



**CAPITAL
FOOTBALL**

**COMPETITION
REGULATIONS:
2022 NPL AND CPL**

VERSION CONTROL

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SECTION 1: PREAMBLE

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Football is a global sport. It is governed and regulated internationally by the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA). Football operates in accordance with Laws of the Game published by the International Football Association Board (IFAB).
- 1.2 Football must have Laws, rules and regulations which keep the game 'fair', as a crucial foundation of the beauty of the 'beautiful game' is its fairness – this is a vital feature of the 'spirit' of the game. The application of those Laws, rules and regulations and ensuring compliance with them is also important to ensure the integrity of the game.
- 1.3 These Competition Regulations outline the Laws, rules and regulations applicable to the Premier League competitions under the jurisdiction of Capital Football.

2 PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of these Regulations is to:
 - a) Provide a protocol which sets out procedures, guidelines and sanctions for any Participant, Club or Match Official who is involved with the activities associated with the National Premier Leagues.
 - b) Ensure that all Clubs, Participants and Match Officials observe the Regulations.
 - c) Ensure that football is played competitively and fairly in accordance with principles of true sportsmanship and in accordance with the Regulations.
 - d) Provide a safe and secure environment for everyone involved in Football Related Activities.

3 AUTHORITY

- 3.1 Football Australia (FA) has granted ACT Football Federation (ACTFF) trading as Capital Football (CF) a mandate to be responsible for the organisation, promotion and regulation of football in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and surrounding regions.
- 3.2 CF will interpret and apply all articles of these Regulations and any such interpretation or application will be final and binding on all parties, and not subject to challenge or appeal.
- 3.3 If any provision of these Regulations is held invalid or unenforceable then the remainder of these Regulations shall continue to be valid and enforceable.
- 3.4 These Regulations apply to participants in the following competitions unless stated otherwise:
 - a) National Premier Leagues CF Women's (NPL Women's);
 - b) National Premier Leagues CF Men's (NPL Men's);
 - c) Capital Premier Leagues CF Men's (CPL Men's);
 - d) National Premier Leagues CF Girls (NPL Girls);
 - e) National Premier Leagues CF Boys (NPL Boys);
 - f) Capital Premier Leagues CF Boys (CPL Boys).

- 3.5 Clubs, Players and Team Officials must comply with and agree to abide by the regulations of FA and CF, including but not limited to:
- a) FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations;
 - b) FA National Disciplinary Regulations;
 - c) FA Code of Conduct and Ethics;
 - d) FA Grievance Procedure By-Law;
 - e) FA Member Protection Framework;
 - f) FA Integrity Framework; and
 - g) CF Disputes and Disciplinary Regulations.
- 3.6 CF may from time to time make variations to these Regulations.
- 3.7 Any capitalised terms used in these Regulations will have the meaning given to them in Schedule 1.

4 MATCHES PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE GAME

- 4.1 All Matches under the jurisdiction of these Regulations will be played in accordance with FA and CF regulations, codes and directives, and under the IFAB Laws of the Game 2021/22, unless otherwise stipulated in these Regulations.

SECTION 2: COMPETITION

1 CONFIRMATION OF LEAGUES / AGE GRADES

1.1 CF will conduct competitions in the following Leagues and age grades:

| League | Abbreviation | Age Grades |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| National Premier Leagues CF Women's | NPL Women's | Reserve Grade, First Grade |
| National Premier Leagues CF Men's | NPL Men's | U23, First Grade |
| Capital Premier Leagues CF Men's | CPL Men's | U23, First Grade |
| National Premier Leagues CF Girls | NPL Girls | U14, U15, U17 |
| National Premier Leagues CF Boys | NPL Boys | U13, U14, U16, U18 |
| Capital Premier Leagues CF Boys | CPL Boys | U13, U14, U16, U18 |

2 COMPETITION SYSTEM

2.1 All Leagues (as listed in Section 1 Article 1) will consist of two stages:

- a) Premiership:
 - i) Consisting of home and away Matches or any other League format as approved by CF.
- b) Championship:
 - i) Consisting of knockout Matches in a format approved by CF.

3 COMPETITION CRITERIA

3.1 The NPL Competition Criteria is detailed in Schedule 6 of the Regulations.

4 MATCH SCHEDULE AND KICK OFF TIMES

- 4.1 CF will communicate the official Match schedule for all Leagues.
- 4.2 CF will determine the venues of all Premiership, Championship and Cup Matches.
- 4.3 Final Match dates and kick-off times for all Matches will be determined by CF.
- 4.4 CF may start Matches from 8:30am for any daytime Match which may include Saturday, Sunday or any Public Holiday.
 - a) Unless instructions have been issued by CF, the last Match of the day must start no later than 3:00pm for any daytime Match.
 - b) All other Matches prior to this kick off time must be played in two (2) equal periods that shall allow the last Match to kick off at the scheduled kick off time.
 - c) Matches may be played at night under lights, at approved venues supported by the appropriate LUX certification.
- 4.5 CF may also schedule midweek evening Matches to accommodate Premiership and Championship washed out or deferred Matches, as well as any Cup competitions.

- 4.6 Clubs will not arrange other Matches until after the official Matches are settled, nor improperly interfere with other Clubs' home competition Matches.
- 4.7 Any disputes between two (2) or more Clubs as to the arrangement of Matches will be referred to and decided by CF. Any determination made by CF is final and not subject to appeal.
- 4.8 Notwithstanding any other Regulation on the same subject matter, CF reserves the right to alter or amend any Match after it has been published in the official Match schedule. The alterations could be to the date, venue, kick off times or a combination of all providing the Clubs involved are given seven (7) days' prior notice from the original scheduled date.
- 4.9 Failure to commence a Match at the scheduled times may result in a fine as outlined in Schedule 4 of these Regulations.
- 4.10 Teams must be ready to begin play by the scheduled kick off time.
- a) If both Teams are not ready to begin playing fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled kick off time, the Referee may determine the competition Match as abandoned in accordance with Section 2 Article 17.
 - b) In circumstances where both Teams, the Referee and CF representative agree, the Match may commence up to thirty (30) minutes after the scheduled kick off time, provided it does not delay the kick off of subsequent competition Matches, either at that ground or grounds to which the Referee is also appointed on that day.

5 DURATION OF MATCH

- 5.1 CF will communicate the official Match schedule for all Leagues.
- 5.2 Duration of Premiership Matches will be as follows for the respective age grades of the Leagues:

| Age Grade | Duration of Match | Half Time | Minimum Time Allocated per Match |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| First Grade | Two periods of 45 minutes | A maximum of 15 minutes | 135 minutes |
| Reserve Grade | Two periods of 45 minutes | A maximum of 15 minutes | 135 minutes |
| U23 | Two periods of 45 minutes | A maximum of 15 minutes | 135 minutes |
| U18 | Two periods of 45 minutes | A maximum of 15 minutes | 135 minutes |
| U17 | Two periods of 45 minutes | A maximum of 15 minutes | 135 minutes |
| U16 | Two periods of 45 minutes | A maximum of 15 minutes | 135 minutes |
| U15 | Two periods of 40 minutes | A maximum of 10 minutes | 105 minutes |
| U14 | Two periods of 35 minutes | A maximum of 10 minutes | 95 minutes |
| U13 | Two periods of 35 minutes | A maximum of 10 minutes | 95 minutes |

- 5.3 The Referee may cut short any competition Match (including reducing the length of each half before the commencement of the competition Match) if in the Referee's opinion playing conditions compromise Player safety, or to prevent the delay to the commencement of any subsequent competition Match from its scheduled kick off time, only if:
- a) It is in line with the IFAB Laws of the Game; and

- b) The Referee has consulted with the coaches of each participating Team before the start of the Match.
- 5.4 The Referee is the sole arbiter of time, and no protest may be lodged against the time as recorded by the Referee.

6 ADDED TIME

- 6.1 In Premiership Matches, the Referee will play additional “injury and stoppage time” at the conclusion of each half in First Grade Matches only.
- a) In a First Grade Premiership Match, should a delay be experienced (e.g. a serious injury to a Player that requires the suspension of play while the Player is treated or transported from the venue), the Referee will record the lapsed time and ensure it is added to the Match duration. If the elapsed time between suspension of play and recommencement of play is longer than thirty (30) minutes, the Referee will postpone the Match and it will be replayed at a later date in accordance with these Regulations.
 - b) For clarity, in all age grades other than First Grade, should a delay be experienced (other than those detailed in Section 2 Article 16), the Referee will continue to keep the official time of the Match and blow full time when the Match duration has expired. At this point the result of the Match will stand.
- 6.2 In Championship Matches, the Referee will play additional “injury and stoppage time” at the conclusion of each half of normal time, and each half of extra time, in First Grade Matches only.
- 6.3 In grand final Matches, the Referee will play additional “injury and stoppage time” at the conclusion of each half of normal time, and each half of extra time, in all age grades.
- 6.4 In accordance with Section 2 Articles 6.1 and 6.2, added time will be at the discretion of the Referee.

7 EXTRA TIME AND RESULTS

- 7.1 CF Premiership Matches do not require a result that determines an outright winner on the day. This means that at the conclusion of normal time, a Match result can be a draw.
- 7.2 There will be no extra time played in CF Premiership Matches in the event scores are equal at the conclusion of normal time.
- 7.3 The result of Championship Matches must be decided on the day of the Match. This means an outright winner is required and the Match cannot end in a draw.
- 7.4 Should scores be equal at the conclusion of a Championship Match, extra time will be played as follows:

| Age Grade | Duration of Extra Time |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| First Grade | Two Periods of 15 minutes |
| Reserve Grade | Two Periods of 15 minutes |
| U23 | Two Periods of 15 minutes |
| U18 | Two Periods of 15 minutes |
| U17 | Two Periods of 15 minutes |
| U16 | Two Periods of 15 minutes |
| U15 | Two Periods of 10 minutes |

| Age Grade | Duration of Extra Time |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| U14 | Two Periods of 10 minutes |
| U13 | Two Periods of 10 minutes |

7.5 For all Championship Matches where extra time is required:

- a) There will be an interval of a maximum of five (5) minutes before the commencement of extra time; and
- b) There will be an interval of a maximum of two (2) minutes between the whistle ending the first period of extra time and the whistle starting the second period of extra time.

8 DETERMINING THE WINNER BY PENALTY KICKS

8.1 If the result of a Championship Match is still a draw after the two (2) periods of extra time, alternate kicks from the penalty mark will be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedures described in the IFAB Laws of the Game.

9 COMPETITION POINTS

9.1 Points will be allocated as follows for all Premiership Matches:

| Result | Competition Points Awarded |
|---|---|
| Win | Three (3) points |
| Draw | One (1) point for each Team |
| Loss | Zero (0) points |
| Bye | Zero (0) points |
| 1 st Forfeit (Team forfeiting) | Zero (0) points and three (3) goals against and may be fined \$500 |
| 2 nd Forfeit (Team forfeiting) | Zero (0) and three (3) goals against and may be fined \$1,000 and have 3 points subtracted from the league table of each age grade in the league |
| 3 rd Forfeit (Team forfeiting) | Zero (0) and three (3) goals against and may be fined a further \$1500, be disqualified from participating in the final's series in all age grades, be disqualified from promotion to a higher league the following season and be required to show cause to the Capital Football Board why they should be invited to compete in the NPL and CPL competitions in the following season. |
| Forfeit (Team being forfeited against) | Three (3) points and three (3) goals |
| No result | Zero (0) points and zero (0) goals for each Team |

9.2 CF reserves the right to record a competition Match as a 'no result' if the circumstances require or as a result of a breach of these Regulations.

10 PREMIERSHIP RANKINGS IN A COMPLETED SEASON

10.1 If the Premiership is completed, CF will use the following process when determining the ranking of Teams within each age grade:

- a) Greater number of points obtained in all Premiership Matches.
- b) If two (2) or more Teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria, their place will be determined as follows:

- i) Greater goal difference resulting from all Premiership Matches;
- ii) Greater goals scored from all Premiership Matches;
- iii) Greater number of points obtained in the Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head to head);
- iv) Greater number of goals scored in the Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head to head);
- v) Greater number of goals scored in away Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head to head);
- vi) Team with the lowest number of Red Cards (direct and indirect) received in all Premiership Matches;
- vii) Team with the lowest number of Yellow Cards (including Temporary Dismissals) received in all Premiership Matches;
- viii) A play-off Match between the Teams concerned under arrangements approved by CF.

11 PREMIERSHIP RANKINGS IN AN ABANDONED SEASON

11.1 The Capital Football Board has the authority to decide if a Premiership season is abandoned.

11.2 If the Premiership is abandoned from round thirteen (13) or earlier, Premiers will not be awarded and promotion and relegation will not occur.

11.3 If the Premiership is abandoned from round fourteen (14) or later, CF will use the following process when determining the ranking of Teams within each age grade:

- a) Points per Match ratio considering all Matches played.
- b) If two (2) or more Teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria, their place will be determined as follows:
 - i) Greater goal difference resulting from all Premiership Matches;
 - ii) Greater goals scored from all Premiership Matches;
 - iii) Greater number of points obtained in the Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head to head);
 - iv) Greater number of goals scored in the Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head to head);
 - v) Greater number of goals scored in away Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head to head);
 - vi) Team with the lowest number of Red Cards (direct and indirect) received in all Premiership Matches;
 - vii) Team with the lowest number of Yellow Cards (including Temporary Dismissals) received in all Premiership Matches;
 - viii) A play-off Match between the Teams concerned under arrangements approved by CF.

12 CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

- 12.1 The format of the Championship series in all Leagues (as listed in Section 1 Article 1) will be at the sole and absolute discretion of CF.
- 12.2 All Championship series Matches will be played in accordance with the knockout system, single Match, in a venue to be chosen by CF.
- 12.3 For the purposes of allocating a home Team, the Team appearing first in the format below will be considered the home Team for each respective Match in the Championship series.
- 12.4 The following format will be used for the Championship series Matches of the NPL Women's, NPL Men's, CPL Men's, NPL Girls, NPL Boys and CPL Boys competitions:

| Round | Match Number | Title | Teams |
|-------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Major Semi Final | 1st v 2nd |
| | 2 | Minor Semi Final | 3th v 4th |
| 2 | 3 | Preliminary Final | Loser Match 1 v Winner Match 2 |
| 3 | 4 | Grand Final | Winner Match 1 v Winner Match 3 |

13 CLUBS / TEAMS REMOVED OR WITHDRAWN FROM COMPETITIONS

- 13.1 In the event of any Club / Team being removed or withdrawing from the competitions, the following procedure will take effect to allow the altered competitions to proceed:
- a) Removed or withdrawn before the competition has started:
 - i) All Matches involving a Club / Team that has been removed or withdrawn before the competition has started will be treated as a bye, unless CF decides to adjust the competition in some other way that will allow the competition to continue in a fair manner.
 - b) Removed or withdrawn during the first round of a competition:
 - i) For all opposing Clubs / Teams that have played the removed or withdrawn Club / Team (for the complete first round), points and goals against the withdrawn Club / Team will be deleted from their records and will be credited with a bye result.
 - ii) Clubs / Teams that have not played the removed or withdrawn Club / Team will obtain a bye result.
 - iii) A round of a competition refers to a full complement of Premiership Matches, where each Club / Team plays each other an equal number of times.
 - c) Removed or withdrawn during the second or subsequent round of a competition:
 - i) All points and goals acquired will be retained by opposing Teams for the completed first round (or second round if fully completed and a third round forms a part of the competition).
 - ii) Points and goals acquired against the withdrawn Club / Team will be lost and bye results will be credited for Matches that were played prior to the removal or withdrawal.
 - iii) For all opposing Clubs / Teams that have played the removed or withdrawn Club / Team (during a second or subsequent incomplete round), points and goals against

the withdrawn Club / Team will be deleted from their records and will be credited with a bye result.

13.2 Any Player or Team Official infringements (i.e. red / yellow cards) in all Matches involving a removed or withdrawn Club / Team will be upheld.

14 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION FROM 2022 TO 2023

14.1 Promotion and relegation from 2022 to 2023 is detailed in Schedule 5 of the Regulations.

15 FORFEITS

15.1 A Team will be deemed to have forfeited a Match when:

- a) They fail to fulfill an engagement to play a Match on the appointed date, time or venue; or
- b) They refuse or fail to begin a Match fifteen (15) minutes after the stipulated kick off time; or
- c) They field less than seven (7) of their registered Players at the start of any Match; or
- d) At any point during the Match they cannot field at least seven (7) of their registered Players; or
- e) An ineligible Player as defined in these Regulations participates in the Match; or
- f) Any other scenario within the Regulations or the DDR that stipulates a forfeit of the Match.

15.2 In the event of any Team forfeiting its Match, the following procedure will take effect:

- a) Three (3) points and three (3) goals will be allocated for the Match to the opposition Team, with the forfeiting Team receiving zero (0) points and three (3) goals against, unless the goal difference for the Team receiving the forfeit is greater than three (3), in which case the score will remain the same, with goal scorers for the forfeiting Team to be removed. The forfeiting club may be fined \$500.
- b) Where a forfeit has been applied:
 - i) The statistics (goal scorers and Matches played) of the non-offending Team will be retained; and
 - ii) The statistics (goal scorers and Matches played) of the offending Team will be removed.
- c) The offending Team will be fined the prescribed amount as outlined in Schedule 4 of these Regulations.
- d) Where the offending Club is the away Club, they will be liable to pay compensation to the opposing Club for any reasonable expenses incurred and such compensation will be determined by CF.
- e) Where a Match is forfeited within 24 hours of the scheduled kick off time, the offending Club is required to pay all appropriate Match Officials fees, whether they were the home or away Club for the Match.

- 15.3 In the event a Club should forfeit a second Match during the season in any age grade of a League, the offending Club may be deducted a further three (3) competition points from the League table of each age grade in the League, the club may be fined a further \$1,000, and have 3 points subtracted from the league table of each age grade in the league, in addition to the procedure outlined in Section 2 Article 15.2.
- 15.4 In the event a Club should forfeit a third Match during the season in any age grade of a League, the offending Club may be fined a further \$1,500, be disqualified from participating in the final's series in all age grades, be disqualified from promotion to a higher league the following season and be required to show cause to the Capital Football Board why they should be invited to compete in the NPL or CPL competitions in the following season, in addition to the procedure outlined in Section 2 Articles 15.2 and 15.3.
- 15.5 Should a Team forfeit its last scheduled Premiership Match without prior written advice from CF permitting the Match to be rescheduled, the Team that causes the Match to be forfeited will not be eligible to participate in the Championship series.
- 15.6 Should a Club forfeit all scheduled Matches in one round (e.g., the NPL Men's U23 and First Grade Matches in round 5), the Club will be fined the prescribed amount as outlined in Schedule 4 of these Regulations and may be further sanctioned pursuant to the DDR.
- 15.7 On the competition ladder, a forfeit will count as a Match played.

16 POSTPONED MATCHES

- 16.1 Matches may only be postponed by the Referee or CF.
- 16.2 A Match may be postponed if:
- a) The lighting at the venue fails such that in the opinion of the Referee it is impossible or unsafe to continue to play;
 - b) The Referee determines that playing conditions have become unsafe or untenable for any reason; or
 - c) A significant injury occurs where a Player cannot be moved and an ambulance is required to attend, with the delay being longer than thirty (30) minutes.
- 16.3 In the event of any Match not being played, where neither Club has any control:
- a) The Match must be played within fourteen (14) days of the first postponement.
 - b) Clubs will be given forty-eight (48) hours after the postponement to determine the new date, time and venue.
 - c) If Clubs cannot reach an agreement, or fail to comply, CF will determine the new date, time and venue to play the postponed Match. Such a decision is not open to appeal or review.
- 16.4 After the commencement of the Match, should play be postponed due to any reason as outlined in Section 2 Article 16.2 and the Match cannot be completed in full, the following principles will apply:
- a) If eighty percent (80%) or more of normal time of a Match has been played, then the score at the time of postponement may stand.
 - b) If the Match is postponed prior to half time and CF has approved the Match to be rescheduled, then the Match is to be replayed in full.

- c) If the Match is postponed at or after half time and prior to eighty percent (80%) of normal time of a Match being played, and CF has approved the rescheduled Match, the Match will recommence at the minute at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full. In this circumstance, the following is to occur:
- i) In the event a Match is postponed in accordance with Section 2 Articles 16.2 (a) or (b), the Match will recommence with the same Players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the Match was initially postponed, unless a Player has received a suspension in Matches conducted between the postponed Match and the rescheduling of that Match.
 - ii) In the event a Match is postponed in accordance with Section 2 Article 16.2 (c), the Match will recommence with the same Players on the pitch and substitutes as when the Match was initially postponed:
 - A. With the exception of the injured Player referenced in Section 2 Article 16.2 (c) who may be replaced by another Eligible Player, if the injured Player provides a medical certificate or similar document stating they are unfit to participate in the rescheduled Match.
 - B. With the exception of a Player who has received a suspension in Matches conducted between the postponed Match and the rescheduling of that Match.
 - iii) Should a Player have received a suspension in a Match conducted between the postponed Match and the rescheduling of that Match:
 - A. The Player will not be eligible to participate in the rescheduled Match.
 - B. The Player will not be able to count the Match as a stand down in relation to any Match suspension.
 - C. The Club will not be permitted to replace the Player on the Team sheet.
 - D. If the Player was on the field of play at the time of the postponement, the Player may be replaced by a substitute listed on the Team sheet as long as the Team has available substitutions as per the Regulations.
 - E. If the Player was a substitute, the number of available Players to substitute will decrease and the Player cannot be replaced.
 - iv) No additional substitutes may be added to the list of Players on the Team sheet.
 - v) The Teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the Match was postponed.
 - vi) Players sent off during the postponed Match cannot be replaced.
 - vii) CF will endeavour to appoint the same Match Officials to the completion of the Match, however may appoint replacements at its discretion.
 - viii) The Match Official is the sole arbiter of elapsed time, and no protest may be lodged against the actual elapsed time as recorded by the Match Official.

16.5 Where a fixture is incorrectly reported as abandoned by the Referee where circumstances show clearly that the Match was actually postponed, CF will treat the Match as postponed.

17 ABANDONED MATCHES

- 17.1 Matches may only be abandoned by a decision of the Referee. In the absence of a Referee, CF shall have the designated authority to recommend the abandoning of any Matches as deemed necessary by CF.
- 17.2 A Match may be abandoned if:
- a) It is determined that the conditions for Players, coaches, Match Officials or supporters have become unsafe or untenable for any reason; or
 - b) Both Teams refuse or fail to begin a Match fifteen (15) minutes after the stipulated kick off time.
- 17.3 In cases where a Match has been abandoned by the Referee, the Disciplinary Tribunal may investigate the circumstances of the abandonment and impose such sanctions as it deems fit on Clubs, Club Officials, Players and/or spectators adjudged to be associated with the abandonment.
- 17.4 When a Match is not played or abandoned for any reason over which neither Club was responsible, the Match will be replayed on a date to be arranged at the earliest reasonable opportunity by CF, in accordance with these Regulations.
- 17.5 Should a Club, Club Official, its Players or spectators be found to have caused the abandonment of the Match, the Match will be forfeited by that Club to the opposition.
- 17.6 Should both Clubs be found to have caused the abandonment of the Match, the Match will not be replayed, and the outcome of the Match will be recorded as a no Match result in accordance with Section 2 Article 9.

18 PROTESTS

- 18.1 Protests must be lodged and received by CF no later than two (2) business days after the Match was played.
- 18.2 Protests will only be considered by CF for obvious breaches or errors of the IFAB Laws of the Game. For clarity, the decisions of the Referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether a goal is scored and the result of the Match, are final and cannot be protested.
- 18.3 No protests as to the result of a Match will be considered by CF in relation to disciplinary decisions of the Match Officials.
- 18.4 Protests must be accompanied by an administration fee as outlined in Schedule 4 in order to be considered. The administration fee must be lodged together with the written protest. A refund will apply at the discretion of CF if a protest is upheld.
- 18.5 A decision by CF in respect of a protest is final and binding on the parties and not subject to challenge or appeal.

19 EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

- 19.1 Clubs should refer to the [Capital Football Extreme Weather Policy](#) for information about extreme weather conditions.

20 WET WEATHER AFFECTED MATCHES

20.1 In all instances, where rain preceding a Match raises fair doubt as to the possibility of play taking place, the following rules are to apply:

- a) Day/s prior to the scheduled Match day:
 - i) The home Club is to contact CF if they believe their ground will not be fit for play on the scheduled Match day.
- b) Day of the scheduled Match/es:
 - i) The home Club is to:
 - A. Inspect their ground two (2) hours before the first scheduled kick off and should they believe the ground is not fit for play, contact the CF competitions after hours phone (6189 2229). The Club may also be requested to email photos of the affected areas of the pitch to [the CF competitions team](#).
 - B. CF will advise the home Club of the appropriate next steps.
 - ii) Should Section 2 Article 20.1 b) i) A. not occur:
 - A. The Match Official is to inspect the ground prior to the scheduled kick off and decide whether the Match can take place.
 - B. Should the Match Official deem the Match unable to be played, they will advise the home Club of the decision, along with contacting the CF appointments phone.
 - C. The home Club is required to contact the CF competitions after hours phone (6189 2229) and advise of the decision.
- c) Where grounds are deemed not fit for play by either the home Club, ACT Sport and Recreation, the venue operator or the Match Referee, upon notification to the CF competitions after hours phone, CF will update the [Inclement Weather](#) page on the CF website.

21 HOT WEATHER AFFECTED MATCHES

21.1 When high temperatures occur on Match day, the Referee and/or CF may determine:

- a) To play the Match under standard conditions;
- b) To play the Match with provision for 'drinks' breaks; or
- c) To delay or postpone the Match.
 - i) Should a 'drinks' break be implemented, it will be halfway through each half and each for a duration of 1 minute.

21.2 If in accordance with the [Capital Football Extreme Weather Policy](#) it is deemed that the temperature is too high for the Match to either be played or continue to be played, the Referee and Clubs will consult with CF prior to Matches being postponed.

22 RESCHEDULING OF MATCHES DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER AND GROUND UNAVAILABILITY

22.1 Rescheduling of Matches affected by adverse weather or ground unavailability will be arranged by the relevant Clubs in the first instance.

- 22.2 Matches are to be rescheduled, subject to ground availability and weather conditions, to be played within fourteen (14) days of the original scheduled date.
- 22.3 Clubs will be given forty-eight (48) hours after the postponement to determine the new date, time and venue.
- 22.4 The home Club is required to submit the [Match Alteration Form](#) after confirming details with the away Club.
- 22.5 Failure to comply with Section 2 Articles 22.2 and 22.3 may result in CF determining the new date, time and venue to play the Postponed Match. Such a decision is not open to appeal or review.
- 22.6 A change of grounds is to be permitted for good reason (i.e. venue becomes unavailable or adverse weather) up to the Thursday evening prior to weekend Matches, or at least two (2) days before mid-week Matches. In circumstances where such change is required, the following should occur:
- a) The home Club is to notify the away Club that a change is required;
 - b) The home Club is required to submit the [Match Alteration Form](#), outlining the new Match details; and
 - c) The home Club is to contact CF to advise of the alteration.

23 MATCH DEFERMENTS

- 23.1 A Club may seek permission from CF to have Matches deferred in the following cases:
- a) If at least four (4) or more from one Team are unable to participate in a Match because they have tested positive for COVID-19 and/or self-isolating in accordance with ACT and NSW Public Health Orders, one day prior to the match, the affected Team's Club may, apply to Capital Football to have the Match deferred and rescheduled. The team must supply evidence of the COVID affected players, either by a letter from ACT or NSW government stating the COVID-19 positive test or a statutory declaration.
 - i) An application by a Club to defer a Match in the circumstances described in paragraph (a) above must be made by contacting the competitions team and then followed by an email and which needs to include an explanation of why the Club is unable to field a Team, including why it is not possible for the Club to select replacement Players from the broader squad and/or from lower grades.
 - ii) Capital Football will consider application for deferral submitted pursuant to paragraph (a) above and communicate its determination to the applicant Club as soon as possible. Any determination made by Capital Football on a question of deferral under this article will be made in its absolute discretion, is final and binding on all parties and is not subject to challenge or appeal.
 - b) When three (3) or more Players from one (1) Team are involved in CF approved representative Matches or duties (including training camps or official training sessions) or National Team representative Matches or duties (including training camps or official training sessions).
 - c) In circumstances which CF at its discretion considers of sufficient weight to merit a deferral.

23.2 Clubs seeking to defer Matches pursuant to Section 2 Article 23.1 b) and c) must submit their request in writing to CF giving a minimum 14 days' notice of the date on which deferment will be sought.

24 TRIAL PERIODS

24.1 Official trial periods will be communicated to Clubs in each respective League prior to the season commencing.

24.2 Clubs are to notify CF of their proposed trial dates by emailing [the CF competitions team](#).

24.3 Trials are to conclude by the identified finish date. No trials are to be conducted prior to the advertised dates.

25 TRIAL MATCHES

25.1 Clubs will not arrange trial Matches without first submitting the Trial Match Request Form to CF at least seven (7) business days prior to the requested trial Match date.

25.2 The Match can only be conducted upon receipt of written approval from CF. Trial matches may not be sanctioned or their sanction status revoked for the following reasons;

a) Match Officials cannot be appointed by CF to NPLM, NPLW and CPLM trial matches

b) High risk Matches as deemed by CF

c) Any other circumstances that are deemed by CF

25.3 Payment for Match Officials at trial Matches will be fifty percent (50%) of the normal fee for the highest graded Team participating.

25.4 For approved trial Matches where CF appoints the Match Officials, all Match Officials' fees will be paid by CF directly to the Match Officials and the Club who submitted the trial Match for approval will be invoiced the Match Officials' fees.

25.5 Where Match Officials cannot be appointed by CF to NPLM, NPLW and CPLM trial matches, the trial match will not be sanctioned

25.6 Appearance of suspended Players in trial Matches is in accordance with the DDR.

25.7 Clubs are required to submit the Trial Match Request Form for any Matches hosted against an interstate Team. For any Matches played away against interstate Teams, please refer to Section 2 Article 27.

26 OVERSEAS TOURS AND TRAVEL

26.1 Clubs wishing to arrange overseas tours and travel for football activities must obtain the written approval of CF not less than eight (8) weeks prior to departure. Should a Club submit the form less than eight (8) weeks prior to departure, the Club will incur an administration fee as outlined in Schedule 4.

26.2 The overseas tours and travel should not interfere with Matches of other Clubs in CF competitions. Any overseas travel that may interfere with Matches must be played prior to overseas travel and arranged fourteen (14) days in advance by the departing Club. Failure to do so will result in the overseas travel not being sanctioned by CF and forfeits being applied.

26.3 CF will not provide any approval for overseas tours that involve travel for football activities between July 20 and the completion of the respective competition that the Team participates

in. Any Team that travels during that period will automatically forfeit its Matches in accordance with Section 2 Article 15.1.

27 INTERSTATE TOURS AND TRAVEL

- 27.1 Where a fixture is incorrectly reported as abandoned by the Referee where circumstances show clearly that the Match was actually postponed, CF will treat the Match as postponed.
- 27.2 Clubs in the ACT and surrounds play under the jurisdiction of CF within the defined geographical area. Where a Club wishes to play outside this area of jurisdiction, a Club must seek approval from CF.
- 27.3 Clubs wishing to arrange interstate tours and travel must obtain the written approval of CF no less than three (3) weeks prior to departure.
- 27.4 Interstate tours and travel should not interfere with Matches of other Clubs in CF competitions.
- 27.5 Any competition Matches that conflict with an interstate tour or travel must be played prior to the interstate travel and be arranged fourteen (14) days in advance by the departing Team / Club.
- 27.6 Failure to reschedule Matches pursuant to Section 2 Article 27.4 may result in the interstate tour and travel not being sanctioned by CF, and forfeits will apply to Matches that interfere with competition Matches.
- 27.7 Clubs are required to submit the Interstate Tours and Travel Form in order to obtain approval from CF.
- 27.8 Should a Club submit the form less than three (3) weeks prior to departure, the Club will incur an administration fee as outlined in Schedule 4.
- 27.9 Should a Club fail to submit the form and receive approval, the Club will be fined the prescribed amount as outlined in Schedule 4.

28 REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

- 28.1 Any Player registered in the ACT under the FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations will be eligible to represent the ACT in representative Matches, camps or tours, or be eligible to be selected to participate in a CF development program.
 - a) Each such Player will make themselves available for training, preparation and participation for representative Matches, camps, tours or development programs, when requested by CF.
 - b) All Clubs must release Players for training and preparation for, and participation in, representative Matches, camps, tours or development programs, when requested by CF.

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY & MOVEMENT

1 AGE ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1 The following table details the birth dates applicable to the age grades of the Leagues. Players must be within these ranges in order to be eligible for registration:

| Age Grade | Birth Date |
|-----------|---|
| U23 | For Players born on or after 1 January 1999 |
| U18 | For Players born on or after 1 January 2004 |
| U17 | For Players born on or after 1 January 2005 |
| U16 | For Players born on or after 1 January 2006 |
| U15 | For Players born on or after 1 January 2007 |
| U14 | For Players born on or after 1 January 2008 |
| U13 | For Players born on or after 1 January 2009 |

- 1.2 A participant who registers themselves or another person(s) in the incorrect age grade may be sanctioned in accordance with the DDR.
- 1.3 A Club may be held liable for an offence committed under Section 3 Article 1.2 by one of its Team Officials or Players and may sanctioned in accordance with the DDR.
- 1.4 Specific age eligibility requirements for Canberra United Academy (CUA) are outlined in Schedule 2.

2 ELIGIBILITY AND INELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS

- 2.1 Eligible Participants:
- An eligible Participant is one that meets all registration requirements within these Regulations and is not ineligible according to any article of these Regulations.
- 2.2 Ineligible Participants include:
- A Player not registered in the National Registration System to the Club which they have participated with.
 - Suspended Participants.
 - A Player who plays without an ITC (International Transfer Certificate) where one is required, unless communicated otherwise.
 - A Participant who is required to stand down for receiving a suspension as a result of caution accumulation.
 - A Player who is required to stand down for receiving a suspension as a result of Temporary Dismissal accumulation.
 - A Participant that has been expelled from a Match or suspended as a result of caution accumulation on the day/s prior to a Match but prior to receiving their Notice of Suspension, in accordance with the DDR.
 - A Participant that has been expelled from a Match on the same day as the Match but participated earlier in the day.

- h) A Participant that is deemed ineligible due to any Article of these Regulations or pursuant to the DDR.
- 2.3 A Team will automatically lose a Match on forfeit if an ineligible Player participates in the Match.
- 2.4 Additionally, the Club, Team Official/s and / or Player may be further sanctioned in accordance with the DDR.
- 2.5 Any Player who knowingly plays as an ineligible Player may be suspended for up to four (4) Matches and further sanctions may be applicable under the DDR.
- 2.6 For clarity, it is the Club's absolute responsibility to ensure that it fields eligible Players in any Match.
- 2.7 Where a Club plays an ineligible Player:
 - a) Any participating Club can make a claim on Player ineligibility to CF.
 - b) Any claims of ineligibility must be received within two (2) business days of the final whistle of the Match in question.
 - c) If CF finds that a Club has played an ineligible Player outside of the timeline in Section 3 Article 2.7 b), then the Club and Player may still be sanctioned in accordance with the DDR and Section 3 Articles 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 of these Regulations.
- 2.8 Where a Club can prove to the satisfaction of CF that an administrative error resulted in rendering a Player ineligible, CF may deem the Player eligible.

3 ELIGIBILITY & PLAYER MOVEMENT IN PREMIERSHIP MATCHES

- 3.1 For all Leagues:
 - a) Except in the case of goalkeepers, a Club is not permitted to list a Player on more than two (2) Team sheets on any Match Day.
 - b) Exemptions can be requested:
 - i) Where it is identified that a female Player would benefit from participating in the NPL Boys/CPL Boys competition.
 - A. The Club's Technical Director must submit the [Exemption Form](#) for any females to participate in any age grade of the NPL Boys/CPL Boys competition.
 - B. This will be reviewed by the CF Technical Director or their nominee, with exemptions provided on a case-by-case basis.
 - ii) Where it is identified that a female Player from a Club would benefit from participating in the NPL Boys/CPL Boys competition as well as the NPL Women's competition for the same Club.
 - A. The Club's Technical Director must submit the [Exemption Form](#) for any females to participate in NPL Boys/CPL Boys as well as the NPL Women's or NPL Girls competitions.
 - B. This will be reviewed by the CF Technical Director or their nominee, with exemptions provided on a case-by-case basis.

- iii) Where it is identified that a Player under the age of sixteen (16) would benefit from participating in the NPL Men's or CPL Men's competitions.
 - A. The Club's Technical Director must submit the [Exemption Form](#) for any Player under the age of sixteen (16) to participate in the NPL Men's or CPL Men's competitions.
 - B. This will be reviewed by the CF Technical Director or their nominee, with exemptions provided on a case by case basis.
- iv) Where it is identified that a Player is going to play three (3) or more years above their correct age group in NPL Boys, CPL Boys and NPL Girls age grades, the following is required for CF to consider the exemption:
 - A. The Club's Technical Director must submit the [Exemption Form](#) for any Player going to play three (3) or more years above their correct age group.
 - B. A statement by the Club's Technical Director, assessing whether the Player's skill level and mentality is appropriate for playing in the older age group, indicating that the request is for the development of the Player and advising that the nominated age group is the most appropriate one for this purpose.
 - C. A statement from the Player's parent/s acknowledging that they have been informed by the Club of the physical, skill and emotional demands of playing in the higher age group and consenting to their child playing in the nominated higher age group.
 - D. At CF's discretion, they may send an appropriate CF staff member to assess the Player in question in the requested age grade to determine the approval of the request.
- v) Where it is identified that a player is a goalkeeper and the club requires that goalkeeper to fill in, in a higher age grade (NPLB, CPLB or NPLG in NPLM, CPLM and NPLW);
 - A. The Club's Technical Director must submit the [Exemption Form](#) for the player to participate in a higher age grade.
 - B. A statement by the Club's Technical Director or their nominee, assessing whether the Player's skill level and mentality is appropriate for playing in the older age group.
 - C. A statement from the Player's parent/s or guardian if under the age of 18 acknowledging that they have been informed by the Club of the physical, skill and emotional demands of playing in the higher age group and consenting to their child playing in the nominated higher age group.
 - D. At CF's discretion, they may send an appropriate CF staff member to assess the Goalkeeper in question in the requested age grade to determine approval of the request.
 - E. This will be reviewed by the CF Technical Director or their nominee, with exemptions provided on a case-to-case basis.

3.2 For NPL Men's and CPL Men's (First Grade and U23):

- a) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1, Players are permitted to play in either the First Grade or U23 age grades during the Premiership.

- b) NPL Men's Clubs are permitted to list on the Team sheet up to four (4) overage First Grade Players in U23 in any given Match (please note these Players are still required to be registered in the First Grade Team).
- c) CPL Men's Clubs are permitted to list on the Team sheet up to four (4) overage First Grade Players in U23 in any given Match (please note these Players are still required to be registered in the First Grade Team).
- d) The minimum age to participate in these competitions is 16 years, unless an exemption has been provided by CF.
- e) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1, no more than two (2) Players are permitted to play down into the NPL Boys or CPL Boys competitions.
- f) NPL Men's/CPL Men's registered Players are not permitted to play in the Junior League Open's (JLO) or Senior League (SL) competitions.
- g) Players who have entered the field of play in NPL Men's/CPL Men's competitions will be deemed to have played in that Match.

3.3 For NPL Boys and CPL Boys (U18, U16, U14 and U13):

- a) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1, Players are permitted to play in any NPL Boys or CPL Boys age grades during the Premiership.
- b) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1 and Section 3 Article 3.1 b) ii), Players are permitted to play in NPL Men's/CPL Men's (First Grade or U23 age grades) during the Premiership.
- c) NPL Boys/CPL Boys registered Players are not permitted to play in the JLO or SL competitions.
- d) JLO Players are permitted to play in NPL Boys and CPL Boys competitions, subject to any age restrictions and pending any reclassification criteria (as outlined in the 2022 Junior League Competition Regulations).
- e) Players listed on the Team sheet in NPL Boys/CPL Boys competitions will be deemed to have played in that Match.

3.4 For NPL Women's (First Grade, Reserve Grade):

- a) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1, Players are permitted to play in either the First Grade or Reserve Grade age grades during the Premiership.
- b) The minimum age to participate in these competitions is 16 years, unless an exemption has been provided by CF.
- c) NPL Women's registered Players are not permitted to play in any NPL Men's/CPL Men's or NPL Boys/CPL Boys competition, unless an exemption has been provided.
- d) NPL Women's registered Players are not permitted to play in the JL Girls or SL competitions.
- e) Players who have entered the field of play in NPL Women's First Grade and Reserve Grade competitions will be deemed to have played in that Match.

- f) Players listed on the Team sheet in NPL Women's competitions will be deemed to have played in that Match.

3.5 For NPL Girls (U14, U15, U17):

- a) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1, Players are permitted to play in any NPL Girls age grades during the Premiership.
- b) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1 and Section 3 Article 3.1 b) ii), Players are permitted to play in NPL Women's (First Grade or Reserve Grade) during the Premiership.
- c) NPL Girls registered Players are not permitted to play in the JL Girls, JL Opens or SL competitions.
- d) JL Girls Players are permitted to play in NPL Girls competitions, subject to any age restrictions and pending any reclassification criteria (as outlined in the 2022 Junior League Competition Regulations).
- e) Players listed on the Team sheet in NPL Girls competitions will be deemed to have played in that Match.

4 ELIGIBILITY & PLAYER MOVEMENT IN CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

4.1 For NPL Men's and CPL Men's:

- a) First Grade:
 - i) Provided they meet the minimum age eligibility criteria as prescribed under Section 3 Article 3.2 d), Players are permitted to play in the First Grade Championship Series for the Club with which they are registered.
 - A. If a Player has transferred to a different Club during the mid-season transfer window, Players must have played a minimum of seven (7) First Grade Matches for their new Club, while still meeting the requirements as per Section 3 Article 4.1 a) i).
 - ii) Except in the case of goalkeepers, a Club is not permitted to list a Player on more than two (2) Team sheets on any Match Day.
- b) U23's:
 - i) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1 and Players have played a minimum of eleven (11) Matches in U23's across the Premiership season, they are permitted to play in the U23's Championship Series for the Club with which they are registered.
 - A. If a Player has transferred to a different Club during the mid-season transfer window, Players must have played a minimum of seven (7) U23's Matches for their new Club, while still meeting the requirements as per Section 3 Article 4.1 b) i).
 - ii) An overage Player is only eligible to play in an U23's Championship Match if they have played a minimum of eleven (11) U23's Matches during the Premiership season.
 - A. If a Player has transferred to a different Club during the mid-season transfer window, Players must have played a minimum of seven (7) U23's Matches for

their new Club, while still meeting the requirements as per Section 3 Article 4.1 b i).

- iii) Except in the case of goalkeepers, a Club is not permitted to list a Player on more than two (2) Team sheets on any Match Day.

4.2 For NPL and CPL Boys (U18, U16, U14 and U13):

- a) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1 and Players have played a minimum of eleven (11) Matches in a specific age grade across the Premiership season, they are permitted to play in the specified age grade or higher Championship series for the Club with which they are registered.
 - i) If a Player has transferred to a different Club during the mid-season transfer window, Players must have played a minimum of seven (7) Matches in the specified age grade for their new Club, but still meet the requirements as per Section 3 Article 4.2 a).
- b) Should a Player be age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1 for an age grade lower than the age grade in which they qualify for in the Championship series, they are not permitted to play in the lower age grade.
- c) Except in the case of goalkeepers, a Club is not permitted to list a Player on more than two (2) Team sheets on any Match Day.

4.3 For NPL Women's:

- a) First Grade:
 - i) Provided they meet the minimum age eligibility criteria as prescribed under Section 3 Article 3.4 b), Players are permitted to play in the First Grade Championship Series for the Club with which they are registered.
 - A. If a Player has transferred to a different Club during the mid-season transfer window, Players must have played a minimum of seven (7) First Grade Matches for their new Club, while still meeting the requirements as per Section 3 Article 4.3 a) i).
 - ii) Except in the case of goalkeepers, a Club is not permitted to list a Player on more than two (2) Team sheets on any Match Day.
- b) Reserve Grade:
 - i) Provided they meet minimum age eligibility criteria as prescribed under Section 3 Article 3.4 b), and Players have played a minimum of eleven (11) Matches in Reserve Grade across the Premiership season, they are permitted to play in the Reserves Championship Series for the Club with which they are registered.
 - A. If a Player has transferred to a different Club during the mid-season transfer window, Players must have played a minimum of seven (7) Reserve Grade Matches for their new Club, while still meeting the requirements as per Section 3 Article 4.3 b) i).
 - ii) Except in the case of goalkeepers, a Club is not permitted to list a Player on more than two (2) Team sheets on any Match Day.

4.4 For NPL Girls (U17, U15 and U14):

- a) Provided they are age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1 and Players have played a minimum of eleven (11) Matches in a specific age grade across the Premiership season, they are permitted to play in the specified age grade or higher Championship series for the Club with which they are registered.
 - i) If a Player has transferred to a different Club during the mid-season transfer window, Players must have played a minimum of seven (7) Matches in the specified age grade for their new Club, but still meet the requirements as per Section 3, Article 4.4 a).
- b) Should a Player be age eligible as prescribed under Section 3 Article 1.1 for an age grade lower than the age grade in which they qualify for in the Championship series, they are not permitted to play in the lower age grade.
- c) Except in the case of goalkeepers, a Club is not permitted to list a Player on more than two (2) Team sheets on any Match Day.

5 RELATIVE AGE EFFECT (RAE)

A Relative Age Effect uses the Biological Maturation principle which allows for Players that are classified as later developers to offset any physical disadvantage in relation to Players of typical or early maturation by playing down an age group.

- 5.1 RAE will apply to the following age grades for the 2022 NPL and CPL season;
 - a) NPL Boys and CPL Boys – U13, U14 and U16.
 - b) NPL Girls – U14 and U15.
- 5.2 CF will continue to provide late physical developers with advanced technical ability the opportunity to apply for an RAE exemption in 2022. RAE exemptions will be approved on a case-by-case basis and will be the exception rather than the rule.
- 5.3 RAE candidate Players must be born within the last three (3) months of the year (October – December) and have height and weight results below the 50th percentile as listed in the following table:

| 50 th Percentiles | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Age Grade | Female | | Male | |
| | Height (cm) | Weight (kg) | Height (cm) | Weight (kg) |
| U13 | N/A | | 157 | 46 |
| U14 | 161 | 50 | 164 | 52 |
| U15 | 162 | 52 | N/A | |
| U16 | N/A | | 174 | 62 |
| U17 | N/A | | N/A | |

- 5.4 In order to submit an RAE request for any Player:
 - a) The Player must have trialled and first be considered for their birth year age group.
 - b) NPL Boys, CPL Boys and NPL Girls Technical Directors must show that the Player would be negatively affected by playing in their own NPL Boys, CPL Boys or NPL Girls age grade due to developmental obstacles attributable to their month of birth and/or their height/weight.

- i) The candidates date of birth, height and weight must be signed off by a medical professional.
- c) The Player must show advanced technical ability.
 - i) Players who do not demonstrate the advanced technical ability mentioned in Section 3 Article 5.4 c) should be encouraged to develop as a Player in their relevant age grade in JL Open or JL Girls.
- 5.5 Once a Club has submitted an [RAE Request Form](#) for a Player (please note that it must be submitted by the Club's Technical Director), it will be reviewed against the criteria outlined in Section 3 Articles 5.3 and 5.4, and if it meets this criterion, it will be subject to final approval by the CF Technical Director or their nominee.
- 5.6 Clubs are limited to the number of RAE Players in accordance with the below quota:
 - a) NPL Boys and CPL Boys – maximum of three (3) approved RAE Players per Club, with a maximum of one (1) approved RAE Player in each of the U13, U14 and U16 age grades.
 - b) NPL Girls – maximum of three (3) approved RAE Players per Club, with a maximum of one (1) approved RAE Player in each of the U14 and U15 age grades.
- 5.7 Any RAE approved Players who are found to have played in five (5) or more of their Club's Matches from Rounds 1 – 10, in their actual age grade, during the 2022 season, will have their RAE status revoked.
- 5.8 Each approved RAE Player will be subject to mid-season review between rounds 10 – 12, this review must be submitted by the Club Technical Director. Failure to submit this mid-season assessment will result in the RAE status of the player being revoked.
 - a) Once the club has submitted the mid-season review form for the player, it will be reviewed against the height and weight criteria outlined in section 5.4 (b)
 - b) If the player does not meet the criterion as mentioned in section 5.4 (b) the individuals RAE will be revoked. Clubs will need to put provisions in place to accommodate movement with maximum squad numbers.
- 5.9 CF will advise all Clubs when RAE's have been approved, these will be deidentified and will only have the age grade that the players are playing in as well as the club.

SECTION 4: REGISTRATION

1 PLAYER STATUS

- 1.1 All Players in NPL competitions must be registered as Amateur Players.
- 1.2 Clubs are required to ensure each Player has registered on the National Registration System as an Amateur.

2 AMATEUR OR PROFESSIONAL PLAYER

- 2.1 This section is not applicable for the 2022 season.

3 REACQUISITION OF AMATEUR STATUS

- 3.1 A Player registered as a Professional Player in another competition cannot re-register as an Amateur Player until at least thirty (30) days after their last Match as a Professional Player.
- 3.2 A Player registered to a Standard Player Contract with an A-League Club in the 2021/2022 season may re-register as an Amateur Player immediately after his or her last Match as a Professional Player on the condition, that the playing contract with their associated Club has ended. This is subject to the Club submitting a written request to CF and CF approving that request in its absolute discretion.

4 REGISTRATION PERIODS

- 4.1 Any Player Registration or Loan to a Club may only occur within the registration periods. CF Registration periods for the 2022 season will be as follows:

| Period | League | Open | Close |
|-------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| Pre-season | NPL Men's | 13 December 2021 | 28 March 2022 |
| | CPL Men's | 13 December 2021 | 28 March 2022 |
| | NPL Women's | 13 December 2021 | 28 March 2022 |
| | NPL Boys | 13 December 2021 | 28 March 2022 |
| | CPL Boys | 13 December 2021 | 28 March 2022 |
| | NPL Girls | 13 December 2021 | 28 March 2022 |
| | Mid-season | NPL Men's | 1 June 2022 |
| CPL Men's | | 1 June 2022 | 30 June 2022 |
| NPL Women's | | 1 June 2022 | 30 June 2022 |
| NPL Boys | | 1 June 2022 | 30 June 2022 |
| CPL Boys | | 1 June 2022 | 30 June 2022 |
| | | | |

| Period | League | Open | Close |
|--------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| | NPL Girls | 1 June 2022 | 30 June 2022 |

5 REGISTRATIONS OUTSIDE REGISTRATION PERIODS

- 5.1 An exemption may be provided by CF to a Club to register a Player outside of the registration period.
- 5.2 CF may approve an exemption for a Player to register outside of the registration periods if:
- That Player is/was a A-Leagues Player during the 2021/22 season as defined in the A-Leagues Contract Regulations;
 - That Player is a goalkeeper and CF has been satisfied that the Club has a justifiable reason for the request and has provided appropriate evidence;
 - That Player is returning from a major injury and CF has been satisfied that the Club has provided appropriate evidence;
 - At the commencement of the season, a Team has registered less than fourteen (14) Players, and has contacted the CF Competitions team via email prior to the pre-season registration period closing to advise; or
 - During the season, a Team's numbers are reduced as a result of season ending injuries to less than fourteen (14) Players, and the Club has provided appropriate evidence.
- 5.3 Any Club seeking an exemption must submit their request via the [Player Exemption Request Form](#)
- CF may request further documentation from the Player's current or previous Club for a Player exemption request to proceed.
 - Players will only be granted a special exemption in accordance with Section 4 Article 5.2 under the following circumstances:
 - Prior to the mid-season transfer period, a Player has not been registered to any other Team within the NPL or CPL during the 2022 Season;
 - The Player is registered and active in the National Registration System before 30 June 2022;
 - CF is satisfied in its absolute discretion that exceptional circumstances exist, including if a Player terminated their Professional Player Contract for just cause.
- 5.4 CF shall determine applications made pursuant to Section 4 Article 5 in its sole discretion. Any determination made by CF is final and not subject to appeal.
- 5.5 CF will inform other Clubs in the relevant competition of any decision to allow a registration outside the registration window.

6 REGISTRATION PROCESSES

- 6.1 Players:
- A Player may only be registered with one (1) Club in each form of the game (i.e. eleven-a-side football) at any one time, in accordance with the NRSTR.
 - A Player registered with CF can play only for the Club nominated by that Player unless the

Player is playing:

- i) For a Representative team;
 - ii) For an A-Leagues Club as a replacement Player in accordance with A-Leagues Competition Regulations;
 - iii) For a Futsal Club for which the Player is also registered;
 - iv) For a school team that is not a Club;
 - v) In a benefit, testimonial or charity Match, if that Player has written permissions from their Club, CF or FA, as required;
 - vi) In a trial Match, provided the Player has their current Club's written permission and plays no more than two (2) trial Matches or such other number of Matches specified in these Regulations; or
 - vii) Any other exceptional circumstances approved by CF or FA in its absolute discretion.
- c) A Player can register for no more than three (3) Clubs in Australia and may only play Matches for two (2) of those Clubs during that season, in each form of the game.
- d) Amateur Players:
- i) All Amateur Players must be registered via the National Registration System.
 - ii) The Player must register via the National Registration System and the Club shall then approve that Player's registration.
 - iii) The registration of an Amateur Player with a Club is effective from the date the individual is made active by the Club.
 - iv) If a Player is registering to any Club for the first time, that Player must provide the Club with evidence of name and age, by producing an original birth certificate, passport, driver's licence or similar form of identification. It is the Club's responsibility to ensure this process is adhered to, including that the Player is eligible to play in the age grade to which they have been registered.
- e) Professional Players:
- i) This section is not applicable for the 2022 season.
- f) International Players:
- i) An International Transfer Certificate (ITC) is required for all Players over the age of 10 who wish to register with a Club:
 - A. Who were last registered with a Club outside of Australia (current or otherwise); and
 - B. Where CF is satisfied that an ITC should be requested for the Player, based on the standard of Club the Player intends to register with or the level of competition.
 - ii) For the avoidance of doubt, Section 4 Article 6 f) i), applies to:
 - A. Australian and non-Australian citizens; and
 - B. Amateur Players.
 - iii) An ITC is requested by the Player at the time of registration in the National Registration System.

- iv) ITC for minors:
 - A. This process applies to any minor Player, being a Player aged 10 to 18 years seeking to register to play football in Australia at any level, who is:
 - 1. A foreign national (including refugees) seeking to register in Australia, irrespective of whether they were registered to play football in their previous country or not.
 - 2. An Australian minor who is returning to Australia after having played abroad.
 - 3. A minor born in a country other than Australia who is registering to play football for the first time.
 - B. There are six application forms that address the specific requirements of each Minor ITC Application type. These forms must be fully completed and returned to CF, together with all necessary documents supporting the application. For more information on the application forms and relevant documentation, please refer to the [“2022 Guide to International Transfer Certificates”](#).
- v) ITC for Amateur Adults:
 - A. A scanned copy of the Player’s passport must be submitted to CF in order for the ITC to be requested.
 - B. If an ITC has not been received within seven (7) days after it was requested by FA, CF may, in its complete discretion, seek a provisional ITC from FA, and clearance may only be issued by FA to CF.
- vi) ITC for Professional Adults:
 - A. This section is not applicable for the 2022 season.
- g) Dual registration:
 - i) Should a Club wish to submit a request for dual registration, they are to contact CF, who will provide guidance on the process and the lodgement of the application to FA.
 - ii) No Player is permitted to dual register unless prior approval has been issued by FA and CF.

6.2 Club and Team Officials:

- a) All Club and Team Officials (including but not limited to coaches, managers, physiotherapists and Club committee members) are required to register via the National Registration System.
- b) The Club and Team Officials must register via the National Registration System and the Club shall then approve that individual’s registration.
- c) All Club and Team Officials must ensure they meet the relevant child protection requirements prior to the season starting. In the ACT, the relevant requirement is the [Working with Vulnerable People \(WWVP\) Registration](#). In NSW, the relevant requirement is the [Working with Children Check](#).

7 SUBMISSION OF REGISTRATIONS

- 7.1 All registrations must be submitted via the National Registration System, and a passport style photo (head and shoulders ONLY) is to be uploaded into the Player, Club Official or Team

Official's profile within the communicated registration periods.

- 7.2 All Clubs must submit registrations for all Players, Club Officials or Team Officials as listed in these Regulations.
- 7.3 All registrations during advertised registration dates must be submitted to CF no later than 11:59pm on the Wednesday prior to the weekend's Matches, in order to be eligible for that weekend.
- 7.4 Registrations must be lodged by no later than 11.59pm of the specified closing date of each registration period.

8 PRIORITY OF REGISTRATION

- 8.1 In the event of a Player signing registration for more than one (1) Club, priority of registration will be accorded to the Club who earliest in time, all things being equal, obtained the Player's signature to a valid registration form.
- 8.2 If a Player has self-registered through the National Registration System, the first registration recorded in that system will be granted priority.
- 8.3 Any Player found to have wilfully registered or signed registration forms for more than one (1) Club, or a Club found to have knowingly induced a Player to register or sign a registration form with that Club, in the knowledge that the Player has previously registered or signed a registration form with another Club, may be sanctioned in accordance with the DDR.

9 PLAYER REGISTRATION IN THE CASE OF AMALGAMATION OF CLUBS

- 9.1 Where an amalgamation or merger takes place between two Clubs, the following will apply to registered Players of such Clubs:
 - a) Professional Player registrations will be carried over to the new Club.
 - b) Amateur Player registrations will automatically cease and the Club will be required to re-register Amateur Players within the applicable squad maximums.
 - c) Should an amalgamation occur post the registration period, CF will decide on a solution, in its absolute discretion, to be in the best interests of the competition.
 - d) All disciplinary cautions incurred by Players will be carried forward if Players move to another Club.
 - e) All suspensions incurred by Players will be carried forward if Players move to another Club.

10 PLAYER REGISTRATION IN THE CASE OF TEAMS WITHDRAWING FROM COMPETITION

- 10.1 When a Club is declared defunct by CF or is expelled from membership of or affiliation to CF, the following will apply to registered Players of such Clubs:
 - a) As from the date of the Club being declared defunct or expelled, the Professional Players of any such Club will be deemed to be registered with CF;
 - b) CF will have the same rights in respect of the transfer of registration of all such Professional Players as such Clubs had until the date of the Club being declared defunct or expelled; and

- c) CF will determine the compensation (transfer fee) applicable for the transfer of such registration to the Club which said Professional Player wishes to transfer. The fee will be set in accordance with the NRR and where relevant these Regulations.

10.2 The transfer fee in relation to such transfers must be paid to CF and will, in order of priority, be distributed in the following manner:

- a) To pay any outstanding monies owed to CF by the defunct or expelled Club;
- b) To pay any outstanding monies owed to the Players of the defunct or expelled Club;
- c) To pay any monies outstanding to any member Club or affiliated Club.

11 PLAYER DEREGISTRATION

11.1 Amateur:

- a) Unless otherwise stated in these Regulations, an Amateur Player is free to move to another Club during the Registration Period, in accordance with Section 4 Article 4.
- b) An Amateur Player may be deregistered by applying to deregister via the National Registration System, which will notify the Club of the Player's intention to deregister.
- c) If a Club no longer wants an Amateur Player to play for their Club, that Club must apply to deregister that Player via the National Registration System, which will notify the Player of the Club's intention to deregister the Player.
- d) The deregistration is effective:
 - i) When the other party (i.e. Club or Player as the case may be) has confirmed the cancellation via the National Registration System, and CF has processed the cancellation via the National Registration System; or
 - ii) After seven (7) days from the date the Player or Club requested the deregistration via the National Registration System, CF can process the cancellation via the National Registration System unless a grievance has been initiated with CF in accordance with DDR, then the Amateur Player will not be deregistered until the processes promulgated by the DDR have been exhausted or terminated.

11.2 Professional:

- a) This section is not applicable for the 2022 season.

12 PROFESSIONAL PLAYER TRANSFER, COMPENSATION & DISPUTES

12.1 This section is not applicable for the 2022 season.

13 LOAN PLAYERS

13.1 This section is not applicable for the 2022 season.

14 VISA PLAYERS

14.1 A visa Player is defined as a Player who does not have current Australian Citizenship or approved Australian Permanent Residency.

14.2 If a Club wants to register a visa Player as a Professional, that Club must ensure it meets all the legal requirements pertaining to the obtaining and maintaining of a valid visa or work permit for that visa Player, including where applicable, a letter of endorsement from FA, the payment

of any minimum salary and any sponsorship requirements.

14.3 The maximum number of visa Players are as defined in the Player Points System (Section 4 Article 17), but for clarity, each NPL Club will be permitted to:

- a) Register two (2) visa Players into their First Grade Player Roster.
 - i) A Club's First Grade Player Roster is permitted to have a maximum of 23 Players in accordance with Section 4 Article 17.
- b) List two (2) visa Players per Match on their First Grade Team sheet.

15 GUEST PLAYERS

15.1 This section is not applicable for the 2022 season.

16 PLAYER ROSTERS

16.1 For the 2022 season, the following are the maximum number of Players for each League and age grade:

| League | Age Grade | Squad Total | Maximum Professional Players |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| NPL Men's & CPL Men's | First Grade & U23 combined | 40 | 0 |
| NPL Women's | First Grade & Reserve Grade combined | 40 | 0 |
| NPL Girls | U17 | 16 | 0 |
| | U15 | 16 | 0 |
| | U14 | 18 | 0 |
| NPL Boys & CPL Boys | U18 | 16 | 0 |
| | U16 | 16 | 0 |
| | U14 | 16 | 0 |
| | U13 | 18 | 0 |

16.2 All Clubs are required to maintain a Player roster for each Team.

16.3 The Player roster must list all currently registered Players, which must be updated and sent to CF any time changes occur.

17 PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM (PPS)

17.1 PPS is recommended for NPLM in 2022 and will be mandatory in 2023

17.2 Clubs participating in FA Competitions (i.e. FFA Cup Round of 32 and NPL Finals Series) are required to follow the PPS as outlined by FA.

18 COACHING REQUIREMENTS

18.1 Coaching requirements for 2022 are detailed in Schedule 6 of the Regulations.

SECTION 5: MATCH DAY

1 MATCH BALLS

- 1.1 The home Team (that being the first Team listed on the draw) will supply three (3) first class footballs of the same brand, colour and weight for all Premiership Matches. At the conclusion of the game, the Match balls will be returned to the relevant Team.
- 1.2 Clubs are to ensure that Match balls provided are of a suitable quality and any Match balls damaged during a Match are to be replaced by the Club who provided the damaged Match ball.
- 1.3 Match balls are to be provided to the Match Officials no later than thirty (30) minutes before kick off.
- 1.4 Failure to supply Match balls will result in a fine in accordance with Schedule 4.
- 1.5 CF will supply footballs for all Championship Matches.
- 1.6 CF may from time to time stipulate a particular make of football to be used in a particular League or age grade.
- 1.7 CF will supply an allocation of Match balls to each Club prior to the commencement of the season. Should a Club not have sufficient Match balls to supply in accordance with Section 5 Article 1, they will be required to purchase additional Match balls of the same make.
- 1.8 The following sizes of footballs are applicable to the different Leagues / age grades:

| Age Grade | Size |
|---------------|------|
| U13 | 4 |
| U14 and older | 5 |

2 IDENTIFICATION

- 2.1 Players:
 - a) Player identification sheets are to be made available to the opposing Team manager for perusal prior to the commencement of the Match.
 - b) Players for any Team that are not included on the Player identification sheets and/or match day system are not permitted to take the field of play.
 - c) Any Team who cannot produce at least seven (7) Players that appear on the Player identification sheets for any Match will not have enough eligible Players to commence the Match and will be deemed to have forfeited the Match.
 - i) The Referee is to report the reason for the forfeit in an incident report and submit it to CF.
 - d) Opposing Team managers are responsible for sighting the Player identification sheets and/or Match Day system prior to the Match. Should a Team suspect the opposition of replacing any Player between the initial identification sheet check and the commencement of either the first or second half, the following procedure must be followed:
 - i) The manager of the Team suspecting a breach informs the manager of the opposing Team that they wish to check the identity of the specific Player/s;

- ii) The Team managers of both Teams, along with the Referee and 4th Official (should a 4th Official be appointed) check the identity of the Player/s in question against the Player identification sheet and the Team sheet online, on the field of play before the Player/s leaves the field of play at either the half time interval or conclusion of the Match;
 - iii) Should it be determined that the Team has fielded an ineligible Player, CF is to be contacted immediately for further guidance to determine if the Match is to continue or if it will be immediately forfeited in favour of the Team that did not breach the regulation;
 - iv) If CF is unable to be contacted, the Match should proceed, and the Match Officials are to submit incident reports post-Match through the incident report procedure;
 - v) Should it be determined that both Teams fielded an ineligible Player, CF will determine whether the Match is to be replayed, void and if any sanction should be imposed on the Clubs, Club Officials and / or Players involved;
 - vi) Should any Team Official or Player refuse to follow the above procedure, the Match will immediately be forfeited to the opposing Team to the Official or Player that has refused to cooperate;
 - vii) In all cases the Referee will report the incident to CF.
- e) Any Club, Team Official and / or Player that is found to have breached this Article may be sanctioned pursuant to the DDR.
 - f) Failure of Teams to produce Player identity sheets on request will result in a fine in accordance with Schedule 4.

2.2 Team Officials:

- a) All registered coaches and Team Officials will be issued identification passes.
- b) Only registered coaches and Team Officials in receipt of their official CF identification pass will be permitted entry into the technical areas (Team benches), field of play, dressing rooms and tunnel in any approved CF Match.
- c) Only the official CF identification pass embossed with the correct year of competition will be eligible for use in that season.
- d) From the time of entry to the ground, coaches and Team Officials are required to have their official CF identification pass clearly displayed on a lanyard on the outside of their clothing.
- e) Prior to kick-off, the 4th Official, or should a 4th Official not be appointed, the Referee, is required to check the technical area of both Teams and request any non-playing individual without an official CF identification pass to leave the technical area. Should the individual refuse, the Match will immediately be forfeited to the Team that has not breached the Regulation. Any individual that causes a forfeiture in this regard may be subject to further sanctions pursuant to as per the DDR.
- f) Failure to comply with any part of this Article will result in a fine in accordance with Schedule 4.

3 WARMING UP

- 3.1 The home Club, in conjunction with the Referee and/or CF Representative, where applicable, may determine if warm-up on the pitch is to be allowed as well as the location of the warm-up. This decision must consider time constraints, the weather and ensure such action does not cause detrimental impact to the quality of the playing surface for the Match.
- 3.2 During play, a maximum of five (5) Players from each Team may warm up at the same time, assisted by two (2) Team Officials, without a ball (except for the goalkeeper), in the identified warm-up area within the pitch perimeter fence.
- 3.3 The identified warm-up area is located behind the goal line nearest to the Team's own technical area. Should this space be deemed not suitable at a particular ground by the Referee, the secondary identified warm-up area is located along the touch line beside the Team's technical area, provided the substitutes are wearing bibs that are clearly contrasting, in accordance with Section 5 Article 4.5.

4 TECHNICAL AREA

- 4.1 For Matches, in all competitions, the home Club must clearly mark out the technical area as stipulated in the IFAB Laws of the Game.
- 4.2 Seating will be supplied and placed in position by the home Club in sufficient quantity to seat nine (9) people from each Team.
- 4.3 Only currently registered and eligible Players, Coaches and Team Officials are allowed in the technical area during Matches. For clarity, a Player or Team Official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the technical area.
- 4.4 All Team Officials in the technical area must wear their identification card at all times.
- 4.5 All Players in the technical area must wear a bib that contrasts with the colours worn by Players of both Teams, Match Officials and the bibs of the opposing Team.
- 4.6 All Team Officials in the technical area must wear clothing that contrasts with the kit of the Players and Match Officials on the pitch. Should their clothing clash, they are required to wear a bib that does not clash with the colours of the Players and Match Officials.
- 4.7 Registered Team Officials must be listed on the Team Official List specific to the Match they are in the Technical Area for.
- 4.8 For the Technical Area:
 - a) A maximum of five (5) substitutes who are listed as substitutes on the Team sheet for that Match are permitted.
 - b) A maximum of four (4) Team Officials (such as the coach, assistant coach, Team manager, physiotherapist), who are listed on the Team Officials list for that Match are permitted.
 - c) Seating shall be supplied by the home Team for nine (9) persons.
 - d) All persons within the technical area must remain seated as per the IFAB Laws of the Game, except in special circumstances with the Match Official's permission.
- 4.9 As per Section 5 Article 3.2, substitutes are permitted to leave the Technical Area for the purposes of warming up.

4.10 Occupants of the technical area are subject to the authority of the Referee at all times.

5 SUBSTITUTION AND INTERCHANGE

5.1 Substitution:

- a) The procedure for substitution is in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game. Substitutes can only enter the field of play during a stoppage in play, at the halfway line, after the Player being replaced has left and after receiving a signal from the Referee.
- b) Any substitute not named on the Team sheet prior to the Match may not take part in the Match.
- c) For First Grade of the NPL Men's and CPL Men's each Team may, at its discretion, substitute five (5) Players across three (3) opportunities during a Match, including extra time.
 - i) Substitutions made at half time do not count towards the three (3) substitution opportunities.
- d) For U23's of the NPL Men's and CPL Men's each Team may, at its discretion, substitute five (5) Players across three (3) opportunities during a Match, including extra time.
- e) For First Grade and Reserve Grade of the NPL Women's each Team may, at its discretion, substitute five (5) Players across three (3) opportunities during a Match, including extra time.
- f) Once a Player is substituted, they cannot return to the field of play to participate in the Match.
- g) Substitute Players cannot be used to replace any Player who has been dismissed from the Match by the Match Official.
- h) Only Players that take the pitch are deemed to have participated in the Match.
 - i) During the Championship series, in the NPL Men's, CPL Men's and NPL Women's First Grade only, should a Match go to extra time, one (1) additional substitution opportunity will be permitted, if Players are available (whether or not the Team has already used the full number of opportunities in accordance with Section 5 Article 5.1 c)).
 - j) During the Championship Series, in the NPL Men's and CPL Men's U23 grade and NPL Women's Reserve grade should a Match go to extra time, one (1) additional substitution opportunity will be permitted (whether or not the Team has already used the full number of permitted substitutes in accordance with Section 5 Article 5.1 d)).
- k) Any Club who makes more substitutions than allowed under Section 5 Article 5 will forfeit the Match, in accordance with Section 2 Article 15, regardless of whether the Match Official permits the substitution during the Match.

5.2 Interchange:

- a) Unlimited interchange applies to NPL Boys, CPL Boys (U18, U16, U14, U13) and NPL Girls (U17, U15, U14) competitions.
- b) The following is the procedure and rules for the unlimited interchange of Players:
 - i) The "interchange zone" will be an area one (1) metre either side of the half-way line.

- ii) An interchange is one which is made when the ball is out of play, and for which the following conditions will be observed:
 - A. The Referee gives permission;
 - B. The Player leaving the field will do so from the touch line, crossing over at the sector called the interchange zone;
 - C. The Referee may request that the Player leaving the field do so by the nearest boundary line rather than the interchange zone. If the Player leaving the field does not comply the Referee will then caution the Player;
 - D. The Player entering the field will also do so from the interchange zone, but not until the Player leaving the field has passed completely over the touch line;
 - E. A named substitute will be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the Match Official whether called upon to play or not; and
 - F. The interchange is completed when the Player who was off the field, enters the field.
- iii) The number of interchanges made during a Match is unlimited. A Player who has been replaced may return to the field for another Player.
- iv) If during an interchange, an interchange Player enters the field before the replaced Player has completely left it, the Match Official will ensure the replaced Player leaves the field, caution the interchange Player and then restart the Match.
- v) If during an interchange, an interchange Player enters the field from a place other than the interchange zone, the Referee will caution the offending Player.
- vi) The interchanging of Players will cease at the completion of normal and extra time.
- vii) With the exception of an interchange for a goalkeeper who is unable to continue, only Players who are on the field of play or are temporarily off the field of play (e.g. injury or adjusting equipment) at the end of the Match are eligible to take penalty kicks.
- viii) A goalkeeper who is unable to continue during the penalty kicks is able to be replaced.
- c) Interchange Players cannot be used to replace any Player who has been dismissed from the Match by the Referee.
- d) A Referee may decline the interchange of Players in the last ten (10) minutes of the Match, if they deem that a Club is contravening the spirit of the game by deliberately delaying play.
- e) Any Player listed on the Team sheet is deemed to have participated in the Match.

6 PLAYING STRIPS / CLASH OF COLOURS

6.1 Playing strips:

- a) The playing strips of a Club in CF competitions shall be as nominated by the Club prior to the commencement of the competition and endorsed by CF.
- b) All Teams must nominate two (2) entirely different main and alternate playing strips to avoid any potential colour clashes. Clubs may only play in their nominated Club strips, unless otherwise approved by CF.

- i) No part of the alternate playing strip may be the same as the main playing strip.
- c) CF will predetermine the playing strips to be worn by all Clubs for all Premiership and Championship Matches.

6.2 Clash of colours:

- a) In the event that the Referee deems there to be a clash of colours with the predetermined strip, the away Team is required to change into an alternate strip. Away Clubs may be required to wear a combination of their main and alternate strips to ensure the clash is resolved.
- b) In the case of goalkeeper's colours clashing with either the opponent's field Players, goalkeeper, or the Match Official's kit, the Referee will determine which keeper will change, always keeping in mind the principle that the away Team should change.
- c) In the case of a combination of main and alternate strip colours of both Teams clashing with the Match Officials, the Referee will determine the final colours to be worn by all Players and Match Officials.

7 BALL PERSONS

7.1 Premiership Matches:

- a) Where possible, for all NPL Men's, CPL Men's and NPL Women's First Grade Premiership Matches, it is recommended that the home Club provides eight (8) ball persons.

7.2 Championship Matches:

- a) Where possible, for all NPL Men's, CPL Men's and NPL Women's First Grade semi-finals and preliminary finals, it is recommended that the home Club provides eight (8) ball persons.
- b) For all NPL and CPL Men's (U23 and First Grade) and NPL Women's (Reserve and First Grade) Grand Finals, all Teams must supply four (4) ball persons.

7.3 Ball person requirements:

- a) Ball persons may be 12-15 years of age.
- b) Ball persons are to wear colours (i.e. a bib) that are distinct from those worn by the Players of both Teams and the Match Officials.

7.4 Regulations in Section 5 Article 7 may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Should this happen, CF will communicate any changes as required.

8 PLAYER MASCOTS

8.1 For all NPL and CPL Men's (U23 and First Grade) and NPL Women's (Reserve and First Grade) Grand Finals, all Teams may supply Player mascot in line with Government COVID-19 protocols and restrictions.

8.2 Player mascots are to be 5-11 years of age and to wear the Club's playing strip.

8.3 Where regional Teams qualify for the grand final, they can seek assistance from CF in sourcing Players to act as Player mascots in accordance with Section 5 Article 8.1.

8.4 Regulations in Section 5 Article 8 may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Should this happen, CF will communicate any changes as required.

9 CLUB VESTED OFFICIALS

- 9.1 Club Vested Officials (CVO) are nominated Club representatives who are responsible for maintaining order and responding to spectator misbehaviour at Matches.
- 9.2 Clubs must provide the following minimum number of Club Vested Officials for each Premiership and Championship Match:

| Age Grade | Quantity |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| First Grade | Three (3) per Team |
| Reserve Grade / U23 / U18 / U17 | Two (2) per Team |
| U16 / U15 / U14 / U13 | One (1) per Team |

- a) CF reserves the right to increase the minimum number of CVO that each Team must provide for any Match.
- b) Should a Club be found not to provide the specified number of CVO for a Match, they will incur a fine in accordance with Schedule 4.
- 9.3 The CVO must:
- a) Wear the identifiable numbered vests supplied by CF and be visible at all times.
- b) Work together with the CVO from the opposing Club to deal with any disturbances that may arise, assist with the welfare of the Match Officials and escort dismissed Players from the pitch exclusion zone.
- c) Ensure that the FA Spectator Code of Behaviour is being adhered to by their own Club participants. If a Club participant is not behaving in accordance with this code, the CVO may approach the person/s and remind them of their obligations.
- i) If the matter is unable to be addressed, or the CVO is concerned for their own safety and wellbeing, contact needs to be made with the Match Officials who may take the appropriate action, including stopping the Match until the incident has been dealt with satisfactorily.
- ii) Where intervention from the CVO or Match Officials may escalate a situation, the CVO should contact the Australian Federal Police or NSW Police.
- d) Take responsibility for the Match Officials, from the time the Match Officials arrive at the venue until the time the Match Officials depart the venue.
- i) The CVO must escort the Match Officials to and from the field of play prior to the game, and at both half and full time, unless a Match commissioner or security are appointed to the Match.
- ii) The CVO must make sure unauthorised personnel are kept out of the Match Official's change room.
- e) Must not remain in or around the technical area/s, or inside the pitch perimeter fence, unless directed by the Match Officials.
- 9.4 CVO may report incidents to CF as necessary.

10 MATCH COMMISSIONERS

- 10.1 CF may appoint Match commissioners to scheduled Premiership and Championship Matches.
- 10.2 A Match commissioner is an independent person who is appointed to observe the Match.
- 10.3 The Match commissioner will escort the Match Officials to and from the field of play prior to the game, and at both half and full time, unless security is appointed to the Match.
- 10.4 A Match commissioner is required to submit a report to CF on the Club's compliance with the Regulations and ground compliance.
- 10.5 Should a Match commissioner report non-compliance, the Club may be sanctioned in accordance with the DDR.

11 ELECTRONIC TEAM SHEETS

- 11.1 For all competition matches, Capital Football will use Electronic Team Sheets (ETS).
- 11.2 All ETS for all Matches are to be completed online using the competition management system.
- 11.3 Each team must submit their Player and Team Official selection by 2:00pm on the Friday prior to the scheduled weekend Match, or 2:00pm the day prior to a midweek Match. A failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine as outlined in Schedule 4.
- 11.4 When making their Player selection, Clubs are required to confirm the shirt number of each Player in the competition management system. This information will then appear automatically on the ETS next to the Player's name.
 - a) No Players from the same Team will be permitted to wear the same number on their playing strip.
 - b) All Players must have a shirt number listed on the ETS that corresponds with the number on their shirt.
- 11.5 Both Team are required to double check, that their Player and Team Official selection information in the ETS is correct, and if required make amendments to the information on the ETS at least thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled kick off time.
- 11.6 Each Team is required to review and confirm the opposition Team's Player and Team official selection information in the ETS is correct at least thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled kick off time.
- 11.7 Changes to the ETS will be permitted any time until ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled kick off time, at which time the following shall apply:
 - a) Should a listed Player be removed from the starting line-up, that Player may only be replaced by a Player listed as a substitute on the ETS. The formerly starting Player may then be listed as a substitute. However, no other Player may be added to the ETS to replace any Player.
 - b) Should a listed substitute Player be removed from the ETS, the Team will not be permitted to list another Player on the ETS and the number of available substitutes will be decreased by one (1).
- 11.8 A maximum of sixteen (16) Players per Team are permitted to be listed in the ETS.
- 11.9 A team official from each team is required to review the ETS at the completion of the Match to

confirm the information listed is correct, including;

- a) Half time and full-time scores
- b) Goal scorers are marked against the correct Player.
- c) Disciplinary sanctions listed are marked against the correct Player.

11.10 Regardless of the competition, no Player is permitted to be listed on more than two (2) Team sheets on any Match Day. Goalkeepers are exempt from this rule.

11.11 If a Player who is registered in accordance with these Regulations is not listed on the ETS prior to the Match and then participates in the Match, the following shall apply for U13s, U14s, U15s, U16s, U17s and U18s Matches only;

- a) The Club will be fined as outlined in Schedule 4.
- b) For persistent and repeated offences, CF may take any further action that it deems necessary.

12 PAPER TEAM SHEETS

12.1 The home, or first listed, team will be responsible for printing and providing paper Team sheets and Team official lists in the event that ETS are not available for any reason.

12.2 A team official from each team is required to sign the paper team sheet at the completion of the Match to confirm the information listed is correct, including:

- a) Half time and full time scores
- b) Goal scorers are marked against the correct Player.

12.3 Disciplinary sanctions listed are marked against the correct Player.

12.4 Paper team sheets for all age grades, signed by the respective Team officials, must be emailed to teamsheets@capitalfootball.com.au to arrive no later than 5:00pm Monday following the weekend's Match, or 24 hours following a mid-week Match.

- a) If CF does not receive the Paper Team Sheets as specified in Section 5, Article 12, the team will be fined as outlined in Schedule 4.
- b) If CF does not receive the Paper Team Sheets within seven (7) days of the Match, the team will be deemed to have forfeited those matches, in accordance with Section 2, Article 15.
- c) Where a Paper team sheet is not provided to CF in accordance with Section 5, Article 12, the club is deemed to have forfeited the Match in accordance with Section 2, Article 15.

12.5 Each team is required to submit their own paper Team Officials list via email to teamsheets@capitalfootball.com.au to arrive no later than 5:00pm Monday following the weekend's Match, or 24 hours following a mid-week Match. If CF does not receive the paper Team officials list as specified above, the Team will be fined as outlined in Schedule 4.

13 RESULT OF THE MATCH

13.1 The Referee will complete the ETS at the conclusion of the Match. A Team Official from each team is then required to check the information listed on the ETS and enter the full-time score on the ETS signifying that the result of the match is correct.

13.2 In the event that the Referee is unable to complete the ETS immediately after the match due

to internet connectivity issues, the Referee must complete the ETS as soon as possible no later than 10:00pm on the day of the Match was played.

- 13.3 The home, or first listed, team will be responsible for completing the ETS at the conclusion of the match in the event that a person has been appointed to act as the Referee for the match in the absence of the registered Referee.
- 13.4 If the Team Officials disagrees with any details on the ETS (either their own or their opposition's), they must;
- a) Check with the Referee to confirm if an error was made in inputting the information onto the ETS.
 - b) If unable to be resolved with the Match Officials, the team official must submit a 'Raise a Dispute' request via the ETS.
- 13.5 Only the following information on a ETS can be disputed in accordance with Section 5, Article 13.3:
- a) Goal scorers.
 - b) Substitutions
 - c) Yellow cards (only reference to who the yellow card was issued to).
 - d) Temporary dismissal (only in reference to who the temporary dismissal was issued to).
 - e) Red card (only in reference to who the red card was issued to).
 - f) Half-time/full time score.
 - g) Player Eligibility
- 13.6 Team sheet disputes will only be investigated by CF in the following circumstances:
- a) The team sheet and the Club Incident Report are submitted in accordance with the timelines specified in Section 5, Article 11, Section 5, Article 12 and Section 5, Article 13 of these Regulations; and
 - b) The following evidence is submitted by the Club in support of its request for an investigation:
 - i) Video and/or photographic evidence;
 - ii) Statutory declaration; and
 - iii) Any other information accepted from the Club at the discretion of CF
- 13.7 CF reserves the right to amend the ETS and it will only be amended if CF is satisfied that there was no malice or intent to gain an advantage.
- 13.8 CF's decision on a ETS dispute is final and not appealable

14 CAUTIONS, EXPULSIONS AND TEMPORARY DISMISSALS

- 14.1 Clubs will receive the following automatic fines (as outlined in Schedule 4):
- a) When five (5) or more Players or Team Officials from the same Team receive a caution, temporary dismissal or send off in the same Match.
 - b) When three (3) or more Players or Team Officials from the same Team are sent off in the same Match.
- 14.2 For the avoidance of doubt, these fines are payable in addition to any sanctions imposed

against Clubs or their Players pursuant to the DDR.

15 GROUND, FACILITIES AND PITCH REQUIREMENTS

15.1 It is the responsibility of all Clubs to:

- a) Provide a venue that complies with the minimum requirements for CF competitions as prescribed and promulgated by CF from time to time.
- b) Provide a safe environment for Players, Match Officials, Club Officials and spectators.
- c) Ensure that the facilities and equipment are clean and fit for purpose.
- d) Ensure that all applicable State/Territory government statutory and other requirements have been met in respect of their facilities, including but not limited to:
 - i) Legitimate approved use of the facility by the owner or land manager.
 - ii) Requirements under the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Food Act 1984 and Building Act 1993.
 - iii) Have an up to date liquor licence (RSA) and food handling certificates.

15.2 All Clubs will be required to nominate to CF a suitable ground/s to be used by their NPL and CPL Teams for the season. All grounds are subject to approval by CF.

- a) Should any ground be deemed unacceptable for use for any reason during a season, CF reserves the right to set the most appropriate course of action to conclude the season, including but not limited to rescheduling Matches to the “away Club” venue, setting Matches to a neutral venue, or forfeiting the Matches against the home Club.
- b) In all instances covered by Section 5 Article 15.2, any costs incurred in the rescheduling of Matches will be the responsibility of the original home Club.
- c) Unavailability of any ground due to neglect, non-payment of accounts or any other reason for which the home Club is responsible will result in a forfeit against the home Club.

15.3 Ground Set Up:

- a) Line markings must be clear, accurate and within the dimensions specified below:
 - i) For First Grade, Reserve Grade and U23's Matches, a minimum length of 100 metres and a minimum width of 60 metres is required.
 - ii) For U13, U14, U15, U16, U17 and U18 Matches, a minimum length of 90 metres and a minimum width of 45 metres is required.
- b) In all Matches sanctioned by CF, the home Club shall dress and undress the ground and ensure adequate line-marking, the nets are attached to the goals and the ground behind the goal and that corner flags are in place. All equipment needs to remain in place for the day.
- c) A home Club whose Match is postponed or abandoned due to failing to have the ground line marked or dressed appropriately will forfeit the Match.

15.4 Goals:

- a) All football goals that are installed as a permanent structure on a football pitch must be properly secured, installed at the regulation width and height as per the IFAB Laws of the Game and should have no sharp edges protruding that may cause injury.

15.5 If a Club uses portable goals for competition, it must ensure that the goals conform to the current Standards Australia Handbook "[Portable Football Goalposts – Manufacture, use and storage](#)". The manufacturer of portable goals should provide the Club with a certificate of conformity.

15.6 Property damage and ground cleanliness:

- a) Any Club found guilty of causing damage to property at any ground shall be required to pay the total cost of repairing such damage or the total cost of replacement of such property and shall be subject to other such penalties and/or sanctions as CF sees fit.
- b) Home Clubs or other such Clubs designated by CF must collect litter and leave grounds, spectator areas, dressing rooms, toilets and pavilions in a satisfactory condition and empty all bins into the supplied hopper, or they shall pay cleaning costs and any further applicable sanction.

16 SMOKING AND DRINKING OF ALCOHOL AT VENUES

16.1 Smoking:

- a) Participants and spectators must adhere to the smoking guidelines for individual venues where they exist.
- b) Alternatively, it is prohibited for anyone to smoke within 10 metres of the field of play, change rooms, spectator amenities and canteen facilities.

16.2 Drinking:

- a) The following conditions will apply to Clubs seeking permission to sell alcoholic beverages at fixtures under the auspices of CF:
 - i) The Club must obtain a license as required under the Liquor Licensing Act to sell alcohol, abide by those conditions as set out in the Liquor Licensing Act and supply to CF a copy of their license.
 - ii) The point of sale must be separate to other food or beverage and in an area in which minors are restricted.
 - iii) Consumption must be restricted to an area that is not in the vicinity of the Player's race or Team benches.
 - iv) Under no circumstances must alcohol be served to people who are intoxicated.
 - v) Clubs are not permitted to sell any drinks (including alcohol) in glass containers.
 - vi) No Club is entitled to sell alcohol or to allow it to be consumed at their ground without the consent, in writing, of CF.
 - vii) The sale, provision of, or consumption of alcohol is not permitted during any U13's, U14's, U15's, U16's, U17's or U18's Matches under the control of CF.
 - viii) No Club may permit the sale or consumption of alcohol at their ground where the conditions listed above have not been met in their entirety.
 - ix) Clubs are obligated to adhere to all items above regardless of any conflicting allowance granted within the liquor license.
- b) Participants and spectators must adhere to any alcohol guidelines for individual venues where they exist.

16.3 Should any person not adhere to any part of Section 5 Article 16 of these Regulations, both the individual, and if the person is a Club Official, that person's Club, may be fined in accordance with Schedule 4 of these Regulations and face disciplinary action under the DDR.

17 TICKETING

17.1 Ticketed Leagues:

- a) Tickets may only be sold for attendance at the following Leagues and grades:
 - i) First Grade and U23 of the NPL Men's.
 - ii) First Grade and U23 of the CPL Men's.
 - iii) First Grade and Reserve Grade of the NPL Women's.
 - iv) Federation Cup Finals.
 - v) FFA Cup Preliminary Rounds.

17.2 Ticket operations:

- a) Where a Match is held directly before a ticketed Match, ticket sales are permitted to commence at half time in the Match prior.
- b) Where no Match is held directly before a ticketed Match, ticket sales are permitted to commence from two (2) hours before the scheduled kick off time.

17.3 Ticket prices:

- a) Following are the maximum ticket prices that Clubs may charge for entry to Matches:

| League | Adult | Student / Concession* |
|-------------|---------|-----------------------|
| NPL Men's | \$10.00 | \$5.00 |
| CPL Men's | \$10.00 | \$5.00 |
| NPL Women's | \$10.00 | \$5.00 |

** Includes students / concessions / pensioners / defence – relevant identification must be shown*

- b) Attendance for all children under the age of 14 will be free.
- c) Players, Team Officials and Match Officials participating in the Match in which their Team is competing will be afforded complimentary entry.
- d) In all cases where the costs of running the Matches are being met by CF, all gate takings shall be retained by CF.

17.4 Ticket refunds:

- a) Section 5 Article 17.4 is applicable to all CF competition Matches where entry fees are charged.
- b) Clubs that charge entry fees must issue a ticket to a paying customer when the exchange of money is made.
- c) Gate attendants or security staff whose role it is to collect the admission ticket must ensure that the ticket is torn in half and given back to the customer at the point of entry as proof of purchase.
- d) Customers that present an authentic CF Media Pass or who are aged 14 years or younger will be granted free entry and may not be issued an admission ticket.

- e) It is the customer's responsibility to ensure that they retain proof of purchase. This note is to be displayed at the ticket box at all venues where entry fees are charged.
- f) Paying customers will be entitled to a full refund on the day of the game from the Club charging the entry fees provided the main fixture has been called off prior to the conclusion of the first half of the Match for reasons of light failure or unsuitable ground conditions.
- g) To be eligible to receive a full refund on the day of the game, the paying customer must present to the Club charging the entry fees the admission ticket (or part thereof) as proof of purchase.
- h) If the last Match of the day is abandoned after the conclusion of the first half, then no refund will be given.
- i) Entry fees must not exceed the fee structure set out in Section 5 Article 17.3.

18 SECURITY / POLICE

- 18.1 The home Club is responsible for providing appropriate arrangements to ensure the orderly behaviour of spectators and provide for the protection of Match Officials, Players and other officials at CF fixtures.
- 18.2 Each CF affiliated Club is required to provide the mandatory CVO complement as per Section 5 Article 8 of these Regulations.
- 18.3 If directed by CF, or where the Club believes the fixture requires such measures, security and/or police may be required.
- 18.4 Where a report is made to CF about spectator misbehaviour having a material effect on the result of a Match and CF validates the report, CF may declare the Match result void and order the Match to be replayed on such ground, date and conditions as CF determines. Additionally, CF can deduct a maximum of up to three (3) points from the offending Club and/or impose such other sanctions as CF determines.
- 18.5 In the event of a Match being abandoned due to field invasion, CF shall have the power to have the Match replayed, allow the result to stand, award a forfeit or declare the Match a no result for either Team. In determining sanctions, CF will consider any reports submitted by the Match Officials or participating Clubs, with reports to be lodged with CF no later than 5:00pm of the second working day following the date of the Match.

19 MEDICAL

- 19.1 Medical requirements for 2022 are detailed in Schedule 6 of the Regulations.

SECTION 6: MATCH OFFICIALS

1 MATCH OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- 1.1 The appointment of all Match Officials officiating at CF fixtures shall be vested in the Management. Management is authorised to enlist the assistance of such persons as necessary and adopt such procedures as it deems most beneficial.
- 1.2 Non-compliance with the provisions in this section pertaining to appointments of match officials and match official fees, by Clubs or individuals, will be treated as a breach of statutes under CF's Disputes and Disciplinary Regulations.

2 MATCH OFFICIAL POWERS, DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

- 2.1 The Match Officials are required to carry out all duties, responsibilities and obligations as contained within the IFAB Laws of the Game.
- 2.2 Unless otherwise stated, the Referee shall be the sole arbiter as to whether a game will proceed, having regard to the condition of the ground, the weather at the time of inspection and the projected weather forecast.
- 2.3 The Referee may postpone or abandon a Match in accordance with any relevant articles of these Regulations.
- 2.4 At the conclusion of each Match, the Referee shall consult with their other Match Officials, where appointed, and confirm the accuracy of all Match information before completing and signing the Team sheet.
- 2.5 Match Officials are required to submit the necessary send-off reports and incident reports as per the DDR.
- 2.6 Referee Assessors will submit to CF a report on the performance of the Referee within three (3) days of the conclusion of the Match, should one be appointed to the Match.

3 WELFARE OF THE MATCH OFFICIALS

- 3.1 The Home Club will be solely responsible for the welfare of the Match Officials, from the time they arrive at the ground, until the time they depart the ground. Failure to carry out this requirement may result in a sanction as per the DDR.

4 MATCH OFFICIAL FEES

- 4.1 Prior to the commencement of a competition, CF will communicate to all Clubs and Referees the approved Match Officials fees for that particular season. These fees will come into effect immediately and are subject to change at any time.
- 4.2 Where Clubs appoint registered Match Officials in the absence of referees appointed by CF, they must pay the approved fees in place at the time and no more.
- 4.3 Where Clubs appoint volunteers as Match Officials, the volunteers must not wear registered referee apparel and must not be paid.
- 4.4 Unless otherwise stated, for Premiership Matches, CF will invoice the home Team for all fees for Match Officials monthly after the completion of each round.
- 4.5 Match Officials fees for all Championship Matches will be paid directly by CF to the Referees.

- 4.6 In the case of forfeits, postponements and abandonments, where a Team is deemed to be at fault, the Match Officials fees will be due and payable by that Team.
- 4.7 Where Matches are postponed and abandoned through no fault of either Team, the Match Officials fees are payable by CF.
- 4.8 Match Officials are entitled to receive one hundred percent (100%) of their Match fee if they submit a Match Official Incident Report in the event that:
 - a) Match Officials attend the ground to find the Match postponed prior without being notified by CF;
 - b) Match Officials attend the ground and prior to the commencement of the Match, the Match is forfeited, postponed or abandoned;
 - c) After the commencement of the Match, the Match is abandoned; or
 - d) Match Officials attend the ground to find a Club has forfeited the Match. CF will then invoice the offending Club to recoup those costs.

5 MATCH OFFICIAL TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

- 5.1 Match Officials will be entitled to a travel allowance for any Match that requires travel outside of the Canberra, Wagga Wagga or Griffith area. Capital Football will invoice the Home Team for all fees monthly after the completion of each round.
- 5.2 Match Officials must submit a Match Official Claim Form within 30 days of the Match to receive the travel allowance, paid by CF as follows:
 - a) Match Officials based in Canberra will be entitled to a travel allowance when travelling to Cooma (\$75), Cootamundra (\$80), Wagga Wagga (\$85) and Griffith (\$100).
 - b) Match Officials based in Cooma will be entitled to a travel allowance when travelling to Canberra (\$75).
 - c) Match Officials based in Griffith will be entitled to a travel allowance when travelling to Cootamundra (\$85) and Wagga Wagga (\$80).
 - d) Match Officials based in Wagga Wagga will be entitled to a travel allowance when travelling to Canberra (\$85) and Griffith (\$85).

6 ATTENDANCE OF MATCH OFFICIALS

- 6.1 Match Officials appointed to First Grade, Reserve Grade or U23's Matches must arrive at the ground no later than 45 minutes prior to the scheduled kick off of their first appointment.
- 6.2 Match Officials appointed to all other age grades must arrive at the ground no later than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick off of their first appointment.

7 NON-ATTENDANCE OF MATCH OFFICIALS

- 7.1 If the Referee fails to honour their appointment, the next most senior Match Official (Replacement) will take charge of the Match.
- 7.2 If the Referee is late arriving at a Match, the Replacement will take charge until the Referee is ready to take over.
- 7.3 In First Grade, Reserve Grade and U23's, the Match is only to proceed with the appointed Match Officials, or a person approved by CF prior to the start of the Match.

- 7.4 In U13's, U14's, U15's, U16's, U17's and U18's Matches, if no registered Match Official is present to act as the Replacement ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the Match, both Clubs shall agree on a person to act as the Referee for the Match. If, by the scheduled kick off time, no agreement can be reached, the home Club must appoint a person to act as the Referee for the Match.
- 7.5 Clubs must not appoint un-registered Match Officials to officiate at games.
- 7.6 Persons appointed to officiate by a Club who are not registered Match Official must undertake the role as unpaid volunteers.
- 7.7 Volunteer Match Officials hold all the duties, powers and obligations of Match Officials under Articles 2.1-2.5 in this Section above.

- 7.8 If the Match does not kick off fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled kick off time due to the absence of a Referee, the home Club will be deemed to have forfeited the Match.
- 7.9 If insufficient assistant Match Officials have been appointed, each Team must provide an assistant Match Official. Failure to comply will result in a fine in accordance with Schedule 4.
- 7.10 All Clubs must fulfill all Matches, regardless of whether or not the CF appointed Referee is present to take charge. Failure to do so may result in sanctions being applied.

8 TEMPORARY DISMISSALS

- 8.1 Temporary dismissals will be in effect in all First Grade, Reserve Grade and U23's competition Matches.
- 8.2 Temporary dismissals may be issued to Players (including goalkeepers) only during:
 - a) First half.
 - b) Second half.
 - c) First half of extra time in a Championship series Match.
 - d) Second half of extra time in a Championship series Match.
- 8.3 Temporary dismissals may not be issued:
 - a) To substitutes, substituted Players or Team Officials.
 - b) Before the Match, during half time or after the Match;
 - c) Between the end of a Match and the start of extra time, during half time of extra time or after the end of extra time (including during kicks from the penalty mark) of a Championship series Match.
- 8.4 The Referee will indicate a temporary dismissal by showing the yellow card to the Player and clearly pointing with both arms to the temporary dismissal area.
- 8.5 For First Grade and any Match where 'additional time' is being played, the temporary dismissal period will take into account any time 'lost' for stoppages that the Referee may allow at the end of the half (e.g. substitution, injury etc).
- 8.6 The temporary dismissal area is the Player's own technical area for the duration of the dismissal period, unless 'warming up' (under the same conditions as a substitute).
- 8.7 Once the temporary dismissal period has been completed, the Player can return from the touchline with the Referee's permission, which can be given while the ball is in play. The Referee has the final decision as to when the Player can return.
- 8.8 A temporarily dismissed Player cannot be substituted until the end of the temporary dismissal period (but not if the Team has used all its permitted substitutes).
- 8.9 If a temporary dismissal period has not been completed at the end of the first half (or the end of the second half when extra time is to be played), the remaining part of the temporary dismissal period is served from the start of the second half (or start of extra time).
- 8.10 A Player who is still serving a temporary dismissal at the end of extra time of a Championship series Match is permitted to participate in kicks from the penalty mark.

- 8.11 A temporarily dismissed Player who commits a cautionable or sending-off offence during their temporary dismissal period will take no further part in the Match and may not be replaced or substituted.
- 8.12 A Player who has received a caution and then receives a temporary dismissal can continue playing after the end of the temporary dismissal period.
- 8.13 A Player who receives a second temporary dismissal in the same Match will serve the second temporary dismissal period and will take no further part in the Match.
- 8.14 After the end of the second temporary dismissal period the Player:
- a) May be replaced by a named substitute (but not if the Team has used all its permitted substitutes).
 - b) May not be replaced or substituted if the Player also received a caution in the same Match.
- 8.15 A Player who receives a second caution in the same Match will be sent off and take no further part in the Match and may not be replaced or substituted.

9 CAUTIONS AND EXPULSIONS FOR TEAM OFFICIALS

- 9.1 The Referee may take action against Team Officials who fail to act in a responsible manner and can issue a warning or a yellow card for a caution or a red card for a sending-off from the field of play and its immediate surroundings (including the technical area).
- 9.2 If the offender cannot be identified, the senior Coach present in the technical area will receive the sanction.
- 9.3 If a medical Team Official commits a sending-off offence, they may remain in the technical area if the Team has no other medical person available, and act if a Player needs medical attention.

SECTION 7: AWARDS

1 TROPHIES, MEDALS AND SHIELDS

1.1 CF will present the following medals, trophies and shields:

- a) Premiership winners:
 - i) Perpetual trophy for all age grades.
 - ii) Replica trophy for all age grades.
 - iii) 20 medals for all age grades.
 - iv) Any requests for medals above the allocated number may be purchased at a cost to the Club.
- b) Championship winners:
 - i) Perpetual trophy for all age grades.
 - ii) Replica trophy for all age grades.
 - iii) 20 medals for all age grades.
 - iv) Any requests for medals above the allocated number may be purchased at a cost to the Club.
- c) Championship runners up:
 - i) 20 medals for all age grades.
 - ii) Any requests for medals above the allocated number may be purchased at a cost to the Club.
- d) Player of the Match (First Grade grand final for NPL Men's, CPL Men's and NPL Women's only):
 - i) 1 medal.
- e) Grand final Match Officials:
 - i) 4 medals for each age grade.
- f) Club Championship winners (NPL Men's, CPL Men's, NPL Women's, NPL Boys, CPL Boys, NPL Girls):
 - i) Perpetual shield for each League.
 - ii) Plaque for winners.
- g) Fair play award (NPL Men's, CPL Men's, NPL Women's, NPL Boys, CPL Boys, NPL Girls):
 - i) Perpetual shield for each League.
 - ii) Plaque for winners.
- h) Golden boot award:
 - i) Trophy/plaque for award winners in all age grades.
 - ii) Player of the year:

- i) Trophy/plaque for award winners in all age grades.
- j) Coach of the year (NPL Men's, CPL Men's, NPL Women's):
 - i) Trophy/plaque for award winners.
- k) Referee of the year (NPL Men's, CPL Men's, NPL Women's):
 - i) Trophy/plaque for award winners.

2 PERPETUAL TROPHY OWNERSHIP

- 2.1 All perpetual trophies and shields remain the property of CF.
- 2.2 CF will retain possession of the perpetual trophy and shield immediately following the prize giving ceremony.
- 2.3 Should a perpetual trophy or shield be lost or damaged whilst under the care or custody of a Club, the latter shall refund to CF the cost of thorough repair or replacement in addition to any other penalty which CF may impose.

3 AWARD CALCULATIONS AND CRITERIA

- 3.1 Club Championship:
 - a) As set out in Schedule 5
- 3.2 Fair play:
 - a) The Fair play award is presented to the Club whose Teams in each League (NPL Men's, CPL Men's, NPL Women's, NPL Boys, CPL Boys and NPL Girls) receive the fewest number of penalty points during the Premiership Season.
 - b) Penalty points are accrued according to the following:

| Offence | Points |
|---|------------|
| Each single yellow card issued to either a Player or Team Official | 1 point |
| Each temporary dismissal issued | 2 points |
| Each indirect red card issued (i.e. two yellow cards in a Match to a single Player) | 3 points |
| Second temporary dismissal in a Match to a single Player | 4 points |
| Each direct red card issued | 5 points |
| Each non-playing official sent from the technical area | 5 points |
| Five or more Players receiving a caution or temporary dismissal in a single Match | 7 points* |
| Three or more Players / Team Officials sent off in a single Match | 10 points* |
| <i>* these points are in addition to the penalty points received for the individual offence</i> | |

- 3.3 Golden boot:
 - a) The golden boot is awarded to the highest goal scorer in each age grade at the conclusion of the Premiership season.
- 3.4 Player of the year:
 - a) All Clubs are required to nominate one (1) Player per Team within their Club, with the exception of First Grade Teams where they must nominate two (2) Players per Team.
 - b) All Clubs will then be required to vote (3,2,1) for the nominated Players in each age grade.

- c) Clubs are not permitted to vote for their own Players.
- d) The Player with the highest number of votes received in each age grade will be deemed the Player of the year.
- e) Should there be two Players on an equal number of votes received, they will be classed as joint winners.
- f) Should three (3) or more Players be on an equal number of votes received, the Player with the most three (3) votes received will be deemed the Player of the year.
- g) Should three (3) or more Players receive the same number of three (3) votes, a re-vote will take place for those Players.
- h) Should a Club not vote during the voting process, then their Players will be ineligible to receive the award.

3.5 Team of the year:

- a) All First Grade Clubs are required to submit eleven (11) Players as their Team of the year in the following format:
 - i) Goalkeeper x 1
 - ii) Defenders x 4
 - iii) Midfielders x 3
 - iv) Forwards x 3
- b) Clubs are permitted to name up to three (3) Players from their own Club.
- c) The Players with the highest number of votes for each position will be named in the Team of the year.

3.6 Coach of the year:

- a) All Clubs are required to nominate one (1) coach within their Club.
- b) All Clubs will then be required to vote (3,2,1) for the nominated coaches.
- c) Clubs are not permitted to vote for their own coaches.
- d) The coach with the highest number of votes received will be deemed the coach of the year.
- e) Should there be two coaches on an equal number of votes received, they will be classed as joint winners.
- f) Should three (3) or more coaches be on an equal number of votes received, the coach with the most three (3) votes received will be deemed the coach of the year.
- g) Should three (3) or more coaches receive the same number of three (3) votes, a re-vote will take place for those coaches.
- h) Should a Club not vote during the voting process, then their coaches will be ineligible to receive the award.

3.7 Referee of the Year:

- a) All Clubs are required to vote (3,2,1) for the nominated Referees.

- b) The Referee with the highest number of votes received will be deemed the Referee of the year.
- c) Should there be two Referees on an equal number of votes received, they will be classed as joint winners.
- d) Should three (3) or more Referees be on an equal number of votes received, the Referee with the most three (3) votes received will be deemed the Referee of the year.
- e) Should three (3) or more Referees receive the same number of three (3) votes, a re-vote will take place for those Referees.

SECTION 8: GENERAL

1 CONSEQUENCES FOR BREACH

- 1.1 Any breach of these Regulations or failure to comply with any direction given by CF may result in the imposition of a penalty issued by CF under these Regulations or other sanctions pursuant to the CF Disputes and Disciplinary Regulations (DDR).

2 DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS AND PROCEEDINGS

- 2.1 All Clubs, Players, Team Officials, Match Officials, spectators or any person participating at a CF Match or event will submit exclusively to the jurisdiction of the DDR.

3 MONIES OWING TO CF

- 3.1 Monies owing by a Club:
- a) All amounts owed by a Club to CF must be paid within 30 days of the date of the invoice being issued by CF.
 - b) For monies still owing after 30 days from the date of invoicing, a reminder notice will be sent to the Club.
 - c) For monies still owing after a period of 90 days from the date of invoicing, a notice will be sent to the Club stating they are un-financial and will be unable to accumulate any regular season points from that time, in any age grade or League.
 - i) Clubs may request a payment plan with CF to pay back those debts that remain unpaid beyond 90 days from invoicing. Where a payment plan is agreed to by CF:
 - A. The Club entering the agreement will be determined to be financial and may continue to play for points provided they abide by the terms of the agreement .
 - B. Where an agreement is not complied with, any points accumulated by the Club (in any age grade or League) from 90 days from the date of the invoice/s to which the agreement relates will be deducted and removed.
 - ii) A Club subjected to this penalty will be notified in writing as to when the deduction of points will take effect.
 - iii) Clubs who are unfinancial, and have not entered into an agreement with CF, will be ineligible for finals and unable to participate in any Cup competitions.
 - d) Notwithstanding Section 8 Article 3.1 a) & b), CF may, in its absolute discretion, either offset any transfer or compensation fees owed to CF by an unfinancial Club to the extent of the amounts owing or expel a Club if it does not comply with these Regulations.
 - e) Clubs who are in debt to CF, where any of the debt amount is outstanding at any time after 31 October each year:
 - i) May at the absolute discretion of CF, be suspended from all competitions in which that Club competes.
 - ii) Have any rights or privileges in the activities of CF relating to that Club's participation suspended until all debts and obligations have been discharged, except where a dispute over fees remains unresolved.

- f) Where a Club has been suspended under Section 8 Article 3.1 e) i), the opposing Team will be awarded a forfeit and the score will be recorded as 3-0.

3.2 Monies owing by an Individual:

- a) All amounts owed by an individual to CF must be paid within 30 days of the date of the invoice issued by CF in relation to that amount.
- b) For monies still owing after the expiry of 30 days from the date of invoicing, individuals will be deemed ineligible for participation in any CF competitions.

4 **MONIES OWING TO ACT SPORTSGROUNDS**

4.1 Monies owing by a Club:

- a) All amounts owed by a Club to ACT Sportsgrounds must be paid in line with the due date of the invoice being issued by ACT Sportsgrounds.
- b) For monies still owing after the due date of invoicing, a reminder notice may be sent to the Club.
- c) For monies still owing after a period of 90 days from the due date of invoicing, a notice may be sent by CF to the Club by stating they are un-financial and will be unable to accumulate any regular season points from that time, in any age grade or League.
 - i) Clubs may request a payment plan with ACT Sportsgrounds to pay back those debts
 - A. The Club entering the agreement will be determined to be financial and may continue to play for points provided they abide by the terms of the agreement.
 - B. Where an agreement is not complied with, any points accumulated by the Club (in any age grade or League) from 90 days from the date of the invoice/s to which the agreement relates will be deducted and removed.
 - ii) A Club subjected to this penalty will be notified in writing as to when the deduction of points will take effect.
 - iii) Clubs who are unfinancial and have not entered into an agreement with ACT Sportsgrounds, will be ineligible for finals and unable to participate in any Cup competitions.
- d) Clubs who are in debt to ACT Sportsgrounds, where any of the debt amount is outstanding at any time after 31 October each year:
 - i) May at the absolute discretion of CF, be suspended from all competitions in which that Club competes.
 - ii) Have any rights or privileges in the activities of CF relating to that Club's participation suspended until all debts and obligations have been discharged, except where a dispute over fees remains unresolved.
- e) Where a Club has been suspended under Section 8 Article 4.1 e) i), the opposing Team will be awarded a forfeit and the score will be recorded as 3-0.

4.2 Monies owing by an Individual:

- a) All amounts owed by an individual to ACT Sportsgrounds must be paid within 30 days of the date of the invoice issued by ACT Sportsgrounds in relation to that amount.

- b) For monies still owing after the expiry of 30 days from the date of invoicing, individuals will be deemed ineligible for participation in any CF competitions.

5 STRICT LIABILITY OF CLUBS

- 5.1 A Club is liable for the misconduct of its participants under the DDR.

6 PROTECTION OF IMPORTANT FIXTURES

- 6.1 Where an international, interstate or A-Leagues Match is scheduled for the ACT or surrounding region, CF may determine that no competition fixture or sanctioned Match shall take place at the same time.

7 SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

- 7.1 CF will have the power to consider special circumstances outside the prescribed limits of the Regulations should it be clear those special considerations are in the interests of the game.
- 7.2 The decision by CF to review and consider special circumstances under this section is not subject to appeal or review.
- 7.3 Nothing in these Regulations will prevent CF from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by the Regulations, including but not limited to promotion, relegation, number of divisions and composition of Teams.

SCHEDULE 1: DEFINITIONS

A-Leagues means the national men's and women's football competitions conducted in Australia under the control of FA.

ACT Football Federation (ACTFF) means the ACT Football Federation.

Amateur means any Player that is not a Professional.

Australian Capital Territory (ACT) means the federal territory of Australia containing the Australian capital city of Canberra and some surrounding townships.

Capital Football (CF) means the ACT Football Federation trading as Capital Football which is the governing body for football (including Futsal) in the ACT and surrounding regions.

Capital Football Disciplinary and Disputes Regulations (DDR) means the CF Disputes and Disciplinary Regulations.

Capital Premier League means second tier Premier League division competitions delivered by CF.

Championship means the final series conducted at the completion of the Premiership in accordance with the Capital Football Competition Regulations.

Club or Clubs means:

- a) a body corporate or incorporated association recognised by CF and having the following characteristics:
 - i) It organises Teams to participate in competitions sanctioned by CF or FA;
 - ii) All members of its Teams are entitled to Club membership;
 - iii) Club members (or their parent or guardian) may vote in an election for any Club officeholders; or
- b) any legal entity deemed to be a Club by CF.

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

Club Vested Officials (CVO) means a person nominated by a Club to assist the Club in meeting its Match day obligations.

Constitution means the ACT Football Federation Constitution as amended from time to time, and a reference to a particular article of the Constitution.

CPL Finals Series means the eight (8) Team knockout competition staged by, or under the control of, CF and is comprised of the Elimination Finals, Semi Finals and Grand Final or any other configuration as determined by CF from time to time.

Cup means a tournament or event conducted by CF which includes, but not limited to, the Federation Cup.

Disciplinary Tribunal means a Disciplinary Tribunal appointed by CF, in accordance with the DDR.

FFA Cup means the national Club competition staged by, or under the control of, FA between A-Leagues, State league and grassroots Clubs, currently known as the FFA Cup (or as otherwise notified by FA).

FA means Football Australia Limited ACN 106 478 068.

FIFA means Federation Internationale De Football Association.

Football Related Activities, for the purposes of these Regulations, include coaching and training, Match officiating, Match participation, Club and competition volunteering, Club committees and Club activities, professional services to participants, and spectating.

IFAB Laws of the Game means the official laws of the game of football as promulgated by IFAB.

Junior League (JL) means the junior grassroots competitions delivered by CF.

Leagues means a competition conducted by CF comprised of specific gender and age grades, as declared by the Board.

Management means persons employed by Capital Football in management and administrative roles, including the Chief Executive Officer and competition and referee administrators, operating under delegations from Capital Football's Board

Match or Matches means any match played in a Competition, Cup, Premiership, other event or tournament under CF's control.

Match Official or Match Officials means a Referee, assistant referee, fourth official, Club referee coordinator or referee assessor.

National Premier Leagues (NPL) means the premier competitions delivered by CF.

National Registration Status & Transfer Regulations (NRSTR) means the set of regulations that govern registrations throughout Football in Australia.

National Registration System (NRR) means the national database administered by FA for the purposes of registering all participants in Football in Australia.

NPL Finals Series means the eight (8) Team knockout competition staged by, or under the control of, FA between the State Premiers of each Member Federation and is comprised of the Elimination Finals, Semi Finals and Grand Final or any other configuration as determined by FA from time to time.

Player or Players means any person who participates in a Match (irrespective of whether they are registered with FA, junior or senior or an Amateur or Professional).

Player Points System (PPS) means FA's system for the calculation of a Club's Player points as outlined in Schedule 3 and as promulgated by FA from time to time.

Premiership means the round robin Matches (both home and away) that a Team competes in during a Season in accordance with the CF Competition Regulations.

Professional means a Player registered with a football Club under a written contract to play football for reward other than payment for sundry expenses such as traveling to and from a football activity. Every other Player is an Amateur Player.

Professional Player Contract means the written contract (Prescribed Form NRR05 – Professional Player Contract) signed by the Club and the Player and submitted to CF.

Referee means the Match Official with the primary responsibility of officiating a Match in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game.

Registered Match Official or Referee means an individual who is registered as a referee with Capital Football or another Member of Football Australia and who has paid the relevant annual registration fee

Regulations means these CF Competition Regulations.

Senior League (SL) means the senior grassroots competitions delivered by CF.

Team or Teams means an individual group of Players and Officials submitted by a Club to represent the Club in a Competition.

Team Official or Team Officials means 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.

SCHEDULE 2: ADDITIONAL RULES – CANBERRA UNITED ACADEMY (CUA)

1 SCOPE AND INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 Schedule 2 is to be read in conjunction with the remainder of the Regulations, and does not constitute the complete regulations applicable to CUA Teams participating in the competitions.
- 1.2 Schedule 2 is specific to CUA only.

2 FEES, CHARGES AND FINES

- 2.1 CUA Players, Coaches and officials will be liable for the same fees, charges and fines applicable to the competitions in which they participate.

3 CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

- 3.1 CUA Teams entered into CF competitions will be eligible to compete in Championship Series Matches.

4 AGE ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 The following table details the birth dates applicable to the age grades for CUA. Players must be within these ranges in order to be eligible for registration:

| Age Grade | Birth Date |
|---------------------|---|
| First Grade (U18) | For Players born on or after 1 January 2004 |
| Reserve Grade (U18) | For Players born on or after 1 January 2004 |
| U17 (U15) | For Players born on or after 1 January 2005 |
| U15 (U14) | For Players born on or after 1 January 2007 |
| U14 (U13) | For Players born on or after 1 January 2008 |

5 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

- 5.1 CUA is not subject to promotion and relegation under Schedule 5 of these Regulations.

SCHEDULE 4: PENALTIES AND FEES

1 OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

1.1 Set out below are the range of penalties which may be imposed by CF in relation to breaches of these Regulations.

1.2 CF may exercise its discretion as it deems fit in relation to the imposition of the penalty. The decision of CF will be final and there is no right of appeal.

| Section | Article | Offence | Sanction | |
|---------|---------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| 2 | 4.9 | Failure to commence a Match at the scheduled time | \$300 | Per offence |
| 2 | 15.2 | Team forfeiting its Match | \$500 | 1 st offence |
| | | | \$1000 | 2 nd offence |
| | | | \$1500 | 3 rd offence |
| 2 | 15.6 | Club forfeiting all Matches in a League in one Round | \$1000 | Per offence (plus individual Team fines) |
| 2 | 26.1 | Failure to submit Overseas Tours and Travel Form and receive CF approval | \$200 | Per offence |
| 2 | 27.8 | Failure to submit Interstate Tours and Travel Form and receive CF approval | \$100 | Per offence |
| 4 | 12.1 | Failure to inform a Player's current Club in writing prior to entering any negotiations with that Player | \$500 | N/A for 2022 |
| 4 | 18.4 | Failure to provide suitably qualified technical director | Cost of relevant course fee | Per Club |
| 4 | 18.4 | Failure to provide suitably qualified head coach | Cost of relevant course fee | Per coach |
| 5 | 1.4 | Failure to supply Match balls | \$50 | Per offence |
| 5 | 2.1 f) | Failure of Teams to produce Player identity sheets on request | \$100 | Per offence |
| 5 | 2.2 | Failure to comply with Team Official identification processes | \$100 | Per offence |
| 5 | 9.2 b) | Failure to provide the specified number of CVO for a Match | \$200 | Per offence |
| 5 | 11.2 | Failure to enter Player selection in the online competition platform by specified deadline | \$100 | Per offence |
| 5 | 11.8 | Failure to submit Team sheets to CF by specified deadline | \$100 | Per offence |
| 5 | 11.9 | Failure to submit Team Official list to CF by specified deadline | \$100 | Per offence |
| 5 | 11.13 | Failure to list a Player on the Team sheet | \$100 | Per offence |
| 5 | 12.3 | Failure to approve Match results online in the online competition platform as specified | \$100 | Per offence |
| 5 | 14.2 a) | When five (5) or more Players or Team Officials from the same Team receive a caution, temporary dismissal or send off in the same Match | \$250 | Per offence |
| 5 | 14.2 b) | When three (3) or more Players or Team Officials from the same Team are sent off in the same Match | \$150 | Per offence |
| 5 | 16.3 | Failure to adhere to smoking and drinking requirements as specified | \$100 | Per offence |
| 5 | 19.1 | Failure to comply with minimum medical coverage standards | \$50 | Per offence |
| 6 | 7.6 | Failure to provide an assistant Match Official as needed | \$50 | Per offence |

2 ADMINISTRATION FEES

2.1 Set out below are the administration fees as outlined in these Regulations:

| Section | Article | Administration Requirement | Sanction | |
|---------|---------|--|----------|---------------|
| 2 | 18.4 | Administration fee for protest | \$200 | Per protest |
| 2 | 26.1 | Administration fee for lodging Overseas Tours and Travel Form less than eight (8) weeks prior to departure | \$100 | Per lodgement |
| 2 | 27.4 | Administration fee for lodging Interstate Tours and Travel Form less than three (3) weeks prior to departure | \$50 | Per lodgement |

SCHEDULE 5: PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

1 OVERVIEW

- 1.1 The following Capital Football Leagues are connected by promotion and relegation:
- National Premier League Women's and State League Women's Division 1.
 - National Premier League Girls and Junior League Girls Division 1.
 - National Premier League Men's, Capital Premier League Men's and State League Men's Division 1.
 - National Premier League Boys, Capital Premier League Boys and Junior League Open Division 1.
- 1.2 Promotion and relegation between Leagues will be governed by the following factors:
- Club commitment to play in the Leagues.
 - Sporting merit (i.e. on-field performance).
 - Football Australia Club Licencing Framework.
- 1.3 The methods of promotion and relegation represent the sporting merit category by which Clubs are identified for movement between Leagues.
- 1.4 The methods for promotion and relegation are included in these Regulations, for application from the 2022 to 2023 football seasons.

2 ABBREVIATIONS

- 2.1 Abbreviations used throughout this Schedule include:

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|--|--|
| 1GLT – First Grade League Table | The process to identify Clubs eligible for promotion or relegation, using aggregate points of the First Grade Team |
| CPL – Capital Premier League | The second highest level of men's (CPLM) and boys' (CPLB) football |
| NPL – National Premier League | The highest level of women's (NPLW), men's (NPLM), girls' (NPLG) and boys' (NPLB) football |
| JLG – Junior League Girls | The second highest level of girls' football |
| JLO – Junior League Open | The third highest level of football, primarily participated in by boys, but open for girls to also participate |
| NWCC – Non-weighted Club Championship | The process to identify Clubs eligible for promotion or relegation using the aggregate scores of all age grades, with the subsequent total used to identify positions on a Club Championship table |
| P/R – Promotion and Relegation | The process of movement by Clubs between the levels of football, determined by sporting merit and Club licencing |
| SLW – State League Women's | The second highest level of women's football, underpinned by a number of other divisions |

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|---|--|
| SLM – State League Men’s | The third highest level of men’s football, underpinned by a number of other divisions |
| WCC – Weighted Club Championship | The process to identify Clubs eligible for promotion or relegation using a weighted Club Championship, where a multiplier is applied to the aggregate scores of separate age grades, with the subsequent total used to identify positions on a Club Championship table |

3 METHOD OF PROMOTION AND RELEGATION FOR WOMEN’S LEAGUES

3.1 The following table sets out the methods for promotion and relegation between National Premier League Women’s and State League Women’s Division 1:

| Action | Mechanism | Regulation |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Relegation from NPLW to SLW1 | First Grade League Table | <p>a) The Club that finishes in 8th position on the NPLW First Grade League Table in 2022 may be relegated to SLW1 in 2023; and</p> <p>b) Relegation applies to the Club’s Teams in First Grade and Reserve Grade; and</p> <p>c) The CUA is excluded from relegation, and the Matches Clubs play against the CUA contribute to the League tables; and</p> <p>d) If the CUA finishes in 8th position on the First Grade League Table in 2022 there will be no promotion into or relegation from NPLW in 2023; and</p> <p>e) Relegation is contingent upon promotion of a Club from SLW1. Where promotion does not occur, relegation will not be applied.</p> <p>f) A relegated Club may be offered positions in the SLW1 and SLW2 competitions in 2023.</p> |
| Promotion from SLW1 to NPLW | First Grade League Table | <p>a) The Club that finishes in 1st position on the SLW1 League table in 2022 may be promoted to NPLW in 2023; and</p> <p>b) The Club must have fielded at least one Team in the SLW1 and a second Team in either the SLW1 or SLW2 competitions for the duration of the 2022 season in order to be eligible for promotion to NPLW in 2023; and</p> <p>c) The Club cannot have Teams already competing in the NPLW. If the Club in 1st position on the SLW1 League table in 2022 already competes in the NPLW, there will be no promotion or relegation from the 2022 to 2023 season.</p> |

4 METHOD OF PROMOTION AND RELEGATION FOR MEN’S LEAGUES

4.1 The following table sets out the methods for promotion and relegation between National Premier League Men’s, Capital Premier League Men’s and State League Men’s Division 1:

| Action | Mechanism | Regulation |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Relegation from NPLM to CPLM | First Grade League Table | <p>a) The Club that finishes in 8th position on the NPLM First Grade League Table in 2022 may be relegated to CPLM in 2023; and</p> <p>b) Relegation applies to the Club's Teams in First Grade and U23; and</p> <p>c) Relegation is contingent upon promotion of a Club from CPLM. Where promotion does not occur, relegation will not be applied.</p> |
| Promotion from CPLM to NPLM | First Grade League Table | <p>a) The Club that finishes in 1st position on the CPLM First Grade League Table in 2022 may be promoted to NPLM in 2023; and</p> <p>b) Promotion applies to the Club's Teams in 1st Grade and U23.</p> |
| Relegation from CPLM to SLM1 | First Grade League Table | <p>a) The Club that finishes in 8th position on the CPLM First Grade League Table in 2022 may be relegated to SLM in 2023; and</p> <p>b) Relegation applies to the Club's Teams in 1st Grade and U23; and</p> <p>c) Relegation is contingent upon promotion of a Club from SLM. Where promotion does not occur, relegation will not be applied.</p> <p>d) A relegated Club may be offered positions in the SLM1 and SLM1 Reserves competitions in 2023.</p> |
| Promotion from SLM1 to CPLM | First Grade League Table | <p>a) The Club that finishes in 1st position on the SLM1 League table in 2022 may be promoted to CPLM in 2023; and</p> <p>b) The Club cannot have Teams already competing in the NPLM or CPLM. If the Club in 1st position on the SLM1 League table in 2022 already competes in the NPLM or CPLM, there will be no promotion or relegation from the 2022 to 2023 season.</p> |

4.2 Capital Football will use the following process when determining the ranking of First Grade Teams in the NPLM and CPLM competitions:

- a) Greater number of points obtained in all First Grade Premiership Matches.
- b) If two (2) or more Teams are equal on the basis of the above criteria, their place will be determined as follows:
 - i) Greater number of Premiership League table points of the Club's U23 Teams.
- c) If the U23 points are also equal, the First Grade Team placing will be determined as follows:
 - i) Greater goal difference resulting from all First Grade Premiership Matches;
 - ii) Greater goals scored from all First Grade Premiership Matches;
 - iii) Greater number of points obtained in the First Grade Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head-to-head);

- iv) Greater number of goals scored in the First Grade Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head-to-head);
- v) Greater number of goals scored in away First Grade Premiership Matches between the Teams concerned (head-to-head);
- vi) Team with the lowest number of Red Cards (direct and indirect) received in all First Grade Premiership Matches;
- vii) Team with the lowest number of Yellow Cards (including TDs) received in all First Grade Premiership Matches;
- viii) A play-off Match between the Teams concerned under arrangements approved by Capital Football.

5 METHOD OF PROMOTION AND RELEGATION FOR GIRLS' LEAGUES

5.1 The following table sets out the methods for promotion and relegation between National Premier League Girls and Junior League Girls:

| Action | Mechanism | Regulation |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Relegation from NPLG to JLG1 | Non-weighted Club Championship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Club that finishes in 8th position in the NPLG Club Championship in 2022 may be relegated to JLG1 in 2023; and b) Relegation applies to the Club's NPLG Teams in U14, U15 and U17 age grades; and c) The CUA is excluded from relegation, and the Matches Clubs play against the CUA contribute to the League tables and Club Championship; and d) If the CUA finishes in 8th position in the Club Championship in 2022 there will be no promotion into or relegation from NPLG in 2023; and e) Relegation is contingent upon promotion of a Club from JLG1. Where promotion does not occur, relegation will not be applied. f) The Club Championships will be determined using a non-weighted Club Championship, which aggregates the points of the U14, U15 and U17 Premiership Matches. |
| Promotion from JLG1 to NPLG | Weighted Club Championship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Club that finishes in 1st position in the JLG1 Club Championship in 2022 may be promoted to NPLG in 2023; and b) The Club must have fielded a Team in the U12, U14 and U16 age grades of JLG1 in 2022; and c) The Club cannot have Teams already competing in the NPLG. If the Club in 1st position in the JLG1 Club Championship in 2022 already competes in the NPLG, there will be no promotion or relegation from the 2022 to 2023 season. d) The Club Championship will be determined using a weighted Club Championship, with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A multiplier of 1 applied to the highest positioned Team from each Club in the U14 and U16 age grades. |

| Action | Mechanism | Regulation |
|--------|-----------|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Where a Club has more than one Team in an age grade, only the points of the highest ranked Team will contribute to the Club Championship. iii. Points from the U12 age grade will not contribute to the Club Championship. |

6 METHOD OF PROMOTION AND RELEGATION FOR BOYS' LEAGUES

6.1 The following table sets out the methods for promotion and relegation between National Premier League Boys, Capital Premier League Boys and Junior League Open:

| Action | Mechanism | Regulation |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Relegation from NPLB to CPLB | Non-weighted Club Championship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Club that finishes in 8th position in the NPLB Club Championship in 2022 may be relegated to CPLB in 2023; and b) Relegation applies to the Club's NPLB Teams in U13, U14, U16 and U18 age grades; and c) Relegation is contingent upon promotion of a Club from CPLB. Where promotion does not occur, relegation will not be applied. d) The Club Championships will be determined using a non-weighted Club Championship, which aggregates the points of the U13, U14, U16 and U18 Premiership Matches. |
| Promotion from CPLB to NPLB | Non-weighted Club Championship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Club that finishes in 1st position in the CPLB Club Championship in 2022 may be promoted to NPLB in 2023; and b) The Club must have fielded a Team in the U13, U14, U16 and U18 age grades of the CPLB in 2022. c) The Club Championship will be determined using a non-weighted Club Championship method, which aggregates the points of the CPLB U13, U14, U16 and U18 Premiership Matches. |
| Relegation from CPLB to JLO1 | Non-weighted Club Championship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Club that finishes in 8th position in the CPLB Club Championship in 2022 may be relegated to JLO1 in 2023; and b) Relegation applies to the Club's CPLB Teams in U13, U14, U16 and U18 age grades; and c) Relegation is contingent upon promotion of a Club from JLO1. Where promotion does not occur, relegation will not be applied. d) The Club Championship will be determined using a non-weighted Club Championship, which aggregates the points of the U13, U14, U16 and U18 Premiership Matches. |
| Promotion from JLO1 to CPLB | Weighted Club Championship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Club that finishes in 1st position in the JLO1 Club Championship in 2022 may be promoted to CPLB in 2023; and b) The Club must have fielded a Team in the U12, U13, U15 and U16 age grades of JLO1 in 2022; and |

| Action | Mechanism | Regulation |
|--------|-----------|--|
| | | <p>c) The Club cannot have Teams already competing in the NPLB or CPLB. If the Club in 1st position in the JLO1 Club Championship in 2022 already competes in the NPLB or CPLB, there will be no promotion or relegation from the 2022 to 2023 season.</p> <p>d) The Club Championship will be determined using a weighted Club Championship method, with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A multiplier of 1 applied to the highest positioned Team from each Club in the U13, U15, and U16 age grades. ii. Where a Club has more than one Team in an age grade, only the points of the highest ranked Team will contribute to the Club Championship. iii. Points from the U12 age grade will not contribute to the Club Championship. |

SCHEDULE 6: NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE COMPETITION CRITERIA

1 OVERVIEW

- 1.1 The National Premier League Competition Criteria (the **Criteria**) sets out the standards required by Clubs seeking to participate in the following Leagues:
 - a) National Premier League (NPL) for Women, Men, Girls and Boys.
 - b) Capital Premier League (CPL) for Men and Boys.
- 1.2 Criteria are also listed for the community competitions underpinning the NPL and CPL Competitions. These Criteria are provided as a guide to assist aspiring Clubs that compete in these Leagues prepare for possible promotion to the NPL and CPL Competitions.
- 1.3 Clubs in the community senior and junior Leagues are not required to meet the Criteria to play in the community Leagues. They are however strongly encouraged to achieve the listed standards if they aspire to play in the NPL and CPL Competitions, as promotion to the NPL and CPL Competitions is contingent upon Clubs meeting the competition Criteria.

2 ABBREVIATIONS

- 2.1 Abbreviations used throughout this Schedule include:

| Abbreviation | Definition |
|--|---|
| CPL – Capital Premier League | The second highest level of men’s (CPLM) and boys’ (CPLB) football |
| NCL – National Club Licencing Framework | The system being developed by Football Australia to set criteria for Clubs competing in the A-League, W-League, National Second Division and National Premier League competitions |
| NPL – National Premier League | The highest level of women’s (NPLW), men’s (NPLM), girls’ (NPLG) and boys’ (NPLB) football |
| JLG – Junior League Girls | The second highest level of girls’ football |
| JLO – Junior League Open | The third highest level of football, primarily participated in by boys, but open for girls to also participate |
| N/A – Not Applicable | Information that does not apply to the situation |
| SLW – State League Women’s | The second highest level of women’s football, underpinned by a number of other divisions |
| SLM – State League Men’s | The third highest level of men’s football, underpinned by a number of other divisions |

3 SPORTING CRITERIA

- 3.1 Teams:
 - a) Clubs are not required to field Teams in all Leagues (i.e., Clubs do not have to participate in senior and youth competitions, or female and male competitions).

- b) Clubs are required to field Teams in each age grade of the League they participate in, except for JLO1 and JLG1 Teams who are required to field Teams in the age grades identified in the table to be eligible for promotion (noting they are not required to compete as a Club for promotion).
- i) Clubs in WSL1 only need to enter a second Team in either WSL1 or WSL2 if they aspire to promotion to NPLW.
- c) The following Criteria is mandatory for Clubs in 2022:

| League | Tier 1 (highest level) | Tier 2 (second highest level) | Tier 3 (third highest level) |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| Women's | National Premier League 1 st Grade Reserve Grade | Women's Senior League Division 1 – 1 st Grade Division 2 – 1 st Grade | N/A |
| Men's | National Premier League 1 st Grade U23 | Capital Premier League 1 st Grade U23 | Men's Senior League 1 1 st Grade Reserve Grade |
| Girls | National Premier League U17 U15 U14 | Junior League Division 1 U18 U16 (required) U14 (required) U12 (required) | N/A |
| Boys | National Premier League U18 U16 U14 U13 | Capital Premier League U18 U16 U14 U13 | Junior League U18 U16 (required) U15 (required) U14 U13 (required) U12 (required) |

3.2 Youth Development:

- a) Youth Development Criteria are applicable to Clubs in the NPLG, NPLB and CPLB.
- b) The mandatory Youth Development plan for the 2023 NPLG, NPLB and CPLB season is due for submission to Capital Football by 30 June 2022. This enables Capital Football to understand compliance to the requirement ahead of the Declaration of Leagues being made.
- c) The following Criteria is recommended for Clubs in 2022 and mandatory for Clubs in 2023:

| Category | General Criteria |
|----------------------------|--|
| Youth Training Plan | At a date determined by Capital Football annually, Clubs are required to submit their Youth Development Plan for the upcoming season. The plan is to include at a minimum: Engaged Technical Director and Coaches Periodised Training Program Process for Player identification and selection Training field access and allocation |

| Category | General Criteria |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| | Football equipment used Medical support provided Other support provided (i.e. psychology, nutrition) |
| Training Plan Duration | The Club Training Plan in place for Players spans a 40-week period inclusive of pre-season, the Premiership and the Championship |
| Player Pathway Advancement | Clubs must not obstruct or otherwise dissuade Players selected in the Talent Support Program or ACT State Teams from attending scheduled training, friendly matches, elite matches or tournaments |

3.3 Medical:

- Category 1 Criteria is applicable to Clubs in NPLW and NPLM.
- Category 2 Criteria is applicable to Clubs in the CPLM, NPLG, NPLB and CPLB.
- Category 3 Criteria is recommended for Clubs in SLW1, JLG1, SLM1 and JLO1, and will not be mandatory in 2023.
- The following Criteria is recommended for Clubs in 2022 and mandatory for Clubs in 2023, except Category 3 Criteria as outlined above:

| Criteria | Category 1 Criteria | Category 2 Criteria | Category 3 Criteria |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Match Day Medical Coverage | Physiotherapist at all Matches | Level 1 Sports Trainer at all Matches | Level 1 Sports Trainer at all Matches |
| First Aid Kit | First aid kit available for all Matches | First aid kit available for all Matches | First aid kit available for all Matches |
| Stretchers | Stretcher that meets Australia Standards available for all Matches | Stretcher that meets Australia Standards available for all Matches | Stretcher that meets Australia Standards available for all Matches |
| Defibrillator | Defibrillator available for all Matches | | |
| Medical Room / Treatment Table | Treatment room and table for all Matches | Undercover treatment area and table for all Matches | |

3.4 Registration of Players:

- The following Criteria is mandatory for the Clubs in the Leagues defined below in 2022 with the exception of PPS which is recommended:

| Category | General Criteria |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Registration | |

| Category | General Criteria |
|-----------------------------|---|
| | The Clubs in all Leagues must ensure all its members are registered on PlayFootball, including Players, coaches, managers, medical staff, committee members, administrators, and volunteers |
| Player Points System | Clubs participating in the NPLM must register Players in compliance with the Player Points System |
| Integrity Education | Players in any League that is broadcast, or live streamed must complete the Football Australia e-learning integrity education workshops prior to playing any League Matches |

3.5 Child Protection and Welfare:

- a) Child Protection and Welfare Criteria applies to all Clubs and Leagues.
- b) Clubs are required to provide details of their compliance with Child Protection and Welfare Criteria by 31 January annually.
- c) The following Criteria is mandatory for Clubs in 2022:

| Category | General Criteria |
|--|--|
| Child Protection | Clubs are required to comply with the safeguarding requirement relevant to the region in which they are located. In the ACT, it is the Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration . In NSW, it is the Working with Children Check |
| Member Protection Information Officer | Clubs are required to appoint a Member Protection Information Officer that has completed the relevant training (i.e. Play by the Rules online module) |
| Record of Office Holders | <p>Clubs are required to keep a record of their office holders' WWVP Cards and/or Working with Children Check numbers</p> <p>An office holders list must include all Committee Members, Coaches, Managers and volunteers engaged by the Club</p> <p>Clubs are required to provide the register to Capital Football before the season commences, at a date prescribed by Capital Football, and inform Capital Football of any changes to the register during the season</p> |

4 INFRASTRUCTURE

- 4.1 Category 1 Criteria is applicable to Clubs in NPLW and NPLM.
- 4.2 Category 2 Criteria is applicable to Clubs in the CPLM, NPLG, NPLB and CPLB.
- 4.3 Category 3 Criteria is applicable to Clubs in SLW1, JLG1, SLM1 and JLO1.
- 4.4 Capital Football will work with the Government and Clubs to identify Criteria that will be considered mandatory from 2023.
- 4.5 The following Criteria that is highlighted is mandatory for Clubs in 2022 and the Criteria that is

not highlighted is recommended for Clubs in 2022:

| Criteria | Category 1 Criteria | Category 2 Criteria | Category 3 Criteria |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Safety, Security and Access | | | |
| Fencing | The venue must be enclosed, with an external fence restricting entry to the venue, and an internal pitch perimeter fence separating the field of play and spectator areas | The venue must have a pitch perimeter fence separating the field of play and spectator areas | No requirements |
| Emergency Exit Plan | The venue must have an emergency exit plan prominently displayed | No requirements | No requirements |
| Emergency Services Access | Stretcher that meets Australia Standards available for all Matches | Stretcher that meets Australia Standards available for all Matches | Stretcher that meets Australia Standards available for all Matches |
| Fire Prevention | The venue must be equipped with all fire prevention devices as required by Government and Australian Standards | The venue must be equipped with all fire prevention devices as required by Government and Australian Standards | The venue must be equipped with all fire prevention devices as required by Government and Australian Standards |
| Risk Assessment | Clubs must have completed, documented, and submitted to Capital Football a risk assessment for their home Matches ahead of the season commencing | CPLM only - Clubs must have completed, documented, and submitted to Capital Football a risk assessment for their home Matches ahead of the season commencing | No requirements |
| Field of Play | | | |
| Field Dimensions | The field must be within the FIFA range for football fields (100m to 110m long, 64m to 75m wide) | The field must be within the FIFA range for football fields (100m to 110m long, 64m to 75m wide) | The field must be a minimum length of 90m and a minimum width of 45m |
| Playing Surface | The playing surface must be even and flat with a complete coverage of grass and comply with the laws of the game. Either natural playing surface (100% natural grass), reinforced natural grass (hybrid) or FIFA Quality approved artificial turf grass pitches may be used | The playing surface must be even and flat with a complete coverage of grass and comply with the laws of the game. Either natural playing surface (100% natural grass), reinforced natural grass (hybrid) or FIFA Quality approved artificial turf grass pitches may be used | No requirements |
| Line Markings | Line markings must be white and must not exceed 12cm in | Line markings must be white and must not exceed 12cm in width per the FIFA Laws of the Game | The fields must be marked |

| Criteria | Category 1 Criteria | Category 2 Criteria | Category 3 Criteria |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | width per the FIFA Laws of the Game | | |
| Corner and Halfway Flags | Corner and halfway flags must be used and must adhere to the FIFA Laws of the Game | Corner and halfway flags must be used and must adhere to the FIFA Laws of the Game | Corner flags at a minimum must be used |
| Goal Posts | Goals must meet the specifications of the FIFA laws of the game, be white, round, fixed to the ground and not have dual rugby post extensions | Goals must meet the specifications of the FIFA laws of the game, be white, round, fixed to the ground and not have dual rugby post extensions | Goals must meet the specifications of the laws of the game. Properly secured portable goal posts and dual rugby posts are acceptable |
| Technical Area | A technical area must be marked and equipped with enough seats to accommodate 9 individuals for each Team, and a table and chair for the 4th official (where one is appointed) | A technical area must be marked and equipped with enough seats to accommodate 9 individuals for each Team | No requirements |
| Player and Referee Facilities | | | |
| Player Dressing Rooms | The venue must have 2 permanent structures capable of accommodating 16 people in each dressing room, with a minimum of 2 showers and one toilet | The venue must have 2 permanent structures capable of accommodating 16 people in each dressing room, with a minimum of 2 showers and one toilet | No requirements |
| Referee Dressing Rooms | The venue must have a separate, permanent structure capable of accommodating 4 people, with a minimum of 1 shower and 1 toilet | The venue must have a separate, permanent structure capable of accommodating 4 people, with a minimum of 1 shower and 1 toilet | No requirements |
| Players Race | The venue must provide for direct access for Players and Referees from their dressing room to the field of play. The Players race needs to separate the Players and Referees from the spectators. The Players race can be temporary | CPLM only - The venue must provide for direct access for Players and Referees from their dressing room to the field of play. The Players race needs to separate the Players and Referees from the spectators. The Players race can be temporary | No requirement |
| Lighting | Venues must have a maintained average horizontal floodlighting luminance of 200 lux to host night Matches | Venues must have a maintained average horizontal floodlighting luminance of 100 lux to host night Matches | No requirements |

| Criteria | Category 1 Criteria | Category 2 Criteria | Category 3 Criteria |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Spectator Facilities | | | |
| Canteen | The venue must have a canteen in a clean condition that meets Government standards and health regulations | The venue must have a canteen in a clean condition that meets Government standards and health regulations | No requirements |
| Seating | The venue must have seating to accommodate 200 people | The venue must have seating to accommodate 100 people | No requirements |
| Toilets | The venue must have adequate public toilets made available for female, male and disabled spectators. As a guide there should be 1 toilet for every 100 potential spectators | The venue must have adequate public toilets made available for female, male and disabled spectators. As a guide there should be 1 toilet for every 100 potential spectators | The venue must have adequate public toilets made available for female, male and disabled spectators. As a guide there should be 1 toilet for every 100 potential spectators |
| Media Facilities | Where a venue has undercover stadium seating, there must be a designated area for media to accommodate 2 journalists | No requirements | No requirements |
| Broadcast Camera Positions | Venues must have an elevated, central position for broadcast cameras, with adjoining space for 2 commentators. The camera position must have access to power | No requirements | No requirements |
| Medical | | | |
| Medical Room | The venue must have a permanent structure equipped as a medical room | No requirements | No requirements |
| Medical Supplies | The venue must have a first aid kit that complies with Australia Standards | The venue must have a first aid kit that complies with Australia Standards | The venue must have a first aid kit that complies with Australia Standards |
| Stretchers | The venue must have two stretchers that comply with Australia Standards | The venue must have two stretchers that comply with Australia Standards | No requirements |
| Other Stadium Facilities | | | |
| Scoreboard | The venue must have a scoreboard | No requirements | No requirements |

| Criteria | Category 1 Criteria | Category 2 Criteria | Category 3 Criteria |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Public Address System | The venue must have a public address system with sufficient speakers to ensure messages can be heard from all sections of the stadium | No requirements | No requirements |

5 ADMINISTRATION

5.1 Key Administration Personnel:

- Key Administration Personnel Criteria applies to all Clubs in all Leagues.
- Clubs are required to provide details of their compliance with Administration Criteria by 31 January annually.
- The following Criteria is mandatory for Clubs in 2022:

| Category | General Criteria |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Management Structure | Clubs will submit their management structure and key positions at a date prescribed by Capital Football. Key administration positions to be included in the management structure must include at a minimum: Club President Club Vice President Club Treasurer Club Member Protection and Information Officer |

5.2 Key Coaching Personnel:

- Category 1 Criteria is required by Clubs in NPLW and NPLM.
- Category 2 Criteria is required by Clubs in the CPLM, NPLG, NPLB and CPLB (in the relevant age grades).
- Category 3 Criteria is recommended for Clubs in SLW1, JLG1, SLM1 and JLO1 (in the relevant age grades).
- There is an allowance for coaches for one season who have registered or commenced the required course but have not yet completed the course.
- The following Criteria is mandatory for Clubs in 2022, except for Category 3 Criteria:

| Criteria | Category 1 Minimum Standard Required for NPLW & NPLM | Category 2 Minimum Standard Required for CPLM, NPLG, NPLB & CPLB | Category 3 Minimum Standard Recommended for SLW1, JLG1, SLM1 & JLO1 |
|--|--|--|---|
| General | | | |
| Goal Keeping Coach | Level 1 GK Licence | GK Certificate | GK Certificate |
| Women's | | | |
| 1st Grade Head Coach | B-Licence | N/A | C-Licence |
| Reserve Grade Head Coach | C-Licence | N/A | Enrolled in C-Licence |

| Criteria | Category 1 Minimum Standard Required for NPLW & NPLM | Category 2 Minimum Standard Required for CPLM, NPLG, NPLB & CPLB | Category 3 Minimum Standard Recommended for SLW1, JLG1, SLM1 & JLO1 |
|--|--|--|---|
| Men's | | | |
| 1st Grade Head Coach | B-Licence | C-Licence | C-Licence |
| U23 Head Coach | C-Licence | C-Licence | Enrolled in C-Licence |
| Girls | | | |
| Technical Director | N/A | B-Licence | C-Licence |
| U17 | N/A | C-Licence | Enrolled in C-Licence for U16, U14 and U12 Junior League Division 1 |
| U15 | N/A | C-Licence | |
| U14 | N/A | C-Licence | |
| Boys | | | |
| Technical Director | N/A | B-Licence | C-Licence |
| U18 | N/A | C-Licence | Enrolled in C-Licence for U16, U15 and U13 Junior League Division 1 |
| U16 | N/A | C-Licence | |
| U14 | N/A | C-Licence | |
| U13 | N/A | C-Licence | |

6 LEGAL

6.1 Legal Criteria applies to all Clubs in all Leagues.

6.2 The following Criteria is mandatory for Clubs in 2022:

| Category | General Criteria |
|--|---|
| Annual General Meeting | Clubs are required to hold Annual General Meetings Clubs are required to submit minutes of their Annual General Meetings within 3 months of the meeting being held |
| Contracting of Players | Clubs are not permitted to reimburse Amateur Players at a rate higher than the limits prescribed in the Football Australia National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations |
| Declaration of Participation in Capital Football Competitions | Clubs must not deliver football training programs, intra or inter Club competitions outside of the competitions and programs delivered or otherwise approved by Capital Football |
| Disciplinary Procedures | Clubs must comply with the requests of Capital Football Disciplinary, Appeals and Special Tribunals |
| Code of Conduct | Clubs and their Members must act in accordance with the Football Australia Code of Conduct and Capital Football Reduce Abuse initiatives |
| Agents and Academies | |

| Category | General Criteria |
|----------|--|
| | Club Committee Members are required, on an annual basis, to disclose the existence and terms of any contractual, financial, or other relationship with a private academy, overseas club, or player agent |

7 FINANCE

7.1 Finance Criteria applies to all Clubs in all Leagues.

7.2 The following Criteria is mandatory for Clubs in 2022:

| Category | General Criteria |
|---|--|
| Financial Records | Clubs must keep financial records and must make financial information available to Capital Football within 10 business days of the information being requested |
| Audited Financial Statements or Proof of Financial Viability | Clubs must provide audited financial statements, or proof of financial viability in a format to Capital Footballs satisfaction, at a date prescribed by Capital Football annually |
| Transparency of Fees | <p>Clubs must, at a date prescribed by Capital Football, submit a list of fees it will charge Players for the upcoming football season</p> <p>The list must include all fees payable by the Player for the calendar year, and must separately itemise the Football Australia NRF, Capital Football registration fee and Club registration fee</p> <p>The list must also identify what the Player receives in return for the Club component</p> <p>The list must disclose any other fees charged separately to the registration fees, including but not limited to additional costs for apparel, extra coaching, attendance at additional development programs, academies, or camps</p> <p>The Club list of fees must be posted to the Club's website</p> <p>Capital Football will consolidate the submitted fees and post League fee ranges to its website</p> |
| Overdue Accounts | Clubs must not have overdue accounts with Capital Football (not paid within 30 days of the invoice date), or the Government or council in which they are located |