7. CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

Please refer to **Schedule 6** which sets out all relevant Codes of Behaviour and Codes of Conduct applicable to FV competitions, Competition Fixtures, Clubs, players, Match Officials and Club Associates and Officials.



8. MINIMUM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS – COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS

Please refer to **Schedule 7** for all Minimum Facility Requirements - Community Competitions



9. FOOTBALL LIGHTING POLICY & REQUIREMENTS

Applicable lighting standards and requirements for Competition Fixtures are set out in $\underline{\mathsf{FV's}}$ Football Lighting Policy as published on the FV website and as amended from time to time.



10.1 General Information

- 10.1.1 These Regulations shall apply to all FV Geelong Competition Fixtures. If a particular matter is not covered by these Regulations, reference will be made to the relevant Metropolitan Regulations if they address that matter, and the relevant regulation will apply.
- 10.1.2 The Team finishing top of each League at the conclusion of the Regular Season may be deemed the League Premier.
- 10.1.3 Competition Fixtures may only be played on public holidays with the written permission of FV.
- 10.1.4 Any promotion and relegation provisions referred to in these Rules are subject to Community Competitions continuing in 2022 in the same, or substantively the same, structure. For the avoidance of doubt any promotion and relegation of teams is at the absolute discretion of FV. There is no right to promotion.

10.2 Team Entry/Age Groups

10.2.1 2022 FV Geelong competitions shall run in the following age groups:

10.2.1.1	Senior Men's
10.2.1.2	Men's Masters
10.2.1.3	Senior Women's
10.2.1.4	Boys' Under 12
10.2.1.5	Boys' Under 13
10.2.1.6	Boys' Under 14
10.2.1.7	Boys' Under 16
10.2.1.8	Boys' Under 18
10.2.1.9	Girls' Under 12
10.2.1.10	Girls' Under 13
10.2.1.11	Girls' Under 14/15
10.2.1.12	Girls' Under 16/17
10.2.1.13	Womens Football 7

- 10.2.2 Clubs competing in FV Geelong competitions may apply to enter any number of Teams, new or existing, in any one age group, however FV have sole discretion when accepting team entries and allocation the composition of leagues.
- 10.2.3 Any online Team application submitted after the closure of the Team entry period will only be accepted at FV's sole discretion.

- 10.2.4 No Club competing in FV Geelong competitions will be permitted to enter Team(s) into metropolitan competition unless it satisfies criteria including all of the following:
 - 10.2.4.1 That, in the opinion of FV, it is deemed that such a request does not directly or indirectly impact the viability of any FV Geelong Leagues;
 - 10.2.4.2 That, in the opinion of FV, it is deemed that such a request has been reasonably made because the desired age group(s), Division and/or gender of the Team is not already available within FV Geelong competitions or that of any other regional association within reasonable proximity to the Club;
 - 10.2.4.3 That the Club fields (and/or has already fielded) an additional Team(s) into the same or similar age group in FV Geelong competitions or in any other League as required by FV;
 - 10.2.4.4 That the Club acknowledges that if it satisfies criteria for the purpose of Regulation 10.2.4.c. and is permitted to enter Team(s) into metropolitan competition, but thereafter fails to field the Team(s) in the FV Geelong competitions for the duration of the Regular Season, its Team(s) may be ineligible to earn match points or be subject to other penalties as determined at the sole discretion of FV; and
 - 10.2.4.5 That the clubs the license agreement with FV allows them to enter teams within the metropolitan structures.
 - 10.2.4.6 Any other criteria as promulgated by FV from time to time.
 - 10.2.4.7 The GRFC will have discretion to make recommendations to FV on individual circumstance for clause 10.2.6.

10.3 Composition of Leagues

- 10.3.1 Number of teams and league composition is determined by FV in its absolute discretion
- 10.3.2 FV's preferred League size for all Leagues is ten (10) Teams to facilitate an eighteen (18) round Regular Season.
- 10.3.3 In all Leagues for all age groups there will be a maximum of fifteen (15) and minimum of six (6) Teams playing an eighteen (18) round Regular Season, unless otherwise determined by FV.
- 10.3.4 If a League is deemed unviable in accordance with Regulation 10.3.2., FV shall determine any alternative League options at its sole discretion.
- 10.3.5 Teams in Leagues of an even (6, 8, 10, 12 or 14) number of Teams will all play eighteen (18) Competition Fixtures during the Regular Season unless otherwise determined by FV.
- 10.3.6 Teams in Leagues of an uneven (7,11,13 or 15) number of Teams may either:
 - 10.3.6.1 have additional Competition Fixtures scheduled during the Regular Season; or

- 10.3.6.2 have Competition Fixtures removed from their Regular Season, to ensure that all Teams play the same number of Competition Fixtures across the Regular Season.
- 10.3.6.3 Teams in Leagues of 9 Teams will all play 16 Competition Fixtures during the Regular Season unless otherwise determined by FV.
- 10.3.7 FV have sole discretion when determining the composition of each league.

10.4 Vacancies in Geelong Region Competitions

- 10.4.1 This regulation shall apply to all FV Geelong Region Divisions.
- 10.4.2 Where a vacancy is created prior to the commencement of the current regular season (whether that vacancy is created during the previous competition season or in the 'off-season' prior to the commencement of the Regular Season in question), that vacancy may be offered to Clubs in accordance with the priority set out in Regulations 10.4.3 and 10.4.
 - 10.4.3 Vacancies created in accordance with Regulations 10.4.1 and 10.4.2 will be filled in the following order of priority provided the lower Division within the Competition is of no less than seven (7) teams or at the sole discretion of FV:
- 10.4.2.1 The highest finishing team which is to be or has been, relegated in accordance with these Regulations from the Division in which the vacancy arises;
- 10.4.2.2 Any remaining Teams which are to be, or have been, relegated in accordance with these Regulations from the Division in which the vacancy arises in order of merit
- 10.4.2.3 The highest finishing Team (based on order of merit) which misses out on promotion in accordance with these Regulations, from the Division below the Division in which the vacancy arises;
- 10.4.2.4 Remaining Teams which miss out on promotion in accordance with these Regulations, from the Division below the Division in which the vacancy arises in order of merit: and
- 10.4.2.5 To the remaining Clubs in order of their final position on the ladder or as otherwise determined by FV
 - 10.4.4 FV may decide not to fill a vacancy (vacancies) within a competition if it is deemed that doing so would negatively impact either: the league; the team; and/or the association
 - 10.4.5 In deciding the order of merit for the purpose Regulation 10.4.3 or where two teams are otherwise equal for the purpose of Regulation 10.4.3, those Teams will be ranked according to the following (and in this order):
 - a. League finishing position for the respective teams;
 - b. Average points per game for the current Regular Season (i.e. the season before the Regular Season in which the vacancy needs to be filled);
 - c. Average Goal Difference per game for the current Regular Season (i.e. the season before the Regular Season in which the vacancy needs to be filled;
 - d. Average Goals FOR per game for the current Regular Season (i.e. the season before the Regular Season in which the vacancy needs to be filled);

11. FIXTURE REQUIREMENTS

e. The Team and the Club's disciplinary record for the current Regular Season (i.e. the season before the Regular Season in which the vacancy needs to be filled).

11.1 Interchange

- 11.1.1 A maximum of seventeen (17) Players may be named on the Match Record. In all FV Geelong competitions, Clubs may make any number of interchanges during the course of the Competition Fixture, provided the Match Official has been consulted first.
- 11.1.2 A Match Official may decline the interchange of players in the last five (5) minutes of the second half of a Competition Fixture if in his or her opinion the change is being made to deliberately delay play.

11.2 Match Balls

- 11.2.1 The Home Club shall provide the Match Official with three (3) match balls no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled Competition Fixture.
- 11.2.2 The following ball sizes apply:

Age Groups	Ball Size
Under Twelve (12) Boys	Size 4
Under Thirteen (13) Boys	Size 4
Under Fourteen (14) Boys	Size 5
Under Sixteen (16) Boys	Size 5
Under Eighteen (18) Boys	Size 5
Under Twelve (12) Girls	Size 4
Under Thirteen (13) Girls	Size 4
Under Fourteen/Fifteen (14/15) Girls	Size 5
Under Sixteen/Seventeen (16/17) Girls	Size 5
Senior Men's	Size 5
Senior Women's	Size 5

- 11.2.3 All clubs must use a licensed match ball from one (1) of FV's licensed ball manufacturers as promulgated by FV from time to time.
- 11.2.4 Any breach of the match ball licensing arrangements must be reported to FV by the Match Official.

11.3 Results of Competition Fixtures

11.3.1 The Home Club must submit results of all Competition Fixtures online via GameDay, with the following information required to be submitted as a minimum requirement for each League:

11. BEST AND FAIREST

- 11.3.1.1 Senior Leagues Minimum Requirements
 - (i) Full time score
 - (ii) Goal scorers
 - (iii) Home and Away Team Lists
- 11.3.1.2 Junior Leagues Minimum Requirements
 - (i) Full time score
- 11.3.2 All results for Sunday Competition Fixtures played before 3.30pm shall be submitted online by the Home Club by 6.00pm that day.
- 11.3.3 For non-weekend Competition Fixtures and Competition Fixtures that kick off after 3.30pm on a Sunday, the Home Club must enter the results by 9.00am on the day following the Competition Fixture.
- 11.3.4 Clubs which fail to submit results for Competition Fixtures in accordance with Regulation 11.3 may be penalised under the GDT.

11.4 Best and Fairest & Golden Boot Awards

- 11.4.1 FV will arrange memorabilia to recognise the winners of the following awards for FV Geelong competitions:
 - 11.4.1.1 Senior Leagues
 - (i) Best and Fairest: one medal per winner.
 - (ii) Top Goal Scorer (Golden Boot): one medal per winner.
 - 11.4.1.2 Junior Leagues
 - (i) Best and Fairest: one medal per winner.
- 11.4.2 At the conclusion of each Competition Fixture, the Match Official or Club Referee must submit the Best & Fairest votes for the relevant fixture through the 'Geelong Post Match Submission Form' (Click here) within two (2) working days.
- 11.4.3 All votes must be recorded on the 2022 Geelong Post Match Submission Form (Click here).
- 11.4.4 All votes must be treated with the highest confidentiality.
- 11.4.5 All online voting forms must be completed in full, including the players' name, Club and FA ID Number.
- 11.4.6 Votes shall be cast in a 3-2-1 format with three (3) votes given for the player adjudged by the Match Official to be the best and fairest in each Competition Fixture.
- 11.4.7 A failure to comply with Regulation 11.4 may result in a Match Official being suspended from officiating or demoted to a lower Division.

11. BEST AND FAIREST

- 11.4.8 A player who receives a Suspension (as defined in the GDT) during a Competition Fixture in a specific league during the Regular Season (excluding Play Off and Finals matches) shall be ineligible to win the Best and Fairest award in that given League. To avoid doubt this includes but is not limited to a player who receives five (5) Yellow Cards or more in a Regular Season.
- 11.4.8.1 Australia Cup and Nike FC Cup matches are not included for the purpose of this regulation.
 - 11.4.9 A player who has a Direct Red Card revoked for mistaken identity shall be eligible to win the award.
 - 11.4.10 In the event of no appointed FV Match Official, Best and Fairest votes will be awarded by the Replacement Match Official for that Competition Fixture.
 - 11.4.11 If two (2) or more players have the same number of Best and Fairest votes at the conclusion of the Regular Season, multiple Best and Fairest winners will be awarded for the League.
 - 11.4.12 Players that have played at more than one Club/Team or have played in more than one League in the 2022 season will have votes and/or goals recognized as follows:
 - 11.4.12.1 Votes and/or goals in multiple Leagues: The Player's votes and/or goals earned in each League will be considered separate and do not carry over, irrespective of whether they were earned with the same Club or after transferring from one Club to another.
 - Example 1: Votes awarded to a Player in Women's Division 1 cannot be counted in the final tally for the Best and Fairest Award for Women's Division 2 in that Regular Season.
 - 11.4.12.2 Votes and/or goals at multiple Clubs in the same League: Subject to Regulations 2.1.3 and 2.1.4, if a Player plays for more than one Club in the same League in the same Regular Season, the player's votes and/or goals are tallied together, however the Player will only be recognized in terms of his or her award as a Player for the Club at which the player finishes the Regular Season.
 - Example 2: Votes awarded to the same Player whilst playing for multiple Clubs in Men's Division 1 will be tallied together for the purposes of the Best and Fairest Award for Men's Division 1 in that Regular Season.
 - 11.4.12.3 Votes and/or goals at multiple Teams from the same Club in the same League: if a Player has earned votes and/or goals for multiple Teams at the same Club in the same League, they will only have been allocated votes and/or goals for the one Team in which the most votes and/or goals were earned.
 - Example 3: 6 Votes awarded to a Player for the 'Red' Team cannot be counted if they earned 11 Votes for the 'Blue' Team for the same Club in the same League.

12. FINALS SERIES

12.3 Competition Format

- 12.3.1 The top four (4) Teams at the conclusion of the Regular Season in each League may progress to the Finals Series for that League, unless otherwise determined by FV.
- 12.3.2 The Finals Series format may be based on final ladder positions, as follows:

12.3.2.1 Week 1

Semi-Final #1 – 1st v 4th Semi-Final #2 – 2nd v 3rd

12.3.2.2 Week 2

Grand Final – Winner Semi-Final #1 v Winner Semi-Final #2

- 12.3.3 The teams which finish in 1st and 2nd positions in each league at the conclusion of the Regular Season may be entitled to host their Week 1 Finals at their home venue.
- 12.3.4 Each Club participating in Week 1 of the Finals Series will cover 50% of the Match Official fees.
- 12.3.5 FV will cover all Match Official fees in Week 2 of the Finals Series.
- 12.3.6 Details of each Finals Series for all competitions and Leagues will be released by FV prior to the conclusion of the regular season.
- 12.3.7 If a nominated home venue is deemed unfit for play, alternative venues will be determined at the absolute discretion of FV.
- 12.3.8 If any Finals Series Competitions Fixture is postponed, abandoned or cancelled, that Competition Fixture will be played within 3 days of the original Competition Fixture at the sole discretion of FV. This may include the Competition Fixture being played on an alternative day or at an alternative venue.
- 12.3.9 FV will determine whether a finals series will run at their discretion.
- 12.3.10 FV will determine the finals venue at their sole discretion.

12.4 Procedures to Determine the Winner of Finals

- 12.4.1 All Competition Fixtures in the Finals Series will be played over one (1) leg.
- 12.4.2 If, at the conclusion of any Final, the scores between the Teams are tied, extra time of two equal periods will be used to decide the winner. If the scores are level at the end of extra time, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game to determine the winner of the Final.
- 12.4.3 The Team who wins the Grand Final will become the Finals Champion for their League, unless otherwise determined by FV

12. FINALS SERIES

- 12.4.4 The Team who loses the Grand Final will become the Finals Runner Up for their League, unless otherwise determined by FV
- 12.4.5 Subject to this rule and unless otherwise determined by FV acting in its absolute discretion winning the Finals at the conclusion of the Regular Season may entitle the team to be named Champions. For the avoidance of doubt simply winning the final does not entitle the Team to be named Champions.

12.5 Discipline

- 12.5.1 All Suspensions from the Regular Season will carry over to the Finals Series.
- 12.5.2 A player that receives a Red Card during the Final Series will automatically miss the next Competition Fixture (whether or not that fixture is a Final) and may be subject to further sanction in accordance with the GDT.
- 12.5.3 Yellow cards accumulated by a player during the Finals Series will not be counted for the purposes of the GDT. However, if a player receives their 5th yellow card in their Club's final Regular Season Competition Fixture she shall be suspended for their first Competition Fixture of the Finals Series.

12.6 Player Restrictions

- 12.6.1 Each player must have Played at least five (5) Regular Season Competition Fixtures for that Team to qualify to play Finals for that Team.
- 12.6.2 FV will only consider an exception to Regulation 12.6.1 in exceptional circumstances and where a Club/Team can establish that it is unable to field a Team for a Final (in compliance with Regulation 12.6.1) due to insufficient player numbers as a result of availability (including injury). Any Club wishing to rely on such an exception must apply to FV:
 - a. in writing;
 - b. at least five (5) days before the Final is due to take place;
 - c. setting out the reasons it requests an exception be granted to Regulation 12.6.1, providing evidence in support of player unavailability; and
 - d. provide FV with any further information required.
- 12.6.3 FV will consider any request made in accordance with Regulation 12.6.2 together with all information provided in support of that request and make a decision regarding any exception requested. Any decision made in this regard is at the sole discretion of FV and is not subject to review or appeal.
- 12.6.4 A player may be granted a dispensation to play down a maximum of one (1) age group at FV's sole discretion as per the regulations within the FV Dispensation Policy.
- 12.6.5 FV may request information or clarification from a player or Club applying for dispensation as it sees fit and will make a decision in relation to the dispensation request at its sole discretion.
- 12.6.6 FV may refuse to grant a dispensation requested at its sole discretion and this decision is considered as final



13.1 Senior Men's Divisions

- 13.1.1 These Regulations shall apply to all FV Geelong Senior Men's Division Competition Fixtures. If a particular matter is not covered by these Regulations, reference will be made to the Metropolitan Men's Regulations if they address that matter and the relevant regulation will apply.
- 13.1.2 FV Geelong competitions shall comprise three (3) Senior Men's Divisions or such other number as determined by FV at any time. Number of teams is determined by FV in its absolute discretion.
- 13.1.3 Division 1 and Division 2 shall compromise of a maximum of ten (10) teams, unless insufficient team numbers exist for one of the Divisions to be viable in accordance with Regulations 10.3.2 & 10.3.3.
- 13.1.4 Subject to these Rules and Regulations, at the end of the Regular Season, the final standings of each League may determine which Teams have earned the right to be promoted or relegated between Divisions, unless otherwise determined by FV at its sole discretion.
- 13.1.5 Promotion and relegation positions are at the absolute discretion of FV and may be amended at any time prior to the commencement of the competition season, during the competition season or post competition season.
- 13.1.6 In accordance with Regulation 13.1.3, promotion and relegation between the Senior Men's Divisions may be determined as follows:
 - 13.1.6.1 Teams finishing in 9th and 10th position in Men's Division 1 may be relegated to Men's Division 2 in the following Regular Season.
 - 13.1.6.2 Teams finishing in 1st and 2nd position in Men's Division 2 may be promoted to Men's Division 1 in the following Regular Season.
 - 13.1.6.3 Teams finishing in 9th and 10th position in Men's Division 2 may be relegated to Men's Division 3 in the following Regular Season.
 - 13.1.6.4 Teams finishing in 1st and 2nd position in Men's Division 3 may be promoted to Men's Division 2 in the following Regular Season.
 - 13.1.6.5 Promotion and relegation between the Senior Men's Divisions as outlined in Regulation 13.1.14 may be subject to changes in league structure in accordance with Regulation 10.3.3 at the sole discretion of FV.
- 13.1.7 Any Club entering a new Team will be automatically placed into the lowest Division unless otherwise determined by FV.
- 13.1.8 If a Club with multiple teams in the Men's Competition intends to withdraw a team prior to the commencement of the 2022 season, the club's lowest graded team within the Competition will be withdrawn or otherwise determined by the FV.
- 13.1.9 Decisions regarding the placing of Teams in particular Divisions and Leagues as outlined in Regulation 13.1 are not appealable.

- 13.1.10 Any promotion and relegation provisions referred to in these Rules are subject to Community Competitions continuing in 2022 in the same, or substantively the same, structure. For the avoidance of doubt any promotion and relegation of teams is at the absolute discretion of FV. There is no right to promotion
- 13.1.11 Competition Fixtures will be played on either Friday, Sunday or Monday, although FV may schedule Competition Fixtures on other days as it deems necessary.
- 13.1.12 Friday or Monday night Competition Fixtures may not kick off earlier than 6.30pm or later than 8.30pm, unless either Competition Fixture has been rescheduled according to Rule 4.3.
- 13.1.13 Competition Fixtures cannot be scheduled for a Friday or Monday night if the distance between the home venues of the two (2) Clubs exceeds 50km, unless upon written agreement of the two (2) Clubs or as determined by at the sole discretion of FV.
- 13.1.14 Sunday Competition Fixtures may not kick off earlier than 11.00am or later than 8.30pm, unless either Competition Fixture has been rescheduled according to Rule 4.3.
- 13.1.15 The applicable kick off times for Sunday Competition Fixtures apply to any matches held on public holidays.
- 13.1.16 To be eligible to participate in men's competitions run by FV, Players must turn 15 years (or older) as at 1 January 2022, unless an application to FV for exemption from Regulation 13.1.16 is made by the Player's Club on behalf of a Player and is accepted by FV.
- 13.1.17 An application made under Regulation 13.1.16 must meet the following minimum criteria:
 - a. The application must be supported by a signed letter from the player's Club president supporting the application;
 - b. The application must be supported by a signed letter from the player's State Team/Representative Team coach or Club Technical Director;
 - The application must be supported by a signed letter of consent from the player's parent or quardian supporting the application;
 - d. The application must be supported by a signed letter of support from the player's medical professional listing general medical details of the player including height and weight and;
 - e. The Club/player must provide FV with any further information requested.
- 13.1.18 An application made under Regulation 13.1.17 will be considered by the FV. FV has sole discretion in relation to any application made under that Regulation.
- 13.1.19 Once a player has competed in (5) Men's State League Senior fixture, that player will be deemed ineligible to compete in any of his clubs Geelong Senior Men's Competition Teams for the remainder of the regular season (including finals). The exception to this is where a player has not yet attained the age of 18 as of the 1st of January of the current competition season, this player will be considered exempt from regulation 13.1.19.
- 13.1.20 Players who are participating in both the Men's State League Competition and the Geelong Men's Competition can only be registered to one (1) Registration Type on Play Football: '2.4

- Metro Senior Men'. Being registered and made active to this Registration Type will allow players to play in both Metropolitan and Geelong Competitions.
- 13.1.21 Once a Player has played at a higher Division(s) excluding Men's State League Seniors (Seniors or Reserves) for ten (10) Competition Fixtures or more, they will be considered ineligible for any Geelong Senior matches in a lower category (e.g. Men's Division 2) for his Club for the remainder of the Regular Season (including Finals).
- 13.1.22 Subject to regulation 13.1.21. For each Geelong Senior Men's team, no more than three (3) players who have Played in any of their Club's higher Division teams on any given weekend may play in a Geelong Senior Men's Division Competition Fixture that weekend.
- 13.1.23 For the purpose of Regulation 13.1.21, on a weekend where any of a Club's higher Division Teams outlined are not scheduled to play in a Competition Fixture, that Team's most recent Competition Fixture shall apply.
- 13.1.24 For the purpose of Regulation 13.1.21, on a weekend where any of a Club's higher Division Teams outlined are not scheduled to play in a Competition Fixture, that Team's most recent Competition Fixture shall apply.
- 13.1.25 For Clubs that have teams listed in Men's State League Competitions, no more than three (3) players who have played in their Club's Men's State League Team (seniors or reserves) on any given weekend may play in a Geelong Senior Men's Division Competition Fixture that weekend.
- 13.1.26 If a Club has two (2) Teams in the same League (of a particular Senior Division) then players are 'team-tied' following completion of the sixth (6th) round of the Regular Season to one of those teams. Clubs will be required to submit a Team list for each Team for Round 7 onwards, listing each player, which will be tied to that particular team for the remainder of the regular season. Any new player joining one of those Teams after the sixth (6th) round must be allocated to (and can only play for) one (1) of the tied-Teams for the remainder of the Regular Season
- 13.1.27 Up to a maximum of three (3) players listed to a particular Team may play for the Club's other Team(s) in that League on a given weekend.
- 13.1.28 Irrespective of the kickoff time for games on a particular day. If a men's division 2 match is scheduled before a clubs 'men's division 1 match the club must still only list a maximum of three (3) players who are able to play both matches.

13.2 Men's Masters

- 13.2.1 FV Geelong competitions shall comprise 1 Over 35's (Men's Masters) Division or such other number determined by FV at any time.
- Regulations 13.2 shall apply to all Men's Masters Competition Fixtures. If a particular matter is not covered by these Regulations, reference will be made to the 2021 Rules of Competitions and Masters Regulations for metropolitan competitions if they address that matter and the relevant regulation will apply.
 - a. Men's Masters Competition Fixtures will be played on either Friday, Sunday or Monday, although FV may schedule Competition Fixtures on other days as it deems necessary.
 - b. Friday or Monday night Competition Fixtures may not kick off earlier than 6:30pm or later than 8:30pm, unless either Competition Fixture has been rescheduled according to Rule 4.3.

- 13.2.3 Men's Masters Competition Fixtures cannot be scheduled for a Friday or Monday night if the distance between the home venues of the two (2) Clubs exceeds 50km, unless upon written agreement of the two (2) Clubs or as determined by FV at its absolute and sole discretion.
- 13.2.4 Sunday Competition Fixtures may not kick off earlier than 11.00am or later than 8.30pm, unless either Competition Fixture has been rescheduled according to Rule 4.3.
- 13.2.5 The applicable kick off times for Sunday Competition Fixtures apply to any Competition Fixtures held on public holidays.
- 13.2.6 All Players that play in 2022 Men's Masters Competition Fixtures must be 35 years or older as at 1 January 2022, with the following exemption:
 - a. A club may list up to two (2) outfield players on the match record who are not yet 35 but whom have attained the age of 30 as of 1st of January of the Current competition season without prior written dispensation
 - b. Clubs may apply for dispensation from Regulation 13.2.6 provided it:
 - i. Submits a request in writing to FV; and
 - ii. Any Player(s) it is requesting dispensation for which would provide exemption from Regulation 13.2.6 is 34 years old as at 1 January 2021; and
 - iii. Provides any other information requested by FV.
- 13.2.7 Players who are provided dispensation will not be counted for the purpose of regulation 13.2.6.a.
- 13.2.8 Requests made in accordance with Regulation 13.2. will only be considered at FV's sole discretion.



14.1 General Information

- 14.1.1 These Regulations shall apply to all Geelong Women's Competition Fixtures. If a particular matter is not covered by these Regulations, reference will be made to the 2022 Rules of Competition and Women's State League Regulations competitions if they address that matter and the relevant regulation will apply.
- To be eligible to participate in women's competitions run by FV, Players must turn 14 years (or older) in 2022, unless an application to FV for exemption from Regulation 14.1.2 is made by the Player's Club on behalf of a Player and is accepted by FV.
- 14.1.3 An application made under Regulation 14.1.2 must meet the following minimum criteria:
 - a. The application must be supported by a signed letter from the player's Club supporting the application;
 - b. The application must be supported by a signed letter from the player's state Team or representative Team coach if applicable;
 - c. The application must be supported by a signed letter of consent from the player's parent or guardian supporting the application; and
 - d. The application must be supported by a signed letter of support from the player's medical professional listing general medical details of the player including height and weight and;
 - e. The Club/player must provide FV with any further information required.
- 14.1.4 An application made under Regulation 14.1.2 will be considered by the FV. FV has sole discretion in relation to any application made under that Regulation.
- 14.1.5 The Senior Women's Divisions shall be named Women's Division 1 & Women's Division 2.
 - 14.1.5.1 The names and number of Divisions offered by FV may change from time to time if it is required to do so.
- 14.1.6 Geelong Women's Fixtures will be played on Friday, Saturday or Monday. FV may schedule Geelong Women's fixtures on other days as it deems necessary in the circumstance.
- 14.1.7 Competition Fixtures may not kick-off earlier than 11:00am or later than 8:30pm unless the Competition Fixture has been rescheduled as per Rule 4.3.
- 14.1.8 Competition Fixtures cannot be scheduled for a Friday or Monday night if the distance between the home venues of the two (2) Clubs exceeds 50km, unless upon written agreement of the two (2) Clubs or as determined at the sole discretion of FV.
- 14.1.9 If a Club has two (2) Teams in the same League (of a particular Senior Division) then players are 'team-tied' following completion of the sixth (6th) round of the Regular Season to one of those teams. Clubs will be required to submit a Team list for each Team for Round 7 onwards, listing each player, which will be tied

that particular team for the remainder of the regular season. Any new player joining one of those Teams after the sixth (6th) round must be allocated to (and can only play for) one (1) of the tied-Teams for the remainder of the Regular Season 14.1.10 No more than three (3) players who have Played in any of their Club's higher Division Teams on any given weekend may play in a Geelong Senior Women's Division Competition Fixture that weekend. 14.1.11 Irrespective of the kickoff time for games on a particular day. If a women's division 2 match is scheduled before a clubs 'women's division 1 match the club must still only list a maximum of three (3) players who are able to play both matches. 14.1.12 For the purpose of Regulation 14.1.11, on a weekend where any of a Club's higher Division Teams are not scheduled to play in a Competition Fixture, or are scheduled to kick off after the lower division's Competition Fixture, that Team's most recent Competition Fixture will apply. Players who are participating in both the VPLW/Women's State League 14.1.13 Competition and the Geelong Women's' Competition can only be registered to one (1) Registration Type on Play Football: '2.3 Metro Senior Women'. Being registered and made active to this Registration Type will allow players to play in both Metropolitan and Geelong Competitions. 14.1.14 Once a Player has played at a higher Division(s) including Women's State League Seniors (Seniors or Reserves) for ten (10) Competition Fixtures or more, they will be considered ineligible for any Geelong Senior matches in a lower category (e.g., Women's Division 1) for their Club for the remainder of the Regular Season (including Finals). 14.1.15 Subject to regulation 14.1.14. For each Geelong Senior Women's team, no more than three (3) players who have Played in any of their Club's higher Division teams on any given weekend (including Women's State League) may play in a Geelong Senior Women's Division Competition Fixture that weekend.



15.1 General Information

- 15.1.1 These Regulations shall apply to all Junior Geelong Competition Fixtures. If a particular matter is not covered by these Regulations, reference will be made to the Metropolitan Junior Regulations if they address that matter and the relevant regulation will apply.
- All Junior Boys Divisions shall be named 'A' or 'B' grade, except in the instance of Boys' Under 12 which shall be named Kangaroos, Wallabies & Joeys respectively.
- 15.1.3 The names and number of Divisions offered by FV may change from time to time if it is required to do so.
- 15.1.4 Player ID Cards are required in all junior Competition Fixtures.

The default day of play for the following age groups is Saturday:

Girls' Under 12

Girls' Under 13

Girls' Under 14/15

Girls' Under 16/17

15.1.5 The default day of play for the following age groups is Sunday:

Boys' Under 12

Boys' Under 13

Bovs' Under 14

Boys' Under 16

Boys' Under 18

- 15.1.6 FV Junior Boys & Girls Competition Fixtures may also be scheduled on Friday or Monday, although FV may schedule Competition Fixtures on other days as it deems necessary.
- 15.1.7 Competitions Fixtures cannot be scheduled for a Friday or Monday night if the distance between the home venues of the two (2) Clubs exceeds 50km, unless written agreement from the two (2) Clubs is received or as determined by FV at its absolute and sole discretion.
- 15.1.8 A Player who is participating above their age group will not be prevented from returning to play in his or her rightful age group unless that Player is suspended.
- 15.1.9 A player may be granted a dispensation to play down a maximum of one (1) age group at FV's sole discretion as per the regulations within the FV Dispensation Policy.
- 15.1.10 FV may request information or clarification from a player or Club applying for dispensation under Regulation 15.1.9 as it sees necessary and will make a decision in relation to the dispensation request at its sole discretion.

- 15.1.11 FV may refuse to grant a dispensation requested under Regulation 15.1.9 in circumstances where the player in question has played in football in school or other competitions not administered by FV or FA. FV may seek further information from the Club in question before making a determination under this Regulation and the Club must submit that information as part of the dispensation request.
- 15.1.12 For all Junior Boys competitions in which multiple Divisions exist, a Player who has played at a higher Division in a particular age group (e.g. 13As) for five (5) Competition Fixtures or more, cannot drop to a lower category (e.g. 13Bs) within the same age group for his or her Club for the remainder of the Regular Season (including Finals). This Regulation does not, however, prevent a player who is playing 'up' an age group returning to his or her rightful age group in accordance with Regulation 15.1.8.
- 15.1.13 If a Club has two (2) Teams in the 'A' Division of a particular age group then players are team-tied from the fifth (5^{th}) round Competition Fixture of the Regular Season. Clubs with tied-Teams will be required to submit a Team list for each Team, listing the players within their designated Team. Any new player joining a Team must be allocated to only one (1) of the tied-Teams.
- Players who are participating in both the Metropolitan Junior League Competition and the Geelong Junior Competition can only be registered to one (1) Registration Type on Play Football: '2.2 Metro Juniors. Being registered and made active to this Registration Type will allow players to play in both Metropolitan and Geelong Competitions

15.2 Junior Boys' Competitions

15.2.1 Subject to Regulation 15.1.9 and 15.1.12, players in the following age groups may take part in the Junior Boys' Competition 2022:

Age Group	Year of Birth
Twelves (12s)	Born on or after 1 January 2010
Thirteens (13s)	Born on or after 1 January 2009
Fourteens (14s)	Born on or after 1 January 2008
Sixteens (16s)	Born on or after 1 January 2006
Eighteens (18s)	Born on or after 1 January 2004

15.3 Junior Girls' Competitions

15.3.1 Subject to Regulation 15.1.9 and 15.1.12, players in the following age groups may take part in the Junior Girls' Competition 2022:

Age Group	Year of Birth
Twelves (12s)	Born on or after 1 January 2010
Thirteens (13s)	Born on or after 1 January 2009
Fourteens/Fifteens (14s/15s)	Born on or after 1 January 2008
Sixteens/Seventeens (16s/17s)	Born on or after 1 January 2006

15.4 Under 12 & 13 Competitions

15.4.1 As an exception to the Venue Requirements as set out in **Schedule 7**, the Boys' and Girls' Under 12 & 13 competition in 2022 will be played as per regulation 18.1.

FV Community Under 12 & Under 13 Competition (9v9)			
Number of Players	9v9 Including Goal Keeper. Max of 5 Substitutions		
Field of Play	Length: 60 – 70m Width 40-50m		
Goal Size and Type	Height 2m Width: 5m Permanent or portable goal must be compliant with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's Notice. 28 of 2010		
Field Marking	Cones, Markers or Painted Lines are allowed		
Penalty Area	Depth 10m Width: 20m Penalty Spot 7m from goal line		
Duration of Game	2 x 30 minute halves		
Half time	5 minutes		
Referee	FV Appointed Green Shirt Referees		
Assistant Referees	Club appointed Assisted Referees		
Interchange	Maximum 5 Players		
Ball Size	4		

- 15.4.2 The offside rule will apply for under 12 and under 13 9v9 competition as per FIFA LOTG.
- 15.4.3 In accordance with FIFA LOTG, a penalty kick will be awarded if a player commits a direct free kick offence inside their penalty area.
- The goalkeeper is allowed to handle the ball anywhere in the penalty area. To restart play after a save or gathering the ball with their hands, the ball must be thrown or rolled from the hands or played from the ground with their feet within 6 seconds, The goalkeeper is not allowed to kick or dropkick the ball from their hands.
- 15.4.5 Goal kicks can be taken from anywhere within the penalty area. Opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play. The ball is in play once it is kicked and leaves the penalty area.
- Opponents must be at least 6 meters away from the ball until it is in play. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.
- 15.4.7 Red and Yellow Cards will be issued as per FIFA LOTG except in the following.
 - a. For any fouls that would ordinarily result in a red card, the match official will instruct the player to leave the field of play for the remainder of the match, any player sent from the field of play may be replaced by another player at the time of the offence. In this instance, neither team will be required to play with fewer than 9 players.

15.5 Division Categories

- 15.5.1 Under 12 competitions are self-graded (Kangaroos, Wallabies & Joeys Leagues).
- 15.5.2 Leagues of no less than six (6) Teams or greater than fifteen (15) Teams will be created in Kangaroo, Wallaby or Joey Leagues.
- 15.5.3 Where there are sixteen (16) or more Team entries in any given Division, Teams will be split geographically to alleviate travel time.
- 15.5.4 FV's preferred League size will remain ten (10) teams, with the remaining Teams maintaining a viable League of between six (6) and fifteen (15) Teams.
 - 15.5.5 Match Records are applicable for FV Geelong Region Under 12 & 13 Competitions.
 - 15.5.6 Red & yellow cards are applicable in FV Geelong Region Under 12 & 13 Competitions. In the case a Red card is shown to a player by the Match Official:
 - 15.5.7 That player will be sent off the field for the remainder of the match however shall be replaced by an Interchange player for the remainder of the game.
- 15.5.8 Scores will be recorded in FV Geelong Region Under 12 & 13.
- 15.5.9 League tables will be recorded in FV Geelong Region Under 12 & 13 Completions

15.6 Regrading Procedure

- 15.6.1 FV at their sole discretion will determine whether regrading will occur within a competition season.
- Follow the conclusion of Round 4 of the Regular Season, a request to regrade to a new league will only be considered by FV:
 - a. The league to which the team wants to move contains a bye (i.e. an uneven number of teams); and
 - b. The League from which the team wants to move does not contain a bye (i.e. an even number of teams); <u>OR</u>
 - c. There is a concurrent request from a Team to move between the two Leagues referred to in Rules 15.5.2(a) and 15.5.2 (b) above which would effectively result in a direct swap between the two Teams in question and, therefore, no disruption to either of the respective leagues.

FV reserves the right to action a mandatory regrade based on the facilitation of a straight swap between two Leagues

If in the situation multiple requests to move into the same league are received, the regrade priority will be given based on results and standings

No Club shall have more than two (2) Teams re-graded in the same competition age group except in exceptional circumstances as deemed necessary by FV.

15.6.4	FV may consider a request to re-grade which does not satisfy the criteria stipulated in Rule 15.5.2 above in exceptional circumstance. In doing so, it will give consideration to the following:
15.6.4.1	The extent of League and fixture disruption for other Teams caused by the proposed move
15.6.4.2	Match results recorded between Rounds 1-4 of the current Regular Season. No request to re-grade will be considered if a Team has not won or lost all three fixtures.
15.6.4.3	History of the Team's performance across previous seasons.
15.6.4.4	Any additional information sought or requested by FV, including but not limited to referee and opposition feedback.
15.6.4.5 request to	The following match determinations will apply to competitions affected by an approved re-grade:
15.6.4.6	Any re-graded Team will commence in its new League in Round 5.
15.6.4.7	Results and ladders for the regraded impacted league will be reset and previous results accounted for as 'grading games'.
15.6.4.8	The Re-grading Period will commence following Round 4 of the Regular Season. All regrading requests must be received by FV no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of a Team's Round 4 Competition Fixture. Any request received after this time will not be considered unless, in the opinion of FV, the request benefits all affected Leagues.
15.6.4.9	All regrading requests must be submitted through the <u>online form</u> which can be found on the FV Website. One form will be required for each re-grading request that is submitted. Requests for re-grading or confirmation sought over the phone or via email <u>will not be considered by FV.</u>



2022 RULES OF COMPETITION

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL 7's



16.1 General Information

- 16.1.1. These Regulations shall apply to all Women's Football Sevens (WF7) fixtures within the following metropolitan FV Competitions.
- 16.1.2. Where team numbers permit, Women's Football Sevens will be divided into the following zones:
 - a. West
 - b. North
 - c. East
 - d. South
- 16.1.3. In circumstances where team numbers entered do not allow viable zonal League, FV may amalgamate available teams into one or more of the following competitions:
 - a. Metropolitan (stand alone)
 - b. North-West
 - c. South-East
 - Any other zone that FV determines in its sole discretion based on team numbers entered.
- 16.1.4. WM7 competition structure may consist of two (2) cycles.
- 16.1.5. Each WM7 cycle may consist of 7 rounds with a proposed Final Series after Cycle 2.
- 16.1.6. FV's preferred League size for WM7 is eight (8) Teams to facilitate a seven (7) round cycle.
- 16.1.7. Clubs may enter teams for one or both of the cycles.
- 16.1.8. All WM7 competitions fixtures and results will reset after Cycle 1.
- 16.1.9. There will be no promotion and relegation between individual WF7 Competition Leagues or between Women's State Leagues and WF7 Competitions.
- 16.1.10. Competition Fixtures may only be played on public holidays with the permission of FV.
- 16.1.11. To be eligible to participate in Women's Football Sevens competitions run by FV, a player must be at least 14 years of age as at 1 January 2022, unless an application to FV for exemption from Rule 16.1.7 is made by the player's Club on behalf of a player and is accepted by FV.
- 16.1.12. An application made under Rule 16.1.7 must meet the following minimum criteria:
 - a. the application must be supported by a signed letter from the player's Club president supporting the application;
 - b. the application must be supported by a signed letter from the player's State Team/Representative Team coach or Club Technical Director;

- the application must be supported by a signed letter of consent from the player's parent or guardian supporting the application;
- d. The application must be supported by a signed letter of support from the player's medical professional listing general medical details of the player including height and weight; and
- e. the Club/player must provide FV with any further information requested.
- 16.1.13. An application made under Rule 16.1.7 will be considered by FV. FV has sole discretion in relation to any application made under that Regulation.
- 16.1.14. As an exception to the Player's Strip / Apparel set out in Rule 3.5, the WF7 competition does not require players to wear a Club Strip.
- 16.1.15. In addition to 16.1.14 players on the same team may wear a bib or strip of predominantly the same colour (excluding black).

16.2 Multiple Teams in Women's Football Sevens

16.2.1. Clubs may enter more than one Team in the Women's Metro Sevens Competition provided that Clubs with multiple Teams in the Women's Metro Sevens Competition must comply with the player eligibility Rules as set out in Rules 16.3.

16.3 Player Restrictions

16.3.1. Clubs with Women's State League Team(s) are permitted to play players between Women's State League and Women's Football Sevens Competition provided that:

Victorian Premier League Womens (VPLW) and Women's State League 1 & 2

a. No more than two (2) players who have played in their Club's VPLW (seniors or reserves), Women's State League 1 (seniors or reserves) or Women's State League 2 Team in their most recent fixture may play in a WF7 Competition Fixture that weekend.

Women's State League 3, 4 and 5

b. There are no restrictions on players who have played in their Club's Women's State League 3, 4 or 5 Team(s) on any given weekend also playing in a Club's WF7 Competition Fixture on the same weekend.

16.4 Women's Football Sevens Competition - Playing the Game

16.4.1. As an exception to the Venue Requirements as set out in Schedule 7, the WF7 competition will be played as per rule 16.4.1.

FV Community Women's Football Sevens Competition			
Number of Players	7v7 including Goalkeeper. Maximum of 10 eligible players on the Match Record.		
Field of Play	½ Full Size Pitch Length: 60m - 70m Width: 40m - 50m		
Goal Size and Type	Height: 2m Width: 5m Permanent or portable goal must be compliant with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's Notice. 28 of 2010		
Field Marking	Cones, Markers or Painted Lines are allowed		
Penalty Area	Depth: 10m Width: 20m Penalty Spot 7m from goal line		
Duration of Game	2 x 20 minute halves		
Halftime	5 minutes		
Referee	FV Appointed Referee		
Interchange	Maximum 3 Players		
Ball Size	5		

- 16.4.2. The offside rule will not apply, a player cannot be offside in the WF7 Competition.
- 16.4.3. In accordance with FIFA LOTG, a penalty kick will be awarded if a player commits a direct free kick offence inside their penalty area.
- 16.4.4. The goalkeeper is allowed to handle the ball anywhere in the penalty area. To restart play after a save or gathering the ball with their hands, the ball must be thrown or rolled from the hands or played from the ground with their feet within 6 seconds, The goalkeeper is not allowed to kick or dropkick the ball from their hands.
- 16.4.5. Goal kicks can be taken from anywhere within the penalty area. Opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play. The ball is in play once it is kicked and leaves the penalty area.
- 16.4.6. There are no Throw-Ins in Women's Football Sevens. Players must place the ball on the ground and the ball is Kicked into play (Kick-Ins are indirect).
- 16.4.7. For Centre Kick Offs, Corners, Kick-Ins and Goal Kicks, any opposition players must be 5 metres away from the ball at the start of play when each of these kicks are taken.
- 16.4.8. Red and Yellow Cards will be issued as per FIFA LOTG except in the following.

a. For any fouls that would ordinarily result in a red card, the match official will instruct the player to leave the field of play for the remainder of the match, any player sent from the field of play may be replaced by another player at the time of the offence. In this instance, neither team will be required to play with fewer than 7 players.

16.5 New Teams/New Divisions/New Leagues

- 16.5.1. All Clubs may apply to enter a new Team or Teams into WF7 Competition. FV will communicate League Structures based on the Team entries received and determine if Leagues need to be merged to form viable Leagues.
- 16.5.2. FV reserves the right to establish another tier in the WF7 Competition if Team entry numbers allow.
- 16.5.3. A decision made under Regulation 16.5.2 will depend on the number of Club and Team entries for WF7 Competition in 2022.

16.6 Vacancies in Women's Football Sevens Competition

- 16.6.1. From time to time vacancies may be created in WF7 Competitions due to:
 - a. A Team withdrawing from a WF7 Division;
 - b. A Team being expelled from a WF7 Division;
 - c. Other reasons from time to time.
- 16.6.2. If a vacancy is created in a WF7 Competition League prior to the commencement of the Regular Season (whether that vacancy is created during the previous season or in the 'offseason' prior to the commencement of the Regular Season in question), FV have sole discretion when filling a vacancy. FV may choose to leave the vacancy and replace it with a bye, fill the vacancy by offering it to Clubs in accordance with the priority set out in Rules 16.6.3 or decide upon an alternate outcome in FV's sole discretion.
- 16.6.3. Vacancies created in accordance with Regulations 16.6.1 will be filled by a Team nomination by a Club in the same geographic zone. If there are multiple team entries waiting for the vacancy the priority will be given based on the submission date of each team entry.
- 16.6.4. FV, acting in its discretion, may decide not to fill a vacancy in WF7 Competition where doing so would disrupt the clubs already allocated to that competition, for example where a vacancy is created in close proximity to the start of the Regular Season.

16.7 Scheduling of Matches – Days of Play

16.7.1. WF7 Competition Fixtures can be fixtured to a Centralised Venue or as Home and Away Fixtures

Centralised

- a. All fixtures are scheduled at one venue only for the entire season.
- b. Venue is selected to be central to the teams participating in the competition.
- c. A Match Day Coordinator is provided from the host venue to oversee every fixture.

Home and Away

- a. All fixtures are scheduled as a standard Home and Away Format
- b. Home Clubs are responsible to oversee fixtures at their venue
- 16.7.2. WF7 Competition Fixtures will be played on either:

Weeknight

- a. Day of Play the night allocated is dependent on venue availability.
- b. Once confirmed, the competition day will remain the same for the duration of the competition season.
- c. Competition Fixtures may not kick off earlier than 6.30pm or later than 9:30pm

Weekend

- a. Day of Play the day allocated is dependent on venue availability.
- b. Once confirmed, the competition day will remain the same for the duration of the competition season.
- c. Competition Fixtures may not kick off earlier than 11am or later than 8:30pm
- 16.7.3. Competitions will be given a default fixture day and will only deviate due to fixture postponement or when agreed to by both Clubs and approved by FV
- 16.7.4. Regulations 16.7.1 and 16.7.2 are applicable for both Centralised or Home and Away Fixtures.

17.1 Interchange

- 17.1.1. A maximum of ten (10) players may be named on the Match Record. Clubs may make any number of interchanges during the course of the WF7 Competition Fixture.
- 17.1.2. Clubs and/or Coaches do not need to confirm with the referee when making a change and all changes must occur from the sideline.

17.2 Match Balls

- 17.2.1 The Home Club or Venue Coordinator shall provide the appointed Match Official with three (3) match balls (size 5) no later than 10 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled Competition Fixture.
- 17.2.2 All Clubs must use a licensed match ball from one (1) of FV's licensed ball manufacturers as advised by FV from time to time (http://www.footballfedvic.com.au/our-partners/ball-licensees/).
- 17.2.3 Any breach of the match ball licensing arrangements must be reported to FV by the Match Official

17.3 Results of FV Competition Fixtures

WF7 Competition Leagues – Minimum Requirements

17.3.1. The Home Team must submit the Full Time Score.

SCHEDULE 5 – 2022 WOMEN'S FOOTBALL SEVENS COMPETITION REGULATIONS 17. FIXTURE REQUIREMENTS

- 17.3.2. All results for Sunday Competition Fixtures that kick off before 3.30pm shall be submitted online by the Home Club by 6.00pm that day.
- 17.3.3. For non weekend Competition Fixtures and Competition Fixtures that kick off after 3.30pm on a Sunday, the Home Club must enter the results by 9.00am on the day following the Competition Fixture.
- 17.3.4. All Competition Fixture results must be submitted via GameDay.
- 17.3.5. Clubs which fail to submit Competition Fixture results in accordance with Rule 17.3 may be penalised under the GDT.

18.1 Admittance to Competition Fixtures

18.1.1 Admittance to all WF7 Competition Fixtures is free of charge, including parking.

SCHEDULE 5 – 2022 WOMEN'S FOOTBALL SEVENS COMPETITION REGULATIONS 19. WF7 COMEPTITION FINALS SERIES

19.1 Competition Format

- 19.1.1 All WF7 Competitions may conclude the WF7 Cycle 2 with a Finals Series if the number of Team entries in the League permits a Finals Series.
- 19.1.2 If a Finals Series is implemented, the format of the Finals Series will be determined by FV at its sole and absolute discretion and communicated to Clubs accordingly.

19.2 Procedures to Determine the Winner of Finals

- 19.2.1 All Competition Fixtures played in the 2022 WF7 Finals Series will be played over one (1) leg.
- 19.2.2 If, at the conclusion of any Final, the scores between the Teams are tied, extra time of two (2) periods of 5 minutes will be played in accordance with FIFA Laws of The Game.
- 19.2.3 If scores remain equal at the conclusion of the period of extra time, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game to determine the winner of a Final.

19.3 Discipline

19.3.1 Yellow cards accumulated by a player during the WF7 Competition Finals Series will not be counted for the purposes of clause 4.3.a of the GDT. However, if a player receives their 5th yellow card in their Club's final Regular Season WF7 Competition Fixture she shall be suspended for their first Competition Fixture at the 2022 WF7 Final Series.

19.4 Player Restrictions

- 19.4.1 Each player must have Played at least three (3) Regular Season WF7 Competition Fixtures for a particular Team to qualify to play Finals in 2022 for that Team.
- 19.4.2 FV will only consider an exception to Rule 19.4.1 in exceptional circumstances and where a Club/Team can establish that it is unable to field a Team for a Final (in compliance with Regulation 13.4.1) due to insufficient player numbers as a result of availability (including injury). Any Club wishing to rely on Rule 19.4.2 must apply to FV:
 - a. in writing;
 - b. at least five (5) days before the Final is due to take place;
 - c. setting out the reasons it requests an exception be granted to Rule 19.4.1, providing evidence in support of player unavailability; and
 - d. provide FV with any further information required.
- 19.4.3 FV will consider any request made in accordance with Rule 19.4.2 together with all information provided in support of that request and make a decision regarding any exception requested. Any decision made in this regard is at the sole and exclusive discretion of FV and is not subject to review or appeal.

Overview

The following codes are deemed to be incorporated into these Rules of Competition:

- FA National Spectator Code of Behaviour,
- FA National Code of Conduct.
- Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport (Fair Play Code)
- It is vital that everyone involved in Football, 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, FV asks all participants to recognise that there are underlying principles which extend beyond those specific instructions.

General Principles for all Persons Involved in Sport

- Operate within the Rules and spirit of Football, promoting fair play over winning at any cost.
- Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.
- Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of the sport.
- Treat each person as an individual.
- Display control and courtesy to all involved with the sport.
- Respect the rights and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators in the conduct of the sport.
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance will exist) with people under the age of 18 years.
- Adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour in all interactions.
- Adopt responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs.
- Act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment.
- Do not tolerate harmful or abusive behaviours.
- Do not bring the game of Football into Disrepute, by engaging in discriminatory, offensive or criminal behaviour.

- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment.
- Do not tolerate harmful or abusive behaviours.
- Do not bring the game of Football into Disrepute, by engaging in discriminatory, offensive or criminal behaviour.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment free environment.
- Do not bring the game into Disrepute by engaging in harassment, including sexual harassment or any unwelcome sexual conduct which makes a person feel offended, humiliated and/or intimidated.
- Do not bring the game into Disrepute by provoking or inciting hatred or violence, including crowd violence.
- Do not bring the game into Disrepute by engaging in corruption, forgery or falsification, or by abusing a position to obtain a personal benefit.
- Do not bring the game into Disrepute by the throwing or fixing of a match, by accepting bribes, or by any conduct intended to unfairly effect the result of a match;
- Do not bring the game into Disrepute by any other conduct that materially injures the reputation and goodwill of Football.

(NB for the purposes of this code of behaviour 'Disrepute' means conduct, statement or appearance in public that is damaging to reputation).

Players' Code of Behaviour

- Give your best at all times.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.
- Play by the Rules.
- Do not argue with the Match Official. If you disagree, have your captain or coach approach the Match Official during a break in play or after the Match is concluded.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking another person is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.
- 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.
- Co-operate with your coach, Teammates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition.

- Remove all jewelry 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.

Coaches' Code of Behaviour

- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Be aware of and support the sport's injury management plans and return to play guidelines.
- Help each person (athlete, official, etc.) to reach their potential. Respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and encourage them with positive and constructive feedback.
- Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.
- Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of the sport.
- Treat each participant as an individual.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of participants.
- Act within the rules and spirit of your sport.
- Promote fair play over winning at any cost.
- Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators.
- Show respect and courtesy to all involved with the sport.
- Display responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs.
- Act with integrity, objectivity and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment-free environment.
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance exists) with people under the age of 18.
- Ensure that any physical contact with another person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development.
- Be honest and do not allow your qualifications or coaching experience to be misrepresented.
- Never advocate or condone the use of illicit drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances or methods.
- Never participate in or advocate practices that involve match fixing.

- Respect the rights and worth of every person, regardless of their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.
- Do not tolerate abusive, bullying or threatening behaviour.

Administrators' Code of Behaviour

- Act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the sport as a whole.
- Ensure that any information acquired, or advantage gained from the position is not used improperly.
- Conduct your responsibilities with due care, competence and diligence.
- Do not allow prejudice, conflict of interest or bias to affect your objectivity.
- 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 emphasises 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.

Match Officials' Code of Behaviour

- Place the safety and welfare of the athletes above all else.
- Be consistent and impartial when making decisions.
- Address unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all people.
- Modify your approach to suit the skill levels and needs of players.
- Praise and encourage all participants.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Do not tolerate unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Emphasise the spirit of the game rather than focus on negative aspects.
- Encourage and promote rule changes to all players and members.
- Be a good sport yourself, as actions speak louder than words.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in refereeing.
- Remember that you set the example on the park, therefore, your behaviour and comments should always be positive and supportive.

Parents Code of Behaviour

- Remember that children play the sport for their enjoyment, and not yours;
- Encourage children to participate and have fun.
- Focus on the child's effort and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children to always participate according to the rules;
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- Remember that children learn best by example, so applaud good play by both Teams;
- Support all efforts to remove racial and religious vilification, verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities;
- Respect the match official's decisions and teach your child to do likewise;
- Show respect and appreciation to Club officials, including coaches, officials and administrators. Ensure any issues are raised through the correct channels;
- Do not smoke or consume alcohol near the Team bench (Technical Area) or sideline.

Spectators' Code of Behaviour

All spectators must comply with the FA National Spectator Code of Behaviour.

It is important that all spectators at a Football Victoria (FV) approved fixture are able to enjoy the Match in a safe and comfortable environment. Accordingly, each person present at a FV fixture must:

- Respect the decisions of the Match Officials, and teach children to do the same;
- Never ridicule or unduly scold a child for making a mistake;
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, race, colour, religion, language, politics, national or ethnic origin; Not use violence in any form, whether it is against other Spectators, Team Officials (including coaches) or Players;
- Not engage in discrimination, harassment or abuse in any form including the use of obscene
 or offensive language or gestures, the incitement of hatred or violence or partaking in
 indecent or racist chanting;
- Comply with any terms of entry of a venue, including bag inspections, prohibited and
 restricted items such as flares, missiles, dangerous articles and items that have the potential to
 cause injury or public nuisance;
- not, and must not attempt to, bring into a venue national or political flags or emblems (except for the recognised national flags of any of the competing Teams) or offensive or inappropriate banners, whether written in English or a foreign language;

- Not throw missiles (including on to the field of play or at other spectators) and must not enter the field of play or its surrounds without lawful authority; and
- Conduct themselves in a manner that enhances, rather than injures, the reputation and goodwill of FV, FA, and football generally.
- It is the host Club's responsibility to ensure this Spectator Code of Behaviour is implemented and enforced against all spectators.

Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport

Every person in Victoria has the right to participate in community sport that is safe, welcoming and inclusive. At the same time, everyone plays a part in ensuring their behaviour and their actions are supportive of these values.

State Sporting Associations, leagues and clubs also have a responsibility to ensure participation in any community sport event is free of any anti-social behaviour. This means that behaviour both on and off the field should not prevent others from taking part and getting active.

The <u>Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport</u> outlines behaviours which are expected of every person involved in community sport, and behaviours which must not be tolerated.

The Code supports <u>Victoria's Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women</u> by taking a zero tolerance stance towards violence against women. The Code also aims to encourage cultural and behavioural change as a pre-emptive measure against violence.

Acts of <u>violence</u>, <u>discrimination</u> and <u>vilification</u> are illegal acts in Victoria. It is a club's responsibility to report these to the appropriate legal authorities and ensure these acts are not tolerated by the sport or club.

State Sporting Associations, leagues and clubs will have the responsibility of adhering to and enforcing the code through sport specific penalties. Organisations that do not adhere to and enforce the Code will not be eligible for funding from Sport and Recreation Victoria, and any existing funding will cease.

The Code provides the opportunity to make a positive impact on community participation in sport and recreation by encouraging appropriate behaviour at all times. Implementation of the Code will ensure that community sport remains safe and inclusive for all.

Code of Conduct

Every person: spectator, player, club member, official, participant, administrator, coach, parent or member of the community involved with the sport, should work to ensure:

- inclusion of every person regardless of their age, gender or sexual orientation
- inclusion of every person regardless of their race, culture or religion
- opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in the sport and develop to their full potential
- respect is shown towards others, the club and the broader community

- a safe and inclusive environment for all
- elimination of violent and abusive behavior
- protection from sexual harassment or intimidation.

This Code applies to community sport, training and club sanctioned activities.

Breaches of the Code

The following behaviours are considered breaches of the Code:

- Violent or abusive behaviour towards another person.
- Vilification of any kind towards another person.
- Discrimination against another person based on their age, gender or sexual orientation.
- Discrimination against another person based on their race, culture, religion or any other irrelevant personal characteristic.
- Sexual harassment or intimidation of another person.
- Victimisation of another person for exercising their rights through the Code of Conduct.
- Failure to maintain a safe environment.

If any of these behaviours take place within a sport or recreational context, the relevant State Sporting Association, league, association or club is able to impose penalties or sanctions. For this to occur, the breach must be confirmed through an appropriate assessment process at the appropriate level.

State Sporting Association Responsibility

The responsibility of a State Sporting Association through the Code of Conduct is to:

- promote the Code of Conduct to all persons involved in the sport or club
- ensure reporting and assessment processes are in place to identify and penalise breaches of the Code
- report on the implementation of the Code to the State Government on an annual basis
- ensure that every person involved in the sport is able to exercise their rights without fear of victimisation.

SCHEDULE 7 – MINIMUM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS - COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS

Heading	Rule	Venue Class	Requirement	
Section 1 - Fi	Section 1 - Field of Play and Environs			
General	1.1	Senior & Junior	The Field of Play and related equipment including goals and corner flags must be compliant with the Laws of the Game.	
Pitch size	1.2.1	Senior	Length - Minimum 96 metres, maximum 105 metres Width - Minimum 60 metres, maximum 68 metres	
Pitch size	1.2.2	Junior	Length - Minimum 90 metres, maximum 105 metres Width - Minimum 50 metres, maximum 68 metres	
Run offs	1.3	Senior & Junior	A minimum runoff area of 3 metres to any tripping hazard or solid obstruction, including fences and Team benches, must be provided.	
Goals	1.4.1	Senior & Junior	Goalposts and nets must be in accordance with the Laws of the Game. The goalposts and crossbar must be made of metal or other approved material. They may be square, rectangular, round or elliptical in shape and must not be dangerous to players. The distance between the posts is 7.32 m and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is 2.44 m. Both goalposts and the crossbar have the same width and depth, which do not exceed 12 cm. The goalposts and crossbars must be white. Goals must have nets which must be secured effectively to the posts and ground to ensure the ball is trapped. The nets must be pulled back to allow sufficient safe space within the goal space.	
Goals	1.4.2	Senior & Junior	Permanent and semi-permanent goals must conform to Australian Standard AS 4866.1-2007 - Playing field equipment- Soccer goals Part 1: Safety aspects and be properly installed and secured. Movable goals must be compliant with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's Consumer Protection Notice No.28 of 2010. Goals must not have sharp edges protruding that may cause injury.	
Corner posts and flags	1.5	Senior & Junior	Corner posts and flags must be in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Posts must not be metal or spring loaded. They must be plastic or wood and stand a minimum of 1.5 metres above the ground with a non-pointed top. Corner flags must not feature nationalistic emblems or reference.	

Pitch surface	1.6.1	Senior & Junior	The field of play must be safe and even without trip hazards.
Pitch surface	1.6.2	Senior & Junior	If a hard-based cricket wicket is present on the field of play it must be covered with soil or be of a material similar to grass. The edges of the wicket must not protrude from the ground or in any way cause a tripping hazard. The field of play must be configured so that the hard cricket wicket is not located within the penalty area.
Pitch surface - synthetic	1.6.3	Senior & Junior	Matches may be played on a pitch with a synthetic surface provided it has been constructed and maintained to at least FIFA 1 star standard or as otherwise approved by FV.
Line markings	1.7.1	Senior & Junior	The playing pitch must be marked in accordance with Law 1. However, Matches may be played on fields with extraneous markings provided approval has been sought from FV with specific regard to the number of, and colour of, any marking not outlined in Law 1.
Line marking products	1.7.2	Senior & Junior	Only products such as agricultural limestone or water based spray paint or other similar material which will not endanger ground users or damage turf grasses may be used for line marking. Lime, Herbicides and other products such as 'Round Up' that are harmful to a person's health can cause damage to the playing surface are not to be used under any circumstances.
Stretcher	1.8	Senior & Junior	One stretcher suitable for first aid and emergency use must be placed at the half way line prior to the commencement of each Match. The stretcher must remain inside the barrier/fence, in a safe and accessible position to first aid staff, for the duration of the Match. Wooden or canvas stretchers are not suitable. One stretcher may not be allocated to two pitches at any one time.
Pitch fence	1.9	Men's and Women's State League only	Where a pitch fence is not in place at least a rope or bunting around the pitch at a height of around 1 metre and a minimum 3 metres in distance from the side lines and goal lines must be in place to provide a clear indication of segregation of the playing area.
Technical Area	1.10.1	Senior & Junior	A Technical Area must be marked for each Team on the same side of the field and on opposite sides of the half way line. It must be located no closer than 7 metres and no greater than 20 metres from the half way line. The technical area extends 1 m on either side of the designated seated area and extends forward up to a distance no closer than of 1 m from the touch line. A Technical Area must be in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

Technical Area	1.10.2	Senior & Junior	The technical area must be marked in accordance with the line marking requirements in 1.7.2.
Technical Area	1.10.3	Senior & Junior	The technical area may be marked by crushable cones. If marked by lines they must be in accordance with the line marking requirements in 1.7.2.
Team benches	1.12.1	Senior & Junior	Two covered Team benches or equivalent seating with adequate seating for nine (9) people must be provided.
Section 2 - P	layer and	Officials Aı	menities
Players change rooms	2.1.1	Senior	Two players' lockable dressing rooms must be provided for each pitch in use. Each room must have access to hot and cold showers and to toilet facilities within the building structure. Recommended size for senior dressing rooms, excluding required shower and toilet area, is 25m2.
Players change rooms	2.1.2	Junior	Two players' lockable dressing rooms must be provided for each pitch in use. Toilet facilities within or adjacent to the building structure. Recommended size for junior dressing rooms, excluding required shower and toilet area, is 20m2.
Match Officials room	2.2.1	Senior & Junior	Match Officials must have exclusive access to a lockable dressing room. The Match Officials room must be accessible without passing through any players' change room which is in use.
Match Officials room	2.2.2	Senior & Junior	Recommended size for Match Officials rooms, including required shower and toilet area, is 20m2. The room must contain a writing desk or bench and chair and have access within the building to a toilet and shower providing hot and cold water.
First aid	2.3	Senior & Junior	A first aid area, which can be made private by the use of curtains, screens or similar and providing basic first aid equipment all of which must be kept clean and sterile.
Section 3 - Spectator Amenities		menities	
Public toilets	3.1	Senior & Junior	Access to male and female public toilets (or suitable unisex/family toilets) must be provided. These may be shared with player toilets.
Section 4 - Operations			
Access	4.1	Senior & Junior	The venue must be accessible by emergency services vehicles.