

CAPITAL FOOTBALL



2013 RULES OF COMPETITION

SENIOR LEAGUE

As at 1 February 2013

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1. GENERAL MATTERS APPLICABLE TO ALL COMPETITIONS

1.1 *Application and definitions*

1.1.1 These rules shall apply to all levels of Mens' Competition as defined in rule 2.1 and administered under the auspices of CF.

1.1.2 If any provision of these Rules is held invalid or unenforceable by a Court of competent jurisdiction then the remainder of these Rules and the application thereof shall not be affected thereby and shall continue to be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1.1.3 Terms defined in the CF Constitution, CF Registration Regulations or the CF Disputes & Disciplinary Regulations shall have the same meaning in these Rules unless otherwise stated.

1.1.4 Notwithstanding rule 1.1.3 in these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

ACTAS Scholarship Holder means a player who is on an ACT Academy of Sport full scholarship and whose primary registration is with ACTAS (specific to Women's League Annexure Player Eligibility).

CF means Capital Football.

CFDDR means the CF Disputes & Disciplinary Regulations.

Club means a football club which is registered with FFA and is affiliated with Capital Football.

Club Affiliation Criteria means any written criteria published by CF relating to the affiliation, amalgamation or merger of Clubs including but not limited to these Rules.

Club Associate(s) means one or more of the following, whether individually or collectively:

- (i) Club Office Bearers;
- (ii) Club Officials (coach, team manager, anyone who is officially associated with the Club).
- (iii) Players of a Club;
- (iv) Members of a Club;
- (v) Supporters of a Club;
- (vi) a Club

CM means Competition Manager.

FFA means Football Federation Australia.

Home Grown Player means a player who has been registered with the same club or its junior affiliate for at least three consecutive years (specific to Women's League annexure Player Eligibility).

Match Official means a referee, assistant referee, fourth official or Referee Inspector.

MSAC means Men's Standing Advisory Committee.

MSS means the Minimum Security Requirements published by CF from time to time.

PPS means the Player Points System

RSAC means the Referee's Standing Advisory Committee.

WSAC means Women's Standing Advisory Committee.

Supplementary Registration means where a player can apply to play in two different competitions for two different clubs.

Tribunal means the CF Tribunal established under the CFDDR.

1.1.5 For the purposes of these rules the following expressions shall apply:

- The area within these rules referred to, as the "A.C.T." shall be the area controlled by CF as directed and approved by the FFA.

- Where the terms “team” or “teams” are used, it is implied that the team or teams involved are under the control of and are the responsibility of their club, and therefore any sanctions or penalties applied to a team or teams may also be applied to the club.

1.1.6 The qualifying criteria for clubs to affiliate with CF will be as set out in the CF Constitution and or By-Laws. The criteria are determined by the CF Board and outlined in the CF Constitution.

1.1.7 Nothing in these Rules shall prevent the CM/MSAC/WSAC of CF from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by the Competition Rules concerning Promotion, Relegation, Number of Divisions and composition of Teams in each Division.

1.1.8 Subject to the CF Constitution and these rules, the CM/MSAC/WSAC shall have the power to determine and implement decisions regarding the control, administration or organisation of the League competitions.

1.1.9 Where a club considers that it can demonstrate that it has been unfairly and adversely affected by a CF or CM/MSAC/WSAC decision made under sub clauses 1.1.6, 1.1.7 or 1.1.8 it may appeal to CF to review the decision. To qualify for CF consideration, review requests must be in writing, identify the decision being appealed and clearly state how the club has been unfairly and adversely affected by the decision. Where a review request qualifies for consideration, in the first instance CF will seek to resolve an agreeable outcome with the club. Where an agreeable outcome cannot be resolved CF will convene an independent panel to review the decision. The independent panel will not have the authority to recommend the revoking or amending of a decision where implementation stands to disrupt a Mens' League competition.

1.2. Consequences of breach

1.2.1 In addition to any consequences stated in these Rules any proven breach of or failure to comply with an obligation or requirement set out in these Rules will amount to Misconduct and may be subject to the provisions of the CFDDR.

1.2.2 To avoid doubt where these Rules do not specify the consequences of a breach or failure to comply with these Rules such breach or failure to comply will still amount to Misconduct and may be subject to the provisions of the CFDDR.

1.3. Amalgamation and mergers of Clubs

1.3.1 Amalgamations/mergers between Clubs shall be formulated prior to 1st December annually. Applications received after 1st December, may be considered by CF in its absolute discretion.

1.3.2 Where two or more Clubs wish to amalgamate they shall:-

- (a) Apply to CF in writing for its approval for such amalgamation. The letter is to be signed for and on behalf of the amalgamating Clubs' Committees.
- (b) Submit the name of the proposed new amalgamated Club and provide;
 - (i) A copy of the notice of General Meeting of both Clubs
 - (ii) A copy of the signed record of attendance at the General Meetings of both Clubs,
 - (iii) A copy of the minutes of the General Meetings of both Clubs, signed by the Office Bearers of the Club which confirms the approval by Club members of the amalgamation
- (c) Submit a copy of the proposed Constitution, or, if the proposed new Club is intending to become an Incorporated Association, the proposed Statement of Purpose and Rules
- (d) Submit the names of the nominated Office Bearers.

- (e) Upon incorporation registration of any new entity to run the amalgamated Club, if any, provide to CF a copy of a certificate of incorporation or other such documentation as CF may require in respect of that new entity.

- 1.3.3 Amalgamating Clubs may nominate the League or Division in which they wish to participate provided it is a League or Division in which one of the amalgamating Clubs would have been eligible to participate in the season immediately following.
- 1.3.4 Before amalgamation is approved all outstanding financial obligations and playing commitments of both Clubs to the CF must be fulfilled.
- 1.3.5 On approval all Players of amalgamating Clubs shall be deemed to be Players registered by CF as players of the newly formed Club.
- 1.3.6 The newly amalgamated Club must fulfill its commitments and be responsible for all the terms and conditions of any Players' agreements with each of the amalgamating Clubs current at the time of amalgamation.
- 1.3.7 After approval of amalgamation CF shall declare a vacancy or vacancies in the appropriate League or Division and this vacancy or vacancies may be filled or left vacant at the discretion of CF.
- 1.3.8 Where two or more Clubs intend to amalgamate CF is to be advised prior to any formal meetings of the respective Club Members being convened and CF may be represented at such Meetings.

1.4. *Playing colours*

- 1.4.1 The playing colours of a Club in CF competitions shall be as prescribed in the relevant rules of competition from time to time. Failure of any team to play in their registered strip may result in their club being sanctioned. A breach of this Rule may result in a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and further disciplinary action as set out in the CFDDR.

1.5 *Lighting standards*

- 1.5.1 Clubs wishing to play competition fixtures under lights must ensure that lighting complies with the guidelines prepared by CF.

1.6 *Monies owing to CF*

- 1.6.1 Subject to this rule 1.6 all outstanding amounts owed to CF, as well as annual team affiliation fees, as determined by CF, must be paid by a Club within 30 days of invoicing failing which:
 - (a) No teams or Players will be registered unless a Club's account with CF is in credit; and.
 - (b) CF may offset any transfer or compensation fees owed by an unfinancial Club to the extent of amounts owing by that Club to CF
- 1.6.2 In addition failure to adhere to rule 1.6.1 will result in a Club being sent a reminder notice to bring their accounts with CF into order. An offending Club will be given 21 days from the date of the reminder notice to bring their accounts with CF into order otherwise a failure to do so will result in 3 competition points being deducted from each of that Club's teams in competitions to which these Rules apply. A Club subjected to this penalty will be notified in writing when the deduction of points will take effect.

- 1.6.3 Notwithstanding rules 1.6.1 and 1.6.2 CF may in its absolute discretion expel a Club if it does not comply with this Rule.
- 1.6.4 Clubs are required to pay in full all debts owing to CF on or before 31 October each year. This includes monies which may have incurred when an appeal or protest has been lodged.
- 1.6.5 Clubs who are in debt to CF and of which any amount is outstanding at any time after the due date
- o shall lose their right of appeal on any matter,
 - o be suspended from all competitions in which that participating club competes
 - o have any rights, privileges or participation in the activities of CF relating to that clubs participation suspended until all debts and obligations have been discharged, except where a dispute over fees remains unresolved. The status of this dispute will be determined by the MSAC.
 - o reduction of 3 points under rule 1.6.2 results in a team or teams being relegated, such relegation will stand even if the outstanding monies are subsequently paid.
- 1.6.6 Where a club has been suspended under clause 1.6.5, all games involving that club shall affect positional standing's with the competition. For each match in which a team cannot participate because of suspension under clause 1.6.5, the opposing team will be awarded a forfeit and will be recorded as a 3-0 score.

1.7. *Protection of important fixtures*

- 1.7.1 No Club or any entrepreneur may stage any tournament in the A.C.T. area on a day on which an A-League fixture is scheduled to take place in A.C.T. except with the consent of the home A-League Club or Capital Football.
- 1.7.2 Where an International or an Inter-State match is scheduled for the A.C.T., CF may direct that for any one or more CF competitions no matches shall take place on that day.

1.8. *Non scheduled matches*

- 1.8.1 Any Club staging or taking part in any competition, tournament, friendly match, or other match which does not form part of CF schedule of matches, or which is not played under the jurisdiction of CF, shall notify CF in writing and complete and lodge the relevant documentation as required by CF. Fixtures between CF clubs require at least two days notice (seven days if match officials are required). Fixtures involving clubs that are not CF clubs will require sanctioning from the appropriate Association and such notice must be received by CF at least three working days prior to the scheduled kick off.
- 1.8.2 No Club shall promote a team to play or permit any of its players to play in any competition or with anybody not affiliated directly or indirectly with a FIFA-approved league, association or federation.
- 1.8.3 Any Club or Association wishing to participate in any Interstate or International matches, tournaments or events, must apply in writing to the CF for prior approval. Fixtures involving interstate FFA approved clubs or Associations requires at least one months notice for sanctioning.
- 1.8.4 For further information on matches played by member clubs either interstate or overseas please refer to the Capital Football Visiting Teams Policy.

1.9. *Insurance*

- 1.9.1 CF will negotiate and as it sees fit, appoint insurance companies to provide cover for Club officials and Players registered with CF provided Clubs are incorporated at all times and are involved in a sanctioned event.

Insurance of Players

1.9.2 All Players taking the field of play (or training) must be insured through CF's Insurer (or as otherwise allowed by CF). The Player's insurance will be collected by CF at the time of player registration (refer to the Summary of Cover as posted on CF Website for policy details).

- (a) Players who participate in competition fixtures without having their registration details updated relevant to their Club will be deemed ineligible.
- (b) The CF insurance policy will be null and void unless all players participating in football are legitimately registered or otherwise eligible to play competition matches.

1.10. Strict liability of Clubs

1.10.1 Each Club shall be responsible for the conduct of Club Associates at or in the vicinity of any Match or event in which a Club is engaged or is in attendance regardless of the responsibilities attaching to any other person or entity in respect of such a Match or event.

1.11. Media comment and Match day Programs

1.11.1 Clubs and Club Associates must not make derogatory or detrimental comment(s) to the media about CF or the performance of Match Officials. Any such complaints should be made in writing to CF. They also must not write a column for publication without first obtaining the approval of CF, provided that such approval shall not, at any time, be unreasonably withheld and shall be deemed to continue until withdrawn by CF.

1.11.2 Match Officials are prohibited from making any comment to the Media in regard to any fixture of CF at any time.

1.11.3 All Premier League clubs must produce a match day program for each Home Premiership match. CF will supply a template for club use. Copies are to be made available at each match. Premier League clubs are to forward a copy of each program on the Friday prior to the weekend's fixtures. Each match program must include CF logo and all CF sponsors and squad lists.

1.11.4 All Premier League clubs are required to submit first grade playing squads by close of business each Wednesday prior to the weekend's fixtures.

1.11.5 Ground announcements must be made in English.

1.11.6 A breach of Rule 1.11 may result in a fine at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Mens' League Competition Rules and further disciplinary action as set out in the CFDDR

1.12. Change of Club name

1.12.1 Any Club that wishes to change its registered Club name must provide the information in rule 1.12.3 in writing to CF, for consideration.

1.12.2 All applications for a Change of Club Name must be made outside of the winter season, but not later than 1 December unless otherwise allowed by CF.

1.12.3 Applications will be assessed in 2 parts outlined below, and it is imperative all aspects of these requirements are adhered to when applications are lodged.

Part A – Prior to CF Ratification

- (a) The Club must submit on letterhead its request for change of Club name.
- (b) Provide full disclosure of information including the reasons for the request.
- (c) The 'name' should be representative of the broader geographic area within which the Club is located and shall not make any reference to any ethnic name, slogan, sponsor or business. In addition, the 'name' shall not contain initials of any type that can be interpreted as non-representative of the geographic area.
- (d) It is imperative that the application for change of name includes an alternative name that can be assessed, again with full disclosure as per item (ii) and (iii) above.

Part B – Once the Change of Name has been ratified by the Club it will provide to CF

- (a) A copy of the Minutes of Special General Meeting of the Club, approving the Change of Name,
- (b) Evidence of Registration of the new Club (Business) Name with the appropriate entity.

1.12.4 CF will assess all change of name applications only when all of the above information has been lodged with CF and it may reject any application for a change of name as it sees fit.

1.13. Ticketing and Refunds of money

1.13.1 This clause is applicable to all CF Competition Fixtures where admission fees are charged.

1.13.2 Clubs that charge admission fees must hand over an admission ticket to the paying customer when the exchange of money is made.

1.13.3 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.

1.13.4 Customers that present an authentic CF Media Pass, CF Special Pass or are aged 14 years or younger, will be granted free entry and will not be issued an admission ticket.

1.13.5 It is the customer's responsibility to ensure that he or she retains proof of purchase.

1.13.6 This ticketing clause is to be displayed at the ticket box at all venues where admission fees are charged.

1.13.7 Paying customers will be entitled to a full refund from the Home Club on the day of the game provided the main fixture has been called off prior to the conclusion of the first half of the Match for reason of light failure or unsuitable ground conditions.

1.13.8 To be eligible to receive a full refund on the day of the game, the paying customer must: Present to the Home Club or the Club charging admission fees, the admission ticket (or part thereof) as proof of purchase that he or she was issued when entering the ground.

1.13.9 If the main fixture is abandoned after the conclusion of the first half, then no refund will be given.

1.13.10 Admission fees must not exceed the fee structure set out in Regulation 4.10.

1.14. Ground Security

1.14.1 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 officials at CF fixtures.

- 1.14.2 Each CF Club is required to provide Club Match Officials and/or security and/or police or MSS as directed by CF or if the club believes the fixture requires such measures.
- 1.14.3 CF Tribunal will take into account the security measures implemented by Clubs, when assessing any Misconduct charges that may be brought before them.
- 1.14.4 In addition, each Club must take every step to ensure player change rooms are not accessed by unauthorised personnel and to safeguard the valuables of Match Official(s).
- 1.14.5 The visiting team is responsible for the valuables of its players and valuables that are left in change rooms are done so at their own risk
- 1.14.6 It shall be the duty of both clubs to maintain control of spectators, to prevent any disturbance amongst its spectators and to generally assist the MSAC/WSAC, Match officials or CF staff in the preservation of order and good discipline at any match. Failure to do so shall result in the imposition of penalties and/or sanctions as the MSAC/WSAC sees fit.
Where a report made to CF about spectator misbehaviour having a material effect on the result of a match is validated by CF, the CM may declare the match and result void and order the match to be replayed on such ground and on such date and on such conditions as the CM shall think proper or deduct a maximum of up to three (3) points from the offending club and/or to impose such other sanctions as the CM shall think proper.
In the event of a match being abandoned due to field invasion the CM shall have the power to have the match replayed, to allow the result to stand or award a forfeit if they so determine. In determining sanctions the CM will consider any reports submitted by the Referee 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.

1.15. *Representative Teams*

- 1.15.1 Any player registered in A.C.T. under the FFA National Registration rules will be eligible to represent A.C.T. in representative games, camps or tours and each such player must make themselves available for training, preparation and participation for representative matches, camps or tours when requested by CF.
- 1.15.2 All Clubs must release Players for training and preparation for, and participation in, representative matches, camps or tours, when requested by CF.
- 1.15.3 Where a Club has three or more Players from one team participating in a CF approved representative match, camp or tour which conflicts with a scheduled Match of that team, it may seek the postponement of that fixture. CF shall determine the outcome of that request in its absolute discretion and that decision cannot be appealed or reviewed.
- 1.15.4 Players selected that are under the age of 18 years will be required to supply CF with a letter of consent from their parent/guardian
- 1.15.5 A player in a team representing CF must accept all reasonable directions of the team management or other CF officials and must not engage in any public acts of misconduct or unruly public behaviour while representing CF.

1.16. *Prohibited Items*

- 1.16.1 Clubs, official(s), spectators and/or players under the jurisdiction of CF are prohibited from using and/or displaying in logos, letterheads, clothing (including playing strip), programs and/or newsletters, any of the following items:-
- National Flags other than the Australian Flag
 - Banners, emblems, symbols or slogans which promote a political objective or movement
 - Maps other than a map of a geographic area of Australia or part thereof

- 1.16.2 Flares, fireworks, loud hailers or instruments prohibited by law are not permitted at any CF event. The lighting of flares or other flammable objects and or the throwing of objects is strictly prohibited in all CF sanctioned fixtures.
- 1.16.3 No Club may distribute, disseminate, broadcast or publish by any means whatsoever whether electronically or otherwise any material in a language other than English, without the prior written consent of CF to do so.
- 1.16.4 All Clubs must have the prior written approval of CF before introducing or incorporating any design, emblem or slogan onto any Club logo or name, product or medium, including but not limited to playing strips, promotional material, Club letterhead, banners, advertisements, public announcements, website or any other form of communication.
- 1.16.5 CF may request the immediate removal of any offending material without notice at any time.
- 1.16.6 Clubs will be held fully accountable for the actions of their Club Associates.
- 1.16.7 Each Club must take steps to ensure that its Club Associates are made aware of these prohibitions and do not breach this requirement, regardless of whether the Club is playing at home or away.
- 1.16.8 Clubs or Club Associates who are in breach of these Rules will be fined at level BR7 under Schedule 1 of the Mens' League Competition Rules. In addition CF may deduct points from a team or teams or take further disciplinary action if it sees fit.

1.17. *Racial and Religious Vilification Code*

- 1.17.1 CF has endorsed a Racial and Religious Vilification Code for all Clubs and their players (referred to in these Rules as **Racial and Religious Vilification Code**) which forms part of these Rules. The Racial and Religious Vilification Code is displayed on the CF web site within the Member Protection Policy <http://www.capitalfootball.com.au>
- 1.17.2 Racial and Religious Vilification includes any act, otherwise than in private, which;
 - (a) is reasonably likely, in all circumstances, to offend, insult, humiliate, or intimidate another person or a group of people; and,
 - (b) is done because of the race, colour or national or ethnic origin of the other person or of some or all of the people in the group.
- 1.17.3 The Racial and Religious Vilification Code requires Clubs to:
 - (a) ensure that players and Club Associates do not engage in Racial and Religious Vilification against any person,
 - (b) continuously educate their players and Club Associates about Racial and Religious Vilification,
 - (c) publish information on the subject of racial and religious vilification to players and Club Associates; and
 - (d) use their best endeavours to ensure that all Club Associates act in a manner which is consistent with the objectives of the Racial and Religious Vilification Code.
 - (e) adopt an action plan, which is contained in the Racial and Religious Vilification Code
- 1.17.4 Any person wishing to lodge a letter of complaint under the Racial and Religious Vilification Code, must address their correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer of CF within 7 days of the date of the alleged offence.
- 1.17.5 A conciliation hearing will then be convened to discuss and resolve the matter.

1.17.6 If conciliation is not achieved, then CF may lay charges of Misconduct against those alleged to be responsible and refer the matter to the Tribunal.

1.18. Inducements-Player and Match Result

1.18.1 Any club official or player offering or receiving payment or any form of inducement to or from any member or an official or player of any member, or any club official or player receiving or seeking any payment or other form of inducement from any other person or organisation to wrongfully affect the result of any Competition match shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and liable to such penalty as the MLM determine, including possible life suspension. The payment of a win bonus to a player by his registered club shall in no way contravene this clause.

1.18.2 Any club, official or player found guilty directly or indirectly of inducing or attempting to induce, a registered player of another Club to leave for any purpose whatsoever the Club for which he is registered, shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and shall be liable to be expelled or otherwise dealt with by the MLM.

1.18.3 Any club or club official found directly or indirectly involved in the unethical inducement of an entire premier league team to join their respective premier league club from another premier league club will be found guilty of misconduct, and will result in the following:

- i) the guilty club fined \$10,000;
- ii) the new team, will commence the new season with a minus points tally. The minus points tally will relate directly to the games played in their respective division (i.e. 18 rounds: 18 games x -3 points = -54 points).

1.19 Property Damage/ Ground Cleanliness

1.19.1 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 the MLM sees fit.

1.19.2 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, empty all bins in to the supplied hopper or they shall pay the cleaning costs as demanded by the competent authority.

1.20 Sponsorship, Advertising and Marketing

1.20.1 CF will seek to obtain a sponsorship or sponsors to assist with the funding of Capital Football's competitions and Representative fixtures. All competing clubs are bound by any Sponsorship, Licensing or Marketing arrangements and consequent conditions introduced by CF in respect of the conduct of Capital Football's competitions. Clubs may be required to display at grounds or on uniforms in all competitions, such badges and/or logos as determined by CF. The positioning of such signs, badges or logos shall be determined by CF.

1.20.2 Clubs or Club Associates who are in breach of this Rule will be fined at level BR3 for each match and/or instance under Schedule 1 of the Mens' League Competition Rules. Failure to comply with clause 1.20.1 will also be subject to such action as determined by MLM/MSAC.

1.21 Bonds and Fines

1.21.1 The MLM shall prior to the start of the season determine the Schedule of Penalties for the impending season. Such changes will not come in force until two (2) weeks after approval.

1.21.2 Teams, players, clubs or club officials found guilty of breaking the Mens' League Competition Rules may have penalties and/or sanctions imposed upon them. Such penalties may be financial, deduction of competition points and/or suspension or expulsion from any competition.

- 1.21.3 Any monetary bond placed upon a participating club by CF should be for a specific period of time and that period of time is decided upon by CF.
- 1.21.4 That all fines imposed by these rules must be paid within thirty (30) days of invoicing, except for fines dealing with individual suspended players. These fines must be paid either before the 30 days or before the player can play, whichever is the sooner.

1.22 Protests, Disputes and Misconduct

- 1.22.1 The MLM/MSAC or Disciplinary Committee may investigate any complaint of:
- Any breach of these rules
 - Unsportsmanlike or unbecoming conduct against any club, member or official thereof, player or coach
 - Violence or threats of violence or intimidation or
 - Conduct that brings or may bring the game into disrepute.
- 1.22.2 Before the MLM/MSAC or Disciplinary Committee investigates any such complaint written particulars thereof are to be given to the club or any person concerned prior to any meeting being held, and the club or person concerned shall be given an opportunity to appear before the MLM & MSAC or the Disciplinary Committee and to participate in the enquiry and to offer such defence or submissions as she or he thinks fit.
- 1.22.3 If the MLM/MSAC or Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that any such complaint has been made out it may impose penalties as follows:
- Suspension for such period of time as may be determined from CF or from any competition conducted by or in conjunction with CF;
 - A fine in the case of a club not exceeding \$10,000.00 or in the case of an individual not exceeding \$5000.00
 - Recommendation to the CF Board for expulsion from CF or from any competition conducted by or in conjunction with CF
- 1.22.4 Affiliation of CF shall constitute a binding agreement between Capital Football and the respective clubs to refer within 72 hours of the incident of protest, all protests, claims and complaints to correct committees in writing accompanied by the required deposits. All correctly lodged protests, claims and complaints shall be heard and determined by the correct committees as quickly as possible and always before any delay or adjournment shall render ineffective in whole or part the nature of any such protest, claim or complaint.
- 1.22.5 If any dispute or disagreement shall arise between a club and any of its players in respect of each other's obligations pursuant to a contract entered into between them, or as to the interpretation thereof, such dispute or disagreement may be referred by the Club or player to CF for determination.

1.23 Match Commissioner

- 1.23.1 A Match Commissioner can be appointed to any CF fixture. The Match Commissioner will report on any event arising or relating to match day or operational regulations. Where appropriate the Match Commissioner may assist in general assistance and/or clarification.

2. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

2.1 *General Information*

- 2.1.1 These rules shall apply to all Premier League, State League and Masters competition fixtures (including league fixtures, cup games, finals series & play-off matches) of CF. CF will provide the official fixture list as soon as practicable in accordance with these regulations.
- 2.1.2 All CF fixtures are played under the FIFA Laws of the Game, unless otherwise specified in these Rules, and will be played in compliance with FFA and the CF Regulations and other specified conditions and policies-
- 2.1.3 Clubs shall not play or be involved in or give approval for any player, official and/or team to participate in any other matches within and/or outside the ACT that are not part of the scheduled competitions unless they have first received approval from CF. Such requests shall be in writing no less than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled date of each match and where appropriate the CF visiting team's policy should be adhered to. Any club or player found to be playing in an unauthorised competition will not be covered by CF insurance policy and the club and/or player face such action as determined by the CF.
- 2.1.4 CF shall provide the final Championship draws fourteen (14) days prior to the first round of the competition.
- 2.1.5 Any disputes between two (2) or more clubs as to the arrangement of fixtures shall be referred to and decided by the CM/MSAC/WSAC.
- 2.1.6 Dislocation of any fixtures for any cause whatsoever shall be immediately reported to CF by the clubs concerned.
- 2.1.7 All rearrangements of fixtures by clubs shall be submitted to and approved by the CM. A fixture may be played wholly or in part under floodlights provided that the lighting meets the requirements and that any alteration to the starting time has been given due approval.
- 2.1.8 Notwithstanding any other Regulation the CM reserves the right to alter or amend any fixture after it has been nominated in the Official Fixture List and shall provide seven (7) days prior notice.

2.2 *Premier League*

Men's Premier League - Refer to Annexure A for additional requirements

Women's Premier League - Refer to Annexure B for additional requirements

- 2.2.1 The Men's Premier League shall consist of six divisions comprising of a number of Clubs as determined by CF in its absolute discretion. The Women's Premier League shall consist of three divisions comprising a number of clubs as determined by CF in its absolute discretion.
- 2.2.2 If a team/club withdraws during the Premier League Licence period a 'BYE' will be inserted to replace the withdrawn team in the fixture, and all points along with goals scored (for & against) that team will be erased. The CF Board will decide whether to either replace the club/team or continue the competition with the remaining clubs.
- 2.2.3 Each Premier League Club shall:
 - (a) (i) Shall field Men's senior team (MPL), Premier League 20 (PL20), Premier League 18 (PL18), Premier League 16 (PL16), Premier League 14 (PL14) and Premier League 12 (PL 12) under the conditions specified by CF.
 - (ii) Shall field a Women's senior team (WPL), Premier League Reserves (WPLR) and Premier League 19 (WPL19) under the conditions specified by CF.

- (b) provide a ground for all home games that complies with the requirements of Rule 3.1.
- (c) appoint and maintain a Media Liaison Officer.
- (d) provide CF with an email address of the Club Secretary or other official for the purposes of immediate communication
- (e) make all registered Players available for representative team duties and promotional activities in their local communities as and when requested by CF
- (f) release any of its registered Players selected for National or State representative teams including training camps, tours and representative matches
- (g) provide appointed coaches with minimum Coaching qualifications as directed by FFA and set out in the Premier League License criteria

2.2.4 The Premier League teams shall play each other over 21 Rounds, unless otherwise determined by CF.

2.2.5 The team finishing top of the division at the conclusion of the home and away season will be crowned League Champions.

2.2.6 At the conclusion of the season, the top 4 placed senior teams must play a compulsory finals series to determine the Premier League Grand Final winner and runner-up.

2.2.7 Under no circumstances shall any one club be represented more than once in the any division of Premier League Competition.

2.3. State League/Masters/Other Community based

Women's Premier League - Refer to Annexure B for additional requirements

2.3.1 The State League/Masters/other Community based Competitions shall comprise of ten team Divisions unless otherwise determined by CF.

2.3.2 All teams in all divisions will play each other on a home and away basis over 18 Rounds unless otherwise determined by CF.

2.3.3 CF recommends that all coaches in the State League competitions hold a minimum Senior License.

2.3.4 Masters teams shall consist of veteran players who are 35 years of age or over by the 31 December in that calendar year.

2.3.5 Men's Masters players are eligible to play in the State League competition as per Regulation 2.7.

2.3.6 The team finishing top of each division at the conclusion of the home and away season will be crowned League Champion.

2.3.7 At the conclusion of the season, the top 4 placed senior teams must play compulsory finals series to determine the Division Grand Final winner and runner-up.

2.4 Best and Fairest Voting and Eligibility (Mens' Premier League only)

2.4.1 The Best and Fairest Award shall be voted on in each Match by the Match Official in accordance with Rule 6.8.

2.4.2 Votes shall be cast in a 3-2-1 format with 3 votes given for the player adjudged by the Match Official to be the best and fairest in each Match.

2.4.3 A Player who receives a Red Card as defined in the CFDDR regardless of whether or not the penalty for that Red Card is reduced at the Tribunal shall be ineligible to win the award.

2.4.4 A Player who has a Red Card revoked for mistaken identity shall be eligible to win the award.

2.5 Fair Play

At the conclusion of the season, the 'Fair Play Award' will be awarded to a club. The award will be calculated as follows –

- o Each yellow card given to a player from within a club during a season, will earn that club one point. A red card will earn three points;
- o The total number of points accumulated by each club will be divided by the total number of teams;
- o The club that derives the lowest number from this calculation will be declared the winner;

In the event of a draw, the club with more teams will be declared the winner.

2.6 Competition Nominations

2.6.1 Clubs will only be eligible to nominate a team/s in a CF competition if they are a current financial participant of CF and have had their application for league participation with CF accepted by the Board of Directors as per the Constitution.

2.6.2 Each year CF shall call for nominations for all competitions for the following season. CF shall also set the closing date for these nominations.

2.6.3 All nominations shall be made upon the official nomination form provided to clubs by CF.

2.6.4 Nomination forms shall include the following information:

- Division for which the nomination is being submitted
- Preferred home ground and training ground (Men's competitions only)
- Colours of the playing strip (shirt, shorts & socks) and alternate strip for all teams nominated
- Playing history of team and reason for division nomination

2.6.5 All nominations shall be inspected and vetted by the CM/MASC/WSAC prior to the next scheduled meeting. Clubs that have provided inadequate information or information not in accordance with these rules on the official nomination form shall be informed of such irregularities and shall be given seven (7) days in which to resubmit their nomination.

2.6.6 The MSAC/WSAC reserves the rights to determine the appropriate league of each nomination, by taking into account the previous season's results, playing strength of the club and the formation of the division.

2.6.7 The MSAC/WSAC reserve the right to reject team nominations.

2.6.8 Nominations received after the closing date will only be accepted at the discretion of the CM & MSAC/WSAC and placed into Leagues as determined by the MSAC.

2.6.9 The CF Board or their appointed Committee will be responsible for assessing all Premier League applications.

2.6.10 Applicants for all divisions must also comply with the assessment criteria as set out and amended by the MSAC/WSAC from time to time.

2.6.11 Should a club submitting a nomination form withdraw any team after a date to be set by the MSAC the club will be at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Mens' League Competition Rules.

2.7 Player Status-Eligibility-Identity

- 2.7.1 Prior to competition Week 3 of each season all clubs must assign every registered player for that club into one of their teams submit team lists each containing the details of at least fourteen players to the CM (Masters players playing in Premier/State League can be listed in one Masters team and one Premier/State League team). Clubs must also supply updated lists when players are registered or deregistered during the season. The lists will be made available to all clubs. The lists will be used to determine the divisional rating of all players. Where a club fails to submit their playing lists in accordance with 2.7.1 the CM shall fine a Club level BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and may impose other sanctions on the Club where appropriate.
- 2.7.2 Players can only be assigned to one team except where a player is included on one Masters and one Premier/State League team list.
- 2.7.3 Players who have entered the field of play in PL (all competitions) will be included as playing a match. Players listed on the match card in SL and Masters will be deemed to have played in that match. Competition Rule 3.3 refers to the recording of players on a match card.
- 2.7.4 Should a club wish to have a player reclassified after Week three (3), the club shall submit a request in writing, on club letterhead, to the CM outlining the reasons why the player should be reclassified. Players will only be permitted to be reclassified once in a season.
- 2.7.5 In considering requests submitted under sub clause 2.7.4, the CM shall have regard to the following principles:
- a) That no significant disadvantage should accrue to other clubs in the competition through the granting of the request
 - b) That the request is in the interest of the player involved
- 2.7.6 Where two teams from one club are in the same division, players must be assigned to one particular team. Those players other than players playing in the Masters divisions are only eligible to play for the team they are assigned to in that competition and may not play for the other team without reclassification. Where two Masters Teams from the one Club are in the same division a maximum of three players from the other Club team in that division can play across with the team. Where the team also includes players playing down from other divisions in excess of that allowed in Annexure A or B the total number of players playing down and across in any one fixture is not to exceed the number allowed in Annexure A or B.
- 2.7.7 If a club is found to have breached sub clause 2.7.6 by CF or the opposing team they will be deemed to have played an ineligible player. The match will be awarded to the non- offending club as a forfeit with the score line 3-0 and the offending club may be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
- 2.7.8 For Finals Series eligibility see Rule 5.7
- 2.7.9 The eligibility of players shall be defined by CF from time to time. A qualified or Bona fide Player is one who has completed the registration process and is registered as per the Competition Rules and not currently serving a suspension. It is the responsibility of the club to check with CF that all their players are registered through the Myfootballclub data base (FFA National Data Base). Any club playing an ineligible player shall be ineligible for any match points and shall be subject to any disciplinary action as imposed by the CM/MSAC/WSAC. A claim on player ineligibility under Clause 2.7 can only be raised by the opposing club on the match card. A claim against ineligibility must be made within 72 hours of the completion of the fixture. CF can sanction a Club at any time for breaching player ineligibility. Full points allocated for the fixture shall be forfeited to their opponents and a 3-0 forfeit result will be awarded. Where both teams from the same match are in breach of player eligibility the match result will be determined as a No Result. The club(s) shall also be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules plus costs associated with the match or a greater amount as determined by the CM/MSAC/WSAC in addition to any other disciplinary action imposed.

2.7.10 A “Ring in” is an ineligible player, either because he or she is not registered, belongs to another team, is unable to play in that grade due to various reasons including age restraints, but who has been asked by a club, team or another player to fill a spot on a team and knowingly plays when they are ineligible to do so. Any team found guilty will be sanctioned as per clause 2.7.9. Any player who ‘knowingly’ plays as a ‘ring-in’ will be suspended for four (4) matches. Any participating club or Office holder of any such club or any Player or Coach affiliated with any such club who is found to have knowingly participated in any practice of “Ringing-In” may be disqualified for life from CF or be subject to such other punishment as may be determined by the MLM/MSAC to be appropriate, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

2.7.11 Prior to any match the managers of both teams shall complete an official match card as specified in these rules. At the same time, and if so requested by either manager, the manager of each team will present to the other manager player proof of identification of any player listed on the match card. Where a club suspects any abnormality or breach of Capital Football’s Regulations, or where an opposing Club is unable to produce proof of identification they shall:

- Advise the opposing club of their intention to report the matter to CF;
- Make notification in the comments section of the match card of their intention to report the matter.
- Submit a written report to CF within 72 hours following the match.
- Submit photographic evidence to support any abnormality.

Where an abnormality or breach of regulations involves the true identity of a player participating in a fixture, the Club shall bring the matter to the attention of the Match Official and request that he report the abnormality to CF. The Match Official may also confirm that suitable identification was produced and recorded on a report to CF. Any club who fails to produce player proof of identification upon request from the opposing team Manager, CF representative (staff/MSAC or WSAC member) or Referee shall be liable to a penalty as determined by the CM. If a club wishes to protest against an ineligible player, or protest against any aspect of the conduct of a match or dispute any details contained on a match card, they must write to the CM setting out details of the basis of the protest (supporting documents) within 72 hours of completion of the match.

2.7.12 A registered player not listed on the match card prior to kick off who then plays in that fixture is an ineligible player. Any team found guilty will be fined at level BR7 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.

2.7.13 A player may play in two matches at the same time (subject to any other restrictions). Once the player leaves one fixture and takes the field for the second fixture the player cannot go back to the original fixture. If the player is sent off in either fixture he cannot take the field in the other fixture.

2.7.14 CF may grant permission to a club to field guest players in approved fixtures, in accordance with FFA National Registration Regulations.

2.8 Other Competitions (Cup)

2.8.1 CF may conduct other Competitions before, throughout and after the conclusion of the playing season.

2.8.2 Rules for these Competitions shall be set by the CM prior to the commencement of any Competition but at all times shall be subject to the following rules:

- o No club may enter more than one team in any Competition except with the express permission of the CM/MSAC or WSAC.
- o All matches shall be played in accordance with the laws of the game and a result in knockout matches obtained in accordance with Regulation 5.3.
- o Only players correctly registered with CF shall be eligible to play.

2.8.3 Players become Competition (Cup) bound once they have played in a match, except:

- o A player may move into a higher competition once he has played in a lower competition;
- o No player can drop back to a lower competition once he has played at a higher level;
- o In a Round Robin series the movement of players may take place if the teams are in a different competition in the qualifying games;
- o If clubs have more than one team in the same competition the players will remain exclusive to the team that they are registered with prior to the player participating in that competition.
- o Once a team is qualified to proceed into the next round the movement of players is no longer permitted.

2.8.4 A player cannot play for more than one club in any Competition.

2.8.5 Clubs playing players in other competitions who are ineligible to play are subject to sanctions and penalties as per the Competition Rules.

2.9 Clubs Removed or Withdrawing from Competitions

2.9.1 In the event of any Participating Club withdrawing or being removed from Capital Football's Competitions, the following procedure will take effect to allow the altered Competitions to proceed.

- o All matches involving a team that has been removed or withdrawn before the competition has started will be treated as a Bye
- o All matches involving a team that has been removed or withdrawn during the first stage of a competition will be treated as a Bye with all points and goals (for and against) awarded in such matches that were played prior to the removal or withdrawal deleted and a Bye result recorded.
- o All matches involving a team that has been removed or withdrawn during the a second or subsequent stage of a competition will be treated as a Bye in that stage of the competition with all points and goals awarded in such matches played during that stage but prior to the removal or withdrawal deleted and a Bye result recorded. All points and goals awarded in matches involving the removed or withdrawn team in prior competition stages will stand.

2.9.2 In the event that a club is forced to withdraw a team from a competition they will withdraw the team that plays in the lowest grade or division for the club, excluding Masters or Youth League teams.

2.9.3 The CM/MSAC/WSAC has the power to advise a club as to which will be withdrawn if they believe it is warranted or in the best interest of the competition.

2.9.4 Where appropriate the CM shall fine a Club that has a team removed or withdrawn from a competition at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and may impose other sanctions on the Club where appropriate.

3. FIXTURE REQUIREMENTS

3.1. *Facilities/Ground Arrangements*

- 3.1.1 Each Club must ensure that it complies fully with the criteria set out below.
- 3.1.2 CF shall approve all grounds for all matches sanctioned by CF and shall allocate clubs a ground that conforms to the guidelines stated by the CM.
- 3.1.3 Any Club whose facilities do not meet the requirements specified may be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules, suspended or have its home fixtures played away or at an alternate venue.
- 3.1.4 CF may grant special dispensation to Clubs who are in the process of upgrading their facilities in accordance with CF's requirements.

Goalposts

- 3.1.5 It is the responsibility of all Clubs to ensure they provide a safe environment for their members. To minimise risk and to prevent injury, football goals are to be constructed and installed to the correct safety standards. The main areas of concern are:
 - (a) Construction of goal frames for either fixed or portable use;
 - (b) Securing and stability of the goal frame;
 - (c) Net fixings to the frame of the goal;
 - (d) The net itself.
- 3.1.6 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 Laws of the Game, and should have no sharp edges protruding that may cause injury.
- 3.1.7 If a Club uses portable goals for training or competition, it must ensure that these 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.

3.1.8 *Nets, Ground and Line Markings*

- (a) Products such as agricultural limestone, or water based spray paint or other similar material which will not endanger ground users or damage turf grasses, are the substances that should only be used for line marking. Ground markings must be clear and accurate and within the dimensions specified in the Laws of the Game.
- (b) To ensure the safety of all players, Match Officials and spectators, any Club found in breach, will not be able to play any home matches until the breach has been rectified or CF grants dispensation from these requirements.
- (c) In all matches sanctioned by the CM the home team of the last match of the day shall dress the ground, and if appropriate, ensure adequate line-marking and such equipment shall remain in place for all matches being played on that ground on that day.
- (d) A Home Club whose Match is postponed/abandoned due to the use of prohibited substances for marking their grounds (as above) or fails to have the ground line marked appropriately, will forfeit the match and 3 points will be awarded to the opposing team. The

Home Club will also incur a fine at level BR 4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules as set out in the CFDDR.

- (e) All Women's competitions (excluding Women's Premier League competitions) will play matches at cluster venues as determined by CF. A net roster is produced prior to the commencement of the cluster draws advising clubs of their responsibilities at cluster venues.

3.1.9 *Pitch Exclusion Zone*

- (a) All spectators and non-participants must be either behind barriers surrounding enclosed pitches or a minimum of three (3) metres away from all sidelines or five (5) metres from all goal lines at all matches. Such an area shall be termed the "pitch exclusion zone".
- (b) On grounds which contain adjacent playing pitches and on which matches are being played side by side, no person other than the match officials and person previously approved by the CF shall be permitted to position themselves between these playing pitches during the progress of any match.
- (c) The only persons permitted within the pitch exclusion zone at any time during the progress of any match shall be:
 - (i) the competing players and reserves from each team;
 - (ii) the Coach and Manager;
 - (iii) the officiating referees and linesmen;
 - (iv) first-aid or emergency services personnel;
 - (v) nominated club officials wearing CF Official vests;
 - (vi) accredited media personnel;
 - (vii) ball kids.
 - (viii) A member of the MSAC/WSAC
 - (ix) Designated CF Staff

Failure by Club Match Officials to ensure the above will result in fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and/or sanctions as determined by the CM.

Premier League - Essential Requirements

3.1.9 *Playing Arena*

- (a) The pitch markings must fall between the following range:
 - (i) minimum length of 100 metres
 - (ii) minimum width of 60 metres.
- (b) The field of play must be rectangular and enclosed and have a limited number of entrances all of which can be locked. The pitch shall be an evenly grassed surface and well drained, all internal field markings must be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game, A permanent fence (or barrier) around the pitch secured to the ground, with a minimum height of 1.1 metres, and at minimum three (3) metres in distance from the side lines and five (5) metres from the goal lines,
- (c) Goalposts, goal nets and corner flags of approved material, colour and dimensions as per the current Laws of the Game. Corner flags must not feature nationalistic emblems or reference,
- (d) Two coaches/substitutes benches/dugouts, with adequate seating for 8 people.

3.1.10 *Players' and Match Officials' Amenities*

- (a) Two players' and one Match Official's lockable dressing rooms, with exclusive access to:
 - (i) A shower area, floors and walls to 1.2 metres, finished in impervious material, providing hot and cold showers.
 - (ii) The designated player's dressing rooms, with a tiled and/or stainless steel shower area.
 - (iii) Toilet facilities.
- (b) All Premier League clubs have available at all Home fixtures a designated First Aid Officer. The name of the First Aid Officer/Organisation in attendance must be recorded on the match card in the appropriate position. The provision of first aid can be achieved by the following means: qualified person with a first aid certificate or higher qualification, a Medical Practitioner at the ground or having a member of the St John's Ambulance Service (or equivalent) in attendance at matches.
- (c) All changing room structures must be permanent buildings.
- (d) No access is permitted to the Match Officials change rooms unless authorised by the Match Official
- (e) A working mobile phone must be made available by both teams to the match referee if required.

3.1.11 *Spectator Amenities*

- (a) Spectator amenities shall be fully enclosed with perimeter fencing, at least 1.8 metres high
- (b) At least one toilet block for male and female patrons situated not more than 50 metres from the playing field.
- (c) A canteen/kiosk serving hot and cold drinks and snack foods compliant with all health and council regulations,
- (d) Disabled toilet access (where installed),

3.1.12 *Other*

- (a) A media viewing area/room, providing unobstructed views of the playing arena and scoreboard (where installed),
- (b) A fully functional Public Address system that is audible to all parts of the venue, including social areas (where installed).
- (c) External signboard, displaying the names of teams playing (where installed).

State League and Masters Competitions -Essential Requirements

3.1.17 *Playing Arena*

- (a) The pitch markings must fall between the following range:
 - (i) minimum length of 90.
 - (ii) minimum width of 55 metres.
 CM can approve pitch markings which do not conform.
- (b) The field of play must be rectangular. The pitch shall be an evenly grassed surface, all internal field markings must be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game,
- (c) A permanent fence (where erected) around the pitch meshed to the ground, with a minimum height of 1.1 metres, and at minimum 3 metres in distance from the side lines and goal lines,
- (d) Goalposts, goal nets and corner flags of approved material, colour and dimensions as per the current Laws of the Game. Corner flags must not feature nationalistic emblems or reference,

- (e) Two coaches/substitutes benches/dugouts (where applicable), with adequate seating for 8 people.

3.1.18 *Players' and Match Officials' Amenities*

- (a) Access to toilet facilities and change rooms (where erected)
- (b) Basic first aid equipment.
- (c) All changing room structures must be permanent buildings.

3.2. **Technical Area**

3.2.1 Each Club must clearly mark out the Technical Area as stipulated by FIFA guidelines (**Premier League & Finals only**).

- 3.2.2
- (a) A maximum of 8 persons are permitted to be within the Technical Area. Seating shall be supplied by the Home team in sufficient quantity
 - (b) This can only include the coach and assistant coach, the team manager, the substitutes and either a doctor or physiotherapist.
 - (c) All persons must remain seated within the confines of the Technical Area, except in special circumstances. For example, a physiotherapist or doctor entering the field of play, with the Match Official's permission, to assess an injured player.

3.2.3 The Match Official may expel any person from the bench at any time as he or she sees fit. The game will not recommence until that person has left the playing field to the Match Official's satisfaction.

3.3. **Match Cards**

3.3.1 The Home club shall be responsible for the provision of Match Cards. Failure to comply with this regulation on the part of the Home Club shall attract a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.

The Match Card must be completed in ink, in a legible manner by both teams (Home team responsibility to supply and usually completes first).

- (a) Clubs must list in the Match Card all players taking part in a fixture (Name, shirt number, FFA number) maximum of 16 players, Club Match Officials and full match details and must produce to the Match Official a Match Card, not less than 15 minutes before the commencement of any Match.
- (b) A player listed on the Match Record will be deemed to have participated in the fixture. If a player is listed on the match card and did not take part in the fixture, the match official or the Team manager is to mark "DNP" on the match card.
- (c) If:
 - (i) a player listed on the Match Card is ineligible
 - (ii) a player who takes the field is not listed on the Match card or is ineligible then that player's Club will be guilty of Misconduct.

Any claim for player ineligibility must be made by a participating Club listed on the match card within 72 hours of the completion of the match.

3.3.2 (a) Where a Club suspects any abnormality or breach of CF Regulations or where an opposing Club is unable to produce proof of identification they shall advise the Match Official and the opposing Club of their intention to report the matter to CF. The Match Official or the Club must note the details on the Match Card. The Club must submit a written report to CF within 72 hours following

the match. Any Club who fails to produce player proof of identification upon request shall attract a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.

(b) Any Club that wishes to lodge an official protest must do so in accordance with CFDDR

3.3.3 Both teams must ensure the Match Official completes a Match Card after the game.

(a) Representatives from each team must sign the Match Card at the conclusion of the fixture and should do so only after the appointed Match Official has recorded all outstanding details.

(b) Once signed by all parties at the conclusion of the fixture, each Club must take their copy of Match Card.

3.3.4 Where a club causes a match to be delayed due to incorrect completion of a match card, late production of a match card, Player identification or similar administrative matters, the delay shall be reported by the match official to CF. The club responsible shall attract a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.

3.3.5 Under no circumstances shall two players playing in the same team at the same time be permitted to have the same shirt number.

3.3.6 All Match cards (including any Send Off or Incident Reports) must be sent by the match official to the Registered Office of CF to arrive by 9am on the second day or by 9am the first working day (whichever is the latter) following the fixture (Premier League fixture match cards must arrive one working day following the fixture). The Home club is responsible for the delivery of the original match card when the match does not have an appointed Match official. It is to be delivered to CF within two working days. Failure to submit the match card within seven (7) days from the completion of the match by the Home team will result in a 3-0 win recorded to the away team and shall attract a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.

3.3.7 When a match is forfeited the Match Card shall be endorsed accordingly by the match official.

3.3.8 Any Club Associate supplying false information shall be deemed to have been guilty of Misconduct and dealt with under CFDDR.

3.3.9 Players listed in the first eleven (11) spaces of the match card shall be deemed to have started in that match, unless otherwise indicated in the match card.

3.3.10 Failure by teams to complete a match card in accordance with these regulations shall attract a fine at level BR1 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules for each irregularity on any match card.

3.4. *Player Numbers and substitution/interchange*

3.4.1 *Players*

A Match is to be played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eleven players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A Match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven players.

3.4.2 For all Premier League fixtures the substitution regulations apply and the following maximum substitute numbers apply:

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Premier League (Men & Women) | Up to three substitutes are allowed |
| PL20, PL18, WPL Reserves | Up to four substitutes are allowed |

For all other divisions (including WPL19, PL16, PL14 & PL12) the interchange rule applies and a maximum of five players can be included on the match card for this purpose. There is no limit to the number of interchanges. Substitutions and interchanges are only permitted at the half way line and when the referee has indicated that a change can be made. If the match official deems that a club is contravening the spirit of the game by interchanging excessively to waste time the match official can refuse to allow an interchange and caution the offending team if appropriate.

- 3.4.3 All substitutes must be seated within the Technical Area.
- 3.4.4 Substitutes may warm up outside of the Technical Area, provided they are wearing an alternative coloured uniform to the team strip.
- 3.4.5 When warming up, substitutes must choose an area furthest from the opposing team or as advised by the appointed Match Official
- 3.4.6 Any club who makes more substitutions than allowed under section 3.4 will forfeit the match resulting in a 3-0 score.

3.5. Club Match Officials / Security / Police

- 3.5.1
 - (a) Premier League Clubs and Men's State League 1 must provide a minimum of 3 Club Match Officials to each fixture.
 - (b) WPL Reserves, PL20, PL18 and State League 2 Clubs must provide a minimum of 2 Club Match Officials to each fixture.
 - (c) All other divisions including (WPL19, PL16, PL14 & PL12) must provide a minimum of 1 Club Match Officials to each fixture.
 - (d) Where clubs from one competition may play clubs from another competition the number of Club Match Officials required from both clubs shall be the number required by the club of the higher competition.
- 3.5.2 Club Match Officials must:
 - (a) be in clearly identifiable officials vests,
 - (b) be visible at all times, and
 - (c) must work together with Club Match Officials from the opposition club to deal with any disturbances that may arise, assist with the welfare of the Match Referees, escort dismissed players from the playing area.
 - (d) are responsible for the welfare of the officiating match referees from the time they arrive at the ground until the time they depart the ground. As part of their responsibilities they must escort the Match Official and Assistant Match Officials to and from the field of play at half time and full time.
 - (e) report to the Match Referee fifteen (15) minutes prior to kick off time of the matches. Failure by teams to observe this clause shall attract a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
 - (f) must have their name correctly (printed) entered on the match card. Failure by teams to observe this clause shall attract a fine at level BR1 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules for each irregularity on any match card.
- 3.5.3 Match Referees should not leave their dressing rooms to enter the field of play, or leave the field to return to their rooms, until identifiable Club Match Officials are present
- 3.5.4 Club Match Officials will be responsible for making sure unauthorised personnel are kept out of the Match Referees' change rooms.
- 3.5.5 Each team is responsible for the safety of their players' property. Anything left in a change room is done so at the owner's risk.

3.5.7 CF may increase the minimum Club Match Officials arrangements for any fixture at any time. All associated costs must be met by such parties as CF sees fit.

3.5.8 A failure by a Club Associate to comply with rule 3.5 shall attract a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.

3.6. Match Balls

3.6.1 Premier League: The Home Club shall provide the appointed Match Official with 3 Match balls (CF approved) no later than 15 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled fixture. For all other divisions each team (Home and Away) will supply one CF approved match ball.

3.6.2 At the conclusion of the game, the Match balls will be returned to the Home Club.

3.6.3 All Clubs must use a licensed Match ball from one of CF's licensed ball manufacturers as advised by CF from time to time.

3.6.4 Any breach of the Match ball licensing arrangements must be reported to CF by the Match Official.

3.6.5 A failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.

3.7. Players Strip/Apparel

3.7.1 Clothing and Protective Gear

- (a) All teams must nominate a "Home" and "Alternate" playing strip. Clubs may only play in their registered club strip.
- (b) Teams must provide two entirely different strips to avoid any potential colour clashes on day. No part of the alternate playing strip (shirts, shorts & socks) may be the same as the nominated home playing strip – for instance, if a Club nominates white shorts for its home strip, it cannot nominate white shorts for its alternate strip.
- (c) Predominantly black playing shirts (including goalkeepers) will not be permitted under any circumstances.
- (d) All teams named first on the CF fixture shall be deemed the Home Team and will therefore play in their home strip.
- (e) If there is a clash of colours at any Match, it is the visiting team's responsibility to change into an alternate strip. Visiting Clubs may be required to wear a combination of their home and alternate strips to ensure the clash is resolved. In the event of a club fielding a team in colours to those of the opposing team, and where the home team or match official is of the opinion that confusion may arise, the home team may raise the issue with the match official, the match official may order that the visiting club change its colours and refuse to allow the fixture to commence until a satisfactory change is made. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
- (f) Team managers must check the apparel worn by their opponents on a weekly basis to avoid the likelihood of a clash in colour of playing of strips.
- (g) A Club may be penalised pursuant to the CFDDR if:
 - (i) a Match does not commence due to an inability to resolve a clash of strips, and it can be established that such Club or team did not comply with rule 3.7.1(e)

- (ii) a Club changes their home or alternate playing strip without CF's prior written approval, and this change results in a Match being postponed,
- (h) Goalkeepers may wear any colour except black, provided it does not clash with either team or the Match Official. Any failure to do so must be reported to CF by the Match Official and an offending Club may be fined at level BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
- (i) All players are required to wear shin guards (provide adequate protection) at all times whilst on the field of play.

3.7.2 *Jewellery/Eyewear*

- (a) FIFA 'Laws of the Game' state that players are forbidden to wear any equipment that may be dangerous to either the player him or herself, or to another player. This includes, but is not limited to, jewellery and spectacles.
- (b) All jewellery, including wedding bands and any studs, rings, bars or other body-piercing jewellery must be removed before a player enters the field of play. No taping of any type is permitted.
- (c) Any player wearing jewellery will be cautioned and removed from the field of play until the Match Official is satisfied that the player has removed the item in question. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- (d) Any player requiring vision correction should consider wearing contact lenses, or wear spectacles that:
 - (i) are firmly secured with a sports band or adjustable strap,
 - (ii) have purpose-designed and closely fitted curled ends on the arms, or
 - (iii) are specially designed protective sports glasses constructed of plastic with rubberised cushioning and no metallic parts.

3.8 ***Stretchers / First Aid***

- 3.8.1 Each Home Club must allocate one stretcher suitable for first aid and emergency use at all fixtures (Premier League essential). Clubs that fail to do so may be fined at level BR1 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
- 3.8.2 Each Club must ensure that stretchers are placed at the half way line prior to the commencement of each fixture and that they remain inside the barrier/fence, in a safe and accessible position to first aid staff, for the duration of the Match.
- 3.8.3 Wooden or canvas stretchers are prohibited. Clubs must ensure their stretchers comply with current Australian Standards.
- 3.8.4 It is recommended that Clubs have a person trained in first aid present during all matches (mandatory Premier League).

3.9 ***Results of Matches***

- 3.9.1 Subject to this rule results of each Match may be communicated to CF by any of the following methods:

Telephone: (02) 6260 4000
Facsimile: (02) 6260 4999
Email: competitions@capitalfootball.com.au
On-line: www.sportingpulse.com

3.9.2 Clubs which fail to notify CF of the results of any Match by the time stipulated may be fined at the level of BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and may be further penalised under the CFDDR.

3.9.3 *Premier League*

- (a) Both clubs must ensure that the match results are communicated to CF as directed no later than 60 minutes after the conclusion of the last fixture of the day:
 - (i) Match results all divisions
 - (ii) Premier League only (goal scorers, time of goals scored)
 - (iii) Results should be directed to the CF Media Officer mobile (supplied separately to the Premier League clubs) and/or media@capitalfootball.com.au.
- (b) The Match Official must provide the completed Match card to CF by close of business one working day after the completion of the match.
- (c) Both clubs are required to enter the Match records (as directed by CF) to the on-line results system no later than **90 minutes** after the conclusion of the last fixture of the day.

3.9.4 *State League & Masters League*

- (a) The Match Official must provide the completed Match card to CF by close of business two working days after the completion of the match. Match cards from Women's State League & Women's Masters fixtures should be delivered to the Venue Manager.
- (b) Both clubs are required to enter the Match records (as directed by CF) to the on-line results system no later than 180 minutes after the conclusion of the last fixture of the day.

3.9.5 If no Match Official is appointed or present then the home team must communicate Match results to CF (all competitions).

3.9.6 Failure by teams to complete the match records in accordance with these regulations shall attract a fine at level BR1 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules for each irregularity for any team.

3.10. ***Correspondence/Communication***

3.10.1 All correspondence by CF to Clubs shall be deemed to have been received by Clubs:

- (a) in the case of email or fax communication immediately;
- (b) in the case of communication sent by mail 2 days after such communication was posted

3.10.2 Clubs must ensure that postal mailboxes, specified email accounts and the CF Website is checked regularly, and that any information received is forwarded to the addressee or relevant parties.

3.10.3 All correspondence received by CF from Clubs must be on Club letterhead and signed by a Club official, or if sent by email, from the Club's email address as registered with CF.

3.10.4 All Clubs must have an designated active email address

3.11. ***Smoking / Drinking At League Venues***

3.11.1 It is prohibited for anyone to smoke or consume alcohol within the confines of the playing barrier fence. This includes the team bench within the Technical area and anywhere on or within 5 metres of the touchline.

- 3.11.2 The Club must obtain a license as required under the Liquor Licensing Act to sell alcohol and abide by those conditions as set out in the Liquor Licensing Act. Clubs are not permitted to sell drinks in glass containers. Failure to comply with this clause will render a fine at the level of BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and may be further penalised under the CFDDR.
- 3.11.3 Clubs are responsible for ensuring that smoking and drinking alcohol are confined to legitimate public areas (which includes non smoking in permanent seating) at a distance no less than 5 metres from the playing field.
- 3.11.4 If any person is in breach of this rule, both the individual and if the person is a Club Associate, that person's Club, may be fined at level BR5 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and face disciplinary action under the CFDDR.

4. FIXTURE DETAILS

The following rules refer to both men and women's community and premier league in all instances, except in particular circumstance for premier league referred to in annexure A or B

Men's Premier League - Refer to Annexure A for additional requirements

Women's Premier League - Refer to Annexure B for additional requirements

4.1. *Duration of Matches*

4.1.1 *Periods of play*

- (a) Subject to this rule all fixtures will be played over two equal periods of 45 minutes, unless agreed otherwise between the Match Official and the two participating teams prior to commencement.
- (b) The Match Official may cut short any Match if in the Match Official's opinion playing conditions compromise player safety or otherwise only if:
 - (i) it is in line with FIFA rules; and
 - (ii) he or she has consulted with the coaches of each participating team

4.1.2 *Half time interval*

The half-time interval must be a minimum of 5 minutes and no longer than 15 minutes in duration. The duration of the half-time interval may only be altered with the consent of the Match Official.

4.1.3 *Allowance for time lost*

- (a) Allowance is made in either half for all time lost through:
 - (i) substitution(s)
 - (ii) assessment of injury to players
 - (iii) removal of injured players from the field of play for treatment
 - (iv) wasting time
 - (v) any other cause
- (b) The allowance for time lost is at the discretion of the Match Official and can only be applied to the last fixture of the day or as directed by CF.

4.1.4 *Match Commencement*

- (a) Matches will commence at the appointed time, or in the event of a match whose commencement is dependent upon the completion of the previous match, within ten (10) minutes of the conclusion of the previous match.
- (b) Kick off times of all official matches shall be as determined by the CM and shall be detailed in the Official Fixture List.
- (c) If a team fails to enter the field of play, or has insufficient players for the match to proceed, after fifteen (15) minutes of the programmed starting time, the referee shall inform both teams that the game has been called off, and notify CF Office in writing.

- (d) Failure to commence a fixture at the set times will result in a fine at level BR2 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
- (e) CF may start matches from 9:00am for any daytime fixture which may include Saturday, Sunday or any Public Holiday.
- (f) Except where special instructions have been issued by the CM or are contained in other regulations the last match of the day must start no later than 3:00pm for any daytime match. All other matches prior to this kick off time must be played in two (2) periods that shall allow the last match to kick off at the scheduled kick off time. Where a match starts after the prescribed kick off time, the playing time of the match shall be reduced if at the referee's discretion the next match kick off would be delayed beyond the normal starting time. The match shall be played in two equal periods.

4.2. Abandoned Matches

4.2.1 Matches in any cup or league fixture may only be abandoned by a decision of the Match Official. The CM/MSAC/WSAC shall also have the power to abandon any CF fixture, competition and organise other fixtures or competitions as necessary in the interests of CF.

4.2.2 If 80 per cent or more of Normal Time of a Match has been played then the score at the time of abandonment will stand, unless the matter is referred to CF.

4.2.3 If less than 80 per cent of Normal Time of a Match has been played before the time of abandonment, then the Match may be replayed in full at a time to be determined by CF.

4.2.4 The Match will be abandoned if:

- (a) any Club has its playing numbers reduced for any reason below the minimum FIFA requirement of seven Players.
- (b) the lighting at the venue fails such that in the opinion of the Match Official it is impossible or unsafe to continue to play
- (c) the Match Official determines that playing conditions have become unsafe or untenable for any reason, or
- (d) the Match Official, in consultation with security staff and ground officials, determines that the conditions for players, coaches, Match Officials or supporters have become unsafe or untenable for any reason

4.2.5 If a Match is abandoned due to a matter set out in rule 4.2.4 and CF or the Tribunal determines that one (or both) of the competing Clubs, or its Club Associates were directly responsible for the abandonment then one of the following outcomes may be imposed:

- (a) Match to be awarded as a "No Result". In this situation, no points will be awarded to either team for that fixture.
- (b) Award Match result as 0-0 draw.
- (c) award result 3–0 to the non offending Club unless the score at the time of abandonment was greater and in favour of the non offending Club
- (d) Match result to stand.

4.2.6 Further any Club Associate responsible for the abandonment of a game will be fined at level BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and may be guilty of Misconduct and may be subject to further penalties under the CFDDR.

4.2.7 Home teams at non ACT Government owned grounds where practical shall inform visiting teams if their ground is closed. If the grounds are closed by Friday by ACT Sportsgrounds, then the CF Office shall notify the radio stations and the referees of the cancellation of those League games. In the event of all games in the League round being cancelled, they shall be replayed on the first available wet weather allowance weekend. If however no wet weather allowance weekends are available and an alternative date for these games cannot be supplied by either the Clubs or the CM/MSAC/WSAC, no points shall be awarded to any team and the games will not be replayed. In the event of some games being played and others not when the CM has not cancelled the games and ACT Sportsgrounds has not closed the grounds (or the game(s) are at grounds not under the control of ACT Sportsgrounds), the results for the played matches shall stand and the un-played games shall be played on the first available wet weather allowance weekend. If no wet weather allowance is available it is up to the clubs involved to organise a new venue, date and time for the un-played match in accordance with this Regulation. It should be remembered that all League games need the approval of the CM. If none of the possible options are taken up the game will be classed as a no result and neither team will be awarded points.

4.3. *Postponed Matches*

- 4.3.1 Matches may only be postponed by the Match Official, the Competition Manager, CEO or (a designated officer of CF (e.g. Venue Manager).
- 4.3.2 If a Match is postponed, the Home Club must notify the CF by the next working day after the scheduled Match day.
- 4.3.3 Clubs shall be given fourteen (14) days to confirm a new date, time and venue for the match to be replayed from the date of the postponement and the match must be played prior to the final round of the regular season. If clubs cannot reach an agreement CF will determine the new time and date for playing of a postponed Match. Such decision is not open to appeal or review. Clubs are obliged to fulfill outstanding fixtures as determined by CF and any Club which fails to do so will automatically forfeit the Match and may face action under the CFDDR. Any club failing to set a postponed fixture in accordance with this Regulation will result in a fine at level BR3 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
- 4.3.4 Any fixture ordered by CF to be replayed must be completed by no later than one week before the conclusion of the relevant season. CF may record the result of any Match not completed within this time frame as a 'no-result'.
- 4.3.5 Only officers of CF are permitted to approve the schedule or reschedule any fixture. Any Club Associate or Club found guilty of rearranging a league fixture, or requesting the appointment of Match Officials outside a set kick-off time or date, will be fined at level BR7 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and may be subject to further penalties under the CFDDR.

In addition to the above, CF may record the final score of any such Match as a 'no result'.

4.4 *Forfeits / Walk offs*

- 4.4.1 Any club that, without just cause, fails to fulfill an engagement to play the fixture/s or any of them on the appointed date, time or venue/s shall for each and every offence forfeit that fixture/s. The offending club shall also be liable for any reasonable expenses incurred by its opponents relative to that fixture or fixtures. The offending club may then be dealt with by the CM or Disciplinary Committee.
- 4.4.2 Matches shall start within fifteen (15) minutes of the stipulated starting time. Any team that refuses to begin a match after this period shall have forfeited the match. When a match starts later than the stipulated time, short time shall be played. Two (2) equal halves shall be played at all times.
- 4.4.3 Teams must field at least seven (7) of its registered players at the start of any match. If a team fails to enter the field of play or has insufficient players for the match to proceed after fifteen (15) minutes

of the scheduled starting time the referee shall inform team officials present that the game has been called off. Failure to do so shall result in the offending team forfeiting the match.

4.4.4 In the event of any team forfeiting its match the following procedure shall take effect:

- (a) Full points allocated for the match shall be forfeited to its opponents and the goals recorded according to three (3) goals scored by the Team getting the points to nil (0) by the Team who has infringed the regulation.
- (b) Clubs who advise CF in writing at least five working days notice that they will forfeiting a match will be fined at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
- (c) Clubs who fail to provide sufficient notice as set out in 4.4.4.b will be fined at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules; pay all appropriate match officials fees, ground hire costs and pay compensation to opposing club as determined by the MLM.
- (d) Teams forfeiting on three (3) occasions without a satisfactory explanation shall be removed from the competition and may lose affiliation to CF.

4.4.5 In the event of a walk-off by one club prior to the completion of a match, the team will be considered to have forfeited the match, and the club shall be liable to additional penalties and/or sanctions as the CM/MSAC/WSAC sees fit.

4.5 Extreme Weather Conditions

4.5.1 CF and/or the Match Official may postpone, delay or abandon any fixture due to extreme weather conditions that may endanger participants such as but not limited to excessive heat/humidity or poor weather.

4.5.2 If the Match Official postpones delays or abandons any fixture due to extreme weather conditions, he or she must outline the reasons in writing within 48 hours of the conclusion of the fixture.

4.5.3 If the temperature is 32° or above, water bottles must be made available and placed along the sidelines to enable any player to take a drink during the course of the game. If conditions are considered extreme by the Match Official, he or she may allow a 2 minute break during the course of each half.

4.6 Restrictions on Ground Usage

4.6.1 CF may take whatever action is deemed necessary if a fixture or fixtures are affected by restrictions to the usage of grounds.

4.7 Match Points

4.7.1 In all competition fixtures, Match points will be awarded as follows:

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------------|
| WIN | - | Three Points |
| DRAW | - | One Point |
| LOSS | - | Nil Points |
| NO RESULT | - | Nil Points for either team |
| BYE | - | Nil Points |
| FORFEIT | - | Three points per regulations |

4.7.2 CF may record any fixture as a 'no result'.

4.7.3 (a) At the end of the championship season, all teams will be ranked from highest to lowest by virtue of the total number of points received.

- (b) If one or more teams finish the championship season on the same number of points, their final position will be determined as follows:
 - (i) the team with the greatest Goal Difference will finish higher.
 - (ii) if Goal Difference is the same, then the team that has scored the most Goals FOR will be deemed to have finished higher.
 - (iii) if Goal Difference is the same and Goals FOR is the same, then the final order will be determined by the results of matches played between the teams.
 - (iv) if the aggregate scores between the teams are the same, then away goals will count as double.
- (c) If one or more teams have the identical number of Championship Points, Goal Difference, Goals Scored & Conceded, and the results between the teams is the same, then those teams will be deemed to have tied. Determination for Finals positions will be decided as per clause 5.8.

4.8. Non-Participation in CF Fixture

- 4.8.1 Clubs are obliged to participate in fixtures as determined by the CF. Any Club which fails to do so will be penalised as follows and may also be subject to further sanction under the CFDDR:
- (i) the Match will be awarded to the opposing team (as a 3-0 result),
 - (ii) a fine at level BR6 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.
 - (iii) if both teams refuse to play, CF may award a 'no result'

4.9. Change of Fixture Requests

- 4.9.1 Change of venues will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Any application for a change of venue must be submitted to CF, on Club letterhead and signed by a Club official, no less than 5 working days prior to the Match. CF will then consider the application and notify both Clubs of its decision.
- 4.9.2 Clubs requesting a fixture change must submit such a request to CF and the opposing club on Club letterhead and signed by the appropriate Club officer, fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled date of the match for consideration. The request must be supported by the opposing club. Where CF grants such a postponement the match shall be played within the Regulations governing postponed fixtures. Each team can only postpone three (3) fixtures per season unless the CM grants effected club special permission due to exceptional circumstances.
- 4.9.3 Should an opposing club be unable to recoup expenses resulting from a deferral, the CM/MSAC/WSAC shall determine the amount of compensation to be paid. Such compensation shall be the responsibility of the club granted the deferral. Clubs will not be eligible to claim compensation for lost income or expenses for reusable items.
- 4.9.4 If the request is judged by CF to be frivolous (e.g. weddings, baptisms, confirmations or other social events) CF may reject that request without further consideration.
- 4.9.5 Premier League Clubs requesting the rescheduling of a match or fixture will have the matter referred to the MSAC/WSAC for determination. The MSAC/WSAC will take into consideration details of the request and the ongoing affect it may have on the PL competition and any affect a reschedule will have on the PL fixtures. Only where the MSAC/WSAC considers the circumstances to be exceptional will matches or fixtures be rescheduled.
- 4.9.6 CF's decision in regards to rescheduling of league fixtures will be final and binding on all parties and shall not be appealable.

4.10. Admittance to fixtures

Team Admittance Passes

- 4.10.1 (a) Premier League Clubs may be provided with Admittance Passes for the current season.
(b) These passes must be displayed upon entry to the visiting Club on the day of the Match fixture.
(c) These are NOT season passes and only entitle the bearer admittance to the fixture in which that Club is participating.

Admittance Prices

4.10.2 Maximum admittance prices will be as follows:

Premier League

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| • Adults | max. \$10.00 (inclusive of GST) |
| • Students / Pensioners / Concession Holders | max. \$5.00 (inclusive of GST) |
| • Holders of current CF Passes and current FFA Passes | FREE |
| • Current CF Special Pass Holders | FREE |
| • Under 14 | FREE |
| • Match Officials | FREE |
| • Capital Football Life Members | FREE |

State & Masters League

No admission fees may be charged –Admittance prices may be charged for finals fixtures. Fees will be in line with Premier League admittance prices.

- * *Please note that Clubs may only charge the full amount (GST Incl.), if they are registered for GST.*

4.10.3 In all cases where the costs of running the fixture are being met by CF, all gate takings shall be retained by CF.

4.10.4 Clubs shall be permitted to engage in the sale of season tickets for home fixtures to their supporters. Season tickets shall be only used for the home Premiership matches of the Club by whom such tickets were distributed.

4.11. Media and Other Passes

4.11.1 CF may withdraw a CF Media Pass at any time.

4.11.2 No Club may refuse entry to a holder of:

- a current CF or FFA Media Pass
- a current CF Special Pass
- a current FFA Gold Pass

without CF's prior written consent.

4.11.3 CF Special Passes are not valid for entry to non-CF sanctioned tournaments or fixtures.

4.11.4 CF may request team lists from clubs participating in the Finals series.

4.11.5 Any Club who fails to abide by Clause 4.10 & 4.11 will be fined at level BR7 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules.

5. FINALS SERIES

Men's Premier League - Refer to Annexure A for additional requirements

Women's Premier League - Refer to Annexure B for additional requirements

5.1 FIFA Laws of the Game

- 5.1.1 All matches under the jurisdiction of CF will be played in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 5.1.2 The competition rules outlined below are in addition to those stipulated in the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 5.1.3 A copy of the FIFA Laws of the Game can be found on the FIFA website at www.fifa.com and a copy of the Mens Competition Rules can be found at www.capitalfootball.com.au.
- 5.1.4 At the completion of the Home and Away regular season the team which scores the highest number of points shall be declared League Champions.

5.2 Finals Competition Format

- 5.2.1 The top four (4) teams at the conclusion of the Home-and-Away season will progress to the Finals Series. The Finals Series format will be released by CF prior to the commencement of the series.
- 5.2.2 Host venues will be determined at the absolute discretion of CF during the course of the season.
- 5.2.3 If any Finals Series fixture is postponed, abandoned or cancelled, that fixture will be scheduled at an alternative day and alternative venue to be determined at the absolute discretion of CF.

5.3 Procedures to Determine the Winner of Matches in the Finals Series

- 5.3.1 All matches played in the Finals Series will be played over one leg.
- 5.3.2 If at the conclusion of any final, the scores between 2 teams are tied, then extra time of 2 equal periods of 10 minutes will be played (All Premier League fixtures will play 2 equal periods of 15 minutes). The conditions of FIFA Law 8 will apply.
- 5.3.3 If scores are equal at the conclusion of both periods of extra time, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game, to determine the winner of the Match.
- 5.3.4 The winner of the Grand Final shall be deemed the Finals Series winner for their Division and Grade.

5.4 Substitution/Interchange Rules

- 5.4.1 For all matches played during the Finals Series, the substitution and interchange rule 3.4 applies.
- 5.4.2 The maximum number of substitutes applies throughout the complete match (including extra time). The replacement Player must be one of the substitutes selected on the 'Match Card' as directed above.
- 5.4.3 Teams wishing to make a substitution shall inform the 4th Match Official (if appointed) of the players involved in the substitution.

5.5 The Technical Area

- 5.5.1 For all matches played during the Finals Series, a maximum of 8 persons are permitted to occupy the Technical Area of each club during any fixture. This includes the 5 named substitutes and up to 3 registered team officials.
- 5.5.2 Occupants of the Technical Area must be either a registered Player or a registered Team Official.
- 5.5.3 Registered players seated in the Technical Area must be clearly identifiable.
- 5.5.4 A Player or team official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area.

5.6 Discipline

- 5.6.1 Any Player who accumulates 2 yellow cards in the Finals Series will be suspended from their Club's next scheduled finals fixture.
- 5.6.2 If a Player receives a red card in the Finals Series, their Club will be notified of the Player's suspension in writing within the terms of the Disputes & Disciplinary Regulations.

5.7 Player Eligibility in the Finals

- 5.7.1 For the purpose of this rule a player will be deemed to have played in a game when he enters the field of play and in accordance with rule 3.4.
- 5.7.2 A claim of player ineligibility can only be made by CF or a Club participating in the Finals Series of that Division or Grade.

(All Men's fixtures & Women's Premier League Competitions)

- 5.7.3 A Player must play at least fifty per cent (50%) of matches in a team or division to be eligible to represent that team in the Final Series.
- 5.7.4 A Player who has qualified for more than one team or division in a season will be eligible to represent all teams that player has qualified for in the Final Series.
- 5.7.5 A Player cannot play in a team or division below the lowest team or Division that the player has qualified for in the Final Series.
- 5.7.6 If a Player does not qualify for a team or Division as per 5.7.3, they will be bound to the team or Division that they have played the most matches for, and they will not be eligible to represent any team or Division in the Final Series below the one for which they have qualified for.
 - (a) Where a Masters team has less than 14 otherwise eligible players available in a Final Series match or matches the CM may approve eligibility of up to three additional age eligible players from the Club (from the same or a higher Masters division or from the Premier/State League) to reach a total of no more than 14 eligible players for the match or matches where the Club can demonstrate a connection between each additional player and the team.
 - (b) Where a Premier/State League team has less than 14 otherwise eligible players available in a Finals Series match or matches the CM may approve eligibility of up to three otherwise ineligible Masters League players to reach a total of no more than 14 eligible players for the match or matches where the Club can demonstrate a connection between each additional Masters player and the Premier/State League team.
- 5.7.7 The CM/MSAC/WSAC has the power to classify a player to a particular team or Division if they believe it is warranted.

5.7.8 A Player may move into a higher division or grade for the Finals Series. However, if this team or Division is higher than the highest team or Division the player has qualified for they will not be permitted to drop back to a lower division in the Final Series, except that an appearance as a substitute in a Finals Series game will not disentitle a player to play in a grade for which he had previously qualified. A Masters player playing in a Premier/State League Final Series and a Premier/State League player playing in a Masters League Finals Series authorised under sub clause 5.7.6 (a) or 5.7.6 (b) does not constitute a movement into a higher division or grade for the purposes of this sub clause.

5.8 Determination of Positions for Final Series and Champions

5.8.1 Should two (2) or more Teams in the same grade or division, having completed their Competition, possess the same number of points than the Team with the better goal difference shall be considered to be the higher.

5.8.2 In all cases where goal differences are taken into account the following will be used:

- Number of goals against subtracted from the number of goals for (goal difference).
- The highest resultant positive figure goal difference shall be deemed the best goal difference

5.8.3 Where goal differences are equal, the team having scored the greater number of goals shall be considered the higher placed team.

5.8.4 If two (2) or more teams in the same grade or division have the same goal difference, and have scored the same number of goals, then the team which has the better head to head aggregate results during the regular season will be considered the higher.

5.8.5 Should the teams aggregate head to head result be level, the higher team will be decided by a toss of a coin, with the winner to be regarded as the higher team.

5.9 Trophies

5.9.1 Perpetual Trophies awarded to Clubs are to be returned to the CF Office by 31 August each year. This Rule also includes pre-season competitions. Failure to return such trophies will result in a fine at level BR4 under Schedule 1 of the Competition Rules and replacement costs to replace the trophy.

6. MATCH OFFICIALS

6.1 Match Officials Fees / Appointments

- 6.1.1 The Match Official fees as set out in the CF website will apply but are subject to change at any time.
- 6.1.2 Unless otherwise stated, payment of all fees for Match Officials must be made by the Home team. CF will invoice the Home team or organising club monthly after the completion of each fixture.
- 6.1.3 The appointment of all Match Officials (Referees and Assistant Referees) to officiate at CF fixtures shall be vested in the RSAC, who shall be authorised to enlist the assistance of such persons (Referees' Appointments Officer) and adopt such procedures, as it shall deem most beneficial in the making of such appointments. The Evaluation Reports, as defined in the Competition Rules shall be used to assist the RSAC in determining the selection of referees.

6.2 Assistant Match Officials

- 6.2.1 A maximum of 2 Assistant Match Officials shall be appointed to a fixture to assist the Match Official.
- 6.2.2 If insufficient Assistant Match Officials have been appointed, each team must provide a linesperson to assist the Match Official. Failure to comply will result in a 3-0 loss to the offending team.

6.3 Non-Attendance or unavailability of Match Official

- 6.3.1 If the Match Official fails to honour his or her appointment, the next most senior Match Official ('Replacement') will take charge of the fixture (unless the referee is not qualified through age or ability to referee the fixture).
- 6.3.2 If the Match Official is late arriving at a fixture, the Replacement will take charge for the whole match.
- 6.3.3 If no registered Match Official is present to act as the Replacement, the Home Club must arrange the appointment of a person to act as Match Official for the fixture. It is recommended that the club appointed match official should have sat a referee's information course within the last three (3) years. A club appointed match official will have the power to sanction players in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- 6.3.4 All clubs must fulfill all fixtures, regardless of whether or not the Match Official is present to take charge. Failure to do so may result in a fine and other action under the CFDDR.

6.4 Decisions of the Match Official

- 6.4.1 The decisions of the Match Official or Assistant Match Official about any fact connected with the play are final and cannot be disputed by any party. A Match Official may change a decision if he or she realises that decision is incorrect, or on the advice of an Assistant Match Official, provided the play has not re-started.

6.5 Duties of a Match Official

- 6.5.1 Prior to the commencement of each Match, the Match Official must complete a Pitch & Facility Inspection and then ensure that any abnormalities are reported to CF within two working days.
- 6.5.2 A match official who has been appointed by CF to a match, shall without delay, report to CF any instance or instances of misconduct or foul play during the progress of the match which led to the

dismissal of a player or players from the field of play. Any reports received by CF pursuant to this Regulation shall be dealt with by the CM or referred by the CM to the Disciplinary Committee, or MSAC/WSAC. He shall also report any instance of misconduct irrespective of whether such misconduct occurred before, during or after such match, and whether it shall have lead to the player(s) being ordered from the field or not.

6.6 Match Records

- 6.6.1 At the conclusion of each Match, the Match Official shall consult with his or her Assistant Match Officials and confirm the correctness of all Match information before completing both Match Records. Match official must complete the following:
- Names of the match officials
 - Result of match
 - Substitutions (ON or Off) and names of goal scorers (times of goals for Premier League)
 - Cautions and send offs and any other match related reports.
- 6.6.2 Match results and reports must be submitted to CF by 9am on the second day or by 9am on the first working day whichever is the latter (Premier League no later than one working day) after the Match date.
- 6.6.3 If a Club official protests to the Match Official about the fielding of an ineligible Player, the Match Official must instruct the Club official to lodge an official protest in accordance with the CF Disputes & Disciplinary Regulation.
- 6.6.4 The Match Official must ensure Clubs do not list more than 16 Players on a Match Record and not use more than 16 players.
- 6.6.5 Subject to any protest the Match Records received from the Match Official will be accepted as the accurate and official record of a Match.

6.7 Player Safety and Blood Rule

- 6.7.1 It is the Match Official's responsibility to ensure that all players taking the field of play are wearing equipment that is safe to themselves and any other person.
- 6.7.2 If a Player is wearing any equipment which may endanger him or herself, or any other player (see Rule 3.7) it is the Match Official's responsibility to ensure all such equipment is removed before the player enters the field of play.
- 6.7.3 The Match Official must ensure that any player who suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood leaves the ground immediately for the purpose of receiving medical attention outside the field of play.
- 6.7.4 The Match Official may allow the injured player to rejoin the game only after the Match Official is satisfied that the wound has been safely covered and contained.
- 6.7.5 If a Player's uniform or attire has blood spilt on it, the Match Official may require the player to change his or her attire before rejoining the game.
- 6.7.6 If the injured player is required to change his or her uniform, and a shirt displaying the same number as the original shirt is unavailable, the Match Official may in his or her discretion allow the player to wear an alternative numbered shirt.
- 6.7.7 Alternatively, in such circumstances, a team may replace the injured player in accordance with any applicable substitution/interchange rule

6.8 Best and Fairest Votes

- 6.8.1 At the conclusion of each Premier League Match, the Match Official must complete the Best and Fairest Votes and, within two working days submit these to CF. Votes must be recorded on the Match Card as per clause 2.5.

6.9 Evaluation Reports

- 6.9.1 All Mens' League clubs across all the Divisions will have the option to complete an evaluation report for each referee of their Clubs' matches - home and away. **It is compulsory** for Premier League, Premier Pathway League, Premier League 18's, Premier League 16's, State League 1 and State League 2, each club that does not return any number of their reports in any one week will incur a fine at level BR1 under Schedule 1 of the Mens' League Competition Rules.
- 6.9.2 Evaluation reports should be completed at least an hour after the completion of the fixture and should be delivered to CF no later than Wednesday after the completion of the fixture. All reports received by CF will be treated as strictly confidential between the person making the report, CF and members of the Referee's Technical Committee.
- 6.9.3 The prime function of the Evaluation Report shall be the recording of an evaluation into the performance of the referee or assistant referees.

7. REGISTRATION

The Registration Process is set out in the CF Registration Regulations

8. CODES OF BEHAVIOR

The Australian Sports Commission has produced the following 'Codes of Behaviour', which have been adopted not only by football, but also by most sports in Australia. These codes are deemed to be incorporated into these Rules of Competition and are outlined below. There are also FFA and CF policies in place that must be abided by.

8.1 General

It is vital that everyone involved in sporting activities, whether they are athletes, coaches, parents, officials or supporters, understand their responsibilities to ensure that all participants enjoy the sport.

It is strongly recommended that all players, parents, officials, coaches and members be given a copy of these codes by their Club, and that each Club ensures the codes are clearly displayed in their Clubrooms.

As well as reading and seeking to understand the instructions contained in the codes, CF asks all participants to recognise that there are underlying principles which extend beyond those specific instructions. No one must engage in violent acts, verbal abuse, offensive language or behaviour, or acts likely to incite others, including spectators, to engage in such behaviour, or any other conduct that is detrimental to the spirit or image of the game.

8.2 Players' Code of Conduct

- Play by the Rules and in the spirit of fair play and abide by the Laws of the Game
- Do not argue abuse or address the Match Official.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking another person is not acceptable or permitted in any sport
- Maintain your focus and work hard for yourself and your team
- Be a good sport and be prepared to acknowledge good play whether it is from your team or the opposition
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player
- Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition
- Play for your own enjoyment, and not just to please parents and coaches
- Remove all jewellery prior to training and match play, as it is a hazard to you and those around you
- Do not accept or use any banned or unauthorised drug(s), including the consumption of alcohol at any time

8.3 Coaches' Code of Behaviour

- Be reasonable in your demands on younger players time, energy and enthusiasm
- Teach your players to abide by the rules and Laws of the Game
- Do not argue abuse or address the Match Official.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet a reasonable safety standard and is appropriate to the age and ability of the players
- Develop and enhance respect between players, opposition coaches and the decisions of the Match Official
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining the extent of a player's injury and beyond that, when players are returning from injury to training and Match play
- Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices (refer to Coach Accreditation Criteria)
- Remind all players to play within the spirit of the game at all times
- Ensure players are good sports and ensure each team member shakes the hand of their opponents at the conclusion of every match
- Do not smoke or consume alcohol from the team bench (Technical Area) or sideline
- Remember the actions of yourself and your team is reflective of the perception others take away with them

8.4 Administrators' Code of Behaviour

- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development, and assist in raising the standards of coaching and officiating
- Ensure everyone involved in football emphasizes fair play, and not winning at all costs
- Be tolerant and calm under pressure and approach problem solving in a supportive manner as members and players will expect you to set an example for others
- Make every effort to educate persons who breach these guidelines from time to time

8.5 Match Officials' Code of Behaviour

The match official's code of behaviour is detailed in the CF Referee's Handbook.

8.6 Spectators' Code of Behaviour

It is important that all spectators at a CF approved fixture are able to enjoy the match in a safe and comfortable environment. Accordingly, each person present at a CF fixture must:

- Respect the decisions of the Match Officials;
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their race, colour, religion, language, and political views, national or ethnic origin.
- Not engage in the use of violence in any form, whether it is by other Spectators, Team Officials (including coaches) or Players;

- Not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form whether lawful or otherwise, including but not limited to the use of obscene or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in indecent or racist chanting;
- Comply with CF's '**Conditions of Entry**', at all venues, and any ticketing conditions.
- Not carry, light or throw flares or missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators);
- Not enter the field of play or its surrounds without lawful authority; and
- Conduct them self in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of CF, Football Federation Australia (FFA), and football generally.

Any person who does not comply with this Code or who in the opinion of CF causes or attempts to cause or is reasonably likely to cause a disturbance **may be evicted from the venue and banned from attending future matches** held on behalf of CF, for a period of up to 2 years from when the eviction occurred. Any offender who then breaches the ban order against them may be charged with trespass and subject to further penalties and sanctions, including the possibility of further legal action.

Where CF receives a complaint from a member of CF or a club (no later than 72 hours following the match) concerning the conduct of a registered member with CF and such conduct was not subject of a report to CF by the Match Official the MLM may call on the member to answer a charge that the conduct complained of constitutes conduct contrary to the policy or prejudicial interests, welfare or image of CF or the Game.

SCHEDULE 1 FEES AND FINES

A. FINES FOR MENS' LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

NOTES

- **PENALTY UNIT – 1 Penalty Unit shall be** **\$25.00**
- *Unless otherwise specified in this Regulation CF may impose a Fine for Misconduct for such amount as it sees fit.*

In the case of breaches of the Rules of Competition these fines are in addition to any penalties or consequences set out in the relevant Rules of Competition, the CF Disputes & Disciplinary Regulations or which are imposed as a consequence of any other charges which may arise from a breach of the Rules of Competition

PART 1. BREACHES OF RULES OF COMPETITION

| Offence Code | Penalty Units | Penalty Units | Penalty Units |
|---------------------|--|---|--|
| | <i>First Offence in relation to a Relevant Team in a Competition Season or Finals Series</i> | <i>Second Offence in relation to a Relevant Team in a Competition Season or Finals Series</i> | <i>Third or subsequent Offence in relation to a Relevant Team in a Competition Season or Finals Series</i> |
| BR 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| BR 2 | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| BR 3 | 3 | 6 | 12 |
| BR 4 | 4 | 8 | 16 |
| BR 5 | 6 | 12 | 20 |
| BR 6 | 12 | 24* | 48* |
| BR 7 | 20 | 40* | 80* |

*Plus in addition to the penalties set out above CF may deduct 3 championship points from the Relevant Team

ANNEXURE A. MEN'S LEAGUE

Competition Structure

Premier League

- 1 Premier League 20's:- match card for every match **in season 2013** and for both teams may include up to six (6) players who are older than 20 years of age (turn at least 21 after 31 December of the calendar year of the competition). Where more than six players have been included, the match may be considered a forfeit with the offending team losing the match 3-0, unless a satisfactory explanation is provided to CF for consideration.
- 2 Premier League 18's:- Players must be no older than 18 years of age before 31 December of the calendar year of the competition i.e. A player who will turn 18 in the year of the competition will be deemed eligible by age.
- 3 Premier League 16's:- Players must not be older than 16 years of age before 31 December of the calendar year of competition and no younger than 14 years of age on 1 January of the calendar year of competition (as above) i.e. a player who will turn 16 in the year of the competition will be deemed eligible by age. A player who is younger than 14 can only play in this competition after an assessment has been carried out by the CF Technical Director (or designated officer). This competition will be administered as a Premier League competition.
- 4 Premier League 14's:- Players must not be older than 14 years of age before 31 December of the calendar year of competition and no younger than 13 years of age on 1 January of the calendar year of competition (as above) i.e. a player who will turn 14 in the year of the competition will be deemed eligible by age. A player who is younger than 13 can only play in this competition after an assessment has been carried out by the CF Technical Director (or designated officer). This competition will be administered as a Premier League competition.
- 5 Premier League 12's:- Players must not be older than 12 years of age before 31 December of the calendar year of competition and no younger than 11 years of age on 1 January of the calendar year of competition (as above) i.e. a player who will turn 12 in the year of the competition will be deemed eligible by age. A player who is younger than 11 can only play in this competition after an assessment has been carried out by the CF Technical Director (or designated officer). This competition will be administered as a Premier League competition.
- 6 Player Points System will complement the Premier League Licensing framework and will apply to each Premier League Club participating in the Capital Football Premier League competitions. The PPS requires each club to remain within the points cap when registering players for their squad for the season. Each player is initially worth 10 points and therefore applying it to a squad size of 20 for the Premier League clubs 1st team. The mechanics of the PPS can be found in the 2013 PPS document. The point cap in year 2013 will be 225 and will be reviewed at the end of the 2013 competition. A breach of the PPS cap will result in a loss of three competition points to be applied to the club's 1st grade competition. There will be no sanction for the first two rounds of the 2013 competition. Appeals or exemptions from any part of the PPS will be referred to the Competitions Manager for review. The Competition Manager (or designated officer) may request that such a request can be referred to a Panel representing the Premier League clubs. The Panel will review any PPS related matter for determination.

Masters League

- 1 The Masters League Competition shall comprise of four Divisions unless otherwise determined by CF. Nominations of multiple teams in any division by a club will be considered by CF in light of team numbers within each division.

- (a) Masters Division1 shall comprise of ten teams unless otherwise determined by CF.
- (b) Where fewer or more than ten teams have been nominated for Masters Division 1, CF will endeavour to determine the ten Masters Division 1 teams in consideration of promotion/relegation principles and in consultation with affected Clubs.
- (c) The Over 45 Masters Division will comprise of up to 15 teams with CF having discretion as to whether the competition is divided into a top half and bottom half streams after the completion of round 1.
- (d) The Masters Divisions 2 and 3 will comprise an equal split of the remaining nominations unless otherwise determined by CF and this might require some teams to be placed in a division other than the one nominated. CF will determine the split of teams in consideration of promotion/relegation principles and in consultation with affected Clubs.

2 Teams participating in the Over 45 Division shall consist of players who are 45 years of age or over by the 31 December in that calendar year.

(a) Teams entering Over 45s for the first time can apply to have up to three U45 players, providing each is at least 42 by 31 Dec (in the year of competition) and each player has a significant history with the team (as distinct from the club).

(b) Existing teams can have up to three U45 players who were listed as underage players for that team in the previous season Club team list.

(c) Existing teams cannot recruit new U45 players.

Exemptions to the underage veteran player rule will be considered by the MSAC where exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated by a Club.

Player Status-Eligibility-Identity

1 Division ratings: For the purpose of this rule PL competitions will be regarded as one division, followed by State League 1, State League 2, etc. The complete ratings are as follows:

Premier/State League Ratings

- Premier and Premier Pathway Leagues – Rating 1
- PL18 and PL16 Rating 1 (age restrictions)
- Capital League Rating 2
- State League 1 – Rating 2
- State League 2 – Rating 3
- State League 3 – Rating 4
- State League Under 20 – Rating 4
- State League 4 – Rating 5
- State League 5 – Rating 6
- State League 6 – Rating 7
- State League 7 – Rating 8
- State League 8 – Rating 9
- State League 9 – Rating 10
- State League 10 – Rating 11

Masters League Ratings

- Masters Division 1 – Rating M1
- Masters Division 2 – Rating M2
- Masters Division 3 – Rating M3
- Masters Division O45– Rating Unrated (age restrictions)

The Premier/State League and Masters League ratings are separate and no ratings interrelationships or restrictions of player movement between the Leagues are to be inferred.

2 No club is permitted to play a player, other than PL player, more than three divisional ratings below the division for which the player has been assigned to. PL players may only play down to State League 1 but may play in any Masters team subject to age eligibility. PL18 & PL16 players may play down to State League 2. PL players are free to move between PL competitions unrestricted (barring any age restrictions).

3 Each team is restricted to a maximum number of three (3) players that can play down in a single fixture.

4 Players are free to play in higher Divisions than their nominated (assigned) grade. Once a player has played six (6) competition matches in any particular division higher than two divisions above their nominated (assigned) grade he will be reclassified to that higher division. All PL competitions will be treated as the same grade for this purpose (e.g. whenever a SL or Masters player plays in any PL competition, their appearances in these fixtures will be aggregated for the purpose of this rule).

5 Masters players included on a Premier League/State team list or who have played six (6) competition matches for a PL or SL team will be rated as a player of that PL or SL team.

FIXTURE DETAILS

All Premier League 16, 14 & 12 competitions will be played over two equal periods of:

Premier League 16 45 (forty five) minutes

Premier League 14 35 (thirty five) minutes

Premier League 12 30 (thirty) minutes

FINALS SERIES

Finals Competition Format

All Men's Finals Series fixtures will consist of a three week format with the top four teams unless otherwise directed by CF.

ANNEXURE B. WOMEN'S LEAGUE

COMPETITION STRUCTURE

Premier League

- 1 Premier League 19's:- Players must be no older than 19 years of age before 31st December of the calendar year of the competition i.e. A player who will turn 19 in the year of the competition will be deemed eligible by age. Premier League 19's match card for every match and for both teams may include up to two (2) players who are older than 19 years of age (turn at least 20 after 31 December of the calendar year of the competition). Where more than two players have been included, the match may be considered a forfeit with the offending team losing the match 3-0, unless a satisfactory explanation is provided to CF for consideration.

State/Masters League

- 1 All Women's Masters & State League fixtures are played as at cluster venues as determined by Capital Football.

Player Status-Eligibility-Identity

- 1 Division ratings:
 - Premier and Premier League Reserves Rating 1
 - WPL19 Rating 1 (age restrictions)
 - State League 1 Rating 2
 - State League 2 Rating 3
 - State League 3 Rating 4
 - State League 4 Rating 5
 - Under 19 Division 1 Rating 5 (age restrictions)
 - Masters (over 35 years) Rating 5
- 2 Women's PL players may play down in WSL1. They can also move freely between PL competitions (unrestricted) subject to any age restrictions.
- 3 A maximum of four WPL may play in a WPL Reserves fixture.
- 4 A maximum of four WPL/WPL Reserves players may play in one in a WPL 19 fixture.
- 5 No more than two Women's SL players are allowed to play in one competition fixture below their League Status at any one time.
- 6 Clubs are entitled to seek permission from CF to register a maximum of three ACTAS registered as Supplementary Registered Players.

If a club has more than three home grown players who are registered with ACTAS, the club is entitled to register all of these players and will not be permitted to seek to register any more ACTAS registered players. Clubs should therefore give careful consideration to those players they wish to register prior to the season.

Example

- (i) *If a club has four home grown players, the club can seek Supplementary Registration for all four players after obtaining permission from CF and the ACTAS coach to do so*
- (ii) *If a club applies to seek Supplementary Registration for two of its home grown players who are registered with ACTAS and decides to register another ACTAS registered player who does not meet the home grown player definition, that club may seek permission from CF to register all three of those players but is not permitted to register any other ACTAS registered player whether they are home grown or not*
- (iii) *The following season the club is permitted to seek to register all four of their home grown players but would not be permitted to seek to register the player recruited in the previous year. If the club chooses to register the previously registered non-home grown ACTAS player, then the club would only be permitted to seek to register two additional ACTAS registered players whether home grown or not*

7 CF has the right to decline applications for Supplementary Registration.

FIXTURE DETAILS

Player Eligibility in the Finals

State League

- 1 Players are eligible to play in the Final series where they hold their playing status (Team Status List)
- 2 A maximum of two players may play down one Division in any one Finals series match subject to any age restrictions.

FINALS SERIES

All Women's State League & Masters competitions will be played over two equal periods of 40 minutes.

Finals Competition Format

- 1 Women's State League/Masters Finals Series will consist of a two week format with the top four teams (winners of the two semi-finals will proceed to the Final) unless otherwise directed by CF.
- 2 Women's Premier League Finals Series will consist of a three week format with the top four teams unless otherwise directed by CF.