical Department and the Member Federations from time to time. Points are credited for the movement of Players through the National Elite Pathway.

For the purposes of the PPS, a team is a National Elite Pathway Team if they are one of the following:

- A-League W
- National Training Centre team
- Member Federation institute pathway programs

First Team Player Roster

Is the roster of Players for a Club's First Team maintained in accordance with the Player Points System and any other WNPL competition regulations provided by Football SA.

Points Total

Is the sum of all points attributed to all Players on a Club's Player Roster at any given time.

Promoted Club

A Promoted Club means: A Club promoted into the WNPL from a lower tier competition and granted a licence to participate in the WNPL for the first time.

Explanatory Notes

Player Roster Requirements

- At all times during a WNPL season, a Club must include a minimum of 18 Players on its Player Roster and may include a maximum of 23 Players on its Player Roster.
A Club may promote a Player from its Age-Eligible Teams, Community Women's and/ or Reserve Team to play for its First Team without the player being included on the roster.

- Any Player from the club's reserve and community women's team may play for its first team up to a maximum of eight (8) matches throughout a WNPL season without being required to include the Player on the Player Roster.
- For the Player to be eligible to play in more than eight (8) matches in the WNPL season, the Player must be included on the Club's Player Roster (and therefore at that point included in the Club's Points Cap).
- To clarify a player may be promoted from the Clubs Community and/or Reserves teams and participate in eight (8) WNPL without having to be placed on the PPS. If the club wants the player to play a ninth game, they must be placed on the PPS during the PPS Windows.
- No more than two Visa Players may be listed on the PPS.
- Player Movement Rulings in accordance with the Competition Rules and Regulations will still apply.
- The player must enter the field of play to be deemed to have played in the match.

Australian Player

An Australian Player is any Player who is:

- a citizen of Australia.
- a Permanent Resident of Australia (where Permanent Resident means a person resident in Australia on a "permanent" visa class issued by the Australian Government, evidenced by either the person's Visa Grant Notice or as a listed entitlement on the person's online Visa Entitlement Verification); or
- the holder of a subclass 200 refugee visa or a subclass 866 protection visa issued by the Australian Government.

Visa Player

- WNPL Clubs are encouraged to refer to the following website for further clarification regarding visas: <http://www.border.gov.au/>.
- For the purposes of the PPS, a New Zealand Citizen is classified as a Visa Player unless they satisfy the definition of an Australian Player. Please refer to the Department of Immigration website for further clarification regarding the status of New Zealand Citizens in Australia: <http://www.border.gov.au/>.

Homegrown Player

- A Player does not need to register in continuous seasons in a Club's Age-Eligible Teams (e.g. U11s to U17s only) and/or Reserve Team in order to be eligible for Homegrown Player points.
- Example: For a Player who was registered for the Club in the U11s and U13s but was not registered with the Club in the U15s-U17s, a total of two points will be deducted from her points value for the current season.
- A Player is eligible for Homegrown Player points at the same time as being eligible for Loyalty Player points.

Loyalty Player

- Example: A Player is registered with a Club's First Team in 2021, 2022 and 2023 (continuous seasons). If they also registered in 2024, they will be eligible to receive a deduction of one point as a Loyalty Player in the 2024 season.
- If a Player is not registered with any Club for a season and subsequently returns to their WNPL Club, the number of continuous seasons of registering for that WNPL Club will be deemed to be continuous.

Example: A Player was registered with the same Club in 2020, 2021 and 2022 (continuous seasons), however was not registered with any Club in 2023. If the Player registers with the same Club in 2024, it will be deemed to be their fourth continuous season with the Club and a deduction of one point will be allocated.

- Should a Player move into a National Elite Pathway Team, the determination of the continuous seasons of service will not be deemed to have ceased if they return to their previous Club. During the Player's time in the National Elite Pathway Team, the calculation of continuous seasons of service will be suspended.

Switching Player

- This category only applies where a Player registers for a new Club.
- The definition of played means taking the field of play (ie. part of the starting eleven or taking the field as a substitute).
- Switching Player points also apply for mid-season registrations and transfers.

Pathway Player

- A Player who departs a WNPL Club for a National Elite Pathway Team and returns to the same WNPL Club will be classified as a Pathway Player provided the Player has remained within the National Elite Pathway for the duration of their absence from the relevant WNPL Club and has not registered and played with another WNPL Club.

Points Deduction– Youth Player Advancement

Example: A WNPL Club has an U13 team Player and an U15 team Player signed this season by a National Elite Pathway Team. The WNPL Club can choose to have:

- six points deducted (-6 points) from this season's Points Total
- three points deducted (-3 points) from this season's and next season's Points Total, or
- six points deducted (-6 points) from next season's Points Total.

Points Deduction – First Team Player Advancement

Example: A WNPL Club has two First Team Players signed this season by a National Elite Pathway Team. The WNPL Club can choose to have:

- sixteen points deducted (-16 points) from this season's Points Total
- eight points deducted (-8 points) from this season's and next season's Points Total, or
- sixteen points deducted (-16 points) from next season's Points Total.

Additional Notes

2024 PPS Windows

- The initial window for submission of the PPS is prior to Round 1, with all clubs requiring to submit their PPS by close of business, 5.00pm Monday 9 January 2023.
- Dates for all PPS Windows are outlined below.
- Please note, the below dates are for PPS amendments only and do not necessarily reflect registration windows.

2024 Windows	Opening Date	Closing Date
Window 1	Friday 1 December 2023	5:00pm Tuesday 26 January 2023
Window 2	Tuesday 23 April 2024	5:00pm Monday 20 May 2024
Window 3	Monday 1 July 2024	5:00pm Thursday 4 July 2024

Women's Premier and State League Cup

- The PPS does not apply to the Cup competition.

Exceptional Circumstances

- A club may apply to Football SA to make a change to the PPS team roster outside of the designated amendment windows due to exceptional circumstances. These may include (but not limited to);
 - Long Term Player Injury – this would mean a player who is unable to play for a period of four (4) weeks or longer, supporting documentation would need to be provided upon the club making an application from a qualified General Practitioner or Specialist. Physiotherapists and Massage Therapists notes cannot be used as supporting documentation.
 - Player Movement – Where the player leaves outside of the control of the club, for example a player is relocated due to work purposes.
 - Goalkeepers – as this is a specialised position as determined by the National Registration Regulations

The decision to grant an exemption for a club to change the PPS team roster outside of the windows is at the sole and absolute discretion of Football SA

FINAL SERIES COMPETITION

Women's National Premier League

A final series will be played for the Women's National Premier League Seniors and Reserve Grades.

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 - 23-25 August				
Match	Home Team		Away Team	Type of Final
Match A	2nd Place	Vs.	3rd Place	Qualifying Final
Match B	4th Place	Vs.	5th Place	Elimination Final
1st Place - BYE				

Week 2 - 30 August – 1 September				
Match	Home Team		Away Team	Type of Final
Match C	1st Place	Vs.	Winner Match A	Major Semi Final
Match D	Loser Match A	Vs.	Winner Match B	Minor Semi Final

Week 3 - 6 -8 September				
Match	Home Team		Away Team	Type of Final
Match E	Loser Match C	Vs.	Winner Match D	Preliminary Final
Winner of Major Semi-Final - BYE				

Week 4 - 13-15 September				
Match	Home Team		Away Team	Type of Final
Match F	Winner Match C	Vs.	Winner Match E	Grand Final

Women's State League

A promotional play-off will be held in the Women's State League. This play-off will be played between the 9th placed Women's National Premier League Team and the 2nd placed Women's State League Team.

23 - 25 August				
Match	Home Team		Away Team	Type of Final
Match A	2nd Placed WSL Team	Vs.	9th Placed WNPL Team	Promotional Play off

PRIZE MONEY FOR 2024

WOMEN'S NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE	PRIZE MONEY
Team that wins the WNPL Grand Final	\$10,000.00
Team that comes runners-up in the Grand Final	\$2,500.00
Team that comes third in the final series	\$1,000.00
Team that finishes first at the end of the home and away season	\$4,000.00
WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE	
Team that finishes first at the end of the home and away season	\$1,000.00
WOMEN'S CUP	
Womens NPL/WSL Cup Winner	\$1,000.00
Womens NPL/WSL Cup Runner-Up	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$20,000.00