



**CAPITAL
FOOTBALL**

**COMPETITION
REGULATIONS:
2024 CHARITY SHIELD**

FEBRUARY 2024

VERSION CONTROL

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SECTION 1: GENERAL

1 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

- 1.1 Clubs participating in the Charity Shield are bound by the Charity Shield Competition Regulations as promulgated by CF from time to time.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 If any provision of these Regulations is held invalid or unenforceable then the remainder of these Regulations shall continue to be valid and enforceable.
- 1.4 CF may from time to time make variations to these Regulations.
- 1.5 Any capitalised terms used in these Regulations will have the meaning given to them in Schedule 1.

2 CONSEQUENCES FOR BREACH

- 2.1 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).

3 DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS AND PROCEEDINGS

- 3.1 All Clubs, Players, Team Officials, Match Officials, spectators or any person participating in any manner at a Charity Shield Match, or any associated event, will submit exclusively to the jurisdiction of the DDR and the Charity Shield Competition Regulations as applicable.

4 STRICT LIABILITY OF CLUBS

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

5 SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 The decision by CF to review and consider special circumstances under this section is not subject to appeal or review.

6 UNFORESEEABLE CIRCUMSTANCES

- 6.1 Nothing in these Regulations will prevent CF from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by the Regulations.

7 FORMAT AND INFORMATION

- 7.1 CF will determine the Clubs participating in the Charity Shield each year. The below principles will be used to determine the participants each year:
 - a) Team A – League Champions (NPL Men's / NPL Women's 1st Grade Champions from the season prior).
 - b) Team B – Federation Cup Winners (Men / Women from the season prior).

- c) If the outcome is that the same Club is both Team A and Team B, Team B will revert to the Federation Cup Runners Up (Men's / Women from the season prior).
- d) If there is no Federation Cup to determine Team B, CF will use the following method:
 - i) Team A – League Champions (NPL Men's / NPL Women's 1st Grade Champions from the season prior).
 - ii) Team B – League Champions (CPL Men's 1st Grade Champions from the season prior) / Championship Runners Up (NPL Women's 1st Grade Championship Runners Up from the season prior).

7.2 CF reserve the right to alter the principles outlined in Section 1 Article 7.1 as required.

SECTION 2: COMPETITION

1 MATCHES PLAYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE GAME

- 1.1 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 2023/24, unless otherwise stipulated in these Regulations.

2 MATCH SCHEDULE AND KICK OFF TIMES

- 2.1 CF will determine the date, kick-off time and venue for all Charity Shield Matches.

3 DURATION OF MATCH

- 3.1 Each NPLM and NPLW Charity Shield Match will consist of two (2) equal halves of forty-five (45) minutes to total a “full” regular period Match time of ninety (90) minutes, excluding any allowance for time lost as determined by the Referee.
- 3.2 The half-time break for each NPLM and NPLW Charity Shield Match will be fifteen (15) minutes.
- 3.3 Each NPLB and NPLG Charity Shield Match will consist of two (2) equal halves of forty (40) minutes to total a regular period Match time of eighty (80) minutes.
- 3.4 The half-time break for each Youth Charity Shield Match will be ten (10) minutes.
- 3.5 The Referee is the sole arbiter of time, and no protest may be lodged against the time as recorded by the Referee.

4 ADDED TIME / STOPPAGE TIME

- 4.1 Added time will be at the discretion of the Referee.

5 EXTRA TIME

- 5.1 There will be no extra time played.

6 DETERMINING THE WINNER BY PENALTY KICKS

- 6.1 If the result of a Charity Shield Match is a draw after the regular period of 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.

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY & DISCIPLINARY

1 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1.1 Eligible Participants:

- a) An eligible Participant is one that meets all registration requirements within these Regulations and is not ineligible according to any article of these Regulations.
- b) No Player shall be permitted to play for more than one (1) Club in the Charity Shield and can only represent the Club to which they are currently registered.

1.2 Ineligible Participants include:

- a) A Player not registered in the National Registration System to the Club which they have participated with.
- b) Participants who have been suspended by the Capital Football Disciplinary Panel.
- c) A Player who plays without an ITC (International Transfer Certificate) where one is required, unless communicated otherwise.
- d) A Player who participates in a Charity Shield Match but is not listed on the Team sheet.
- e) A Player who is required to stand down for receiving a suspension as a result of caution accumulation.
- f) A Participant who is required to stand down for receiving a suspension as a result of Temporary Dismissal accumulation.
- g) 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.
- h) A Participant that has been expelled from a Match on the same day as the Charity Shield Match but participated earlier in the day.
- i) A Participant that is deemed ineligible due to any Article of these Regulations or pursuant to these Regulations and/or DDR.

1.3 A Team will automatically lose a Match on forfeit if an ineligible Player participates in the Match.

1.4 Additionally, the Club, Team Official/s and / or Player may be further sanctioned in accordance with the DDR.

1.5 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.

1.6 For clarity, it is the Club's absolute responsibility to ensure that it fields eligible Players in any Charity Shield Match.

1.7 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 1.7 b), then the Club and Player may still be sanctioned in accordance with the DDR and Section 3 Articles 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of these Regulations.

- 1.8 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.

2 DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

2.1 Red Cards (Players / Team Officials):

- a) The minimum sanctions set out in the DDR must be applied by CF to red card offences and to expulsion offences.
- b) Red card suspensions incurred in a Charity Shield Match are to be served in the next Competition Match in which the suspended Player's Club competes in.

SECTION 4: REGISTRATION

1 REGISTRATION

- 1.1 All Players must be registered via the National Registration System.
- 1.2 The Player must self-register via the National Registration System and the Club then approves that Player's registration.

2 MAXIMUM PLAYER ROSTERS

- 2.1 All Teams must submit a squad list to CF no later than 48 hours prior to the Charity Shield Match.
- 2.2 The squad list must contain no more than 20 Players.
- 2.3 A maximum of 16 Players are permitted to be listed on the Team sheet for the Match.

SECTION 5: MATCH DAY

1 MATCH BALLS

- 1.1 CF will provide Match balls for the Charity Shield.

2 WARMING UP

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 The identified warm-up area is located behind the goal line nearest to the Teams 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 Teams technical area, provided the substitutes are wearing bibs that are clearly contrasting, in accordance with Section 5 Article 3.3.

3 TECHNICAL AREA

- 3.1 Seating will be supplied and placed in position by CF in sufficient quantity to seat nine (9) people from each Team.
- 3.2 Only currently registered and eligible Players 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.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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
- 3.5 Eligible Players must be listed on the Team sheet specific to the Match they are in the Technical Area for.
- 3.6 Registered Team Officials must be listed on the Team Official List specific to the Match they are in the Technical Area for.
- 3.7 For the Technical Area:
 - a) A maximum of five (5) substitutes who are listed as substitutes on the Team sheet for that Match.
 - 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 CF for nine (9) persons.
 - d) All persons must remain within the technical area as per the IFAB Laws of the Game, except in special circumstances with the Match Official's permission.
- 3.8 As per Section 5 Article 2.1, substitutes are permitted to leave the Technical Area for the purposes of warming up.
- 3.9 Occupants of the technical area are subject to the authority of the Match Officials, at all times.

4 SUBSTITUTION RULES

- 4.1 For the Charity Shield, a Club may select up to five (5) Players as substitutes including at least one (1) nominated Goalkeeper.
- 4.2 A Club may, at its discretion:
 - a) Use five (5) substitute Players across three (3) opportunities at any time in a Charity Shield Match (including a Goalkeeper), up until the conclusion of normal playing time.
 - b) Substitutions made at Half-Time do not count towards the limit of three (3) opportunities to make a substitution.
- 4.3 A substitution can be made upon a Match Official being notified. A substitute Player must only enter the field of play:
 - a) after the Player being replaced has left the field of play;
 - b) after they receive a signal from the Referee; and
 - c) at the half-way line and during a stoppage in the Match.
- 4.4 Unlimited interchange is available to Teams in NPLB, NPLG and CPLB Matches.
- 4.5 The “interchange zone” will be an area one (1) metre either side of the half-way line.
- 4.6 An interchange may only be made when the ball is out of play, and where:
 - a) A Match Official gives permission
 - b) The Player leaving the field leaves from the touch line, crossing over at the sector called the interchange zone
 - c) The Player entering the field enters from the interchange zone, but only after the Player leaving the field has passed completely over the touch line
- 4.7 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;
- 4.8 The interchange is completed when the Player who was off the field, enters the field.
- 4.9 A Player who has been replaced may return to the field for another Player.
- 4.10 If during an interchange, an interchange Player enters the field before the replaced Player has completely left it, the Match Official must ensure that the replaced Player leaves the field, caution the interchange Player, and then restart the Match.
- 4.11 If during an interchange, an interchange Player enters the field from a place other than the interchange zone, the Referee may caution the offending Player.
- 4.12 The interchanging of Players will cease at the completion of normal and extra time.
- 4.13 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.
- 4.14 A goalkeeper who is unable to continue during the penalty kicks is able to be replaced.
- 4.15 Interchange Players cannot be used to replace any Player who has been dismissed from the Match by the Referee.
- 4.16 A Referee may decline, at their sole discretion, 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.

5 PLAYING STRIPS

- 5.1 CF will pre-determine the playing strips to be worn by all Clubs for all Charity Shield Matches.
- 5.2 All Teams must wear a numbered strip with no duplication of numbers.

6 BALL PERSONS

- 6.1 Both Teams must supply four (4) ball persons.
- 6.2 Ball person requirements:
 - a) Ball persons may be 12-15 years of age.
 - b) Ball persons are to wear bibs provided by CF that are distinct from those worn by the Players of both Teams and the Match Officials.
- 6.3 Where regional Teams participate in the Charity Shield, they can seek assistance from CF in sourcing Players to act as ball persons in accordance with Section 5 Article 6.1.

7 IDENTIFICATION

- 7.1 Players:
 - a) Player identification is to be made available to the opposing Team manager for perusal prior to the commencement of the Match. It will be their duty to validate the Player identifications on the Electronic Team sheet and confirm Player Eligibility in accordance with these regulations.
 - b) Players for any Team that are not included on the Electronic Team Sheets are not permitted to take the field of play.
 - c) Any Team who cannot produce at least seven (7) Players that appear on the Electronic Team Sheet 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 on the electronic team sheet and submit it to CF.
 - d) Opposing Team managers are responsible for sighting the Player identification 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 identifications and the team sheet, 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 co-operate;
- 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 identifications on request will result in a fine in accordance with Schedule 4.

7.2 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 further sanctioned 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.

8 ELECTRONIC TEAM SHEETS

- 8.1 For all competition matches, Capital Football will use Electronic Team Sheets (ETS).
- 8.2 All ETS for all Matches are to be completed online using the competition management system.
- 8.3 Each team must submit their Player and Team Official selection by 6:00pm on the Friday prior to the scheduled weekend Match. A failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine as outlined in Schedule 4.
- 8.4 When making their player selection, Clubs are required to note 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.
- 8.5 Both Teams 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.
- 8.6 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.
- 8.7 Changes to the ETS will be permitted any time until Ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time, at which 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 list another Player on the team sheet and the number of available substitutes will be decreased by one (1).
- 8.8 A maximum of sixteen (16) Players per Team are permitted to be listed on the ETS.
- 8.9 A team official from each Team is 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 are correct;
 - b) Goal scorers are marked against the correct player;
 - c) Disciplinary sanctions listed are marked against the correct player.
- 8.10 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.

9 PAPER TEAM SHEETS

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 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.
- 9.3 Disciplinary sanctions listed are marked against the correct Player.
- 9.4 Paper team sheets for all age grades, signed by the respective Team officials, must be emailed to competitions@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.
- 9.5 Each team is required to submit their own paper Team Officials list via email to competitions@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.

SECTION 6: MATCH OFFICIALS

1 MATCH OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- 1.1 The appointment of all Match Officials will be made by the Referee Development Manager (RDM). The RDM is authorised to enlist the assistance of such persons as necessary and adopt such procedures as it deems most beneficial.

2 MATCH OFFICIAL FEES

- 2.1 The Match Officials appointed to a Charity Shield Match will donate their Match Official Fees to the Charity for that year.

3 TEMPORARY DISMISSALS

- 3.1 Temporary dismissals will not be in effect for any Charity Shield Matches, as consistent with the NPL & CPL regulations.

4 CAUTIONS AND EXPULSIONS FOR TEAM OFFICIALS

- 4.1 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 surrounds (including the technical area).
- 4.2 If the offender cannot be identified, the senior Coach present in the technical area will receive the sanction.
- 4.3 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 SHIELDS

- 1.1 CF will present the following shields:
 - a) Women's Charity Shield Champions:
 - i) Perpetual shield.
 - ii) Replica shield.
 - b) Men's Charity Shield Champions:
 - i) Perpetual shield.
 - ii) Replica shield.
 - c) Boy's Charity Shield Champions:
 - i) Perpetual Shield.
 - ii) Replica Shield.
 - d) Girl's Charity Shield Champions:
 - i) Perpetual Shield.
 - ii) Replica Shield.

2 PERPETUAL SHIELD OWNERSHIP

- 2.1 All perpetual shields remain the property of CF.
- 2.2 CF will retain possession of the perpetual shield immediately following the prize giving ceremony.
- 2.3 Should a perpetual 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.

SCHEDULE 1: DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

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

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

FA means Football Australia Limited ACN 106 478 068.

FIFA means Federation Internationale De Football Association.

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

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

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

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).

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

Regulations means these CF Competition Regulations.

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.