

# Capital Football NPL Senior League Structure

1 August 2018

## OVERVIEW

This document communicates the league structure for the Senior Leagues of the NPL - Capital Football from the 2019 season.

This document does not include specifics regarding competition regulations and scheduling, which will be drafted in consultation with the football community.

Key principles of the renewed structure include;

- From 2019 there will be an NPL Senior League with 2 divisions in age grades of 1<sup>st</sup> Grade and U20.
- Application of promotion and relegation in the Senior League will be phased in as elaborated on below.
- Once implemented, the method for promotion and relegation will be by the aggregate of 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Premiership points.

## NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES – SENIORS

### League Structure

From the 2019 season there will be two senior divisions in the NPL - Capital Football, referred to in this document as NPL1 and NPL2.



2019	2020	2021
<b>NPL1 Senior</b> 9 clubs from 2018. 2 rounds (16 matches + 2 byes).	<b>NPL1 Senior</b> Top 8 placed clubs from 2019. 3 rounds (21 matches).	<b>NPL1 Senior</b> 8 clubs (Top 7 placed clubs from 2020 + top placed NPL2 club from 2020). 3 rounds (21 matches).
<b>NPL2 Senior</b> 7 clubs on application. 3 rounds (18 matches + 3 byes).	<b>NPL2 Senior</b> 8 clubs (7 clubs from 2019 + bottom NPL1 club from 2019). 3 rounds (21 matches).	<b>NPL2 Senior</b> 8 clubs (2 <sup>nd</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup> placed clubs from 2020 + bottom NPL1 club from 2020). 3 rounds (21 matches).
<b>Promotion and Relegation</b> 2018 to 2019 - Not applicable.	<b>Promotion and Relegation</b> 2019 to 2020 - Relegation from NPL1 to NPL2 on 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade league table.	<b>Promotion and Relegation</b> 2020 to 2021 – Promotion and Relegation annually between NPL1 and NPL2 on 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade league table



## Age Grades

The age grades in the Senior divisions of NPL will be 1<sup>st</sup> Grade and U20.

There will be an allowance for overage players in the U20 competitions. Specific rules relating to over age players will be developed in consultation with the football community.

## Promotion and Relegation

There is no promotion or relegation from season 2018 to 2019.

At the conclusion of the 2019 season into the 2020 season there will be relegation of the last placed NPL1 club to NPL2. The mechanism for relegation will be;

- a) The club finishing last on the NPL1 1<sup>st</sup> grade league table at the conclusion of the 2019 premiership will have its 1<sup>st</sup> grade and U20 teams relegated to NPL2 for the 2020 season

From the end of the 2020 season, there will be application of promotion and relegation between the Senior Leagues of NPL1 and NPL2.

The mechanism for promotion and relegation will be;

- b) The club finishing last on the NPL1 1<sup>st</sup> grade league table at the conclusion of the premiership will have its 1<sup>st</sup> grade and U20 teams relegated to NPL2 for the following season
- c) The club finishing first on the NPL2 1<sup>st</sup> grade league table at the conclusion of the premiership will have its 1<sup>st</sup> grade and U20 teams promoted to NPL1 for the following season

