



2025 F-LEAGUE RULES OF COMPETITION

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CONTENTS

1.	ORGANISATION & ADMISSION	1
1.1.	Scope, Admission and Application	1
1.2.	Consequences for Breach	1
1.3.	Matches Played in Accordance with the Laws of the Game	2
1.4.	Confirmation of Leagues/Age Division	2
1.5.	Player Insurance	2
1.6.	Commercial Arrangements	2
1.7.	Outstanding Debts	2
1.8.	Special Consideration	3
2.	CODE OF CONDUCT AND REGISTRATIONS.....	4
2.1.	Code of Conduct	4
2.2.	Eligibility.....	4
2.3.	Consequences of Playing an Ineligible Player	4
2.4.	Age Eligibility	4
2.5.	Registration Period	5
2.6.	Reacquisition of Amateur Status.....	5
2.7.	Registrations Outside of Registration Periods	5
2.8.	Visa Players	5
2.9.	Process for Registration of Team Managers and Coaches.....	6
2.10.	Submission of Registrations	6
2.11.	Professional Player Transfer Fees and Disputes.....	6
2.12.	Player Rosters.....	6
3.	PLAYER MOVEMENT	9
4.	COMPETITION STRUCTURES AND REGULATIONS	10
4.1.	Structures and Competition Format.....	10
4.2.	Withdrawal from Competition Season	10
4.3.	Promotion and Relegation – Football Queensland Competitions.....	10
4.4.	Promotion & Relegation Requests/Withdrawal.....	10
4.5.	Promotion and Relegation – National Second Division	10
4.6.	Competitions Points	11
4.7.	Competition Placings	11
4.8.	Finals Series.....	11
5.	MATCH DAY PROCEDURES.....	13
5.1.	Competition Scheduling.....	13
5.2.	Duration of Matches.....	13
5.2.1.	Added Time	14
5.2.2.	Extra Time and Penalties	14
5.3.	Substitution and Interchange.....	14

5.4.	Technical Area	15
5.5.	Playing Strips and Clash of Colours.....	15
5.6.	Match Balls.....	16
5.7.	Squadi Team Sheet	17
5.7.1.	Match Official Entry of Squadi Team Sheet	17
5.8.	Match Commissioners	18
5.9.	Ground Officials.....	18
5.10.	Medical Coverage	18
5.10.1.	Concussion Management	18
5.11.	Media Operations.....	19
5.12.	Host Venues	19
5.13.	Extreme Weather Events	19
5.13.1.	Adverse Weather - Heat	19
5.13.2.	Delayed, Suspended, Abandoned Postponed & Cancelled Matches	20
5.14.	Rescheduling Matches	21
5.15.	Alterations to Fixtures	21
5.15.1.	Requests to Amend/Postpone/Reschedule.....	21
5.16.	Forfeited Fixtures	21
5.17.	Decision to Cancel	23
5.18.	Match Officials	23
5.18.1.	Match Officials Fees	23
5.18.2.	Non-Attendance or Unavailability of Match Official	23
5.19.	Liquids During Play	24
6.	TROPHIES, MEDALS AND AWARDS.....	25
7.	PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM RULES – FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND.....	27
8.	DEFINITIONS.....	28
9.	INTERPRETATIONS, DISPUTES & APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES	31

1. ORGANISATION & ADMISSION

1.1. Scope, Admission and Application

- a) Football Queensland reserves the right to review the Rules of Competition (RoC) on an annual basis. Notwithstanding any annual review, 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) Football Queensland maintains the right to amend, change or modify the RoC, in its sole and absolute discretion.
- c) 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 located on the [Football Queensland Forms and Policies Webpage](#).
 - vi. 2025 Football Queensland Disciplinary Regulations.
 - vii. [Football Queensland Social Media Guidelines](#).
 - viii. 2025 Media & Marketing Guidelines.
 - ix. All Football Queensland Licensing Agreements (supplied on request of Club).
- d) 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.
- b) Any breach or failure to meet or adhere to Licensing 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. Non-participation of any/all aspects of the Club Assessment Criteria.
- c) 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.
- d) The penalties will include any or all (but not limited to) of the following;
 - i. Monetary Fine/Financial Penalties as per 2025 Fines and Penalties document.
 - 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 FIFA/FA Futsal Laws of the Game.
- b) The Football Queensland RoC outlined within are in addition to those stipulated in the FIFA/FA Futsal 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
F-League Men	First Team
F-League Women	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) FQ may conduct additional competitions as it deems appropriate before, during or after the competition season, providing the rules and competitions are sanctioned by FQ for the competition prior to the commencement of the competition (includes cup competitions).
- d) Entry into the Queensland Futsal Cup is mandatory for eligible Clubs in F-League (Men & Women).

1.5. Player Insurance

- a) 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.

1.6. Commercial Arrangements

- a) 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 requirements may include, but is not limited to; signage, the display of logos on Club websites, jerseys, the use of designated balls, ground and facility access requirements, visitor and commercial partner accreditation, ground and match ticketing terms and conditions etc.
- b) Football Queensland where possible will attempt to ensure that any requirement by a sponsor has minimal financial impact and not intrude on Clubs' existing sponsorship contracts.

1.7. Outstanding Debts

- a) Treatment of outstanding debts will be as outlined in License Agreements.
- b) 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. Queensland Cup). A failure to adhere to this stipulation may result in any or all (but not limited to) of the following;
 - i. Financial Penalties.
 - ii. Deduction of Points.
 - iii. Suspension of the Club from any/all Competitions.

- iv. Removal from the Competition/s.
- c) This Section applies to all Competitions, Competition Fixtures and Cup Matches conducted by Football Queensland and the participating Clubs and participants therein.

1.8. Special Consideration

- a) 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.
- b) The decision by Football Queensland to review and consider contextual circumstances under this section is not subject to appeal or review.
- c) Football Queensland may waive the payment of any amount payable to it at any time.

2. 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 in line with the Football Australia National Disciplinary Regulations and/or 2025 Football Queensland Disciplinary Regulations.
 - iii. 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.
 - iv. Player who participates in the match but is not listed correctly on the Squadi Team Sheet prior to the match commencing.
 - v. They are deemed ineligible due to any section of the RoC, FA/FQ Regulations, Statutes or Policies and/or Football Queensland By-Law 9.

2.3. Consequences of Playing an Ineligible Player

- a) A team may lose a match on forfeit and be fined in accordance with these RoC and the 2025 Fines and Penalties document, 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 and Overage Player limits set out in these RoC.
- b) Any Club is permitted to lodge a protest regarding the alleged fielding of an ineligible player(s). A Squadi Incident Report must be lodged by a designated club official or contact outlining the details of the protest and the player(s) involved. Should the protest involve the allegation of a player playing under another player's name, the protest is required to include a photograph of the player(s). An investigation into the protest will be undertaken as soon as possible.
- c) FQ also reserves the right to investigate any matter at its own discretion even though a formal protest has not been lodged.
- d) Any determination made by Football Queensland in relation to a player eligibility matter is final and not subject to appeal.

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 and participation in matches.

Age Group	Eligible Years of Birth
F-League Men	2009 or earlier
F-League Women	2010 or earlier

2.5. Registration Period

- a) Any Amateur or Professional (F-League) player registration to a Club may occur at any time during the Registration Periods. For 2025, the registration periods will be:

Competition	Registration Period Open	Registration Period Close
F-League	1 July 2025	1 October 2025

- b) Amateur Players may register without restriction at any time up until 11:59pm on the Closing Date of each Registration Period.
- c) Amateur Players may register to an F-League competition prior to the opening date of these Registration Periods into community competitions, however, will not be eligible to participate for the First Team until the Opening Date of the Registration Period.
- d) 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 prior to any deadlines stipulated by FQ. These players must be registered within the windows outlined for F-League competitions.

2.6. Reacquisition of Amateur Status

- a) A player registered as a Professional cannot register or re-register as an Amateur Player until at least thirty (30) days after the last time they were listed on a Team Sheet as a Professional Player (see FA NRSTRs).

2.7. Registrations Outside of Registration Periods

- a) Football Queensland may allow a Club to register a player (Amateur or Professional) outside of the Registration Periods if:
- That player is a goalkeeper, the Club only has one Goalkeeper across the Senior squad, and all other options, including promoting from the Clubs age-eligible teams have been exhausted.
 - Football Queensland is satisfied that the Club has justifiable reason for the request and has provided appropriate evidence.
 - Exceptional Circumstances exist (at FQ discretion), e.g. 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 competition standards.
- b) Clubs must make the request via the online link found on Football Queensland's website. The decision handed down to the Club is final and unsuccessful exemption requests cannot be appealed.

2.8. Visa Players

- a. An Australian Player is any Player who is:
- a citizen of Australia;
 - a Permanent Resident of Australia (where Permanent Resident means a person residing in Australia on a "permanent" visa class issued by the Australian Government, evidenced by either the person's Visa Grant Notice or as a listed entitlement on the person's online Visa Entitlement Verification); or
 - the holder of a refugee visa, humanitarian visa or protection visa issued by the Australian Government. For further details see: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>.

- b. Any player who does not satisfy the above definition of an Australian player will be considered a Visa player. This includes New Zealand Citizens, who will be considered a Visa or OFC player unless they satisfy the definition of an Australian Player.
- c. 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.
- d. Clubs will be required to submit documentation to Football Queensland showing the residential/citizenship status of players in any F-League Men & Women competitions. Football Queensland may also request documentation of additional players outside of these competitions at their discretion.
- e. The number of Visa Players allowed in each First Team Competition is:

Competition	Maximum Number of Visa Players	Interchangeable Between Match Weeks Yes/No
F-League Men	2 + 1 AFC/OFC Player	Yes
F-League Women	3	Yes

2.9. Process for Registration of Team Managers and Coaches

- a) All Coaches, Team Managers and Volunteers must be registered in Squadi to be involved in any capacity with a Club participating in Football Queensland Competitions and must be able to always provide an appropriate accreditation of registration.
- b) All coaches that coach within Football Queensland Competitions must hold the recognised minimum level of coaching accreditation required as stipulated in the relevant Licensing Criteria.

2.10. Submission of Registrations

- a) All registrations are to be processed, approved, and completed via Squadi 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' 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.

2.12. Player Rosters

- a) All clubs participating in the F-League are required to submit a player roster document containing all registered players in their Senior Squad.

- b) As part of this submission and pursuant to the Football Australia NRSTRs, clubs must submit a passport, citizenship documentation or visa documentation for each player in order for Football Queensland to confirm their status as an Australian player or Visa player.
- c) Should a club wish to use any player in a F-League fixture that is not on their Player Roster, they must re-submit an updated Player Roster, including the above regulated documentation for that player.
- d) During the F-League Men and Women's Seasons, Clubs may have 18 active players at any point in time (a maximum of 30 players maybe used over the season) Registered to their Squads. Clubs found to be exceeding this number may found to be in breach of the RoC and subject to the penalties as per section 1.2.a.

In line with previous seasons, all F-League clubs are required to submit a Player Roster document containing all registered players in their F-League squads per Section 2.12 of the F-League Rules of Competition. Clubs must submit a fully completed Player Roster and associated documentation to FQ Competitions, no later than **7 days** prior to their first competitive fixture.

As an additional requirement for 2025, clubs must submit documentation for each player on their Player Roster for Football Queensland to confirm their status as an Australian Player, or Visa Player, as outlined in the Rules of Competition and pursuant to Football Australia National Registration Status & Transfer Regulations (NRSTRs).

The following table provides examples of the types of documentation that can and cannot be produced to verify a player as an Australian Player:

Documentation Accepted	Documentation NOT Accepted
Australian Passport	Australian Drivers Licence
Australian Citizenship Documentation (pathway to citizenship NOT acceptable)	Australian Birth Certificate (in isolation)
Visa/Immigration documentation that clearly demonstrates Permanent Residency attached (Length of Stay = Indefinite)	Medicare Card (in isolation)
Australian Birth Certificate AND Medicare Card together	Visa/Immigration documentation without demonstration of Permanent Residency or Refugee/Humanitarian/Protection status
Refugee, Humanitarian or Protection Visa/Immigration documentation	New Zealand Passport or Citizenship (NZ Citizens must produce documentation indicating they have been granted Permanent Residency into Australia)

For ease and less work throughout the season, we advise that visa status documentation is submitted for all players who may play for the F-League Team. Clubs should submit documentation via their preferred method, such as [WeTransfer](#) or upload to Google Drive or Dropbox and send us an access link to competitions@footballqueensland.com.au.

The FQ Competitions team will review each club's submitted roster and documentation and advise any compliance issues to be rectified prior to participation in a competitive fixture.

Once the Player Roster is compliant and approved, FQ Competitions will confirm in writing to the club and indicate the club's approved F-League Visa Players for the season ahead. **Please note, players will**

not be considered eligible to participate until a completed Player Roster has been submitted and the Visa Status documentation for each player on the Player Roster has been verified by Football Queensland.

As the season progresses, should a club wish to use any player in an F-League First Team fixture that is not on their Player Roster, they must re-submit an updated player roster, including the above regulated documentation for that player.

3. PLAYER MOVEMENT

This section does not apply to F-League Competitions.

4. COMPETITION STRUCTURES AND REGULATIONS

4.1. Structures and Competition Format

- a) The 2025 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 2025, F-League competitions shall be comprised of 8 Clubs F-League Men and F-League Women.
- c) The composition and format of all F-League competitions will be determined annually by Football Queensland. All Clubs competing in these leagues will not be subject to promotion or relegation, as league placement is based on FQ Advanced Club Assessment outcomes and Licence Agreements.
- d) F-League Men's and Women's competitions will consist of two (2) stages;
 - i. Regular Season, consisting of home and away matches.
 - ii. Finals Series

4.2. Withdrawal from Competition Season

- a) If a team is withdrawn, removed, or suspended before the competition has started and cannot be replaced, a bye in the competition will be substituted where possible and the Club will be levied an administration fee, and the following will apply accordingly.
 - i. If the first cycle (round) of fixtures wasn't completed in its entirety, the recorded results for that team will be deleted.
 - ii. If the second, or subsequent, cycle (round) of fixtures wasn't completed in its entirety then the results of the uncompleted cycle will be deleted while the results for all completed cycles will remain.
 - iii. FQ may re-arrange the draw so that the teams that were due to play the withdrawing team have a bye. Where the competition already had a bye in each round, FQ may change the draw as it sees fit to eliminate the bye.
 - iv. FQ reserves the right to negotiate with another Club/team to come into the competition as a replacement. FQ also reserves the right to decide how points are attributed to the replacement team for the remainder of the season.
 - v. The withdrawn Club involved will be subject to potential disciplinary action, sanction, and penalties. Please refer to the 2025 Fines and Penalties document for further information.

4.3. Promotion and Relegation – Football Queensland Competitions

- a) For the 2025 Season the F-League will not be subject to promotion or relegation, as league placement is based on FQ Advanced Club Assessment outcomes and Licence Agreements.

4.4. Promotion & Relegation Requests/Withdrawal

This section does not apply to the F-League.

4.5. Promotion and Relegation – National Second Division

This section does not apply to the F-League.

4.6. 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 Received	3 Points and a winning 6-0 result
Forfeit Given	0 Points and a losing 0-6 result
Bye	0 Points

4.7. Competition Placings

- a) The position of each Club at the end of the Regular Season will be determined based on the following criteria for all competitions:
 - 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:
 - a. Highest goal difference.
 - b. Highest number of goals scored.
 - c. Highest number of points accumulated in matches between the Clubs concerned.
 - d. Highest goal difference in matches between the Clubs concerned.
 - e. Lowest number of red cards accumulated throughout the regular season.
 - f. Lowest number of yellow cards accumulated throughout the regular season; and
 - g. 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.

4.8. 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 each competition 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) match days 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	Highest Placed Semi Final Winner v Lowest Placed Semi Final Winner

- 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 played or been available for a minimum of 50% of Regular Season Matches in the respective age division.
 - i. Where number of games in the regular season are uneven, number of matches will be rounded-up from the 50%. For clarification, when a competition has a total of 13 games for example in the regular season, eligibility to play Final Series would be a minimum of 7 matches.
 - ii. A goalkeeper will be the exception to this rule providing the goalkeeper is currently registered with their registered age division.
- f) 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
 - iii. Player availability
 - iv. Circumstances that prevented the player from playing the requisite number of matches
- g) Football Queensland reserves the right to determine the eligibility of any player to participate in the Finals Series, in their sole and absolute discretion.

5. MATCH DAY PROCEDURES

5.1. Competition Scheduling

- a) Football Queensland will schedule the dates, times and venues of all matches in collaboration with Clubs and their requested preferences. Draft draws will be released to Clubs to allow for feedback prior to the commencement of the season. Football Queensland reserves the right to schedule matches on any day, time and venue and in any format in alignment with the best interests of the competition(s). This includes scheduling matches to accommodate media requirements and Match official appointments. Football Queensland reserves the right to reschedule matches in its absolute discretion.
- b) All Football Queensland matches take precedence in scheduling over non-FQ affiliated matches at all Football Queensland Clubs.
- c) F-League Men and Women will normally be scheduled between Friday and Sunday each week.
- d) F-League Men and Women matches must be scheduled consecutively where possible.
- e) Day & Time Scheduling/Rescheduling Guide:
 - i. Friday - Games can be scheduled from 7:00pm
 - ii. Saturday – Games can be scheduled from 9:00am (10:00am for those teams needing to travel more than 1 hour from the designated Home Venue). Saturday night the latest kick off is 7:00pm
 - iii. Sunday - Games can be scheduled from 9:00am (10:00am for those teams needing to travel more than 1 hour from the designated Home Venue). Sunday evening the latest kick off is 6:00pm.
- f) This is a general guide and Football Queensland reserves the right to schedule games outside of these times if required or if exemptions are granted.
- g) Exemptions may be granted in the case of public holidays or where both teams agree, for any fixture(s). Any request for an exception must be submitted in writing to Football Queensland for approval and the decision made will be final. The request must be submitted in line with the fixture amendment process.

5.2. Duration of Matches

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

Competition	Duration	Interval	Time Allowed Between Matches	Injury/Stoppage Time
F-League 2025	2 x 20 Minutes (Stop Clock)	5-10 Minutes	105 minutes	N/A

5.2.1. Added Time

- a) Match officials will play additional 'injury and stoppage time' at the conclusion of each half in Senior Matches of the Leagues governed by these RoC (this does not apply to F-League competitions).
- b) In an F-League Match, should a 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 match official 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 30 minutes the match official will abandon the match and it will be replayed at a date in accordance with these RoC.
- c) The match officials shall be the sole keeper of time in all matches.

5.2.2. Extra Time and Penalties

- a) There will be no extra time or penalty shoot-outs played in matches during the Regular Season in the event of scores being equal at the conclusion of regular time.
- b) If the scores are equal at the conclusion of regular time in any Finals Series match, extra time will be played as follows to determine a winner:

Age Division	Duration of Extra Time
F-League Men and Women	2 x 5 minutes (Stop Clock)

- c) There shall be an interval of two (2) minutes at the end of normal playing time and the commencement of the first period of extra time, for all competitions.
- d) This is no interval at half time and Teams and Team Benches swap direction and play resumes.
- e) If the scores are still equal after extra time, then a penalty shoot-out in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game will be taken to determine the winner.

5.3. Substitution and Interchange

- a) For all divisions within the F- League, unlimited substitution applies.
- b) Procedure and rules for the unlimited substitution of players:
 - i. The substitution zone will be defined by the referee prior to the start of the match.
 - ii. The area in front of the timekeeper's table five (5) metres to either side of the halfway line is to be kept clear.
 - iii. A team's substitution zone is situated in the half of the pitch defended by that said team and changes in the second half of the Match and periods of extra time (if applicable).
 - iv. A substitution can be made any time during the Match, and for which the following conditions shall be observed:
 - a. The player leaving the pitch shall do so from sideline, crossing over at the sector called the substitution zone.
 - b. The player entering the pitch shall also do so from the substitution zone, but not until the player leaving the pitch, has passed completely over the sideline.
 - c. The number of substitutions made during a Match is unlimited. A player who has been replaced, may return to the pitch for another player.

- d. If during a substitution, a substitution player enters the pitch before the replaced player has completely left it, the Referee shall ensure the replaced player leaves the pitch, then caution the substitution player and then restart the Match.
- e. If during a substitution, a substitution player enters the pitch or a replaced player leaves it from a place other than the substitution zone, the Referee shall caution the offending player.
- c) If during the taking of the penalty kicks the Goalkeeper is injured, he/she may be replaced with another Goalkeeper providing the replacement was listed on the team sheet.
- d) Substitution players cannot be used to replace any player who has been dismissed from the Match by the Referee, until the required time lapse for two (2) minutes, or a goal has been scored by the opposition (refer to FIFA Laws of the Game).

5.4. 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 Squadi 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 or alternative coloured uniform to the colours worn by players of both teams, match officials, and substitutes 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. All other members of the Technical Team and Substitutes must be seated while in the Technical Area.
 - vii. 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 match official's permission, to assess an injured player.
- b) In all fixtures, a maximum of three (3) registered team officials are permitted to occupy the Technical Area, all of which must be listed on the Squadi Team Sheet (excludes Physio/Sports Medicine).
- c) All occupants of the Technical Area must behave in a responsible manner. The match official 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.

5.5. 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 for approval. Clubs playing strips for F-League Men and Women must include a 'light kit' and a 'dark kit'. 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.
- d) Clubs and match officials should refer to the following table which lists which items of the strip are permitted to clash for different Leagues.

Kit Item	F-League
Jersey	No Clash Permitted
Shorts	Clash Permitted
Socks	No Clash Permitted

- e) During any fixture, the teams of the same Club must wear the same colour playing kit unless otherwise expressly ordered by the match official to resolve the clash with the match official's kit.
- f) Unless already determined and communicated by Football Queensland, the match official will be the sole decision maker of a clash of colours.
- g) In the case of goalkeeper's colours clashing with either the opponent's field players, goalkeeper or the match official's kit, the match official will determine which keeper will change, always keeping in mind the principle that the visiting team should change.
- h) In the case of a combination of main and alternate kit colours of both teams clashing with the Match Officials, the match official will determine the final colours to be worn by all players and match officials.
- i) If a Competition Fixture does not commence due to an inability to resolve a clash of strips, and it can be established that a Club did not comply with the requirements above, the offending Club may be deemed to have forfeited the match and subject to a fine as per the 2025 Fines and Penalties document.
- j) Should a match official proceed with a match in which a Club has not complied with the requirements above, the match official is to report this to Football Queensland. The offending Club will be fined as per the 2025 Fines and Penalties document and provided with a warning. If any team within the offending Club repeats the same offence they will be penalised with a forfeit.

5.6. 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 League's match ball supplier featured on the ball is not obscured, altered, or deleted when used in any such Club promotions or advertising.
 - i. In F-League Men and Women Competitions, the Home Team shall provide the match official with three (3) Mitre Delta Futsal Ball Size 4 match balls no later than 15 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled Competition Fixture.
- b) Clubs must have additional Mitre match balls of the appropriate standard ready for use in the event that any of the three (3) nominated Mitre match balls are lost or damaged during a fixture.
- c) Failure to supply the appropriate Mitre match balls as per sections 5.6.a and 5.6.b may result in a fine as per the 2025 Fines and Penalties document.
- d) Football Queensland will provide the match balls for all Senior Grand Finals, and they are to be consistent with the balls used throughout the season.

5.7. Squadi Team Sheet

- a) Clubs must adhere to the requirements relating to the use of electronic team sheets in Squadi, results reporting and match data recording, as prescribed by FQ through Squadi. If Clubs require support using the system, they are to email or call FQ Competitions.
- b) Clubs must list on the Squadi Team Sheet all players and team officials taking part in a Competition Fixture, with correct jersey numbers assigned and ID photos loaded.
- c) All F-League Men and Women Squadi Team Sheets must be submitted by no later than fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled weekend fixture. The Squadi Team Sheet will lock 15 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time for the fixture, allowing for late changes to be made if required.
- d) If a Club disagrees with any of the details on the Squadi Team Sheet prior to the commencement of the fixture, the fixture must still take place as per the fixtured start time.
- e) A Club may be charged with Misconduct if:
 - i. No Squadi Team Sheet is submitted prior to the deadlines outlined in these regulations; or
 - ii. Any player listed on the Squadi Team Sheet is ineligible in accordance with either these regulations or any FQ Regulations; or
 - iii. More than the permitted number of players are listed on the Squadi Team Sheet; or
 - iv. It fails to correctly list on the Squadi Team Sheet the shirt number, ID photo and name for each player, or adds players to the Squadi Team Sheet after the 15 minute deadline prior to the scheduled kick-off time (without the match official's permission).
- f) Any breaches as per section 5.7.f shall be processed in accordance with section 1.2 and/or the 2025 Fines and Penalties document.
- g) If a Club disagrees with any of the details on a Squadi Team Sheet (either its own or the opposition's), the Club must indicate any disputed information by emailing competitions@footballqueensland.com.au. Only the following information can be disputed:
 - i. Goal Scorers.
 - ii. Red and Yellow Cards.
 - iii. Final score.
 - iv. Player eligibility
- h) Any Club is permitted to lodge a protest regarding the alleged fielding of an Ineligible Player(s) through Squadi as per the process outlined in section 2.3.b.
- i) FQ reserves the right to amend the Squadi Team Sheets and will only do so 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, and FQ's decision is final in this regard and is not subject to appeal.

5.7.1. Match Official Entry of Squadi Team Sheet

- a) Match officials are to submit all match results and incidents in Squadi at the conclusion of their games. This is integral in ensuring match official payment. Football Queensland reserves the right to withhold match official payment until this information is received in conjunction with a match official's stipulated role and responsibility.
- b) If no Football Queensland match official is appointed to a match, it is the responsibility of the HOME Club to advise FQ the results of the match by **9am Tuesday** following the weekend fixtures (Fri-Sun) and by **midday the following day** for mid-week fixtures (Mon-Thu).

5.8. 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) 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

5.9. Ground Officials

- a) It is the responsibility of the Home and Away Club to both provide a minimum of one (1) Club representative to act in the role of 'Ground Official' for all competition fixtures. Failure to provide a Ground Official within fifteen (15) minutes of the nominated kick-off time will result in the offending Club/Team being fined as per the 2025 Fines and Penalties document.
- b) The Ground Officials must always be clearly visible, wearing an identifiable fluorescent vest and located near the field of play.
- c) A Ground Official must be over the age of 18 and cannot be involved in any other duties whilst acting in this capacity (i.e. not officiating, coaching, canteen, or bar duties, etc). The Ground Official cannot consume alcohol 6 hours prior to or on duty.
- d) The Ground Official(s) must make themselves known to the match officials at least 10 minutes prior to the match and provide an escort for all match officials before kick-off, at half time and full time. A match official may refuse to commence a fixture if no Ground Official is present. Should a match official not present themselves 15 minutes after the scheduled kick-off time the match official may abandon the match.
- e) A full list of Ground Official Roles and Responsibilities can be found [here](#).
- f) Football Queensland may vary the minimum Ground Official requirements for any Competition Fixture at any time.
- g) Any Club found in breach of not providing a Ground Official or not fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of a Ground Official is liable to be fined as per the 2025 Fines and Penalties document.

5.10. 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 Divisions	Responsibility of Coverage	Minimum Requirements
F-League	Home Club to Provide	SMA Level 1 Sports Trainer

- b) All Sports Trainers and Physiotherapists must be registered with the Club in Squadi

5.10.1. Concussion Management

- a) Any player with a suspected concussion should be immediately removed from play and should not be returned to activity until they are assessed by a qualified medical practitioner as per the [FA Concussion Guidelines](#). There should be no return to play on the day of a concussive injury.

5.11. Media Operations

- a) Due to obligations to Football Queensland partners and rights holders, each Club must ensure that they comply with the 2025 Match Day Deliverables and 2025 Media and Marketing Guidelines, which will be provided by Football Queensland. If you require further information on Media Operations and the Deliverables/Guidelines, please email media@footballqueensland.com.au
- b) Failure to comply with any article of the 2025 Match Day Deliverables and 2025 Media or Marketing Guidelines will be dealt with under these RoC as per the Table of Offences and/or section 1.2.

5.12. Host Venues

- a) The venue for competition matches will be nominated upon entry and provided by each Club in 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. Any decision regarding the scheduling of fixtures will be at the absolute discretion of Football Queensland and not open to appeal.
- d) In all instances any costs incurred in the rescheduling of matches will be the responsibility of the original Home Club.
- e) Venue and pitch 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 pitch condition, commercial, marketing, and financial considerations.

5.13. Extreme Weather Events

5.13.1. Adverse Weather - Heat

- a) The Match official and/or Football Queensland delegate should refer to the [FQ Heat Policy](#) to determine one of the following;
 - i. To play the match under standard conditions.
 - ii. To play the match with provision for drinks break; or
 - iii. To delay or postpone the match.
- b) The decision to incorporate these provisions should be based primarily on the assessment of the potential medical risk of playing in the heat to both the players and match officials, while also considering the increased temperatures that are present when playing on synthetic pitches.
- c) 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.

5.13.2. Delayed, Suspended, Abandoned Postponed & Cancelled Matches

- a) If no decision is made as per the processes outlined in sections 5.13 and one or both Teams and the match officials have arrived at the venue, the Match official will inspect the field of play and decide whether play can take place:
 - i. At all; or
 - ii. Providing weather conditions improve.
- b) The following alternatives apply to matches in relation to severe adverse weather conditions and/or major injury issues;
- c) **Suspended** – a fixture may be suspended but not for an unreasonable length of time;
 - i. Once a match has commenced, the Match official has sole responsibility to determine if the match should be suspended or abandoned. The Match official 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 official.
- 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 official 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 official has control, the match will be declared a postponed match and rescheduled in accordance with section 5.14.
 - 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 six (6) goals to nil (0), or the actual goal difference, whichever is greater.
 - iv. Clubs may submit a request to Football Queensland for an abandoned match to be replayed but must do so within five (5) days of the match being abandoned. Football Queensland will consider the following regarding any request for a replay:
 - Reasons why the match was abandoned
 - The time of abandonment.
 - Result of the match at the time of abandonment.
 - The impact of the final league standings.
 - Factors that may affect the opportunity for scheduling the match to be replayed.
 - v. The decision of Football Queensland on whether to grant a replay will be final and this shall not be subject to appeal. Any replayed match will be played in full.
 - vi. Any yellow card issued during an abandoned match will be upheld if that match is not replayed or expunged if that match is replayed. A direct red card issued during an abandoned match will be upheld regardless of whether the match is replayed or not.
- 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 5.17.

5.14. Rescheduling Matches

- a) Rescheduling of Matches or Fixtures affected by hot weather or unavailability will be arranged by FQ in conjunction with the relevant teams.
- b) Matches or Fixtures are to be rescheduled within five (5) days of the postponement, and subject to venue availability must be played within fourteen (14) days of the original scheduled date.
- c) If the HOME Club fails to provide a response within five (5) days of Football Queensland sending the request, Football Queensland may reschedule an alternate date as required or the match may be awarded to the AWAY Club with a 3-0 score line and the HOME Club may be fined (See 2025 Fines and Penalties document).
- d) If the proposed date provided by the HOME Club gives less than fourteen (14) days' notice, the HOME Club must obtain the AWAY Club's agreement. The AWAY Club cannot refuse a rescheduled match option that provides at least fourteen (14) days' notice. Football Queensland reserves the right to decide regarding the suitability of the date proposed, which will be final.
- e) If the designated Home Club cannot provide a venue to play the match(es) or is unable to provide another suitable Football Queensland approved venue to play the match, the match will be played at the nominated venue of the Away Club.
- f)) If neither Club has a venue to play the scheduled match, Football Queensland will designate a neutral venue to play the match.
- g) 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.
- h) Football Queensland reserve the right where appropriate to determine a match as a draw 3-3 where any given match cannot be rescheduled.
- i) Football Queensland reserves the right to make the final decision regarding the rescheduling of all fixtures.

5.15. Alterations to Fixtures

5.15.1. Requests to Amend/Postpone/Reschedule

- a) Clubs seeking to amend or postpone matches must come to an agreement with one another and submit their request along with details of the rescheduled match details, giving a minimum 14 days' notice of the scheduled match.
- b) If Clubs are unable to provide rescheduled match details, Football Queensland will determine the details for the rescheduled match, which will be final.
- c) Deferred matches not rescheduled and played for any 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).

5.16. Forfeited Fixtures

- a) Football Queensland retains the right to make the final decision regarding forfeited fixtures.
- b) Any team that wishes to forfeit a match prior to the scheduled day and time must notify Football Queensland through Squadi. Football Queensland will then notify the opposition team and match officials.
- c) 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. The venue is not ready for the scheduled fixture and minimum standards adhered to, within 30 minutes of the kick-off time, at the discretion of the match official.
 - iii. They field less than three (3) of their registered players at the start of any match;
 - iv. At any point during the match they cannot field at least three (3) of their registered players; or
 - v. An Ineligible Player as defined in the Rules of Competition participates in the match.
- d) 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 6 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 6, 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 as per the 2025 Fines and Penalties document.
 - 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 may be required to pay compensation to the opposing Club. Compensation will be determined by Football Queensland.
 - iii. On a third forfeit, the Club involved will be required to Show Cause as to why they should not be expelled from the Competition.
- e) Should a Team forfeit its last scheduled Regular Season 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.
- f) If a match is forfeited after the scheduled kick-off, the Squadi Team Sheet will be endorsed accordingly by the match official.
- g) A team deemed to have forfeited may submit a request to review the forfeit if they believe the forfeit was caused by extraordinary circumstances. The request must be submitted by Club Management in writing (or Squadi incident report) to Football Queensland within three (3) days of the forfeit. Football Queensland will review the request and deliver a determination. Football Queensland's decision regarding the forfeit shall be in its absolute discretion and shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- h) Any yellow or red cards issued to either team during a match that has been overturned and a forfeit declared will stand. If the match result is changed as per section 5.16.d any goal scorers for the team receiving the forfeit will remain, and any goal scorers will be removed for the team responsible for the forfeit.
- i) If it is established that both Clubs competing in any Football Queensland competition match are deemed to have forfeited, the Clubs will be fined as per the 2025 Fines and Penalties document, and the following will apply:
- i. The match will be deemed as a NO RESULT, whereby, no points will be awarded.
 - ii. Football Queensland may suspend, expel or take whatever disciplinary action it deems necessary against the offending Clubs or players.
 - iii. If a Finals Series match or Cup match is declared a "No Result", Football Queensland may determine that the match be replayed.

5.17. 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.
- b) A cancelled Regular Season match that is not rescheduled will be recorded as a nil-all draw with both Clubs awarded one (1) point.

5.18. Match Officials

- a) All match Officials (including Club Referees) must be registered in Squadi before being able to officiate matches.
- b) Football Queensland Match Officials must wear their uniform. This includes the Teal Shirt for First Year Referees and a pink arm band for Match Officials deemed as a minor (Under the age of 18).
- c) Football Queensland match official appointments will be published weekly on the Football Queensland Match Day Appointments Webpage. Football Queensland appointed match officials will display as FQ Referee next to each match. If the Referee 1/Referee 2/TK field next to the match is blank no FQ Match Official has been appointed in that position and clubs will need to appoint Club Match Officials.
- d) Football Queensland Match Officials may wear Body Worn Video Cameras and may record incidents. This footage may be used in the FQ judiciary proceedings.

5.18.1. Match Officials Fees

- a) All match officials' fees will be invoiced to the Club on a weekly basis, where applicable.
 - i. Home/Away Season Fixtures - fees are paid by the Home Club.
 - ii. The Match Official Fee Structure per competition can be found on the [Football Queensland website](#).
 - iii. Centralised Venue Fixtures - fees will be paid by Football Queensland. v. Forfeited and abandoned matches – refer to 2025 Fines and Penalties document.
 - iv. Semi Finals – fees will be paid by Football Queensland. v. Forfeited and abandoned matches – refer to 2025 Fines and Penalties document.
 - v. Grand Finals – fees will be paid by Football Queensland. v. Forfeited and abandoned matches – refer to 2025 Fines and Penalties document.

5.18.2. Non-Attendance or Unavailability of Match Official

- a) Should the appointed match official fail to honour their appointment, then the next most senior match official will be appointed to take charge of the fixture; provided they are qualified to officiate the match. In the event of an appointed Match official failing to honour their appointment, please submit a Squadi incident report to advise FQ.
- b) In the event the appointed Match official is late on arrival, then the replacement match official will take charge of the fixture until the appointed Match official is ready to take over. In circumstances where only one Match official has been appointed, the Home Team is requested to provide a Club Assistant to assist the Match official. If necessary, the Away Club may be asked to provide an Assistant. Please note, the game should not start without 2 Match officials, however this decision will be at the match official's discretion.
- c) In circumstances where no Timekeeper have been appointed or fails to honour their appointment, the Home Team is requested to provide a Timekeeper to assist the Match official. If necessary, the Away Club may be asked to provide a Timekeeper. Please note, the game should not start without a

Timekeeper, however this decision will be at the match official's discretion. If the parties can't agree on the above, but there is a Match official who has the appropriate accreditation, he/she shall Match official the game, which must be played.

5.19. Liquids During Play

- a) Liquids may only be consumed off the field of play.
- b) Drinks must be contained in plastic bottles and handed to the Players on the sidelines. Glass bottles and containers are not allowed in the venues.
- c) It is forbidden to throw bottles or other receptacles on to the field of play.

6. TROPHIES, MEDALS AND AWARDS

- a) 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.
- b) Football Queensland will present the following medals and trophies at the conclusion of the 2025 Season for all competitions:
 - i. Premiership Winners will be presented prior to the Semi Final.
 - Premiership Winners Trophy
 - Premiership Medals (x21)
 - ii. At the conclusion of all Grand Finals the following will be presented:
 - Grand Final Winners Trophy
 - Grand Final Winners Medals (x21)
 - Grand Final Runners Up Medals (x21)
 - Grand Final Match Officials - 1 Medal per match official appointed to the Grand Final (excluding the Match official Assessor).
 - iii. Player of the Season, Golden Boot:
- c) Other awards for F-League Men and Women First Team may include; Golden Boot, Player of the Year and Coach of the Year. A player or coach is ineligible to win any awards in any of the following circumstances:
 - i. A player or coach is suspended due to receiving a Direct Red Card (excluding R4 or R5) in a match, or due to a Disciplinary Committee Hearing or Match Review Panel into their conduct.
 - ii. A player or coach 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 or coach is ineligible to win if they have played (defined as taken to the field of play) or coached in less than ten (7) First Team matches at the conclusion of the Regular Season.
- d) In F-League Men and Women coaches are required to vote for the opposition team's best players in a 3-2-1 format for each regular season match. Club Managers are to liaise with the relevant coaching staff to ensure their team's 3-2-1 votes are submitted in Squadi by 9am on the Monday following the weekend's fixtures (or the day following a midweek fixture).
- e) Criteria – Individual F-League Men and Women Player Awards:
 - i. The Golden Boot is awarded to the highest goal scorer at the conclusion of the Regular Season. In the event of a tie, both players will receive an award.
 - ii. Player of the Year will be determined based on Coach 3-2-1 Votes per Match.
- f) All perpetual trophies remain the property of Football Queensland. Clubs may retain Premiership/Grand Final Winners perpetual trophies at the Club premises for six (6) months. It is the responsibility of each Club to return any perpetual trophies to Football Queensland within this period.

- g) 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. PLAYER POINTS SYSTEM RULES – FOOTBALL QUEENSLAND

This section does not apply to F-League.

8. DEFINITIONS

Abandoned Match – A Competition Fixture which has failed to commence for any reason or has commenced but has been stopped by the Match Official prior to its conclusion.

Age Group – The cohort of players defined by the year(s) they were born.

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

Been Listed – Refers to a player appearing on a Squadi Team Sheet.

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

Club Assistant – An Assistant Referee provided by a Club for the fixture.

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

Club Referee – A referee allocated to a match by a Club when an FQ Referee is not appointed who has the same authority and responsibility as an FQ appointed referee.

Clubs – A body or incorporated association that has been accepted for affiliation and admittance into Football Queensland's competitions.

Coach – Any person who is registered as a coach in Football Queensland's registration system, Squadi, and is tasked with directing a football team training and match performance.

Competitions – Any or all football divisions, age groups or matches administered by Football Queensland.

Competition Administrator – The staff members of the Football Queensland Competitions Department.

Competition Fixture – Any match that is scheduled and administered by Football Queensland.

Cup Match – Any knock-out cup match, organised and/or administered by Football Queensland or FA before, after or in conjunction with a Regular Season and includes but is not limited to the Queensland Cups.

Declared Weekend – A weekend that is declared unplayable, due to extreme weather conditions.

Division – A particular grade or level of competition within Football Queensland.

FA (Football Australia) – Australia's governing football body.

Facilities Lighting Standards – refers to the Football Queensland Facilities Lighting Standards Policy as available through Football Queensland and adhering to the Australian Sports Lighting Standards.

Field of Play (FOP) – An enclosed pitch with the entire area within temporary or permanent perimeter fencing; or an open pitch with the entire area within three (3) metres of the boundary line of a futsal pitch.

FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) – The world governing body of Football.

Final – A competitive match played to determine the winner of a Finals Series or Cup competition administered by Football Queensland.

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

Fixture – Any match played in a Football Queensland Competition, Cup, other event or tournament under Football Queensland's administration.

Fixture Suspensions – An imposed number of match(es) where a participant is disallowed from participating as a result of disciplinary action. **Forfeit** – The failure of a team to participate in a Competition Fixture.

FQ (Football Queensland) – Queensland's governing football body.

FQ By-Law 9 – The current Football Queensland Grievance, Discipline and Tribunal By-Law (which may be amended as appropriate).

Goal Difference – The difference between goals scored by a team (goals for) and goals scored against a team (goals against) in a match or season.

Graded – The allocation of a player or team to a division or age group specified by Football Queensland.

Has Started – Refers to a player who commenced a match as part of the starting 11 under the Substitution rule.

Highest Placed Team – The team which finished in the higher position on the competition ladder after the fixture season.

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

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

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

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

League – Specific competition conducted and declared by Football Queensland.

Lowest Placed Team – The team which finished in last position on the competition ladder after the fixture season.

Match – See fixture.

Match Official – A referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match day coach, Club referee, match commissioner or any other person appointed by FA/Football Queensland/Club who assumes responsibility of a match and the participants safety in connection with a match.

Match Day Coaches – Referee instructor who supports and assists with the development of referees on game day.

No Result – Recording a '0-0' score line in a Competition Fixture with no points or goals awarded to either Team. A 'No Result' is recorded as a Competition Fixture played.

Participant(s) – One that takes part in a football match including, but not limited to: players, coaches, Club officials and Club supporters (spectators).

Penalty Shoot-Out – The alternate taking of penalty kicks from a penalty spot to determine a winner in accordance with FIFA regulations where a match requires a result.

Playing Facilities Standards – The minimum standards a Club must adhere to, to be eligible to host fixtures, in accordance with the Football Queensland Facility Guides and Licencing Agreements.

Postponed – A Competition Fixture which has not commenced as scheduled and is to be rescheduled.

Regional – Footballing activities conducted in regions of Queensland other than the metropolitan Brisbane region. Regions include; South Coast, Darling Downs, Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, Central Coast, Whitsunday Coast, Northern and Far North & Gulf.

Registered – A player, team official, Club official, match day coaches, Club referee or Referee who is registered in accordance with the applicable Football Queensland Registration Regulations, and/or FA National Registration Regulations, including without limitation seeking an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) where applicable.

Regular Season – The duration of the season, not including Finals Series.

Replica Strip – An imitation shirt/shorts/attire of another Club or team, be it professional or amateur (e.g. Brisbane Roar Replica jersey).

Rules of Competition (RoC) – Referring to this document and all associated stipulations, policies, and statutes referred to and herewith.

Sanctioned Match – Any match(es) Football Queensland approves to be played in accordance with the Football Queensland Sanctioning Policy. This includes matches to which Football Queensland does not appoint Match Officials.

Squadi – Football Queensland's National Registration & Competition Management system.

Team - A football team entered by a Club in a League/Competition administered by Football Queensland.

Team Official – A coach, assistant coach, manager, physio/medical staff or other Club registered participants who is listed on a Squadi Team Sheet and is allowed in the technical area during a match.

Unregistered – A player or Club official who is not registered in Squadi.

Venue Managers – The business/person of football facilities not directly leased, owned or managed by a Club.

9. INTERPRETATIONS, DISPUTES & APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES

- a) Football Queensland reserves the right to rule on any interpretation of these rules if any dispute arises. Clubs are advised to seek clarification from Football Queensland if in any doubt as to the meaning of these rules. Applications for variances to these rules must be lodged by the club Secretary to the Manager – Advanced Competitions with all supporting documentation. Football Queensland reserves the right to change or amend these rules at its absolute discretion.
- b) A request for a review of a decision in relation to a breach of the Competition Rules will not be considered unless the club seeking the review provides significant new or additional evidence. Football Queensland in those circumstances will review the decision and allow the clubs to provide a submission (written or oral). The decision on the review by Football Queensland will be final and not subject to appeal.

