



FOOTBALL
QUEENSLAND

Football Queensland Rules of Competition 2022

Version 1

Table of Contents

1	GENERAL MATTERS	4
2	DEFINITIONS	4
3	RULES OF COMPETITION (ROC)	7
3.1	GENERAL	7
3.2	COMPETITION REGULATIONS	7
3.3	COMPETITION STRUCTURE:	7
3.3.1	All Competitions	7
3.3.2	Senior Competitions	8
3.3.3	Junior Divisions – Under 13 to Under 18	8
3.3.4	Junior Divisions – Small Sided Football (SSF):	8
3.3.5	Junior Divisions – Under 12s	8
3.3.6	Masters	8
3.3.7	Additional Competitions:	9
3.4	COMPETITION DETAILS:	9
3.4.1	Match Scheduling:	9
3.4.2	Alteration to fixtures:	9
3.4.3	Match Results:	10
3.4.4	Duration of Matches – All age groups Junior/Senior:	10
3.4.5	Procedures to Determine Placing after Regular Season:	11
3.4.6	Substitution of Players:	11
3.5	INCOMPLETE FIXTURES:	11
3.6	APPLICATION FOR DEPARTURE FROM FIXTURES:	12
3.7	NON-PARTICIPATION IN A MATCH (FORFEITS):	12
3.8	WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITION SEASON:	12
3.9	ADDITION TO COMPETITION SEASON:	13
3.10	DELAYED, POSTPONED AND CANCELLED MATCHES:	13
3.11	SUSPENDED OR ABANDONED MATCHES:	13
3.12	REQUEST FOR REPLAY OF ABANDONED MATCH:	14
3.13	FINALS SERIES DETAILS:	14
3.13.1	Format:	14
3.13.2	Location:	14
3.13.3	Procedures to Determine the Winner of all Competitive Finals Series	15
4	PLAYER REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY:	16
4.1	PLAYER REGISTRATION:	16
4.2	AMATEUR PLAYER REGISTRATION PROCESS:	16
4.3	PLAYER INSURANCE:	16
4.4	VISA PLAYERS:	16
4.5	PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:	16
4.5.1	General:	16
4.5.2	Senior Competition	17
4.5.3	Junior Competition	17
4.5.4	Small Sided Football	18
4.5.5	Player Eligibility for Finals	18
4.5.6	Regrading of Players	18
4.6	PLAYER INELIGIBILITY:	19
4.6.1	Penalties and Outcomes:	19
4.7	AGE ELIGIBILITY:	19
4.7.1	Player Age Requirements:	19

4.7.2	Playing Outside Designated Age Group	20
5	DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS	22
5.1	COMPETITION	22
5.2	SANCTIONS	22
5.3	MISCONDUCT	22
5.4	CODE OF CONDUCT	22
5.5	NOTIFICATION AND TIMEFRAMES	22
5.6	TERMS OF SUSPENSION	23
5.7	DISCIPLINARY HEARING PROCEDURES	23
5.8	SANCTIONS UNDER FA STATUTES	24
5.9	MONIES OWING TO FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND BY A CLUB	24
6	FOOTBALL AND MATCH DAY OPERATIONS:	26
6.1	FACILITIES / GROUND CONDITIONS:	26
6.2	THE TECHNICAL AREA:	26
6.3	LIGHTING:	26
6.4	MEDICAL:	27
6.4.1	Stretchers:	27
6.4.2	Ambulance Access:	27
6.4.3	Water Bottles:	27
6.4.4	Blood Ruling:	27
6.4.5	Concussion Management:	27
6.4.6	Heat Management Strategy:	27
6.5	EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS:	27
6.6	TEAM OFFICIALS:	29
6.7	GROUND OFFICIALS:	29
6.8	MATCH DAY INFORMATION:	29
6.8.1	Match Balls:	29
6.8.2	Playing Kits:	29
6.8.3	Player Equipment:	30
6.8.4	Jewellery:	30
6.8.5	Alcohol:	30
6.9	MATCH DAY TEAM SHEETS – COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS:	30
6.10	CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES:	31
6.11	NON-ATTENDANCE OR UNAVAILABILITY OF MATCH OFFICIAL:	31
6.12	MATCH OFFICIALS' INFORMATION:	32
6.12.1	Substitution of Players:	32
6.12.2	Team Sheets, Referee Summary and Send Off/Incident Report Forms:	32
	APPENDIX 1 – SCHEDULE OF FINES & CHARGES	33

1 GENERAL MATTERS

Football Queensland reserve the right to alter the Rules of Competition should the need arise throughout the season and if it is in the best interest of the competitions.

The following Rules of Competition is to be applied to all regional amateur competitions. These rules do not apply to Football Queensland's Professional Competitions, FQ Metro (Brisbane) Competitions and those teams from regions participating in these competitions.

2 DEFINITIONS

Abandoned Match means a Competition Fixture which has commenced but was stopped by the Match Official prior to its conclusion.

Age Group refers to the cohort of players defined by the year/s they were born.

Away Club means the Club not playing the match at its home ground and / or appearing second on the fixture list in the event a match is conducted at a neutral venue.

Cancelled Match means a match that has been deferred, postponed, abandoned, or suspended and is unable to be rescheduled before season end.

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

Clubs means clubs/bodies affiliated to Football Queensland for the purposes of competition, insurance, governance, administration, and support.

Coach means any person who is registered on the National Registration system with Football Queensland and is tasked with directing a football team training and match performance.

Competitions means any or all of the football matches or competitions conducted by Football Queensland.

Competition Administrator means the staff members of the Football Queensland Competitions Department.

Cup Fixture means any knock-out cup match, fixture or other event organised and/or administered by Football Queensland or FA before, after or in conjunction with a Regular Season and includes but is not limited to the FA Cup.

Division refers to a particular level in an age group within all Football Queensland competitions.

FA means Football Australia.

Field of Play (FOP) means: At an enclosed pitch the entire area within the temporary or permanent perimeter fencing; or at an open pitch the entire area within three (3) metres of the boundary line of the football pitch.

FIFA means Federation Internationale de Football Association, its successor or assignee.

Final means a competitive match played to determine a winner of a match that forms part of a Finals Series administered by Football Queensland.

Finals Series means a set of competitive fixtures played separate to the Regular Season to determine the winner of the Championship as administered by Football Queensland.

First Team means the top team within a club's FQPL squad (not the U23's)

Fixture means any match played in a Football Queensland Competition, Cup, other event or tournament under Football Queensland's control.

Fixture Suspensions means a suspension imposed on a participant that prevents them from being involved in subsequent match/s.

Forfeit means the definition given in these Regulations.

FQ means Football Queensland.

FQ By-Law 11 means the Football Queensland Grievance, Discipline and Tribunal By-Law (as amended from time to time).

FQPL means Football Queensland Premier League

Goal Difference means the difference between goals scored by a Club/Team (Goals For) and goals scored against a Club/Team (Goals Against) in a match or season.

Home Club means the Club playing the fixture or match at its home ground and/or appearing first on the fixture list in the event a match is conducted at a neutral venue.

Host Club means a Club which hosts one or more Competition Fixtures or Finals at its home venue, whether or not that Club participates in one of those Competition Fixtures or Finals Series matches or not.

IFAB means International Football Association Board, its successor or assignee.

Laws of the Game (LOTG) means the official laws of the game of football and futsal as promulgated by IFAB and FIFA.

League means a competition conducted by Football Queensland comprised of specific gender and age divisions, as declared by the Football Queensland Board.

Match see fixture

Match Official means a referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, any person in charge of safety or any other person appointed by FA, Football Queensland, a Referee's Body, or a Club to assume responsibility in connection with a match.

No Result means recording a nil all score line in a Competitive Fixture with no points or goals awarded to either team. A 'No Result' is recorded as a Competition Fixture played.

Non-Participation in a Fixture means a player listed on the official Competitive Fixture (Match Record) who did not take to the Field of Play (FOP) during the match.

Participants One that participates, shares, or takes part in a football match including, but not limited to: players, coaches, club officials and club supporters (spectators).

Premiership means the round robin matches (both home and away) that a team competes in during a Regular Season in accordance with the Football Queensland Competition Regulations.

Registered means a player or Club official who is registered in accordance with the applicable Football Queensland Registration Regulations, and/or FA National Registration Regulations, including without limitation seeking an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) where applicable.

Regular Season means the time and Competition Fixtures the first and last round of the relevant competition and does not include Finals Series.

Rules of Competition (RoC) means referring to this document and all stipulations, policies, and statutes herewith.

Sanctioned Match means any match/s Football Queensland approves to be played in accordance with the Football Queensland Sanctioning Policy. This includes matches to which Football Queensland does not appoint Match Officials to.

Team means a Football Team entered by a Club to play in Football Queensland Competitions.

Under 23s (U23s) means the complementary team to the wider FQPL squad.

Unregistered means a player or Club Official who is not registered in the National Online Registration System.

Venue Managers means football facilities not directly leased, owned or managed by a club.

3 Rules of Competition (RoC)

3.1 GENERAL

- a) Football Queensland reserves the right to amend, change or alter these Competition Rules on an annual basis. In addition, Football Queensland reserves the right to amend, change or alter these Competition Rules should, in its opinion, the need arises during the season. The purpose of this is to ensure transparency, consistency, and best practice. The changing of the Rules mid-season would only occur in extraordinary circumstances.

3.2 COMPETITION REGULATIONS

- a) All matches under the jurisdiction of FQ and all affiliated Clubs will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game. This includes all Regular Season and Finals Series matches.
- b) The Rules of Competition outlined herein are complementary to the official Laws of the Game (LoTG) as determined by IFAB on an annual basis and can be found [here](#).
- c) All Clubs, Players and Officials must comply with and agree to abide by the regulations of Football Australia and Football Queensland including;
 - i. National Registration Regulations.
 - ii. National Disciplinary Regulations.
 - iii. FA Code of Conduct and Ethics
 - iv. Grievance Resolution Regulations.
 - v. Member Protection Policy; and
 - vi. FQ Rules of Competition.
 - vii. Any other relevant or applicable statutes, policies or regulations including the FQ Disciplinary Regulations and FQ By-Laws.

3.3 COMPETITION STRUCTURE:

3.3.1 All Competitions

- a) Clubs may not field more than one (1) team in a competition or division level unless the Club has applied for, and been granted, an exemption by Football Queensland. All decisions by Football Queensland regarding exemptions from this rule shall be at the discretion of Football Queensland and shall be final. There shall be no appeal from a decision made by Football Queensland.
- b) To field an additional team in a single division, the club must be able to field a full and separate compliment of players.
- c) FQ, with feedback from clubs, will determine the number of matches to be played in each division once the final composition is determined.
- d) In all competitive age groups and divisions, at the conclusion of the regular season, the team that finishes with the highest number of points are crowned the Premiers. In the event multiple teams are equal on points, refer to section 3.4.5. to determine their placing.
- e) At the conclusion of the fixture season, the top four (4) placed teams will participate in a Finals Series to determine the Grand Final Winners and Runners Up. In the event multiple teams are equal on points, refer to section 3.4.5. to determine their placing.
- f) In all Junior and Senior competitions, in the event a team has insufficient numbers to play a fixtured match, the highest division in each age group takes priority and must be filled, consideration will be applied if the difference between the two teams is significant. If a club fields a team in a lower division but not the higher division, both teams may be issued a forfeit and disciplinary action will be taken accordingly.

- g) FQ may instruct clubs to combine to form a team in a particular age if it is necessary to form a viable competition. The playing strip will be agreed to by both clubs at the start of the season with the Venue Manager's guidance.
- h) Refer to the regional addendum for competition structure and composition on offer for the relevant zone

3.3.2 Senior Competitions

- a) The composition of the Senior Divisions will be determined by FQ on an annual basis following receipt of nominations from registered clubs. Where possible there will be an FQPL and U23s in both Men's and Women's within the Zone, along with a First, Second and Third Community Division for each gender in each Local Area.
- b) Club's may only field one (1) team in a single FQPL Division. All clubs participating in FQPL must hold, and be compliant with, their relevant FQPL license.

3.3.3 Junior Divisions – Under 13 to Under 18

- a) The composition of the Junior Divisions will be determined by the FQ on an annual basis following receipt of nominations from registered clubs and, where applicable, a series of grading matches. Where possible there will be multiple divisions for each age group. All junior divisions are to be sanctioned by FQ prior to commencement.
- b) Within each age group clubs may field more than one team, with approval from the Competition Administrator, in any Division irrespective of the number of teams they field in other Divisions of that age group. Each team must be able to field a full and separate compliment of members.
- c) Players may not play for another team in the same Division from the same club. Clubs playing a player in both of its teams will be deemed to have played an ineligible player and may face disciplinary action and sanctions.
- d) Players from a separate division in the age group may play into another of their club teams within the provision of Clause 4.5. (Player Eligibility).

3.3.4 Junior Divisions – Small Sided Football (SSF):

- a) The age groups of Under 5 to Under 11 will play Formats according to the National curriculum as issued Football Australia and Football Queensland.
- b) Full details of formats and guidelines will be issued to clubs prior to the commencement of the playing season, once received from FA
- c) There are no finals in SSF divisions, and no records are kept of the scores of games.

3.3.5 Junior Divisions – Under 12s

- a) The age groups of Under 12 will play Formats according to the National Curriculum as issued Football Australia and Football Queensland.
- b) Full details of formats and guidelines will be issued to clubs prior to the commencement of the playing season, once received from FA
- c) There are no finals in the U12s, where necessary match records will be kept internally for the purpose of U13 grading for the following season.

3.3.6 Masters

- a) The composition of the master's competitions will be determined by FQ on an annual basis following receipt of nominations from registered clubs. Where possible there will be a First and Second Division for each age group. All Masters competitions/games are to be sanctioned by FQ prior to commencement.
- b) No Slide Tackles are allowed (including Goalkeepers). A Slide Tackle occurs when two or more

players are challenging for the ball and any of them “slide” for the ball. Any challenge not made on two feet is to be considered a Slide Tackle. There must be a slide AND a tackle before the challenge can be penalised, but there does not have to be contact between the players. A player is considered to be challenging an opponent for the ball if the opponent is within a radius of one (1) metre of the player. These rules apply to a goalkeeper who chooses to play or attempts to challenge for the ball with his feet. They do NOT apply to a goalkeeper playing or attempting to play the ball with her hands.

- c) No tackling from behind is allowed. A tackle from behind will be penalised
- d) Within each division clubs may field more than one team however each team must be able to field a full and separate compliment of members.
- e) Players may not play for another team in that Division from the same club. Clubs playing a player in both of its teams will be deemed to have played an ineligible player and may face disciplinary action and sanctions.

3.3.7 Additional Competitions:

- a) FQ may conduct additional competitions as it deems appropriate before, during or after the competition season, providing the rules and competitions are sanctioned by FQ for this competition prior to the commencement of the competition (includes cup competitions).
- b) All additional competitions are subject to (and should be read in conjunction with) these Rules of Competition and additional Rules. In the event of an omission or inconsistency between these Rules and the Additional Rules, Football Queensland will determine and rule on the interpretation.

3.4 COMPETITION DETAILS:

3.4.1 Match Scheduling:

- a) FQ will arrange and publish the dates, times, and venues of all junior and senior competitions on the competition management system (GameDay), considering advice from host clubs and venues on venue availability;
- b) Match scheduling for any competition should be completed no later than one (1) week prior to the commencement of each competition.
- c) All FQ matches take precedence in scheduling over non-FA affiliated matches at all Football Queensland Clubs.
- d) The highest-level competition will take precedent over any other scheduled fixtures.

3.4.2 Alteration to fixtures:

- a) Alterations to the fixture list should be made no less than 14 days in advance of the scheduled fixture and must include the written agreement of the opposing club.
- b) In the best interest of the fixture being played, FQ may alter the playing field and/or starting time for a game at short notice for extenuating circumstances such as the weather, fixture clashes, availability (or failure) of lighting, and extra time in other games. Under the above circumstances’ clubs may be asked to negotiate alternative venue.
- c) In extenuating circumstances, within the 14 day window, Clubs may apply to FQ to alter a fixture without the approval of the opposing club. The application must be supported with relevant evidence.
- d) Designated catch-up, or cup fixture weekends, will only be used in the case of postponed or abandoned fixtures.
- e) Changes requested by clubs within the 14-day time period will not be considered by FQ, unless 3.4.2.c applies.

- f) FQ in its sole discretion reserve the right to decline any fixture alteration request. The decision on that matter is final and is not subject to appeal.

3.4.3 Match Results:

- a) The following points will be awarded for matches during the Regular Season:
 - i. Win = 3 points
 - ii. Draw = 1 point
 - iii. Loss = 0 points
 - iv. Bye = 0 points
 - v. No Result = 0 points

3.4.4 Duration of Matches – All age groups Junior/Senior:

- a) Under 5 to 11 game times shall be as per [MiniRoos National Playing Formats and Rules](#)
 - i. Under 5 will follow all U6 MiniRoos Football Guidelines.
- b) The duration of matches for each age group are outlined in the table below. After normal time in each half, the match official may add on injury/stoppage time if required. The match official has the right to abandon any fixture match if, in their opinion, playing conditions compromise player safety.
- c) There will be no time added in Junior games, unless there is a serious injury requiring an ambulance to be called to remove the injured player from the playing field.

Competition	Duration	Interval
Seniors	2 x 45 mins	5-15 mins
Under 18	2 x 45 mins	5-15 mins
Under 17	2 x 45 mins	5-15 mins
Under 16	2 x 40 mins	5-10 mins
Under 15	2 x 40 mins	5-10 mins
Under 14	2 x 35 mins	5 mins
Under 13	2 x 30 mins	5 mins
Under 12	2 x 25 mins	5 mins

3.4.5 Procedures to Determine Placing after Regular Season:

- a) The position of each team at the conclusion of the regular season will be determined based on the following criteria:
 - i. Highest number of points accumulated during the Regular Season.
- b) If two (2) or more teams are level on points accumulated in any junior/senior division, the following criteria shall be applied, in order, until one (1) of the teams can be determined as the higher ranked:
 - i. Highest goal difference.
 - ii. Highest number of goals scored.
 - iii. Highest number of points accumulated in matches between the teams concerned.
 - iv. Highest goal difference in matches between the teams concerned.
 - v. Highest number of goals scored in matches between the teams concerned.
 - vi. Play off between the teams at time and venue as determined by FQ.

3.4.6 Substitution of Players:

- a) For all FQPL Men's First Team Regular Season matches, each team will be permitted to use a maximum of five (5) substitutes;
 - i. To reduce disruption to the match, each team will have a maximum of three (3) opportunities to make substitutions during the game; substitutions may also be made at half-time;
 - ii. If either team make a substitution at half-time, this will not count as one (1) of the three (3) opportunities for either team;
 - iii. If both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one (1) of the three (3) opportunities for each team;
 - iv. First Teams will be permitted to have up to a maximum of 16 players (4 outfield, 1 RGK or 5 outfield) listed on the match sheet.
 - v. Teams will be awarded one (1) additional substitution opportunity in extra time, in the event any of the above competitions proceed to extra time.
- b) For all other divisions, unlimited interchange will be permitted, with no more than five (5) substitute players permitted to be named on the team sheet.
- c) Only players names correctly listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match.

3.5 INCOMPLETE FIXTURES:

- a) In such cases where it can be proven beyond reasonable doubt that spectator interference causing abandonment has been inspired by a person or persons directly associated with any Member Club, that Member Club may be deemed guilty of serious misconduct through association and shall be liable to such penalty as determined by FQ. (See Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines & Charges).
- b) Any team which causes a match to be terminated before its natural conclusion through actions of their own participants shall be deemed to have committed misconduct against FQ and the offending club will be liable to such penalty as determined by FQ (See Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines & Charges).
- c) Any match abandoned as a result of the actions of their own participants will, in addition to the above, have their match deemed as a forfeit to the opposition.

3.6 APPLICATION FOR DEPARTURE FROM FIXTURES:

- a) Any application for departure from fixtures shall be in writing to the CA at least fourteen (14) working days prior to the date scheduled. Each request will be determined on its merits.
- b) Any team with 4 or more players unavailable due to football representative duties approved by FQ may be entitled to have their match postponed. Applications must be made at least fourteen (14) working days prior to the scheduled fixture.
- c) A club may make an application to FQ to postpone a fixture in the event of unforeseen circumstances. FQ may request the club to supply supporting evidence. FQ in its sole discretion reserve the right to decline any departure request. The decision on that matter is final and is not subject to appeal.

3.7 NON-PARTICIPATION IN A MATCH (FORFEITS):

- a) In the event that a home or visiting team is not ready to commence a match within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time (including the readiness of the venue; e.g. goal netting, line-markings, etc), the match will be deemed a forfeit and the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0); unless circumstances are beyond their control.
 - i. Any club who receives a forfeit due to venue standards must contact FQ via email prior to 12pm of the next business day and outline the events that led to the match not being played.
 - ii. A team deemed to have forfeited a match in the above circumstance may submit a request to replay the match within 3 days of the forfeit if they believe the forfeit was caused due to extenuating circumstances. FQ will review the request and deliver a determination, the determination of FQ is final and not subject to appeal.
- b) Should a Club forfeit a match prior to kick-off, the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0).
- c) Should a Club abandon or forfeit after a match has commenced, the opposing team shall be awarded the full points and be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0), or the actual goal difference, whichever is the greater.
- d) A Club who forfeits a match will be subject to penalties by FQ (See Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines & Charges), plus compensation of their opponents as adjudicated by FQ.
- e) Any team refusing or failing to play the team against which it has been drawn, shall be deemed to have forfeited the game.
- f) Any team that has forfeited a match on three (3) or more separate occasions in the same competition will be issued a show cause as to why they should not be withdrawn from the competition. The decision of FQ to withdraw a team from a competition shall be in its absolute discretion and is not subject to appeal.

3.8 WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITION SEASON:

- a) If any team in the competition withdraws, or is removed/suspended during the fixture season, the following will apply accordingly;
 - i. If the first cycle (round) of fixtures wasn't completed in its entirety, then the recorded results for that team will be deleted and a Bye in the competition may be substituted;
 - ii. If the second, or subsequent, cycle (round) of fixtures wasn't completed in its entirety than the results of the uncompleted cycle will be deleted while the results for all completed cycles will remain.
- b) FQ may re-arrange the draw so that the teams that were due to play the withdrawing team have a bye. Where the competition already had a bye in each round, FQ may change the draw as it sees fit to eliminate the bye.
- c) FQ reserves the right to negotiate with another club/team to come into the competition as a replacement. FQ also reserves the right to decide how points are attributed to the replacement team for the remainder of the season.
- d) The withdrawn club involved will be subject to potential disciplinary action, sanction, and penalties by FQ (See Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines & Charges).

3.9 ADDITION TO COMPETITION SEASON:

- a) If a club or team requests to be added to the competition and is successful, then the following will apply;
 - i. If a team enters on or before 50% of the first round (cycle) of fixtures has been played, then the team will replay any missed matches from that round.
 - ii. If a team enters after 50% of the first round (cycle) of fixtures but before the first round has been completed, then the team will not play any missed fixtures and all future fixtures involving the new team will be played for no points until the next round of fixtures starts.
 - iii. The above will also apply to the second, and any subsequent, round of matches.
- b) For the purpose of the above, the 50% mark of fixtures for an 8, 10, and 12 team competition is round 3, 4 and 6 (and their corresponding second and subsequent round fixtures).
- c) In the event these provisions create an anomaly, or are impossible to adhere to, then FQ will determine, in its sole discretion, the application of the above rules.
- d) The club of the additional team involved will be subject to the relevant penalties by FQ. (see appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines and Charges).

3.10 DELAYED, POSTPONED AND CANCELLED MATCHES:

- a) Matches may be postponed or delayed by FQ on advice from match officials, nominated representatives and venue clubs.
- b) FQ reserve the right to reschedule all postponed matches at a place and time as it sees fit. Consideration will be taken as to where games were to be played.
- c) FQ reserves the right to record any outstanding fixtures that have not been completed by no later than one (1) week after the conclusion of the fixture season as a 0-0 draw.
- d) FQ may decide as its sole discretion and in consultation with the host Club/Venue to postpone an earlier match/s to ensure later match/s still proceed.

3.11 SUSPENDED OR ABANDONED MATCHES:

- a) Once a match has commenced, the Match Referee has sole responsibility to determine if the match should be suspended or abandoned due to severe adverse weather conditions or matters that may compromise the safety of the participants of the match.
- b) Where a match is abandoned due to adverse weather conditions, the match shall be replayed unless 50% of the match has been played, in which case the result at the time of the

abandonment shall stand as the result of the game.

3.12 REQUEST FOR REPLAY OF ABANDONED MATCH:

- a) Should a fixture be abandoned, FQ shall take into consideration the following factors when considering a request for a replay:
 - i. Reasons why the fixture was abandoned.
 - ii. The time of abandonment.
 - iii. The result at the time of abandonment
 - iv. The impact on the final league standing of this fixture.
- b) Any Club who is found to be responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the abandonment of a fixture, may be subject to disciplinary sanctions (i.e., loss of points and fines), to be determined by FQ (See Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines & Charges);
- c) FQ may decide to direct any of the following outcomes in the case of play abandonment due to the action of one or both teams:
 - i. That the match be replayed.
 - ii. The game be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, unless the score at the time of abandonment was of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.
 - iii. The game be recorded as “NO RESULT” – no points or goals to be awarded to either team.
 - iv. Impose a fine, suspend, expel, or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club/s, player/s, and official/s.

3.13 FINALS SERIES DETAILS:

3.13.1 Format:

- a) The top four (4) teams at the conclusion of the Regular Season will participate in the Finals Series.
- b) The tables below explain the finals format for each competition.

Competitions	Final Type	Teams
FQPL Men, Women, U23s and Youth	Semi Final 1	3 rd vs 4 th
	Semi Final 2	1 st vs 2 nd
	Preliminary Final	Loser Semi 2 vs Winner Semi 1
	Grand Final	Winner Semi 2 v Winner Preliminary

Competitions	Final Type	Teams
Community Men, Women, Juniors and Masters	Semi Final 1	2 nd vs 3 rd
	Semi Final 2	1 st vs 4 th
	Grand Final	Winner Semi 1 v Winner Semi 2

- c) The team which finished in the higher position at the conclusion of the Regular Season will be considered the home team.

3.13.2 Location:

- a) All finals (excluding the Grand Final) will be held at the home team venue, subject to the venue being suitable to host finals fixtures. FQ is the sole determinant on whether a venue is suitable to host a final.
- b) Clubs who have the right to host may waive their right to host a final, in which case FQ becomes the sole determinant on the location of the final.
- c) FQ may choose to honour any pre-existing agreement pertaining to the location of Finals and/or Grand Finals. This may include, but is not limited to, the following scenarios.
 - i. The rights to host the Finals/Grand finals alternates between two (or more) venues on an annual basis.
 - ii. Finals/Grand Finals are played in a single location on an annual basis.
 - iii. The right to host all Finals/Grand Finals is determined on the outcome of a single competition.
- d) Where there is already no pre-existing agreement for the hosting rights of Grand Finals. FQ may allow clubs to apply for the rights to host. A formal process will be followed, and any decision made by FQ is final and not subject to appeal.

3.13.3 Procedures to Determine the Winner of all Competitive Finals Series

- a) In general, If, at the conclusion of any match in the Finals Series, the scores between the teams are equal, then extra time of two (2) equal periods of fifteen (15) minutes for senior men and women, and 10 minutes for all other divisions and ages, will be played. The conditions of FIFA Law 8 will apply.
- b) If scores remain equal at the conclusion of both periods of extra time, penalty kicks will be taken, in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game, to determine the winner of the match.

4 PLAYER REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY:

4.1 PLAYER REGISTRATION:

- a) All players participating in competitions under the jurisdiction of FQ, may only be registered as Amateur Players in line with the provisions established in the [National Registration Status and Transfer Regulations](#).
- b) Amateur Players are permitted to be registered at any time. However, Amateur players are not permitted to re-register with another club within their zone after 30th June each year. This is only applicable to players within the same zone, players from another zone (or member federation) are also permitted to register at any time. These players may still be subject to finals eligibility clauses.
- c) New registrations outside the regular registration period must appear on the active player report, available from PlayFootball, in order for the newly registered player to be included in the next competition game.
- d) The registration of a player with a Club is effective from the date of registration as approved (made active) on Play Football online registrations. Unless cancelled earlier, registration is effective from the date of registration until 31st December of that year.

4.2 AMATEUR PLAYER REGISTRATION PROCESS:

- a) When registering an Amateur Player for the season, the Club must complete the Registration process as defined by FA and FQ on the National Online Player Registration System. In 2022 that will be the PlayFootball system.
- b) Football Queensland will request any [International Transfer Certificates](#) (ITC) necessary for players that were last registered with an overseas Federation.
- c) On fulfillment of all requirements, the Player will be registered to FQ.

4.3 PLAYER INSURANCE:

- a) Personal Accident, Management Liability and Associated Public Liability Insurance cover is taken out by Football Queensland through GowGates insurance brokers. Policy details and claims procedures are available on the FQ website.

4.4 VISA PLAYERS:

- a) If the player's country of birth is not Australia, clubs must check the player's residential/visa status prior to registration. Clubs must abide by all appropriate regulations as advised by Football Australia and Football Queensland;
- b) Football Queensland will request any International Transfer Certificates (ITC) necessary for players that were last registered with an overseas Federation.
- c) The number of Visa players a Club is permitted to sign can be found below.
 - i. The number of visa players permitted for an FQPL squad is subject to the relevant FQPL License.
 - ii. The number of Visa Players permitted for all other squads is unlimited.

4.5 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

4.5.1 General:

- a) The eligibility of a player to participate in matches under the jurisdiction of the FQ is finalised upon receipt and approval of all necessary forms and appropriate clearances by FQ;
- b) A player is eligible to play in matches under the jurisdiction of FQ, provided they are registered

in line with Football Australia National Registration Status and Transfer Regulations and Football Queensland Registration Procedures.

- c) A player is eligible to play in matches under the jurisdiction of FQ, provided they are not under suspension by any Federation; it is the responsibility of the player and club to be aware of their suspension status.
- d) A registered player is eligible to take part in matches under the jurisdiction of FQ provided their name appears on the team sheet prior to the commencement of the match, or by the conclusion of half-time as outlined in the Competition Rules;
- e) For matches using substitution rules, a player who is listed as a Reserve and does not take the field is deemed not to have played;
- f) For matches using interchange rules, any player who is listed on the team sheet is deemed to have played, unless marked DNP (did not play) by the match officials.

4.5.2 Senior Competition

- a) Players must be turning 16 years of age (male), or 15 years of age (female), during the calendar year to register to play in senior men and women competitions. Players who are eligible may play in both the senior competitions and in the junior competition they qualify for.
- b) Eligible junior players can be borrowed into senior competitions without restriction.
- c) There will be no restriction on the movement of players between FQPL and U23 match-day squads on a week-to-week basis.
- d) Clubs may demote a maximum of four (4) players from the previous round to a single division lower. They may not demote a player more than one (1) division in a given round. E.g. A player cannot be demoted from Division 1 to Division 3.
- e) If an FQPL player has played one third (1/3) of competitive fixtures in the FQPL competition, they will be ineligible to play outside the FQPL and Under 23 competitions.
- f) Players who are deemed finals-eligible in any division are also deemed finals-eligible for any higher division.
- g) Players who participate in the master's competition, are also eligible to participate without restriction in the Senior Competitions.
- h) Players who are deemed eligible for finals in their respective junior competitive competition are able to be borrowed into the Senior Teams' Finals Series without restriction.

4.5.3 Junior Competition

- a) Players must participate in their eligible age unless the Club has insufficient players of that age for a team. In that circumstance, players one (1) age below may be included to make a team.
- b) The integrity of the highest-level division in each age group should receive priority. Wherever possible FQ are required to provide a top tier Division 1 competition in every designated junior competitive age group U13 - U17.
- c) A team using a player from a lower division/age group at the expense of available players from their own team is in breach of the spirit of this rule and may be subject to disciplinary action.
- d) Players may play up one (1) age group into any division except in the following circumstances
 - i. The age group the player currently plays in, and seeks to play in, has two (2) or more divisions. In which case, the player may only play one (1) division lower than the level they currently play at. For example, an U14 Division 1 player may only be permitted to play up into a U15 Division 2 team, they will be ineligible to play into the clubs U15 Division 3 team.

- e) Players who are deemed eligible for finals in their junior competition are able to be borrowed into Senior Teams' Finals Series without restriction.

4.5.4 Small Sided Football

- a) Players must turn at least four years of age during the calendar year to register.
- b) Clubs may apply to FQ to run their own internal MiniRoos competition. FQ may decline this application in its absolute discretion, this is not subject to appeal.
- c) In the event FQ grants the application all players must still be registered on the National Registration System.
- d) In 2022, Football Queensland requires all players participating in MiniRoos Competitions (U5 – U12) to play in their relative age group. Dispensation may be granted in extenuating circumstances, all requests must be received in writing to Football Queensland. E.g. Players participating in U10 competitions must be born in 2012.
- e) FQ Academy players are eligible to play above their relative age groups, without the need to apply for dispensation from Football Queensland.

4.5.5 Player Eligibility for Finals

- a) To be eligible to play in the Finals Series, a player must have played at least one third of all competitive fixture matches for that club in a single competition.
 - i. For the avoidance of any doubt, the minimum number of games to be played will be one third of matches excluding byes. E.g. a 21-round season with three (3) byes will require six (6) games to become finals eligible not seven (7).
 - ii. Where the number of games cannot be divided wholly by three (3) the number of games required to be finals eligible will be rounded down to the nearest whole number.
- b) Prior to the Final series, players who have played an equal or greater number of games in a higher division than a lower division will be classified as a higher division player. This is not applicable to juniors playing in seniors as they can be borrowed without restriction. It also not applicable to age groups e.g. an Under 13 player will not be re-graded as an U14 player.
- c) For the purpose of clarity, U12s do not have a division assigned and are eligible to play into the U13 Finals Series.
- d) Clubs are encouraged to seek clarification with the CA if in doubt about a player's finals-eligibility status.
- e) Players who have registered with the requisite number of games required for finals eligibility to be played but are unable to play due to extenuating circumstances e.g., injury, may make an application to the CA for dispensation to be finals eligible.

4.5.6 Regrading of Players

- a) Players who have played one third of all competitive fixture matches for that club in a higher division will be regraded as a higher division player.
 - i. In the event that this is spread out over multiple divisions the player will be regraded into the division they have played the greatest number of games. If this is equal, then it will be the higher division of the two.
- b) The number of games a player is allowed to be borrowed before they are regraded is dependent on the competition size they are being borrowed into.
 - i. For the avoidance of any doubt, a player will be regraded after they have played one third of matches, excluding byes, in a higher division. E.g. a 21-round season with three (3) byes allows a player to be borrowed for six (6) games before being regraded, not seven (7).

- ii. Where the number of games cannot be divided wholly by three (3), the number of games a player can be borrowed before being regraded will be rounded down to the nearest whole number.

4.6 PLAYER INELIGIBILITY:

- a) Any player not registered in adherence with the [Football Australia National Registration Status and Transfer Regulations](#), Football Queensland Registration Procedures for the current season, is considered ineligible and is not permitted to participate in any match;
- b) Any player under suspension by any Association/Federation will be deemed ineligible, and is not permitted to participate in any match until that suspension is served;
- c) Any player in breach of the regulations for Senior, Junior and SSF Competition matches as outlined in Clause 4.5 is considered ineligible;
- d) Any club is permitted to lodge a written protest regarding the alleged fielding of an ineligible player. The protest must be in writing under club letterhead or footer and be forwarded to FQ within 48 hours of the completed fixture;
- e) FQ reserve the right to investigate the eligibility of any player who participates in any of its competitions.

4.6.1 Penalties and Outcomes:

- a) Any club who fields an ineligible player may be subject to disciplinary sanctions as determined by FQ;
- b) If it is established that a player competing in any match was not legitimately registered or was ineligible to play, then the following will apply:
 - i. The club found guilty shall forfeit any goals scored and points gained in that match, and the points and match will be awarded to the opposing team.
 - ii. The game will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team unless the goals scored were of a greater margin in favour of the opposing team.
 - iii. FQ may impose a fine, suspend, expel, or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending club or player.
- c) In the event that it is established that both clubs competing in any match fielded players who were not legitimately registered or were ineligible to play, then the following will apply:
 - i. The match will be deemed as a “NO RESULT”, whereby, no points will be awarded;
 - ii. FQ may impose a fine, suspend, expel, or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending clubs or players.
 - iii. FQ in its absolute discretion may choose to replay the fixture.

4.7 AGE ELIGIBILITY:

4.7.1 Player Age Requirements:

- a) The below requirements apply to all FQ competitions and must be read in conjunction with all eligibility rules.
- b) The below table outlines the birth years eligible to play in each competition.

Competition	Birth year of player
Over 35s	Players born in 1987 or earlier
Senior Men	Players born in 2006 or earlier

Senior Women	Players born in 2007 or earlier
Under 23s*	Players born in 1999 – 2006
Under 18s	Players born in 2004-2006
Under 17s	Players born in 2005-2006
Under 16s	Players born in 2006-2007
Under 15s	Players born in 2007-2008
Under 14s	Players born in 2008-2009
Under 13s	Players born in 2009-2010

*Note: U23 competitions may have an overage allowance.

4.7.2 Playing Outside Designated Age Group

- a) Clubs may apply for dispensation to play a player two (2) years above, or one (1) year below, their age group through a [Dispensation Request Form](#) and must provide evidence of extraordinary circumstances such as footballing development and size.
 - i. If the next available age group for a player to play up into is a composite age group, FQ in its sole discretion, may waive the requirement to complete a Dispensation Request form and grant the request.
- b) FQ will not allow any player to play three (3) or more years above their own age group.
- c) Clubs are not permitted to play more than three (3) players up an age group at any one time, without first being granted approval by FQ and the CA. Clubs may make an application to FQ to allow for additional players to play up.
- d) Clubs may seek to apply for dispensation to play down an age group for any one of the following reasons;
 - i. Physical size
 - ii. Team viability (as defined below)
 - iii. Social/Cultural grounds
- e) All dispensation requests must be submitted by 5pm each Thursday to FQ and include the following;
 - i. Supporting medical documents such as a doctor's certificate with accompanying physical testing evidence e.g., bone density, BMI, height/weight measurements as well as a full body photo of the player for reference (team photo for reference to players of the same age).
 - ii. Dispensation request form to be complete by the club with approval of the parent/guardian prior to submitting the dispensation request form.
 - iii. Further Information from the club outlining why the player is required for team viability and is unable to field eligible players within a two (2) year age window (team viability application).
 - iv. Further evidence as requested such as a letter from the school detailing social grounds.
- f) Any requests submitted after 5pm each Thursday will not be considered until the following Monday.
- g) FQ in its sole discretion, may approve or decline a dispensation request. The decision of FQ will be final.

- h) A player who has been granted dispensation (to play down) may not participate in a higher division or age group or the dispensation will be revoked.
- i) FQ reserves the right to withdraw an approval regarding a player playing down at any time. The decision to revoke the dispensation is final and is not subject to appeal.
- j) If approved, FQ will confirm the decision in writing with the club. Please note that until the Club receives the approval, the player is ineligible to participate in the divisions they are seeking approval for.

Note: Team viability is defined as allowing the club to field eleven (11) players and no less than nine (9). A team is not viable if it requires more than two (2) players to field a full team.

5 DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

5.1 COMPETITION

- a) These Disciplinary Rules are set by Football Queensland and supplement the [National Disciplinary Regulations](#) in accordance with clause 1.2 of those Regulations.

5.2 SANCTIONS

- a) The application of sanctions to be issued to Participants for direct red cards will be in accordance with the range of sanctions outlined in the National Disciplinary Regulations.
- b) Where a Player receives an indirect red card, he will serve a Mandatory Match Suspension and will not play in any match for that round;
- c) A Player or Coach who accumulates the following number of yellow cards during the course of any Competition must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspension:
 - i. Five (5) yellow cards, equates to a One (1) match suspension and will not participate in any match for that round.
 - ii. A Further three (3) yellow cards a Two (2) match suspension and will not participate in any match for that round.
 - iii. A further Two (2) Yellow cards a Three (3) match suspension and will not participate in any match for that round.
 - iv. A further one (1) Yellow card a Four (4) match suspension and will not participate in any match for that round.
- d) A Player who accumulates two (2) yellow cards during the course of the Final Series must serve a one (1) match suspension and will not participate in any match for that round;
- e) A Player who accumulates the following number of red cards during the course of the Competition or the Final Series must serve the following Mandatory Match Suspensions, in addition to any sanction for the offence:
 - i. 1st occasion equates to a one (1) match suspension; and will not participate in any match for that round.
 - ii. Any subsequent occasion equates to a two (2) match suspension and will not participate in any match for those rounds.

5.3 MISCONDUCT

- a) Clubs must ensure that their Participants do not engage in Team Misconduct. FQ may, consistent with the FA Statutes, sanction a Club whose Participants engage in Team Misconduct. Team Misconduct in relation to club is where:
 - i. Five (5) of its Players are cautioned during a sanctioned match;
 - ii. Three (3) of its Participants are sent off or expelled during a sanctioned match;
 - iii. Its Participants collectively show dissent towards a match official or collectively seek to intimidate, threaten, or exert pressure on a match official to make or alter a decision; or
 - iv. Its Participants engage in a melee or brawl.

5.4 CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) The published [FA Code of Conduct and Ethics](#) aims to promote and strengthen the reputation of football in Australia by establishing a standard of performance, behaviour and professionalism for its participants and stakeholders.
- b) Any breach of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action and the imposition of sanctions by FQ in accordance with the provisions outlined in the Code.

5.5 NOTIFICATION AND TIMEFRAMES

- a) The imposition of a mandatory match suspension is immediate. FQ will send a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the mandatory match suspension within three (3) days of the completion of the weekend. For the avoidance of doubt, the mandatory match suspension is effective regardless of whether or not the notice was received.
- b) If FQ has determined that an Offence by a Player or a Team Official was such as to warrant a sanction in addition to the mandatory match suspension, a Disciplinary Infringement Notice notifying the Player or Team Official (through the Club) of the details of the Offence and of the disciplinary sanction imposed will be forwarded within three (3) days of the completion of the weekend.

5.6 TERMS OF SUSPENSION

- a) While serving a suspension, a Participant (Player, Referee, or team official) may not:
 - i. On the day of a Match, enter the field of play, the surrounds of the field of play, the Technical Area, the player's race, the dressing rooms, or any other place within a venue where Participants are likely to assemble to prepare for that match and after the match;
 - ii. If attending a Match be seated in an area normally reserved for Participants;
 - iii. Within one hour of the start of match from which the Participant is suspended and within one hour of the conclusion of the match from which the Participant is suspended have any contact with any media where the purpose of such contact is for it to be electronically broadcast to the public, including (but not limited to) participating in any post-match press conference and participating in television or radio interviews;
 - iv. Within one hour of the start of match from which the Participant is suspended and within one hour of the conclusion of the match from which the Participant is suspended have any contact with any Participant whilst that Participant is in an area listed within clause 4.6.a.
- b) Any suspension from the Finals Series (or the competition fixtures if not already served in the Finals series) will carry forward into the following season and will be served in competition fixtures.
- c) If a suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards the execution of the suspension. A bye or a match forfeited by the participant's team does not count towards the execution of the suspension.
- d) An exemption applies allowing suspended players who are the existing coach or manager of a junior team to continue to act as the coach or manager, including be present in the Technical Area, unless specifically excluded as part of their suspension.

5.7 DISCIPLINARY HEARING PROCEDURES

- a) Except in the case of obvious error, the particulars of which are exclusively contained at Clause 4.3 of the [National Disciplinary Regulations](#), there is no appeal from a mandatory match suspension.
- b) A Club, Player or a Team Official may appeal the disciplinary sanction imposed in a Disciplinary Infringement Notice by notifying FQ in writing within seven (7) days after the date on which the Disciplinary Infringement Notice was received, outlining the reasons for the appeal, and enclosing the Appeal Fee, as outlined in Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines & Charges. This fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- c) An appeal from a FQ disciplinary sanction must be heard by a Disciplinary Committee. When determining any appropriate sanction, a Disciplinary Committee may consider:
 - i. The nature and severity of the infringement;
 - ii. The offender's past record and whether or not this is a repeated Offence;
 - iii. The culpability of the offender (including whether or not the infringement was intentional,

- negligent, or reckless);
 - iv. Any reasons prompting the offender to commit an infringement;
 - v. The remorse of the offender; and
 - vi. Any extenuating circumstances.
- d) A period of good behaviour can be imposed on a participant in addition to any disciplinary sanctions imposed by the disciplinary committee.

5.8 SANCTIONS UNDER FA STATUTES

- a) Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Club a reprimand;
- A fine;
 - Place the Club on a bond;
 - A deduction or loss of competition points;
 - A ban on the registration or transfer of any Players for a specified period of time;
 - Annulment of registration of a Player;
 - Suspension from participation in matches;
 - Exclusion, suspension, or expulsion from the Competition;
 - Playing a match without spectators or on neutral territory;
 - A ban on playing at a particular facility;
 - Annulment of the result of the match; or
 - Such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.
- b) Subject to these Regulations, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against a Participant:
- A reprimand;
 - A fine;
 - Return of award;
 - Place the individual on a bond;
 - A Ban on registration of Player with any Club for a specified period of time;
 - Annulment of registration of a Player;
 - Suspension from participation in matches;
 - Suspension or expulsion from the Competition;
 - Suspension or cancellation of license or accreditation, including Licensed Player Agent's license or coaching accreditation;
 - Termination of registration or playing contract;
 - A ban from the dressing rooms and/or the substitutes' bench;
 - A ban from entering a facility;
 - A ban on taking part in any football related activity; or
 - Such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.

5.9 MONIES OWING TO FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND BY A CLUB

- a) All clubs are required to have paid any outstanding invoices to FQ 14 days prior to the commencement of competition fixtures.
- b) If a Club fails to pay any amount owing to Football Queensland in accordance with this, Football Queensland may issue a notice, giving the Club a further 14 days to pay that amount.

- c) All amounts owed by a Club to Football Queensland must be paid within 14 days of the date of the invoice issued by Football Queensland in relation to that amount.
- d) If a Club fails to comply with a notice issued in accordance with this, or agree to a repayment plan with Football Queensland for the amount owed, Football Queensland may, at its sole discretion:
 - i. Rule that Club, or the applicable Teams within that Club, ineligible to earn competition points in any Competition Fixture or Sanctioned Match in which the Club (or Team) plays.
 - ii. Suspend or expel that Club, or Teams, from any Competition Fixture (including Cup Fixtures) and/or Football Queensland competitions.
 - iii. Prohibit that Club, or Teams, from promotion whilst the debt remains unpaid.
 - iv. Relegate that Club, or Teams, while the debt remains unpaid.
 - v. Deduct points from a Club, or Teams for the following season where the debt remains unpaid or accrues after 30 October of the relevant year.
 - vi. If Football Queensland and a Club agree to a repayment plan relating to a debt owed to Football Queensland and the Club defaults any of the terms by the stipulated date and time, Football Queensland may immediately and without the need to issue a further notice, impose one or more of the sanctions referred to above.

6 FOOTBALL AND MATCH DAY OPERATIONS:

6.1 FACILITIES / GROUND CONDITIONS:

- a) Each Club or Venue Manager must take all reasonable steps to maintain its pitch is in good condition throughout the season FQ may require the Club or Venue Manager to take such steps as it may prescribe from time to time if it is not satisfied that the pitch is being maintained to an adequate and acceptable standard.
- b) The Venue Manager and/or club must ensure;
 - i. The ground is correctly marked, including the technical area, as per FIFA Laws of the Game;
 - ii. It provides suitable goal nets, safely fastened to the ground and corner flags;
 - iii. It provides toilets/dressing rooms for players and match officials that are hygienic and clean;
 - iv. It has adequate toilet/refreshment/canteen facilities (within reason) open to the public
 - v. It provides a safe environment for players, officials, and spectators.
 - vi. The playing surface must not cause a danger to players
- c) Any club whose facilities do not meet the requirements specified may be subject to disciplinary action, including fines by FQ.

6.2 THE TECHNICAL AREA:

- a) Each Venue Manager and/or Club must have Technical Areas clearly marked as stipulated by FIFA guidelines and provide sufficient seating to allow all personnel to be seated during the match;
- b) The Technical Area should be clearly marked out, extending no further than one (1) metre on either side (left and right) of the designated seating area (extra seats should be available for use in addition to permanent seating if necessary) and extends forward up to a distance of one (1) metre from the sideline;
- c) For all matches played during the Regular Season and Finals Series, a maximum of ten (10) persons are permitted to occupy the Technical Area for each Club during any fixture. This includes the five (5) named substitutes and up to five (5) Team Officials.
- d) Occupants of the Technical Area must be either a registered Player wearing a bib, or a registered Team Official and wear the appropriate accreditation at all times;
- e) A Player or Team Official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area.
- f) Only one person at a time is authorized to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match and they must return to their position after giving these instructions.
- g) The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the Technical Area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team physio or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission, to assess an injured player;
- h) All substitutes must be seated within the Technical Area. Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the Technical Area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative-coloured uniform to the team strip;
- i) All occupants of the Technical Area must behave in a responsible manner. The referee has the right to eject any person from the Technical Area at any time as he/she sees fit. The game will not recommence until that person has left to the referee's satisfaction;
- j) Smoking and drinking alcohol within the confines of the playing barrier fence is strictly prohibited. This includes the team bench within the Technical Area and all of its occupants.

6.3 LIGHTING:

- a) Clubs wishing to host night fixtures during the season must submit [field lighting audits](#) as requested and have approval for competition play by FQ.
- b) Clubs are expected to adhere to the Football Queensland Lighting Guide as seen [here](#);

6.4 MEDICAL:

- a) All Venue Managers and/or Clubs must provide spectator and player medical support service during scheduled matches.

6.4.1 Stretchers:

- a) Venue Managers and/or Clubs must ensure the availability of at least one stretcher suitable for first aid and emergency use at all scheduled matches and only utilised under the supervision of an appropriately qualified person.

6.4.2 Ambulance Access:

- a) Unrestricted access to the field of play shall be provided for Ambulance vehicles when required and be clearly signed.

6.4.3 Water Bottles:

- a) For safety reasons, water bottles are not to be thrown either on or off the field.

6.4.4 Blood Ruling:

- a) In the event a player suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood, the match official will request that the injured player receive attention outside the field of play and only when he/she is satisfied that the injury or wound is safely covered and contained, will the player be permitted to re-join the game;
- b) In the event the player's uniform or attire is splattered with blood, the referee will instruct that player to change his attire before being permitted to re-join the game;
- c) Should the injured player be required to change his uniform, then the match official will show discretion in allowing the player to wear an alternative numbered shirt if necessary.

6.4.5 Concussion Management:

- a) Any player with a suspected concussion should be immediately removed from play and should not be permitted to return to activity (including training) until they are assessed and cleared by a qualified medical practitioner.

6.4.6 Heat Management Strategy:

- a) The Match Referee or the CA delegate should refer to the [FQ Heat Policy](#) to determine one of the following;
 - i. To play the match under standard conditions;
 - ii. To play the match with provision for extra breaks for consumption of fluid;
 - iii. To delay the match; or
 - iv. To postpone the match.
- b) The decision to incorporate these provisions should be based primarily on the assessment of the potential medical risk of playing in the heat to both the Players and Match Officials.

6.5 EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS:

- a) In extreme weather conditions, the Venue Manager and/or Club officials in conjunction with the appointed match official reserves the right to postpone, delay or abandon any fixture;
- b) The Venue Manager and/or Club officials is to then meet with a Referee official and jointly inspect the field to ascertain a number of factors, which will include:

- i. Is the ground considered safe for the players and the match to proceed?
 - ii. If so, how many matches can be played, considering all factors including the likely weather conditions and the expected state of the ground?
- c) The designated representatives will then reach a decision regarding the schedule of matches with the Venue Manager and/or Club officials responsible for advising the opposition club and appointed Referees in the event matches are to be postponed;
 - d) Early morning inspections are only to be organized with the designated representative when conditions are such that there is doubt as to the safety of the ground. In cases of light rain only, the match referee will inspect prior to the match itself. Ground inspections for mid-week matches will be arranged via the Venue Manager and/or Club;
 - e) In the event of the cancellation or abandonment of a fixture through rain rendering grounds unplayable, all such fixtures shall be played or replayed at a time and under such conditions as FQ shall determine.

6.6 TEAM OFFICIALS:

- a) All Team Officials must be registered with FQ. Upon registration, an Identification Card will be issued which must be worn when performing specified duties;
- b) All Team Officials must conduct themselves in accordance with the [FA Code of Conduct and Ethics](#).
- c) FQ may impose disciplinary action upon such persons and Clubs, where it is found that Team Officials have breached the Code of Conduct.
- d) Team officials are only recognised if club officials have appointed and registered them.
- e) Team Officials must remain within the Technical Area and are required to wear their Identification Card at all times. Team Officials not wearing the appropriate identification will not be permitted to be situated in the area during the match and be subject to disciplinary sanctions and fines;
- f) Team Officials are responsible for ensuring players behave in an appropriate manner at all times before, during and after any game;
- g) Team Officials are not to argue or address any disagreements or comment directly to a referee. Any complaints should be directed in writing to FQ on a club letterhead;
- h) A Team Official can only enter the field of play when the referee indicates to do so.

6.7 GROUND OFFICIALS:

- a) It is the responsibility of both teams competing in the fixture to provide a [Ground Official/s](#) on match day. The fixture will not commence until the minimum number of Ground Officials have been supplied. Please refer to your regional addendum for the minimum requirement of ground officials required for each competition.

6.8 MATCH DAY INFORMATION:

6.8.1 Match Balls:

- a) The Clubs are responsible for providing a minimum of three (3) match balls for all fixture games;
- b) The designated home team at each match shall ensure that three (3) match balls are supplied to the Match Official prior to the commencement of the match. All three balls shall be of the same brand and must be a licensed match ball of "match ball" quality;
- c) FQ reserve the right to mandate a match ball brand for the purposes of commercial sponsorship within the competition.
 - i. For the 2022 Season FQ has mandated the use of the 'Nike Academy Elite' Football for all Senior FQPL Men and Women (inclusive of U23s).
 - ii. For the 2022 Season FQ has mandated the use of the 'Nike Academy Team' Football for all SAP, NPL Academy & Development, FQPL Development and community competitions including juniors.
- d) Referees will report breaches of the match ball licensing arrangement to FQ. Licensing regulations provide that any clubs that breach the licensing requirements may be liable for a fine for each breach.

6.8.2 Playing Kits:

- a) All clubs must nominate and register their kits with FQ before the start of each season;
- b) All clubs must nominate a "Home" strip and have available an "Alternate" kit. The alternate strip (shirt, shorts, and socks) should not clash with their nominated "Home" kit.
- c) All first named clubs will be deemed the "Home" team and therefore will play in their nominated

colours;

- d) In the event there is a clash of colours with the visiting team, please refer to the relevant zone addendums to determine which team is responsible for organising an alternate.
- e) Goalkeepers may wear any colour provided it does not clash with either team or referee/assistants.
- f) Each club affiliated to Football Queensland shall provide to FQ the details and a photograph of their regular and alternate kits, (including socks), for approval and registration of colours. Approval must be given by FQ prior to any club purchasing new kits. Failure to do so may render such kits unable to be worn;
- g) All playing kits must have numbers on the back of the jerseys with the exception of the non-competitive small, sided football formats.
- h) Club's participating in senior FQPL competitions must have kits in accordance to the [FQPL Kit Guidelines](#).

6.8.3 Player Equipment:

- a) It is the match referee's responsibility to ensure all players taking the field of play are wearing equipment that is safe to themselves and other persons.
- b) All players must abide by the Laws of the Game in relation to wearing of shinpads, undergarments and tape on socks.

6.8.4 Jewellery:

- a) In accordance with FIFA "Laws of the Game", a player is forbidden to wear any jewellery.

6.8.5 Alcohol:

- a) It shall be the licensed Venue Manager and/or Club responsibility to enforce all Liquor Licensing requirements in the sale and responsible service of alcohol;
- b) Should persons be seen to be in breach of these rules, the ground official should advise such person to conform to the rules immediately. Should such person/s refuse to adhere to that request, the ground official shall be at liberty to contact the police to have such person/s removed.

6.9 MATCH DAY TEAM SHEETS – COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS:

- a) Team Sheets in 2022 will be online, there will be no carbon copies. The online system for the 2022 season will be FQ Teamsheets. The team sheets will lock 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the fixture. If required, the team sheet may be amended at half time with the agreement of the match official or host club (if a club referee).
- b) All Players, reserves and team officials must be on the team sheet before entering the field of play.
- c) A maximum of five (5) reserves may be named on the team sheet;
- d) If fewer than eleven (11) names are on the team sheet when it is locked, additional names may be added up until the scheduled start time.
- e) If eleven (11) players take the field at the commencement of a match, a player whose name is not included on the team sheet before the start of the match, shall not be allowed to take part in the match;
- f) Immediately following each fixture, the referee shall complete the official team sheet, completing any reports of misconduct by players and/or officials on the appropriate misconduct forms, setting out full particulars of the charge. In exceptional circumstances, the referee may delay the completion of their reports for up to forty-eight (48) hours after the completion of the

fixture;

- g) Should any player participate in the fixture and was not listed on the team sheet, then that player will be deemed to be in breach of the Rules of Competition and the club will be sanctioned as follows:
 - i. If it is established that the player was legitimately registered and was eligible to play, then the club will be fined for each offence, and the match result will stand;
 - ii. If it is established that the player was not legitimately registered or was ineligible to play, then the penalties for playing an ineligible player will apply;
 - iii. In the event that both clubs are found to have failed to list a player who takes part in the same competition match, then both clubs will be disciplined, and the match will be deemed “NO RESULT”.
- h) In the event a club official approaches a ground official seeking to protest the fielding of an ineligible player, the ground official should instruct the club official to lodge an official protest in writing on club letterhead within 48 hours of the completion of the match, with photo or video evidence;
- i) No Club Official shall have the power to refuse an opposition player to take the field for any reason. Nor can they request that a Match Official refuse to allow a player to take the field.
- j) Players without digital or paper ID will be deemed ineligible and the club/team will be penalised accordingly.
- k) At the conclusion of each match, the referee shall consult and confirm with his/her assistants prior to completing all the Team Sheets, Referee Summary and any Send-off/Incident Report Forms;
- l) Team Sheets, Referee Summary & Send-off/Incident Report Forms from the appointed match official will be accepted transcript. All decisions of the match referee regarding the facts connected with play (including whether a goal is scored or not, and the result of the match) are considered final.

6.10 CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- a) It is the club’s responsibility to ensure:
 - i. It has a minimum number of seven (7) players to commence the match;
 - ii. That it does not list more than sixteen (16) players on the team sheet;
 - iii. All players taking the field are eligible to play;
 - iv. The names of all players taking the field of play are listed correctly on the team sheet. If an unlisted player receives a Yellow/Red card during the match, then the club will be deemed to be in breach of the Rules of Competition with regards to Player Eligibility and the club may be subject to disciplinary action;
 - v. All players are ready to commence the fixture at the scheduled kick-off time;
 - vi. All players wear the appropriate licensed apparel, before taking the field of play;
 - vii. That the details recorded on the completed team sheet are accurate.

6.11 NON-ATTENDANCE OR UNAVAILABILITY OF MATCH OFFICIAL:

- a) Should the appointed match official fail to honour their appointment, then the next most senior match official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture;
- b) In the event the appointed match official is late on arrival, then the replacement match official (as above) will take charge of the fixture until the appointed match official is ready to take over;
- c) In the event no registered match official is present to take charge of the match, then the designated “Home” club shall consult the visiting team and appoint a match official to take charge of the match. This match official has the same powers as a registered match official;

- d) All clubs are obligated to fulfill all fixtures regardless of whether the appointed match official is present to take charge. Should any club fail or refuse to participate in any fixture on the above grounds, then:
 - i. The match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favour of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team;
 - ii. Where the offence is committed by a senior team, the club will be fined per offence, and may be subject to further disciplinary action;
 - iii. In the event both teams refuse to play, FQ reserves the right to award a “NO RESULT”, fine both clubs and take further disciplinary action.
- e) In circumstances where only one Assistant Referee has been appointed to a senior game, the designated “home” team is obliged to provide a club assistant to assist the match referee.

6.12 MATCH OFFICIALS’ INFORMATION:

6.12.1 Substitution of Players:

- a) For all FQPL Men First Team matches, each team can make up to five (5) substitutions (including a goalkeeper), with no more than five (5) substitutes (including Reserve Goalkeeper, see 3.4.6) listed;
- b) For all other divisions and competitions, unlimited interchange will be permitted, with no more than five (5) substitute players permitted to be named on the team sheet;
- c) Only players names listed on the team sheet are permitted to take part in the match;
- d) All substitutions/interchanges can only occur at a break in play with the approval of the referee and must take place at the halfway line; players must exit at the closest point.
- e) All substitutions/interchanges made at half time must enter the field from the halfway on the referee’s signal just prior to kick off of the second half;
- f) All substitutes must be seated within the Technical Area;
- g) Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside of the Technical Area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative-coloured uniform to the team strip.

6.12.2 Team Sheets, Referee Summary and Send Off/Incident Report Forms:

- a) At the conclusion of each match, the referee shall consult and confirm with his/her assistants prior to completing both Team Sheets and Send Off/Incident Report Forms;
- b) Referees must complete all aspects of the Team Sheet, including all information pertaining to licensing requirements and, where requested, Player of the Year votes;
- c) Once completed, the referees must ensure that Team Sheets and any Send-off/Incident Report Forms are forwarded to FQ through the appropriate channels. It is crucial that these forms reach FQ by no later than two (2) days after the completion of the match;
- d) In the event a club official approaches the match referee seeking to protest the fielding of an ineligible player, the referee should instruct the club official to send the protest through an approved club contact in an email to FQ;
- e) The referee must check that clubs do not list more than sixteen (16) players on the team sheet for any match;
- f) Please note that the Team Sheets, Referee Summary & Send-Off/Incident Report Forms from the appointed match official will be accepted transcript.

Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines & Charges

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	
MiniRoos Non-Competitive	Juniors Community Juniors FQPL (Regional)	Juniors FQPL Juniors NPL	Seniors Community	FQPL 3-6 (Men) FQPL 2-3 (Women)	NPL and FQPL 1-2 (Men) NPL and FQPL 1 (Women)	

Yellow Card Accumulation	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Yellow Card Accumulation (5)	N/A	\$25	\$25	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Yellow Card Accumulation (8)	N/A	\$50	\$50	\$75	\$75	\$75	
Yellow Card Accumulation (10)	N/A	\$75	\$75	\$150	\$150	\$150	
Yellow Card Accumulation (12)	N/A	\$100	\$100	\$250	\$250	\$250	

Red Card	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Red Card	N/A	\$0	\$25	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Red Card Accumulation (2)	N/A	\$50	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75	
Red Card Accumulation (3)	N/A	\$75	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$125	
Red Card Accumulation (4)	N/A	\$125	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	

Offences against Match Officials	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Y2 - Yellow Card Accumulations (3)	N/A	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Y2 - Yellow Card Accumulations (5)	N/A	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Y2 - Yellow Card Accumulations (7)	N/A	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	
Red Card R6	N/A	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$100	

Club/Team Official Harassing Referee (accumulated by individual)	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
1st Offence	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
2nd Offence	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	3-point deduction for associated team
3rd Offence	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	3-point deduction for every club team

Technical Area Dismissal (accumulated by individual)	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
1st Offence	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
2nd Offence	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	
3rd Offence	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	

Team Match Day Misconduct	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
5 Cards (red or yellow) 1st offence	N/A	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
5 Cards (red or yellow) 2nd offence	N/A	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	
5 Cards (red or yellow) 3rd offence	N/A	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	
3 Red Cards in a single match 1st offence	N/A	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
3 Red Cards in a single match 2nd offence	N/A	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	
3 Red Cards in a single match 3rd offence	N/A	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	
Walk off	N/A	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	

Late Nominations	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
After nominations close	N/A	\$25	\$50	\$50	N/A	N/A	
After commencement of round 1	N/A	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$100	N/A	

Late Withdrawal	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
After nominations close (per team)	N/A	\$100	\$100	\$200	\$2,000	\$5,000	
After commencement of round 1 (per team)	\$25	\$200	\$200	\$400	\$3,000	\$10,000	

Facilities	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Inadequate Field marking (inclusive of TA)	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$500	\$500	
Inadequate Nets	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$500	\$500	
No Corner Flags	\$20	\$20	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Insufficient First Aid facilities	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$200	\$200	
Canteen not in operation	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$200	\$200	

Match Day	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Failure to supply ground officials	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	
Failure to supply club official	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Failure to adhere to match ball requirements	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Failure to submit Teamsheets before competition timeframe	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	
Failure to lodge result before competition timeframe	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	

Forfeits	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Day of Fixture	\$50	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$1,200	\$2,000	Plus referee fees and a 'show cause'
With Notice	N/A	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$600	\$2,000	Plus a 'show cause'
Day of Fixture - 23s	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$600	\$1,000	Plus referee fees and a 'show cause'
With Notice - 23s	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$300	\$1,000	Plus a 'show cause'
Other	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Ineligible players - all competitive players	N/A	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$500	\$500	
Participation in Unsanctioned Match (per team)	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$500	\$500	\$1,000	
Kit Guidelines	N/A	*\$100	\$100	\$100	\$500	\$1,000	* Warning then fined
Media Guidelines (Filming)	N/A	N/A	\$100	\$200	\$500	\$500	* Warning then fined
Social Media Breach (all clubs)	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	
All other Breaches	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	As determined by Football Queensland
Appeals	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	
Appeal Fees	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$750	\$750	\$750	