



HANDBOOK 2026



Blood Toyota

5222 3000

**Naming Rights Partner of the GFNL
1994-2026**



**Naming Rights Partner of the BFNL
1985-2026**



Epworth

**Naming Rights Partner of Female Football
2018-2026**



AFL BARWON

To be read in conjunction with the 2026 AFL Victoria Country Handbook. The information contained in this document may be subject to change without notice. To the knowledge of AFL Barwon Board Members all information was accurate as at time of printing.

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2026 AFL BARWON CALENDAR

Month/Day	Date	Calendar Event	Venue
		AFL Barwon Office Opens	
Sunday	26	Australia Day	
Monday	27	Australia Day Public Holiday - Office Closed	
Friday	30	Friday Summer Netball Resumes	Multiple Venues
February			
Saturday	1	Football Clearances Open	
Tuesday	3	Tuesday Summer Netball Resumes	Multiple Venues
Friday	27	Friday Summer Netball Grand Finals	Kardinia Park
March			
Sunday	1	Club Development Event	Western Heights?
Tuesday	3	Tuesday Summer Netball Grand Finals	Kardinia Park
Monday	9	Labour Day - Office Closed	
		CDFNL Season Launch & Media Day (Colac)	
Tuesday	31	Senior Team Entry Invoice Date (Football and Netball)	
Sunday	22	The Athletes Foot Netball Tournament	Kardinia Park
Sunday	29	Season Launch	
April			
Friday	3	Good Friday - Office Closed	
Fri - Sun	3 - 5	BFNL, CDFNL & GDFNL Round 1	
Saturday	4	Easter Saturday	
Sunday	5	Easter Sunday	
Monday	6	Easter Monday - Office Closed	
Saturday	11	All-Abilities FNL GMHBA Stadium Round 1	Kardinia Park
Fri - Sun	17 - 19	Senior Female Football Round 1	
Saturday	18	GFNL Round 1	





2026 AFL BARWON CALENDAR

Month/Day	Date	Calendar Event	Venue
Tuesday	21	Tuesday Night Winter Round 1	
Friday	24	Friday Night Winter Netball Round 1	
Saturday	25	ANZAC Day	
Sunday	26	Junior Female Football Round 1	
Thursday	30	Club Player Payment Reporting - Football & Netball	
Fri - Sun	1 - 3	AFL Barwon Junior Football Round 1	
May			
Mon - Sun	11 - 17	Indigenous Round	
Sunday	17	Central West 15U & 17U Association Championships (Netball)	"Essendon Netball Association (Riverside Tennis & Netball Centre)"
Saturday	23	GFNL Bye	
Sunday	24	Central West 13U Association Championships (Netball)	"Nillumbik Force Netball Association (Nillumbik Regional Netball Centre)"
June			
Monday	1	Junior Team Entry Invoice Date (Football & Netball)	
Monday	8	King's Birthday - Office Closed	
Tuesday	9	Tuesday Night Netball Bye	
Sunday	14	All Abilities / Open Age Association Championships (Netball)	State Netball Centre
Mon - Sun	15 - 21	Mental Health Round	
Sunday	21	Association Championships - Finals Day (Netball)	State Netball Centre





2026 AFL BARWON CALENDAR

Month/Day	Date	Calendar Event	Venue
July			
Mon - Sun	6 - 12	Female Festival of Sport Week	
Friday	3	Friday Night Netball Bye	
Saturday	4	All Football & Netball Bye	
Tuesday	7	Tuesday Night Netball Bye	
		TAC Road Safety Round	
August			
Saturday	15	All Abilities Football Grand Final	TBD
Tuesday	18	Tuesday Night Netball Last Round	Kardinia Park
Sunday	23	11&U Netball Party Round	Kardinia Park
Monday	24	Epworth AFL Barwon Senior Female Football Vote Counts	Buckleys
Tuesday	18	All Abilities Netball Grand Final	Kardinia Park
Friday	28	Friday Night Netball Grand Finals	Kardinia Park
Friday	28	Female Football U18 Grand Final	TBC
Sunday	30	Female Football U14, U16 & Senior's Grand Finals	TBC
September			
Tuesday	1	Kempe Junior Male & Female Football Vote Counts	Virtual
Sat - Sun	12 - 13	AFL Barwon Junior Football U14 & U16 Grand Finals	TBC
Monday	7	CDFNL Junior Vote Counts	Colac RSL
Wednesday	9	CDFNL Senior Vote Counts	Colac RSL
Saturday	12	GDFNL & Div 3 Under 18's Grand Finals	St Albans
Monday	14	Under 18 Male, U19&U Netball Presentation Night	Buckleys
Tuesday	15	Kempe Netball Vote Counts	Virtual
Wednesday	16	BFNL Ash Medal Presentation Dinner	Buckleys
Saturday	19	CDFNL Grand Finals	Central Reserve



2026 AFL BARWON CALENDAR

Month/Day	Date	Calendar Event	Venue
Saturday	19	BFNL & Div 2. Under 18's Grand Finals	
Wednesday	23	Kempe Junior Sport Presentation Dinner	Buckleys
Tuesday	22	GFNL Mathieson Medal Presentation Dinner	Buckleys
Friday	25	GFNL & Div 1 Under 18's Grand Finals	Kardinia Park
Friday	25	AFL Grand Final Public Holiday	
Saturday	26	AFL Grand Final	MCG
October			
Wednesday	4	Community Awards	TBC
Sunday	11, 18 25	AFL Barwon Representative Netball Program Trials	TBC
November			
		Community Awards	TBC
Wednesday		CDFNL Annual General Meeting	Colac RSL
Wednesday		GFNL Annual General Meeting	Buckleys's
Wednesday		BFNL Annual General Meeting	Buckleys's
Wednesday		AFL Barwon Annual General Meeting	Buckleys's





ADMINISTRATION CONTACTS

AFL BARWON ADMINISTRATION

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ADMINISTRATION CONTACTS

AFL BARWON Directors

Chair - Ashley West
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Board Members

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Megan Love
Lucy Cammiss
Todd Devine
Michael Fitzgerald
Nick Lang
Ethan Vines

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CDFNL Board Chairperson

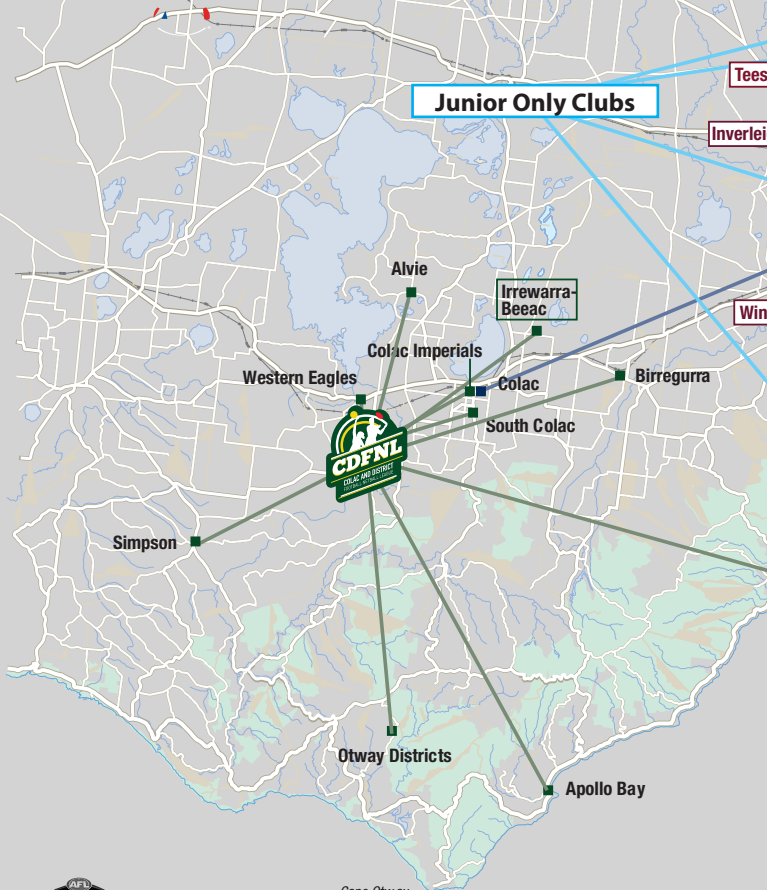
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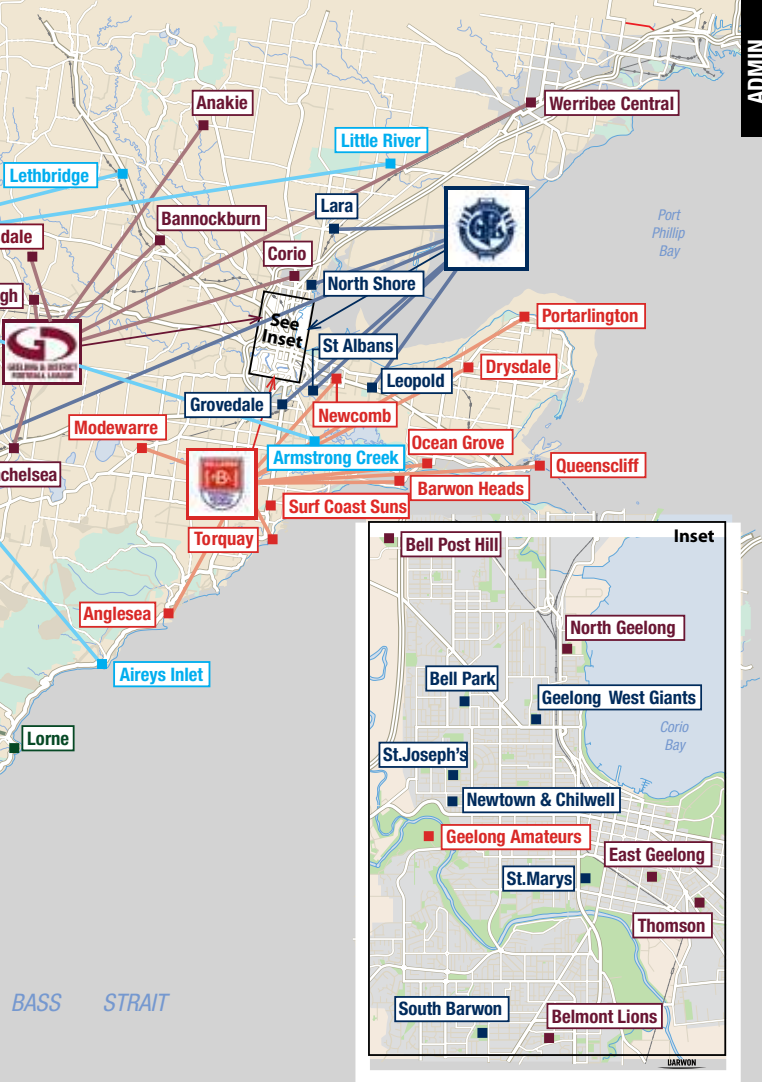
Vice Chair

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WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country
AFL BARWON


Junior Only Clubs







 angleseafnc.tidyhq.com

 angleseafnc.tidyhq.com

 [angleseafnc](https://www.instagram.com/angleseafnc)

2026 FIXTURE

1	Fri 3 Apr	Ocean Grove	Away
2	Sat 11 Apr	Newcomb	Home
3	Sat 18 Apr	Barwon Heads	Away
4	Sun 26 Apr	Torquay	Home
5	Sat 2 May	BYE	
6	Sat 9 May	Portarlinton	Away
7	Sat 16 May	Surf Coast Suns	Home
8	Sat 23 May	Queenscliff	Away
9	Sat 30 May	Geelong Amateur	Home
10	Sat 6 Jun	Drysdale	Home
11	Sat 13 Jun	Modewarre	Away
12	Sat 20 Jun	Ocean Grove	Home
13	Sat 27 Jun	Newcomb	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	BYE	
15	Sat 18 Jul	Portarlinton	Home
16	Sat 25 Jul	Barwon Heads	Home
17	Sat 1 Aug	Surf Coast Suns	Away
18	Sat 8 Aug	Torquay	Away
19	Sat 15 Aug	Drysdale	Away
20	Sat 22 Aug	Modewarre	Home

FOOTBALL CONTACTS

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ANGLESEA



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Netball Treasurer

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BarwonHeadsFNC



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2026 FIXTURE

1	Sat 4 Apr	Portarlington	Home
2	Sat 11 Apr	BYE	
3	Sat 18 Apr	Anglesea	Home
4	Sun 26 Apr	Geelong Amateur	Away
5	Sat 2 May	Queenscliff	Home
6	Sat 9 May	Drysdale	Home
7	Sat 16 May	Modewarre	Home
8	Sat 23 May	Torquay	Home
9	Sat 30 May	Surf Coast Suns	Away
10	Sat 6 Jun	Newcomb	Home
11	Sat 13 Jun	Ocean Grove	Home
12	Sat 20 Jun	Portarlington	Away
13	Sat 27 Jun	BYE	
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	Queenscliff	Away
15	Sat 18 Jul	Drysdale	Away
16	Sat 25 Jul	Anglesea	Away
17	Sat 1 Aug	Modewarre	Away
18	Sat 8 Aug	Geelong Amateur	Home
19	Sat 15 Aug	Newcomb	Away
20	Sat 22 Aug	Ocean Grove	Away

FOOTBALL CONTACTS

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Drysdale Football & Netball Club



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2026 FIXTURE

1	Sat 4 Apr	Queenscliff	Away
2	Sat 11 Apr	Geelong Amateur	Home
3	Sat 18 Apr	Ocean Grove	Away
4	Sat 25 Apr	Portarlington	Away
5	Sat 2 May	Surf Coast Suns	Home
6	Sat 9 May	Barwon Heads	Away
7	Sat 16 May	Newcomb	Home
8	Sat 23 May	Modewarre	Home
9	Sat 30 May	Torquay	Away
10	Sat 6 Jun	Anglesea	Away
11	Sat 13 Jun	BYE	
12	Sat 20 Jun	Queenscliff	Home
13	Sat 27 Jun	Geelong Amateur	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	Surf Coast Suns	Away
15	Sat 18 Jul	Barwon Heads	Home
16	Sat 25 Jul	Ocean Grove	Home
17	Sat 1 Aug	Newcomb	Away
18	Sat 8 Aug	Portarlington	Home
19	Sat 15 Aug	Anglesea	Home
20	Sat 22 Aug	BYE	

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Geelong Amateur FNC



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2026 FIXTURE

1	Fri 3 Apr	Modewarre	Home
2	Sat 11 Apr	Drysdale	Away
3	Sat 18 Apr	Queenscliff	Away
4	Sun 26 Apr	Barwon Heads	Home
5	Sat 2 May	Newcomb	Away
6	Sat 9 May	Ocean Grove	Home
7	Sat 16 May	Torquay	Home
8	Sat 23 May	BYE	
9	Sat 30 May	Anglesea	Away
10	Sat 6 Jun	Portarlington	Away
11	Sat 13 Jun	Surf Coast Suns	Home
12	Sat 20 Jun	Modewarre	Away
13	Sat 27 Jun	Drysdale	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	Newcomb	Home
15	Sat 18 Jul	BYE	
16	Sat 25 Jul	Queenscliff	Home
17	Sat 1 Aug	Torquay	Away
18	Sat 8 Aug	Barwon Heads	Away
19	Sat 15 Aug	Portarlington	Home
20	Sat 22 Aug	Surf Coast Suns	Away

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@ModewarreFootballNetballClub



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2026 FIXTURE

1	Fri 3 Apr	Geelong Amateur	Away
2	Sat 11 Apr	Ocean Grove	Home
3	Sat 18 Apr	Newcomb	Away
4	Sun 26 Apr	BYE	
5	Sat 2 May	Portarlinton	Home
6	Sat 9 May	Surf Coast Suns	Away
7	Sat 16 May	Barwon Heads	Away
8	Sat 23 May	Drysdale	Away
9	Sat 30 May	Queenscliff	Home
10	Sat 6 Jun	Torquay	Away
11	Sat 13 Jun	Anglesea	Home
12	Sat 20 Jun	Geelong Amateur	Home
13	Sat 27 Jun	Ocean Grove	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	Portarlinton	Away
15	Sat 18 Jul	Surf Coast Suns	Home
16	Sat 25 Jul	Newcomb	Home
17	Sat 1 Aug	Barwon Heads	Home
18	Sat 8 Aug	BYE	
19	Sat 15 Aug	Torquay	Home
20	Sat 22 Aug	Anglesea	Away

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newcombpowerfnc.com.au



NewcombFNC



[newcombpowerfnc](https://www.instagram.com/newcombpowerfnc)

2026 FIXTURE

1	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
2	Sat 11 Apr	Anglesea	Away
3	Sat 18 Apr	Modewarre	Home
4	Sat 25 Apr	Ocean Grove	Home
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9	Sat 30 May	Portarlington	Away
10	Sat 6 Jun	Barwon Heads	Away
11	Sat 13 Jun	Torquay	Home
12	Sat 20 Jun	BYE	
13	Sat 27 Jun	Anglesea	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	Geelong Amateur	Away
15	Sat 18 Jul	Queenscliff	Home
16	Sat 25 Jul	Modewarre	Away
17	Sat 1 Aug	Drysdale	Home
18	Sat 8 Aug	Ocean Grove	Away
19	Sat 15 Aug	Barwon Heads	Home
20	Sat 22 Aug	Torquay	Away

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Ocean Grove Football and Netball Club



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2026 FIXTURE

1	Fri 3 Apr	Anglesea	Home
2	Sat 11 Apr	Modewarre	Away
3	Sat 18 Apr	Drysdale	Home
4	Sat 25 Apr	Newcomb	Away
5	Sat 2 May	Torquay e	Away
6	Sat 9 May	Geelong Amateur v	Away
7	Sat 16 May	Queenscliff	Home
8	Sat 23 May	Portarlington	Home
9	Sat 30 May	BYE	
10	Sat 6 Jun	Surf Coast Suns	Away
11	Sat 13 Jun	Barwon Heads	Away
12	Sat 20 Jun	Anglesea	Away
13	Sat 27 Jun	Modewarre	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	BYE	
15	Sat 18 Jul	Torquay	Home
16	Sat 25 Jul	Drysdale	Away
17	Sat 1 Aug	Queenscliff	Away
18	Sat 8 Aug	Newcomb	Home
19	Sat 15 Aug	Surf Coast Suns	Home
20	Sat 22 Aug	Barwon Heads	Home

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[portarlingtonfnc](https://www.instagram.com/portarlingtonfnc)

2026 FIXTURE

1	Sat 4 Apr	Barwon Heads	Away
2	Sat 11 Apr	Surf Coast Suns	Home
3	Sat 18 Apr	Torquay	Away
4	Sat 25 Apr	Drysdale	Home
5	Sat 2 May	Modewarre	Away
6	Sat 9 May	Anglesea	Home
7	Sat 16 May	BYE	
8	Sat 23 May	Ocean Grove	Away
9	Sat 30 May	Newcomb	Home
10	Sat 6 Jun	Geelong Amateur	Home
11	Sat 13 Jun	Queenscliff	Away
12	Sat 20 Jun	Barwon Heads	Home
13	Sat 27 Jun	Surf Coast Suns	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	Modewarre	Home
15	Sat 18 Jul	Anglesea	Away
16	Sat 25 Jul	Torquay	Home
17	Sat 1 Aug	BYE	
18	Sat 8 Aug	Drysdale	Away
19	Sat 15 Aug	Geelong Amateur	Away
20	Sat 22 Aug	Queenscliff	Home

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QueenscliffFNC



Queenscliff Coutras FNC

2026 FIXTURE

1	Sat 4 Apr	Drysdale	Home
2	Sat 11 Apr	Torquay	Away
3	Sat 18 Apr	Geelong Amateur	Home
4	Sat 25 Apr	Surf Coast Suns	Away
5	Sat 2 May	Barwon Heads	Away
6	Sat 9 May	Newcomb	Home
7	Sat 16 May	Ocean Grove	Away
8	Sat 23 May	Anglesea	Home
9	Sat 30 May	Modewarre	Away
10	Sat 6 Jun	BYE	
11	Sat 13 Jun	Portarlington	Home
12	Sat 20 Jun	Drysdale	Away
13	Sat 27 Jun	Torquay	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	Barwon Heads	Home
15	Sat 18 Jul	Newcomb	Away
16	Sat 25 Jul	Geelong Amateur	Away
17	Sat 1 Aug	Ocean Grove	Home
18	Sat 8 Aug	Surf Coast Suns	Home
19	Sat 15 Aug	BYE	
20	Sat 22 Aug	Portarlington	Away

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[torquayfc](https://www.instagram.com/torquayfc)

2026 FIXTURE

1	Sat 4 Apr	Surf Coast Suns	Away
2	Sat 11 Apr	Queenscliff	Home
3	Sat 18 Apr	Portarlington	Home
4	Sun 26 Apr	Anglesea	Away
5	Sat 2 May	Ocean Grove	Home
6	Sat 9 May	BYE	
7	Sat 16 May	Geelong Amateur	Away
8	Sat 23 May	Barwon Heads	Away
9	Sat 30 May	Drysdale	Home
10	Sat 6 Jun	Modewarre	Home
11	Sat 13 Jun	Newcomb	Away
12	Sat 20 Jun	Surf Coast Suns	Home
13	Sat 27 Jun	Queenscliff	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
14	Sat 11 Jul	BYE	
15	Sat 18 Jul	Ocean Grove	Away
16	Sat 25 Jul	Portarlington	Away
17	Sat 1 Aug	Geelong Amateur	Home
18	Sat 8 Aug	Anglesea	Home
19	Sat 15 Aug	Modewarre	Away
20	Sat 22 Aug	Newcomb	Home

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BELL PARK



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2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	BYE	
2	Sat 18 Apr	South Barwon	Away
3	Sun 26 Apr	St Mary's	Away
4	Sat 2 May	Leopold	Home
5	Sat 9 May	Grovedale	Away
6	Sat 16 May	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
7	Sat 23 May	St Joseph's	Home
8	Sat 30 May	St Albans	Away
9	Sat 6 Jun	Colac	Away
10	Sat 13 Jun	South Barwon	Home
11	Sat 20 Jun	Lara	Away
12	Sat 27 Jun	Geelong West	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	North Shore	Away
14	Sat 18 Jul	Colac	Home
15	Sat 25 Jul	St Mary's	Home
16	Sat 1 Aug	Leopold	Away
17	Sat 8 Aug	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
18	Sat 15 Aug	Grovedale	Home
19	Sat 22 Aug	St Albans	Home
20	Sat 29 Aug	St Joseph's	Away

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BELL PARK



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COLAC



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Colac Tigers Football Netball Club



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2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	St Mary's	Home
2	Sat 18 Apr	Geelong West	Away
3	Sun 26 Apr	Leopold	Away
4	Sat 2 May	South Barwon	Home
5	Sat 9 May	St Albans	Home
6	Sat 16 May	Lara	Away
7	Sat 23 May	North Shore	Home
8	Sat 30 May	St Joseph's	Away
9	Sat 6 Jun	Bell Park	Home
10	Sat 13 Jun	Geelong West	Home
11	Sat 20 Jun	North Shore	Away
12	Sat 27 Jun	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	Grovedale	Home
14	Sat 18 Jul	Bell Park	Away
15	Sat 25 Jul	Leopold	Home
16	Sat 1 Aug	South Barwon	Away
17	Sat 8 Aug	Lara	Home
18	Sat 15 Aug	St Albans	Away
19	Sat 22 Aug	St Joseph's	Home
20	Sat 29 Aug	St Mary's	Away

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GEELONG WEST GIANTS



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GeelongWestGiants



geelongwestgiants

2026 FIXTURE

0	Sun 12 Apr	Leopold	Home
1	Sat 11 Apr	BYE	
2	Sat 18 Apr	Colac	Home
3	Sat 25 Apr	St Albans	Home
4	Sat 2 May	Lara	Away
5	Sat 9 May	North Shore	Away
6	Sat 16 May	St Joseph's	Away
7	Sat 23 May	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
8	Sat 30 May	St Mary's	Home
9	Sat 6 Jun	Grovedale	Away
10	Sat 13 Jun	Colac	Away
11	Sat 20 Jun	South Barwon	Home
12	Sat 27 Jun	Bell Park	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
14	Sat 18 Jul	Leopold	Away
15	Sat 25 Jul	St Albans	Away
16	Sat 1 Aug	Lara	Home
17	Sat 8 Aug	St Joseph's	Home
18	Sat 15 Aug	North Shore	Home
19	Sat 22 Aug	St Mary's	Away
20	Sat 29 Aug	Grovedale	Home

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GROVEDALE



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Grovedale Tigers



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2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	South Barwon	Away
2	Sat 18 Apr	St Albans	Home
3	Sat 25 Apr	Lara	Home
4	Sat 2 May	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
5	Sat 9 May	Bell Park	Home
6	Sat 16 May	Leopold	Away
7	Sat 23 May	St Mary's	Home
8	Sat 30 May	North Shore	Away
9	Sat 6 Jun	Geelong West	Home
10	Sat 13 Jun	St Mary's	Away
11	Sat 20 Jun	St Albans	Away
12	Sat 27 Jun	St Joseph's	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	Colac	Away
14	Sat 18 Jul	South Barwon	Home
15	Sat 25 Jul	Lara	Away
16	Sat 1 Aug	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
17	Sat 8 Aug	Leopold	Home
18	Sat 15 Aug	Bell Park	Away
19	Sat 22 Aug	North Shore	Home
20	Sat 29 Aug	Grovedale	Away

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Lara Football Netball Club



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2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
2	Sat 18 Apr	St Mary's	Away
3	Sat 25 Apr	Grovedale	Away
4	Sat 2 May	Geelong West	Home
5	Sat 9 May	South Barwon	Away
6	Sat 16 May	Colac	Home
7	Sat 23 May	St Albans	Home
8	Sat 30 May	Leopold	Home
9	Sat 6 Jun	North Shore	Home
10	Sat 13 Jun	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
11	Sat 20 Jun	Bell Park	Home
12	Sat 27 Jun	St Albans	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	St Joseph's	Away
14	Sat 18 Jul	St Mary's	Away
15	Sat 25 Jul	Grovedale	Home
16	Sat 1 Aug	Geelong West	Away
17	Sat 8 Aug	Colac	Away
18	Sat 15 Aug	South Barwon	Home
19	Sat 22 Aug	Leopold	Away
20	Sat 29 Aug	North Shore	Away

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LARA



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Net Set Go Coordinator

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LEOPOLD



leopoldfnc.com.au



Leopold Lions FNC



leopoldlionsfnc

2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	St Joseph's	Away
1	Sun 12 Apr	Geelong West	Away
2	Sat 18 Apr	North Shore	Away
3	Sun 26 Apr	Colac	Home
4	Sat 2 May	Bell Park	Away
5	Sat 9 May	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
6	Sat 16 May	Grovedale	Home
7	Sat 23 May	South Barwon	Away
8	Sat 30 May	Lara	Away
9	Sat 6 Jun	St Joseph's	Home
10	Sat 13 Jun	North Shore	Home
11	Sat 20 Jun	BYE	
12	Sat 27 Jun	St Mary's	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	St Albans	Away
14	Sat 18 Jul	Geelong West	Home
15	Sat 25 Jul	Colac	Away
16	Sat 1 Aug	Bell Park	Home
17	Sat 8 Aug	Grovedale	Away
18	Sat 15 Aug	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
19	Sat 22 Aug	Lara	Home
20	Sat 29 Aug	South Barwon	Home

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LEOPOLD



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NEWTOWN & CHILWELL



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Newtown & Chilwell Football Netball Club



[eaglesnewtownchilwell](https://www.instagram.com/eaglesnewtownchilwell)

2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	Lara	Away
2	Sat 18 Apr	St Joseph's	Home
3	Fri 24 Apr	North Shore	Away
4	Sat 2 May	Grovedale	Home
5	Sat 9 May	Leopold	Away
6	Sat 16 May	Bell Park	Away
7	Sat 23 May	Geelong West	Home
8	Sun 31 May	South Barwon	Home
9	Sat 6 Jun	St Albans	Away
10	Sat 13 Jun	Lara	Home
11	Sat 20 Jun	St Mary's	Away
12	Sat 27 Jun	Colac	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	Geelong West	Away
14	Sat 18 Jul	St Joseph's	Away
15	Sat 25 Jul	North Shore	Home
16	Sat 1 Aug	Grovedale	Away
17	Sat 8 Aug	Bell Park	Home
18	Sat 15 Aug	Leopold	Home
19	Sat 22 Aug	South Barwon	Away
20	Sat 29 Aug	St Albans	Home

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NORTH SHORE



northshoreseagulls.com.au



North Shore Football & Netball Club



northshoreseagulls

2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	St Albans	Away
2	Sat 18 Apr	Leopold	Home
3	Fri 24 Apr	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
4	Sat 2 May	St Joseph's	Home
5	Sat 9 May	Geelong West	Home
6	Sat 16 May	St Mary's	Away
7	Sat 23 May	Colac	Away
8	Sat 30 May	Grovedale	Home
9	Sat 6 Jun	North Shore	Away
10	Sat 13 Jun	Leopold	Away
11	Sat 20 Jun	Colac	Home
12	Sat 27 Jun	South Barwon	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	Bell Park	Home
14	Sat 18 Jul	St Albans	Home
15	Sat 25 Jul	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
16	Sat 8 Aug	St Mary's	Home
17	Sat 15 Aug	Geelong West	Away
18	Sat 22 Aug	Grovedale	Away
19	Sat 29 Aug	Lara	Home

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Maryian Szponar



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SOUTH BARWON



southbarwonfnc.com



South Barwon Football & Netball Club



southbarwonfnc

2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	Grovedale	Home
2	Sat 18 Apr	Bell Park	Home
3	Sat 25 Apr	St Joseph's	Away
4	Sat 2 May	Colac	Away
5	Sat 9 May	Lara	Home
6	Sat 16 May	St Albans	Home
7	Sat 23 May	Leopold	Home
8	Sun 31 May	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
9	Sat 6 Jun	St Mary's	Away
10	Sat 13 Jun	Bell Park	Away
11	Sat 20 Jun	Geelong West	Away
12	Sat 27 Jun	North Shore	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	St Mary's	Home
14	Sat 18 Jul	Grovedale	Away
15	Sat 25 Jul	St Joseph's	Home
16	Sat 1 Aug	Colac	Home
17	Sat 8 Aug	St Albans	Away
18	Sat 15 Aug	Lara	Away
19	Sat 22 Aug	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
20	Sat 29 Aug	Leopold	Away

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ST ALBANS



ST. ALBANS FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



stalbansfnc.com



St. Albans Football & Netball Club



[stalbansfnc](https://www.instagram.com/stalbansfnc)

2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	North Shore	Home
2	Sat 18 Apr	Grovedale	Away
3	Sat 25 Apr	Geelong West	Away
4	Sat 2 May	St Mary's	Home
5	Sat 9 May	Colac	Away
6	Sat 16 May	South Barwon	Away
7	Sat 23 May	Lara	Away
8	Sat 30 May	Bell Park	Home
9	Sat 6 Jun	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
10	Sat 13 Jun	St Joseph's	Away
11	Sat 20 Jun	Grovedale	Home
12	Sat 27 Jun	Lara	Home
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	Leopold	Home
14	Sat 18 Jul	North Shore	Away
15	Sat 25 Jul	Geelong West	Home
16	Sat 1 Aug	St Mary's	Away
17	Sat 8 Aug	St Albans	Home
18	Sat 15 Aug	Colac	Home
19	Sat 22 Aug	Bell Park	Away
20	Sat 29 Aug	Newtown & Chilwell	Away

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Senior Male Football President

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ST ALBANS



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ST JOSEPH'S



stjoeys.com



SJFNC



stjosephsfnc

2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	Leopold	Home
1	Sat 11 Apr	BYE	
2	Sat 18 Apr	Newtown & Chilwell	Away
3	Sat 25 Apr	South Barwon	Home
4	Sat 2 May	North Shore	Away
5	Sat 9 May	St Mary's	Away
6	Sat 16 May	Geelong West	Home
7	Sat 23 May	Bell Park	Away
8	Sat 30 May	Colac	Home
9	Sat 6 Jun	Leopold	Away
10	Sat 13 Jun	St Albans	Home
11	Sat 20 Jun	BYE	
12	Sat 27 Jun	Grovedale	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	Lara	Home
14	Sat 18 Jul	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
15	Sat 25 Jul	South Barwon	Away
16	Sat 1 Aug	North Shore	Home
17	Sat 8 Aug	Geelong West	Away
18	Sat 15 Aug	St Mary's	Home
19	Sat 22 Aug	Colac	Away
20	Sat 29 Aug	Bell Park	Home

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ST JOSEPH'S



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ST MARY'S



stmaryssc.com



St Mary's Sporting Club Geelong



[stmaryssportingclub](https://www.instagram.com/stmaryssportingclub)

2026 FIXTURE

0	Sat 4 Apr	BYE	
1	Sat 11 Apr	Colac	Away
2	Sat 18 Apr	Lara	Away
3	Sun 26 Apr	Bell Park	Home
4	Sat 2 May	St Albans	Away
5	Sat 9 May	St Joseph's	Home
6	Sat 16 May	North Shore	Home
7	Sat 23 May	Grovedale	Away
8	Sat 30 May	Geelong West	Away
9	Sat 6 Jun	South Barwon	Home
10	Sat 13 Jun	Grovedale	Home
11	Sat 20 Jun	Newtown & Chilwell	Home
12	Sat 27 Jun	Leopold	Away
	Sat 4 Jul	BYE	
13	Sat 11 Jul	South Barwon	Away
14	Sat 18 Jul	Lara	Home
15	Sat 25 Jul	Bell Park	Away
16	Sat 1 Aug	St Albans	Home
17	Sat 8 Aug	North Shore v	Away
18	Sat 15 Aug	St Joseph's	Away
19	Sat 22 Aug	Geelong West	Home
20	Sat 29 Aug	Colac	Home

FOOTBALL CONTACTS

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ST MARY'S



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FOOTBALL & NETBALL BY LAWS

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1. Definitions And Interpretation

In these By-Laws unless the contrary intention appears:

“BFNL” means Bellarine Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “BFNL” or “the Bellarine Football & Netball League”.

“CEO” means AFL Barwon Chief Executive Officer

“Board Members” means the Board Members of AFL Barwon.

“GFNL” means Geelong Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “GFNL” or “the Geelong Football & Netball League”.

“GDFNL” means Geelong & District Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “GDFL” or “the Geelong & District Football League”.

“AFLBJ” means AFL Barwon Junior Football. In these rules referred to as “AFLBJ” Male or “AFLBJ” Female or “AFL Barwon Junior Football”.

“AFLBJN” means AFL Barwon Junior Netball. This may be referred to as “AFLBJN” or “GJN”.

“C.O.G.G.” means City Of Greater Geelong

“RM” means AFL Victoria Regional Manager - Barwon.

“Laws of Australian Football” means the laws of the game of Australian Football adopted by the Australian Football League as modified for the League

“League” means BFNL or GFNL.

The appendices and schedules attached should be read in conjunction with and form part of the By-Laws of the GFNL & BFNL.

2 Club Affiliation

2.1 Affiliation

Each Club shall affiliate with AFL Barwon by signing an Affiliation and Agreement Form and submit the Affiliation and Agreement Form to AFL Barwon for both Football & Netball Sections.

2.2 Annual Affiliation Fee

Each Affiliated Club shall pay an annual affiliation fee of the sum prescribed by the Board Members from time to time and payable in accordance with AFL Barwon invoicing provisions.

2.3 Player registration:

Football: Every senior player must be registered with the BFNL or GFNL.

Netball: Netball Victoria Membership: Players, coaches & umpires must be registered with Netball Victoria before taking the court or prior to commencing participation. Players must register themselves on both the AFL Barwon Netball Connect and PlayHQ databases prior to taking the court.

Registrations close on 30th June in line with clearances.

**Age determined as of 31st December of Competition year.*

2.3.1 Relevant Fees:

2026 Senior Football Fee Structure

TEAM TYPE	2026 FEE (excl. GST)
Senior Male Football (Senior, Reserves, U18)	\$4,000
Senior Male Football – excluding U18	\$3,000
Senior Female Football	\$1,200
Second Senior Female / U18 / Standalone *	N/A
Senior Male – U18 Standalone *	\$1,000
All Abilities Football	\$250
Player Development	\$10 per player

Please Note: * Restructure of competition categories

2026 Junior Football Fee Structure

TEAM TYPE	2026 FEE (excl. GST)
Junior Male Football (U14-U16)	\$600
Junior Male Football (U9-U12)	\$400
Junior Female Football (U14-U18) *	N/A
Junior Female Football (U18) *	\$1,000
Junior Female Football (U14-U16) *	\$600
Junior Female Football (U9-U12)	\$400
Player Development	\$5 per player

Please Note: * Restructure of competition categories

2026 Senior Netball Fee Structure

TEAM TYPE	2026 FEE (excl. GST)
Senior Saturday Netball – A & B Grade	\$2,100
Senior Saturday Netball – C & E Grade	\$600
Player Development	\$10 per player
All Abilities	\$400

2026 Junior Netball Fee Structure

TEAM TYPE	2026 FEE (excl. GST)
Junior Saturday Netball – U13 - U19	\$500
Junior Mid-Week Netball U11 - U19	\$850
Player Development	\$5 per player

2.4 Definition of “Club”

For the purpose of this By Law the term “Club” (Incorporated Body) means any and all sections of the Club including Senior Male and Female Football, Junior Male and Female Football and all Netball sections irrespective of how they are managed internally by the Club including arrangements whereby the various sections are run by subcommittees with separate bank accounts or are separate incorporated bodies playing as that Club.=

2.5 Payment of accounts

Each affiliated AFL Barwon Club must pay all outstanding tax invoices to AFL Barwon as determined by the Board Members

All monies due to be paid to AFL Barwon by Affiliated Clubs (Football and Netball sections) shall be payable in full no later than Thirty (30) days after the date of the invoice issued by AFL Barwon.

2.6 Clubs in default of payments

AFL Barwon’s Payments Default Policy

Failure to meet payment of any Invoice within specified 30-day time limit stated on the Invoice will result in that Club being subject to the following process.

- 2.6.1** If the payment of any Invoice has not been made within the time limit stated on the Invoice, a reminder statement will be sent to the Club Treasurer and President of both football and netball sections of the Club as applicable.
- 2.6.2** If the full amount of the statement has not been paid within 60 days of the date of the original Invoice, the Club will be penalised with a reduction of two (2) Total Team Player Points per game for the first offence (ie period of no payment) applicable to:
- Senior Male Football
 - Senior Female Football and
 - A Grade Netball
- If the Invoice is still not paid within the next 10 days (and each subsequent 10-day period) the Club will be subject to a further one (1) Total Team Player point penalty per game for each 10-day period.
- 2.6.3** If the Club breaches this Payment Default Policy again in any season the penalty will be three (3) Total Team Player Points per game for each subsequent offence.
- 2.6.4** If the 60-day time frame expires without payment during the Finals series either of the Clubs team Senior Football (including Female Football) or A Grade Netball teams eligible to play in the finals will be subject to a reduction of two (2) Total Team Player Points per game.
- 2.6.5** All outstanding Invoices must be paid in full on or before 30 October each year.
- 2.6.6** Penalty for not meeting commitment in 2.6.5 above may include:
- Reduction of Club Allowable Player Payments (salary cap) for Senior Male Football equal to DOUBLE the value of the debt owed to AFL Barwon and A Grade Netball an equivalent percentage relative to the value of the Netball Allowable Player Payments for the whole of the next season.
 - Reduction of Player Total Team Points for Senior Male Football, Senior Female Football and A Grade Netball for the following season.

2.7 Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional circumstances agreed to by the AFL Barwon Board Members acceptable alternative

arrangements may be entered into by a Club with the RM.

- Where a member club cannot meet their financial responsibilities to AFL Barwon within their 30 days trading terms, the Club must make a formal written submission to AFL Barwon setting out all relevant particulars as to why the non-payment of their outstanding debts to AFL Barwon constitute exceptional circumstances.
- The Club must also submit a payment proposal for full satisfaction of their outstanding debts within 60 days for consideration by the AFL Barwon Board Members for their approval or rejection.
- Approved payment proposals are to be monitored by the RM.

2.8 Disputed Invoices

Any dispute must be finalised within payment date period of the original Invoice (i.e., 30 days) through negotiation with the RM. In such instances payment of original or negotiated amount must still be made within period indicated on original invoice.

3 Club Annual Meetings and Annual Reports

3.1 Club Annual Meetings

All affiliated Clubs must hold their annual meeting no later than 30 November unless the Board Members gives approval. **Penalty: \$100.**

3.2 Club Annual Reports

Affiliated Clubs must submit to AFL Barwon a copy of their Annual Report including audited financial reports showing Profit and Loss Statements, Balance Sheet, and the AFL Barwon standard chart of accounts (on the prescribed template) for the previous year within 14 days of the conduct of the Club's Annual General Meeting. **Penalty: \$500**

4 Club Office Bearers

Within 14 days of a club's AGM, all senior affiliated clubs must lodge with the league (on the form provided from time to time), a list of all club office bearers for the ensuing year.

By January 31st, all affiliated clubs must lodge with the league (on the form provided from time to time), a list of all Junior club office bearers for the ensuing year. **Penalty: \$100**

5 AFL Barwon Board Members

The affairs of AFL Barwon shall be managed by the AFL Barwon Board Members.

The Board Members, in addition to any specific powers in these By laws and Competition Rules:

Shall, subject to these rules, have power to perform all such acts and things as appear to the Board Members to be necessary for the proper management of the business and affairs of the leagues.

- 5.1 Shall have power to discipline, fine, suspend or expel members, officials of member clubs or registered players in such manner as is deemed by the Board Members as appropriate. And shall deal with at their absolute discretion

Any matter coming to its knowledge which it considers may not be in the best interests of the Leagues;

Any matter referred to it by the tribunal or any sub-committee

- 5.2** The Board Members may make, amend, substitute, or cancel such By Laws as the Board Members considers necessary for the Leagues to implement from time to time.

6 Rules Committee & Sub Committees

6.1 Appointment

An AFL Barwon Rules Committee shall be formed at the discretion of the Board Members.

The Rules Committee will investigate required amendments to the rules and provide interpretations and application of the rules in the event of disputes over the rules.

AFL Barwon shall appoint relevant sub-committees to assist the Operations Staff throughout the season if required.

6.2 Alteration to By-Laws and Competition Rules

The Competition Rules and By-Laws may be amended by the Board Members from time to time pursuant to the Rules and advised to affiliated Clubs.

6.3 Fines for breach of By-Laws and Competition Rules

Fines may be imposed by the Board Members or RM or their deputy for non-compliance with or violation of these by-laws.

(a) at the rates specified in the By Laws and or Competition Rules; or

(b) if no rate is specified in the By Laws and or Competition Rules, at the rate determined by the Board Members or RM.

6.4 AFL Victoria Community Club Sustainability Program Policy (Football)

It is a condition of the Club's Affiliation Agreement with AFL Barwon and their League that all AFL Barwon Clubs will comply in full with the AFL Victoria Player Points System (PPS) and Player Payment Rules & Guidelines (PPR) Policies.

Application of all Points assessments and consideration of club requests will be the responsibility of the Player Points Panel (PPP) who will use the AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws to guide their determinations.

Penalties will be determined as deemed appropriate by the AFL Barwon Board Members as outlined in the AFL Victoria PPR, and may include but are not limited to;

- Club fines
- Loss of premiership points – current season and in the future
- Suspended from finals – current season and in the future
- Player / Official suspensions

7 Independent Regional Tribunal

7.1.1 Appointment

The Board Members shall annually appoint an Independent Regional Tribunal panel in accordance with AFL Vic Country Rule 7 consisting of up to twenty persons, three of whom will comprise anyone sitting. Such persons will not be directly associated with any Club in the Leagues but will be thoroughly conversant with the rules of the game

and the Leagues and, in the opinion of the Board Members, will be thoroughly capable of handling any cases or disputes which may be put before them.

This Independent Tribunal will deal with players and officials reported in accordance with the Laws of the Game, Rules of AFL Vic Country, INF Rules of Netball, the GDFL and AFL Barwon. They may also sit in judgment on any football or netball issue or matters for AFL Barwon at the direction of the Board Members within its jurisdiction.

They are to meet when occasion demands, and their decision is to be final and binding. All divisions affiliated with AFL Barwon and the GDFL will come under the jurisdiction of the Independent Regional Tribunal.

7.1.2 Chairperson of Independent Tribunal

The AFL Barwon Board Members shall appoint the Chairperson of the Independent Tribunal.

7.2 Club Advocates

A Club advocate shall accompany any player attending the Independent Tribunal.

Penalty: \$100

Advocates must have attended the recognised AFL Barwon Advocate's Training session within the previous 36 months and are not permitted to be a member of the Legal profession.

Penalty: \$500 and the hearing will be adjourned to a later date.

7.3 Attendance at Tribunal hearings

7.3.1 Players or officials charged with an offence must attend the Independent Tribunal Meeting. If necessary, the Meeting will be adjourned and the player or official penalised until attendance is confirmed. Club Secretaries (unless an alternate club official is notified to AFL Barwon at the commencement of the season) will be contacted with dates and times of Tribunal hearings.

7.3.2 Players or officials as witnesses, who are personally unable to attend the tribunal hearing for business or schooling reasons only, can submit a Statement to the tribunal, outlining reasons for non-attendance, their impressions of the circumstances or events relating to the report. The statement must include a telephone contact number that the witness will be available on and contactable at the scheduled time of the tribunal hearing. Failure to supply contact number or be available may render the witness liable to punishment.

Submission of such statement must be approved by the RM or deputy and be provided to AFL Barwon offices no later than 12 noon on the day of the tribunal hearing.

7.4 Hearings – Reported Players

In normal circumstances the AFL Barwon Regional Tribunal will meet when required on Wednesday nights commencing at 6.30pm but may schedule at other times or on other nights as deemed necessary by the Operations Manager.

If more than one case is scheduled, they will be heard in the order determined by the Tribunal Secretary, allowing approximately 45 minutes for each case. Should there be more than 3 cases to be heard on the one night a second Tribunal will be convened with a separate panel. The schedule of all cases will be published on the AFL Barwon Website.

If a player is found guilty of an offence that was referred to the tribunal by any other party (the reporting umpire, offended player, the league), their club will be levied \$100.

7.5 Video Evidence

Where video evidence is available from the AFL Barwon Authorised media outlet video production team, this evidence WILL be made available to the Tribunal to be viewed as required.

Where a Club wishes to tender a Club or non-Authorised video as evidence in a case, the Club must notify AFL Barwon no later than 10am on the day of the hearing and a Stat Dec must be provided by the person who took the footage confirming that such footage has not been edited or altered in anyway

- 7.6** Power to report AFL Barwon OfficialsThe AFL Barwon Umpire panel as nominated to the AFL Barwon Board Members, and any AFL Barwon Board Members will have the power to report players if deemed necessary.

7.7 Reporting of Players - Football

7.7.1 Where a report is made by the Officiating umpires, the details will be entered electronically via "Officials HQ" with copies to be provided to both participating clubs, relevant AFLB football operations staff and umpies. To cater for instances where it is impractical for the report to be recorded online, a current year's official report pad/sheet is to be made available to the umpires at the beginning of the day and left there for the duration of the day's games (including Junior games). **Penalty: \$100**

7.7.2 If a "Hard Copy" report is made, a copy of the report must be provided electronically by the home club to the relevant Operations Manager, no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. Information required: Reported player & club, Offended player & club (if applicable), Reporting umpire, alleged offence, if a tribunal is required. If electronic hardware is not available, or not functioning, this information must be conveyed directly to the Operations Manager in the same time frame by mobile.. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope regardless of whether a set sanction has been accepted or not. **Penalty: \$100**

7.8

7.8.1 Early Guilty Pleas (Football)

As outlined in the National Community Policy Handbook, the MRP will assess all player reports with consideration given to the Umpire's grading of the offence, the player's tribunal history and any other relevant information. Where appropriate, a reduction of sanction will be made available which a player can choose to accept by entering an Early Guilty Plea. If a reported player wishes to contest the charge, they must advise the relevant Operations Manager by Midday on the day following notification of sanction being communicated.

If there is no official indication within the designated timeframe that a tribunal is required, the relevant Early Guilty Plea sanction will be applied.

The offended player does not have the ability to request a charge be heard at Tribunal.

7.8.2 Set Sanctions (Netball)

If the Investigations Officer, Tribunal or other appointed Hearing's Panel determine that a charge has been proven, any one or more of the following penalties may be imposed:

- a) A warning;
- b) A monetary fine;
- c) Suspension;
- d) Disqualification: and/or
- e) Remedial penalties such as
 - o Mediation
 - o Written Apology
 - o Education
 - o Re-reading/signing appropriate Codes of Conduct

7.9 Match Review Panel (MRP)

Umpires may request a review of an incident during a period of the match (where official AFL Barwon vision is available) when giving 'all clear'. Both Clubs should be shown a copy of the request at this time. Clubs may also make an official request to review specific incident/s of concern to the Operations Manager by 10am the first working day after the match. The AFL Barwon MRP will view the relevant footage, and if deemed appropriate may lay a charge to be heard by the Independent Regional Tribunal or apply a sanction in line with the AFLs Classification Table.

The MRP will also assess all reports Monday as received throughout the weekend and have the power to impose or amend penalties as they deem appropriate. This will include involvement in melees (if captured on vision). The MRP will have a "Classification table and a "Melee Matrix" available as a guide when deliberating on relevant penalties, with the aim to create more consistency. The charged player may challenge the imposed sanction at tribunal. If a guilty plea is entered, the sanction to be applied will be at the discretion of the Tribunal Panel, but if a not guilty plea is made and the player is found guilty of the charge by the tribunal panel he or she will receive a penalty that is at a minimum that which was originally offered, and the club will be levied \$150.

Where a player is found guilty by the Tribunal Panel of the original charge, the Early Guilty Plea sanction will not be available.

8 Investigation Officer

An Investigation Officer will be appointed by AFL Vic Country from its panel of Investigation Officers to investigate any matter referred to him pursuant to AFL Vic Country Rule 5.2 (Unbecoming conduct).

9 Unbecoming Conduct

- 9.1 AFL Barwon Board Members or staff, Club members, Players or Umpires who allege that a player or an official of a Club has been guilty of conduct which is unbecoming to a Player or an Official of a Club or which is likely to bring the game of football or netball into disrepute may lodge with the League a notice in writing setting out the particulars of the allegation within 5 days.

A notice under this paragraph must be lodged with the Operations Manager within five days after the date of the act or omission to which it relates unless the Board Members agrees to extend this period to a maximum of 30 days. An extension agreed to by the Board Members may be for such period and subject to such conditions as the Board Members thinks fit. Such investigation shall be completed within 21 days of the matter being referred to the Investigation Officer, unless, at the completion of the 21 days, the League at the request of the Investigation Officer then grants an extension of time up to a maximum of 10 days.

A Deposit of \$500 from a club requesting an investigation shall accompany the notice, which shall be forfeited in whole or part if the Investigation Officer or Independent Tribunal consider it frivolous.

If no charge is laid or is laid but found not guilty at tribunal; the club who requested the investigation will forfeit a minimum of \$300 to pay for the investigation.

If a charge is laid and player found guilty at tribunal, the club who requested the investigation will have their \$500 refunded, and the charged player's club will pay the \$300 for the investigation + the relevant levy for being found guilty at tribunal.

- 9.2** Notice of any allegation received under By-Law 9.1 shall be referred to the Investigation Officer for investigation. The Investigation Officer may investigate the allegation as he sees fit.
- 9.2.1** Within 2 days of receiving the official request for an investigation, the league is required to provide all parties notification of the investigation outlining details of the incident or matter for investigation.
- 9.3** If the Investigation Officer, after investigation of the allegation, is of the opinion that the Player or Official in question may have been guilty of conduct unbecoming to a Player or an Official of a Club or is likely to bring the game of football or netball into disrepute and that the allegation ought to be dealt with by the League Independent Tribunal as hereinafter provided, he may lodge with the League a notice in writing setting out details of the allegation.
- 9.4** If a notice is lodged with the League under By-Law 9.3, the Operations Manager or his delegate shall fix a date, time and place for a hearing of the allegation before the League Independent Tribunal, being a date not later than 9 working days after lodgement of the notice and shall advise the Player or Official in question of those particulars and forward to the Player or Official direct or care of the Club Secretary in question a copy of the notice lodged under By-Law 9.3
- 9.5** The League Independent Tribunal may regulate any proceedings brought before it under this Rule as it thinks fit, but in any such proceedings, the Player or Official against whom the allegation has been made and his advocate shall be entitled to appear before the League Independent Tribunal.
- 9.6** In any proceeding brought before a tribunal under this rule the Investigation Officer shall personally appear before it and lay any necessary charge or charges and may act as the prosecuting officer for the League.
- 9.7** If the League Independent Tribunal decides that the Player or Official in question has been guilty of conduct which, in the opinion of the League Independent Tribunal, is unbecoming to a Player or Official of a Club or which is likely to bring the game of football or netball into disrepute, it may make such orders and give such directions in the manner as it thinks fit. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the League Independent Tribunal may:

- (a) impose a fine of such amount as it thinks fit on the Player or Official in question; or,
- (b) may disqualify the Player or Official in question for such period as it thinks fit.

9.8 The decision of the League Independent Tribunal in respect of any allegation brought before it under this Rule shall be final and binding on all parties.

10 Player Transfers and Appeals

10.1 Player transfers - Football

Player transfers are conducted under the current AFL Vic Country Rules.

All player transfers will be conducted using the AFL Vic Country approved electronic data base system.

The AFL Barwon Clearance Secretary will not endorse player transfers over the telephone.

10.2 Appeals against refused Transfer

All appeals against refused player transfers are handled under AFL Vic Country rules.

10.3 Player Clearances/transfers – Netball

A clearance is required if a senior or junior player wishes to transfer to another Club within AFL Barwon if the player has competed for a AFL Barwon Club in the previous AFL Barwon Football Netball Season (Winter).

10.3.1 Any player requiring a clearance must submit their transfer request via the competition administration program (PlayHQ).

10.3.2 Players must lodge their request for a clearance/transfer by registering to their intended new club via PlayHQ, thereby initiating the clearance process and indicating their desire and intent to move to a new club. This will then require approval from the previous club, AFL Barwon, and the destination club. The player will then need to complete the remainder of the registration process.

10.3.3 No player will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season.

10.3.4 Players are ineligible to play for a club in each of the GFNL and BFNL leagues concurrently in the one season subject to normal clearance rules contained herein.

Penalty for breaching any part of rule 10.3: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. **Penalty \$100**

11 Team Lists

11.1.1 All senior Affiliated Clubs shall forward to the League at least 10 days prior to the commencement of the first competition match in each season, one list for “Senior and Reserve” grades and one list for Under 18 grade accurately stating all the club registered players’ first name, surname and jumper numbers. **Penalty:** Post Round 4 in each competition - \$30 per name.

11.1.2 All senior Affiliated Clubs shall forward to the League, no later than 9.30am each Tuesday prior to the next round of the fixture, any changes of player names and numbers for “Senior and Reserve” grades or “Under 18” grades team lists.

11.1.3 Team Lists for finals fixtures must be separated to reflect ‘Seniors’ ‘Reserves’ ‘Under 18s with a recommended maximum number of 30 players on each list.

12 Correspondence

The RM must be advised, and provided with a copy, of any relevant correspondence with the AFL Barwon Umpires, AFL Vic Country, Netball Victoria or other Leagues.

- 12.1 All correspondence from the Club must be from the Club President, Secretary, or authorised person to the Relevant Staff member at AFL Barwon.
- 12.2 All correspondence from AFL Barwon will be addressed to the Club President, Secretary, Junior Co-ordinator or authorised person.

13 Unauthorised Media Statements

No club shall permit any of its officers or members to make any statement to the media (including social media, radio, television, and all newspapers) in connection with any policies or acts of the Board Members, Independent Tribunal, Under 18s Committee, or in relation to any other club without the prior approval of the RM (or their nominee) To do so shall render the club and/or the offending member concerned liable to:

- (a) a fine for any breach at the discretion of the Board Members;
- (b) suspension;
- (c) expulsion from the League in accordance with the Rules of the Association

14 Competition and Fixtures

14.1 Fixture

The Board Members shall be responsible for the organisation of matches in all competitions by preparing fixtures for each team in each Division for each season. The Board Members may amend a fixture as required.

14.1.1 Sunday Fixtures and Night or Twilight Matches

All clubs are obliged to play in any scheduled Night or Twilight Match or any other match that is scheduled at a time other than the normal Saturday timeslot as deemed appropriate by the Board Members

14.2 Home and Away Rounds:

The league shall conduct a series of 18 (or such number as the Board Members shall from time to time determine) home and away matches for all affiliated Football & Netball Competitions.

Re-grading for all Junior Netball competitions may only occur at the conclusion of round 4 of the season by AFL Barwon. In cases of re-grading a team will 'carry' its premiership points (if any) to the higher or lower grade but not its percentage.

All Clubs must field teams in Senior & Reserve football Grades, and all Netball Grades from "A" Grade down.

14.3 Failure to fill an engagement:

Football

- (a) A fine of up to \$2,000 may be imposed on Clubs who withdraw a team from any obligatory competition section. All that Club's teams may be disqualified from the League's competition for that season by resolution of the Board Members.

- (b) Any Club forfeiting a match in any section of the League during the season will be subject to a penalty fine relevant to the circumstances as below and shall be liable for the cost of umpires scheduled for that match.
 - I. On the day or night before the scheduled match \$500 & pay for umpires.
 - II. Two days prior to the scheduled match \$300 & pay for umpires.
 - III. More than two days' notice prior to the scheduled match \$100, doubled for repeat forfeit.
 - IV. More than two forfeits the team withdrawn and \$300 fine.
- (c) In the event of a Club failing to field a team or part thereof within half an hour of the arranged starting time of a match, the opposing Club may claim the match. The Board Members shall investigate the circumstances and may apply provisions or By-Law 16.3 - Forfeit Calculations
- (d) Where a club has multiple teams in an age group and circumstances result in them having insufficient numbers to field teams in all their entered divisions, any forfeit is to be given in the first instance by the lowest graded team, followed by the next lowest graded team.

Netball:

- (a) A fine of \$500.00 per team may be imposed on Clubs who withdraw a team from any obligatory competition section.
- (b) Should a Club be unable to field a team in any of these sections, a letter requesting exemption from ANY Grade must be sent to AFL Barwon as soon as possible. AFL Barwon will then assess the request and determine the appropriate penalty.
- (c) If a team forfeits a match, the Club must notify the AFL Barwon Netball Manager in writing by 5.00pm the day prior to the match. The penalties below may be applied at the discretion of AFL Barwon.
- (d) Penalty: 30 - nil score line awarded to the non-offending team.
- (e) 'A' Grade: \$300 fine
- (f) 'B' Grade: \$150 fine
- (g) 'C' Grade: \$80 fine
- (h) 'D' Grade: \$40 fine
- (i) 'E' Grade: \$40 fine
- (j) Juniors: \$40 fine
- (k) In the event of a match-day forfeit, the penalties outlined above will be doubled.
- (l) Qualifications will be awarded to the non-offending team entered on the database. 7 games will be allocated across the players at coaches instruction. If teams are not entered on the database by the time set by the league at the commencement of the season, qualification quarters will not be awarded.
- (m) If a team forfeits a match, the Club must notify the AFL Barwon Netball Manager in writing by 5.00pm the day prior to the match.
 - o Penalty: 30 - nil score line awarded to the non-offending team and relevant fine as determined by AFL Barwon.

14.3.1 Forfeit Calculations Football

Will be determined by the Operations Manager in accordance with AFL Victoria Country Rules and in conjunction with Laws of Australian Football

14.4 Fixture Alterations

Football

Clubs desiring to conduct Senior, Reserve or Under 18s grade matches on a day or time other than that published by the league in the official fixture may do so providing the following requirements have been satisfied:

- V. that all appropriate licences and permissions to conduct the game have been received and copies forwarded to the League Office prior to the game;
- VI. that both participating clubs agree with the details of the proposed alteration;
- VII. that 14 days' notice in writing requesting approval from the League that the fixture be altered is forwarded to the League office from each club;

Netball:

- VIII. Starting times of Home and Away matches can only be changed, with consent of both teams, AFTER seeking and receiving approval from the AFL Barwon Netball Manager. If approval is not given, times are to be adhered to.
- IX. Requests for a re-scheduled match must be e-mailed to the AFL Barwon Netball Manager at least 14 days prior to the original match date. Requests within 14 days of the original match date will not be considered.
- X. Both Club Presidents/Directors must be in agreeance with the request for rescheduling before submitting the request to AFL Barwon. Such request is to include the proposed venue for the match – either outdoor or indoor. Upon approval from AFL Barwon a match can be changed in accordance with the advised decision.
- XI. The AFL Barwon Umpire Coordinator must be advised immediately of rescheduled 'A' or 'B' grade matches.

14.4.1 Fixture – Covid-19 Interruptions

Where a scheduled round, rounds or matches within a round are cancelled as a result of Covid related issues, AFL Barwon will determine the appropriate outcomes using the most current AFL Victoria Cov-19 Framework and recommended By laws as a reference point.

15 Under 18s Competitions

15.1 Teams

- 15.1.1 Clubs with one team entered must have at least 14 Under 18s players registered 14 days prior to first scheduled round to allow the fixture to be completed.
- 15.1.2 Clubs wishing to enter a 2nd Under 18s Team, must have a minimum of 40 players registered as at the end of the grading rounds.
- 15.1.3 Clubs wishing to enter a 3rd Under 18s Team, must have a minimum of 70 suitably aged, registered players at their club, at least 2 weeks prior to the commencement of the relevant season.

Note: These 70 players must comprise only existing players currently registered to your club, new players who have transferred from competitions other than GFNL, BFNL, GDFL or AFLBJ or those who haven't played in the region for a minimum of 12 months.

Existing Forfeit Rules will apply, and Penalties will be enforced.

15.2 Age Qualification

The qualifying age date must be under 18 years of age on the 31st December of the previous year. For season 2026, players must have been born on or after 1st January 2008.

Initial placement of Teams will be determined by the Grading Committee.

Requests for Overage Permits will only be considered for any Underage Competitions according to the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy as deemed appropriate by the AFL Barwon Permits Panel.

15.3 Grading

15.3.1 Regrading will take place after the first 4 rounds, with the Divisions then set for the rest of the season at the discretion of the Committee.

15.3.2 Percentage from the first 4 Grading Rounds will not be retained, and match points in those first rounds will not be carried through to the divisional competitions.

15.4 Sponsor Badging

The contracted AFL Barwon Under 18 competition partner, will have their logo displayed on jumpers regardless of the division in which the team is participating. (See AFL Barwon Style Guide)

15.5 Fixturing

Fixturing will be such that on every possible occasion, Teams will precede their Club Reserve and Senior Grade Teams at their Home venue and where possible when they are playing away from Home.

15.6 Finals

Finals will be fixtured in conjunction with the 3 Senior League Finals Series, relative to the participants' Senior League where possible. To ensure maximized alignment with senior clubs, this will be determined at season's end and reviewed on a weekly basis throughout the respective finals series.

16. Ladders

16.1 Point Allocation

- (a) In the home and away matches, four points will be allotted for a win or a bye, four points for a team in whose favour a forfeit or walkover is ruled, two points for a draw and zero points for a loss. Where an affiliated Senior Club deemed to be not financial competes in a home and away match, four points will be awarded to the opposition club.
- (b) The League shall prepare a weekly ladder for each Division/Grade and in addition to awarding points for each win, forfeit, walkover, draw or loss it shall also prepare a percentage table comparing the total points scored by each team against the total points scored against each team and in the event that selection for the finals series is between teams with the same number of points, the team with the highest percentage points will be entitled to participate in the finals series ahead of a team with lower percentage points. All decisions of the League in respect of the calculation of the points and percentages shall be final and binding.
- (c) Where a competition has an uneven number of byes experienced by participating clubs, the Match Ratio system may be used to create the ladder for that competition.

16.2 Scores Used to Calculate

Football:

The scores used by the League to calculate the points and percentages for each individual ladder shall be based upon the scores contained in the goal umpires' cards. Should these scores disagree; the timekeeping cards may be used as the basis for calculating points and percentages in accordance with Rule 12.7 of "Laws of the Game of Football" as published in the AFL Vic Country Handbook each year.

Netball:

The scores used by the Governing Body to calculate the points and percentages for each individual ladder shall be based upon the scores entered by the Authorised club representative in the PlayHQ System from the official Netball scoresheets signed by the umpires, scorers and captains at the end of each match.

16.3 Non-Completion of Matches

- (a) Failure by any club to play an arranged match as set out in the fixture of the League from time to time shall render the club liable to a Fine for breach to be fixed by the RM unless a satisfactory reason is received by 5.00 p.m. on the Monday following the failure to play the arranged match.
- (b) If any match which has been started and cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the affiliated Senior or affiliated Junior Club or Clubs, or where a match has been cancelled at the direction of the officiating umpire, the following procedures shall apply:
- (i) Subject to clause (iii) below, if a game is concluded prior to half time and the match cannot proceed within the scheduled time, the teams shall depart the arena and the match will be declared a draw. Each team will be awarded two premiership points and the scores of the teams at the time the match was interrupted would be used to calculate the percentages.
- (ii) Subject to clause (iii) below, if a game has progressed beyond half time and is unable to proceed with the scheduled time for the match, the teams will depart the arena and the scores of the clubs at the time the match was interrupted shall be deemed to be final scores of the match and shall be used to calculate percentages.
- The team with the highest score will be declared the winner and awarded four premiership points.
- (iii) If a match has been started and cannot be completed within the time scheduled for reasons within the control of any club, such club will be dealt with by the Board Members at its absolute discretion in any way it sees fit.

17 Finals

17.1 Finals Arrangements

- 17.1.1** On completion of the home and away matches, the Affiliated Clubs gaining positions one to five on the premiership lists of each of the Male Senior, Reserves and Under 18s (other than the lowest division competition) and all GFNL & BFNL Netball Competitions shall form the Final Five, except where altered by the Board Members, and shall compete to determine the premiership under the system adopted by the Board Members. All Female Football Competitions and the Under 18s lowest division will conduct a Final Four series unless otherwise determined at the commencement

of the season by the Board Members. All decisions of the League in respect of the calculation of the points and percentages shall be final and binding.

17.1.2 All finals matches shall be played at venues to be decided by the Board Members.

17.2 Fixtures and venues

The Board Members shall exercise full control in relation to the arrangement of the times and places of the playing of all finals matches.

17.3 Entrance Fees

The Board Members shall be responsible for the fixing and collection of all entrance fees at all finals series matches. The Board Members may delegate its authority for the collection of entrance fees from time to time.

17.4 Finals Uniforms: Football

- (a) The team placed highest on the ladder prior to the commencement of the finals series shall wear their registered guernsey and home shorts unless this is varied by the Board Members. After the Elimination and Qualifying games, the first team to proceed to the next round will be considered the home team.
- (b) The team placed highest on the ladder prior to the commencement of the finals series shall use the home team rooms and Coach's box unless this is varied by the League or its appointee. After the Elimination and Qualifying games, the first team to proceed to the next round will be considered the home team.

18 Ground Inspections

18.1 All clubs in C.O.G.G. who have home games are expected to complete Ground Inspection for grounds to be considered safe before competition can commence, clubs are to report issues during the week undertaken via the link below or a call to 52725272.

<https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/parks/maintenance/task/item/8cbbced631ca82d.aspx>

COGG parks team complete safety inspections on grounds weekly from a safety perspective

- 18.2** For both home and away and finals matches, the Board Members retains the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary to address any issue arising from the ground inspection report, including but not limited to; moving the game to another venue, cancelling the game or re-scheduling the game to another day or time.
- 18.3** On the day of any official senior, reserve, or Under 18s match arranged by AFL Barwon, a designated representative from each participating team must make a full inspection of the ground on which the match will be played prior to the match commencing. The representative shall complete the official Match Day Checklist (as provided each year by AFL Vic Country and their Insurer)
- 18.4** If the same Clubs are competing in all games on the same day at the same venue only one check is required, if more than two Clubs are competing on the same day at the venue then separate checks are to be completed by the Clubs competing in that match.

19 Interleague Matches – Football & Netball

- 19.1** The Board Members may select any players registered with the League from time to time to participate in inter-league matches to represent the Board Members.
- 19.2** Any player selected to participate in inter-league matches must play for the Board Members and any failure to do so shall be dealt with by the Board Members as it sees fit.

- 19.3** In all cases under 19.2 of this Rule it shall be sufficient to answer:
- That the RM received from the player not less than two clear days before the date of the match a written explanation of their inability to play satisfactory to the Board Members.
 - That the RM received within two days after the date of the match a medical certificate that the player was unfit owing to illness or injury to play. (Refer to AFL BARWON Interleague Policy)
- 19.4** In the case of a registered playing coach of any Affiliated Club it shall not be sufficient explanation under 19.3 that business affairs prevented them from playing.
- 19.5** The Board Members may continue with home and away matches not withstanding any representative fixture on the same day. No player selected for a representative team shall take part in a home and away match on the same day.
- 19.6** No person shall be qualified to play in any interleague team unless he is qualified to play for a League Affiliated Club in matches played under the auspices of the League.

20 Coaching Requirements - Football

Refer AFL Vic Country Rules

All coaches of AFL Vic Country clubs are required to hold a current Foundation Coaching Accreditation prior to the commencement of the season. The penalty to be imposed by leagues if coaches continue to coach having not obtained the necessary accreditation must be i) a \$200 fine (Senior) or \$100 fine (Junior) and ii) the loss of match points for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach. In the event of no match points being received the league must apply the above fines. Fines are applied once only (\$200 or \$100) and are not applicable to every match.

In the instance where coaches are not accredited and commit to completing the relevant requirements within 7 days of receiving a request from AFL Barwon (or as otherwise agreed upon) the following bonds for clubs are to apply \$200 (Senior) and \$100 (Junior).

Where a coach fails to complete the relevant accreditation requirements in this timeframe, the bond paid by the club is forfeited and the above penalties will be enforced.

20.1 Coaching Requirements - Netball:

- All coaches of AFL Barwon Clubs are required to obtain or update their Netball Victoria Foundation Accreditation 2 weeks prior to the commencement of the current season.

The penalty to be imposed by AFL Barwon if coaches continue to coach having not obtained the necessary accreditation must be:

- a \$200 fine (Senior) or \$100 fine (Junior) and
- the loss of match points for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach.

In the event of no match points being received the AFL Barwon must apply the above fines. Fines are applied once only (\$200 or \$100) and are not applicable to every match.

- All coaches must hold a current pass level, or sit and pass the Rules of Theory Exam prior to commencing their first coaching season.
- In the event of the appointed Coach being absent, the nominated person in charge of that team must be accredited.

- (d) All club must submit a coaching list prior to the start of the season with all coaches' current accreditation details.
- (e) A Grade Coaches must hold a minimum of a Development Coaching Accreditation to coach at this level.

21 AFL Barwon Life Members

AFL Barwon may at its discretion annually elect as AFL Barwon Life Members to any person/s who has/have rendered outstanding service to AFL Barwon.

In accordance with Rule 7 of Rules of Association for the Bellarine FNL Inc and Rule 7 of Rules of Association for the Geelong FNL Inc the Bellarine FNL and Geelong FNL may annually elect Life Members to the respective leagues.

21.1 AFL Barwon Life Membership Criteria

The criteria for nomination for AFL Barwon Life Membership are that the nominee must meet one or more of the below:

- served as an AFL Barwon Board Members with a minimum 9 years' service given outstanding service to AFL Barwon, Football & Netball Geelong and/or AFL Barwon affiliated member clubs or associations for a minimum total period of 15 years.
- served in an official appointed role at AFL Barwon for a minimum 15 years' service
- held a role appointed or ratified by the AFL Barwon Board Members
- held a paid or voluntary position and provided outstanding contribution and service to football or netball for a minimum total period of 15 years in the AFL Barwon Region.
- have played a minimum of 300 games or 15 seasons (with at least 10 games per season) at senior level in male or female football (Senior or Reserve) or netball (A–E Grade), or a combination of both, at an affiliated AFL Barwon club.

21.2 Geelong & Bellarine Life Membership Criteria

The criteria for nomination for Geelong FNL or Bellarine FNL Life Membership are that the nominee must have:

- Wheld the position of Football Club President, Secretary or Treasurer with 10 years accumulated service in any of the three roles. This would also include service for a continuous period in a combination of any of the three positions or
- provided 15 years continuous service directly for either league or
- held the position of chairperson of Netball section of a Club serving for 10 continuous years
- and offered the service voluntarily

21.3 Nomination Process

Nominations for Life Membership must be forwarded to the RM no later than 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting on the appropriate nomination form.

Financial Members or Affiliate Clubs may nominate persons for Life Membership on a nomination form and in the manner approved by the Board Members. (Form available from AFL Barwon).

Life Memberships for Club individuals for the Bellarine FNL and Geelong FNL must be on a club letterhead.

The person nominated does not have to be a member of the Association.

Each nomination form must be signed by the nominator and be seconded.

Both the nominator and the seconder must be financial Members of the Association at the time of the nomination.

- Details of the service of the nominee must be supplied on the nomination form with any appropriate support documents
- The relevant League Board or Board Members will accept nominations and determine those nominees who meet the published criteria for the Award of Life Membership to be awarded Life Membership of the Association for recommendation to the Annual General Meeting
- Presentation will be at the Annual General Meeting or other appropriate function as determined by the Board Members

21.4 Life Member Entitlements

Life Members of AFL Barwon, the Geelong FNL and Bellarine FNL are entitled to:

- Annually receive a letter from AFL Barwon acknowledging their Life membership of their respective League and
- Annually receive a complimentary BFNL & GFNL Season Pass for entry into all games within their League
- Annually receive complimentary invitations to relevant AFL Barwon official functions throughout the season.
- Receive notification of the AFL Barwon and Geelong or Bellarine FNL Annual General meeting or Special General meeting.

****Note:** Life members are entitled to attend but NOT vote at a League General Meeting in their own right.

22. Meetings of Club Representatives

- 22.1** The Board Members may convene compulsory meeting(s) for Club Presidents and/or officials as stipulated by the Board Members from time to time. These meetings shall include, but are not limited to: Presidents, Club Administrators, Team Managers, Senior and Junior Coaches Forums and Junior Meetings.
- 22.2** The designated person may, with the prior approval of the RM, appoint another person to attend Annual and Special Meetings or other compulsory meetings in their place.
- 22.3** All Clubs must be represented when requested at all official League meetings (e.g. presidents, secretaries, managers, coaches etc.) and functions. **Penalty: \$100.**

23. Codes of Conduct and Other Policies

- 23.1** All players, officials and Club members at all League matches shall be subject to the Policies and Codes of Conduct as issued by the Board Members from time to time.
- 23.2** The Board Members is required to adopt complementary rules and regulations in football & netball competitions under their respective control and jurisdiction as those of AFL Vic Country, AFL Victoria & Netball Victoria.
- 23.3** The Board Members has also adopted a range of AFL Victoria, AFL Vic Country, Netball Victoria and AFL Barwon policies. These include, but are not restricted to:

- Infectious Diseases Policy;
- No Smoking & Alcohol Management Policy;
- AFL Vilification and Discrimination Policy;
- Anti-Doping Policy;
- Codes of Conduct - Players, Coaches, Parents & Umpires
- Gender Policy;
- De-Registration Policy;
- Privacy Policy;
- Responsible Serving of Alcohol;
- Looking After Mates;
- Junior Coach Code of Conduct
- AFL Kids First
- Netball Australia Member Protection Policy
- AFL Barwon Cybersafety Policy
- AFL Barwon Constitution
- AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws
- AFL National Age Dispensation Policy

24 Annual Awards

24.1 Best and Fairest Awards

Voting for League Best & Fairest shall be as follows

- 24.1.1** The match umpires shall award votes of the best and fairest three players in each game. Voting shall be 3 votes for the best and fairest player, 2 votes for the second best and fairest player and 1 vote for the third best and fairest player.
- 24.1.2** Club & League appointed umpires shall register the votes on respective League vote cards OR OfficialsHQ where requested/supplied. Votes shall be placed in the envelope provided by AFL Barwon and included in the Match Day Envelope. It is to be clearly signed by both umpires on the card and also across the seal of the envelope once the card is enclosed.
- 24.1.3** If the two or more Central Umpire system is in operation, then the Central Umpires shall confer, agree upon a joint nomination, and otherwise comply with paragraph 24.1 hereof.
- 24.1.4** At the end of the Home and Away rounds of matches, the League shall gather all votes made during the minor rounds and the votes shall be counted and the player or players receiving the largest number of votes shall be awarded as the best & fairest. In the case of an equal number of votes being awarded to more than one player, then players receiving such equal number of votes shall be declared joint winners and separate medals/trophies shall be struck and awarded.
- 24.1.5** Any player found guilty by the Independent Tribunal on any charge or having entered an Early Guilty Plea during the current season shall be ineligible for the award of Best and Fairest, except where the charge relates to time wasting.
- 24.1.6** Where the highest vote getter has been ruled ineligible, the second highest vote getter will be declared the winner. If more than one player finishes second on votes, the

winner will be decided on a count back based on most three votes; most two votes; and most one votes.

24.1.7 Netball: Best & Fairest & Runner-up awards will be presented for each Netball grade except 11 & Under and 9 & Under.

24.2 Geelong Football & Netball League Football Awards

Mathieson Medal

An award known as the "Mathieson Medal" shall be made each year to the fairest and best player or players in the Geelong Football Netball League Senior Men's Football Competition.

Jim & Bill Allthorpe Medal

An award known as the "Jim & Bill Allthorpe Medal" shall be made each year to the fairest and best player/s in the Geelong Football Netball League Men's Reserve Football Competition
Jim Vivian Medal An award known as the Jim Vivian Medal shall be made each year to the fairest and best Geelong Football Netball League player/s in the highest grade of the Under 18s competition.

24.3 Bellarine Football & Netball League Football Awards

Les Ash Medal

An award known as the "Les Ash Medal" shall be made each year to the fairest and best player or players in the Bellarine Football Netball League Senior Men's Football Competition.

Don Cole Medal

An award known as the "Don Cole Medal" shall be made each year to the fairest and best player/s in the Bellarine Football Netball League Men's Reserve Football Competition.

24.4 Geelong Under 18s Divisional Medals

As required an award known as the Geelong Under 18s Divisional Medal shall be made each year to the fairest and best player/s in each of the Geelong Under 18s competitions.

24.5 Club Championships

Each Year Club Championship Awards will be in both the Geelong and Bellarine Football & Netball Leagues. Individual trophies will be awarded separately for both Football & Netball. Combined awards will be presented as below.

The Geelong Football & Netball League Club Championship Award will be known as the Mal McArthur Cup – a perpetual cup trophy will be engraved accordingly, and an appropriate trophy awarded to the winning club.

The Bellarine Football & Netball League Club Championship Award will be known as the Bellarine Football & Netball League Club Championship – a perpetual shield will be engraved accordingly, and an appropriate trophy awarded to the winning club.

24.6 Goal Kicking/Shooting Awards

Goal kicking/shooting awards will be made in all of the grades of Senior football & netball, 19 & Under Netball and Under 18 Football conducted by AFL Barwon in the home and away fixtures inclusive of grading games, but not finals fixtures.

The winner of each award will be the player scoring the most goals for each home and away season.

24.7 Interleague Awards

The player adjudged best by the Geelong Football & Netball League Football Interleague Match Committee over the current year's Interleague carnival will be awarded the Bob Cahir Memorial Trophy:

The player adjudged best by the Bellarine Football & Netball League Football Interleague Match Committee over the current year's Interleague carnival will be awarded the Brian Bennett Medal:

24.8 Special Awards

From time-to-time AFL Barwon may make awards for other categories or formats for each League. The Awards and Formats will be at the discretion of the League from time to time and may be sponsored by AFL Barwon Corporate Partners.

24.9 BFNL Netball Awards Only

- (i) Dow Junior Educational Scholarship
- (ii) Dow Educational Scholarship

25 Selected Football Teams – Media

25.1 Senior male and senior female division 1 football teams must be entered with their playing position selected, onto the PlayHQ database each Thursday night prior to 6.00 pm.

Penalty: \$100

25.2 Clubs must enter separate positions for eighteen players, four interchange and up to three emergencies. **Penalty: \$100**

25.3 Fines may be issued for each player named on the official team sheets that were not named in the selected list of twenty-five. **Penalty: \$100**

25.4 For all Finals games; Senior grade teams must be submitted in accordance with the above rules including their maximum bench numbers. (Normal penalties apply) Deadline for team entries during the Finals Series may vary and be advised by the Operations Manager prior to the finals commencing

26 Child Safety Standards

A new regulatory framework for the Child Safe Standards started on 1 January 2023.

The framework provides regulators of the Standards with:

- contemporary graduated monitoring and enforcement powers
- improved information sharing powers.

This will aid regulators to respond to risks of child abuse and breaches of the Standards

For the most up to date resources on AFL Barwon's safeguarding policy, please refer to

www.aflbarwon.com.au

FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

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FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

SENIOR & UNDER 18 MALE COMPETITIONS

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Preamble

These Rules must be read in conjunction with

- Laws of Australian Football
- AFL Victoria Country Rules
- National Community Football Policy Handbook
- AFL Barwon Local PPSP By Laws

1. Definitions and Interpretation

In these Competition Rules unless the contrary intention appears:

“BFNL” means Bellarine Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “BFNL” or “the Bellarine Football & Netball League”.

“Board Members” means the Board Members of AFL Barwon.

“GFNL” means Geelong Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “GFNL” or “the Geelong Football & Netball League”.

“Laws of Australian Football” means the laws of the game of Australian Football adopted by the Australian Football League as modified for the League
<https://play.afl.clubhelp/resources/laws-game#article-OAG>

“League” means the BFNL or GFNL.

The appendices and schedules attached should be read in conjunction with and form part of the By-Laws of AFL Barwon.

2. Laws of Australian Football

All games shall be played in strict accordance with the “Laws of Australian Football” as determined by the AFL or modified by AFL Victoria or the League.

3. Registrations

- 3.1** Every player must be a registered member of their Club and approved by their Club Committee.
- 3.2** A player must be registered with AFL Barwon and through AFL Victoria prior to the commencement of the first game they play for the Club each year. The registration must be entered and confirmed on the PLAY HQ database.

4. Ground Facilities

- 4.1** Each Club is to provide a ground that in the opinion of the Board Members is suitable for match play.
- 4.2** Goal posts must be correctly padded in accordance with AFL Victoria Rules.
Penalty: \$100
- 4.3** Goal posts must have flag-holders.
Penalty: \$100
- 4.4** The ground must be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game unless impractical to do so. Variations are to be approved by the Board Members.
Penalty: \$100

- 4.5 In terms of the AFL Victoria Acceptable Ground Conditions & Layout the actual boundary line of the playing area shall be no less than three (3) metres from the fence line. <https://play.afl/facility-management/preferred-facility-guidelines>
- 4.6 A stretcher must be provided by the home Club and located in or near the coaches' box
Penalty: \$100
- 4.7 All clubs must provide locks on doors to visiting team and umpires' dressing rooms.
Penalty: \$100
- 4.8 A separate dressing room must be available for umpires. Clubs should also provide dressing room facilities for female umpires when applicable.
- 4.9 Clubs must provide suitable weatherproof coaches boxes of design approved by local council building regulations and AFL Barwon. Elevated coaches' boxes must be approved by AFL Barwon. Coaches are NOT permitted to use coaches' boxes in a manner that does not comply with local council building regulations or Occupational Health & Safety requirements.
- 4.10 A box 12 metres in length, one metre from the boundary line, with its sides returning to the fence shall be marked parallel to the boundary line in front of each of the coaches' boxes.
Penalty: \$100
- 4.11 Home Club must provide two (2) trainers tables in the visitor's rooms
Penalty: \$100

5. Interchange/Order Off Rule

Interchange and order off rules are to operate for Seniors, Reserves and Under 18s as per AFL Victoria Rule 10.0 & AFL Laws of Australian Football Rule 7.

Note: All underage competitions inclusive of Under 18 Colts are to comply with the above Rules and are unable to replace carded players until the relevant playing time has elapsed.

(Yellow Card = 15 minutes. Red Card = 20 minutes)

In all AFL Barwon Senior & Reserve matches only, any player receiving a yellow or red card may be replaced immediately. A player receiving a red card in any grade is to remain off the field for the remainder of the game. A player receiving a yellow card can return to the field after 15 minutes of playing time has elapsed.

- 5.1 Interchange bench numbers in all Senior Football Leagues are four (4), Reserves & Under 18s are five (5).
- 5.2 For all AFL Barwon competitions, Clubs shall be required to field a minimum of 14 players to commence the game. Failure to do so will result in their side forfeiting the match.
- 5.3 If any irregularities are noted on the Interchange sheet, the Board Members shall have the power to determine a fine and to deal with the match as they deem appropriate.
- 5.4 It is the responsibility of the timekeepers to ensure that players ordered from the ground under a yellow card, remain off for fifteen minutes of actual playing time and those ordered from the ground under a red card remain off for the remainder of the game. All Clubs must have installed red and green lights for the purpose of acknowledgment of the umpires' carding decisions and the notification to the Clubs when the player (yellow card only) is eligible to return the playing field. The timekeepers must therefore:

- (a) identify the umpire's signal (yellow/red card), indicating a player's been ordered off;
- (b) acknowledge the umpire's decision by flashing the red light on and off or another signal by holding aloft the appropriate card;
- (c) record the relevant amount of actual playing time from the moment the player crosses the interchange area in the space provided on the timecards (failure to record the implementation of this rule on the timecards will result in a \$30 penalty); and
- (d) signal the conclusion of the fifteen-minute penalty by signalling through the use of the green light.

The interchange steward will continue to record the change as has been the case. The onus remains with the clubs to ensure that this procedure operates effectively.

Note: In the event of more than one player being off at any given time, the onus is on the Club to confer with the interchange steward/timekeepers to determine which player is eligible to come on.

- (e) any player ordered off under a red card cannot take any further part in the game.

5.5 Clubs in breach of procedure: In the event a Club believes an opposition team has more than the permitted number on the field of play and/or a player has returned to the field early, the Team Captain must ask the officiating field umpire to call a team count to verify the number of players on the ground and the score at that particular time. The Umpire will record the result of the count on the Umpire's Match Report. Where a Team has more than the permitted number of players on the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:

- (a) The field umpire shall award a Free Kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing team, which shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending team.
- (b) A Fifty (50) Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and
- (c) The Goal Umpires shall record the time and write the current scores as at the time of the Head Count on their Score Card
- (d) The matter will be referred to the League to investigate and ultimately determine the outcome as they see fit - note that the offending team **does not lose all points** scored in the Match up to the time of the count **on matchday, but may have any score achieved in that quarter up to the time of the count removed pending the result of the league investigation.**

5.6 Any player who is ordered off three times during the season in an underage game inclusive of Under 18 Colts games will receive an automatic suspension for the next game regardless of if it is a home and away or finals match. A player who is ordered off for a fourth time during the current season will face the AFL Barwon Tribunal whose decision will be binding.

- (a) The field umpire shall award a Free Kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing team, which shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending team.
- (b) A Fifty (50) Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and

- (c) The Goal Umpires shall record the time and write the current scores as at the time of the Head Count on their Score Card.
- (d) The matter will be referred to the League to investigate and ultimately determine the outcome as they see fit - note that the offending team does not lose all points scored in the Match up to the time of the count on matchday, but may have any score achieved in that quarter up to the time of the count removed pending the result of the league investigation.

6. Interchange Steward

- 6.1** The Home Club is responsible for the appointment of an interchange steward for each game.
- 6.2** The responsibilities of the interchange steward are outlined in AFL Laws of the Game. The Interchange Steward will record the jumper numbers of players who commence on the interchange bench at the commencement of each quarter. It is the responsibility of team managers from both competing Clubs to notify the appointed Interchange Steward of the jumper numbers of these players at the commencement of the game and then at the end of each quarter break. The interchange steward must also record details (time and jumper number) of players who have been ordered from the ground (yellow or red card), and those either stretchered off or sent off due to the blood rule, both when they leave the ground and when they return, **Penalty \$100** (offending Club)

7. Player Uniforms

- 7.1** All Club uniforms shall comply with AFL Victoria Country & AFL Barwon rules and requirements. The AFL Barwon Board Members, before adoption, must approve club colours. For more details, please refer to the AFL Barwon On-Field Branding Guide through the link below:
<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/general-resources>
- 7.2** Every player must be fully uniformed in their Club colours with their number prominent and securely fixed on their back.
- 7.3** All playing jumpers and shorts must carry logos as specified by AFL Victoria and AFL Barwon. Clubs must formally request the Board Members's approval to display sponsorship logos on Club jumpers. This request must include details such as size and positioning. (Refer to the AFL Barwon Style Guide)
- 7.4** White shorts shall be worn by sides playing away unless approval otherwise is granted by the Board Members.
- 7.5** The Board Members will decide choice of shorts for finals matches with priority going to the highest finisher of the two sides playing.
- 7.6** Bike shorts worn under playing shorts must be neutral, beige or black colour.
Penalty for incorrect attire: \$25 per garment.
- 7.7 Club Playing Uniform Clashes**
- 7.7.1** Away clubs are responsible to obtain alternative playing strips if there is a clash of playing uniform strips for all home and away games and finals.
- 7.7.2** For the purposes of finals, the lower positioned team is deemed to be the away team

Note: Alternative guernseys should be sourced well in advance of the scheduled match



Recognised clashes are:

- Torquay, Grovedale, St Josephs, Bannockburn, Colac,
- Queenscliff, South Barwon, Portarlinton, Bell Post Hill, North Shore
- Corio, Ocean Grove, Surf Coast Suns
- Werribee Centrals, Leopold, Geelong Amateur
- St Albans, Winchelsea
- Inverleigh, Drysdale
- Newcomb, East Geelong, Belmont Lions, Modewarre
- Geelong Amateur, Bell Park, St Mary's
- Geelong Amateur, Newcomb, Barwon Heads

Penalty for incorrect attire: \$25 per garment.

8. Coaches

8.1 The non-playing coach of any team is not allowed on the playing arena during the progress of the match except at the quarter intervals. During the progress of the match the non-playing coach, interchange players (other than in warming up) and other officials must be in the restricted area as marked by the 12-metre Interchange Box as per Rule 4.10.

8.2 Only the team captain of the day shall be permitted to speak to the Field umpire. This is only to occur at the intervals, but not during the progress of the match (other than if requesting the umpire for a count of players on the playing surface). Any breach of this rule may be reported by the Umpire and be referred to the League Independent Tribunal and if found guilty shall incur the following maximum penalty:

1st offence – \$100.

2nd offence – \$200.

3rd offence – \$400.

4th or greater offence: \$400 or at discretion of Tribunal.

9. Runners

9.1 No. of Runners

All grades are only permitted to have 1 (one) runner.

9.2 Eligibility to act as runner

9.2.1 No person who is a registered player or an official of any club, other than their home club whether affiliated or not, nor who is under disqualification or suspension by their home club or League, shall act as an official runner in any competition match, or any other match in which an AFL Victoria affiliated Club or League is participating.

9.2.2 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria open age team shall act as a runner in a match in which a team of their club is participating.

9.2.3 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria team shall act as a runner in a match in which the team that they coach is participating.

9.3 Duties of Runners

9.3.1 The Team runner shall not have affixed to their person any communication device which includes but is not limited to headsets, microphones or earpieces or water bottles.

- 9.3.2** Runners may enter and exit the playing arena from any point of the ground.
- 9.3.3** The sole duty of the runner shall be to confer with the player or players of their club and to immediately leave the playing arena.

9.4 Runners uniforms

All runners are to wear uniforms as approved by AFL Barwon at the commencement of each season. Runner tops must carry the club name and the word "Runner".

Penalty: \$100

10. Trainers and Medical Staff

- 10.1** Club trainers may enter the arena at any time during the match or intervals, but only to attend to an injured player or to replace a damaged uniform and for no other purpose whatsoever. Trainers may also carry water as part of their duties.
- 10.2** Club trainers will wear uniform dress consisting of a white top and whiteGU14.1], navy blue or black pants or shorts. Any club seeking to wear any other colours must seek approval from AFL Barwon. A club found to be wearing any other colour without approval from AFL Barwon may face penalties. The top must bear the Club name, the word 'trainer', the approved signage on the back, and a number (trainers to be numbered 1 – 4).
- 10.3** Medical staff are to wear a clear and identifying armband. Medical staff means a qualified medical practitioner, physiotherapist or similar qualified person.
- 10.4** No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria open age team shall act as a trainer or medical staff in a match in which a team of their club is participating.
- 10.5** No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria team shall act as a trainer or medical staff in a match in which the team that they coach is participating.

Penalty: \$100

11. Water-Carriers

11.1 Eligibility to act as water carrier

- 11.1.1** A maximum of three (3) water-carriers is permitted in any game
- 11.1.2** Water carriers must be aged over twelve years.
- 11.1.3** No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria open age team shall act as a water carrier in any AFL Barwon match.

11.2 Water carrier uniforms

- 11.2.1** Water carriers are to wear a light blue AFL Barwon branded 'water carrier' vest with a white shirt underneath and the word 'water carrier' and be correctly numbered with 5, 6 and 7 or 8 respectively for all football competitions where water carriers are permitted. Water carriers' names must appear on the official team sheet. **Penalty: \$50**

11.3 Water carrier duties

- 11.3.1** Water-carriers may enter the arena at any time during the match but only to provide water to players and for no other purpose whatsoever and to immediately leave the playing arena once the drink has been delivered, and before play recommences (Refer AFL Victoria Rule 15.2.)
- 11.3.2** Water carriers are not permitted to operate constantly from the Coaches 12 metre interchange box area but must be around the boundary area against the fence while not delivering water.

12. Timekeepers

- 12.1** One responsible Timekeeper is to be provided by each competing Club. No person shall be permitted to act as a timekeeper unless they have attained the age of 18 years. Each Clubs must provide a suitable clock that is to be synchronized with the other Club's timekeeper at the commencement of each match. Where only one clock is available that shall be the official time **Failure to supply a timekeeper – Penalty: \$50**
- 12.2** In finals matches competing Clubs are to also supply their own timekeepers unless provided by AFL Barwon.
- 12.3** Matches shall start at the times decided by the Board Members.
- 12.4** Matches shall be played in accordance with the time intervals set out by the Board Members.
- 12.5** A bell, or siren, capable of being heard across the ground at its farthest point must be provided. **Penalty: \$50**
- 12.6** Number of Occasions Siren To Be Sounded:

Start of Match

- Five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Match and as Umpires enter the Arena (once).
- Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice).
- One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once).
- Scheduled starting time (Start of Match) (once).

First Quarter Interval

- Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice).
- One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once).
- Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once).

Half Time Interval

- Five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Quarter and as Umpires enter the Arena (once).
- Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice).
- One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once).
- Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once).

Three Quarter Time Interval

- Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice).
- One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once).
- Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once).

- 12.7** Timekeepers shall keep accurate records of scores on cards supplied by AFL Barwon to each Home Club. Times of starts and finishes of quarters; appearance times of teams; elapsed playing time of players ordered from the ground. The timekeeper must sign the cards and return them to the Field umpire for counter signature. **Penalty: \$30**

12.8 Light system to be used for order off rule as outlined in AFL Barwon Law 5.

13. Team Managers

13.1 Home Team Manager

The Home Team Manager is responsible for the following match day duties:

- Provide Timekeepers cards as issued by the League
- Provide Umpires with Score Cards as issued by the League, and a current year's report form pad.
- Senior, Reserves and Under 18s League Best & Fairest Voting and Umpire's Match Report will be performed by the Officiating Umpire using Officials HQ.
- Provide Match Review Request Form (In matches where official AFL Barwon filming is conducted).
- Provide Interchange steward with Interchange Sheets as issued by the League
- Provide footballs as per AFL Barwon Law 16.
- Enter Match Details on PLAY HQ web-based data base as provided by both clubs at the end of each game in accordance with these rules.
- Email all player Notice of Reports (where a hard copy is used) to AFL Barwon at the end of each game.

13.2 Away Team Manager

The Away Team Manager is responsible for the following match day duties

- Provide opposition team manager with details of Goalkickers, Geelong Advertiser Votes (where applicable) and best players as soon as possible after the conclusion of the game.

13.3 Both Home and Away Team Managers

Both Team managers are responsible for the following match day duties

- Provide Team Sheet to the umpires, showing all players with correct jumper numbers and all officials with correct numbers where applicable generated from PLAY HQ Data Base and signed by the Team Manager.
- Coordinate the Senior Coaches of each club to complete Geelong Advertiser Award at the end of each Senior Graded Match utilising the QR Code provided by AFL Barwon Football Operations no later than 9:30am the Tuesday following the game.
- Complete the PLAY HQ Match Day Ground Safety Checklist.

www.aflbarwon.com.au/general-resources/policies-forms/match-day-forms

- Ensure Timekeepers are available and briefed on their duties.
- Ensure Field, Goal and Boundary Umpires (where required) are available where no AFL Barwon appointment is made. Also to ensure Field Umpires are registered in Officials HQ and have completed the AFL Foundation Umpiring Course as noted in Law 25.
- Ensure an Umpire Escort is appointed, is aware of and fulfils their duties.
- Obtain advice of any reported players or Review requests from the field umpires after each game, sign and collect a copy of any player reports from that game.
- Complete Geelong Advertiser Votes for opposition team (where applicable).

14 Playing Times

14.1 Duration of Games

Playing times for Seniors, Reserves and Under 18s games will be:

Home & Away Games

	Start	Quarters	¼ time	½ time	¾ time
Senior Male	2.10 pm	20 min +TO	5 min	15 min	7 min
Reserves	12.00 pm	23 min	5 min	15 min	5 min
Under 18 Male	10.00 am	20 min	5 min	10 min	5 min

If early games (prior to Seniors) are running behind time at half time the last 2 quarters are to be shortened accordingly to allow the game to finish on time. **This provision is NOT applicable in finals games.**

In finals, late start penalty will be \$100 per minute for each Club causing the delay.

Note: Playing times may alter at the discretion of AFL Barwon, this includes Under 18s game times which may vary according to the schedule.

Note: Finals Schedules will be released each week of the Finals Series.

Penalty: Clubs responsible for late starts at any point of any match will incur a fine of \$50 per occurrence.

14.2 "Time On"

14.2.1 Home & Away Games

- Seniors (Male competition only) "Time on" is signalled by the field umpires by either raising one hand above their head OR by crossing both arms across their chest or when a goal umpire signals a score is recorded (NOT when they complete waving their flags). If the Field umpire fails to signal "time on" when the ball goes out of bounds the clock is to be stopped when the signal is given by the boundary umpire and restarted when the ball is thrown into play.
- Reserves Male and all Under 18s "Time on" will only happen when a team count has been called, a stretcher is on ground or there is a lengthy delay as deemed by the field umpire/s in charge.

14.2.2 Finals

- Senior Male competitions will play "Time on" according to rules applicable during the Home and Away season.
- Reserves Male and all Under 18s games will be played according to advertised times with "**Time on**" for **excessive stoppages** only. For example: when the ball goes out of bounds "Time on" will not be added unless the field umpire signals that they consider there will be an **excessive delay** caused by the ball going over the fence or another significant delaying factor.
- "Time on" is signalled by the field umpires by either raising one hand above their head OR by crossing both arms across their chest or when a goal umpire signals a score is recorded (NOT when they complete waving their flags).

- Teams must have entered the field at least 5 minutes prior to their scheduled start time. **Penalty: \$100.**

15. Extra Time in Finals:

- 15.1** There shall be no drawn matches in any finals. In the event of scores being level at the elapsed time, the timekeepers are instructed to sound the siren. Coaches are permitted to address players at the end of the game whilst the Goal Umpires confer. Players must be in position to recommence the game prior to the goal umpires returning to their position.
- 15.2** On receiving confirmation that the scores are level, the match shall recommence with the teams kicking to the same end as in the final quarter and two five-minute periods with time on (as appropriate) shall be played with teams changing ends after the first five-minute period immediately the siren sounds. Coaches are not permitted to address players at any stage after the extra time period has commenced.
- 15.3** In the event of scores being level after the two five-minute periods the timekeepers are instructed to sound the siren to allow the goal umpires the opportunity to confirm scores. When confirmed, play will resume from the centre ball up and continue until the next score, at which time the siren will sound as soon as the goal umpire signals the score and receives the all clear from the Field umpire. Clubs will not change ends in this instance.

16. Footballs

- All footballs used for matches will be determined by the Board Members including any sponsor brand requirements.
- Footballs for all Senior, Reserves and Under 18s male games will be Size 5.
- Two new (or as possibly close to) branded footballs are to be provided by the home Club in each senior match.
- Two suitable branded footballs in good order and condition are to be provided by the home Club for each Reserve and Under 18s match.
- In finals, branded footballs will be provided by AFL Barwon.

17. Team Sheets

17.1 Team sheets must include:

- Registered PLAY HQ Player entered
- Registered PLAY HQ Official entered
- Be signed by a Club Official or Captain
- Coach, Captain and Vice-captain should be identified on the team sheet
- Team Sheets will not generate unless an accredited Coach is listed. This coach must be the person present and undertaking the role of coach for that team on the day.
- Numbers opposite names in PLAY HQ must be the same as is on the team sheet

17.2 Players

Team sheets generated from the PLAY HQ Data Base and web site with the full name and numbers, signed by Captain or Club Official responsible, are to be handed to the field umpire prior to the commencement of each game. Only players registered with the relevant Play HQ club, and in Senior Male & Female Teams have been allocated applicable PPS points on the competition management Database are eligible to compete.

Club Secretaries are responsible for ensuring all participating players are registered with their club at the time of the game, names are correct, as well as seeing that the names of trainers, runners and medical staff are shown in the space provided. Coach, Captain, and Vice-Captain and any other official entering the arena should be identified on the team sheet.

The failure to adhere to Laws 17.1 and 17.2 may see the following penalties applied:

- Club Official or Captain not signing the team sheet: **\$50.**
- Failure to include all participating players on team sheet: **\$100 and loss of match points.**
- Failure to include other information: **\$50.**
- Player number not matching PLAY HQ Team Sheet: **\$50.**
- Including names of players not participating in match: **\$500 and loss of match points.**

17.3 Officials

The maximum allowable number of officials is:

- Runners shall be one (1) for all grades (refer to AFL Barwon Law 9) and Trainers shall be no more than four (4) (inclusive of medical staff).
- Medical staff means a qualified medical practitioner, physiotherapist or similar qualified person
- Water carriers – no more than three (3).

All these officials are to be dressed according to the requirements outlined in the relevant AFL Barwon Competition Rules.

“Officials” positions that are allowable on the team sheet and inside the fence are:

Coaching staff (not to exceed 3 (three))	Water Carrier Number 5
Team Manager	Water Carrier Number 6
Runner (1)	Water Carrier Number 7
Trainer Number 1	Doctor (qualified) (not to be in excess of
Trainer Number 2	5 4 trainers)
Trainer Number 3	Physiotherapist (qualified) (not to be in
Trainer Number 4 (accredited trainers only)	excess of 4 trainers)

Note: All authorised persons, apart from Runners, Trainers and Water Carriers, are to remain in the Coaches Box at all times during play, or within the confines of the perimeter lines surrounding the 12-metre Interchange Box. **This should not total more than 4 people +** Interchange players.

Other match day staff must be stationed outside the perimeter fence or fence line.

18. Match Details

- 18.1** The Secretary of the home Club must complete the match results, online using the PLAY HQ Database, for the matches played that day. Scores must be entered no later than 30 (thirty)

minutes from the conclusion of each game. The final scores for the Senior Male Game (1st eighteen) must be entered no later than 5.15pm.

- 18.2** The Full Match Details must be entered on the Club's PLAY HQ database on the day the game is played by:

Seniors 6.00pm

Reserves 3.30pm

Under 18s 12.30pm (*if played at 10.00am*)

Note: Where Friday night, Saturday night or Sunday games are played other arrangements may be put in place.

- 18.3** If a report is made and a hard copy is used, a copy of the report must be scanned and emailed through by the **home club** to the AFL Barwon Head of Football, no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. If a scanner is not available, the home club must text a photo of the report sheet to the AFL Barwon Head of Football on 0473 913 011 within the same time frame. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope, regardless of whether an early guilty plea has been entered or not.

Note: Any MRP requests are also to be conveyed as above.

19. Match Day Paperwork

Where Match details are not entered electronically by the officiating umpires, the Home Club secretary shall assume responsibility for the contents of the Match Envelopes and should ensure that they are delivered to AFL Barwon Headquarters **by 9.30am on the Monday following the game. Penalty: \$100.**

20. Match Day Penalties

- 20.1** Team manager failing to receive the all-clear regarding player reports from officiating umpires in Home and Away games and the AFL Barwon appointed Ground Manager at all finals.

Penalty: \$50.

- 20.2** Failing to retain the signed Interchange/order off form and other matchday paperwork.

Penalty: \$50.

- 20.3** Failing to submit Umpires' Notice of Report Form, MRP Request, or required details to AFL Barwon Head of Operations by 6.00 pm on the day of the match. **Penalty: \$100.**

Note: Law 20.2 and 20.3 references to 'other matchday paperwork' and 'required details' include where online details have not been uploaded to Officials HQ by the officiating umpires.

- 20.4** Approved paperwork must not be altered under any circumstances.

- 20.5** Match Details submitted via PLAY HQ online web site to AFL Barwon must be entered by the required time and contain correct scores as per Goal Umpires Cards, accurate best players, and goal kickers for both competing teams.

Law 20.4 and 20.5 Penalty: \$50 for first occurrence, \$100 for subsequent occurrences.

21. Eligibility for Home & Away Games

- 21.1** A player playing in a game with the senior male team of their Club, shall be ineligible to play in any lower grades in that round that are scheduled at a later date than the Senior game.

- 21.2** A player who is playing on local interchange at an Underage level, may only play overage football for the club at which they are registered.

21.3 A Club playing an ineligible player will:

- (a) In the event of it winning the game forfeit all match and scored points and be subject to a fine to be set by the Board Members.
- (b) In the event of it losing the game, forfeit all scored points and be subject to a fine to be set by the Board Members.

Note: The opposing Club shall be awarded the match points and retains its scored points.

21.4 Permit Players

21.4.1 A player who is playing on a day permit must play a minimum of seven (7) games with their Community Club.

21.4.2 A player who is playing under area permit must comply with all aspects of Law 22 to qualify for finals in their respective section.

21.4.3 Permits will only be granted for the purpose of merged teams.

22. Eligibility for Finals

22.1 Definitions:

For the purposes of finals eligibility, only matches played during the home and away season shall be counted. In the first instance, a player must have played at least three (3) games with their Club during the season to be eligible to play in finals for that club subject to relevant eligibility criteria as below: (refer to the remainder of Rule 22 in the AFL Barwon Handbook for relevant eligibility criteria).

In this rule a reference to

“Seniors” means the Community Club's First Senior grade team.

“Reserves” means the Community Club's Second or lower Division Senior grade team.

“Under 18s” means the AFL Barwon Club's Under 18 grade team.

In the first instance, a player must have played at least three (3) games with their Club during the season to be eligible to play in finals for that club subject to relevant eligibility criteria as below:

22.2 State League Players

22.2.1 For purposes of finals eligibility, a player who has played more than twelve (12) 1st 18 games for a club affiliated with a senior state league competition in that season will not be eligible to play finals with their community club. If they have played one but less than thirteen (13) State League games, to qualify for the finals for their respective League, they must have played three (3) games with their Community Club in the current season

22.3 Talent League Player

22.3.1 Any player that **plays ten (10) or more games** in the Talent League competition may, provided they have qualified under the rules, return to play with their community club in the finals of the **senior competition only**. must comply with section 22.7

22.3.2 Any player that plays one (1) game in the Talent League-competition, but **less than ten (10) games** must comply with section 22.7.1

22.4 Higher Grade Games

22.4.1 For the purpose of eligibility for finals, the higher-level game only will be applied to a player listed on the team sheet in two or more matches for their Club on the same weekend.

22.4.2 A game played by a player during the season in the first or reserve team of a Club affiliated with the **AFL, VFL, WAFL, SANFL, TAFL, or NTFL, or Talent League Under 18 Competition** shall count as though it is a senior game played with their Community Club, only for the purposes of Rules 22.7 when assessing eligibility for finals in lower sections.

22.5 Community Club Games

22.5.1 A player who has played with the senior team of their AFL Barwon Community Club, or has played senior football in another recognised competition, during the season is eligible to play with a lower graded team in finals provided they have:

- played at least six (6) games in the respective lower section during the home and away season; and
- satisfied all other relevant eligibility requirements.

22.5.1.1 If it is necessary for AFL Barwon to reduce the number of competition rounds, the minimum games required in the respective lower graded team will be:

Rounds	Min in lower grade
14	5
13	5
12 or less	4

22.5.2 A player who plays more than half the fixtured home and away games with their Community club's senior team during the home and away season, shall be ineligible to play in any lower section final.

Exemption: Players ineligible through rule 22.6 will be eligible to play in a reserve grade Final if their senior team is also competing in the same weekend.

22.6 One Game per weekend

22.6.1 A player may not play a game for their community club and also for their VFL, or Talent League club on the same weekend, unless they play less than 25 minutes of actual playing time for their VFL or Talent League club on that weekend. (see AFL Victoria & VFL player transfer agreement AFL Victoria Country Handbook). If this occurs, the Community club will be deemed as having played an ineligible player and penalised accordingly.

22.6.2 A player may only play one (1) game over a weekend of finals if their Club is competing in more than one section. This includes divisions of AFL Barwon Junior Football (cannot play in an AFL Barwon Junior final and an Under 18s, Reserve or Senior final on the same weekend).

22.6.3 An exemption to 22.8.2 may be granted on matchday by the AFL Barwon Ground Manager for a reserves player who has already participated in a final on that weekend being a late inclusion in the Senior team, if deemed appropriate due to exceptional and unforeseeable circumstances.

22.7 Ineligible player in finals

A Club playing an ineligible player in a finals game will:

- (a) Forfeit the match in the event of it scoring more points than the opposing team.
- (b) Be subject to a fine to be set by the Board Members

Finals Eligibility Checklist

Req	Seniors/Div 1	Reserves/Lower Open age Divisions	Male Under 18s	Juniors incl Female U18s
1	Three (3) or more club games played.	Three (3) or more club games played.	Five (5) or more games played in U18s competition.	Three (3) or more club games played.
2		Not more than half (½) of the season played in higher grades.	Not more than half (½) of the season played in higher grades.	Not more than half (½) of the season played in higher grades and/or age groups.
3		Minimum of six (6) games in lower grade if played one (1) game in a higher grade.	Minimum of six (6) games in lower grade if played one (1) game in a higher grade.	Minimum of six (6) games in lower grade/age group if played one (1) game in a higher grade/age group.
4	Played less than thirteen (13) male or nine (9) female Senior State League or AFLW games.		Less than ten (10) Talent League Under 18 Competition games.	

Step 1: - Identify which team you are wishing to check.

Step 2: - Work down the table to see if they meet the requirements.

Step 3: - Cross reference if required from the notes.

Note:

- Requirements are for games played in the current season.
- Grading games are included in calculations.
- If a player participates in multiple games on the same weekend in different age/grades, only the higher graded game will be recognised for eligibility purposes.
- Requirements 2 & 3 are not applicable for Reserves/Lower Open Age finals if eligible for club & Seniors are playing finals on the same weekend (unless played 10 or more Talent League games).
- Requirements 2 & 3 are not applicable for lower graded Under 18 finals if a player is eligible for higher graded Under 18 finals & both of those Under 18 teams are playing finals on the same weekend (unless played 10 or more Talent League Games).
- Requirements 2 & 3 may vary at the discretion of AFL Barwon if the season is compromised.
- Fixture/League Bys do not count as games played.

23. Under 18s Competitions

23.1 Player Qualification Criteria

23.1.1 In all divisions other than Division 1, where there are multiple divisions, all other than the lowest graded competition are deemed to be an "18 a side competition" with a maximum of 23 players and a minimum of 14 players.

23.1.2 The Lowest Graded Competition is deemed to be a "16 a side competition" with a maximum of 23 players and a minimum of 14 players. If either side has less than 16, both teams must play with the same number of players. If both sides have **20 or more** players on the day, then both teams **will** field 18 players.

23.1.3 Where a team has the minimum number of players to start a match but not a full team (excluding bench), the team with the numerical advantage must either "loan" players to the opposition or play with an equal number of players on the field unless:

- A loan is offered but after evening up numbers there are still excess players in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play with one extra player; or
- The team with the numerical advantage only has one extra player than the opposition in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play with that extra player; or
- The team with minimum numbers refuses to accept "loan" players in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play at full strength.
- Team Managers and Umpires are required to sign off on player numbers on the competition match report prior to the match commencing

Example 1: Team A has 23 players - Team B has 16 players

1. Team A refuses to loan players: Both Teams play with 16 on the field
2. Team B refuses to accept loaned players: Team A plays with 18 on the field and Team B plays with 16 on the field
3. A loan is facilitated: Team A & Team B both play with 18 on the field with bench players allocated on agreement.

Example 2: Team A has 21 players - Team B has 14 players

1. Team A refuses to loan players: Both Teams play with 14 on the field
2. Team B refuses to accept loaned players: Team plays with 18 on the field and Team B plays with 14 on the field
3. A loan is facilitated: Team A plays with 18 on the field. Team B plays with 17 on the field.

		Team A Refuses	Team B Refuses	Loaned
	Available	Field	Field	Field
Team A	23	16	18	18
Team B	16	16	16	18
Team A	21	14	18	18
Team B	14	14	14	17

23.1.4 In the Under 18s Competition a player can only play one Under 18s game per weekend (including Friday night).

23.2 Byes

In the instance of a split round or bye (Senior, Reserves or Under 18s) during the home and away season, a player can be selected in a higher grade to which they played in their most recent match, but not in a lower grade, unless they have played less than four (4) matches in a higher grade in the current season.

23.3 Finals

23.3.1 A player must play at least **five (5)** Under 18s home & away games with their club to play in any Under 18s finals game. Official Under 18 Grading games are to be included for finals eligibility purposes.

23.3.2 If a team receives a forfeit due to their opponent withdrawing prior to the match, only players for the team receiving the forfeit, that are listed on the online Team Sheet as at Midnight on the day of the match will have that game included for finals eligibility purposes.

23.3.3 For the purpose of eligibility to play with a team in Under 18s Finals, a player who has played in a higher grade/division must play at least six (6) games with a particular Under 18s team to be eligible to play in finals with that team.

23.3.4 Furthermore, any player who has played more than half a season with a higher grade or division is ineligible to play in the lesser grade of the Under 18s Competition.

23.3.5 Should a player qualify to represent more than one team, the Under 18s Committee has clarified that players may only play in one final on the same weekend, regardless of division.

23.3.6 To be eligible to play in a particular team during the finals series a player must meet the requirements of the above Under 18s Finals eligibility Criteria.

23.3.7 Where a club has multiple Under 18 teams and a player is eligible to play finals in their higher graded Under 18 team, but not the lower graded Under 18 team, having played more than nine games in the higher graded Under 18 team and less than six games in the lower graded Under 18 team, he may play in either team only if both Under 18 teams are playing finals on the same weekend.

23.4 Higher Grade Games - *AFL Barwon Competition Rule 22.5 will apply*

23.5 Talent League Under 18 players - *AFL Barwon Competition Rule 22.4 will apply*

24. Umpires

24.1 Field umpires must ensure the following information is uploaded to Officials HQ immediately after the match:

- Team sheets of participating teams.
- General report of match, starting time, uniforms, officials on AFL Barwon form.
- Selection of three best and fairest players in order of preference marking the 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice using players' team name, names shown in team lists and numbers of such players.

- (d) Charges against Clubs or players (with numbers) for breaches of rules and any matter they consider should be brought up.
- (e) Any requests for video reviews (Seniors only)

- 24.2** Field umpires must see that Club Goal and Boundary Umpires are properly uniformed. Goal Umpires must be appropriately attired in a recognisable jacket, coat or vest, and equipped with suitable white flags. These umpires, along with two timekeepers, are to be in position prior to commencement of the game.
- 24.3** Field umpires must verify that the number of players listed on each team sheet does not exceed the allowable player limit for that competition.
- 24.4** The Field umpire shall have full control of the play and shall award penalties in accordance with the laws of the game. No appeal shall be entertained against any of their decisions.
- 24.5** In the event of an Official AFL Barwon Umpire not being available, a substitute umpire shall be appointed by agreement of both Captains. Such Field umpires shall have the power to:
- issue yellow cards;
 - issue red cards; and
 - report players.

Note: A player can be reported by a non-AFL BARWON appointed Umpire. Normal reporting procedures are to be followed. AFL BARWON are to provide their advocate to support the non-AFL BARWON appointed Umpire.

- 24.6** Where a substitute Field umpire has been appointed, they shall fill in the Best and Fairest votes.
- 24.7** Where Goal Umpires are not provided by AFL Barwon, they must be supplied by the competing Clubs. Any Club Goal Umpire officiating in an AFL Barwon match must be at least 14 years of age. They must be conversant with the rules, wear appropriately recognisable attire and be provided with white flags at least 45 cm square by Clubs and must use the League scorecard which must be signed by both Goal Umpires, Timekeepers and Field umpires at the match conclusion. Failing to do this may result in scorecards not being recognised as official. They must keep their goal area clear of spectators. Club-appointed goal umpires must wear appropriately recognisable attire. **Penalty: \$50.**

24.8 Boundary Umpires & Out Of Bounds Rule

24.8.1 In all AFL Barwon affiliated competitions, the following "Last Disposal" rule will apply as an interpretation adoption to the Laws of the Game.

- Any kicks or handballs of the football over the Boundary Line, in between the two 50m arcs, without the football being touched by another player will result in a Free Kick to the opposing team. This includes if the ball goes out on the intersection of the 50m Line and Boundary Line. (i.e., if ball crosses over on the 50m Line, it will be paid as last disposal).
- A kick shall be defined as per AFL Laws of the game – the ball comes off the players foot and below the knee when the ball comes off the foot or below the knee of a player without the intent of the player being to kick the ball, it will be deemed accidental contact and will not be determined as an intentional kick by the umpire. This will result in a ball-up 15 metres in from the Boundary Line.

- If a player does not make a play on the ball, and shepherds the ball out of bounds to receive the free kick, the umpire may call for the ball to be thrown in.

Note: Where Boundary Umpires are not provided by AFL Barwon in any affiliated matches, it is expected that when the ball accidentally (as adjudicated by the umpires) goes over the boundary line, but not on the full; the Field umpires are instructed to throw the ball up 15 metres in from the boundary line.

25. Club Umpires

As an AFL National Umpire Accreditation Policy requirement; it is mandatory that all community umpires whether being "League" or "Club" must have an active or are actively engaged in obtaining an AFL Foundation Umpire Accreditation. They also must be registered with AFL Barwon Umpires in Officials HQ (OHQ).

<https://play.afl/become-an-umpire>

26. Umpire Escorts

At all Senior, Reserve and Under 18s matches, both competing clubs shall supply an escort for umpires who shall (in accordance with the AFL Victoria Country Policy):

- Be listed on the Official team sheet.
- Move quickly to the umpires at the end of each quarter.
- Escort the field, boundary and goal umpires from the ground at half time and at the completion of the game to the door of the umpires' room;
- Where the club is the home club, offer umpires cool drinks between each quarter;
- Remain in the centre of the ground with the umpires during quarter time and three-quarter time breaks;
- Show courtesy at all times and NOT question or give comment on the umpire's performance;
- Be over the age of 18 years; and
- Wear approved League Escort Bib at all times whilst officiating as an umpire's escort.
- In female football, the runner may act as the Umpire Escort if required. **Penalty:**

\$100.

27. Ground Encroachment

- 27.1** With the exception only of the quarter time, half time and three-quarter time interval, no persons other than officials provided for in these Rules may encroach upon or enter the playing arena or stand sufficiently close to the boundary line to impede or hamper the progress or movement of the Boundary Umpires in the execution of their duties.
- 27.2** The officiating umpires are empowered to send off any of these officials if they are not correctly attired or are deemed to be exceeding their duties.
- 27.3** Team "huddles" at both quarter and three-quarter times (and extra time in finals) must be located outside the centre square. **Penalty: \$100**

28. Disputes

To be read in conjunction with AFL Victoria Rules

- 28.1** The Board Members has the power to deal with and settle all disputes arising out of or in connection with this competition with the exception of appeals as defined in AFL Victoria Country rules. The Board Members may have such disputes heard and decided by the Independent Tribunal. Should the party or parties concerned refuse or neglect to abide by such decision they shall be suspended from the competition for such time as the Board Members or Tribunal may determine and shall be liable to a fine in default of payment of such fine the party or parties concerned may be excluded from playing in the competition.
- 28.2** Any party referring any dispute to the Board Members shall forward a statement of such dispute in writing to the AFL Barwon Head of Football not later than 5pm on the Monday following the match and 5pm on the Tuesday if Monday is a public holiday. This notice must be accompanied with a deposit for \$500.

29. Barrackers and Supporters

Any supporters or barrackers who are known to be members of any Club, within the League who, in the opinion of the Field, Boundary or Goal Umpire, Emergency Umpire, Board Members or AFL Barwon Officer, behave in an offensive manner by spoken remarks, or openly incite players on the field to play in a manner not conducive to the best interests of the game, or are the cause of any disturbance between onlookers, will render the Club to which they belong liable to appear before the Board Members or Tribunal who will have the power after dealing with the case to impose a special fine, suspend or expel such Club from the League.

30. Practice Matches

- 30.1** In all practice matches played by an affiliated Club whether within the League or against a Club from another League the Club Secretary shall ensure that a team sheet is completed and handed to the Field umpire prior to the start of any practice match.
- 30.2** As the host club, the Secretary shall forward copies of all such team sheets and other relevant paperwork to the AFL Barwon Head of Football in the event of a player being reported. A copy of the report or required details, must be provided to AFL Barwon by 6.00pm on the day of the match.
- 30.3** Any player who plays in a practice match and is not a registered player of the participating Club must have his registered Club identified on the team sheet.
- 30.4** All practice matches will be conducted under PLAY HQ rules and under normal match conditions. Umpires will have the right to report and order off. Umpires have been instructed that the Order Off Rule will not be used in lieu of reporting a player when a reportable offence has been committed.
- 30.5** All reports will be heard by the Independent Tribunal of the league of the host Club and any investigations referred from a practice match, will be conducted by the Host Club's League Investigation Officer.
- 30.6** All practice matches played exclusively between GFL, BFL, CDFNL and GDFL clubs must engage the use of AFL BARWON umpires from this region when available.

- 30.7** Clubs shall deal directly with AFL BARWON for appointment of umpires for a practice match and shall forward umpires' fees direct to the AFL BARWON upon invoicing.

Rules & Regulations	Senior Male	Reserves Male	U18 male	Senior Female
Players on Field	18	18	Lowest Division – 16	All other Divisions - 18
Minimum Players	14	14	14	14
Maximum Players	22	23	23	20
Match length	4 x 20 min + Time on	4 x 23 min	4 x 20 min	4 x 20 min
Breaks	5 min; 15 min; 7 min	5 min; 15 min; 5 min	5 min; 10 min; 5 min	5 min; 10 min; 5 min
Ball size	Leather Size 5	Leather Size 5	Leather Size 5	Leather size 4
Out of Bounds	Last Disposal Rule	Last Disposal Rule	Last Disposal Rule	Last Disposal Rule

31 Delayed and Incomplete Matches

In the event that a Match is unable to commence, or subject to a delay for reasons beyond control of either team (e.g. Weather), clubs and officials are to refer to the AFL Victoria Extreme Weather Policy in conjunction with Law 11 in the Laws of Australian Football.

<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/general-resources/policies-forms/policies>

FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

SENIOR FEMALE COMPETITIONS

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Preamble

These Rules must be read in conjunction with

- Laws of Australian Football (Refer to link in Senior & Under 18 Male Football section of handbook).
- AFL Victoria Country Rules and Regulations as published in the AFL Victoria Country Handbook each year or as amended by notification from AFL Victoria Country after the printing of the AFL Victoria Country Handbook. (Link to find the most up to date version of this resource below).
<https://play.afl/learning-resources/victoria>
- AFL Barwon By Laws

1. Game Scheduling

The default scheduling of the Senior Female competition will be Saturdays, but may be varied subject to home club circumstances. Clubs have the option to arrange fixture changes within 2 weeks of the fixture being released. Clubs must arrange changes with the opposing club prior to discussing any potential changes with AFL Barwon.

2. Ground Facilities

- 2.1 Each Club is to provide a ground that in the opinion of the Board Members is suitable for match play.
- 2.2 Goal posts must be correctly padded in accordance with AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Rules.
Penalty: \$100
- 2.3 Goal posts must have flag-holders. **Penalty: \$100**
- 2.4 The ground must be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game unless it is impractical to do so. Variations are to be approved by the Board Members. **Penalty: \$100**
- 2.5 In terms of the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Acceptable Ground Conditions & Layout the actual boundary line of the playing area shall be no less than three (3) metres from the fence line. *(Refer to link in Law 4.5 of Senior & Under 18 Male Football section).*
- 2.6 A stretcher must be provided by the home Club and located in or near the coaches' box.
Penalty: \$100
- 2.7 All clubs must provide locks on doors to visiting team and umpires' dressing rooms.
Penalty: \$100
- 2.8 A separate dressing room must be available for umpires. Clubs should also provide dressing room facilities for female umpires when applicable.
- 2.9 Clubs must provide suitable weatherproof coaches boxes of design approved by local council building regulations and AFL Barwon. Elevated coaches' boxes must be approved by AFL Barwon. Coaches are NOT permitted to use coaches' boxes in a manner that does not comply with local council building regulations or Occupational Health & Safety requirements.
- 2.10 A box 12 metres in length, one metre from the boundary line, with its sides returning to the fence shall be marked parallel to the boundary line in front of each of the coaches' boxes.
Penalty: \$100
- 2.11 Home Club must provide two (2) trainers tables in the visitors' rooms. **Penalty: \$100.**

3. Players Per Match

The Division 1 & 2 Senior Female Competitions are deemed to be a 16 per side competition with 20 players to be selected for each game. All division 1 teams will be allocated 40 total team points and Division 2 teams will be allocated TTPs on a tiered basis with the previous season's results used as a guide.

If both teams start with 16 on the field and one team is reduced to 15 players on the field due to player injury, illness or extraordinary circumstances, the other team is not required to also play with only 15 players on the field. **Any club who breaches this rule will receive a loss of match points and incur a \$500 penalty.**

4. Team Managers

4.1 Home Team Manager

The Home Team Manager is responsible for the following match day duties:

- Provide Timekeepers cards as issued by the League.
- Provide Umpires with Score Cards, Best & Fairest Vote Cards and envelopes all as issued by the League and a current year's report form pad.
- Provide umpires with AFL Barwon Umpires Match Report form.
- Provide Interchange steward with Interchange Sheets as issued by the League.
- Provide two new (**or as possibly close to**) branded Sherrin KB Size 4 Leather footballs for Senior Female games. For underage female football requirements, please refer to the AFL Barwon Junior Match Guide:
<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/general-resources/policies-forms/policies>
- Enter Match Details on the Play HQ database.
- Responsible for the email or scanning of any reports made from the game outlined in Law 16.3.

4.2 Away Team Manager

The Away Team Manager is responsible for the following match day duties:

- Provide the opposing team manager with details of goalkickers and best players as soon as possible after the conclusion of the game.

4.3 Both Home and Away Team Managers

Both Team managers are responsible for the following match day duties:

- Provide Team Sheets to the umpires. They must show all players with correct jumper numbers and all officials with correct numbers as recorded in PLAY HQ.
- Complete the PLAY HQ Match Day Ground Safety Checklist. (Refer to link in Law 13.3 of Senior & Under 18 Male Football section).
- Ensure a Timekeeper is provided by each competing club.
- Ensure Field and Goal Umpires are available where no umpire appointment is made. Laws 24.5, 24.6 and 24.7 of the Senior & Under 18 Male Football section, which are relevant to any time an Official AFL Barwon Umpire is not available, is also applicable to Female Football.
- Ensure each club provides an Umpire Escort who is aware of and fulfils their duties.
- Obtain advice of any reported players or Review requests from the field umpires after each game, sign and collect a copy of any player reports from that game.

5. Playing Times

5.1 Duration of Games

Playing times for Senior Female games will be (Home & Away and All Finals Games):

Quarters	¼ time	½ time	¾ time
20 min	5 min	10 min	5 min

Penalty: Clubs responsible for late starts at any point of any match will incur a fine of **\$50 per occurrence**. In finals, late start penalty will be **\$100 per minute** for each Club causing the delay.

5.2 Time On

Time on will only apply where a team count is called, a stretcher is on ground, a player leaving the ground due to the blood rule or having received a yellow or red card, or there is a lengthy delay as deemed by the umpire/s in charge.

6. Extra Time in Finals

6.1 There shall be no drawn matches in any finals. In the event of scores being level at the elapsed time, the timekeepers are instructed to sound the siren. Coaches are permitted to address players at the end of the game whilst the Goal Umpires confer. Players must be in position to recommence the game prior to the goal umpires returning to their position.

6.2 On receiving confirmation that the scores are level, the match shall recommence with the teams kicking to the same end as in the final quarter and two five-minute periods with time on (as appropriate) shall be played with teams changing ends after the first five-minute period immediately the siren sounds. Coaches are not permitted to address players at any stage after the extra time period has commenced.

6.3 In the event of scores being level after the two five-minute periods the timekeepers are instructed to sound the siren to allow the goal umpires the opportunity to confirm scores. When confirmed, play will resume from the centre ball up and continue until the next score, at which time the siren will sound as soon as the goal umpire signals the score and receives the all clear from the Field umpire. Clubs will not change ends in this instance.

7. Interchange/Order Off

7.1 In all AFL Barwon Senior Female matches, any player receiving a yellow or red card may be replaced immediately. A player receiving a red card is to remain off the field for the remainder of the game. A player receiving a yellow card can return to the field after 15 minutes of playing time has elapsed.

7.2 The number of players a team must play with in Senior Female matches is 20.

7.3 For all AFL Barwon competitions, Clubs shall be required to field a minimum of 14 players to commence the game. Failure to do so will result in their side forfeiting the match.

7.3.1 The 20 players must be named in Division 1 & 2 Senior Female competitions to comply with AFL Victoria PPSP.

7.3.2 In exceptional circumstances, if a senior side does not have 20 players available to list, 2 player points must be added to the total team points per player missing.

- 7.4** If any irregularities are noted on the Interchange sheet, the Board Members shall have the power to determine a fine and to deal with the match as they deem appropriate.
- 7.5** It is the responsibility of the timekeepers to ensure that players ordered from the ground under a yellow card, remain off for fifteen minutes of actual playing time and those ordered from the ground under a red card remain off for the remainder of the game. All Clubs must have installed red and green lights for the purpose of acknowledgment of the umpires' carding decisions and the notification to the Clubs when the player (yellow card only) is eligible to return the playing field. The timekeepers must therefore:
- Identify the umpire's signal (a yellow or red card), which indicates a player has been ordered off;
 - Acknowledge the umpire's decision by flashing the red light on and off or other signal by holding aloft the appropriate card;
 - Record the relevant amount of actual playing time from the moment the player crosses the interchange area in the space provided on the timecards (failure to record the implementation of the rule on the timecards will result in a **\$30 penalty**); and
 - Signal the conclusion of the fifteen-minute penalty by signaling through the use of the green light. The interchange steward will continue to record the change as has been the case. The onus remains with the clubs to ensure that the procedure operates effectively.

Note: In the event of more than one player being off at any given time, the onus is on the Club to confer with the interchange steward/timekeepers to determine which player is eligible to come on. Any player ordered off under a red card is not permitted to take any further part in the game

7.6 Breach of Procedure:

In the event a Club believes an opposition player has returned to the field early or the opposition is fielding more players than permitted, that Club's team Captain must call a team count to verify the number of players on the ground and the score at that time. The Umpire will record the result of the count on the Umpire's Match Report. Where a Team has more than the permitted number of players on the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:

- A field umpire shall award a Free Kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing team, which shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending team.
- A Fifty (50) Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and
- The Goal Umpires shall write the current scores as at the time of the Head Count on their Score Card.
- The matter will be referred to the League to investigate and ultimately determine the outcome as they see fit.

Note: The offending team does not lose all points scored in the match up to the time of the count on matchday.

7.7 Number of Occasions Siren to Be Sounded:

Start of Match

- Five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Match and as Umpires enter the Arena (once).
- Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice).
- One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once).
- Scheduled starting time (Start of Match) (once).

First Quarter time Interval

- Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice).
- One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once).
- Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once).

Half Time Interval

- Five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Quarter and as Umpires enter the Arena (once).
- Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice).
- One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once).
- Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once).

Three Quarter Time Interval

- Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice).
- One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once).
- Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once).

7.8 Timekeepers shall keep accurate records of scores on cards supplied by AFL Barwon to each Home Club. Times of starts and finishes of quarters; appearance times of teams; elapsed playing time of players ordered from the ground. The timekeeper must sign the cards and return them to the Field umpire for counter signature. **Penalty: \$30.**

7.9 Light system to be used for order off rule as outlined throughout this law.

8. Interchange Steward

8.1 The Home Club is responsible for the appointment of an interchange steward for each game.

8.2 The responsibilities of the interchange steward are outlined in AFL Laws of the Game Rule. The Interchange Steward will record the jumper numbers of players who commence on the interchange bench at the commencement of each quarter. It is the responsibility of team managers from both competing Clubs to notify the appointed Interchange Steward of the jumper numbers of these players at the commencement of the game and then at the end of each quarter break. The interchange steward must also record details (time and jumper number) of players who have been ordered from the ground (yellow or red card), and those either stretchered off or sent off due to the blood rule, both when they leave the ground and when they return. **Penalty \$100 (offending Club)**

9. Player Uniforms

- 9.1** All Club uniforms shall comply with AFL Victoria Country & AFL Barwon rules and requirements. The AFL Barwon Board Members, before adoption, must approve club colours. For more details, please refer to the link in Law 7.1 of the Senior & Under 18 Male section.
- 9.2** Every player must be fully uniformed in their Club colours with their number prominent and securely fixed on her back.
- 9.3** All playing jumpers and shorts must carry logos as specified by AFL Victoria and AFL Barwon. Clubs must formally request the Board Members's approval to display sponsorship logos on Club jumpers. This request must include details such as size and positioning.
- 9.4** Away shorts are not required to be worn by sides playing away.
- 9.5** Bike shorts worn under playing shorts must be neutral, black or beige colour.
- 9.6** Players are permitted to wear a long sleeve shirt under their guernsey if a long sleeve guernsey is not available. Long sleeve shirts worn must match the team uniform and fit firmly to the player's arms.
- 9.7** Players who wish to wear spectacles during Matches and training sessions should wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses. A band must also hold the spectacles on securely.

10. Coaches

- 10.1** The non-playing coach of any team is not allowed on the playing arena during the progress of the match except at the quarter intervals. During the progress of the match the non-playing coach, interchange players (other than in warming up) and other officials must be in the restricted area as marked by the 12 metre line as per Rule 4.10.
- 10.2** Only the team captain of the day shall be permitted to speak to the Field Umpire at the intervals during the progress of the match (other than if requesting the umpire for a count of players on the playing surface). Any breach of the rule shall be reported by the Umpire and be referred to the League Independent Tribunal and if found guilty shall incur the following maximum penalty:
- 1st offence – \$100.
 2nd offence – \$200.
 3rd offence – \$400.
 4th or greater offence: \$400 or at discretion of Tribunal.

11. Runners

11.1 No of Runners

Teams in all AFL Barwon Female competitions are only permitted one (1) runner.

11.2 Eligibility to act as runner

11.2.1 No person who is a registered player or an official of any club, other than their home club whether affiliated or not, nor who is under disqualification or suspension by their home club or League, shall act as an official runner in any competition match, or any other match in which a AFL Victoria Country affiliated Club or League is participating.

11.2.2 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria Country open age team shall act as a runner in a match in which a team of their club is participating.

11.2.3 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria Country team shall act as a runner, trainer or water carrier in a match in which the team that the coaches is participating.

11.3 Duties of Runners

11.3.1 Team runners shall not have affixed to their person, communication device which includes but is not limited to headsets, microphones or earpieces or water bottles.

11.3.2 The sole duty of the runner shall be to confer with the player or players of their club and to immediately leave the playing arena.

11.4 Runners uniforms

All runners are to wear uniforms as approved by AFL Barwon at the commencement of each season. Runner tops must carry the word "Runner". **Penalty: \$100.**

12. Water-Carriers

12.1 Eligibility to act as water carrier

12.1.1 A maximum of three (3) Water-Carriers is permitted in any game.

12.1.2 Water-Carriers must be aged over twelve (12) years.

12.1.3 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria Country open age team shall act as a Water-Carrier in any AFL Barwon match.

12.1.4 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL Victoria Country team shall act as a trainer or medical staff in a match in which the team that they coach is participating.

12.2 Water-Carrier uniforms

Water-Carriers are to wear a light blue AFL Barwon branded 'Water Carrier' vest with a white shirt underneath and the word 'Water Carrier' and be correctly numbered with 5, 6 and 7 or 8 respectively for all football competitions where Water-Carriers are permitted. Water-Carriers' names must appear on the official team sheet. **Penalty: \$50.**

12.3 Water-Carrier duties

12.3.1 Water-Carriers may enter the arena at any time during the match but only to provide water to players and for no other purpose whatsoever and to immediately leave the playing arena once the drink has been delivered, and before play recommences (*Refer AFL Victoria Country Rule 18.2.*)

12.3.2 Water-Carriers are not permitted to operate constantly from the Coaches 12 metre Interchange Box area but must be around the boundary area against the fence while not delivering water.

13. Timekeepers

The timekeeper must record starting and finishing times of quarters on the scorecards. They must also record times of players being sent off the ground (on departure and re-entry to the ground). Time clocks should only be stopped when the stretcher enters the playing arena, a head count is taking place, blood rule or a player has been sent off. Scorecards must also correspond.

14. Umpires

14.1 Field umpires must ensure the following information is uploaded to Officials HQ immediately after the match:

- (a) Team sheets of participating teams.
- (b) General report of match, starting time, uniforms, officials on AFL Barwon form.
- (c) Selection of three best and fairest players in order of preference marking the 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice using players' team name, names shown in team lists and numbers of such players.
- (d) Charges against Clubs or players (with numbers) for breaches of rules and any matter they consider should be brought up.
- (e) Any requests for video reviews (Seniors only).

14.2 Field umpires must see that Club Goal and Boundary Umpires are properly uniformed. Goal Umpires must be appropriately attired in a recognisable jacket, coat or vest, and equipped with suitable white flags. These umpires, along with two timekeepers, are to be in position prior to commencement of the game.

14.3 Field umpires must verify that the number of players listed on each team sheet does not exceed the allowable player limit for that competition.

14.4 The Field umpire shall have full control of the play and shall award penalties in accordance with the laws of the game. No appeal shall be entertained against any of their decisions.

14.5 In the event of an Official AFL Barwon Umpire not being available, a substitute umpire shall be appointed by agreement of both Captains. Such Field umpires shall have the power to:

- (a) issue yellow cards; and
- (b) issue red cards; and
- (c) report players.

Note: A player can be reported by a non-AFL BARWON appointed Umpire. Normal reporting procedures are to be followed. AFL BARWON are to provide their advocate to support the non-AFL BARWON appointed Umpire.

14.6 Where a substitute Field umpire has been appointed, they shall fill in the Best and Fairest votes.

14.7 Where Goal Umpires are not provided by AFL Barwon, they must be supplied by the competing Clubs. Any Club Goal Umpire officiating in an AFL Barwon match must be at least 14 years of age. They must be conversant with the rules, wear appropriately recognisable attire and be provided with white flags at least 45 cm square by Clubs and must use the League scorecard which must be signed by both Goal Umpires, Timekeepers and Field umpires at the match conclusion. Failing to do this may result in scorecards not being recognised as official. They must keep their goal area clear of spectators.

Club-appointed goal umpires must wear appropriately recognisable attire. **Penalty: \$50.**

15. Last Disposal Rule

15.1 In Female Football Competitions, the "Last Disposal" rule will apply as an interpretation adoption to the Laws of the Game.

- Any kicks or handballs of the football over the Boundary Line, in between the two 50m arcs, without the football being touched by another player will result in a Free Kick to the opposing team. This includes if the ball goes out on the intersection of the 50m Line and Boundary Line. (i.e., if ball crosses over on the 50m Line, it will be paid as

last disposal).

- A kick shall be defined as per AFL Laws of the game – the ball comes off the players foot and below the knee. of a player without the intent of the player being to kick the ball, it will be deemed accidental contact and will not be determined as an intentional kick by the umpire. This will result in a ball-up 15 metres in from the Boundary Line.
- If a player does not make a play on the ball, and shepherds the ball out of bounds to receive the free kick, the umpire may call for the ball to be thrown in.

Note: Where Boundary Umpires are not provided by AFL Barwon in any affiliated matches, it is expected that when the ball accidentally (as adjudicated by the umpires) goes over the boundary line, but not on the full; the Field umpires are instructed to throw the ball up 15 metres in from the boundary line.

16. Team Sheets

16.1 Team sheets must include:

- Registered PLAY HQ Player entered.
- Registered PLAY HQ Official entered.
- Be signed by a Club Official or Captain.
- Coach, Captain and Vice-captain should be identified on the team sheet.
- Team Sheets will not generate unless an accredited Coach is listed. This coach must be the person present and undertaking the role of coach for that team on the day.
- Numbers opposite names in PLAY HQ must be the same as is on the team sheet.

16.2 Players

Team sheets generated from the PLAY HQ Data Base and web site with the full name and numbers, signed by Captain or Club Official responsible, are to be handed to the field umpire prior to the commencement of each game. Only players registered with the relevant Play HQ club, and in Senior Male & Female Teams have been allocated applicable PPS points on the competition management Database are eligible to compete.

Club Secretaries are responsible for ensuring all participating players are registered with their club at the time of the game, names are correct, as well as seeing that the names of trainers, runners and medical staff are shown in the space provided. Coach, Captain, and Vice-Captain and any other official entering the arena should be identified on the team sheet.

Note: Player number must match the number recorded in the PLAY HQ Team Sheet. A notation of a variation of jumper number must be made on the team sheet to indicate exceptional circumstances.

The failure to adhere to Laws 16.1 and 16.2 may see the following penalties applied:

- Club Official or Captain not signing the team sheet: **\$50.**
- Failure to include all participating players on team sheet: \$100 and loss of match points.
- Failure to include other information: **\$50.**
- Player number not matching PLAY HQ Team Sheet: **\$50.**
- Including names of players not participating in match: **\$500 and loss of match points.**

16.3 Officials

The maximum allowable number of officials is:

- Runners shall be one (1) for all grades (refer to Law 11.1) and Trainers shall be no more than four (4) (inclusive of medical staff).
- Medical staff means a qualified medical practitioner, physiotherapist or similar qualified person.
- Water-Carriers – no more than three (3).
 “Officials” positions that are allowable on the team sheet and inside the fence are:
 Coaching staff (not to exceed 3 (three))

Team Manager

Runner (1)

Trainer Number 1

Trainer Number 2

Trainer Number 3

Trainer Number 4 (accredited trainers only)

Water-Carrier Number 5

Water-Carrier Number 6

Water-Carrier Number 7

Doctor (qualified) (not to be more than 4 trainers)

Physiotherapist (qualified) (not to be more than 4 trainers)

Note: All authorised persons, apart from Runners, Trainers and Water Carriers, are to remain in the Coaches Box at all times during play, or within the confines of the perimeter lines surrounding the Coach’s Box. This should not total more than 4 people + Interchange players. Other match day staff must be stationed outside the perimeter fence or fence line.

17. Match Details

- 17.1** The Secretary of the home Club must complete the match results, online using the Play HQ Data Base, for the matches played that day. Scores must be entered no later than 30 (thirty) minutes from the conclusion of each game.
- 17.2** For day games, details must be entered by 6:00pm on the day the game is played. For night and twilight games, Full Match Details must be entered on the Club Play HQ Data Base by 10:30pm on the day the game is played.
- 17.3** If a report is made and completed on a hard copy report form, a copy of the report must be scanned and emailed through by the home club to the AFL Barwon Head of Football, sarah.naylor@aflbarwon.com.au no later than 10.00pm on the day of that match. If a scanner is not available, the home club must text a photo of the report sheet to the AFL Barwon Head of Football on (0473 913 011) within the same time frame. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be provided to AFL Barwon, regardless of whether a set sanction has been accepted or not.

Note: If for some unforeseen reason the home club is unable to send these details electronically. A detailed message is to be conveyed to the AFL Barwon Head of Football by phone (0473 913 011) within the required timeframe.

18. Match Day Paperwork

The Home Club secretary shall assume responsibility for the contents of the Match Envelopes (hard copies) and should ensure that they are filed and available if required by AFL Barwon. **Penalty: \$100.**

19. Match Day Penalties

19.1 Team manager failing to receive the all-clear regarding player reports from officiating umpires in Home and Away games and the AFL Barwon appointed Ground Manager at all finals. **Penalty: \$50.**

19.2 Failing to retain the signed Interchange/order off form. Penalty: \$50.

19.3 Failing to submit Umpires' Notice of Report Form (where hard copies are used) or required details to AFL Barwon Head of Football by 6.00 pm on the day of the match. **Penalty: \$100.**

19.4 Approved paperwork must not be altered under any circumstances.

19.5 Match Details submitted via AFL Victoria Country online website to AFL Barwon must be entered by the required time (outlined in Law 16.2) and contain correct scores as per Goal Umpires Cards, accurate best players.

Law 19.4 and 19.5 Penalty: \$50 for first occurrence, \$100 for subsequent occurrences.

20. Eligibility for Home & Away Games

20.1 A player may only play in one (1) game of Senior Female Football per weekend.
Note: All Senior Female Football divisions are considered Senior competitions.

20.2 A player playing in a game with a senior graded senior team of their Club, shall be ineligible to play in any other senior matches in that round.

20.3 A Club playing an ineligible player will:

- (a)** In the event of winning the game shall forfeit all match and scored points and be subject to a fine to be set by the Board Members.
- (b)** In the event of it losing the game, forfeit all scored points and be subject to a fine to be set by the Board Members.

Note: The opposing Club shall be awarded the match points and retains its scored points.

21. Eligibility for Finals

21.1 Definitions:

A player must be in attendance, in suitable attire to take the field and at a minimum be on the field in the club's interchange area for the duration of the game. (Unless forced to leave for medical reasons).

In this law a reference to:

"Seniors" means the Club's First Senior grade team.

21.2 Eligibility for Club

In the first instance, a player must have played at least three (3) games with their Club during the season to be eligible to play in finals subject to relevant eligibility criteria as below:

21.2.1 The number of games to qualify is determined through the number of home and away games played inclusive of grading games.

21.2.2 A player who plays more than half the fixtured home and away games with their Community club's highest graded senior team during the home and away season, shall be ineligible to play in any lower section final, EXCEPT THAT, players ineligible through law 20.2 will be eligible to play in a lower graded Final if their senior team is also competing in the same weekend.

21.3 State League Players

For purposes of state league player eligibility, a player who has played nine (9) or more games for a club affiliated with a senior state league competition in that season will not be eligible to play any remaining home and away games or finals with her local club.

21.3.1 All state league players who have played eight (8) or less games in a senior state league competition, must play at least three (3) games with their community club in the current season to be eligible for finals.

21.4 Permit Players

21.4.1 A player who is playing on a day permit must play a minimum of seven (7) games with their Community Club.

21.4.2 A player who is playing under area permit must comply with all aspects of law 20.2 to qualify for finals in their respective section.

21.4.3 Permits will only be granted for the purpose of merged teams.

21.5 Higher Grade Games

21.5.1 For the purpose of eligibility for finals, the higher-level game only will be applied to a player listed on the team sheet in two or more matches for their Community Club on the same weekend.

21.5.2 A game played by a player during the season in the first team of a Club affiliated with the **AFLW, VFLW, AFL Canberra Women's Division, AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division, NT Women's Premier League, SA Women's FL, Tasmanian State League Women's, WA Women's FL or Talent League Under 18's Competition** shall count as though it is a senior game played in their highest graded team with their Community Club, only for the purposes of law 20 when assessing eligibility for finals in lower sections.

21.6 Senior Female Games

21.6.1 A player who has played with the Senior Female team of their Community Club during the season is eligible to play with the Under 18 team in finals provided they have played at least three (3) games with their club's U18 team on a weekend where they are not playing seniors as well.

21.6.2 If it is necessary for AFL Barwon to reduce the number of competition rounds, the minimum games required in the respective lower graded team will be:

Rounds	min in lower grade
14	5
13	5
12 or less	4

21.7 One Game per weekend

- 21.7.1** A player may not play a game for their Community club and for their VFLW or Talent League club on the same weekend, unless they play less than 25 minutes actual playing time for their VFLW or Talent League club on that weekend. Victoria Country & VFLW player transfer agreement outlined in the AFL Country Handbook). If this occurs the Community club will be deemed as having played an ineligible player and penalised accordingly.
- 21.7.2** A player may only play one (1) game over a weekend of finals if their Club is competing in more than one section. This includes divisions of the AFL Barwon Juniors (cannot play in an AFL Barwon Juniors and Under U18's final on the same weekend).

22. Ineligible player in finals

A Club playing an ineligible player in a finals game will:

- Forfeit the match in the event of it scoring more points than the opposing team.
- Be subject to a fine to be set by the Board Members.

Req	Senior Female Div 1	Reserves/Lower Open age Divisions	Female Under 19s	Juniors Female
1	Three (3) or more club games.	Three (3) or more club games.	Three (3) or more club games in the respective age group.	3 or more club games in the respective age group.
	Three (3) or more club games in the respective age group.	Not more than ½ season in higher grades		Not more than ½ season in higher grades/age groups
2		Not more than half (½) season in higher grades.		Not more than half (½) season in higher grades/age groups.
3		Minimum of six (6) games in lower grade if played one (1) game in higher grade.		Minimum of six (6) games in lower grade/age group if played one (1) game in higher grade/age group.
4	Less than nine (9) female Senior State League or AFLW games.	Less than nine (9) female Senior State League or AFLW games.		

Step 1: - Identify which team you are wishing to check.

Step 2: - Work down the table to see if they meet the requirements.

Step 3: - Cross reference if required from the notes.

Note:

- Requirements are for games played in the current season.
- If a player participates in multiple games on the same weekend in different age/grades, only the higher graded game will be recognised for eligibility purposes.
- Requirements 2 & 3 not applicable if eligible for club & Seniors are playing finals on the same weekend.
- Requirements 2 & 3 may vary at the discretion of AFL Barwon if season is compromised.
- Byes do not count as games played.

23. Barrackers and Supporters

Any supporters or barrackers who are known to be members of any Club, within the League who, in the opinion of the field, Boundary or Goal Umpire, Emergency Umpire, Board Members or AFL Barwon Officer, behave in an offensive manner by spoken remarks, or openly incite players on the field to play in a manner not conducive to the best interests of the game, or are the cause of any disturbance between onlookers, will render the Club to which they belong liable to appear before the Board Members or Tribunal who will have the power after dealing with the case to impose a special fine, suspend or expel such Club from the League. They can also be subject to the E-Points process where applicable.

24. Second Senior Female Team Entry 90% Rule

Clubs wishing to enter a Second Senior Female Team, must have a minimum of 90% suitably aged, registered players at their club.

Players must meet one of the below criteria to be considered inside the 90%:

1. Are new to the game and have not played before.
2. Registered at the same community club in the previous season.
3. Transferred to the community club from outside the AFL Barwon region in the current season.
4. Are a home-grown player. The definition of a home-grown player is:
 - Player who has played 40 or more games over a minimum of 3 seasons at the aligned junior club up to and including U19 Competition: or
 - Player who has played a minimum of 5 games in each of any 5 consecutive seasons for the club or the aligned junior club up to and including Under 19's or
 - A player who has played only at that Community Club or an aligned junior club, and for no other Community Club; or
 - A player who has not played Competitive Football in the previous 36 months.

If a club is wanting to enter a Second Senior Female Team and is under the 90% requirement, penalties will be applied to the Total Team Points of the club's first team. The Total Team Points will be reduced on a sliding scale with 1 point being deducted from the Total Team Points for every 3% below the 90%.

The sliding scale is as follows:

- 89.9% - 87% - 1 - point reduction
- 86.9% - 84% - 2 - point reduction
- 83.9% - 81% - 3 - point reduction
- 80.9% - 80% - 4 - point reduction

If a club's list represents less than 80% who meet the criteria for inclusion, they will not be permitted to enter a 2nd team in that season.

Clubs are required to submit their playing lists to the AFL Barwon Operations Department with all players on the list registered on the membership database no later than 14 days before that club's first Match in each Football Year. Clubs must advise AFL Barwon of any registrations received after this date so individual player points can be entered and amendments to the club's 90% status can be made where a 2nd team has been entered.

Rules & Regulations	Senior Female
Players on Field	Div 1 & 2 – 16 (4 on bench)
All other Divisions – 16 (max 7 on bench)	14
Minimum Players	14
Maximum ground size / use of zones	Full Size
Match length	4 x 20 min
Breaks	5 min; 10 min; 5 min
Competition details	Scoring, ladders & finals permitted. Recording of best players and goal kickers permitted. Representative teams permitted.
Contact	Tackling is permitted as per the Laws of Australian Football.
Ball size	Leather size 4
(AFL approved Branding)	Sideline
Umpiring	2 field (Appointed), 2 goal (club)
Coaching position	Sideline
Bounces	Unlimited
Marking	A mark is awarded when a player catches the ball directly from another player's kick that has travelled at least 15 metres.
Out of Bounds	Last Disposal Rule
Kick off the ground	Permitted
Stealing, smothering, shepherding, barging	Permitted as per Laws of the Game.
Penalties	50m penalty can be applied at the umpire's discretion if they feel a player has been hindered in any way. Players can be ordered off at the umpire's desecration.

25. Delayed and Incomplete Matches

In the event that a Match is unable to commence, or subject to a delay for reasons beyond control of either team (e.g. Weather), clubs and officials are to refer to the AFL Victoria Extreme Weather Policy in conjunction with Law 11 in the Laws of Australian Football.

<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/general-resources/policies-forms/policies>



JUNIOR FOOTBALL

AFL BARWON JUNIOR FOOTBALL

To be read in conjunction with the 2026 AFL Victoria Country Handbook and 2026 AFL Barwon Handbook. The information contained in this document may be subject to change without notice.

To the knowledge of AFL Barwon all information was accurate as at the time of printing.

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AFL BARWON JUNIOR FOOTBALL RULES

AFL Barwon Junior Football acts under the rules and constitution of AFL Barwon, but also operates special rules for clubs, which are essential for the operation of Junior Football. These rules must be read in conjunction with:

- Laws of Australian Football (Refer to link in Law 1 of Senior & Under 18 Male Competition section).
- AFL Barwon By Laws.
- AFL Victoria Rules and Regulations as published in the AFL Victoria Handbook each year or as amended by notification from AFL Victoria after the printing of the AFL Victoria Handbook: <https://play.afl/learning-resources/victoria>

Please refer to the AFL Barwon Football & Netball Bylaws regarding the rulings on the following:

- Player Transfers and Appeals
- Tribunal
- Investigations
- Payment of Accounts

AFL Barwon Junior Football offers clubs age groups of Under 9, 10, 12, 14, mixed and Under 16 Male and Under 9, 10, 12, 14 and 17 Female.

Please note that competition rules relating to AFL Barwon's Under 18 Male Football Competitions can be found in the 'Senior Male & Under 18 Competition Rules' section.

COMPETITION RULES

1. Registrations

Every player must be a registered member of their club and approved by that club committee. All players must be registered with AFL Barwon Junior Football before playing.

All initial registrations must be accompanied by suitable proof of age documents. A copy of such documentation must be retained by the club and provided to AFL Barwon Junior Football if requested prior to the player participating in another game.

Fine: Any player who plays without being registered for the 2026 (current) season will be fined \$100 per player and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

2. Age Groups

A player must be 7 years of age by April 30th of the current season (AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Ruling).

To be eligible for an age group, a player must be born on or after 1st January of the listed year on the table below.

Age Group	Year of Birth
Minimum	Born on or before 30/04/2019
Under 9's	2017
Under 10's	2016
Under 12's	2014
Under 14's	2012
Under 16's	2010
Under 17's - Female	2009
Under 18's - Male	2008
Under 18's - Male	2007

2.1 Junior Team Entries

- 2.1.1** Clubs with one team entered in an age group must have at least 14 suitably aged players registered 14 days prior to first round of grading to allow the fixture to be completed.
- 2.1.2** Clubs wishing to enter a 2nd Team in an age group, must have a minimum of 40 suitably aged players registered 14 days prior to the first round of grading.
- 2.1.3** Clubs wishing to enter a 3rd Team in an age group, must have a minimum of 70 suitably aged players registered 14 days prior to the first round of grading.
- 2.1.4** Clubs wishing to enter a 4th Team in an age group, must have a minimum of 100 suitably aged players registered 14 days prior to the first round of grading.
- 2.1.5** Clubs may only enter a maximum of 4 teams in the under 14 or Under 16 age group.

Note: A maximum of 5 teams is permissible in Under 12s and below competitions.

3. **Overage Permits**

Requests for Overage Permits will only be considered for any Underage Competitions according to the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy as deemed appropriate by the AFL Barwon Permits Panel. <https://play.afl/sites/default/files/2023-10/age-dispensation-policy.pdf>

Fine: Any team found to have played an overage player without approval in writing by AFL Barwon will lose any match points and percentage and will be liable for a fine as deemed suitable by the AFL Barwon Board Members. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

4. **Coaches**

All coaches of AFL Vic Country clubs are required to obtain or update Foundation Level Accreditation on Coach.AFL prior to the commencement of the season. (Link for this can be found in Law 13.1 of the All Abilities section). All coaches must be able to be selected on the electronic version of the team sheet and cannot be 'written on'.

Coaches are to be seated in the Coaches' Box or if standing, stand directly in front of the Coaches' Box behind the marked white line positioned between the coach's box and the boundary line. Only team managers, trainers, water carriers and runners are allowed inside the playing arena. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that all spectators are behind the boundary fence. All coaches are to have read the 'Junior Coaches' Code of Conduct', link to this below:

<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/images/documents/Policies/Jun-Coaches-CoD.pdf>

Fine: Any coach who coaches without being registered for the 2026 (current) season will be fined \$100 per match and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

5. **Umpires**

Every attempt will be made to provide Appointed AFL Barwon Field Umpire/s for Under 14, 16 & 18 male and Under 14, & 17 female games. The home club is to notify the league where appointed AFL Barwon umpire/s have not attended for Under 14, 16, 18 Male & 14, Under 14, 17 Female games.

Where clubs are required to provide umpires, please note the following:

- Ensure that **two escorts** are provided for the umpires (one from each competing club) at half and full time. The club runners are to perform this important function as they are clearly identified, and they must escort the umpires to their rooms unless instructed otherwise by the umpires.
- Where the club is the home club, offer umpires cool drinks between each quarter.
- Remain in the centre of the ground with the umpires during quarter time and three-quarter time breaks;
- All club Field and Goal Umpires must be a senior and mature person and be wearing appropriate attire. (i.e. AFL Barwon Junior Football umpire's top and White Goal Umpires Coat). Both the home and away teams must each supply 1 Field Umpire. (Links to these below).

<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/umpire>

<https://play.afl/become-an-umpire>

- In the event there is only 1 appointed AFL Barwon Field Umpire the home club is expected to supply a second Club field umpire.

Umpires will be instructed to check players, runners and trainers in all grades to ensure that they are not wearing rings or jewellery that could be regarded as a danger to other participants. Plaster casts and injury protection type equipment will have to pass the umpire's inspection before being passed for use. Clubs should seek approval from AFL Barwon prior to this and present this proof to the field umpire prior to the game commencing, the field umpire will have final authority keeping in mind of player safety in all instances.

Ensure that all people within the playing area are Authorised to be there. These must be included on the team sheet. It will be within the authority of any official of the AFL Barwon Football Umpires Department to order anyone off the ground who is not clearly identified. This includes players, trainers, runners, water carriers and medical staff.

Umpires have been instructed that no game is to commence without a stretcher provided in or near the coach's box.

Note: Separate change rooms and shower facilities for the umpires are preferable.

AFL Barwon - Coaching Box White Card Policy

Where a field umpire(s) hears or observes any unacceptable behaviour emanating from the Coaching Box, a three-phase system, as summarised in Table 2, will be undertaken by the Field Umpire(s) via the use of white and red cards to stop such behaviours in 'real time'

Table 2 – Three Phase System

Phase	Action Overview
<i>Phase 1</i>	<i>Play immediately stopped. A free kick awarded against the offending team. A first warning (white card) shown to the offending team's Coach.</i>
<i>Phase 2</i>	<i>Play immediately stopped. A free kick and 50m penalty awarded against the offending team. A second warning (white card) shown to the offending team's Coach.</i>
<i>Phase 3</i>	<i>Play immediately stopped. A free kick and 100m penalty awarded against the offending team and a RED Card (ejection from Match) issued to the Coach.</i>

6. Number of Players

There is a maximum of 23 players allowed to be on the team sheet for Under 12, 14 & 16 male and Under 14 & 17 female games. The maximum of 23 players allowed to be on the team sheet does not differ for finals.

There is no maximum number of players for Under 9's, 10's, and Under 10 & 12's female. AFL Barwon does strongly suggest that clubs have a due diligence to the children in ensuring they are all given similar playing time.

The minimum number of players allowable is fourteen (14) to constitute a game in Under 12, 14 & 16 male and Under 14 & 17 female age groups. If a team has less than 14 players in these age groups, then that team shall forfeit the game. Game points will be awarded to the opposition team. Under agreement from both coaches, it is acceptable that the teams stage a 'no-play for points' game.

All competitive female junior age groups (U14 & U17) are deemed to be a 16 per side competition with a maximum of 23 players and a minimum of 14 players. If either side has less than 16, both teams must comply with the loaning of players as stated below. If both sides have 20 or more players on the day, then both teams will play with 18 players on the field.

If both teams start with 16 on the field and one team is reduced to 15 players on the field due to player injury, illness or extraordinary circumstances, the other team is **not** required to also play with only 15 players on the field.

6.1 Player Loaning & No Score Games

In Under 9's, 10's, and Under 10 & 12's female the minimum number of players allowable to constitute a game is 12. However, under an agreement from both coaches, it is acceptable that the teams stage a **"game with no scores"**.

Where a team has the minimum number of players to start a match but not a full team (excluding bench), the team with the numerical advantage **must** either "loan" players to the opposition or play with an equal number of players on the field unless:

- A loan is offered but after evening up numbers there are still excess players [BB30.1] in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play with one extra player; or
- The team with the numerical advantage only has one extra player than the opposition in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play with that extra player; or
- The team with minimum numbers refuses to accept "loan" players in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play at full strength.

Note: Team Managers and Umpires are required to sign off on player numbers on the competition match report prior to the match commencing. Loaned players must appear on the team sheet of the team for which they are playing. A matchday permit should be approved to allow them to be selected on the Play HQ team sheet. **Loaning of players is not permitted in any finals game.**

Example 1: Junior Male

Team A has 23 players – Team B has 16 players:

1. Team A refuses to loan players: Both Teams play with 16 on the field.
2. Team B refuses to accept loaned players: Team A plays with 18 on the field and Team B plays with 16 on the field.
3. A loan is facilitated: Team A & Team B both play with 18 on the field with bench players allocated on agreement.

Example 1		Team A Refuses	Team B Refuses	Loaned
	Available	Field	Field	Field
Team A	23	16	18	18
Team B	16	16	16	18

Example 2: Junior Male

Team A has 21 players – Team B has 14 players:

1. Team A refuses to loan players: Both Teams play with 14 on the field.
2. Team B refuses to accept loaned players: Team plays with 18 on the field and Team B plays with 14 on the field.
3. A loan is facilitated: Team A plays with 18 on the field. Team B plays with 17 on the field.

Example 3		Team A Refuses	Team B Refuses	Loaned
	Available	Field	Field	Field
Team A	21	14	18	18
Team B	14	14	14	17

Example 3: Junior Female

Team A has 18 players and Team B has 14:

- If Team A refuses the loan, then both teams will play with 14 on the field.
- If Team B refuses the loan, then Team A plays with 16 on the field and team B plays with 14.
- A loan is facilitated: Team A & Team B both play with 16 on the field with bench players allocated on agreement.

Example 4		Team A Refuses	Team B Refuses	Loaned
	Available	Field	Field	Field
Team A	18	14	16	16
Team B	14	14	14	16

Example 4: Junior Female

Team A has 19 players and Team B 15 players:

- If Team A refuses the loan, then both teams will play with 15 on the field.
- If Team B refuses the loan, then team A will play with 16 on the field and team B will play with 15 on the field.
- A loan is facilitated: Team A plays with 16 on the field and 2 on the bench, Team B plays with 16 on the field and none on the bench.

Example 4		Team A Refuses	Team B Refuses	Loaned
	Available	Field	Field	Field
Team A	19	15	16	16
Team B	15	15	15	16

Fine: Any club who plays in excess of the maximum players will be fined \$100 per match and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

7. Order Off Rule

A player ordered from the ground **shall not be replaced** in all age groups.

Depending on the severity of the offence, the field umpire can order a player off for the following:

1. 15 minutes of playing time and not be reported. (Yellow card).
2. 15 minutes of playing time and be reported. (Yellow card).
3. **Reported.** (Red card) Ordered off the ground for the remainder of the match. This player may be replaced after 20 minutes of playing time.
 - (i) Any player who is ordered off three times during the season will receive an automatic suspension of one game in home and away or finals matches. A player who is ordered off for a fourth time during the current season will face the AFL Barwon Tribunal whose decision will be binding.
 - (ii) A current player report pad is to be placed in the umpire's room at the beginning of the day and left there for the duration of the day's games. Umpires also can use the Online Report within their Match Report through Officials HQ (OHQ)
 - (iii) If a report is made, a copy of the report must be scanned/photo taken and emailed or sent via SMS through by the home club to the AFL Barwon Head of Football (sarah.naylor@aflbarwon.com.au // 0473 913 011), no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. Required Information includes: Reported player, Offended player (if applicable), Reporting umpire, alleged offence, if a tribunal is required. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope, regardless of whether a set sanction has been accepted or not.

Note: Variation to AFL Vic Country Rule 12.2:

If after the game the reporting umpire doesn't indicate that the offence warrants a tribunal hearing, the offending player can choose to accept the prescribed penalty by the Match Review Panel (MRP). They can also delay this decision until 10am the first working day following being informed of set sanction at the latest. If no decision is informed by the offending player, the prescribed penalty will be applied.

The AFL Barwon Head of Football, Reporting Umpire, Offending Player and the Offended Player's club secretary all have until noon the first working day following the incident to confirm that they wish the matter to be heard by a tribunal. If one party initially chooses the prescribed penalty, they can change their decision within the time frame.

Once one of the above parties indicates the matter should be heard at tribunal, the prescribed penalty will not be an option. If there is no official indication within the designated timeframe that a tribunal is required, the relevant prescribed penalty will be applied.

Notification must be made to the Tribunal Secretary or nominated representative. Clubs wishing to change venue and/or starting times shall forward their request to the AFL Barwon Head of Football (sarah.naylor@aflbarwon.com.au // 0473 913 011) by the Monday prior to the fixture game following agreement established with the opposition team. During the grading period, clubs have 24 hours from the release time of the fixture to request a change of venue and/or starting times for that round.

Note: AFL Barwon will communicate with AFL Barwon Umpiring Department and confirm the outcome with the club that forwarded the request. Venues and start times of four game fixtures cannot be altered.

8. Grounds and Fixture Requests

Clubs can submit fixture requests for the season at the time of team entry. We'll endeavour to achieve these where possible.

During the season, fixture requests will need to be received prior to 5pm Tuesday of upcoming weeks matches for it to be actioned. These fixture requests will only be considered under the following circumstances:

- Ground unavailability/weather affected.
- Significant player unavailability.
- Communication already made and agreed to by opposition Junior Coordinator.
- Availability of appointed AFL Barwon Umpires cannot be guaranteed.

9. Footballs

All match day football must be purchased from AFL Barwon and have the correct badging for each particular age group. For match day, the home team before each match must provide two footballs in good condition. The first named team in the fixture or the home team will ensure a football in good condition is provided for the match. Red footballs must be used for games played during the day and yellow footballs for twilight or night matches. The following is a list of the football sizes for each age group.

<i>Under 18 Male</i>	<i>Size 5 Leather</i>
<i>Under 17 Female</i>	<i>Size 4 Leather</i>
<i>Under 16 Male</i>	<i>Size 5 Leather</i>
<i>Under 14 Female</i>	<i>Size 4 Synthetic</i>
<i>Under 14 Mixed</i>	<i>Size 4 Leather</i>
<i>Under 12 Female</i>	<i>Size 3 Synthetic</i>
<i>Under 12 Mixed</i>	<i>Size 3 Synthetic</i>
<i>Under 10 Mixed</i>	<i>Size 3 Synthetic</i>
<i>Under 10 Female</i>	<i>Size 2 Synthetic</i>
<i>Under 9 Mixed</i>	<i>Size 2 Synthetic</i>

All football branding across Community Football leagues in Victoria is to carry the WorkSafe logo on one panel. More information on the branding requirements can be found in the AFL Barwon On-Field Branding Guide which has a link in Law 7.1 of the Senior & Under 18 Male Competition section.

10. Team Uniform

Player Apparel & Permissions

Shorts

All players must only wear appropriate AFL VICTORIA club coloured shorts. Thermal or support shorts must be neutral, black or beige in colour. Strictly no full-length compression

tights or pants are to be worn. (Medical, cultural or religious exemptions may apply)

Jumpers

- The teams of each member club shall wear their registered club coloured jumpers, adhering to the **AFL Barwon On-Field Branding Guide** at all games. The only permitted undergarment is another full-length same club coloured playing jumper (No hoodies).
- No player will be permitted to compete in any official league match without a number on the back of their jumper. Each number shall be a whole number greater than zero with a maximum of three digits. No two players in the one team shall have the same number.
- Where it is necessary for a player to change jumpers during a match, the field umpire shall immediately be notified of the change of jumper number. Such change must also immediately be recorded on the official team sheet by the Team Manager.

Note: Players are permitted to wear a long sleeve shirt under their guernsey if a long sleeve guernsey is not available. Long sleeve shirts worn must match the team uniform and fit firmly to the player's arms.

Gloves

Gloves are **banned** in all AFL VICTORIA underage competitions unless they are required to be worn for medical reasons. In such incidents, a medical certificate must be furnished to the Football Operations Coordinator for validation and approval. Team Managers are to present certificates to the opposing team manager and umpires prior to each game. Please read the 'Junior Players' Code of Conduct' in the back of the book.

Glasses

Players who wish to wear spectacles during Matches and training sessions should wear spectacles with plastic frames and plastic lenses. A band must also hold the spectacles on securely.

Uniform Clash

Away clubs are responsible to obtain alternative playing strips if there is a clashing of playing uniform strips for all home and away games and finals. For the purposes of finals, the lower positioned team is deemed to be the away team. Alternative guernsey's are obtainable through the Coaches Resource Centre at Highton Reserve.

Please contact any of the Football Development Managers at least four days prior to the game to book the guernsey's.

Recognised clashes are:

- Torquay, Grovedale, St Josephs, Bannockburn, Colac, Drysdale, Inverleigh
- Queenscliff, South Barwon, Portarlington, Bell Post Hill.
- South Barwon, North Shore,
- Corio, Ocean Grove, Surf Coast
- Leopold, Geelong Amateur
- St Albans, Winchelsea, Anakie, Portarlington
- Belmont, East Geelong, Newcomb, Modewarre
- Geelong Amateur, Newcomb
- Newtown & Chilwell, St Josephs

Note: If any other clashes are identified, please follow the above steps.



Branding

All playing jumpers and shorts must carry logos as specified by the AFL Victoria Country rules and AFL Barwon Clubs must formally request the Board Members's approval to display sponsorship logos on Club jumpers. The request must include details such as size and positioning which are outlined in the AFL Barwon On-Field Branding Guide ([Link to resource in Law 7.1 of Senior & Under 18 Male Football Competition section](#)).
Penalty: \$10 per garment for players wearing unAuthorised or incorrect uniform.



11. Facilities

For any matches played within an AFL Barwon or affiliated competition the home club are to:

1. Ensure goal posts are correctly padded.
2. Ensure goal posts have flag holders.
3. Ensure all time clocks have been checked prior to the start of the season.
4. Ensure responsible people operate scoreboards and that the scores can be seen at all times. Attendants are to be instructed not to obscure the viewing of the scoreboard.
(There is to be no scoreboard in operation for any games of Under 12's, 10's and 9's)
5. Ensure that stretchers are in or near the coaches' box and that the opposition is notified of its location.
6. Notify the field umpire where the spare football will be located.
7. Ensure grounds are marked correctly.
8. Ensure that Interchange stewards remain at their post for the duration of the entire game. This may mean that adequate shelter is to be provided.

12. Officials

Team officials should consist of coaches, team manager, runner, trainers, boundary umpire, goal umpire, timekeeper, interchange steward and water persons. All team officials shall be clearly marked on the team sheet. It is compulsory that the home club provides an interchange steward and the interchange sheet. Only personnel named on the team sheet are able to be on the playing side of the fence whilst the game is in progress. The officiating umpires have the jurisdiction to police this and can pause the game until the non-permitted personnel move.

Note: It is Government legislation that all team officials engaged in activities where they are likely to work alone with children require a **Working with Children Check** prior to the commencement of the season. Clubs should keep a log of all club members with a Working with Children Check.

In AFL Barwon Junior Football Leagues, the maximum number of officials per team is:

- Three (3) coaches.
- One (1) team runner (No Runners allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's & Under 10, 12 Female Competitions).
- Two (2) trainers.
- Three (3) Water-Carriers (No Runners allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's & Under 10, 12 Female Competitions).

All on field officials must be identifiable in the correct AFL Barwon approved attire.

Club goal umpires and runners are not to become involved in melees or handling of players.

Fines and suspensions will apply.

13. Fines

In all age groups, maximum fines will be as follows:

Non-attendance at meetings or official functions	\$100
Forfeit prior to season	\$100 (Max)
Forfeit during season	\$500 (Max)
Forfeit during a match	\$1000 (Max)
Incorrect playing apparel	\$10/garment
No or late Results Entry	\$100
Incorrect Results Entry	\$50
Late start	\$40
No ground marking	\$30
No goal post padding	\$50
No Umpires' escort	\$50
No all-clear	\$50
No Timekeeper	\$50
No or late Match Envelope	\$100
Relevant paperwork not included in Match Envelope	\$25/Item
No notification of Player Report	\$100
Non-appearance at Tribunal	\$150
Substandard or non-approved footballs	\$100
No Goal Umpires	\$50
Incorrect attire for Goal Umpires	\$50
Player not on team sheet: loss of Match Points and	\$100
Coach not selected electronically on team sheet: Loss of Match Points and	\$100
Club representatives are not to speak to media about Junior Football	\$500
Incorrect Runner attire	\$50
Too many people in field of play and/or not on team sheet	\$100
Code of Conduct poster not displayed in rooms	\$50
Bringing the game into disrepute	\$ Discretion of AFL Barwon Board Members

14. Times of Play

- Under 9 Mixed - Matches will be 4 x 12-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.
- Under 10 Mixed - Matches will be 4 x 12-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.
- Under 10 Female - Matches will be 4 x 12-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.
- Under 12 Mixed - Matches will be 4 x 15-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.
- Under 12 Female - Matches will be 4 x 15-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.
- Under 14 Mixed - Matches will be 4 x 15-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 10 mins & 3 mins.
- Under 14 Female - Matches will be 4 x 15-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 10 mins & 3 mins.
- Under 16 Male - Matches will be 4 x 18-minute quarters with breaks of 5 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.
- Under 17 Female - Matches will be 4 x 18-minute quarters with breaks of 5 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.
- Under 18 Male - Matches will be 4 x 20-minute quarters with breaks of 5 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.
- Under 18 Female - Matches will be 4 x 18-minute quarters with breaks of 5 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.

15. Team Managers

The team managers' duties are to prepare and handle all match day paperwork with reference to the following:

1. The home team manager is responsible for the team sheet (These are to be constructed using the online facility and presented to the umpires prior to the commencement of the game), results entry, umpire's report, match day checklist, scorecards and timekeeper's cards, goal kickers, best players and the match day envelope. A current reporting of players pad must be placed in the umpires' room prior to commencement of the play.
2. The away side team manager is responsible for their team sheet and this should be given to the umpires prior to the start of the match. The paperwork for best players and goal kickers is to be forwarded to the home team manager at the earliest opportunity after the conclusion of the match. Players that were listed on the team sheet but did not play, need to be removed from the team sheet.
3. During the Finals series, a ground manager will be appointed to coordinate and distribute the relevant paperwork to the respective team managers as required. All communication relating to match details in Finals, including the Reporting of players is to be directed through the Ground Manager.

16. Match Day Paperwork

Results are to be submitted by the home club via Play HQ online web site no later than 6pm on the day the match is played and must contain correct scores as per Goal Umpires Cards, accurate best players and goal kickers for both competing teams. The home team manager is required to make the relevant changes to the team sheets for both teams. Players that were listed on the team sheet but did not play need to be deleted from the team sheet by the home team manager.

Penalty: \$100 for information not being entered by the required time, \$50 for incorrect details.

If online Matchday Reporting is not undertaken by the officiating umpires:

- The home side is required to send details of any players reported via the Report of Umpires. A copy of the report must be scanned and emailed through by the home club to the Football Operations Coordinator, no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. If a scanner is not

available, the home club must email the report details to the Football Operations Coordinator within the same time frame. Match Day envelope is required by 10.30am Monday at AFL Barwon Offices. **Penalty: \$100.**

Note: The above duties will be performed by the appointed Ground Manager during the Finals Series. All clubs are to receive the “all clear” to confirm any potential player reports and pick up match report, score cards and Best and Fairest envelope from the field umpire or AFL Barwon appointed Ground Manager during Finals Series.

U14, U16 & U18's Male & U14, U17's Female		
2	Team sheets – Original	Produced using the Play HQ Database, signed and handed to umpire.
1 or more	Interchange Sheet	signed by interchange steward.
2	Goal Umpire cards	signed by both goal umpires and central umpire.
2	Timekeepers cards	signed by both timekeepers and central umpire.
1	Umpires Report	signed by all Field umpire/s officiating.
1	Best & Fairest envelope	completed and sealed by Field umpires.
	Player Reports	original copy of reports of players.
9's, 10's, 12's mixed and 10's & 12's Female		
1	Umpires Report	signed by all Field umpire/s officiating
2	Team sheets – Original	Produced using the PlayHQ Database signed and handed to umpire
2	Goal Umpire cards	Signed by both goal umpires and Field umpire

\$25 Fine for each document not submitted.

All clubs are to receive the “all clear” to confirm any potential player reports and pick up match report, score cards and Best and Fairest envelope from the field umpire or AFL Barwon appointed Ground Manager during Finals Series.

17. Runners

Runners must be in an approved AFL Barwon vest stating “Runner” on the back and black track suit pants or shorts as their uniform dress. **Nominated Team Coaches and/or Club Senior Coaches must not act as runners.** There must be only 1 team runner allowed in AFL Barwon Junior Football. There are no Runners allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's and Under 10 & 12 female.

- Runners are permitted to convey messages with two players only each time the runner enters the playing arena.
- Runners found to be coaching on the field will be sent from the field, repeat occurrences may result in the runner being sent from the ground for the remainder of the game and may be reported for misconduct and cannot be replaced.
- Field umpires may award free kicks against runners if in their opinion are coaching or interfering in the game, this includes not following the direction of an umpire at any time during the game as per Laws of Australian Football.

- Club runners are not to become involved in melees or handling of players. Fines and suspensions may apply.

18. Trainers

- Trainers / Medical Staff must be in a white top and white, navy blue or black pants or shorts. The top must bear the Club name, the word "trainer" and a number (trainers to be numbered 1 – 4). There is a maximum of two (2) trainers for all junior football.
- They are not to become involved in melees or handling of players. Fines and suspensions may apply.
- Trainers found to be coaching on the field will be sent from the field, repeat occurrences may result in the trainer being sent from the ground for the remainder of the game and may be reported for misconduct and can be replaced by a qualified trainer only.
- Trainers found to be coaching on the field will be sent from the field, repeat occurrences may result in the trainer being sent from the ground for the remainder of the game and may be reported for misconduct and can be replaced by a qualified trainer only.
- Field umpires may award free kicks against trainers if in their opinion are coaching or interfering in the game, this includes not following the direction of an umpire at any time during the game as per Laws of Australian Football.
- Any suspended player cannot act as a trainer or runner. No person who is a registered player or an official of any club, other than their home club whether affiliated or not, nor who is under disqualification or suspension by their home club or League shall act as an official runner in any competition match, or any other match in which AFL Victoria affiliated club or league is participating. Any club, which infringes this rule, shall automatically forfeit the match, provided an Independent Tribunal sustains the charge.
- Field umpires must allow trainers to do their duties in relation to an injured player.

Note: An injured player cannot act as a trainer unless that player has a trainer's qualification

19. Water Carriers

Water-Carriers must wear AFL Barwon light blue bibs that are numbered with numbers 5, 6 or 7 (numbers must not be duplicated). Umpires have been instructed to send off any officials not correctly attired. There is a maximum of 3 Water-Carriers permitted for all junior football.

- Water-Carriers must be over the age of 12 years of age for Under 14, 16 & 18 male and Under 14 & 17 female. There are no Water-Carriers allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's, Under 12's or Under 10 & Under 12 female.
- They must also only attend a maximum of three (3) players at any one time on entering the field.
- Water-Carriers found to be coaching on the field will be sent from the field, repeat occurrences may result in the Water-Carrier being sent from the ground for the remainder of the game and may be reported for misconduct and cannot be replaced.
- Field umpires may award free kicks against Water-Carriers if in their opinion are coaching or interfering in the game, this includes not following the direction of an umpire at any time during the game as per Laws of Australian Football.

20. Interchange Steward

The home club is to provide an interchange steward for the entire game. Paperwork is to be provided by home club. The responsibilities of the interchange steward are outlined in AFL Laws of the Game Rule 7. The Interchange Steward will record the jumper numbers of players who commence on the interchange bench at the commencement of each quarter. It is the responsibility of team managers from both competing Clubs to notify the appointed Interchange Steward of the jumper numbers of players on the interchange bench at the commencement of the game and then at the end of each quarter break. There is no requirement for an interchange steward in Under 9's, Under 10's, Under 12's or Under 12 females.

21. Timekeepers

The timekeeper must record starting and finishing times of quarters on the scorecards. They must also record times of players being sent off the ground (on departure and re-entry to the ground). Time clocks should only be stopped when the stretcher enters the playing arena, a head count is taking place, blood rule or a player has been sent off. Scorecards must also correspond.

22. Goal Umpire

The Goal Umpire must be a minimum of twelve (12) years old, be attired in a white coat or approved AFL Barwon umpiring uniform and must have flags.

23. Boundary Umpires & Last Disposal Rule

In all AFL Barwon Junior competitions, the following "Last Disposal" rule will apply as an interpretation adoption to the Laws of the Game.

- Any kicks or handballs of the football over the Boundary Line, in between the two 50m arcs, without the football being touched by another player will result in a Free Kick to the opposing team. This includes if the ball goes out on the intersection of the 50m Line and Boundary Line. (i.e., if ball crosses over on the 50m Line, it will be paid as last disposal).
- A kick shall be defined as per AFL Laws of the game – the ball comes off the players foot and below the knee. of a player without the intent of the player being to kick the ball, it will be deemed accidental contact and will not be determined as an intentional kick by the umpire. This will result in a ball-up 15 metres in from the Boundary Line.
- In junior home and away from time to time and junior finals matches, AFL Barwon boundary umpires may/will be supplied, however, the season practice will remain in place. In this scenario, if a player does not make a play on the ball, and shepherds the ball out of bounds to receive the free kick, the umpire may call for the ball to be thrown in.

24. Advantage

Advantage is to be called in all Under 14, 16 & 18 male and Under 14 & 17 female games. Where the field Umpire intends to or has signaled that they intend to award a Free Kick to a Player, the field Umpire may, instead of awarding the Free Kick, allow play to continue if a Player of the Team who receives the Free Kick elects to take the advantage.

Advantage is **not to be paid** in Under 9, 10, 12 Male/Mixed & Female Football Competitions.

25. Eligibility for Home & Away Games

Multiple Teams in the same Age Group

1. In AFL Barwon Junior Football a player can only play ONE game in a particular age group per weekend (including Friday night).

A player cannot play in both a non-competitive mixed and female competition game in the same weekend (i.e. A participant cannot play in an Under 12 Mixed game and an Under 12 Female game in the same weekend).

Where clubs have multiple teams entered in the same age group, a player may be selected for a home & away game in their lower graded team only if they have played 8 or less games in the higher graded team during the current season (inclusive of grading matches).

Further, where a club has more than 2 teams entered in the same age group, a player may only be selected to play in their next lower graded team.

e.g. A club with 3 teams entered in an age group Div 1, Div 3 & Div 5, a player who most recently played in Div 1 can only play the next round in Div 3, but not Div 5.

26. Eligibility for Finals

1. A player must play at least three (3) AFL Barwon Junior Football games in a particular age group with their club to play in a finals game in that age group.
2. For the purpose of eligibility to play with a particular team in AFL Barwon Junior Football Finals, a player who has played in a higher grade/division must play at least six (6) games in lower grades/age groups to be eligible to play in finals with a lower graded team.
3. Furthermore, any player who has played more than half the season with a higher grade or division is ineligible to play in the lesser grade of AFL Barwon Junior Football finals.
4. Should a player qualify to represent more than one team, AFL Barwon Junior Football has clarified that players may only play in one final on the same weekend, regardless of division, gender of competition and/or age group.
5. To be eligible to play in a particular team during the finals series a player must meet the requirements of 26.1, 26.2 and 26.3. Regardless of the participation in finals of any other teams from their club on that weekend.
6. For further clarification, eligibility for finals is determined by the number of games played during the home & away season, inclusive of grading games.

Higher grade/division definition: Any match played in a higher graded division or older age group or a representative competition will be deemed as a higher grade/division match and the player will need to meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the above Eligibility for Season/Finals to be eligible for the lower grade/division during finals.

Penalty: \$100 and loss of match points.

27. Extra Time in Finals

1. There will be no drawn games in any finals. In the case of equal scores at the end of scheduled time, the teams will play two (2) five (5) minute periods. The match will recommence with the team kicking to the same end as they were in the last scheduled quarter, with an immediate change of ends at the conclusion of the first extra time period.
2. Coaches are permitted to address players at the conclusion of the fourth quarter. Players must be in position to recommence the game prior to the goal umpires returning to their position.
3. In the event of scores still being tied at the conclusion of these periods of extra time once confirmed by the goal umpires, play will recommence (without change of ends) and the team to score first will be the winner.

28 Delayed and Incomplete Matches

In the event that a Match is unable to commence, or subject to a delay for reasons beyond control of either team (e.g. Weather), clubs and officials are to refer to the AFL Victoria Extreme Weather Policy in conjunction with Law 11 in the Laws of Australian Football.

<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/general-resources/policies-forms/policies>

AFL BARWON JUNIOR CODES OF CONDUCT



Coaches



Players



Parents/Spectators



Cyber Safety



ALL ABILITIES

AFL BARWON ALL ABILITIES FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

Please refer to the AFL Barwon Football & Netball Bylaws for the rulings on the following:

- Player Transfers and Appeals
- Tribunal
- Investigations
- Payment of Accounts

AFL BARWON ALL ABILITIES FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

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1. Conditions of Registration

1.1. Player Eligibility Criteria

AFL Barwon has developed two levels of Player Eligibility for AFL Barwon All Abilities Competition. The two levels of Player Eligibility will be designated ELIGIBLE (E) and ALLOWED (A), based on the requirements for participation at the National Inclusion Carnival.

These changes do not affect the minimum requirements for participation within the League, as the existing criteria is still in place. Furthermore, the opportunity exists for Players to seek an EXEMPTION (X). These changes will allow AFL Barwon to have a better understanding of the nature of the participants involved, streamline data collection and classification more broadly, and ensure that a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all suitable participants is provided.

- a) A Player will be deemed as ELIGIBLE (E), for the purposes of participation in AFL Barwon All Abilities if:
 - i. the participant meets the Sport Inclusion Australia (SIA, formerly AUSRAPID) classification, or can provide evidence of this classification in the past.
 - All new Players are encouraged to seek SIA classification upon registration.
- b) A Player will be classified as ALLOWED (A) for the purposes of participation in the AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition, if:
 - ii. the participant is declined for a SIA classification, and upon reviewing the evidence provided, AFL Barwon determines the Player meets two (2) of the existing AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition Player eligibility requirements:
 - Attendance at a Specialist School.
 - Attendance at a Mainstream School with funded Educational Support under the category of Intellectual Disability in the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) or similar.
 - Proof of Disability Support Pension or NDIS registration under the category of Intellectual Disability.
 - Registration with a Disability Service Provider under the category of Intellectual Disability.
- c) A Club may seek an EXEMPTION (X) for a Player where a participant does not meet the above eligibility requirements but believes AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition provides the most appropriate opportunity for them to participate in a suitable football program.

AFL Barwon may request that the Player provide additional information, or be observed in participation, to determine if the Player is to be granted an AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition Player Exemption to participate. This exemption may only be granted because of:

- Disability and/or impairments restricting participation in other community football programs.

Please Note: the AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition Player Exemption may be revoked if AFL Barwon believes the Player's ability and/or behaviour is not appropriate

to participate within AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition. For more information on submitting an AFL Barwon Player Exemption Form, please contact the AFL Barwon Management to discuss.

All Clubs will be provided with a list of any Players who do not meet the requirements but are granted an EXEMPTION (X) to play by AFL Barwon.

*Players over 40 years of age are required annually to submit a letter from their doctor (Medical Clearance) stating that they are fit to play in the AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competitions. Players over the age of 40 years are INELIGIBLE TO PLAY in the AFL Barwon All Abilities Competitions until such time as their annual Medical Clearance has been submitted to the AFL Barwon.

d) A Player found to be participating but in breach of the AFL Barwon Eligibility Criteria (not found to be either ELIGIBLE (E), ALLOWED (A) or with an EXEMPTION (X)) may see the following penalties applied:

- **Player:** May be disqualified from the competition until they become eligible.
- **Club:** May lose all premiership points from games that player participated in.
- **Management:** The Head of Football Operations may impose additional penalties.

1.2. Player Bound by Rules, Regulations and Policies of the Club, the League and AFL Victoria

By registering to a Club within AFL Barwon, the Player:

a) Agrees that they will comply with and observe the AFL National Member Protection Policy, the Rules, Regulations and Policies of the Club, the League and AFL Victoria as they are presently constituted and as amended from time to time. (Link to pdf below).

<https://www.afl.com.au/clubhelp/match-day-management/policies/afl-member-protection-policy>

b) Acknowledges that they may, with advanced notice, inspect copies of the Rules, Regulations and Policies of the Club, the League or AFL Victoria during normal business hours at the respective offices of those organisations.

c) Acknowledges that their failure to adhere to the Rules, Regulations and Policies of either the Club, the League or AFL Victoria may result in them being de-registered and/or the imposition of other sanctions.

d) Acknowledges that they may, upon request of the Club, League or AFL Victoria, be required to provide proof of age or disability, within 5 working days of the request.

1.3. Assumption of Risk

By registering to a Club within AFL Barwon, the Player acknowledges and agrees that:

a) Australian Football is a vigorous body contact sport in which physical injury may occur from time to time.

b) They are none-the-less desirous of playing Australian Football for the Club.

c) They take upon themselves the risk (both physical and legal) of injury arising while training or participating in the game of Australian Football.

2. Fixturing

AFL Barwon shall be responsible for the determination of the fixturing of Matches. "Clubs desiring to conduct All Abilities league matches on a day or time other than that published by the league in the official fixture may do so providing the following requirements have been satisfied that;

a) both participating clubs agree with the details of the proposed alteration;

b) 14 days' notice in writing requesting approval from the League that the fixture be altered is forwarded to the League office from each club"

3. Football Requirements

It is the responsibility of the host Club to provide one appropriately sized, game ball, new or in good condition - AFL Barwon-approved branded Size 5 synthetic Football.

4. Number of Players Needed to Start Match

The minimum number of players required to commence the game is 12 players. If a team has less than 12 players in these age groups, then that team shall forfeit the game. Game points will be awarded to the opposition team. Under agreement from both coaches, it is acceptable that the teams stage a 'no-play for points' game.

A reduced ground will be utilised if there are 13 or less players per side. The field size would reduce to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the playing surface (suggested 120m Length x 80m Width).

If both teams have 14 or more players, the full ground will be utilised. A maximum of 18 players per side can be on the field at any one time.

Regardless of how many Players each Team has available on Match Day, Teams are required to play with equal numbers, irrespective of Players' skills or ability (e.g., 13 v 13, 16 v 16). Coaches should meet prior to the start of the game to discuss their Player numbers and agree on the number of Players to take the field. Player numbers may be increased if mutually agreed, should additional Players become available.

Where a team has the minimum number of players to start a match but not a full team (excluding bench), a "loan" of players from the team with the numerical advantage may be facilitated. Teams must play with an equal number of players on the field.

Where a team has the minimum number of players to start a match but not a full team (excluding bench), the team with the numerical advantage must either "loan" players to the opposition or play with an equal number of players on the field unless:

- A loan is offered but after evening up numbers there are still excess players in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play with one extra player; or
- The team with the numerical advantage only has one extra player than the opposition in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play with that extra player; or
- The team with minimum numbers refuses to accept "loan" players in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play at full strength.
- Team Managers and Umpires are required to sign off on player numbers on the competition match report prior to the match commencing

There are no restrictions to how many Players can be on the bench.

If there are INJURIES to Players where there is no replacement possible to maintain even numbers, the number of Players on the opposition Team shall be reduced accordingly. Where a player leaves the ground for assessment by First Aid personnel, the opposing team shall not be required to reduce their playing numbers until the decision is made that the injured player cannot continue in the match. Players permanently ruled out of the match because of injury shall not then resume playing in the match. It is incumbent on the Coach of the team with permanently reduced numbers because of injury, to inform the Coach of the opposing team, as soon as practicable, of the situation, and the current numbers available. Failure to do so shall not create precedence for an appeal against the result, nor incur a penalty for the team with greater numbers on the field.

See also *Special Rule 5 ix. and Rule 14. Injuries.*

5. Length of Games

All Matches within AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition will be played with NO TIME ON.

- A Match will consist of four (4), 15-minute quarters

Intervals

- $\frac{1}{4}$ time = 5 minutes
- $\frac{1}{2}$ time = 10 minutes
- $\frac{3}{4}$ time = 5 minutes

TIME OFF will only be implemented should the stretcher or Ambulance be called on the field. In the case of possible severe injury, at the Umpire's discretion, the Umpire may halt play and call for TIME OFF to be implemented, after 5 minutes prior to injury assessment being made by an accredited First Aid provider

6. Special Rules

i. Centre Ball Ups

A Player may not take full possession of the ball at a ball up. The ball must go to another Player or touch the ground before the Player winning the knockout can take possession of the ball.

ii. Field Ball Ups

As with the centre ball ups, a Player may not take full possession of the ball at a ball up. The ball must go to another Player or touch the ground before the Player winning the knockout can take possession of the ball.

iii. Out of Bounds

Should the ball go out of bounds, the Umpire will award a free kick against the Team who had last possession of the ball (Kick or Handball) immediately before it crossed the boundary line. The free kick shall be taken at the point where the ball crossed the boundary line. If the Umpire is unable to determine which Team had possession of the ball last, the Umpire will bring the ball in Fifteen (15) metres in from the boundary line and throw the ball up. For the last touch by hand, the Umpire will bring the ball in Five (5) metres in from the boundary line and throw the ball up.

iv. Marking

A mark is to be paid to a Player who marks the ball from a kick, provided that the kick has travelled at least Fifteen (15) metres and has not been touched in transit.

v. Bouncing the Ball

A Player in possession may bounce the ball a maximum of Two (2) times and then must make a genuine attempt to dispose either by hand or by foot. For the purposes of this law, a Player shall be deemed to be in possession of the football during the period when the Player handballs the football to themselves and regains possession without the football touching the ground or another Player. Similarly, for the purposes of this law, a Player shall be deemed to be in possession of the football during the period when the Player completes a solo (the Gaelic skill where the Player kicks the ball to themselves).

vi. 25 Metre Penalty

In all Conferences, a 25-metre penalty may be applied in addition to a free kick, at the Umpire's discretion.

vii. Mercy Rule (Spirit of the Game)

This means that, at any time in the match, should a Team reach a lead equal to or greater than the set margin (30 Points), the Mercy Rule is activated. In practice, this means that, when the set Mercy Rule margin has been reached, if the Team leading the Match scores a point, the trailing Team will take the kick out from the defensive edge (back) of the centre square. If the Team leading the Match scores a goal, the trailing Team will take possession of the ball in the offensive edge (front) of the centre square, not requiring a ball up to restart play.

Note: If the trailing Team brings the margin back under the set margin, the Mercy Rule is deactivated, and rules will revert to normal.

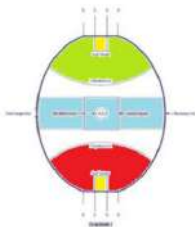
Note: Where a Coach does not take reasonable steps to minimise winning margins more than the Mercy Rule, the offending Club may be subject to sanctions for "bringing the game into disrepute."

Starting Positions

When the Mercy Rule comes into effect during a game, the Team leading the Match shall have not more than one third of their Players inside their defensive 50-metre arc, not more than one third of their Players inside or adjacent to the centre square, and not more than one third of their Players in their forward 50-metre arc. (See diagram 2, right). At least one Player from each Team shall be positioned within both Goal Squares. The Team trailing in the Match shall not have any restrictions on their Starting Positions.

For the removal of doubt, see the table below:

Number of Players on the Field.	Number of Players from leading Team permitted in the defensive 50-metre arc, with at least one Player positioned within the defensive Goal Square.	Number of Players from leading Team permitted inside or adjacent to the centre square.	Number of Players from leading Team permitted in the forward 50-metre arc, with at least one Player positioned within the forward Goal Square.
16	5	5	6
15	5	5	5
14	4	4	4
13	4	4	5
12	4	4	4
11	4	4	4
10	3	3	4



viii. REDUCTION OF PLAYERS

If a Team is reduced to less than the minimum number of Players required to constitute a Match, by reason of a Player(s) being ordered from the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:

viii. REDUCTION OF PLAYERS

If a Team is reduced to less than the minimum number of Players required to constitute a Match, by reason of a Player(s) being ordered from the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:

- a) the Field Umpire may, in their absolute discretion, declare the Match forfeited by the Team with less than the minimum number of Players, in which case Law 11.2 (Forfeiture of Match) shall apply; or
- b) if the Match continues, the Field Umpire shall, as soon as practicable, lodge a written report with AFL Barwon, which contains:
 - i. the circumstances leading to the reduction of Players.
 - ii. the scores of each Team at the time the Field Umpire allowed the Match to continue; and
 - iii. the final score of the Match; and
- c) upon receipt of the written report, AFL Barwon may in its absolute discretion:
 - i. confirm the results of the Match; or
 - ii. determine the Match forfeited by the Team with less than the minimum number of Players, in which case Law 11.2 shall apply.

ix Non-Tackle Players *Definition of a non-tackle player:*

a player within the AFL BARWON competition who cannot be tackled during a game by another player due to a physical or medical condition. The non-tackle player is also not allowed to tackle a player during a game.

The non-tackle play may also have a non-playing approved carer to support the player (but not coach) on the field.

A Non-Tackle Player must:

- Have a doctors certificate to play
- Need to be fit to play AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition

Must wear a 'special' Non-Tackle Player vest

7. Competition Points

- a) Points will be awarded for all Home & Away games in the AFL Barwon All Abilities Leagues.
- b) Win 4 points
Draw 2 Points
Loss 0 Points
Forfeit to 4 Points
Forfeit against 0 points
- c) Percentage will be calculated during the Season, using the formula "Points For divided by Points Against, multiplied by 100". Percentage will be used to determine ladder

positions after each round, and for finals. Where two Teams have the same number of competition points, the Team with the higher percentage shall be positioned higher on the ladder.

- d) Where, for unavoidable reasons, the season is unable to be completed in a competition, the team on top of the ladder, by points and percentage, shall be declared the Premier, providing that each team in the competition has played every other team at least once. In circumstances where not every team has played every other team, the team on top of the ladder by points and percentage, shall be declared the Minor Premier. In both situations, a forfeit shall be considered to have been an opportunity for the forfeiting team to play the team given the forfeit.

8. Drawn Match

In the event of a drawn Home & Away match, each competing side will be awarded two (2) Ladder Points.

9. Finals Eligibility

During the Season, a Player must have played a minimum of three (3) Matches for the Team they wish to represent to be eligible to play in the finals.

During finals, Players are only allowed to play one game per day.

10. Umpires

Umpires Every attempt will be made to provide Appointed AFL Barwon Field Umpire/s for All Abilities Competitions. The home club is to notify the league where appointed AFL Barwon umpire/s have not attended for game.

Where clubs are required to provide umpires, please note the following:

- Ensure that two escorts are provided for the umpires (one from each competing club) at half and full time. The club runners are to perform this important function as they are clearly identified, and they must escort the umpires to their rooms unless instructed otherwise by the umpires.
- Where the club is the home club, offer umpires cool drinks between each quarter;
- Remain in the centre of the ground with the umpires during quarter time and three-quarter time breaks;
- All club Field and Goal Umpires must be a senior and mature person and be wearing appropriate attire. (i.e. AFL Barwon Junior Football umpire's top and White Goal Umpires Coat). Both the home and away teams must each supply 1 Field Umpire.
- In the event there is only 1 appointed AFL Barwon Field Umpire the home club is expected to supply a second Club field umpire.

Umpires will be instructed to check players, runners and trainers in all grades to ensure that they are not wearing any prohibited items as outlined in Law 16. Plaster casts and injury protection type equipment will have to pass the umpire's inspection before being passed for use. Clubs should seek approval from AFL Barwon prior to this and present this proof to the field umpire prior to the game commencing, the field umpire will have final authority keeping in mind of player safety in all instances.

Ensure that all people within the playing area are Authorised to be there. These must be included on the team sheet. It will be within the authority of any official of the AFL Barwon Football Umpires Department to order anyone off the ground who is not clearly identified. This includes players, trainers, runners, water carriers and medical staff.

Umpires have been instructed that no game is to commence without a stretcher provided in or near the coach's box.

Separate change rooms and shower facilities for the umpires are preferable.

11. Team Sheets

11.1 Team sheets must include:

- Registered AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Player entered
- Registered AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Official entered
- Be signed by a Club Official or Captain
- Coach, Captain and Vice-captain should be identified on the team sheet
- Team Sheets will not generate unless an accredited Coach is listed. This coach must be the person present and undertaking the role of coach for that team on the day.
- Numbers opposite names in the Record must be the same as is on the team sheet

11.2 Players Team sheets generated from the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Data Base and web site with the full name and numbers signed by Captain or Club Official responsible are to be handed to the field umpire prior to the commencement of each game. Only players registered with the relevant AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY club are eligible to compete.

Club Secretaries are responsible for ensuring all participating players are registered with their club at the time of the game, names are correct, as well as seeing that the names of trainers, runners and medical staff are shown in the space provided. Coach, captain, and vice captain and any other official entering the arena should be identified on the team sheet.

Player number must match the number recorded in the football record. A notation of a variation of jumper number must be made on the team sheet to indicate exceptional circumstances

12. Order Off Rule

12.1 A player ordered from the ground shall not be replaced in all age groups. Depending on the severity of the offence, the field umpire can order a player off for the following:

- a) 15 minutes and not be reported. (Yellow card)
- b) 15 minutes and be reported. (Yellow card)
- c) Reported. (Red card) Ordered off the ground for the remainder of the match. This player may be replaced after 20 minutes.

12.2 Any player who is ordered off three times during the season will receive an automatic suspension of one game in home and away or finals matches. A player who is ordered off for a fourth time during the current season will face the AFL Barwon Tribunal whose decision will be binding.

- (i) A current player report pad is to be placed in the umpire's room at the beginning of the day and left there for the duration of the day's games

- (ii) If a report is made, a copy of the report must be scanned/photo taken and emailed or sent via SMS by the home club to the AFL Barwon Head of Football (sarah.naylor@ aflbarwon.com.au / 0473 913 011), no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. The information of the report must include the reported player, offended player (if applicable), reporting umpire and the alleged offence. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope.

Note: There is no opportunity for the above parties to take the matter to a tribunal for a hearing. The offending player must accept the set sanction.

13. Coaches and Officials

13.1. Coach Requirements

All coaches of AFL Vic Country clubs are required to obtain or update Foundation Level Accreditation on Coach.AFL prior to the commencement of the season. (Link to details below). <https://play.afl/coachaccreditation>

All coaches must be able to be selected on the electronic version of the team sheet and cannot be 'written on'. Coaches are to be seated in the Coaches' Box or if standing, stand directly in front of the Coaches' Box. It is highly recommended that there is at least one Assistant Coach who also undertakes their accreditation, as they cannot function as Head Coach on game days unless they are accredited. Clubs cannot hand-write Coaches' names on the Team sheet. Accredited Coaches must be selected via Play HQ.

Clubs may be fined for a breach of this requirement. It is suggested that Clubs include all accredited Coaches on their hard copy Team sheets and cross out any who are not in attendance at a fixture.

13.2 All Teams are required to have the following present at all Match days:

- I. Team Coach (Accredited)
- II. Assistant Coach
- III. Team Manager
- IV. Trainer (with the competency of 'Emergency Response Coordinator', qualification of 'Provide First Aid (HLTAID011)' or equivalent), or other suitable qualified and insured First Aid provider as approved by AFL Barwon (e.g., St John's Ambulance or similar) at home games
- V. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** there will be times that an away team may require first aid assistance or a first aid item, e.g., ice, from the home team. In the spirit of AFL BARWON All Abilities Competition and the game, the home team must render assistance were possible.
- VI. Runner (The Runner shall not be inside the Fifty Metre Arc during the time when a defensive Player is preparing to bring or bringing the football back into play after a Behind is scored, unless attending to an injured Player or making every endeavour to vacate the area.)
- VII. Water Carrier – Up to 3 are permitted. (The Water Carriers shall not be inside the Fifty Metre Arc during the time when a defensive Player is preparing to bring or bringing the football back into play after a Behind is scored, unless attending to an injured Player or making every endeavour to vacate the area.)

VIII. Timekeeper - Each of the participating Teams should appoint a person to act as a Timekeeper for the Match. Each Timekeeper appointed for a Match shall:

- a) keep time for each quarter of the Match.
- b) sound the siren in accordance with the procedures contained in these Laws.
- c) stop the clock which is used for the timing of each quarter as required under AFL BARWON's Rules for a stoppage in play; and
- d) record the Goals and Behinds scored by each Team during a Match.

If a Team elects not to, or is unable to, provide a Timekeeper for any Match, that Team shall give up their right to challenge any outcomes from that Match, including scores, application of time on, and length of quarters.

i. On-Field Coaching

- One (Accredited) Coach may Coach on the field to help direct Players. The Coach may not be accompanied by any other Officials or reserve Players. The Coach shall not be positioned inside the Fifty Metre Arc during the time when a defensive Player is preparing to bring or bringing the football back into play after a Behind is scored, unless attending to an injured Player or making every endeavour to vacate the area.
- Where a Player has a care provider employed as part of a formal support program to provide close-proximity physical, sensory, or behavioural support, that carer may accept a position on the ground with the Player. If, in the Umpire's determination, the care provider is acting as an onfield Coach, or in any way influencing the game in any manner greater than the individual support being provided, the Umpire shall warn the care provider to cease. If in the Umpire's determination, the care provider continues to act as an on-field Coach, or in any way continues to influence the game in any manner greater than the individual support being provided, the Umpire shall direct the care provider to leave the ground. (This may have an impact on the safety of the Player concerned, and the Coach of the respective Team shall have the full and total responsibility of determining whether the Player can safely continue to play or not.)

14. First Aid Requirements

14.1 The minimum competency an individual must hold to officiate as a sports trainer in an AFL Barwon All Abilities game is an Emergency Response Coordinator (as outlined in Law 13.2).

14.2 Trainer or other suitable, qualified and insured First Aid provider (as outlined in Law 13.2) must:

- Submit qualifications before the season or the Friday before a match.
- Not hold another role during the match.
- Be identifiable (bib/armband) and listed on the team sheet.

14.3 Host clubs must provide a stocked First Aid kit. The items required by the host club, but are not limited to include:

- i. Defibrillator
- ii. Stretcher
- iii. Ice.

15. Injuries

- a) In the case of a severe injury, the accredited First Aid provider can call for a stretcher or Ambulance to be brought onto the ground to safely transport the injured Player off the ground. Once the stretcher or Ambulance has been called for, the Umpire shall halt the game until the stretcher has left the playing surface. If the game is unable to resume within 30 minutes, the AFL Laws of Australian Football shall apply.
- b) A Player who is removed from the field by a stretcher cannot return to the ground for 20min of playing time.
- c) Players who suffer cuts and bleeding can be ordered from the ground at the discretion of the Umpire and may only return once they have received appropriate treatment from the accredited First Aid provider.
- d) TIME OFF will only be implemented should the stretcher or ambulance be called on the field. In the case of possible severe injury, at the Umpire's discretion, the Umpire may halt play and call for TIME OFF to be implemented, prior to injury assessment being made by an accredited First Aid provider.
- e) Concussion Protocols and Advice:
 - AFL Barwon adopts the 2026 AFL Concussion Protocols for all AFL Barwon and affiliated Australian rules football competitions at all ages. (Link to AFL resources below).
<https://play.afl/learning-resources/concussion>
 - Every club coach, assistant coach and Team Manager must have the AFL Head Check app downloaded on their phone and know how to use it.

<https://www.headcheck.com.au/>

- All players should be encouraged to wear helmets.
- Every club coach, assistant coach and Team Manger must have the AFL Head Check app downloaded on their phone and know how to use it.
- Players diagnosed with concussion cannot return to the current game under any circumstances. Clubs allowing a player diagnosed with concussion to return to the current game will face consequences not limited to loss of points, a fine, or suspension or expulsion from the League.
- Players diagnosed with concussion cannot play or train again for a minimum of 21 days.
- In addition to this, Players diagnosed with concussion cannot play again without medical clearance from a General Practitioner or Specialist. Clubs allowing a player diagnosed with concussion to return to the game without medical clearance will face consequences not limited to loss of points, a fine, or suspension or expulsion from the League.

16. Player Uniforms

- 16.1 All Club uniforms shall comply with AFL Barwon On-Field Branding Guide rules. The AFL Barwon Board Members, before adoption, must approve club colours. Refer to link in Law 7.1 of Senior & Under 18 Male Competition rules for more details.
- 16.2 Every player must be fully uniformed in his Club colours with his number prominent and securely fixed on his back.

- 16.3** Bike shorts worn under playing shorts must be neutral or beige colour. Penalty for incorrect attire: \$25 per garment.
- 16.4** Players are **prohibited** from the following protective equipment:
- Cannot wear jewellery of any kind (not even taped).
 - Cannot wear studs, cleats, or unapproved protective gear.
 - Equipment that becomes dangerous must be removed.
 - No long or sharp fingernails.
- 16.5** Players are **permitted/recommended** the following protective equipment:
- Mouthguards (recommended).
 - Helmets, knee braces, shoulder pads, back supports
 - Arm or shin guards (esp. for ruck players)
 - Black armbands (no logos/sponsors)
 - Other items only if approved by AFL Barwon.

17. Alcohol Policy

During fixtured game times, no alcohol consumption in spectator areas, or around the ground, will be permitted at any AFL Barwon All Abilities Matches. Outside of fixtured game times, alcohol may be consumed, subject to the Club's licensing requirements, if it is in the confines of an established Social Club.

18. Fines

Clubs may be fined for a breach of the AFL Barwon All Abilities Football Competition Rules. For a full list of fines please refer to Law 13 of the AFL Barwon Junior Football Rules.

19. 19. Non-Contact Competition

- 19.1** Non-Contact Competition follows the existing guidelines which have been outlined in the All Abilities Football Competition Rules, however with the following mandatory changes that differentiate it from the Contact Competition:
- Matches played in the Non-Contact Competition are to be Self-Umpired.
 - The minimum number of players per side is 9 as opposed to 12 in the Contact Competition.
 - This competition is to use a Size 4 Synthetic Football. Law 3 references the use of a Size 5 Synthetic Football, however this only applies to the Contact Competition.
 - Law 6 (v) does not apply in the Non-Contact Competition; there is no maximum amount of times a player can bounce the ball while in possession.
 - Law 5 has the following amendments for the Non-Contact Competition.
 - a) Matches played in the Non-Contact Competition will consist of four (4), 10-minute quarters.
 - b) The intervals will also be as follows:

Intervals

- $\frac{1}{4}$ time = 5 minutes
- $\frac{1}{2}$ time = 5 minutes
- $\frac{3}{4}$ time = 5 minutes

- 19.2** In Law 13.1 (j), it is stated that a care provider for a player may not engage in On-Field coaching, however they can provide individual support to a player. For the Non-Contact Competition, this extends to assisting said player in helping to possess the ball to allow them to dispose of it when required.

Note: Players in the Non-Contact Competition are to abide by Law 12 which refers to the order off rule, reports and sanctions as a result of their actions. Any reports from these games which are Self-Umpired will come from the coaches of either side involved.

20. Codes of Conduct and Policies

- 20.1** Link to the Code of Conduct for Coaches: <https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/images/documents/Policies/Sen-Coaches-CoD.pdf>
- 20.2** Link to the Code of Conduct for Players:
<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/images/documents/Policies/Players-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>
- 20.3** Link to the Code of Conduct for Parents and Spectators:
<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/images/documents/Policies/Parents-Spectators-CoD.pdf>
- 20.4** Link to Cyber Safety Policy:
<https://www.aflbarwon.com.au/images/documents/Policies/AFL-Barwon-Cyber-Safety-Policy.pdf>
- 20.5** QR Codes for each of Laws 20.1 through 20.4.



Coaches



Players



Parents/Spectators



Cyber Safety



ABILITIES NETBALL

AFL BARWON ALL ABILITIES NETBALL COMPETITION RULES

These are the rules governing the internal affairs of AFL Barwon, incorporating the Geelong Football Netball League & the Bellarine Football Netball League. They are the operating procedures that determine the conduct and direction of the organisations. AFL Barwon shall follow the Official Netball Rules as set down by World Netball, unless these have been superseded by Local By-Laws or Competition Regulations.

These AFL Barwon All Abilities Netball Competition rules are in conjunction with the AFL Barwon By-laws found in the 2026 AFL Barwon handbook

Revised December 2025

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NETBALL VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP

1. Netball Victoria membership fee is set annually by the Victorian Netball Association Inc. Prices for referenced in the 'Netball Competition rules' section of the Handbook. Players, coaches & umpires must be registered with Netball Victoria before taking the court prior to commencing participation.
Penalty for a player, coach or umpire who is not registered with Netball Victoria: Loss of 4 Premiership Points and \$50 fine to the offending club on each occurring occasion.
2. **Player Eligibility**
 - 2.1 Players must be registered in order to take the court in an AFL Barwon All Abilities Netball match.
 - 2.2 To be eligible to participate in AFL Barwon All Abilities finals, a player must have taken to the court in one quarter of scheduled matches for that season.
 - 2.3 Players will adhere to the codes of conduct as described by all relevant governing bodies.
3. **Match Conduct**
 - 3.1 Games will consist of 4x 10-minute quarters with an interval of 1 minute between the first & second quarters, a 2 minute interval between the second & third quarter, and a 1 minute interval between the third and fourth quarter.
 - 3.2 **Where possible**, only one male is permitted in each third per team. i.e. only one male in GS/GA, one male in either WA/C/WD, and one male in either GD/GK.
 - 3.3 Participants are to be wearing no jewellery, earrings or piercings. No taping of piercings allowed NOTE – wedding ring or medical alert bracelet may be taped.
 - 3.4 Fingernails are short & smooth. No taping allowed.
 - 3.5 No gloves except where a qualified and registered medical certificate is provided to the officiating umpires prior to the player taking the court for medical conditions requiring the wearing of gloves.
 - 3.6 Each team will provide its own bibs, and utilise the nominated game ball for that season for matches.
 - 3.7 Games should be played in a sportsmanlike manner, with coaches ensuring that fun, participation and enjoyment is at the forefront.
4. **Scoring**
 - 4.1 Each team must provide a trained non-participating scorer for all matches
 - 4.2 Scorers must be 14 years of age or over.
 - 4.3 The official scoresheet must be placed in full view of both scorers for the duration of matches.
 - 4.4 Scorers must record all warnings and suspensions on the supplied match management log. The umpire will address the score bench when sanctioning a player to assist in match management
 - 4.5 The official scorers must sit together for the duration of the match at the location to be known as the score bench. Scorers MUST be allowed a clear and uninterrupted view of the game when locating a score bench.

4.6 Procedure used for recording goals during the game:

- Enter goals (tally marks), per line or position
- Cross off cumulative total.
- Record next centre pass as it is taken
- Goals recorded against GS and GA in each quarter is the official score.

4.7 Procedure for completing the official score sheet at interval breaks:

- Total goals scored at the end of each quarter.
- At the end of each quarter, circle the current cumulative score.

4.8 Other general duties of the scorer –

- Confirm centre pass with umpires when required.
- At the end of the game ensure captains', umpires' and scorers' names are PRINTED on the score sheet.
- Watch the umpires and play at all times and be aware of the 'no goal' call by the umpire.
- Noting all warnings and suspensions on the supplied match management log
- When suspensions occur, timing the duration (two minutes) of suspension & notifying the umpire of this.
- At the end of the game ensure captains', umpires' and scorers' names are PRINTED on the score sheet.

4.9 The scoresheet will list the complete names (both given and surname) of all players intending to take the court.

4.10 Names on the scoresheet must not be added or altered after the commencement of play. Any players who take the court without having been named on the scoresheet, must be removed immediately and cannot participate in the rest of the match. The scoresheet shall also indicate the positions played each quarter, the goals scored and the match score.

5. Finals

5.1 Teams found playing an ineligible player during finals will be considered to have lost that match and be subject to a fine set by AFL Barwon

5.2 Matches shall be conducted for finals as for in season matches. The starting times may vary and clubs will be advised accordingly.

5.3 Drawn matches in finals:

- There is a four (4) minute interval at the end of full time to enable scores to be verified on the score sheet.
- Positional changes and substitutions may be made during this interval.
- There will be no change of ends at the end of the 4th quarter.
- 2 x 5-minute halves will be played
- At the end of the first half teams have a 1-minute break, teams change ends, positional changes & substitutions are allowed.
- Should there still be a draw at the end of the second half of extra time, play continues until one team has a two-goal advantage and therefore declared the winner.

- 5.4 Presentation ceremonies will be determined by AFL Barwon in consultation with member clubs.
- 5.5 If requested by AFL Barwon – all clubs will be allocated a responsibility during the final series.

6. Risk Management

6.1 Injury reporting

- 6.1.1 clubs are responsible for recording ALL injuries at the club discretion of the injured player or player's guardian (if aged under 18) clubs are to store the injury reporting sheets.
- 6.1.2 All players in AFL Barwon representative teams are responsible for recording all injuries at the discretion of the injured player or player's guardian (if under 18) on the Injury reporting sheet.

6.2 First Aid

- 6.2.1 Clubs shall be responsible for their own first aid through the home and away season and finals.
- 6.2.2 **Clubs are to have ice available courtside.**

6.3 Playing Area Safety Checklist

- 6.3.1 Checklist to be completed before any games played. There may be a need to review this checklist throughout the day – e.g. inclement weather.
- 6.3.2 If after the review has taken place, a category has the answer "NO", then actions should be taken to fix the problem before any matches begin
- 6.3.3 Any matters concerning court surface, goal posts or weather should be referred immediately to the Competition Coordinator.
- 6.3.4 A copy of completed match day checklist must be submitted in the match day paperwork envelope.
- 6.3.5 A copy of the match day checklist can be found on the AFL Barwon website. www.aflbarwon.com.au

6.4 Heat Policy

- 6.4.1 In the event of extreme weather conditions above 28 degrees, the following steps must be taken:
- 6.4.2 Quarters will reduce: 7 minute quarters 3 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ Breaks, 5 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ Break.
- 6.4.3 Clubs will be emailed on the day for AFL Barwon All Abilities Netball matches of over 35 degrees at 3:30pm the decision will be made by AFL Barwon to cancel the matches. All clubs will be notified by email by 3:30pm.

7. Dispute Resolution

- 7.1 AFL Barwon will impose the prescribed penalty or any other penalty to any member/team that fails to adhere to these Bylaws. AFL Barwon as the governing body have the authority to identify breaches and enforce the by-law penalties to ensure the integrity of the competition is maintained at all times.

- 7.1.1** A team wishing to protest a scoring issue must:
- Not sign the Official scoresheet; but mark it with notice of intention to protest - then notify AFL Barwon Netball Manager of the protest.
 - Lodge the protest in writing with the AFL Barwon Netball Manager within 48 hours of the match being played / finished.
- 7.1.2** AFL Barwon will then discuss the issue with the relevant Club or Teams and make a decision regarding the matter. AFL Barwon shall inform the party/ies involved of their decision either verbally or in writing; or
- 7.1.3 Have an informal meeting with the relevant party/ies in order to discuss and resolve the dispute.**
- 7.1.4** AFL Barwon's decision on all By-law breaches is final and cannot be appealed. Any member of a Club or Team who does not agree with a penalty imposed by AFL Barwon for breaches of Netball Victoria/Australia codes of conduct, policies & regulations, may appeal through the AFL Barwon Appeals Officer (**Region General Manager**) as per the process stipulated in the by-laws.
- The appeal must be accompanied by a \$250 cheque of which:
- \$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is upheld.
 - Up to \$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is dismissed. (At the discretion of the Appeals Board)
 - Up to \$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is not heard. (At the discretion of the Appeals Board)

8. Special Circumstances

Where a by-law or competition regulation is silent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of AFL Barwon Netball Competitions is maintained at all times. An appropriate penalty may also be enforced. The appeals committee may, in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in these competition regulations relating to AFL Barwon.

9. Indemnity

Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded, AFL Barwon and its representative directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage, however caused, arising whilst participating as a member.

NETBALL COMPETITION RULES

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NETBALL COMPETITION REGULATIONS

These are the rules governing the internal affairs of AFL Barwon, incorporating the Geelong Football Netball League & the Bellarine Football Netball League. They are the operating procedures that determine the conduct and direction of the organisations.

AFL Barwon shall follow the Official Netball Rules as set down by International Netball Federation, unless these have been superseded by Local By-Laws or Competition Regulations.

1. NETBALL VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP

1.1 Netball Victoria membership fee is set annually by the Victorian Netball Association Inc.

Prices for 2026 are as follows:

Senior: \$94 (incl. GST) 18 years and over. Born on or before 31/12/2008

Junior: \$73 (incl. GST) All Junior players Under 18 years of age

NetSetGo: \$99 (incl. GST) Born on or after 01/01/2016 (5-10 years)

All Abilities: \$70 (incl. GST) Netballers with a disability – must show current annual Disability Service Pension Care or Health Care Card.

Off the Court: \$50 Committee members, volunteer's parents and others (Players, coaches and umpires must be a current senior, junior or AA member)

Players, coaches & umpires must be registered with Netball Victoria before taking the court prior to commencing participation.

Penalty for a player, coach or umpire who is not registered with Netball Victoria:

Loss of 4 Premiership Points and \$50 fine to the offending club on each occurring occasion.

2. Player Registration

2.1 Registrations close on the 30th of June in line with clearances.

Every player must be a registered member of their club on the clubs Netball Connect and PlayHQ databases.

Penalties for not registering players with their club before they take the court:

Loss of 4 Premiership Points and \$50 fine to the offending club on each occurring occasion.

3. GFNL/BFNL Junior Team Entry Principles

3.1 Junior grades are defined by those being underage competitions, inclusive of the 19&U age group.

3.2 All age group divisions should be fielded top down to avoid byes in the division one competitions. If any team submits a request to AFL Barwon within the first four weeks of competition. AFL Barwon, on their own assessment, may make a determination based on the data, for teams outside of those who submit requests.

3.3 When two or more byes are present in a Saturday second division competition, byes may be reconciled by creating a fixture to ensure a match is played between two teams experiencing a bye in a specific round.

4. GFNL/BFNL/AFL Barwon JN Players Eligibility

- 4.1 Participant age is determined as at 31st December of that year – 2026
- 4.2 Males who are 13 years of age (and older) are not permitted to participate in a female competition. To avoid any doubt:
- 4.2.1 males must be less than 13 years of age (actual age) as at the first day of the competition or season; and
- 4.2.2 males that turn 13 during that competition or season will be permitted to participate for the duration of that competition or season.
- 4.3 In 11 & under and 13 & under competitions, boys can participate on an unrestricted basis with respect to number of boys on court and positions played.
- 4.4 In 15 & under and 17 & under competitions, boys can participate but must be less than 13 years of age (actual age) as at the first day of the competition or season.
- 4.5 Players may not take the court in more than two games over any given weekend/round. 2 x senior, 1 x senior & 1 x junior or 2 x junior games.
- 4.6 Juniors are eligible to play in a senior grade in the year they turn 15 years of age.
- 4.7 In the GFNL competitions a junior player is not able to play in the same age group more than once – for example a player cannot play in both Division 1 & 2 in the same age group over a weekend.
- 4.8 In the GFNL competitions any player who plays in the 'A Grade' competition during a season are not permitted to participate in the 19&U competition for that season.
- In The GFNL, 19&U players only, are allowed to play B Grade, C Grade, D Grade & E Grade finals also as long as they are qualified 5.1.**
- 4.9 Once a senior player has taken the court in a specific division they are ineligible to play in a division 2 grades lower i.e. – A Grade & C Grade/D Grade/E Grade or B Grade & D Grade/E Grade or C Grade & E Grade. This applies to senior grades only.
- 4.11 Players who play 6 games in a lower senior grade automatically qualify for any senior grade higher. (Players must still adhere to all other applicable competition regulations that restrict player movement eg:4.9).

5. Player Qualification: GFNL

- 5.1 Players must take the court in at least 6 games to be eligible to participate in that division's finals series. If the minimum number of games is not played, the player is ineligible to play finals.

NOTE – to be eligible under this rule – a player MUST have PLAYED ON COURT during the games that player team sheets have been submitted throughout the home and away game series. Where teams play less than 80% of the maximum number of scheduled games, a pro rata system will apply. – Players must have taken the court in one third of the available games in order to be eligible for that division's finals.

- 5.2 Junior players qualified in Division 2 of their age group automatically qualify to play in Division 1 finals of that age group.
- 5.3 Once a player takes the court in the 9th game, they are ineligible to play in a lower grade/division in the same age group.

- 5.4 A player can only play in one senior game over one weekend of finals.
- 5.5 Any junior is eligible to play in two finals (one junior and one senior) over one weekend of finals as long as they are qualified as per 5.1.
- 5.6 Players from the Friday night competition must adequately qualify in a Saturday competition in order to be eligible for that competition's finals. No automatic qualification from Friday competition to Saturday is permitted.

Penalty for breaching any part of rule 5: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

6. Player Qualification: BFNL

- 6.1 Players must take the court in at least 6 games to be eligible to participate in that division's finals series. If the minimum number of games is not played, the player is ineligible to play finals.

NOTE – to be eligible under this rule – a player MUST have PLAYED ON COURT during the games that player team sheets have been submitted throughout the home and away game series. Where teams play less than 80% of the maximum number of scheduled games, a pro rata system will apply. – Players must have taken the court in one third of the available games in order to be eligible for that division's finals.

- 6.2 Once a player takes the court in the 9th game, they are ineligible to play in a lower grade/division in the same age group.
- 6.3 A player can only play in one senior game over one weekend of finals.
- 6.4 Any junior is eligible to play in two finals over one weekend (one junior and one senior, or two junior not in the same age group)
- 6.5 Players from the Friday night competition must adequately qualify in a Saturday competition in order to be eligible for that competition's finals. No automatic qualification from Friday competition to Saturday is permitted.

Penalty for breaching any part of rule 6: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

7. Player Qualification: AFL Barwon JN

- 7.1 Players must take the court in at least 4 games to be eligible to participate in that division's finals series. If the minimum number of games is not played, the player is ineligible to play finals. (Once a player takes the court in the 6th game, they are ineligible to play in a lower grade/division in the same age group).

NOTE – to be eligible under this rule – a player MUST have PLAYED ON COURT during the games that player team sheets have been submitted throughout the home and away game series. Where teams play less than 80% of the maximum number of scheduled games, a pro rata system will apply. Players must have taken the court in one third of the available games in order to be eligible for that division's finals.

Penalty for breaching any any of rule 7: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

8. AFL Barwon Junior Netball

- 8.1 Overflow 11&U, 13&U, 15&U, 17&U and 19&U teams will participate at venues (outdoor courts) on a Friday and Tuesday afternoon following a fixture that will be devised according to the number of teams entered.
- 8.2 Teams listed first on the scoresheet will have the first centre pass, and teams listed second on the scoresheet will choose which end they would like to shoot. The team also listed first on the scoresheet must provide an adequate game ball.
- 8.3 Once a player takes the court for any Division 1 Saturday BFNL/GFNL team they are unable to play in any age group in the Friday Night competition.
- 8.4 **Once a player is sealed in a Division 2 Saturday competition, they are permitted to play the Friday night competition but only in the next age group above i.e.: 13&U – 15&U.**
- 8.5 If a GDFNL Club has teams in both the Friday night competition and Saturday competition in the same age group, players commencing on the Saturday cannot return to Friday night's in the same age group for that club.
- 8.6 Once the Friday night player steps on the court in the 9th game in the Saturday Division 2 team they can no longer play Friday nights in that age group.
- 8.7 Players may play no more than two games over one night in midweek competitions.
- 8.7.1 Movement between teams is not permitted in the grading period of the competition without the explicit consent of the competition coordinator.
- 8.7.2 Other competition rules relating to player movement and game limits still apply.
- 8.7.3 Players from clubs fielding more than one team in a division are not permitted to move between those teams, and are only permitted to play for their assigned team, inclusive of all junior midweek competitions.
- 8.8 In the event of inclement weather or dangerous court conditions, a decision will be made by AFL Barwon to cancel matches by 3:30pm and teams will be notified via email, and social media.
- 8.9 In extreme circumstances where games may need to be cancelled throughout the night, communication will be distributed via phone message and PlayHQ push notification.
- 8.10 In AFL Barwon JN any player is only allowed to play in one final over the night.
- 8.11 **Players can play in both Saturday Division 2 & Friday night Finals over one weekend, however, this must not be in the same age group and must not exceed two finals per weekend.**
- 8.12 All teams on Friday and Tuesday nights are responsible for their own First Aid. Ice Packs are available from the AFL Ba Competition Barwon Office.
- 8.13 Players who participate in Saturday 17&U competitions are permitted to fill in for the 19&U Division 2 competition, and are permitted to play both finals if sufficiently qualified, but no more than two per games weekend.
- Penalty for breaching any art of rule 8:** Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

9. Umpires

- 9.1** All clubs must appoint an umpire coordinator for the season. It is preferred that this person is a badged umpire who within the last 2 years (minimum) completed, or enrolled to complete, the Foundation umpire course and Netball Rules of theory exam. Umpire coordinator is to attend two umpire meetings per year as organised by the AFL Barwon Umpire coordinator.
- 9.2** AFL Barwon Netball Umpire Coordinator will appoint a panel of umpire development mentors to oversee the development and badging of all umpires throughout the season, and roster panel umpires for all GFNL & BFNL 'A Grade' & 'B Grade' Senior Matches.
- 9.3** All club and panel umpires must have a current season Netball Victoria Membership.
- 9.4** It is an expectation that badged umpires will maintain their badge status by completing the relevant requirements as set by Netball Australia every four years.
- 9.5** Umpires shall not be changed during a game, but for exceptional circumstances. Refer to rule 10.10.
- 9.6** Voting for League Best & Fairest shall be as follows
- 9.6.1** The match umpires shall award votes of the best and fairest three players in each game. Voting shall be 3 votes for the best and fairest player, 2 votes for the second best and fairest player and 1 vote for the third best and fairest player.
- 9.6.2** Club & Panel umpires shall register the votes on respective League vote cards OR OfficialsHQ where requested/supplied. Votes shall be placed in the envelope provided by AFL Barwon and included in the Match Day Envelope. It is to be clearly signed by both umpires on the card and also across the seal of the envelope once the card is enclosed.
- 9.6.3** Club umpire co-ordinators, panel umpire or a nominated person within the club, may assist trainee umpires with voting.
- Penalty: \$20.00 fine to the offending Club or Panel Umpire**
- 9.7** Umpires must supply their own whistle and clubs must have a current rulebook and the competition by-laws available.
- 9.8** Club Umpires are to be dressed appropriately in umpire's attire: White t-shirt or jumper, white or navy shorts or skirt, correct sports shoes. White or navy tracksuit pants/leggings and white rain jacket are permitted.
- 9.9** Panel umpires are to be dressed appropriately in umpire's attire: White t-shirt or jumper, white or navy skirt or shorts, and correct sport shoes.
- Penalty: \$20.00 fine to the offending Club or Panel Umpire**
- 9.10** Umpires are authorised to umpire three (3) games on any given match day. However, umpires are only allowed to umpire two (2) consecutive games and must have a one match break and then return and umpire another game. Unless authorised by the AFL Barwon League Umpire Coordinator.

10. Club Umpires

- 10.1** Umpires officiating at the 17&U Division 1, 19&U, E Grade, D Grade and C Grade matches must have a minimum C Grade Umpires Badge.

Note: Special circumstances will apply for the assessment and badging of trainee umpires. These will be determined by AFL Barwon.

- 10.2** Club umpires are not permitted to coach the team for which they are umpiring. If, in an emergency, a coach needs to umpire his/her team, then a substitute coach must take over.
- 10.3** Club umpires must hold a current Rules of Theory Exam certificate AND Foundation Umpiring Course accreditation.
- 10.4** With the exception of 'A Grade' & 'B Grade', one club umpire from each club will officiate at each Home and Away game. On occasion, a club umpire may be requested to support panel on an 'A Grade' or 'B Grade' game, at the request of the AFL Barwon Netball Umpire Coordinator.
- 10.5** Friday and Tuesday afternoon matches will be umpired by trainee/beginner & badged umpires as organised by the AFL Barwon Netball Umpire Coordinator as part of the Umpiring Program.
- 10.6** Proposed payment scheme for club umpires for 2026 is:
- 10.6.1** 11U, 13&U, 15&U & 17&U Divison 2 Matches - \$22 per game (\$18 without a badge)
- 10.6.2** 17&U, 19&U, 'C Grade', 'D Grade' & 'E Grade' - \$25-30 per game (must have a minimum C Grade badge)
- 10.7** AFL Barwon junior Netball competition umpire payments: Beginner & Trainee: \$18.00, Badged: \$22.00 and Mentor \$25.00 p/h.
- 10.8** In the case of a forfeit the offending team must pay the umpire fees for both teams.
- 10.9** Trainee umpires may have a badged umpire or umpire coordinator of their club supporting courtside during junior and senior games
- 10.10** Whereby extreme circumstance impacts an umpire prior to or during a game, a change of umpire is permitted, provided both captains and the opposition umpire are consulted, and AFL Barwon Netball Umpire Coordinator informed of the circumstance.

11. Panel Umpires

- 11.1** Panel umpires shall be appointed by AFL Barwon.
- 11.2** Panel umpires must register all relevant contact details with AFL Barwon before the current season.
- 11.3** Panel Umpire fee structure: C Badge Panel Umpire \$60, & A & B Badge Panel Umpire \$65. Additional travel payments may apply.
- 11.4** Umpires will be paid electronically by AFL Barwon. Clubs will be charged the Panel umpire fees through annual team fees.
- 11.5** Panel umpires must be available to support and assist club/trainee umpires when requested by AFL Barwon or the league umpire coordinator.
- 11.6** Panel umpires shall support the participation of representative teams in other competitions, and be paid a fee as will be determined by AFL Barwon Netball Umpire Coordinator.

12. Dress Code

- 12.1** Each club must register its playing uniform – which includes all uniform colours and designs – prior to the commencement of the season for AFL Barwon approval.
- 12.2** AFL Barwon must sight a proof of any new dress & Uniform/bib order regardless of supplier before order is placed.

- 12.3** AFL Barwon will review each clubs submitted uniforms/proofs and advise clubs of the review outcome. The AFL Barwon uniform review outcome is final.
- 12.4** Clubs must also notify AFL Barwon in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform. AFL Barwon will review proposed changes and advise clubs of the reviewed outcome. The AFL Barwon outcome is final. Bibs must contain the appropriate logo's based of the AFL Barwon Style Guide.
- 12.5** All players must be in correct approved uniform by the first match. If uniforms are not ready – approval must be requested from AFL Barwon on an agreed interim uniform.
- 12.5.1** Approved uniform may be in the form of netball dress, or approved t-shirt & short/skirt combinations. Design of Shorts worn with alternate uniform must be APPROVED by AFL Barwon, and that type of short ONLY will be permitted to be worn. Shorts must be of an appropriate length, and not contain pockets, zips or logos outside of what has been approved. Compressive bike shorts are not permitted – knee length or longer leggings are exempt.
- 12.6** Appropriate length & colour netball briefs must be worn under dresses. No bikini pants, see-through pants, slacks, loose shorts or tracksuit pants – except in extreme circumstance and with the approval of AFL Barwon Netball Manager – are permitted. Players (Seniors and Juniors) may wear matching coloured long-sleeved or t-shirt underneath their approved uniform. (i.e. if one player wears black long sleeve, any player wearing undershirt must also be black).
- 12.6.1** 9&U and 11&U players may also wear matching-coloured leggings. Club uniform must be visible.
- 12.7** Players wearing compression socks must ensure they are neutral or black.
- 12.8** Skirts must be an appropriate length and may not contain badges or any other advertising.
- 12.9** Club and panel umpires shall ensure that players:
- 12.9.1** Are wearing no jewellery, earrings or piercings. No taping of piercings allowed
- NOTE:** wedding ring or medical alert bracelet may be taped.
- 12.9.2** Fingernails are short & smooth. No taping allowed.
- 12.9.3** No gloves except where a qualified and registered medical certificate is provided to the officiating umpires prior to the player taking the court for medical conditions requiring the wearing of gloves.
- 12.9.4** Sunglasses are not permitted
- Penalty for breaking any part of rule 12: the offending player may not take the court until rectified. \$20 fine per breach may be issued.**

13. Conduct Of Matches

13.1 Timing

- 13.1.1** 13&U (Divisions 1 & 2); 15&U (Divisions 1 & 2); 17&U (Division 1 & 2); 'D Grade & E Grade matches- 4 x 10-minute quarters two minute interval at ¼ and ¾ time with a three minute interval at ½ time.
- 13.1.2** C Grade & 19&U; 4 x 12-minute quarters with a two minute interval at ¼ and ¾ time with a three minute interval at ½ time.

- 13.1.3** 'A Grade' & 'B Grade' matches – 4 x 15-minute quarters with an interval of three minutes $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ time; with a five minute interval.
- 13.1.4** Midweek Competitions: 4x 10-minute quarters, with an interval of 1-minute at $\frac{3}{4}$ time; and an interval of two minutes at $\frac{1}{2}$ time.

13.2 Late Players

- 13.2.1** A player who arrives after the start of a match must be checked by an umpire before taking the court to ensure they meet the requirements
- 13.2.2** A late player may not immediately replace a player who is already on the court but may be used subsequently as a substitute.
- 13.2.3** If the position has been left vacant the late player may, after advising the umpire, take the court immediately after:
- A goal has been scored (in this case the late player must play in the position left vacant).
 - A stoppage for injury/illness or blood.
 - An interval.
- 13.2.4** If the position has been left vacant the late player may not enter the match while play is in progress.

Sanction for any part of 13.2: The player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry. Penalty pass to the opposing team where the ball was when play was stopped and an infringing team player allowed in the playing area stands out of play for the penalty

13.3 Injury/Illness or Blood

- 13.3.1** The umpires hold time for blood when noticed or for injury/illness when requested by an on-court player (in extreme circumstances the umpires may hold time without a request being made).
- 13.3.2** The player concerned must leave the court within 30 seconds and receive any treatment off the court. The timekeepers advise the umpires when 10 seconds remain. The player cannot use the 30 seconds to receive treatment and return – they must leave the court.
- 13.3.3** Players who do not have active bleeding (such as a spot of blood from another player), may use the 30 seconds to clean the blood, and return to court within the 30 seconds.
- 13.3.4** Any blood on the ball or the court must be cleaned before play restarts and any blood-stained clothing replaced.
- 13.3.5** Only primary care person/s are permitted on the court to assess the player's medical condition and to assist the player from the court.
- 13.3.6** In the event that the primary care person/s advise the umpires that the player concerned cannot be removed safely within 30 seconds, the umpires will extend the time for the player to leave the court.
- 13.3.7** The umpires may authorise other persons (including team officials) to assist the player to leave the court if needed.
- 13.3.8** During the stoppage both teams may make substitutions and/or team changes, provided these are completed within the time allowed for the stoppage by the umpires.

13.3.9 If no substitution is made for the injured/ill player, or for a player who is bleeding, play may resume with the position left vacant. If the player is the Centre and no substitution is made, one player must move to play as centre to allow the match to continue.

13.3.10 If the position is left vacant, the player concerned or a substitute may subsequently, after advising the umpire, take the court immediately after break in play:

- i. A goal has been scored (in this case the player or the substitute must play in the position left vacant).
- ii. A stoppage for injury/illness.
- iii. An interval.

Sanction: Free pass where ball was when play stopped – the player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry

13.4 Rolling Substitution (all grades)

13.4.1 The rolling substitution stands at the designated area.

13.4.2 Before leaving the designated area, the substitute tags (with hands) the player leaving the court.

13.4.3 Only one (1) rolling substitute per team can be made at a time.

13.4.4 Play is not to be held up for rolling substitutions. If play is delayed, the player will be penalised under World Netball Rule 19.2. Delaying play.

13.4.5 Players must observe the offside rules as they enter/leave the court. Sanction: Free pass where the infringement occurred (offside area) unless this places the non-infringing team at a disadvantage, or advantage is applied.

13.4.6 Players must not interfere with the umpire's movement during the substitution. Sanction: Free pass where the ball was when play was stopped (advantage may be applied).

13.4.7 If a player leaves the court as a rolling substitution, and there is no player in the designated area, the replacement player is treated as a late player (as per World Netball Rule 3.8) and must wait until a break in play to enter the court. "Any late player may, after advising the umpire, take the court in the vacant position/s at the next break in play." Action: Any late player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry and possession is awarded to the opposing team where the ball was when play stopped. Terminology: Incorrect entry

13.5 Player Conduct

13.5.1 Swearing - Any player who swears and it is audible to the umpire whether it be at themselves, another player or otherwise may have a penalty awarded against them.

13.5.2 Any player or bench official who directs abuse towards an umpire, whether it be verbal or otherwise, may be sent from the court and reported to AFL Barwon.

13.6 Officials

13.6.1 The Match officials are: Umpires

- 13.6.2** The Technical officials are: Scorers & Timekeepers
- 13.6.3** The team officials: A team may have up to five team officials. These will include a coach and at least one primary care person. Primary care persons must be a minimum of 14 years of age, with adequate first aid awareness.
- 13.6.4** In addition – the maximum of five players not on court at start of play, shall constitute the Team Bench.
- 13.6.5** The bench must only consist of the personnel in rules 13.4.2, 13.4.3 & 13.4.4. No Babies, Children, Animals or unauthorised persons. Injured players who are unable to take part in the match constitute unauthorised persons, unless fulfilling the role of a team official.
- 13.6.6** Team benches and coaching staff must remain within the bounds of their team bench, and stand clear of the path of the umpire. Players are permitted to leave the bench area to warm up for play.
- 13.6.7** Coaches, Team managers or other bench personnel, may not approach the umpires. Captains &/or players may approach the umpire at the interval of the game to pose a question regarding a rule.

13.7 Game Times

13.7.1 2026 GFNL Game Times

8:15am	13 & Under Division 1 & 13 & Under Division 2
9:10am	15 & Under Division 1 & 15 & Under Division 2
10:05am	D Grade & 17 & Under Division 1
11:10am	C Grade & 19U
12:20pm	B Grade & 17 & Under Division 2
1:40pm	A Grade & E Grade (1:15pm)

13.1.2 2026 BFNL Game Times

8:15am	15 & Under Division 2 & 13 & Under Division 2
9:15am	13 & Under Division 1 & 17 & Under Division 1
10:15am	D Grade & 19U
11:20am	C Grade & 15 & Under Division 1
12:25pm	B Grade & 17 & Under Division 2
1:45pm	A Grade & E Grade (1:15pm)

- 13.8** The home captain shall toss the coin and visiting captain shall call.
- 13.9** Any team failing to start play on time shall, after 5 minutes, forfeit 5 goals to the opposition, and a further goal per minute until 10 minutes have elapsed. A forfeit shall then be declared, providing the opposing team has at least 5 or more players present.
- 13.10** Players who umpire must be given appropriate time to change between games. Under these circumstances conditions of a forfeit do not apply. Players who umpire must not delay between games.
- 13.11** All matches are to be played irrespective of weather conditions. However, if the conditions are considered by either of the officiating umpires, or the executive members of both participating clubs, to present a physical risk to either the players or the umpires, then

the umpires shall call a ten (10) minute break. Following this ten (10) minute break the officiating umpires, in consultation with the executive members of both participating clubs, will make a decision as to the future of the match.

13.11.1 In the event of lightning, please follow the 30/30 LIGHTNING SAFETY GUIDELINE

- i. Stop play if the time between seeing a lightning flash and hearing thunder is less than 30 seconds.
- ii. Immediately seek safety under appropriate shelter.
- iii. Do not resume play until at least 30 minutes has passed since the last thunder was heard.

13.11.2 If only one match is being played at the time and there are two courts available, the other court can be considered. However, the venue is NOT to be changed.

13.11.3 A decision made by two (2) umpires to abandon a game due to weather conditions must be recorded on the score card, stating the time, and at what stage in the match that decision was made

13.11.4 If a junior umpire or trainee umpire is officiating with a senior umpire for either a junior or senior match, one (1) executive member from the club represented by the junior umpire/s should make the decision, along with the senior umpire, to abandon a game.

13.11.5 Play in any match, delayed due to weather conditions, is to commence, or resume, upon the direction of two (2) officiating umpires.

13.11.6 Should a match be abandoned due to dangerous conditions before half time, a draw will be awarded. Should a match be abandoned due to dangerous conditions at half time or after half time, the score will stand.

Penalty: Any team, which fails to take the court when so directed, will be declared as forfeiting the match and four (4) premiership points will be awarded to the non-offending team. Payment of the fees applicable to the two (2) umpires will be charged to the offending team.

13.12 It is compulsory for clubs to use AFL Barwon match day balls as nominated by AFL Barwon this season for all junior and senior matches. These balls are provided for each team as part of their AFL Barwon fees.

14. Scoring

14.1 Each team must provide a trained non-participating scorer for all matches

14.2 Scorers must be 14 years of age or over. **Penalty: \$20 fine to the offending club.**

14.3 Each home team must provide a scoreboard and a non-participating score board attendant for all matches

14.4 The home team scorer is to record on the official scoresheet and will track home team changes. The away team scorer is to acts as check scorer and timekeeper and will track away team changes. The timekeeper will sound siren/horn at the conclusion of each quarter and as directed in 14.5.

14.5 The timekeeper will notify the umpire when there are 30 seconds and 10 seconds remaining prior to the start of the game and each interval stoppage.

- 14.6** The official scoresheet and timing device must, at all times, be placed in full view of both scorers for the duration of matches.
- 14.7** Scorers must record all warnings and suspensions on the supplied match management log. The umpire address the score bench when sanctioning a player to assist in match management. **Penalty: \$20 fine for the offending club.**
- 14.8** The official scorers must sit together for the duration of the match at the location to be known as the score bench. Scorers MUST be allowed a clear and uninterrupted view of the game when locating a score bench.
- 14.9** AFL Barwon official scoresheets are to be used.
- 14.10** Team Managers are to ensure all players are listed on the scoresheet AND position tracking sheet prior to the start of the game, and that positions for each quarter have been accurately communicated to the score bench at each interval.
- 14.11** Alterations can only be made to the score sheet immediately at the time the goals is scored. For example, if you record the goal to the wrong team it must be crossed out immediately and the goal recorded against the correct team.
- The only other time a score sheet can be altered is when the scoresheet is checked and the error in the addition/calculation of goals (strokes/tally marks) is discovered, then the final score can be adjusted – but no additional goals may be added or subtracted from that score sheet. Hence, the final match score is calculated by the addition of the goals recorded (strokes/tall marks) against the GS or GA.
- 14.12** The score sheet is official once it is signed by the scorers, captains etc. if a human error has occurred when adding the goals scored and the mistake is not discovered until the scoresheet is checked by the recorder or administrator. Then the procedure listed under dispute resolution competition regulation 17 must be followed.
- 14.13** - Procedure used for recording goals during the game:
- Enter goals (tally marks), per line or position
 - Cross off cumulative total.
 - Record next centre pass as it is taken
 - Goals recorded against GS and GA in each quarter is the official score.
- 14.14** Procedure for completing the official score sheet at interval breaks:
- Total goals scored at the end of each quarter.
 - At the end of each quarter, circle the current cumulative score.
- 14.15** Other general duties of the scorer
- Confirm centre pass with umpires when required.
 - At the end of the game ensure captains', umpires' and scorers' names are PRINTED on the score sheet.
- 14.16** Essential Duty.
- Watch the umpires and play at all times and be aware of the 'no goal' call by the umpire.
 - Noting all warnings and suspensions on the supplied match management log
 - When suspensions occur, timing the duration (two minutes) of suspension & notifying the umpire of this.
- 14.17** The scoresheet will list the complete names (both given and surname) of all players intending to take the court.

- 14.18** Names on the scoresheet must not be added or altered after the commencement of play. Any players who take the court without having been named on the scoresheet and/or the position tracking sheet, must be removed immediately and cannot participate in the rest of the match. The scoresheet shall also indicate the positions played each quarter, the goals scored and the match score.

Penalty: Offending player to be removed immediately from the court. For the period the player was on the court, the score for that team is removed – scorers to notate on scoresheet – plus \$100.00 fine to the offending club.

- 14.19** At the match conclusion, to indicate their satisfaction that the information on the official scoresheet is correct, it is to be signed by:

- The captains of both competing teams
- Both the scorers

- Umpires must print & sign the scoresheet to advise that they have officiated the game

Penalty: \$20 fine to club or Panel Umpire

- 14.20** On match day, the Home Club is responsible for entering the results onto the PlayHQ Database by 5pm. And is to include the following:

- Quarter by quarter scores and final score
- Best Players (no team effort)
- Successful goals
- No. of Goal Attempts (not in 11&U, 13&U and 15&U)
- Ensuring all players from the line up who took to the court are included in the line up, and removing anyone who did not take to the court.

Please note: It is the responsibility of the HOME club team to ensure all this information is correct before entering the data. **Penalty: \$100 fine.**

- 14.21** It is the responsibility of the Home Club to ensure that all match day paperwork (score sheets, votes, playing are checklist) be sealed in the AFL Barwon Match Day Envelope and delivered to AFL Barwon by 10:00am on the first working day following the match. Outside office hours, it should be placed in the window slip at AFL Barwon.

Penalty: \$100.00 fine.

15. Finals

- 15.1** Teams found playing an ineligible player during finals will be considered to have lost that match and be subject to a fine set by AFL Barwon

- 15.2** Matches shall be conducted for finals as for home and away matches. The starting times may vary and clubs will be advised accordingly.

- 15.3** Drawn matches in finals:

- There is a four (4) minute interval at the end of full time to enable scores to be verified on the score sheet.
- Positional changes and substitutions may be made during this interval.
- There will be no change of ends at the end of the 4th quarter.
- 2 x 5-minute halves will be played (13&U thru E Grade); 19&U & C Grade- 2 x 6 minute halves; A Grade & B Grade – 2 x 7 minute halves.

- At the end of the first half teams have a 1-minute break, teams change ends, positional changes & substitutions are allowed.
 - Should there still be a draw at the end of the second half of extra time, play continues until one team has a two-goal advantage and therefore declared the winner.
- 15.4** In each finals, the captain whose team finished the higher at the conclusion of the Home & Away games shall toss the coin, while the captain of the team who finished lowest at the conclusion of the Home & Away games shall call.
 - 15.5** In the GFNL ONLY any junior is eligible to play in two finals – one junior and one senior – over one weekend of finals as long as they are qualified as per rule 5.
 - 15.6** In the BFNL ONLY any junior is eligible to play in two finals on the same day but not in the same age group. All players must be qualified as per rule 6.
 - 15.7** Senior players are only eligible to play in one final, per weekend.
 - 15.8** Presentation ceremonies for both junior and senior divisions will be determined by AFL Barwon in consultation with member clubs.
 - 15.9** If requested by AFL Barwon – all clubs will be allocated a responsibility during the final series.
 - 15.10** In the event of a team being unable to contest a final series match, the **AFL Barwon Netball Manager** must be notified by the Tuesday prior to the scheduled day of the match. **Walkover fees will apply.**
 - 15.11** Where a team, scheduled to play in the first round of the final series, advises that it is unable to contest that match, the team which was placed 6th at the conclusion of the Home & Away series will be promoted, and each other team within the top 5 promoted accordingly.
 - 15.12** Where a team, scheduled to play in any subsequent round of the final series, advises that it is unable to contest to that match, a walkover will be given to the opposing team which will then have automatic entry to the next round of the final series.
A team which is unable to contest one final will not be permitted to take part in subsequent finals in the same season.
 - 15.13** Club officials are responsible for submission of the starting team list to the convener of finals for that day via PlayHQ by 6pm the day prior. Any changes to starting line up post this time must be communicated to match officials on the day. All submissions must be checked at the competition office on game day.
 - 15.14** Final matches are to be played irrespective of weather conditions. However, if the conditions are considered by either or both of the officiating umpires, or AFL Barwon representative, to present a physical risk to either players or umpires, then the umpires shall call a ten (10) minute break. Then after the break, the officiating umpires, in consultation with AFL Barwon netball manager, will make a decision as to the future of the match.
 - 15.15** Play in any match, delayed due to weather conditions, is to commence, or resume, upon the direction of the two (2) officiating umpires or AFL Barwon representative.
 - 15.16** A decision made by the two (2) officiating umpires and/or AFL Barwon representative to abandon a match due to weather conditions or other extreme circumstances must be recorded on the score card, stating the time, and at what stage in the match that decision was made.

- 15.17** Alternative arrangements will be determined by AFL Barwon in consultation with member clubs.
- 15.18** Independent scorers and timers will be allocated to each junior and senior finals game by AFL Barwon.
- 15.19** Blood Policy and injury time rules must be adhered to during matches as per netball Victoria rules/Rules of Netball. At no time is a player allowed to leave the court unless directed to do so by the Umpire/Primary carer in order that any bleeding and/or injury can be assessed.

16. Risk Management

16.1 Injury reporting

- 16.1.1** All clubs are responsible for recording ALL injuries at the club discretion of the injured player or player's guardian (if aged under 18) clubs are to store the injury reporting sheets.
- 16.1.2** All players in AFL Barwon representative teams are responsible for recording all injuries at the discretion of the injured player or player's guardian (if under 18) on the Injury reporting sheet.

16.2 Concussion

- 16.2.1** Please refer to the Netball Australia and Netball Victoria Concussion Policy for best management, and follow medical advice as prescribed by your medical professional.
- 16.2.2** The most important steps in the initial management of concussion include:
1. Recognising - Recognise an injury has occurred
 2. Remove - Remove the player from the game or activity
 3. Refer - Refer the player to a qualified doctor for assessment.

16.3 First Aid

- 16.3.1** Clubs shall be responsible for their own first aid through the home and away season and finals.
- 16.3.2** Clubs are to have ice available courtside.

16.4 Playing area safety checklist

- 16.4.1** Checklist to be completed before any games played. There may be a need to review this checklist throughout the day – e.g. inclement weather.
- 16.4.2** If after the review has taken place, a category has the answer "NO", then actions should be taken to fix the problem before any matches begin.
- 16.4.3** Any matters concerning court surface, goal posts or weather should be referred immediately to the AFL Barwon netball manager.

- 16.5** A copy of completed match day checklist must be submitted in the match day paperwork envelope.
- 16.6** A copy of the match day checklist can be found on the AFL Barwon website. (www.aflbarwon.com.au) or electronically through the Safe Netball App.
- 16.7 Heat Policy**

In the event of extreme weather conditions above 28 degrees, the following steps must be

taken:

16.7.1 All quarters will be reduced and breaks extended by the following:

Saturday 13, 15 & 17 & Under Matches:

7 minute quarters

3 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ Breaks, 5 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ Break.

D Grade, E Grade

7 minute quarters

3 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ Breaks, 5 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ Break.

A Grade & B Grade Matches:

12 minute quarters

5 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ Breaks, 7 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ Break.

C Grade and 19&U Matches:

9 minute quarters

3 minutes $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ Breaks, 5 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ Break.

16.7.2 Please ensure sunscreen is readily available courtside for players and umpires.

16.7.3 In the event of weather conditions of **over 35 degrees** it will be up to the discretion of the two clubs and umpires as to whether games will go ahead.

16.7.4 Clubs will be emailed on the Friday to advise if the above changes will be put in place on the weekend's matches. It is up to the clubs to inform both club umpires of these changes on match day. AFL Barwon will notify Panel Umpires of any changes. Clubs will be emailed on the Friday/Tuesday for AFL Barwon Junior Netball matches of over **35 degrees at 3:30pm** the decision will be made by AFL Barwon to cancel the matches.

16.8 30/30 Lightning Safety Guideline

Stop play if the time between seeing a lightning flash and hearing thunder is less than 30 seconds. Immediately seek safety under appropriate shelter. Do not resume play until at least 30 minutes has passed since the last thunder was heard.

When should activities be stopped? The '30/30' rule is not an absolute rule. A storm may move very quickly, or not generate any lightning or thunder until it is very close or topographical or wind conditions may prevent sound from travelling to your position. These conditions are especially common in hilly areas. It is important that match officials observe weather conditions and be alert to the possibility of the above occurring.

- If you see lightning
- If you hear thunder
- If the skies look threatening

Stop the activity immediately and get to a safe place immediately.

16.9 Photography/Video Footage

No photographs or video footage is to be taken at matches without written consent of the opposing team manager or coach. Clubs will be given a list of teams within the league that contain players who do not consent to their image being used.

17. Dispute Resolution

- 17.1** AFL Barwon will impose the prescribed penalty or any other penalty to any member/ team that fails to adhere to these Bylaws. AFL Barwon as the governing body have the authority to identify breaches and enforce the by-law penalties to ensure the integrity of the competition is maintained at all times. A team wishing to protest a scoring issue must:
- 17.1.1** Not sign the Official scoresheet; but mark it with notice of intention to protest - then notify AFL Barwon Netball Manager of the protest.
- 17.1.2** Lodge the protest in writing with the AFL Barwon Netball Manager within 48 hours of the match being played / finished.
- 17.1.3** AFL Barwon will then discuss the issue with the relevant Club or Teams and make a decision regarding the matter. AFL Barwon shall inform the party/ies involved of their decision either verbally or in writing; or
- 17.1.4** Have an informal meeting with the relevant party/ies in order to discuss and resolve the dispute.
- 17.1.5** AFL Barwon's decision on all By-law breaches is final and cannot be appealed.
- Any member of a Club or Team who does not agree with a penalty imposed by AFL Barwon for breaches of Netball Victoria/Australia codes of conduct, policies & regulations, may appeal through the AFL Barwon Appeals Officer (Chief Executive Officer) as per the process stipulated in the by-laws.**

- The appeal must be accompanied by a \$250 cheque of which:\$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is upheld.
- Up to \$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is dismissed. (At the discretion of the Appeals Board)
- Up to \$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is not heard. (At the discretion of the Appeals Board)

18. Special Circumstances

Where a by-law or competition regulation is silent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of AFL Barwon Netball Competitions is maintained at all times. An appropriate penalty may also be enforced.

The appeals committee may, in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in these competition regulations relating to AFL Barwon.

19. Indemnity

Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded, AFL Barwon and its representative directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage, however caused, arising whilst participating as a member.

Club - Netball	Uniform	Alternate-Approved Uniform	Shorts	Socks
Anglesea	Royal Blue & White		Royal Blue	White
Barwon Heads	Navy, Sky Blue & White		Navy Blue or Black	White & Club Socks
Bell Park	Green & White	✓	Black	White & Club Socks
Colac	Black, Gold and White		Black	Any Colour
Drysdale	Brown & Gold	✓	Black or Brown	White or black
Geelong Amateur	Green, Blue & White		Black or Navy	White, Black or Club Socks
Geelong West Giants	Charcoal, Orange & White		Black shorts or briefs	White or Black
Grovedale	Black and Yellow	✓	Club shorts or black	White, Black or Club Socks
Lara	Blue & White		Lara Shorts or Navy	White or Club Socks
Leopold	Green & Gold		Black	White or Club Socks
Modewarre	Maroon and Light Blue		Maroon or club briefs	White, Black or Club Socks
Newcomb	Maroon, Sky Blue & Yellow		Black or Maroon	White, Black or Club Socks
Newtown & Chilwell	Red & Black		Black	White, Black or Club Socks
North Shore	Royal Blue & Yellow		Royal Blue & Yellow	White, Black or Club Socks
Ocean Grove	Red & White	✓	Black	White, Black or Club socks
Portarlington	Red, Navy and White		Black or Navy	Any Colour
Queenscliff	Royal Blue, Red & White		Royal Blue	White, Black or Club Socks
South Barwon	Royal Blue, Red & White		Club Shorts- Royal Blue, Red & White	White or Club Socks
St Albans	Black & White	✓	Black	White, Black or Club Socks
St Joseph's	Red, Black & Gold	✓	Black	White, Black or Club Socks
St Marys	Navy & Green	✓	Navy or Black	White, Black or Club Socks
Torquay	Black & Yellow	✓	Black	White, Black or Club Socks
Armstrong Creek	Orange, Blue and White	✓	Navy or Black	White, Black or Club Socks
Bannockburn	Black & Yellow		Black	White, Black or Club Socks
East Geelong	Maroon & Gold		Maroon	White, Black or Club Socks
Inverleigh	Brown & Gold		Black or Brown	White, Black or Club Socks
Surf Coast Suns	Red, Yellow and Blue		Black	White or Club Socks
Winchelsea	Navy Blue & White		Navy	White or Club Socks

2026 GFNL - SENIOR FOOTBALL & A GRADE FIXTURE



Blood Toyota

ROUND 0

SATURDAY 4 APRIL
St Joseph's vs Leopold
Stribling Reserve (Lorne)

ROUND 1

SATURDAY 11 APRIL
South Barwon vs Grovedale
McDonald Reserve
Colac vs St Mary's
Central Reserve
St Albans vs North Shore*
St Albans Reserve
St Albans vs St Joseph's A Grade
Lara vs Newtown & Chilwell*
Lara Recreation Reserve

SUNDAY 12 APRIL

Geelong West vs Leopold
West Oval Reserve
BYE
Bell Park, St Joseph's

ROUND 2

SATURDAY 18 APRIL
Newtown & Chilwell vs St Joseph's
Elderslie Reserve
Grovedale vs St Albans
Burdoos Reserve
South Barwon vs Bell Park
McDonald Reserve
Geelong West vs Colac
West Oval Reserve
North Shore vs Leopold
Windsor Park
Lara vs St Mary's*
Lara Recreation Reserve

ROUND 3

FRIDAY 24 APRIL
North Shore vs Newtown & Chilwell
Windsor Park
SATURDAY 25 APRIL
Geelong West vs St Albans
West Oval Reserve
St Joseph's vs South Barwon
Herne Hill Reserve
Grovedale vs Lara*
Burdoos Reserve
SUNDAY 26 APRIL
Leopold vs Colac
Leopold Memorial Park
St Mary's vs Bell Park
Kardinia Park West
ROUND 4
SATURDAY 2 MAY
Bell Park vs Leopold
Hamlyn Park
Colac vs South Barwon
Central Reserve
Newtown & Chilwell vs Grovedale
Elderslie Reserve
North Shore vs St Joseph's
Windsor Park
St Albans vs St Mary's
St Albans Reserve
Lara vs Geelong West*
West Oval Reserve

ROUND 5

SATURDAY 9 MAY
Colac vs St Albans
Central Reserve
North Shore vs Geelong West
Windsor Park
Grovedale v Bell Park
Burdoos Reserve
Leopold vs Newtown & Chilwell
Leopold Memorial Park
St Mary's vs St Joseph's
Kardinia Park West
South Barwon vs Lara*
McDonald Reserve

ROUND 6

SATURDAY 16 MAY
Bell Park vs Newtown & Chilwell
Hamlyn Park
Leopold vs Grovedale
Leopold Memorial Park
South Barwon vs St Albans
McDonald Reserve
St Joseph's vs Geelong West
Herne Hill Reserve
St Mary's vs North Shore
Kardinia Park West
Lara v Colac*
Lara Recreation Reserve

ROUND 7

SATURDAY 23 MAY
Bell Park vs St Joseph's
Hamlyn Park
South Barwon vs Leopold
McDonald Reserve
Newtown & Chilwell vs Geelong West
Elderslie Reserve
Colac vs North Shore
Central Reserve
Grovedale vs St Mary's
Burdoos Reserve
Lara vs St Albans*
Lara Recreation Reserve

ROUND 8

SATURDAY 30 MAY
Geelong West vs St Mary's
West Oval Reserve
North Shore vs Grovedale
Windsor Park
St Albans vs Bell Park
St Albans Reserve
St Joseph's vs Colac
Herne Hill Reserve
Lara vs Leopold*
Lara Recreation Reserve
SUNDAY 31 MAY
Newtown & Chilwell vs South Barwon
Elderslie Reserve

ROUND 9

SATURDAY 6 JUNE
Colac vs Bell Park
Central Reserve
Leopold vs St Joseph's
Leopold Memorial Park
St Mary's vs South Barwon
Kardinia Park West
St Albans vs Newtown & Chilwell
St Albans Reserve
Grovedale vs Geelong West
Burdoos Reserve
Lara vs North Shore*
Lara Recreation Reserve

ROUND 10

SATURDAY 13 JUNE
Bell Park vs South Barwon
Hamlyn Park
Colac v Geelong West
Central Reserve
Leopold vs North Shore
Leopold Memorial Park
St Joseph's vs St Albans
Herne Hill Reserve
St Mary's vs Grovedale
Kardinia Park West
Newtown & Chilwell vs Lara*
Elderslie Reserve

ROUND 11

SATURDAY 20 JUNE
Geelong West vs South Barwon
West Oval Reserve
St Albans vs Grovedale
St Albans Reserve
North Shore vs Colac
Windsor Park
St Mary's vs Newtown & Chilwell
Kardinia Park West
Lara vs Bell Park*
Lara Recreation Reserve

ROUND 12

SATURDAY 27 JUNE
Bell Park vs Geelong West
Hamlyn Park
Grovedale vs St Joseph's
Burdoos Reserve
Leopold vs St Mary's
Leopold Memorial Park
Newtown & Chilwell vs Colac
Elderslie Reserve
South Barwon vs North Shore
McDonald Reserve
St Albans vs Lara*
St Albans Reserve

BYE

SATURDAY 4 JULY

ROUND 13

SATURDAY 11 JULY
Colac vs Grovedale
Central Reserve
Geelong West vs Newtown & Chilwell
West Oval Reserve
North Shore vs Bell Park
Windsor Park
South Barwon vs St Mary's
McDonald Reserve
St Albans vs Leopold
St Albans Reserve
St Joseph's vs Lara*
Herne Hill Reserve

ROUND 14

SATURDAY 18 JULY
Bell Park vs Colac
Hamlyn Park
Grovedale vs South Barwon
Burdoos Reserve
Leopold vs Geelong West
Leopold Memorial Park
North Shore vs St Albans
Windsor Park
St Joseph's vs Newtown & Chilwell
Herne Hill Reserve
St Mary's vs Lara*
Kardinia Park West

ROUND 15

SATURDAY 25 JULY
Bell Park vs St Mary's
Hamlyn Park
Colac vs Leopold
Central Reserve
Newtown & Chilwell vs North Shore
Elderslie Reserve
South Barwon vs St Joseph's
McDonald Reserve
St Albans vs Geelong West
St Albans Reserve
Lara vs Grovedale*
Lara Recreation Reserve

ROUND 16

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST
Grovedale vs Newtown & Chilwell*
Burdoos Reserve
Leopold vs Bell Park
Leopold Memorial Park
South Barwon vs Colac
McDonald Reserve
St Joseph's vs North Shore
Herne Hill Reserve
St Mary's vs St Albans
Kardinia Park West
Geelong West vs Lara*
West Oval Reserve

ROUND 17

SATURDAY 8 AUGUST
Geelong West vs St Joseph's
West Oval Reserve
Grovedale vs Leopold
Burdoos Reserve
Newtown & Chilwell vs Bell Park
Elderslie Reserve
North Shore vs St Mary's
Windsor Park
St Albans vs South Barwon**
St Albans Reserve
Colac vs Lara*
Central Reserve

ROUND 18

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST
Bell Park vs Grovedale
Hamlyn Park
Newtown & Chilwell vs Leopold
Elderslie Reserve
Geelong West vs North Shore
West Oval Reserve
St Albans vs Colac
St Albans Reserve
St Joseph's vs St Mary's
Herne Hill Reserve
Lara vs South Barwon*
Lara Recreation Reserve

ROUND 19

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST
Bell Park vs St Albans
Hamlyn Park
Colac vs St Joseph's
Central Reserve
Grovedale vs North Shore
Burdoos Reserve
South Barwon vs Newtown & Chilwell
McDonald Reserve
St Mary's vs Geelong West
Kardinia Park West
Leopold vs Lara*
Leopold Memorial Park

ROUND 20

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST
Geelong West vs Grovedale
West Oval Reserve
Leopold vs South Barwon
Leopold Memorial Park
Newtown & Chilwell vs St Albans
Elderslie Reserve
St Joseph's vs Bell Park
Herne Hill Reserve
St Mary's vs Colac
Kardinia Park West
North Shore vs Lara*
Windsor Park

* Netball only

**A Grade Bye

Alternative Schedule

5 & 6 SEPTEMBER
QUALIFYING &
ELIMINATION FINALS

12 & 13 SEPTEMBER
SEMI
FINALS

SAT 19 SEPTEMBER
PRELIMINARY
FINALS

FRI 25 SEPTEMBER
GRAND
FINALS

2026 BELLARINE FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE FIXTURE



DOW

ROUND 1

FRIDAY 3 APRIL

Geelong Amateur vs Modewarre
Queens Park Reserve
Ocean Grove vs Anglesea
Shell Rd Rec Res

SATURDAY 4 APRIL

Barwon Heads vs Portarlington
Howard Harmer Oval
Queenscliff vs Drysdale
Queenscliff Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Torquay
Banyul-Warri Fields
Newcomb vs Bye

ROUND 2

SATURDAY 11 APRIL

Anglesea vs Newcomb
Ellimatta Reserve
Drysdale vs Geelong Amateur
Drysdale Rec Res
Modewarre vs Ocean Grove
Mt Moriac Reserve
Portarlington vs Surf Coast Suns
Portarlington Rec Res
Torquay vs Queenscliff
McCartney Oval
Barwon Heads vs Bye

ROUND 3

SATURDAY 18 APRIL

Barwon Heads vs Anglesea
Howard Harmer Oval
Newcomb vs Modewarre
Grinter Reserve
Ocean Grove vs Drysdale
Shell Rd Rec Res
Queenscliff vs Geelong Amateur
Queenscliff Rec Res
Torquay vs Portarlington
McCartney Oval
Surf Coast Suns vs Bye

ROUND 4

SATURDAY 25 APRIL

Portarlington vs Drysdale
Portarlington Rec Res
Newcomb vs Ocean Grove
Grinter Reserve

SUNDAY 26 APRIL

Anglesea vs Torquay
Ellimatta Reserve
Geelong Amateur vs Barwon Heads
Queens Park Reserve
Surf Coast Suns vs Queenscliff
Banyul-Warri Fields
Modewarre vs Bye

ROUND 5

SATURDAY 2 MAY

Barwon Heads vs Queenscliff
Howard Harmer Oval
Drysdale vs Surf Coast Suns
Drysdale Rec Res
Modewarre vs Portarlington
Mt Moriac Reserve
Newcomb vs Geelong Amateur
Grinter Reserve
Torquay vs Ocean Grove
McCartney Oval
Anglesea vs Bye

ROUND 6

SATURDAY 9 MAY

Barwon Heads vs Drysdale
Howard Harmer Oval
Geelong Amateur vs Ocean Grove
Queens Park Reserve
Portarlington vs Anglesea
Portarlington Rec Res
Queenscliff vs Newcomb
Queenscliff Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Modewarre
Banyul-Warri Fields
Torquay vs Bye

ROUND 7

SATURDAY 16 MAY

Anglesea vs Surf Coast Suns
Ellimatta Reserve
Barwon Heads vs Modewarre
Howard Harmer Oval
Drysdale vs Newcomb
Drysdale Rec Res
Geelong Amateur vs Torquay
Queens Park Reserve
Ocean Grove vs Queenscliff
Shell Rd Rec Res
Portarlington vs Bye

ROUND 8

SATURDAY 23 MAY

Barwon Heads vs Torquay
Howard Harmer Oval
Drysdale vs Modewarre
Drysdale Rec Res
Newcomb vs Surf Coast Suns
Grinter Reserve
Ocean Grove vs Portarlington
Shell Rd Rec Res
Queenscliff vs Anglesea
Queenscliff Rec Res
Geelong Amateur vs Bye

ROUND 9

SATURDAY 30 MAY

Anglesea vs Geelong Amateur
Ellimatta Reserve
Modewarre vs Queenscliff
Mt Moriac Reserve
Portarlington vs Newcomb
Portarlington Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Barwon Heads
Banyul-Warri Fields
Torquay vs Drysdale
McCartney Oval
Ocean Grove vs Bye

ROUND 10

SATURDAY 6 JUNE

Anglesea vs Drysdale
Ellimatta Reserve
Barwon Heads vs Newcomb
Howard Harmer Oval
Portarlington vs Geelong Amateur
Portarlington Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Ocean Grove
Banyul-Warri Fields
Torquay vs Modewarre
McCartney Oval
Queenscliff vs Bye

ROUND 11

SATURDAY 13 JUNE

Geelong Amateur vs Surf Coast Suns
Queens Park Reserve
Modewarre vs Anglesea
Mt Moriac Reserve
Newcomb vs Torquay
Grinter Reserve
Barwon Heads vs Ocean Grove
Howard Harmer Oval
Queenscliff vs Portarlington
Queenscliff Rec Res
Drysdale vs Bye

ROUND 12

SATURDAY 20 JUNE

Anglesea vs Ocean Grove
Ellimatta Reserve
Drysdale vs Queenscliff
Drysdale Rec Res
Modewarre vs Geelong Amateur
Mt Moriac Reserve
Portarlington vs Barwon Heads
Portarlington Rec Res
Torquay vs Surf Coast Suns
McCartney Oval
Newcomb vs Bye

ROUND 13

SATURDAY 27 JUNE

Geelong Amateur vs Drysdale
Queens Park Reserve
Newcomb vs Anglesea
Grinter Reserve
Ocean Grove vs Modewarre
Shell Rd Rec Res
Queenscliff vs Torquay
Queenscliff Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Portarlington
Banyul-Warri Fields
Barwon Heads vs Bye

BYE

SATURDAY 4 JULY

ROUND 14

SATURDAY 11 JULY

Geelong Amateur vs Newcomb
Queens Park Reserve
Torquay vs Modewarre
Portarlington Rec Res
Queenscliff vs Barwon Heads
Queenscliff Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Drysdale
Banyul-Warri Fields
Anglesea vs Bye
Ocean Grove vs Bye
Torquay vs Bye

ROUND 15

SATURDAY 18 JULY

Anglesea vs Portarlington
Ellimatta Reserve
Drysdale vs Barwon Heads
Drysdale Rec Res
Modewarre vs Surf Coast Suns
Mt Moriac Reserve
Newcomb vs Queenscliff
Grinter Reserve
Ocean Grove vs Torquay
Shell Rd Rec Res
Geelong Amateur vs Bye

ROUND 16

SATURDAY 25 JULY

Anglesea vs Barwon Heads
Ellimatta Reserve
Drysdale vs Ocean Grove
Drysdale Rec Res
Geelong Amateur vs Queenscliff
Queens Park Reserve
Modewarre vs Newcomb
Mt Moriac Reserve
Portarlington vs Torquay
Portarlington Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Bye

ROUND 17

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST

Modewarre vs Barwon Heads
Mt Moriac Reserve
Newcomb vs Drysdale
Grinter Reserve
Queenscliff vs Ocean Grove
Queenscliff Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Anglesea
Banyul-Warri Fields
Torquay vs Geelong Amateur
McCartney Oval
Portarlington vs Bye

ROUND 18

SATURDAY 8 AUGUST

Barwon Heads vs Geelong Amateur
Howard Harmer Oval
Drysdale vs Portarlington
Drysdale Rec Res
Ocean Grove vs Newcomb
Shell Rd Rec Res
Queenscliff vs Surf Coast Suns
Queenscliff Rec Res
Torquay vs Anglesea
McCartney Oval
Modewarre vs Bye

ROUND 19

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST

Drysdale vs Anglesea
Drysdale Rec Res
Geelong Amateur vs Portarlington
Queens Park Reserve
Modewarre vs Torquay
Mt Moriac Reserve
Newcomb vs Barwon Heads
Grinter Reserve
Ocean Grove vs Surf Coast Suns
Shell Rd Rec Res
Queenscliff vs Bye

ROUND 20

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST

Anglesea vs Modewarre
Ellimatta Reserve
Ocean Grove vs Barwon Heads
Shell Rd Rec Res
Portarlington vs Queenscliff
Portarlington Rec Res
Surf Coast Suns vs Geelong Amateur
Banyul-Warri Fields
Torquay vs Newcomb
McCartney Oval
Drysdale vs Bye

FINALS

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST

Qualifying Finals
TBC

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST

Elimination Finals
TBC

SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

2nd Semi Finals
TBC

SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

1st Semi Finals
TBC

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

Preliminary Finals
TBC

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

Grand Finals
TBC



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