



14 October 2016

Club Presidents



Sent via email

## 2017 Women's and Girl's Competition Structure



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Dear Colleagues,

We write today to communicate the structure for Women's and Girl's competitions in 2017.

### BACKGROUND

Capital Football recently concluded a comprehensive consultation exercise with the football community that included analysis of registration data, modelling of alternate competition structures, measurement of those models against local football needs and FFA Women's NPL criteria, and engagement with the Capital Football Board, NPL Club Presidents, and State League and Junior Club Presidents, culminating in a forum held on 28 September.



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### 2017 WOMEN'S AND GIRLS COMPETITION STRUCTURE

The following table communicates the structure for 2017.

We have outlined the amendments made to the draft structure proposed at the 28 September meeting for clarity.

Division	Teams per Division	Rounds	Senior Age Grades	Youth Age Grades
National Premier Leagues ACT – Women and Girls	Up to 8	3 Rounds (21 premiership matches)	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Reserve Grade	U17 U15 U13
Masters	Up to 10	2 Rounds (18 premiership matches)	O/35	
State League	Up to 10	2 Rounds (18 premiership matches)	Open age	
Junior League	Up to 8	2 Rounds (14 Premiership Matches + 2 non-competitive matches)		U18 U16 U14 U12

For reference, the key amendments to the draft proposal are;

- Discontinuation of the nomenclature "Capital League" to be replaced with "State League 1"

It was a generally held belief that the Capital League was effectively a State League 1 competition, with both leagues merged in 2016 due to a lack of teams nominated to the Capital League competition.

With the reintroduction of the Reserve Grade division to the Premier League structure, it was not felt necessary to continue the use of the Capital League naming convention to motivate senior players to remain in the game.

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b) Amendment of age grades in Junior Leagues to U12, U14, U16 and U18

It was suggested that the age grades of U13, U15 and U17 were not optimal for application to Junior league competitions.

The rationale for this included; the U17 age grade would not capture all high school age girls, removing the opportunity for them to play with their friends and requiring them to play senior football; the U13 age grade did not provide the learning opportunity between MiniRoos (small sided football) and the entry level to NPL full side football at U13. As such it was recommended the U12 age grade would support player's transition from MiniRoos to NPL or Division 1 Junior League competitions.



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### NEXT STEPS

Capital Football will shortly call for Expressions of interest for Clubs to participate in the Women's and Girl's National Premier League in 2017.

Participation in the Women's and Girls National Premier League will require Clubs to field a team in each age grade.

Nominations to the Masters, State League and Junior League competitions will be as per the normal annual process. Timeframes regarding the nomination process will be communicated shortly.

We take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Club Presidents, Committee Members, Parents, Players, Coaches and Referees that contributed to the review. We are confident that the consultative process undertaken will deliver optimal competition structures in 2017 that consider both player development and participation objectives.

Kind Regards

Phil Brown  
Chief Executive Officer



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