



# **2022** **RULES OF** **COMPETITION**

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# 1.0 Organisation and Administration

## 1.1 Scope and Application

- (a) Football Queensland reserves the right to review the Rules of Competition (RoC) on an annual basis. Football Queensland may amend, change, or modify the RoC provided due notice (5 days) of any changes is given to all competing Clubs and participants.
- (b) Clubs, Players, Team Officials and Match Officials must comply with and agree to abide by the regulations of Football Australia and Football Queensland, including but not limited to;
- i. [Football Australia National Registration Regulations](#).
  - ii. [Football Australia National Disciplinary Regulations](#).
  - iii. [Football Australia Code of Conduct](#).
  - iv. [Football Australia Grievance Resolution Regulations](#)
  - v. [Football Australia Member Protection Framework](#) and Football Queensland Member Protection Policies
  - vi. [2022 Football Queensland Disciplinary Regulations](#)
  - vii. [Football Queensland Social Media Guidelines](#)
  - viii. [2022 Media & Marketing Guidelines](#)
  - ix. NPL Men's/FQPL 1 Men's /FQPL 2 Men's Licensing Agreement (supplied on request of Club)
  - x. NPL Women's/FQPL 1 Women's Licensing Agreement (supplied on request of Club).
- (c) If any part of the RoC, or relevant Regulations, Policies, By-laws or Statutes is void, that specific part shall be severable and will not affect the enforceability of the remaining sections of these RoC.

## 1.2 Consequences for Breach

- (a) Any breach of these RoC or any failure to comply with any direction given by Football Queensland may result in the imposition of a penalty or penalties issued by Football Queensland under the RoC and any other relevant penalties pursuant to the Football Queensland Disciplinary Regulations.

Any breach or failure to meet or adhere to the NPL Men's, NPL Women's, FQPL1 Men's, FQPL 1 Women's and FQPL 2 Men's Licencing Agreement may also result in further penalties (as stipulated below). These include but are not limited to;

- i. Inability to field teams in all required competitions as per license
- ii. Nonparticipation of any/all aspects of the Club Assessment Criteria

Furthermore, if Football Queensland determines a Club/Team/Team Official to be in breach of the RoC or Licensing Agreement, FQ are permitted to take any reasonable action as required to ensure the breach does not affect the integrity or viability of its Competitions and product.

The penalties will include any or all (but not limited to) of the following;

- i. Monetary Fine/Financial Penalties
- ii. Deduction of Points
- iii. Suspension of the Club/Participant/s from any/all Competitions
- iv. Removal of team/club from the Competition/s

### 1.3 Matches Played in Accordance with the Laws of the Game

- (a) All Competitive matches (and all under the auspice of Football Queensland throughout the state) under the jurisdiction of these RoC will be played in accordance with the IFAB/FA Laws of the Game.
- (b) The Football Queensland RoC outlined within are in addition to those stipulated in the [IFAB/FA Laws of the Game](#).

### 1.4 Confirmation of Leagues/Age Division

- a) Football Queensland will conduct Competitions in the following Leagues and Age Divisions:

Competition	Age Divisions
National Premier Leagues Men's	U23, First Team
National Premier Leagues Women's	U23, First Team
Football Queensland Premier League 1 Men's	U23, First Team
Football Queensland Premier League 2 Men's	U23, First Team
Football Queensland Premier Leagues Women's	U23, First Team

- b) Composition of the Leagues, will be determined by Football Queensland on an annual basis and Football Queensland's determination on the number of Clubs is final.
- c) Entry into the Australia Cup and The Kappa Women's Super Cup is mandatory for eligible teams in these Leagues.

## 1.5 Player Insurance

Player Injury and Associated Liability Insurance cover is taken out by Football Queensland. Policy details and claims procedures are available on the Gow-Gates [website](#). If you require further assistance or guidance, please contact Football Queensland Competitions.

## 1.6 Travel Policy

Clubs must comply with the Travel Policy as specified in the Licence Agreements. All NPL Men's and FQPL 1 Men's Clubs are required to pay the Travel Levy as stipulated in their License Agreements.

## 1.7 Commercial Arrangements

If Football Queensland (FQ) enters into a sponsorship or commercial agreement, a condition of entry into all FQ Competitions is that a Club is required to comply with any conditions imposed by Football Queensland arising out of the sponsorship agreement. Such requirement may include, but are not limited to; signage, the display of logos on Club websites, jerseys, the use of designated balls etc.

Football Queensland where possible will attempt to ensure that any requirement by a sponsor has minimal financial impact and not impact on Clubs' existing sponsorship contracts.

## 1.8 Outstanding Debts

Treatment of outstanding debts will be as per the NPL Men's, FQPL 1 Men's, FQPL 2 Men's, NPL Women's and FQPL 1 Women's License Agreements.

Clubs competing in Football Queensland Competitions are required to be financial (without debt) no less than 14 days prior to the commencement of any FQ Competition or Competition Fixture (inc. Australia Cup). A failure to adhere to this stipulation may result in any or all (but not limited to) of the following;

- Financial Penalties
- Deduction of Points
- Suspension of the Club from any/all Competitions
- Removal from the Competition/s

This Section applies to all Competitions, Competition Fixtures and Cup Matches conducted by Football Queensland and the participating clubs and participants therein.

## **1.9 Special Consideration**

Football Queensland has the right to consider individual circumstances outside the prescribed limits of these RoC should it be clear those special considerations are in the best interests of the game. Nothing in these Regulations will prevent the Football Queensland Board from approving a course of action to meet unforeseeable circumstances not covered by these RoC.

The decision by Football Queensland to review and consider contextual circumstances under this section is not subject to appeal or review.

Football Queensland may waive the payment of any amount payable to it at any time.

## **2.0 Code of Conduct and Registrations**

### **2.1 Code of Conduct**

- a) All Players, Club Officials and Match Officials are bound by and must comply with all FA Statutes and Regulations, including without limitation the FA Code of Conduct. All players must be registered in line with the National Registration, Statutes and Transfer Regulations. Failure to do so will mean the player is ineligible.

### **2.2 Eligibility**

- a) Ineligible Players include:
  - i. Unregistered Players
  - ii. Suspended Players - suspended by Football Queensland or any other Federation.
  - iii. Player who participates in the match but is not listed on the team sheet prior to the match commencing.
  - iv. A Player who is suspended for receiving the requisite number of yellow card accumulations.
  - v. They have been expelled from a match on the day/s prior to the match (or day of the match) but before an infringement notice has been issued.
  - vi. They are deemed ineligible due to any section of the RoC, FA/FQ Regulations, Statutes or Policies and/or Football Queensland By-Law 11.

### **2.3 Consequences of Playing an Ineligible Player**

- a) A team will lose a match on forfeit and be fined in accordance with these RoC, if an ineligible player participates in the match or, if at the time of the match, the team is in breach of the

Player Points System (PPS) Maximum or Visa Players as set out in these RoC.

- b) Ineligible Player protests must be directed to Football Queensland via email to [competitions@footballqueensland.com.au](mailto:competitions@footballqueensland.com.au).

## 2.4 Age Eligibility

- a) The following table details the year of birth applicable to the age-eligible divisions of the Competitions. Players must be within these ranges to be eligible for registration.

Age Division	Birth Date
U23 (Men/Women)	For Players born 1999-2006 Applications for Exceptional Circumstances on an individual basis for FEMALE only 2007 born players are permissible however approval is at the discretion of Football Queensland

## 2.5 Registration Period

- a) Any Amateur or Professional (NPL Men's, NPL Women's, FQPL1, FQPL 2) Player Registration to a Club may occur at any time during the Registration Periods. For 2022, the registration periods will be:

Competition	Opening Date (Registration Period 1)	Closing Date (Registration Period 1)	Opening Date (Registration Period 2)	Closing Date (Registration Period 2)
Men's & U23s NPL/FQPL1/FQPL2	14 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	TBD	TBD
Women's & U23s NPL/FQPL1	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	11 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	TBD	TBD

PLEASE NOTE: Deregistration take 7 days (not including the day of the request) to process after a player triggers the De-Registration in Play Football. Clubs may approve this earlier, however this is discretionary. De-registering less than 7 days prior to the window closing, may result in a Player being unable to Register to another club in time.

- i. Amateur Players may register without restriction at any time up until 11:59pm on the Closing Date of each Registration Period.
- ii. All players that lodge a NRR05 Professional Player Contract with Football Queensland must be registered as a 'Professional' by a Football Queensland Administrator only



and must lodge the contract no later than 36 hours prior to the Registration Period closing.

- iii. Special exemption to the above registration periods may be applied at the discretion of Football Queensland, for ex-professional players returning from A-League Men/A-League Women or overseas (subject to ITC) after their contract expires or is terminated to assist in providing elite athletes year-round playing opportunities and raising Men's NPL/FQPL1/FQPL2 and Women's NPL/FQPL1 competition standards.

## **2.6 Reacquisition of Amateur Status**

- a) A Player registered as a Professional Player cannot register or re-register as an Amateur Player until at least thirty (30) days after his or her last Match as a Professional Player (see FA NRSTRs).
- b) A Player registered to a Standard Player Contract with a A-League Women's Club in the 2021/2022 season may re-register as an Amateur Player immediately after their last match as a Professional Player, subject to the Club/Player submitting a written request to Football Queensland and Football Queensland approving that request in its absolute discretion.

## **2.7 Registrations Outside of Registration Periods**

### **2.7.1 Player Registrations**

- a) Football Queensland may request to FA to allow a club to register a Player (Amateur or Professional) outside of the Registration Periods if:
  - i. That Player is a goalkeeper and the club had 3 goalkeepers registered to their clubs First/U23s Roster at the start of the season.
  - ii. Football Queensland is satisfied that the Club has justifiable reason for the request and has provided appropriate evidence.
  - iii. Exceptional Circumstances exist (at FQ discretion and with FA approval)
  - iv. Football Queensland is satisfied in its absolute discretion that exceptional circumstances exist, including if a Player is seeking registration arising out of the termination of a Participation Agreement of his or her former Club or he or she has terminated his or her Standard Player Contract for 'Just Cause'.

## **2.8 Visa Players**

- a) If a Club registers a Visa Player as a Professional, that Club must ensure it meets all the legal

requirements pertaining to the obtaining and maintaining of a valid visa or work permit for that Visa Player, including where applicable, a letter of endorsement from FA, the payment of any minimum salary and any sponsorship requirements.

- b) The number of Visa Players allowed in each First Team Competition is:
  - i. NPL Men's/FQPL1– Maximum of two (2) visa players
  - ii. FQPL2 Men's - Maximum of three (3) visa players
  - iii. NPL Women's/FQPL1 – Maximum of three (3) visa players
- c) Clubs will be required to submit documentation to FQ showing the residential/citizenship status of Visa players. FQ may also request documentation of additional players at their discretion.
- d) In NPL/FQPL1 Men's First Team Competitions, Visa Players found to be participating in First Team matches that are not listed on the PPS will be deemed ineligible and offending Clubs may be sanctioned under these RoC. A player **not** appearing on the PPS that is not an Australia citizen (U23 player), will only be deemed a Visa Player in the event they take the field for a Club's First Team. This player will be included in the aforementioned number of Visa players permitted for that club in the relevant fixture.

## **2.9 Process for Registration of Team Managers and Coaches**

- a) All Coaches, Team Managers and Volunteers must be registered to be involved in any capacity with a Club participating in Football Queensland Competitions.
- b) All coaches that coach within Football Queensland Competitions must hold the recognised minimum level of coaching accreditation required as stipulated in the NPL Men's/FQPL1/FQPL2 and NPL Women's/FQPL1 Licensing Criteria.
- c) All coaches, team managers and relevant team staff are required to wear and have on display the Football Queensland Coach's badge/lanyard (inclusive of their blue card and FFA number on the lanyard) whilst in the technical area or any Match Day capacity. Clubs/team officials without a lanyard by their First Competitive Fixture or who do not have a current Blue Card may be liable to a disciplinary action as described in [Clause 1.2](#) (breach of RoC) and cannot appear in the technical area.

## **2.10 Submission of Registrations**

- a) All registrations are to be processed, approved, and completed via the Play Football system no less than 24 hours prior to participating in any match.

- b) All Clubs must submit approved registrations for all players and officials on the 'Player Roster' (Senior) as listed in these RoC.

## **2.11 Professional Player Transfer Fees and Disputes**

- a) Football Queensland will recognise complaints made by Players against Clubs, or Clubs against Players, with respect to the terms and conditions as stipulated in NRR05 Professional Contract between both parties which has been lodged with Football Queensland. Complainants should refer to the FA National Registration Statutes and Transfer Regulations. Any complaint will be determined under the relevant Member Federation Grievance Procedure By-Law.

# **3.0 Player Movement**

## **3.1 Age Policy**

### **3.1.1 Senior Men's – U23 Men and First team**

- a) All Players that are registered to the Club's First Team and U23 are eligible for selection in matches, unless suspended or otherwise ineligible for inclusion.
- b) U18s Players can play into the First Grade and U23 competition without restriction. To play First grade, players must have registered before or during the Professional Transfer window (see section 2.5). Refer to Junior Rules of Competition section 7.2 for specific information.
- c) In NPL Men's/FQPL1 at any point, the First Team can have a maximum of two (2) Visa players on the PPS. U23 [Visa](#) (see Definitions) players are not available for selection into the First Team, if the Club has reached the maximum number of Visa players on the PPS (2). However, if a club has not filled the maximum number of Visa players, an U23 Visa player may be added to the PPS and play in the First Team if required (up to the maximum 2 players).
- d) In FQPL2 Men at any point, the First Team can have a maximum of three (3) Visa players listed within their squad. U23 [Visa](#) (see Definitions) players are not available for selection into the First Team, if the Club has reached the maximum number of Visa players in their squad (3). However, if a club has not filled the maximum number of Visa players, an U23 Visa player may play in the First Team if required (up to the maximum 3 players).
- e) In NPL Men/FQPL1 Four (4) overage players (born 1998 or earlier) including three (3) outfield players plus one (1) goalkeeper are permitted to play down in the club's U23 Men's team.
- f) In FQPL2 Men six (6) overage players (born 1998 or earlier) including five (5) outfield players

plus one (1) goalkeeper are permitted to play down in the club's U23 Men's team.

- g) Football Queensland will monitor the use of overage players and Clubs found to be abusing these rules, by stacking any age-eligible team below will be dealt with under these RoC or the Disciplinary Regulations; and
  - i. Offending Clubs will incur a three (3) point deduction from their First Team results/ladder.

### **3.1.2 Women's First Team and U23 Women**

- a) All Players that are registered to the Club's First Team and U23 are eligible for selection in matches, unless suspended or otherwise ineligible for inclusion.
- b) Players turning the age of 16 in 2022 who are Registered to the Club's U16 Girls are eligible to play in Women's Senior Competitions without restriction. Players who have turned the age of 15 are eligible to play in the NPL Women's/FQPL1 U23 Competition with the approval of Football Queensland. Those who have been identified in an established player pathway (see definitions) and are yet to turn 15 are eligible to apply for dispensation to Football Queensland to play up into the NPL Women's/FQPL1 U23. Refer to section 7.2 in Junior Rules of Competition for specific information.
- c) At any point time, the First Team can have a maximum of three (3) Visa players listed within their squad. U16 (if age eligible for Senior Women's) and U23 [Visa](#) (see Definitions) players are not available for selection into the First Team, if the Club has reached the maximum number of Visa players in their squad (3). However, if a club has not filled the maximum number of Visa players, an U16/U23 Visa player may play in the First Team if required (up to the maximum 3 players).
- d) Football Queensland's (FQ) determination on any dispensation is final and FQ reserve the right to revoke any approved dispensation, at any time.
- e) Four (4) overage players born (1998 or earlier), including three (3) outfield players and one (1) goalkeeper are permitted to play in the U23 NPL Women's/FQPL1 team at any one time.
- f) Football Queensland will monitor the use of overage players and Clubs found to be abusing these rules, by stacking any age-eligible team below will be dealt with under these RoC or the Disciplinary Regulations; and
  - i. Offending Clubs will incur a three (3) point deduction from their First Team results/ladder.

## 3.2 Playing Across Competitions

- a) The following conditions apply to player movement between competitions.
- i. Players registered to a community team are eligible to play for the same Club's NPL Men/FQPL1/FQPL2 and NPL Women's/FQPL1 First Team if they registered before or during the Registration Periods (See section 2.4). Players may be borrowed into the First Team for a maximum of 7 games. On the 8<sup>th</sup> occasion, the player is ineligible to go back to the Community Team.
  - ii. Players registered to a community team are eligible to play for the same Club's NPL Men/FQPL1/FQPL2 U23 and NPL Women's/FQPL1 U23 Team regardless of when they registered. Players may be borrowed into the U23 Team for a maximum of 7 games. On the 8<sup>th</sup> occasion, the player is ineligible to go back to the Community Team.

## 3.3 Long Term Injury Replacement Players

No Long-Term Injury Replacement Rules will be applicable in the 2022 season in any Football Queensland Competitions.

# 4.0 Competition Structures and Regulations

## 4.1 Structures and Competition Format

- a) The 2022 Season will comprise of teams licensed or operating under a Participation Licence Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as approved by Football Queensland.
- b) Football Queensland determines the number of teams in each competition each season.
- i. For 2022, Male Senior competitions shall be represented by 12 Clubs (NPL), 11 Clubs (FQPL1) and 12 clubs (FQPL2) with a Senior Men's team and U23s team in each competition with exception of:
    - Mackay & Whitsundays Magpies Crusaders are not required to enter U23 in the FQPL1 Men's competition. For clarification, Mackay & Whitsundays Magpies Crusaders will enter one (1) team into the following competition: FQPL1 Men's Senior (First Team only).
  - ii. For 2022, Female competitions shall be represented by 9 clubs (NPL) and 8 clubs (FQPL1).

- c) All NPL Men's/FQPL1/FQPL2 (inc. U23's) and the NPL Women's/FQPL1 (inc. U23's) will consist of two (2) stages;
  - i. Premiership, consisting of home and away matches.
  - ii. Finals Series.

## 4.2 Promotion and Relegation

- a) If the 2022 NPL Men's/FQPL1/FQPL2 & NPL Women's/FQPL1 competition structures change due to unforeseen circumstances post the commencement of the 2022 Regular Season, Football Queensland retains the right to review and amend these RoC in its sole and absolute discretion.
- b) Promotion and relegation forms part of NPL Men's, FQPL1/FQPL2 & NPL Women's/FQPL1 First Team Competitions for 2022. Football Queensland will use its discretion to negotiate the promoted teams on an annual basis.
- c) Should a Club be Promoted or Relegated from the NPL/FQPL1/FQPL2 competitions, the Club's U23's will follow the First Team and be given a position in the relevant FQ Competition for 2022, should they meet the criteria as outlined in the NPL Men's/FQPL1/FQPL2 & NPL Women's/FQPL1 Licensing Agreement.
- d) If there is any dispute as to which club should be Relegated, Football Queensland retains the right to determine the final Clubs relegated from the FQPL1 Competition in their sole and absolute discretion.

### 4.2.1 Relegation from NPL Men's

- a) Clubs will be relegated based on the final standings of the NPL Men's Club's First Team ([see Clause 4.4 - Competition Placings](#)) at the conclusion of the Regular Season. Final Series matches and the associated results will have no effect on the promotion or relegation of any Club under this section.
  - i. Those Clubs positioned in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> on the NPL Men's ladder at the end of the NPL Men's Regular Season will be relegated for the following Regular Season. Refer to 4.2.1 c, in the event that Brisbane Roar place 11th or 12th for outcome.
- b) Clubs relegated from NPL QLD will be placed into the FQPL1 for the following Regular Season.
- c) For the 2022 season, the Brisbane Roar FC NPL 1st team are exempt from relegation as a

promotion of the elite player pathway in QLD. If they finish 11th or 12th, they will be exempt from relegation, and the 10th team will be relegated.

#### **4.2.2 Relegation from FQPL1 Men's**

- a) Clubs will be relegated based on the final standings of the FQPL1 Club's First Team ([see Clause 4.5- Competition Placings](#)) at the conclusion of the Regular Season. Final Series matches and the associated results will have no effect on the promotion or relegation of any Club under this section.
  - i. The Club positioned in 11<sup>th</sup> on the FQPL1 ladder at the end of the FQPL1 Regular Season will be relegated for the following Regular Season.
  - ii. The club positioned 10<sup>th</sup> on the FQPL1 ladder at the end of the FQPL1 Regular Season will enter a Playoff game against the team that finishes 3<sup>rd</sup> in the ladder of the FQPL2 Competition in 2022. Should the FQPL1 side lose this match, they will be relegated for the following Regular Season.
- b) Clubs relegated from FQPL1 QLD will be placed into the FQPL2 for the following Regular Season.

#### **4.2.3 Relegation from FQPL2 Men's**

- a) Clubs will be relegated based on the final standings of the FQPL2 Club's First Team ([see Clause 4.5- Competition Placings](#)) at the conclusion of the Regular Season. Final Series matches and the associated results will have no effect on the promotion or relegation of any Club under this section.
  - i. Those Clubs positioned in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> on the FQPL2 ladder at the end of the FQPL2 Regular Season will be relegated for the following Regular Season.
- b) Clubs relegated from FQPL2 QLD will be placed into the FQPL3 for the following Regular Season.

#### **4.2.4 Relegation from NPL Women's**

- a) Clubs will be relegated based on the final standings of the NPL Women's Club's First Team ([see Clause 4.5- Competition Placings](#)) at the conclusion of the Regular Season. Final Series

matches and the associated results will have no effect on the promotion or relegation of any Club under this section.

- i. The Club positioned in 9<sup>th</sup> on the NPL Women's ladder at the end of the NPL Women's Regular Season will be relegated for the following Regular Season. Refer to 4.2.4 c, in the event that QAS place 9<sup>th</sup> for outcome.
- b) Clubs relegated from NPL QLD will be placed into the FQPL1 for the following Regular Season.
- c) For the 2022 season, QAS are exempt from relegation as a promotion of the elite player pathway in QLD. If QAS finish 9<sup>th</sup>, they will be exempt from relegation, and the 8<sup>th</sup> team will be relegated.

#### **4.2.5 Relegation from FQPL1 Women's**

- a) Clubs will be relegated based on the final standings of the FQPL1 Women's Club's First Team ([see Clause 4.5- Competition Placings](#)) at the conclusion of the Regular Season. Final Series matches and the associated results will have no effect on the promotion or relegation of any Club under this section.
  - i. The Club positioned in 8<sup>th</sup> on the FQPL1 Women's ladder at the end of the FQPL1 Women's Regular Season will be relegated for the following Regular Season.
- b) Clubs relegated from FQPL1 will be placed into the FQPL2 for the following Regular Season.

#### **4.2.6 Promotion from FQPL1 Men's**

- a) The Clubs that finish 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in FQPL1 ([see Clause 4.5- Competition Placings](#)) will be promoted to the NPL Men's QLD.

#### **4.2.7 Promotion from FQPL2 Men's**

- a) The clubs that finish 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> in FQPL2 ([see Clause 4.5- Competition Placings](#)) will be promoted to FQPL1.
- b) The Club that finishes 3<sup>rd</sup> in FQPL2 will go into a Playoff against the club that finishes 10<sup>th</sup> in the FQPL1 Competition. Should the FQPL2 side win this Playoff, they will be promoted to FQPL1.

#### **4.2.8 Promotion from FQPL1 Women's**



- a) The Clubs that finish 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in FQPL1 ([see Clause 4.5- Competition Placings](#)) will be promoted to the NPL Women's.

### 4.3 Competitions Points

- a) Teams will play in Competition Fixtures as scheduled by Football Queensland.
- b) The following points will be awarded for all Competitive competition matches during the Regular Season:

Result	Points Accumulated
Win	3 Points
Draw	1 Point
Loss	0 Points
Forfeit	3 Points and a 3-0 result
Bye	0 points

### 4.4 Competition Placings

- a) The position of each Club at the end of the Regular Season will be determined based on the following criteria for NPL Men's/FQPL1/FQPL2 (U23/First Team), NPL Women's/FQPL1 (U23/First Team):
- i. Highest number of points accumulated during the Regular Season.
  - ii. If two (2) or more Clubs are level on points accumulated, the following criteria will be applied, in order, until one (1) of the Clubs can be determined as the higher ranked:
    - iii. Highest goal difference.
    - iv. Highest number of goals scored.
    - v. Highest number of points accumulated in matches between the Clubs concerned.
    - vi. Highest goal difference in matches between the Clubs concerned.
    - vii. Lowest number of red cards accumulated.
    - viii. Lowest number of yellow cards accumulated; and
    - ix. Toss of a coin in the event of a tie of two (2) Clubs or drawing of lots in the event of a tie of three (3) or more Clubs.

### 4.5 Finals Series

- a) The format and schedule of the Finals Series for each Football Queensland competition will be determined at Football Queensland's sole and absolute discretion.
- b) The top four (4) teams in the Men's NPL First Team and U23 competitions, FQPL1 First Team and U23, FQPL 2 First Grade and U23, NPL Women's First Grade and U23, and FQPL1 Women's First Grade and U23 at the conclusion of the Regular Season will participate in a Finals Series.
- c) The Final Series for the teams listed will be played over a two (2) week period in the specified Finals Series format outlined below:

Round	Match Number	Title	Teams
1	1	Semi-Final 1	1st v 4th
	2	Semi-Final 2	2nd v 3rd
2	3	Grand Final	Winner of Match 1 v Winner of Match 2

- d) The Club who wins each respective Grand Final will be crowned Grand Final Winners and will be awarded the Grand Final Winner's Trophy as Champions.
- e) To be eligible to play for a team in the Finals Series, a player must have been listed on match records and taken to the field for a minimum of 1/3 of the number of competition rounds
- f) In competitions where interchange rules apply, all players listed on the team sheet will be for the purpose of 4.5 e, be deemed to have taken to the field of play.
- g) If a player does not meet the minimum number of games required to be eligible to play in the Finals Series of any of the above competitions, Clubs are eligible to submit a dispensation request for approval for players to participate in the Finals Series under exceptional circumstances, not limited to but including;
  - i. Injury
  - ii. Date of Registration Date
  - iii. Player availability
  - iv. Circumstances that prevented the player from playing the requisite number of matches

## 5.0 Match Day Procedures

## 5.1 Duration of Matches

- a) The following will apply to all scheduled matches:

League	Time Per Half
Under 23	45 Minutes
First Team	45 Minutes

- b) For all matches consisting two (2) periods of 45 minutes there will be an interval of fifteen (15) minutes between the whistle ending the first period to the whistle starting the second period.

### 5.1.1 Added Time

- a) Match Officials will play additional 'injury and stoppage time' at the conclusion of each half in Matches of the Leagues governed by these RoC.
- b) In a First Team Match, should delay be experienced (e.g. Serious injury to a Player that requires suspension of play while the player is treated or transported from the Venue) the referee will record the lapsed time and ensure it is added to the match duration. If the elapsed time between the suspension of play and recommencement of play is longer than 45 minutes the referee will abandon the match and it will be replayed at a date in accordance with these RoC.
- c) The referee shall be the sole keeper of time in all matches.

### 5.1.2 Extra Time

- a) There will be no extra time played in matches during the Regular Season in the event of a draw at the conclusion of normal time.
- b) Extra time may be played in Finals Series matches.

### 5.1.3 Extra Time in Finals

- a) The following will apply to all scheduled matches:

Age Groups	Extra Time
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First Team/ U23	Two (2) periods of fifteen (15) minutes
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- b) For all matches there will be an interval of five (5) minutes before the commencement of extra time.
- c) For all matches there will be an interval of two (2) minutes between the whistle ending the first period of extra time to the whistle starting the second period of extra time.

## **5.2 Substitution and Interchange**

### **5.2.1 Substitution- Senior (not including U23 NPL Women's)**

- a) First Teams in the NPL Men's, NPL Women's and FQPL 1 Men's, FQPL 2 Men's and FQPL 1 Women's as well as the U23 NPL Men's, FQPL 1 Men's and FQPL 2 Men's will be permitted to use a maximum of five (5) substitutes;
  - i. To reduce disruption to the match, each team will have a maximum of three (3) opportunities to make substitutions during the game; substitutions may also be made at half-time;
  - ii. If both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one (1) of the three (3) opportunities for each team;
  - iii. First Teams in the NPL Men's, NPL Women's and FQPL Men's will be permitted to have up to a maximum of 16 players listed on the match sheet (including a Reserve Goalkeeper if desired).

- a) Once a player is substituted, they cannot return to the field of play to participate in the match.
- b) Only Players that take the pitch (are substituted on) are deemed to have participated in the match.

### **5.2.2 Interchange- including NPL/FQPL1 U23 Women's**

- a) Unlimited interchange of players is permissible at any time during the game. The maximum number of players to be used for interchange is five (5) players for all relevant age groups.
- b) An interchange can only occur when the ball is out of play.
- c) The number of interchanges made during a match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced may return to the field for another Player.

- d) Interchange players cannot be used to replace any Player who has been dismissed from the match by the referee.
- e) Any player listed on the team sheet is deemed to have participated in the match unless 'DNP' is written beside the name/s of those players who did not take the field of play.

### **5.2.3 General Interchange/Substitution**

- a) A Match Official may decline the interchange and/or substitution of Players in the last ten (10) minutes of a competition fixture if in his or her opinion the change is being made to deliberately delay play.
- b) Only players listed on the match record before the match commences are permitted to take part in the match.
- c) All interchange and/or substitute players must be seated within the Technical Area.

### **5.2.4 Substitution and Interchange- Finals Series**

- a) For all First Team NPL Men's, NPL Women's, FQPL 1 Men's, FQPL 2 Men's, FQPL 1 Women's and all Men's U23 matches played during Finals Series, the following Substitution Rules will apply:
  - i. Up to a maximum of five (5) Players (including a goalkeeper) may be replaced at any time during a match, up until the conclusion of normal playing time or time lost, if played. The replacement Player must be one of the substitutes selected on the Team Sheet. As per the regular season, each club can list 5 substitute players.
  - ii. One (1) additional Player (outfield Player or goalkeeper) may be replaced during Extra Time of a match up until the conclusion of Extra Time (whether the team has already used the full number of permitted substitutes). The replacement Player must be one of the substitutes selected on the Team Sheet.
- b) For all Men's U23 matches played during Finals Series, the following Substitution Rules will apply:
  - i. Up to a maximum of five (5) Players (including a goalkeeper) may be replaced at any time during a match, up until the conclusion of normal playing time or time lost, if played. The replacement Player must be one of the substitutes selected on the Team Sheet. As per the regular season, each club can list 5 substitute players including a reserve goalkeeper.
  - ii. One (1) additional Player (outfield Player or goalkeeper) may be replaced during Extra

Time of a match up until the conclusion of Extra Time (whether or not the team has already used the full number of permitted substitutes). The replacement Player must be one of the substitutes selected on the Team Sheet.

- c) For all age grades during Finals Series, substitution and interchanges rules will remain as applied through the Regular Season.

### **5.3 Technical Area**

- a) Only registered Players and registered Team Officials are permitted in the Technical Area.
  - i. Players not participating in the match are not permitted to occupy the Technical Area. Only players and team officials listed on the team sheet and are appropriately registered/accredited are permitted in the Technical Area.
  - ii. A player or Team Official who is under suspension must not occupy a seat in the Technical Area.
  - iii. All Players in the Technical Area must wear a bib that contrasts with the colours worn by players of both teams, Match Officials, and bibs of the opposing team.
  - iv. All Players must remain seated unless moving to and from warm-up.
  - v. One (1) person in the Technical Area is authorised to convey tactical instructions from the technical area.
  - vi. The Coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the Technical Area, except in special circumstances, for example, a team physio or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission, to assess an injured player.
- b) In any First Team (NPL Men's, NPL Women's, FQPL1/FQPL2) or U23 Competition a maximum of ten (10) persons are permitted to occupy the Technical Area for each Club during any Match. This includes the five (5) named substitute Players and up to five (5) named registered Team Officials, including the Club Technical Director.
- c) All occupants of the Technical Area must behave in a responsible manner. The Match Referee has the right to eject any person from the Technical Area at any time as he or she sees fit. The game will not recommence until that person has left to the Match Official's satisfaction.
- d) Smoking and consuming alcohol within the confines of the player barrier/fence is strictly prohibited. This includes the team bench within the Technical Area and all its occupants.

### **5.4 Playing Strips and Clash of Colours**

- a) All Clubs are required to submit their main and alternate kit colours to Football Queensland

prior to the Competition commencing. The Kit Colours will be recorded and published in a central location for Clubs to access.

- b) All Home Clubs must wear their nominated main kit for all matches.
- c) In the case of a colour clash, the Away Club will be required to wear their alternate kit or a combination of the alternate playing kit and their main playing kit to resolve any clash of colour. Failure to supply the alternate kit will result in a fine per match they are not supplied.
- d) During any fixture, the teams of the same Club must wear the same colour playing kit unless otherwise expressly ordered by the referee to resolve the clash with the Match Officials kit.
- e) Unless already determined and communicated by Football Queensland, the referee will be the sole decision maker of a clash of colours.
- f) In the case of goal keeper's colours clashing with either the opponent's field players, goalkeeper or the Match Official's kit, the referee will determine which keeper will change, always keeping in mind the principle that the visiting team should change.
- g) In the case of a combination of main and alternate kit colours of both teams clashing with the Match Officials, the referee will determine the final colours to be worn by all players and Match Officials.

## **5.5 Match Balls**

- a) Each Club must use the official match ball in its promotional and advertising activities in relation to all Football Queensland Competitions and ensure that the logo of the Leagues match ball supplier featured on the ball is not obscured, altered, or deleted when used in any such Club promotions or advertising.
  - i. In All Leagues, the Home Team shall provide the Match Official with three (3) Nike Flight match balls no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled Competition Fixture.
- b) Failure to supply the appropriate Nike match balls may result in a fine of \$200 per match if they are not supplied.
- c) Football Queensland will provide the footballs for all Grand Finals matches, and they are to be consistent with the balls used throughout the season.

## **5.6 Match Record**

- a) Clubs must adhere to the requirements relating to the use of online [FQ teamsheets](#), results, results reporting and match data recording, as prescribed by FQ through FQ Teamsheets. If clubs require support using the system, they are to email or call FQ Competitions.
- b) Clubs must list on the Teamsheet all players taking part in a Competition Fixture and must be submitted online no later than 2:00pm Friday prior to the scheduled weekend fixture, or 2.00pm on the day prior to a midweek fixture (e.g., A Monday if a Tuesday catchup fixture). The teamsheet will lock 15 minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff time for the fixture.
- c) If a Club disagrees with any of the details on the Teamsheet prior to the commencement of the fixture, the fixture must still take place as per the fixtured start time.
- d) A Match Official has the discretion to amend a Teamsheet up until half time.
- e) Subject to Rule 5.6 j, a Club may be charged with Misconduct if:
  - i. any player listed on the Teamsheet is ineligible in accordance with either these Regulations or any FQ Regulations; or
  - ii. more than 16 players are listed on the Teamsheet; or
  - iii. it fails to list on the Teamsheet the shirt number, FA ID and Name for each player, or adds players to the Teamsheet after submission to the Match Official (and without the Match Official's permission), and shall be processed in accordance with the terms of the RELEVANT FQ REGULATIONS.
- f) A representative from each Team must approve the electronic teamsheets after the appointed Match Official has recorded all outstanding details. This must be done no later than 9:00am Monday Morning for weekend matches or 9:00am the following day for midweek games.
- g) If a Club disagrees with any of the details on a teamsheet (either its own or the opposition's), the Club must indicate any disputed information by emailing FQ. Only the following information can be disputed:
  - i. Goal Scorers;
  - ii. Red and Yellow Cards;
  - iii. Final score; or
  - iv. Player eligibility
- h) Teamsheet Disputes will only be investigated by FQ in the following circumstances:
  - i. The Teamsheet and a request to conduct a match investigation is lodged with FQ



within 24 hours of the conclusion of the Competition Fixture and;

ii. The following evidence is submitted by the Club in support of its request for a match investigation:

- Complete Teamsheet
- Video and/or photographic evidence;
- Any other information accepted from the Club at the discretion of FQ.

- i) FQ may extend or abridge the deadline referred to in Rule 5.6 h, at its discretion.
- j) FQ reserves the right to amend the Teamsheets and will only be amended if FQ is satisfied that there was no malice or intent to gain an advantage. In this instance, Clubs may not be charged with Misconduct as per Rule 5.6 e, and FQ's decision is final in this regard and is not appealable.

### **5.6.1 Match Official entry of Match Records**

- a) Referees are to submit all match results in [FQ Teamsheets](#), within an hour of the completion of their games. This is integral in ensuring Match Official payment. Football Queensland reserves the right to withhold referee payment until this information is received in conjunction with a referee's stipulated role and responsibility.

## **5.7 Match Commissioners**

- a) Football Queensland may appoint Match Commissioners, to scheduled matches, in conjunction with the Football Australia Disciplinary Regulations and Football Queensland Disciplinary Policy.
- b) A Match Commissioner is required to submit a report to Football Queensland on the Club/venue compliance with the Football Operations Manual and Match Day Minimum Standards.
- c) Should a Match Commissioner report non-compliance, a Breach Notice and/ or fine may be issued to the Club who must address and remedy the issues raised within a timeframe agreed upon after consultation with Football Queensland.

## **5.8 Ground Officials**

- a) It is the responsibility of the Home Club to provide a minimum of two (2) Club volunteers to act in the role of 'Ground Official'. Failure to provide the required number of Ground Officials within

fifteen (15) minutes of the nominated kick off time will result in the offending Club/Team being fined.

- b) Match Officials must not leave their dressing room to enter the field of play or return to their rooms from the field of play until the identifiable Ground Official is present.
- c) Football Queensland may vary the minimum Ground Official requirements for any Competition Fixture at any time.
- d) The duties of appointed Ground Officials are as below:
  - i. Ground Officials must ensure that FQ competitions are run in a safe and secure environment accordingly to FQ and FA Regulations.
  - ii. General Requirements
    - All Ground Officials must be eighteen (18) years of age or older.
    - The Ground Officials must wear an official Ground Official shirt/vest which can be easily identified.
    - Appointed Ground Officials should not be involved in any other duties whilst acting in this capacity (not refereeing, coaching, canteen, or bar duties, etc).
    - The Ground Officials must be impartial and consistent when making decisions.
    - Ground Officials may be required to submit a report upon request from FQ.
  - iii. Match Officials Support
    - The Ground Official is required to arrive at the Match Officials room 10 minutes prior to kick off.
    - If a Ground Official is not present to escort Match Officials to the field, then Match Officials are permitted to stay in the referee room until such time as a Ground Official arrives.
    - If a Ground Official is not present to escort the Match Officials by 15 minutes after the scheduled kick off time, the game will be abandoned, and the match may be declared a forfeit.
    - The Ground Official will ensure that Match Officials are safely escorted into and from the field of play (Prior to game, half time, full time).
    - The Ground Official should work closely with the appointed Match Officials to ensure that the day's activities are completed in the best possible atmosphere for player, spectators, coaches, officials, and match officials.

iv. Spectators/Crowd Control

- The Ground Official must condemn unsporting behaviour ensuring safety and welfare of players, referees and spectators.
- The Ground Official must ensure that spectators are not in prohibited area (i.e. too close to the sidelines, behind the goals, near or on the player benches etc.).
- The Ground Official is to ensure that spectator's behaviour is acceptable in accordance with the FA Spectator Code of Behaviour (no foul language, abusive comments etc.).
- The Ground Official must condemn unsporting behaviour ensuring safety and welfare of players, referees, and spectators.

## 5.9 Medical Coverage

- a) All Clubs must provide spectator and player medical support service during match days in compliance with the minimum standards contained in the following table:

Age Grades	Responsibility of Coverage
NPL Men's/NPL Women's /FQPL1/FQPL2 Seniors (U23)	Home Club to Provide
NPL Men's/NPL Women's /FQPL1/FQPL2 Seniors (First Team)	Both Clubs to Provide

- b) All Sports Trainers and Physiotherapists must be registered with the Club through the Play Football System.
- c) Minimum standards for NPL Men's, NPL Women's, FQPL1, FQPL2 and SAP Competitions are:

League	Requirements
NPL / FQPL1/FQPL2/NPLW – First Teams	SMA Level 2 Sports Trainer
NPL / FQPL1/FQPL2/NPLW- U23	SMA Level 1 Sports Trainer

## 5.10 Media Operations

- a) Due to obligations to Football Queensland partners and rights holders, each Club must ensure that they comply with the 2022 Match Day Deliverables and 2022 Media and Marketing Guidelines, which have been provided by Football Queensland. If you require further information on Media Operations and the Deliverables/Guidelines, please email [media@footballqueensland.com.au](mailto:media@footballqueensland.com.au).
- b) Failure to comply with any article of the 2022 Match Day Deliverables and 2022 Media or Marketing Guidelines will be dealt with under these RoC as per the Table of Offences and/or [Clause 1.2](#).

## 5.11 Host Venues

- a) The venue for the matches in the Competition will be nominated upon entry and provided by each Club upon their licence agreement stipulations and are subject to inspection and confirmation by Football Queensland.
- b) Should a Home Club's first choice venue not be available for scheduled matches for whatever reason, it is the Home Club's responsibility to secure an alternate venue that meets the Minimum Venue Standards for any affected matches. If required, Football Queensland will inspect and approve this venue for Match Day.
- c) Football Queensland reserves the right to set the most appropriate course of action to conclude the Season, including but not limited to rescheduling matches to the 'Away Club' venue, or to a neutral venue or deeming the fixture a forfeit against the club unable to host.
- d) In all instances any costs incurred in the rescheduling of matches will be the responsibility of the original Home Club.
- e) Venue and field inspections for perspective Final Series hosts will be performed by Football Queensland prior to approval for hosting rights for a match. Any decision to move venues following this inspection will be at the absolute discretion of Football Queensland and not open to appeal.
- f) The selection of venues for all Finals Series matches, including Semi and Grand Finals, will be at the absolute discretion of Football Queensland. A decision to allocate finals series matches will be made based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to venue availability, venue, and field condition, commercial, marketing, and financial considerations.

## 5.12 Extreme Weather Events

### 5.12.1 Adverse Weather - Rain

- a) All correspondence by Football Queensland sent to Clubs in relation to wet weather (email/message/phone call) shall be deemed to have been received by Clubs. It is therefore essential for Clubs to do the following:
  - i. Ensure your Contacts for the Club is up to date with Football Queensland's Club Contacts and in Play Football (under the Organisation menu)
  - ii. Ensure the contact(s) has a supplied a mobile phone number with their contact details to Football Queensland.
  - iii. Each Club is only responsible for notifying their own Club members of field closures.
- b) On the days prior to the scheduled match day (inclusive of friendlies/sanctioned fixtures), the Home Club is to inspect their venue to ascertain whether the ground will be fit for play as per the schedule. If the field has been closed, the Home Club is to immediately contact Football Queensland, who will then notify the Away Club and the Referee Appointments Officer.
- c) The Home Club is responsible for obtaining and monitoring the weather leading up to and including match day. Weather forecasts can be obtained from the Bureau of Meteorology at [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)
- d) On the day of the scheduled match/s, the Home Club is to inspect their venue at **6:00am** or the earliest possible time and decide whether play/fixtures can take place. If the decision is made to cancel the match because of the condition of the field, the HOME Club is required to text Football Queensland on the Mobile Number (**0428 760 622**) no less than three (3) hours prior to the kick-off time, of the first scheduled match of the day.
  - i. In the case of matches between Clubs from different geographical zones (e.g., Brisbane v Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast v Toowoomba), the Home Club will be responsible for conveying the relevant information to Football Queensland no later than 4 hours prior to kick-off for any fixtures on match days.
- e) **Matches postponed will be listed in the Ground Closures section on the Football Queensland website.**
- f) If any HOME Club does not abide by the Wet Weather Procedures, they may be deemed to have forfeited the match.

- g) Clubs are advised that Match Official Payments will be paid in full, should match/s be postponed after Match Officials have commenced travel to the venue, so it is imperative that an early decision is made.
- h) Compensation may also be payable to the affected travelling team, as determined by FQ in their sole and absolute discretion.

### **5.12.2 Adverse Weather - Heat**

- a) When high temperatures occur on match day, the Match Referee and/or the Football Queensland delegate may determine:
  - i. To play the match under standard conditions.
  - ii. To play the match with provision for extra breaks for consumption of fluid; or
  - iii. To delay or postpone the match.
- b) The decision to invoke these provisions should be based primarily on an assessment of the potential medical risk of playing in the heat to both Players and Match Officials.
- c) All Clubs, Players and Match Officials are requested to note the following when high temperatures occur on match day;
  - i. If the temperature is 32° or above, water bottles should be made available and placed along the sidelines to enable any player to take a drink during the game; and
  - ii. If conditions are considered extreme by the Match Referee, he or she has discretion to allow a two (2) minute break during each half.
  - iii. Any decision to play a match under altered match conditions can only be made with reference to these published Competition Rules and the Match Day procedures.

### **5.12.3 Delayed, Suspended, Abandoned Postponed & Cancelled Matches**

- a) If no decision is made as per Section 5.12.1 b) and one or both Teams and the Match Officials have arrived at the venue, the Match Referee will inspect the field of play and decide whether play can take place:
  - i. At all; or
  - ii. Providing no further rain falls.
- b) The following alternatives apply to matches in relation to severe adverse weather conditions and/or major injury issues;

- c) **Suspend** – a fixture may be suspended but not for an unreasonable length of time;
- i. Once a match has commenced, the Match Referee has sole responsibility to determine if the match should be suspended or abandoned due to severe adverse weather conditions. The Match Referee has the discretion to confer with the key match day stakeholders prior to the decision being taken.
  - ii. The decision to suspend a match will be made at the match venue by the Match Referee.
- d) **Abandoned** – a fixture may be abandoned post commencement with the result to be determined based on the following:
- i. In the event of a match being abandoned at half-time or during the second (2nd) half of the match due to adverse weather or any cause over which neither Club nor Match Referee has control, the match result at the time of abandonment will be declared the final result.
  - ii. In the event of a match being abandoned before half-time due to weather conditions or any cause over which neither the Club or Match Referee has control, the match will be declared a postponed match and rescheduled in accordance with section 5.13.
  - iii. Any Club who is found to be responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the abandonment of a fixture may be subject to further penalties. In the case of loss of points, the opposing team will be deemed to have won the match by a score of three (3) goals to nil (0), or the actual goal difference, whichever is greater.
- e) **Postponed** – a fixture may be postponed and rescheduled in accordance with Section 5.14.
- f) **Cancelled** – a fixture may be cancelled in accordance with Section 5.16.

## 5.13 Rescheduling Matches

### 5.13.1 U23 NPL Men's, FQPL1, FQPL 2 and U23 NPL Women's, FQPL1

- a) Rescheduling of affected matches will be arranged by the relevant Clubs in the first instance.
- b) Matches are to be rescheduled within forty-eight (48) hours of the postponement, and subject to ground availability and weather conditions must be played within fourteen (14) days of the original scheduled date;
  - i. Football Queensland has discretion to determine when and where the affected

match/s will be rescheduled.

- c) Failure to comply with Section 5.13.1 b, may result in Football Queensland rescheduling the match at a time and place of their choosing
  - i. If either Clubs refuses to play a rescheduled match, it may be declared a 'forfeit' in accordance with 5.13.2 d, and dealt with as per 2022 FQ RoC.
- d) Should an entire round of matches be postponed, all matches may be rescheduled to the nearest designated catch-up round.
  - i. Should all designated catch up weekends be exhausted, the entire round may be cancelled at the discretion of Football Queensland.
- e) Football Queensland retains the right to make the final decision regarding the rescheduling of all matches.

### **5.13.2 NPL/NPL Women's/FQPL1 and FQPL2 – First Teams**

- a) All First Team matches to be rescheduled will be automatically rescheduled to be played on the on the Tuesday immediately following the originally scheduled match date.
  - i. It is the responsibility of the Home Club to ensure that their nominated venue (or another Football Queensland approved venue) is available for the match.
  - ii. In the event, NPL/FQPL1/FQPL2 Men's and NPL/FQPL1 Women's First Team are cancelled on the same weekend with the same host Club, Football Queensland will determine which game will be played on Tuesday. The other match will be scheduled on Wednesday.
- b) Football Queensland at its discretion may determine that due to certain circumstances (such as distance between Clubs) that a match may be rescheduled to the nearest designated catch-up weekend or another date as determined by FQ.
  - i. If all designated catch-up weekends are exhausted, Football Queensland will determine when and where the affected match/s will be rescheduled.
- c) If the designated Home Club does not have a venue to play night matches or is unable to provide another Football Queensland approved venue to play the match, the match will be played at the nominated venue of the Away Club.
  - i. If neither Club has a venue to play the scheduled match, the match will be played at a



neutral venue.

- d) If a Club refuses to play a rescheduled match as per these Competition Rules, the match may be declared a forfeit and awarded to the opposition Club as a win with a 3-0 score line.

### **5.14 Requests to Defer Matches**

- a) Clubs seeking to defer matches must come to an agreement with one another and submit their request for a deferment along with details of the rescheduled match date, **giving a minimum 21 days'** notice of the date on which deferment is being sought.
- b) If Clubs are unable to provide rescheduled match details, Football Queensland will determine the details for the rescheduled match.
- c) Deferred matches not rescheduled and played for whatever reason, before the final round of the regular season will result in the match being cancelled and the result recorded as a nil all draw (0 – 0).

### **5.15 Forfeited Fixtures**

- a) Football Queensland retains the right to make the final decision regarding forfeited fixtures.
- b) Teams will be deemed to have forfeited a match when:
  - i. They fail to fulfil an engagement to play a match on the appointed date, time or venue;
  - ii. They field less than seven (7) of their registered Players at the start of any match;
  - iii. At any point during the match they cannot field at least seven (7) of their registered Players; or
  - iv. An ineligible Player as defined in these Competition Rules participates in the match.
  - v. The venue is not ready for the scheduled fixture and minimum standards adhered to, within 30 minutes of the kick off time.
- c) In the event of any Team forfeiting its match, the following procedure will take effect;
  - i. Full points allocated for the match will be forfeited to the opponent Team and the goals recorded as 3 goals by the Team receiving the points and 0 by the Team who has infringed the regulation, unless the goal difference for the Team receiving the forfeit is greater than 3, in which case they will receive the number of goals scored for in the match, with the forfeiting Team receiving nil. Any club who elects to forfeit a fixture will

also be liable for a forfeit fine/fee on the first instance, and any further instance thereafter.

- ii. Clubs forfeiting on the day of scheduled matches will pay all appropriate Match Officials fees, irrespective of whether the Match Officials were in attendance and pay compensation to the opposing Club. Compensation will be determined by Football Queensland.
  - iii. On a second forfeit, the Club involved will be required to Show Cause as to why they should not be expelled from the Competition, and the Team will, in addition to any fine imposed will forfeit match points should the result have been a win in their favour or a draw.
- d) Should a Team forfeit its last scheduled Premiership match without prior written advice from Football Queensland permitting the match to be rescheduled, the Club that causes the forfeit will be ineligible to win the Premiership.
- e) If a match is forfeited after the scheduled kick-off, the match record will be endorsed accordingly by the Match Referee.

### **5.16 Decision to Cancel**

- a) The decision to cancel and not reschedule a Regular Season match will be made by Football Queensland in its sole and absolute discretion.

A cancelled Regular Season match that is not rescheduled will be recorded as a nil-all draw with both Clubs awarded one (1) point.

## **6.0 Trophies, Medals and Awards**

Football Queensland reserves the right to alter or cancel any and all awards in exceptional circumstances. Should it be determined at any point in time in the opinion of Football Queensland that the conduct or behaviour (including such matters as criminal convictions) of an award winner is such that it is not in the interests of Football Queensland or the sport of Football to allow that person to retain the status of being an award winner, Football Queensland in its discretion may withdraw the award.

- a) Football Queensland will present the following medals and trophies at the conclusion of the 2022 Season for all Senior Competitions of NPL Men's, NPL Women's, FQPL1, FQPL2 (U23, First Team):

- i. Premiership and Championships Winners:
    - Perpetual Trophy – First Team NPL Men’s/NPL Women’s/FQPL1/FQPL2 Competitions
    - Replica Trophy or Plaque – All Age Groups/Competitions
    - 25 Medals for All Age Groups/Competitions
  - ii. Runners-Up
    - 25 medals for All Age Groups/Competitions
  - iii. Match Officials
    - 1 Medal per Match Official appointed to the Grand Final (excluding the Referee Assessor, up to 4 medals total- 4th official)
- b) Other awards for Men’s/NPL/FQPL1/FQPL2 Women’s/NPL/FQPL1 First Team include; Golden Boot, Goalkeeper of the Year, Player of the Year, Young Player of the Year, Coach of the Year and Referee of the Year.
- i. A Player is ineligible to win any Individual Awards if the Player is suspended due to receiving a Direct Red Card in a match or due to a Disciplinary Committee Hearing or Match Review Panel into their conduct.
  - ii. A Player may still be included in the Team of the Season if suspended due to receiving a Red Card (Direct or Indirect) in a match or due to a Disciplinary Committee Hearing or Match Review Panel, subject to the discretion of Football Queensland.
  - iii. A Player is ineligible to win if they have played, (defined as taken to the field of play), in less than ten (10) First Team matches at the conclusion of the Regular Season.
- c) In 2022, Coaches are required to vote for the opposition team’s best players in a 3-2-1 format. Club Media Managers are to liaise with the relevant coaching staff to ensure their team’s 3-2-1 votes are submitted after each match (home and away). The Coaches votes for NPL, FQPL1 and FQPL2 Men’s, and NPL and FQPL1 Women’s, must be entered in the electronic [teamsheet](#) by 9am on the Monday following the weekend’s fixtures (or the day following a midweek fixture).
- d) Criteria – Individual Player Awards
- i. The Golden Boot is awarded to the highest goal scorer at the conclusion of the Regular Season.
  - ii. The Goalkeeper of the Year award is awarded to the Goalkeeper who polls the highest number of votes in the Player of the Year voting
  - iii. Player of the Year is awarded to the Player who through the following combination of criteria:

- Referee 3-2-1 Votes;
  - Team of the Season Votes
  - Any other reasonable justification as determined by Football Queensland.  
Such as disciplinary record or overall team performance
  - Is determined by Football Queensland as their respective Competitions  
Player of the Season at the conclusion of the Regular Season.
- iv. Young Player of the Year is awarded to the Player, aged 21 years or younger (at the conclusion of the Regular Season), who finishes highest in their respective competitions voting for the Player of the Season at the conclusion of the Regular Season.
- e) Criteria – Team of the Season
- i. At the conclusion of the Regular Season, Football Queensland will determine a Team of the Season for the NPL, NPL Women's, FQPL1 and FQPL2 First Team Competitions. The Team of the Season will be selected through the following criteria:
  - ii. A Team of the Season will be cast by the Head Coach of each Club immediately following the conclusion of the Regular Season.
  - iii. Should Players be tied on votes in certain positions, Football Queensland may utilize other statistics or highlights available to determine the final Team of the Season.
- f) Additional Criteria – Individual Player Awards and Team of the Season
- i. Football Queensland will review all Individual Player Awards and the Team of the Season once voting has been completed and results compiled.
  - ii. The top ten vote getters in each award will be brought forward to a panel to review and determine the final winners of each category.
- g) The Coach of the Year is awarded to the best NPL, NPL Women's, FQPL1/FQPL2 First Team Coach during the Regular Season.
- i. Votes are cast on a 3-2-1 basis by the Head Coach of each Club immediately following the conclusion of the Regular Season.
  - ii. Head Coaches are prohibited from voting for themselves.
  - iii. Coach of the Year is awarded to the Coach who through the following combination of criteria:
    - Coaches 3-2-1 Votes.
    - Any other reasonable justification as determined by Football Queensland.

Such as overall team performance.

- iv. The Coach of the Year Award will be presented to the winner at the conclusion of the Finals Series.
  - v. A Head Coach is ineligible to win the Coach of the Year if the Head Coach has been suspended as a result of being sent from the Field of Play during a match or as the result of a Disciplinary Committee Hearing. A coach is also ineligible for the award if they have been the Head Coach for less than ten (10) Regular Season matches
- h) The Referee of the Year is awarded to the Referee who is judged as the best Referee for the Regular Season:
- i. The award is judged by Football Queensland's State Referees Manager in consultation with the State Referee's Committee
  - ii. The Referee of the Year will be presented the award at the conclusion of the Finals Series.
- i) Criteria – Fair Play Awards
- i. At the conclusion of the Regular Season, Football Queensland will tally the number of yellow cards and red cards received by a Club across their NPL/FQPL1/FQPL2/NPL Women's team
  - ii. Yellow Cards will be worth one (1) point and a Red Card will be worth three (3) points. The Club with the lowest point for each competition will be given the Fair Play Award
- j) All perpetual trophies remain the property of Football Queensland.
- k) The Champions/Premiers may retain the Championship/Premiership trophy at the Club premises for three (3) months. Each Championship/Premiership Club is to return the trophy to Football Queensland within this period.
- l) Should a perpetual trophy be lost or damaged whilst under the care of the Club, the Club responsible for the loss or damage will be financially responsible for the repair and/or replacement of the trophy.

## **7.0 Player Points System Rules – Football Queensland**

## **7.1 Scope and Application**

- a) The Player Points System only applies to NPL Men and FQPL 1 Men First Teams only. Teams in these competitions must adhere to the PPS. Additional information, PPS Sheets and key changes will be made available to the clubs competing in these competitions.

## **8.0 Schedule of Fines and Charges**

- a) Set out below are the range of penalties which may be imposed by Football Queensland in relation to breaches of the official Rules of Competition (RoC).
- b) The decision of Football Queensland shall be final. There shall be no right of appeal from such decision.
- c) Football Queensland may exercise such discretion as it deems fit in relation to the imposition of the penalty.

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

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

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

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

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

Technical Area Dismissal (accumulated by individual)	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
1st Offence	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
2nd Offence	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	
3rd Offence	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	
Team Match Day Misconduct	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
5 Cards (red or yellow) 1st offence	N/A	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
5 Cards (red or yellow) 2nd offence	N/A	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	
5 Cards (red or yellow) 3rd offence	N/A	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	
3 Red Cards in a single match 1st offence	N/A	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	
3 Red Cards in a single match 2nd offence	N/A	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	
3 Red Cards in a single match 3rd offence	N/A	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	
Walk off	N/A	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	
Late Nominations	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
After nominations close	N/A	\$25	\$50	\$50	N/A	N/A	
After commencement of round 1	N/A	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$100	N/A	
Late Withdrawal	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
After nominations close (per team)	N/A	\$100	\$100	\$200	\$2,000	\$5,000	
After commencement of round 1 (per team)	\$25	\$200	\$200	\$400	\$3,000	\$10,000	
Facilities	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Inadequate Field marking (inclusive of TA)	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$500	\$500	
Inadequate Nets	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$500	\$500	
No Corner Flags	\$20	\$20	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Insufficient First Aid facilities	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$200	\$200	
Canteen not in operation	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$200	\$200	



Match Day	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Failure to supply ground officials	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	
Failure to supply club official	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Failure to adhere to match ball requirements	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$200	
Failure to submit Teamsheets before competition timeframe	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	
Failure to lodge result before competition timeframe	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	
Forfeits	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Day of Fixture	\$50	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$1,200	\$2,000	Plus referee fees and a 'show cause'
With Notice	N/A	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$600	\$2,000	Plus a 'show cause'
Day of Fixture - 23s	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$600	\$1,000	Plus referee fees and a 'show cause'
With Notice - 23s	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$300	\$1,000	Plus a 'show cause'
Other	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	Additional Comments
Ineligible players - all competitive players	N/A	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$500	\$500	
Participation in Unsanctioned Match (per team)	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$500	\$500	\$1,000	
Kit Guidelines	N/A	*\$100	\$100	\$100	\$500	\$1,000	* Warning then fined
Media Guidelines (Filming)	N/A	N/A	\$100	\$200	\$500	\$500	* Warning then fined
Social Media Breach (all clubs)	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	
All other Breaches	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	As determined by Football Queensland
Appeals	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6	
Appeal Fees	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$750	\$750	\$750	