

NEW SOUTH WALES CHURCHES FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INC.



GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIALS, COACHES, MANAGERS & PLAYERS

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### INTRODUCTION

All games of soccer football played by teams affiliated with the NSW Churches Football Association (the Association) will be played according to the FIFA Laws of the Game, except where modified by the Association Competition Rules, which are summarised in this guide.

This publication is provided for guidance of Club Officials, Coaches and Managers and covers only the important on-field rules of competition. It is not intended to be exhaustive, nor cover all aspects of the rules covering play.

Clubs should take care to observe the registration and other requirements detailed in the Association's Competition Rules, Constitution, By-laws and Notices. Updates to these documents will be undertaken periodically; with up to date changes published in Association Notices to Clubs.

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### OFFICE BEARERS

President – Paul Sydenham

Vice President – Keith Clissold

Secretary – Matthew Duggan – [secretary@nswcfa.com.au](mailto:secretary@nswcfa.com.au)

Treasurer – Peter Graham – [treasurer@nswcfa.com.au](mailto:treasurer@nswcfa.com.au)

Management Committee Member – Derek Crumbley

Management Committee Member – Stuart Smith

Registrar – Kim Sydenham – [registrar@nswcfa.com.au](mailto:registrar@nswcfa.com.au)

Referee Convenor – Phil Dippert – [referees@nswcfa.com.au](mailto:referees@nswcfa.com.au)

Judiciary Chairman – Neil Jenkin – [judiciary@nswcfa.com.au](mailto:judiciary@nswcfa.com.au)

Technical Director – Ian Sinden

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### POSTAL ADDRESS AND CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

Street Address: 3/9 Chester Hill Rd  
CHESTER HILL 2162

Postal Address: P O Box 509  
CHESTER HILL NSW 2162

Telephone No: (02) 8091 6100

Office No. (02) 9645 6100 only during office hours of operation

Facsimile No: (02) 8417 2666

E-Mail: [secretary@nswcfa.com.au](mailto:secretary@nswcfa.com.au)

Web site [www.nswcfa.com.au](http://www.nswcfa.com.au)

Facebook [www.facebook.com/NSW Churches Football](http://www.facebook.com/NSW Churches Football)

Twitter [@nswcfa\\_news](https://twitter.com/nswcfa_news)



## NSWCFA – Guidelines to operation

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### OFFICE HOURS OF OPERATION

Mondays - 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Wednesdays - 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM (by appointment only)

The Association office is generally open on Monday evenings. However, contact should be made prior to attending to ensure the office is open.

### CONTACT WITH ASSOCIATION

All contact with the Association must be through the Club Secretary. Correspondence from the President or Treasurer of a Club will be accepted in the event the Secretary is unavailable. Correspondence from coaches, players or other individuals will not be accepted and thus will not be dealt with by the Management Committee unless attached to a covering letter from the Club Secretary. Correspondence (other than email) that is unsigned, undated or both will not be accepted nor dealt with by the Management Committee.

## ASSOCIATION'S OBJECTIVES & POLICIES

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### MOTTO

As a Christian sporting organisation, the Association stands firmly behind its motto "For God and Sport".

### OBJECTIVES

The Association's objectives are to:

- Provide a Christian environment in which our members can participate in the game of Soccer Football,
- Witness our Christian beliefs by conducting ourselves in a manner that reflects our Church affiliation,
- To demonstrate that a Church affiliated Soccer Association offers an opportunity to enjoy sport in an environment that offers equity, consideration and dignity to all, and
- To be an outreach to those people with whom we have contact who have not yet come to know our Lord.

### CODE OF CONDUCT

The UK organisation Christians In Sport have a saying "Pray, Play, Say!". This is derived from Colossians 4:2-6. The passage exhorts Christians to live out their faith on the sporting field and have developed a number of bible studies and lessons based on this principle.

Colossians 4:2-6

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. <sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

The Association has adopted the Football NSW Code of Conduct which may be found at Appendix 1 to this document. But as a Christian organisation we encourage our Christian members to think more deeply about how and why they play football and the example they set to those around them.

### WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Commissioner for Children and Young People has written the following foreword to its guidelines.

*"The communities that children and young people live in and the organisations they are part of are important to their well-being.*

*And every day children and young people across NSW spend time with adults in organisations such as schools, childcare centres, refuges, sporting clubs and hospitals.*

*Keeping children and young people safe in the workplace is part of your broader responsibility, as an employer, to manage risks within your organisation.*

*These Guidelines will show you how to meet your responsibilities under the Working With Children program.*

*The Commission for Children and Young People has also developed other resources to complement these Guidelines and help you create a safer, friendlier organisation for kids. You can find these resources on the Commission's website at [www.kids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au)."*

### WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

IT IS EACH CLUBS RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT THEY COMPLY WITH THE NSW COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE GUIDELINES.

Any applicants unsure of their status as a prohibited person should seek legal advice. Clubs are reminded that only persons who have completed the declaration are permitted to work with children.

The NSWCFA has appointed a Child Protection Officer. This position has the responsibility of ensuring that the Association Management, including Referees comply with the Working With Children Legislation, and also provide guidance to Clubs regarding their compliance where requested. The officer can be contacted through the Association Office by telephone or email if required.

The required documentation is to be completed by any person appointed in the position of Club Official, Coach, Manager, Trainer, Referee or any person appointed in direct supervision of children by any club of NSWCFA.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### CLEARANCES FOR NEW PLAYERS

Clubs are advised to ensure all new players and players returning from other Clubs have a clearance from their prior Club. All such players must have served any disciplinary action imposed by this or another association.

#### EARLY SEASON CUT-OFF & CRITICAL DATES

Each year a season calendar is released with cut-off dates applicable to the season. Generally, the cut off dates will be in accordance with the following table.

1 <sup>st</sup> week of March	Last date for submission of Team entries – FORM B
Last Monday in March	Full payment of fees due.
	Player ID cards issued to Clubs
	Council Meeting
Last Wednesday in March	Special Judiciary to hear outstanding cases from prior season.
1st Saturday in April	Competition commences
30 June	Last day for player registrations

**FORMS**

The introduction of new processes and procedures means that the forms system previously adopted is no longer the most efficient means of operation. Some forms have been retained

FORM A – CLUB REGISTRATION	Registers the club as a member of the Association for the year and advises the names of the club committee members and councillors.
FORM B – TEAM ENTRY	No longer used
FORM CI – INDIVIDUAL PLAYER REGISTRATION	Previously used for individual player registrations, this form has been replaced by the online registration system.
FORM D – RESERVE GRADE QUALIFICATION	The form is to be replaced by the online registration system which will record matches played by individual players. As a transitional measure, for 2013 teams will be allowed to continue the use of FORM D.
FORM E – KNOCKOUT ENTRY	No longer used, replaced by email communication
FORM F – STATE CUP ENTRY	No longer used, replaced by email communication
FORM G – SIX A SIDE ENTRY	No longer used, replaced by email communication
FORM H – ASSOCIATE REFEREE NOMINATIONS	No longer used, replaced by online registration system
FORM I – NOMIATIONS OF INSURANCE FOR COACHES, MANAGERS AND OTHER OFFICIALS	No longer used. Club officials are now automatically covered by the Association insurance policy.
FORM M – MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOMINATION	Used to nominate eligible members for election to the Management Committee of the Association at the Annual General meeting.
FORM O – OVERAGE PLAYER NOTIFICATION	No longer used. The online registration system will notify automatically whether there are any overage players.
FORM P – STATEMENT OF PAYMENT	No longer used. The Treasurer will now issue invoices to Clubs for payment.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Club Council meetings are generally held on the first Monday of each month at the Association offices.

The main exception is the April meeting is held on the last Monday of March because the first week of competition often precedes the first Monday in April.

At the Council meeting only nominated Club Councillors are able to vote in any decision (a maximum of two per club to vote). The Club Councillors are nominated by the Club when they submit their Form A. The club may nominate up to 4 Club Councillors.

### REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

Clubs registering new players who have previously played with other Associations should be aware that the NSWCFA will honour any disciplinary action imposed by other Associations.

Clubs with doubts about any player's status may contact the Association and have the player checked for any outstanding suspension.

Clubs who allow players to participate in any match while suspended will lose any competition points gained, and may face disciplinary action by this Association.

### UNIFORMS

Clubs are reminded that the Management Committee must approve all Club uniforms, including alternate uniforms, before they can be worn in competition.

### AGE GROUP DETERMINATION

The age group determination for junior players is taken from the 31<sup>st</sup> December of the prior year. The following dates are applicable:

Age Group	Cut-off date for the 2013 competition
Under 6	Must have been born after 31 December 2006
Under 7	Must have been born after 31 December 2005
Under 8	Must have been born after 31 December 2004
Under 9	Must have been born after 31 December 2003
Under 10	Must have been born after 31 December 2002
Under 11	Must have been born after 31 December 2001
Under 12	Must have been born after 31 December 2000

For a player to play in the under 12 competition, he must not have turned 12 at 31 December immediately prior to the season being registered. Eg: if the player is 11 at 31 December 2012, then he is eligible for the under 12 competition in 2013.

## NSWCFA – Guidelines to operation

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### TEAM ENTRIES & GAME FORFEITS

Clubs are advised that teams entered into the Saturday competition, the Knockout, State Cup or Six-a-Side competitions on the respective forms will be accepted by the Association in good faith. Any Club wishing to withdraw any team entered into a competition in order to avoid penalties as detailed below must observe strict time rules.

Competition	Date Entry Due	Withdrawal Deadline	Failure to notify penalty
Saturday Competition – Weekly Rounds	3 weeks prior	72 hours before match ( 3 days )	\$50 per team
Knockout	3 weeks prior	72 hours before match ( 3 days )	\$100 per team
State Cup	3 weeks prior	72 hours before match ( 3 days )	\$100 per team
Six-a-Side	3 weeks prior	72 hours before match ( 3 days )	\$100 per team

There will be no exceptions to the withdrawal conditions, and any penalties incurred must be paid before the CLUB will be eligible to participate in any further activity of the Association.

### PRE-COMPETITION TRIAL GAMES

Clubs are required to notify the Secretary of the Association of any trial games in which their members are participating.

### GROUNDS & PLAYING FACILITIES

It is the home team that is responsible for the following:

- All fields having adequate markings, nets and corner posts, with safe and secure goal posts.
- Toilet facilities to be open and available at all required times.
- Parking areas to be unlocked at all matches
- Ensure all AMBULANCE & EMERGENCY ENTRY & EXITS are UNBLOCKED at all times.
- Damaged or inadequate facilities and or grounds to be advised to the local Council and to the Association Secretary urgently for rectification by the appropriate body.
- Club appointed Ground Official to be present at all times while matches are in progress. These officials are to wear the appropriate Association issued vest.

### PLAYER IN HIGHER AGE GROUP OR GRADE

All age players (including Raahauge Cup and Premier league players) may only play twice in a higher division or age group.

On playing a third match in higher division such player shall not be permitted to revert to his original division.

Players may not play in a lower division than the division in which he is registered.

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**DUAL AFFILIATION**

Under the Association's Constitution any Club or Association may not affiliate with any other football (soccer) association without first obtaining permission in writing from NSWCFA.

Any breach of this provision may result in the player and their Club facing disciplinary action by the NSW Churches Football Association. This Association may impose any penalty including disqualification or disaffiliation.

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**QUESTIONS ARISING**

If doubt exists regarding any matter concerning any aspect of the Constitution, By-laws or General rules, Clubs should contact the Association Secretary for a ruling. Where applicable such contact shall be in writing. It is the responsibility of the Club concerned for any mistake made by any teams, officials or players.

## **BREACHES OF CONDUCT**

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### **FINES AND FORFEITURE OF POINTS**

Various matters described as prohibited or required, can, if breached, result in fines and or other penalties including the forfeiture of competition points and suspension or expulsion of players and/or Clubs.

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### **SUSPENSION GUIDELINES**

The Association has issued separate suspension guidelines which explain the operation of the disciplinary committee.

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### **JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

The Judiciary Committee normally meets on Wednesday nights at the Association offices at 6.30 pm.

All appearances should be coordinated through the Club Secretary.

It is acknowledged that there are occasions where a player is unable to attend a Judiciary hearing at the scheduled time. In the event a player is required to appear before the Judiciary Committee players with work or study commitments or extreme transport difficulties due to distance should ask their Club Secretary to make prior representations asking for them to be excused from attendance. If they are not excused in advance the player must attend the Judiciary Committee meeting.

Players needing to attend Judiciary Committee hearings must do so with their Club Secretary or Club President. A booking time to attend judiciary must be requested by the Club Secretary on Monday evenings between the hours of 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM.

Where permission is granted for the player to not attend he is required to submit a written submission to the Association office by 6.30pm on the Tuesday evening prior to the hearing.

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### **ALCOHOL AT GROUNDS**

It is NSWCFA policy that no alcohol is to be present or consumed at any NSWCFA games. It is further noted that for the majority of the grounds used by NSWCFA, Council Regulations do not permit the consumption of alcohol at the grounds. Any breach of Council regulations may jeopardise the hiring agreement between NSWCFA and the council.

Clubs found guilty of this offence may be fined \$500 or higher for repeat offences.

Players found guilty of this may be suspended from playing soccer for up to 12 months.

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### **SMOKE FREE POLICY**

With effect from 7 January 2013 the NSW government introduced new bans on smoking. This means that smoking is also banned at public (outdoor) playgrounds within 10m of children's play equipment, in open areas of public swimming pools, at major sports grounds, within 4m of any building open to the public and at public transport stops (including outdoor parts of railway stations, bus stops, light rail stops and taxi ranks).

The NSW government fact sheet issued in relation to the application to sports grounds is attached at Appendix 2 to this document



### MISCONDUCT

By registering with the Association each club and their player sign an agreement to abide by the Association Code of Conduct. In addition, Clubs take responsibility for the behaviour of their players and spectators.

The Association will not tolerate the use of foul or abusive language or blasphemy. Involvement in racist, sexist or harassing behaviour is also unacceptable, as are incidents of violence, fighting or unsportsmanlike behaviour.

Players guilty of such behaviour will be cautioned or sent-off by the Referee. Club officials and spectators misbehaving render their Club liable to being cited to appear before the Judiciary Committee or the Management Committee.

These Committees will not hesitate to severely penalise players, teams and Clubs who bring the game or the Association into disrepute, so all participants are strongly counselled to behave in a manner that benefits the ideals of the Association and that provides a good example to our younger members.

### BEING CITED FOR MISCONDUCT

If conduct that brings the game or the Association into disrepute occurs, then the person, team or Club misbehaving may be cited by an official of the Association to appear before the Judiciary Committee.

If a citation is issued, then the person, team or Club cannot participate in any activity until the matter has been determined by the Judiciary Committee.

An official of the Association is a member of the Management Committee, the Judiciary Committee, or an official Inspector. A Club cannot cite another Club or player; however a Club Secretary may report any incident to the Association for investigation, which may result in a player, official, team or Club being cited.

A person participating on the field of play in a match under the control of a Referee cannot be cited for misconduct whilst the match is in progress, as he/she is dealt with by the Referee under the Laws of the game. Any other member of a Club including a Coach, Manager, or spectator can be cited for misconduct.

### NOTIFICATION OF SEND OFF'S

If a player is sent from the field of play at any match refereed by an Associate Referee or by a Club member performing the duties of a referee, the referee is required to submit a match report which includes the following details:

- a) name of the player sent off.
- b) team and Division of the match.
- c) ground at which the match was played
- d) time the match commenced.
- e) charge that is laid against the player concerned.
- f) A description of the incident or incidents leading to the send-off.

This information must be conveyed to the Association's office on the night on which the game was conducted.

The report and ID card must be in the hands of the Association by 6pm of the Monday following the game.

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## REPORTING OF MATCH RESULTS

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### SENIORS

Where an Association Referee is supplied, the Association Referee will report the match results, cautions and send-offs.

Where an Association Referee is not supplied club secretaries are responsible for advising the Association by recording the match result, cautions and send-offs through the online record.

All match sheets must be returned to the Association as soon as practical after the match is completed and within 7 days of the match being played. In the case of send-offs, the match sheet must be returned by the Monday following the match.

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### JUNIORS

The home team club secretaries are responsible for advising the Association by recording the match result, cautions and send-offs through the online record.

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### ALL MATCHES

Results must be reported within the following timeframes:

Saturday Games	by 6pm Sunday
Midweek Games	by 6pm the following day

Club Secretaries are also to ensure that the match sheet has been properly completed in all respects and signed by the Associate Referee, if applicable.

## MAIN RULES OF THE COMPETITION

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### OBSERVANCE OF COMPETITION RULES

The Management Committee shall have the power to declare any fixture abandoned where it is apparent that the rules of the competition have not been properly observed.

All matches are played in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game unless otherwise provided for in this document or published by the Management Committee from time to time.

### DURATION OF MATCHES

Age Group	Match length
Under 6	15 minutes each way
Under 7	20 minutes each way
Under 8	20 minutes each way
Under 9	20 minutes each way
Under 10	20 minutes each way
Under 11	20 minutes each way
Under 12	20 minutes each way
All Age	45 minutes each way
Over 35	40 minutes each way

### COACHING ON THE FIELD

Unless specifically referred to in the competition rules, no person is allowed on the field to coach players.

### ATTENDING INJURED PLAYERS

No person is to enter the field of play until invited to do so by the Referee, even in case of injury. The attention of the Referee may be politely drawn to an injured player. At the Referee's signal ONE person may enter the field of play to attend the player. This is usually the team Coach, Manager or an accredited first aid person. If further assistance is required the Referee's consent should be obtained.

Where a player's injury is such that they require specialist medical assistance, they should not be moved from the field until that assistance (doctor or ambulance) attends. Play will only re-commence once an injured player has been safely removed from the field. The safety and welfare of players always takes precedence over the continuation of a game.

### FIRST AID KIT

It is a recommendation that all clubs have a qualified first aid person at the ground at all times when matches are played.

All teams are required to have a basic first aid kit available for each team for the treatment of minor injuries such as scratches, scrapes or grazes. In the event of a more serious injury, medical attention will be sought if parents or care-givers are not available.

Ambulance fees for patient transport are covered by the Association insurance policy.

NSWCFA will make available first aid kits for purchase by the Clubs.

### WAITING TIMES

If one or both teams are not ready at the appointed match time, or at the time the referee is ready to commence the match (if later than the appointed match time), the waiting time until the match is not played is one third of the playing time.

If the waiting time expires, the match is not run and the matter is reported to the Association either on or with the match sheet.

### MATCHES FINISHING ON TIME

Only First Grade matches in Premier League and Raahauge Cup have injury or stoppage time. All other matches must finish at their appointment time.

Reserve grade games will start at 1:15pm. If a match commences late, or is shortened by injury, the playing time shall be divided into two equal halves, with allowance for a 5-minute half time break. The game must finish by 3pm.

The First grade game will start at 3:15pm. The referee shall allow for stoppage and injury time. The game will be played in 45 minute halves, with a minimum of 5 minutes half time break.

### HEAT CONDITIONS

If hot weather conditions exist during the early rounds of competition the Management Committee have recommended that drink breaks be taken. These breaks should be taken mid-point of each half and the game be shortened to allow the next game to commence on time. Players are not to leave the field and the break shall be for 2 to 3 minutes.

### SENIOR TEAM CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND

Senior Team Captains shall wear a distinctive armband.

Captains not wearing an armband relinquish any right to communicate with the referee. The armband will allow dialogue to be held where and when necessary during a stoppage in play between Captains and Referees. This dialogue is to be kept short and cordial at all times. Captains are to treat this privilege with respect and Referee's will respond likewise.

### STANDING BEHIND THE GOAL LINE

Clubs are responsible to ensure that their Club members do not congregate behind the goals while a match is in progress.

### COMPETITION MATCH POINTS

Competition points will be awarded as follows:-

- 3 points - for a win
- 3 points - for a bye
- 3 points - to team where opposition forfeits
- 1 point - for a draw
- 0 points - for a loss

In the case of a bye or forfeit, only points are awarded there are NO adjustments to goals for and against.

Clubs are not permitted to forfeit the first grade match and still play the reserve grade match. Any Premier League or Raahauge Cup team which contests the reserve grade match but fails to contest the first grade match without a cogent reason for so doing and without this reason being duly notified to the Secretary of the Association will not have competition points awarded for either match scheduled on that day. The Management Committee may deny the forfeit of the first grade match at its sole discretion.

### ABANDONED MATCHES

If a match is abandoned or terminated by a referee or an official of the Association for reasons of misconduct, both teams are automatically cited to appear before the Judiciary Committee, and may not participate in any Association activity until the case has been heard and determined.

Under such circumstances, only the executive of each Club and the captain of each team involved in the match appear before the Judiciary Committee to represent their respective teams. The entire teams are not required to appear. However, the Judiciary Committee may demand that a particular member or members of a Club or team to appear before the Judiciary Committee when the inquiry into the incident is conducted.

A Club may seek approval from the Judiciary Chairman for members, other than those previously named, to appear at the inquiry. The Club concerned must satisfy the Judiciary Chairman that the evidence of such members can give, is pertinent and relevant to the incident. Such approval must be obtained prior to the day of the inquiry.

### TEAMS LEAVING THE FIELD OF PLAY

A team leaving the field of play without the permission of the referee is automatically cited by the Association and is suspended from participation in any activity of the Association until the Executive members of each Club and the captains of each team involved in the match appear before the Judiciary Committee.

The person refereeing must report the incident to the Association and must prepare a written report for the next meeting of the Judiciary Committee that follows the date of the match.

Where such person is not an appointed referee, he must report the incident to the Secretary of the Club with which he is affiliated and the Club Secretary must report the incident to the Secretary of the Association immediately.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER

Matches are to be played unless:

- a) The Referee considers the ground is dangerous.
- b) Your Club is advised by the Association that games are cancelled.
- c) A Local Council or Ground Official advises that the ground is closed. In this case, the Association is to be advised by telephone immediately.

### LIGHTNING POLICY

Should a thunderstorm be prevalent on match day, the '30-30' rule is to be used in order to determine whether a game should be suspended (to include delaying the commencement of the game) and when it is safe to resume play (to be determined by the Referee).

When lightning is sighted, count the time until thunder is heard. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within 10km and is dangerous. As most experts believe that the "safe" distance is no less than 10km, all people at risk should be seeking, or already inside safe shelters. This is the time at which matches should be suspended.

This rule is one of the most practical techniques for estimating the distance to lightning activity and is based on the fact that light travels faster than sound. As sound travels at a speed of around 1km every 3 seconds, the time that elapses between the flash of lightning and clap of thunder can be divided by three to give a measure, in kilometres, of how far away the storm is.

The threat of lightning continues for a much longer period than most people realise. It is imperative to point out that sunshine or blue sky should not fool anybody into thinking that it is safe and you should remain alert to the possible return of the storm.

Using the '30-30' rule, the distance of the storm should be estimated before allowing play to continue.

There is not a place absolutely safe from the lightning threat, however some places are safer than others and, where practicable, people should be moved to a safe structure as soon as possible. The best option is a large building with electric and telephone wiring and plumbing to provide a safe pathway for the electrical appliances, lighting fixtures, radios or microphones and electric sockets and plumbing. Mobile or cordless telephones are a safe option if the person and antenna are located within a safe structure. Do not watch lightning from open windows or doorways. Inner rooms are preferable.

### EQUIPMENT

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#### PLAYER SHIRT NUMBERS

All players' competing in any competition must wear numbers on their shirts.

Each player must be uniquely numbered at all times, and duplicate numbers are prohibited during any senior match.

Numbers must be in serviceable condition and tape is not to be used to emulate numbers.

#### SOCCER BOOTS

Rugby type tapered metal studs will not be accepted as suitable safe footwear by this Association.

Referees will be instructed of footwear that is so equipped and poses a hazard to other players or is unsafe, may not be used in any match.

Player's boots with sharp ribs or studs will be requested to leave the field of play to either replace the boots or smooth the rough edges before being allowed to re-enter the field of play.

#### SPECTACLES

Players who are required to wear spectacles whilst playing may only use approved sporting spectacles. The Optometrists Association of Australia has stated that children involved in sport, requiring assisted vision, should wear protective eyewear such as sports goggles or sports glasses with soft or flexible frames fitted with a plastic or polycarbonate lens.

Referees are instructed to only permit sporting spectacles that in his opinion they do not represent any danger to the player himself or other players. It is not sufficient that a player supply a certificate that a player must wear spectacles either from a doctor or eye specialist. The spectacles must be approved sporting spectacles. The Referee's decision is final.

The Association takes no responsibility for any damage or loss where a player should wear non-approved spectacles rather than the sporting spectacles and an accident occur resulting in injury.

This provision is made to ensure the safety of all players and aligns with the FIFA "Players' Equipment" safety requirements i.e. a player must not use equipment or wear anything that is DANGEROUS to himself or another player.

#### SHINGUARDS / SHINPADS

Law 4 of the FIFA Laws of Soccer is quite specific in that shin guards must "provide a reasonable degree of protection". This Association's official policy deems a reasonable degree of protection is the covering of at least 80% of the shin area.

#### BALL SIZES

Each senior team will be supplied with one match ball. These are to be used in competition. Failure of teams to supply two balls at each senior game will result in a fine of \$50.00. No other balls will be accepted on the field in competition matches. In the event of competition balls being lost, damaged, etc, Extra balls can be acquired at the association office at a cost of \$55.00 each or a new price will be advised each year.

### CLASH OF COLOURS

All players should wear their registered colours whilst playing. However if both teams are in the same colour or wear confusing colours, the visiting team must change.

### WATCHES AND JEWELLERY

The following items are not to be worn by players.

- Watches of any type.
- Rings (except for flat band wedding rings).
- Necklaces, earrings, wrist bracelets/bangles (except medical bracelets)
- Body piercing is not acceptable and must be removed prior to play.
- Referees have been instructed not to allow players to participate until such jewellery has been removed. Taping is not acceptable.
- It is a cautionable offence to wear jewellery

### GOAL POSTS

Goal posts must be in a serviceable condition, so as not to cause players injury.

## REFEREES

### REFEREES LECTURES

Referee lectures are held each year for new and existing referees. The details of referees' courses will be published on the annual calendar.

### SENIOR REFEREES

Senior Referees will be appointed to games by the Referees Convenor, who is appointed by the Management Committee.

## ASSOCIATE REFEREE CARDS

### ASSOCIATE REFEREES

All senior teams must supply an Associate Referee to be available for every match to act as Assistant Referee or in the event no Association Referee is appointed, to act as Referee of the match.

The Associate Referee must be attired as a referee in the regulated Associate Referee shirt, black shorts and socks.

When an Associate Referee has participated or will participate in a match before or after the match for whom he is an Associate Referee, then he may as a concession, wear the minimum uniform of the Associate shirt, with his team shorts and socks. Tracksuit pants may be worn at the discretion of the referee.

Only qualified Associate Referees must wear the Associate uniform. NSWCFA Referees may request Associates to provide their ID card, if this cannot be produced it will be reported. `

Adequate footwear must be worn at all times during a match i.e. thongs & bare feet will not be accepted.



### WHEN THERE IS NO OFFICIAL REFEREE

If no official Referee is present, the Coach or Manager from each team must agree on a person to referee the game. Once such agreement is reached, that person has the full powers of a Referee. If no agreement can be reached, the game is not played and the Judiciary Committee shall determine whether points shall be awarded to either team for the match.

There is no rule that states that the home club must provide the Referee; a Referee from either Club is acceptable provided that the teams agree upon that person.

A referee must Referee the full game except in the case of sickness or injury. The referee duties are not to be shared between two referees.

If the opposition does not show up at the match venue, do not forget to fill in your Match Sheet. If an official Referee is present, he/she should get you to do this on the Match Sheet. If no official Referee is present, you should complete a match sheet, listing all players and substitutes that would have been used. Fill in all possible details (the field, the opposition who should have been there, the age and division of the match, and the time the match should have commenced) and send the Match Sheet to your Club Secretary.

### PROBLEMS WITH REFEREEING DECISIONS

If your team is in disagreement with or is displeased with a decision made by any Referee, under no circumstances should your objections or dissent be voiced during or after the game.

If you believe that a complaint is justified, contact your Club Secretary. The Club Secretary shall lodge any complaint with the Referees Convenor.

Dissent at the match could result in the Club being cited to appear before the Judiciary Committee to explain any such actions, and a fine or suspension could result.

Association Referee Inspectors regularly assess the performance of referees, and these inspectors can also report on the behaviour of teams and or spectators.

### MATCH SHEET

The Match Sheet is an official document that reports the proceedings of the game. It identifies the players and substitutes that participated, their Club, the field played, the match score and makes report of any incidents during the game.

If a Coach or Manager wishes to confirm the score, the scorer or other information, the Referee may be politely requested to assist by verbally giving the required information following the game. The same applies to the Referee's name. If a Coach or Manager asks a Referee his name, the Referee is not at liberty to give the information. The Secretary of the Club concerned, if necessary, can approach the Association to discuss any concerns in relation to the referee performance.

If a match is refereed by a non-official Referee, the match sheet must be completed and returned to the Association through the Referee's Club Secretary. It is very important that non-official Referees forward every match sheet to their Club Secretary so that it can be sent to the Association without delay.

## PLAYERS IDENTITY CARD

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### OUTLINE

Competition rules provide that no player is permitted to participate in any competition games run by this Association unless they present current Player ID card in accordance with the rules outlined below.

To enable all Clubs to have the opportunity to have these ID cards issued by the Association prior to the commencement of the competition, the player ID photo must be uploaded in the myclubmate system and the player registration process completed no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> week. For player registrations received later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of MARCH, no guarantee will be made to have them available for 1st weekend April (commencement of competition).

The issuing of an ID card by the Association at the start of any season confirms the player registration for that season. At the end of every season, all cards must be returned to the Association.

Any club found guilty of playing a player without a processed ID card will be liable to sanctions including a fine of \$500 and the loss of competition points.

### APPLICATION

The Association will issue ID cards to each player from under 8's and older.

No player may participate in any of the specified competitions without an ID card.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

The following guidelines apply to player ID photos:

- Must show only the player being registered
- Must be in colour
- Must be a head and shoulder shot only
- Should not include headwear
- Shall be appropriately lit, with a bright background
- Shall be of good quality

The Association may reject any photo that does not meet an acceptable standard.

### ON FIELD OPERATION

Each player must produce his ID card in order to play in any match.

The names of each team's players and substitutes should be neatly printed on the Match Sheet prior to the commencement of the match.

Before each match the Team Coach or Manager (or Club representative) will collect the ID card from each individual player from the opposing team, confirming the identity of each opposing player.

The Coach or Manager, after having checked these ID cards, will sign the Match Sheet in the appropriate place to certify that this has been done. Team Coaches or Managers then retain the other team's ID cards until the end of the match.

## NSWCFA – Guidelines to operation

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The Match sheet must be completed early enough for the Referee to call teams onto the field of play and in sufficient time for the Referee to check the player's equipment and start the match at the appointed time.

Any player who is a substitute will be bound by these rules.

In the case that a player is not present at the commencement of the game the player on entering the field will then take his ID card to the Referee. The Referee will retain the players ID card until after the conclusion of the match, when it will be returned to the player's Team Manager.

If a player is sent from the field of play by a Referee; is cited to appear before the Judiciary Committee; or where there is a dispute of the identity of any player; the player's ID card will be taken by the Referee and will be forwarded to the Judiciary Committee with the Referee's written report.

Should a dispute arise concerning the identity of a player, in that it is alleged that the player present is not the player depicted on the corresponding ID card, the Referee will note the number of the ID card on the Match Sheet, and will retain the ID card and forward it to the Association along with the Match Sheet.

The player may not participate in the match concerned, and the player, the Captain of the player's team and the Coach, Manager or Team representative from each Club will be required to appear before the Judiciary Committee to resolve the matter. Until this matter is resolved the player in question may not participate in any further matches.

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### OPERATION WITH THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The ID card forwarded to the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee by the Referee along with the Match Sheet, will be held by the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee until such time as the case is heard by the Judiciary Committee.

The Judiciary Committee will not consider any matter until it has received the ID card of the player sent from the field.

If the Judiciary Committee suspends a player, that ID card will be held by the Judiciary Committee until the player's suspension has been served when it is returned to the player's Club Secretary.

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### OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS

Should a player lose his ID card, a new ID card will be provided upon receipt of the replacement fee \$55 by the Association.

Should any dispute arise between Clubs when inspecting each other's ID cards at a match, then the Association Secretary must be notified of the nature of the dispute on the evening of the match. If such notification is not received by the prescribed time, then the dispute will not be heard.

If a dispute arises concerning an ID card, the opposition team official does not have the right to keep the ID card in question, but may note the relevant details in order to advise the Association of the matter as detailed above.

Any declaration made by a player or by a Club Secretary concerning a player's ID card will be regarded by the Association to have the standing of a Statutory Declaration. Should any such declaration be found to be false, then the player or the team (in the case of the false declaration being made by the Club Secretary) will be liable to penalty including suspension up to instant disqualification from competition for the season.

At the end of the season, all ID cards must be returned to the Association who will account for them. The Club Secretary will be held responsible for the accounting of all ID cards issued to the Club.

Damaged ID cards will be returned to the Association office for replacement by the club Secretary.

## SENIOR COMPETITION RULES

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### CONDUCT OF FINALS SERIES

At the conclusion of the regular competition rounds, semi-finals, finals and grand final shall be played between the top four teams on the competition ladder. The finals series shall held in the following manner

Week 1	Semi Finals	1 v 2	3 v 4
Week 2	Final	Loser of 1 v 2 v Winner of 3 v 4	
Week 3	Grand Final	Winner 1v 2 Semi Final in Week 1 v Winner of Final in Week 2	

In the semi-finals, first shall play second and third shall play fourth. The loser three versus four is eliminated. In the final, the loser of first versus second shall play the winner of third versus fourth. In the grand final, the winner of first versus second shall play the winner of the final. The loser of the final is eliminated.

### POSITION IN SEMI-FINAL

Positions in the semi-finals are to be determined by the factors at the end of the competition rounds in the following order:

1. Competition points
2. goal difference
3. goal quotient
4. results against each other
5. In the event the teams still cannot be separated the position will be determined by either a toss of the coin.

### TRANSFER TO AND FROM RESERVES

During the regular season players may transfer between First Grade and Reserve Grades within same squad without permission from the Management Committee.

### RESERVE GRADE FINALS SERIES ELIGIBILITY

- i. No player may play in the Reserve grade semi-finals and finals of any senior competition unless he has played fifty percent (50%) of all competition matches played by him in the competition team and has played three of his last five matches in the competition team.
- ii. Each Reserve team is permitted to nominate two goalkeepers for Semi- finals or final match. Two goalkeepers will be covered by the eligibility rules detailed above, and the second goalkeeper, who will be nominated on the match sheet, may be made available as a direct replacement of the normal Reserve Grade goalkeeper if required. This second nominated goalkeeper will not be subject to the 50% of matches and three of his last five match eligibility provisions. The second nominated goalkeeper may only substitute for the Reserve Grade goalkeeper may only substitute for the reserve grade goalkeeper and may only play in the Reserve Grade as goalkeeper.
- iii. A Reserve substitute may include any player who has substituted in the Reserve grade at any time during the seasons and who has not played in the First grade as a player or as a substitute during the season in question.

## NSWCFA – Guidelines to operation

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- iv. The semi-finalists in Reserves shall supply the names of all eligible players to the Honorary Secretary no later than the Thursday prior to the semi-final being played. If the names of all eligible players are not submitted to the Honorary Secretary by the due date, the teams will not be eligible to complete in the semi-finals and finals.
- v. The Management Committee may give special dispensation for a player to be considered eligible for the semi-finals. The decision of MC in allowing or disallowing the application is final and cannot be appealed.

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### PLAYER STATUS

All players registered are assumed to be amateur players. Where a player's status is as a Professional such status shall be reported to the Secretary of the Association.

### PREMIER LEAGUE COMPETITION

A competition comprising a minimum of eight (8) teams shall contest the Premier League each year.

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### APPLICATION TO PLAY IN PREMIER LEAGUE

All teams wishing to apply for Premier League entry must apply to the Honorary Secretary in writing before the last day in January of each year.

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### PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

Entry to the Premier League competition will be a promotion and relegation basis from Raahauge Cup First Grade.

Relegation will be determined by the results of the Premier league competition only. The teams occupying the last two places on the competition table at the conclusion of the competition will be relegated to Raahauge Cup First Grade. Should more than two teams share the last two places on a point's basis, goal difference will be the determining factor. If the goal differences are equal, then the goal quotient will be the determining factor.

Promotion to the Premier League competition will be from Raahauge Cup First Grade on the following basis:-

- Where there is only one division in Raahauge Cup First Grade, the winner of the Raahauge Cup grand final and the minor premiers of the Raahauge Cup competition will be promoted to Premier League.
- Where there are two divisions in Raahauge cup First Grade, the winner of each grand final will be promoted to Premier League;
- Promotion from Raahauge Cup First Grade to Premier League will be determined by the results of the Raahauge Cup Firsts competition only.

Management Committee may at any time elect not to automatically apply the promotion and relegation rules. The decision to not apply the promotion and relegation rules will be determined by the strength or weakness of the respective teams, number of teams applying to the Premier League and any other factor that may impact on the conduct of the competition.

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### ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS

Each club applying must satisfy the Management Committee that their team can meet all requirements of the Premier League competitions.

### SUBSTITUTES – PREMIER LEAGUE ONLY

- i. Up to five substitutes may be named on the match sheet. These names must be recorded before the match commences.
- ii. up to four of these substitutes may be used during the match.
- iii. Once a player has been substituted, he can take no further part in the match.
- iv. If a team commences a match with fewer than eleven players on the field, those players who come on to bring the team up to eleven players are not substitutes and their names need not be on the Match Sheet with the referee on the field.
- v. Coaches or managers should ensure that they have all their possible substitutes before the match commences. Substitutes cannot be added after the commencement of the game.
- vi. If a substitution is to be made at half time, the referee must be informed.
- vii. The referee must also be informed if a team changes the goalkeeper.

### RAAHAUGE CUP & RAAHAUGE CUP RESERVE COMPETITION

#### PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

The Raahauge Cup competitions will operate on a promotion and relegation basis from each Raahauge Cup division to the next higher or lower Raahauge cup division.

Relegation will be determined by the results of the Raahauge Cup competition only. The teams occupying the last two places on the competition table at the conclusion of the competition will be relegated to the next lower Raahauge cup division. Should more than two teams share the last two places on a point's basis, goal difference will be the determining factor.

Promotion through the Raahauge cup competition divisions will be on the following basis:-

- i. Where there is only one division in any Raahauge Cup Grading, the winner of the Raahauge Cup grading final and the minor premiers of the Raahauge Cup competition will be promoted to the next higher Raahauge Cup division.
- ii. Where there are two divisions in any Raahauge Cup Grade, the winner of each grand final will be promoted to the next higher Raahauge Cup division.
- iii. Promotion from each Raahauge Cup division to the next higher Raahauge Cup division will be determined by the results of the Raahauge Cup Firsts competition only.
- iv. Management Committee may at any time elect not to automatically apply the promotion and relegation rules. The decision to not apply the promotion and relegation rules will be determined by the strength or weakness of the respective teams, number of teams applying to the Premier League and any other factor that may impact on the conduct of the competition.

### EXTRA TIME IN FINALS SERIES

#### DETERMINING THE WINNER

Winner is the team that scores most goals during normal time.

If scores are level at full time then 10 minutes each way is played – golden goal applies.

If scores are level after extra time then penalties will decide the winner.

### PENALTIES TO DETERMINE THE WINNER OF A GAME

- i. The referee chooses the goal to be used.
- ii. Toss a coin to decide who goes first – the team captain to decide “Heads or Tails” with toss of the coin will be the team who chose at the start of the game, as the other team chose at the commencement of extra time.
- iii. Each team takes five kicks, taken alternatively by each team.
- iv. Kicks are stopped if one team cannot be beaten (eg Team A leading 4-2 with one kick to go)
- v. If the score is tied after five kicks each, penalties are continued until there is a winner with an equal number of kicks taken.
- vi. If the match is played under interchange rules, only the 11 players of each team on the field at the end of extra time shall be eligible to participate in the penalty shootout.
- vii. Normal rules on penalties apply. No second touch by the kicker is allowed.
- viii. Only the keeper can be substituted – A goalkeeper who is injured while kicks are being taken from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as goalkeeper may be replaced by a named substitute provided his team has not used the maximum number of substitutes permitted under the competition rules. Any eligible player on the field can substitute their keeper. Injured players cannot be substituted.
- ix. No player can take a second penalty until his eligible team mates have taken a penalty, including the goalkeeper.
- x. Teams must have equal numbers. If Team A has fewer players on the field than Team B at the end of extra time, then Team B must exclude a number of players so that both teams have equal numbers. Excluded players must leave the field. The referee is to be informed immediately.
- xi. Only players and match officials are allowed on the field.
- xii. All players, except for goalkeepers and one kicker, must remain inside the centre circle. The keeper of the team taking a penalty must stand on the goal line at edge of the penalty area.

### INTERCHANGE RULES

The interchange rules to competitions apply as follows:

Competition	Regular Season	Knockout
Under 6 - 7	Yes	Yes
Under 8 -12	Yes	Yes
Under 13 - 18	Yes	No
Premier League	No	No
Premier League – Reserves	Yes	No
All Raahauge Cup	Yes	No

The interchange rules apply on the following terms

### BEFORE THE MATCH

- i. Administration of the interchange rules is the responsibility of the managers and coaches of the participating teams.
- ii. The match sheet will be completed by the team managers and given to the referee prior to the match commencing.
- iii. A maximum of sixteen (16) players, ten (10) players for mini games, may be listed on the match sheet.
- iv. All players named on the match sheet are required to attend to team line up prior to the start of the game.
- v. The managers will inspect and collect the ID cards of ALL players named on the match sheet, including the interchange players not starting the game.

### DURING THE MATCH

- i. All interchange will be conducted at the half way line.
- ii. The captain of the team, manager or coach shall politely call to the referee during a stoppage in play to request an interchange take place.
- iii. No interchange request will be accepted whilst the ball is in play. There is no need for the ball to have gone over the sidelines or goal lines, it is sufficient that play has been stopped for whatever reason.
- iv. The interchange may only take place once the referee has indicated his approval.
- v. The referee may, at his sole discretion, deny the interchange where the referee believes the interchange has been requested to deliberately delay or frustrate play or as a time wasting measure.
- vi. The retiring player must first exit the field of play at the half way line before the entering player can enter the field of play, also at the half way line.

### RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the Club, its management, Team Managers and Team Coaches to ensure that only those players declared on the Match sheet participate in the match. The Managers and Coaches of each team are responsible for ensuring that a maximum of eleven (11) players from each team are on the field at any one time.

Where a team has seven (7) or more players at the start of the game, but less than the full team, up to sixteen (16) players, the Manager may complete the Match sheet including the names of the players not yet in attendance. When the extra players arrive they may join the game after the player has reported to the referee with his ID card.

### TIME WASTING OR DELAY OF PLAY

In order to ensure the teams do not delay or frustrate the attack of its opposition the referees are instructed the following:

- i. The ball does not have to leave the field of play for the interchange to occur. An interchange may occur during any stoppage in play including as a result of injury, free kick or penalty.
- ii. Where the ball is out of play and the team to which the restart is awarded is indicating by action or word they want to play on quickly, the referee shall allow play to continue without the interchange occurring.
- iii. Where the ball has left the field of play and requires a player to retrieve the ball to the effect that any advantage from playing on quickly is nullified, then the interchange shall be allowed to occur.
- iv. The referee should be aware of time wasting or attempts to frustrate play at all times during the match, but should be particularly aware during the final 15 minutes of each half.



### SMALL SIDED GAMES – UNDER 8 & 9

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#### DIMENSIONS OF THE FIELD

The field for the small sided games shall operate between the two penalty areas for a full size field. The line for each penalty area shall operate as the goal line for small sided games.

The goal lines shall be extended from the edge of the full size field penalty area by approximately 5 metres. This distance may be varied accordingly to field dimensions and space available. The Management Committee reserves the right to instruct a specific width for any field.

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#### TEAM NUMBERS

All Under 8 & Under 9 matches will be played with **9 players ONLY plus interchange.**

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#### BALL SIZE

Under 8 – Size 3

Under 9 – Size 4

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#### DURATION OF MATCHES

Matches shall be comprised of two equal halves of 20 minutes.

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#### BALL LEAVING THE FIELD OF PLAY

**Corner Kicks** - take corner kicks at the intersection of the Goal Line and the corner of the full field Penalty Area - 18 yd box (16.5 m). This is same distance applicable to corner kicks on a full field arrangement for these age groups.

**Goal Kicks** – can be taken anywhere in the Penalty area (10 yds). If a free kick is awarded to the defending team within its own goal area/penalty area, this free kick may be taken anywhere in the penalty area. Players from the opposing teams shall be at least 10 yards (9.15m) from any edge of the penalty area.

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#### PENALTY KICKS

Where a direct free kick is awarded to a team in the opposition penalty area, the penalty kick shall be taken at the centre of the 10 Yd (9.15 m) penalty area, 10 yds out from the goal line.

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#### COACH/MANAGER ON THE FIELD

For under 8 competitions during the first half of the season a Coach OR Manager (not both) from each team shall be allowed on the field of play to give direction and encouragement to his players, but must remain outside the goal areas and at least ten (10) metres from the play. The on field Coach/Manager must also avoid impeding the ball or the path or view of any player or referee.

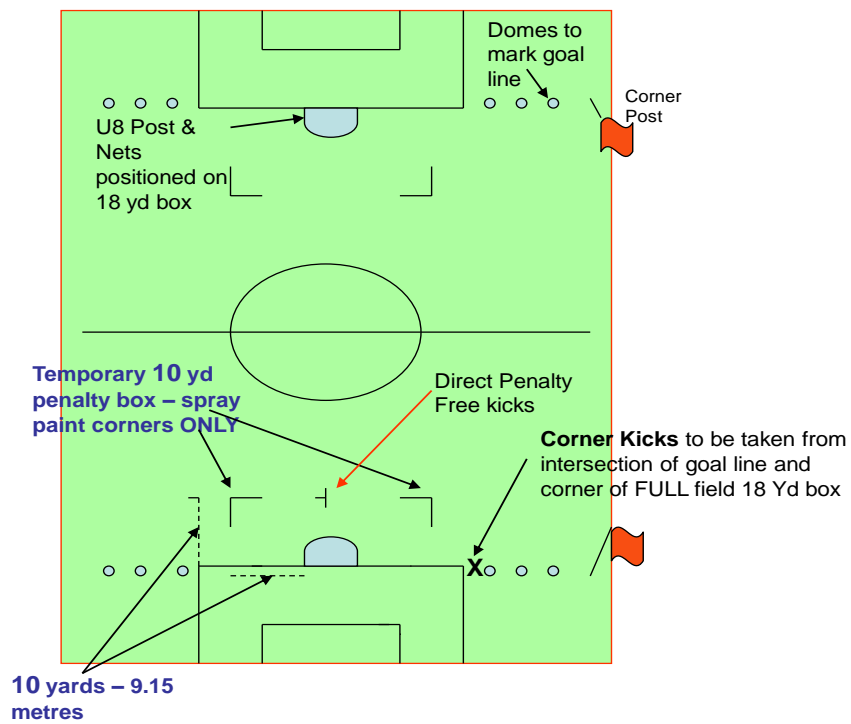
A Coach or Manager shall not discipline or intimidate any player from the opposition team. A Coach or Manager shall only communicate with a player from the opposition team in a supportive and encouraging manner.

LINE MARKINGS

To minimise the number of line markings on the field, the extend goal lines and sidelines shall be indicated by small flexible cones.

A ball making contact with a cone is deemed to have passed over the line and play is restarted in accordance with the normal rules of play, subject to listed below.

The penalty area shall be marked at the corners of the penalty area only.



## MINI SOCCER RULES – UNDER 6 & 7

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### OBJECTIVE

The objective of Mini Soccer is to enable young players to enjoy themselves, while learning about playing soccer and developing their skills in a non-competitive atmosphere.

Parents and spectators should provide positive encouragement to all players and avoid putting pressure on them.

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### COMPETITION STATUS

Games will be conducted as friendly games only. Match scores are not to be recorded by teams. No competition points will be allocated and no tables will be maintained.

Washed out matches will not be replayed.

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### MATCH SHEET

A match sheet is required to be completed to record the names of players participating in each match.

If an Under 6 player plays in an Under 7 match, or an Under 7 plays in an Under 8 match, it must be noted on the Match sheet.

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### COLOURS

All players must wear the Club registered colours whilst playing.

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### TRANSFER OF PLAYERS BETWEEN TEAMS

Players in the Under 6 and Under 7 Divisions will be permitted to interchange between teams of the same Club on NOT more than two (2) occasions each season.

If a player is to appear in a team other than his/her registered team on more than two occasions, prior written notice must be given to the Association.

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### NUMBER OF PLAYERS

No more than ten (10) registered players are allowed in each Mini-soccer team unless permission has been sought from the Association, and no more than six (6) are allowed on the field at any one time.

There is no restriction on any player who has been substituted (interchanged) from re-entering the field of play again to substitute for another player at any time during the course of the game. A minimum of four (4) players must be on the field for a match to commence or to continue.

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### BALL SIZE

Under 6 to Under 7                      Size 3 (22-24 inches)

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### SIZE OF THE FIELD

## NSWCFA – Guidelines to operation

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Fields will be a half of a normal field, approximately 64 x 45 metres and provided with four (4) corner posts. The goal posts will be 1.5 metres high and 4.5 metres long (inside measurements).

The goal area will be marked by a semi-circle of 5 metres radius drawn from the centre of the goal mouth.

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### DURATION OF MATCHES

Under 6 - 15 minutes each way

Under 7 - 20 minutes each way

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### COACH/MANAGER ON THE FIELD

A Coach OR Manager (not both) from each team shall be allowed on the field of play to give direction and encouragement to his players, but must remain outside the goal areas and at least five (5) metres from the play. The on field Coach/Manager must also avoid impeding the path or view of any player.

A Coach or Manager shall not discipline or intimidate any player from the opposition team. A Coach or Manager shall only communicate with a player from the opposition team in a supportive and encouraging manner.

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### FREE KICKS

All free kicks awarded to the defending team within the goal area circle may be taken at any place within the goal area circle. Attacking players must stand at least five (5) metres from the edge of the goal area.

A free kick awarded to the attacking team inside the goal area circle shall be taken on the goal area circle at the point closest to the place of the infringement.

There will be no penalty kicks. All free kicks awarded will be indirect and will be taken at the place where the infringement occurred (apart from as provided above regarding the goal area). At no time will a direct free kick be awarded. Attacking players must stand at least five (5) metres from the point from where the free kick is being taken.

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### GOAL KICK

Goal kicks may be taken from any point within the goal area circle. Attacking players must stand at least five (5) metres from the edge of the goal area when a goal kick is being taken.

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### CORNER KICKS

Corner kicks will be taken 1 metre from the intersection of the goal line and the side line.

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### OFF-SIDE

This rule does not apply in Mini Soccer.

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### MARKING THE GOALKEEPER

A player marking or obstructing the goalkeeper will be penalised by an indirect free kick.

## **SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION**

### **PLAYERS**

Each team is allowed to use seven (7) registered players of the Club of the Association.

The players are to be nominated at least thirty (30) minutes before the team's first game.

Teams are to report to the central position at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to each game and stand beside the number marker, which will represent the ground to be used. The Match sheet will then be completed by both teams, who will proceed with the Referee to the ground for their scheduled game.

The seven players nominated at the commencement of the first game are the only players who can participate with the team throughout the competition. No player may be entered in or may play in more than one team.

Only six (6) players are allowed to play in each match. Substitutes are allowed during a match. A substituted player may participate in the next round of the competition.

### **RULES**

Except as specifically provided in the Six-a-Side competition rules, the general competition rules of the Association will apply to all Six-a-Side matches.

The game shall be played ten (10) minutes each way and be completed to allow the following game to commence on time. No time is allowed for injured players. Teams will toss for choice of ends, commence at once and turn around at half time with no interval.

Club colours will be used, and where colours clash, teams shall arrange to change so not in any way to delay the game.

The Laws of the Game will be observed excepting that there is no off-side in six-a-side football.

The winner shall be the team that scores the most goals. If goals are equal, the team that scores the most corners will be the winner. Corner kicks will be taken at all times. If goals and corners are equal, the team that scores the most behinds will win. A behind will not be counted if the ball goes directly over the goal line from a throw-in. In this case, the game will be recommenced by the opposing team taking a goal kick (which will not be counted in the score).

Goals, corners and behinds will apply in ALL matches, including final matches.

Drawn games will play five (5) minutes each way extra time. Teams will toss again for choice of ends and the game will recommence without an interval.

During the period of extra time the scorer of the first goal will be declared the winner and the game will conclude at such time.

If no goals are scored then the team receiving the most corners during this extra time shall be declared the winner.

If corners are equal or no corners are awarded then the team "scoring" the most goal kicks during this extra time shall be declared the winner.

If corners and goal kicks are equal a further and final five (5) minutes only will be played.

## **NSWCFA – Guidelines to operation**

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Play for this period will be started with a drop ball at the centre of the field. During the final period of extra time the team scoring the first score of any kind being goal, corner or goal kick shall be declared the winner and the game concluded at such time.

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### **PROTESTS**

Any protest arising must be submitted within fifteen minutes of the completion of the match that gave rise to the protest.

## STATE CUP & NIGHT KNOCKOUT RULES

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### STRUCTURE OF COMPETITIONS

State Cup      All teams from any senior competition is eligible to participate in the State Cup

The Management Committee will determine the structure of any other knockout competitions at the beginning of each season.

All competitions are conducted on a knockout basis. The winner of any game shall progress to the next round, the loser takes no further part in the competition.

### DURATION OF MATCHES

Games will be played 25 minutes each way. Half time shall be on a turn around basis.

### SUBSTITUTIONS

Normal substitution rules apply. There is no interchange available during knockout matches.

### DETERMINING THE WINNER

Winner is the team that scores most goals during normal time.

If scores are level at full time then 10 minutes each way is played – golden goal applies.

If scores are level after extra time then penalties will decide the winner.

### PENALTIES TO DETERMINE THE WINNER OF A GAME

The normal rules applicable to a penalty shoot-out apply except for the following adjustments.

Each team takes three (3) kicks, taken alternatively by each team.

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## APPENDIX 1

## CODES OF CONDUCT

NSW Churches Football has adopted the Football NSW Code of Conduct that promotes appropriate behaviour by players, parents, coaches, officials, administrators and spectators.

## PLAYERS CODE OF FAIR PLAY

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with a referee or assistant referee. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official on your behalf.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviour in soccer.
- Be a good sport, recognise all good plays whether they are part of your team or the opposition.
- Treat all participants in soccer as you like to be treated.
- Do not bully or take unfair advantage of other competitors.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## PARENTS CODE OF FAIR PLAY

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children always to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful plays by all participants.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from all of soccer's activities.
- Respect official's decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## COACHES CODE OF FAIR PLAY

- Remember that junior players participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at a junior player for making a mistake or not winning.
- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of the game and teach your players to do the same.
- Ensure that the time players spend with you is a positive experience. All junior players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.



- Avoid overplaying the talented players; the just average need and deserve equal time.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. Encourage your players to do the same.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young players.
- Any physical contact with a junior player should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's development.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

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#### SPECTATORS CODE OF FAIR PLAY

- Remember that young people participate for their enjoyment and benefit, not yours.
- Applaud good performances and efforts from all individuals and teams. Congratulate all participants on their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
- Respect the decisions of officials and teach junior players to do the same.
- Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Encourage players to follow the rules and the officials' decisions.
- Do not use foul language, sledge or harass players, coaches or officials.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## APPENDIX 2



## No smoking in spectator areas at public sports grounds

# THE FACTS

Section 6A of the *Smoke-free Environment Act 2000* makes a number of outdoor public places smoke-free.

From **7 January 2013**, smoking is banned in spectator areas at public sports grounds and other recreational areas in NSW. However, smoking will only be banned when an organised sporting event is being held.

Major sporting facilities are included under the definition of a public sports ground and will be required to comply with the new law. Other outdoor sporting facilities, such as Local Council playing fields, are also covered by the new law.

### **Will smoking be banned only in spectator areas which are covered?**

No. The smoking ban applies to all spectator areas at sports grounds and other recreational areas when they are being used for an organised sporting event. The law applies to both covered and uncovered spectator areas and whether seating is provided or not.

### **Will the ban only cover the time that the players are competing?**

No. The smoking ban applies during the entire duration of the organised sporting event. This will include not just when the players are competing but pre match and half time games and entertainment that form part of the sporting event.

### **Will there be signage to indicate where smoking is not permitted?**

Due to the vast array of different sports grounds and recreational areas, the new law does not require signs to be displayed to indicate that smoking is not permitted in spectator areas at sports grounds and other recreational areas during organised sporting events. However, signage may be required in the future if regulations are made requiring a class of sports grounds or other recreational area to display signs.

### **What is a spectator area?**

A spectator area is an area set aside for or being used by spectators to watch an organised sporting event at a sports ground or other recreational area, but only when an organised sporting event is being held there.