



Sunshine Coast



# JUNIOR CUP 2024



**RULES OF COMPETITION**

**23 - 25 JUNE | MAROOCHYDORE**

Visit *Sunshine Coast*

## Contents

Scope and Objective .....	3
Competition Administrator .....	3
Eligibility of Teams.....	3
Eligibility of Players .....	3
Photography of Players .....	4
Match Report Cards .....	4
Match Balls .....	4
Strip Colours.....	4
Technical Area & Ground Officials .....	4
Tournament & Playing Format .....	4
Competition Format .....	5
Competition Points.....	5
Competitions Placings .....	6
Duration of Matches.....	6
Return Substitutions (Interchange).....	6
Red Cards/Expulsions.....	6
Appeals.....	7
Misconduct.....	7
Match Officials .....	7
Trophies, Medals and Awards.....	8
Wet/Adverse Weather Procedure .....	8
Abandoned Matches .....	8

## Scope and Objective

- (a) The Rules of Competition (RoC) are set by Football Queensland (FQ) as the administrator of the FQ Junior Cup and supplement the broader IFAB Laws of the Game. They are intended to provide clarity as to the playing format for the FQ Junior Cup fixtures as well as the matchday procedures and disciplinary processes, if required and to be read and delivered supplementary and in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by IFAB.
- (b) These Regulations are to be read in conjunction with the relevant FQ Regulations, Policies and By Laws and FA's Statutes and Regulations (including National Disciplinary Regulations, National Registration Regulations and FQ Disciplinary Regulations). In the event of an omission or inconsistency between these regulations and other FQ policies, Football Queensland will determine and rule on the interpretation.

## Competition Administrator

- (c) The Competition Administrator for the FQ Junior Cup is Football Queensland. FQ will appoint an operations contact at venue for the whole duration of the tournament. FQ will prepare the schedule and fixture list for all matches. Each team's officials will be responsible for their own game day operations.
- (d) The Competition Administrator is authorised to suspend, reprimand, caution or otherwise penalise any players, teams or officials whom they consider have breached the rules of the games and/or tournament, or have by their action, brought the game into disrepute.
- (e) Football Queensland reserves the right to rule on any interpretation of the Rules of Competitions (RoC) if any dispute arises. FQ Junior Cup Managers/Coaches are advised to seek clarification from FQ if in doubt as to the meaning, interpretation, or delivery of the RoC. Football Queensland retain the ability to amend or alter the Rules of Competition at its absolute discretion as required.

## Eligibility of Teams

- (a) The FQ Junior Cup will be conducted in the following groups:
  - FQ Academy Junior Boys Gold Cup
  - FQ Academy Junior Boys Silver Cup
  - FQ Academy Junior Girls U12 Gold Cup
  - FQ Academy Junior Girls U13 Gold Cup
- (b) Teams are limited to a maximum of fourteen (14) players. (Unless cleared by FQ)
- (c) Teams are required to submit Team Sheets prior to each match.

## Eligibility of Players

- (a) Players participating in the FQ Junior Cup fixtures must be registered using Squadi for the tournament to ensure appropriate insurance coverage.
- (b) All players must be age-appropriate for each age group, for clarity please see the table below;

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Age Eligibility</b>
Junior Boys (U12)	Players born in 2012
Junior Girls (U12/13)	Players born in 2012 and 2011

- (c) Younger or older players may be permitted to play in these age groups in exceptional circumstances only through application to Football Queensland. Football Queensland

reserves the right to approve or deny applications and rescind them at any time throughout the tournament.

### Photography of Players

- (a) By participating and attending the FQ Junior Cup, participants and spectators give permission for their images to be used by Football Queensland and approved photography personnel on media platforms to report on the event and promote future events.

### Match Report Cards

- (a) Match report cards will be used throughout the tournament. Blank report cards will be supplied to referees at the commencement of each day to record full time scores and any red cards issued.
- (b) The match official will retain the match report card for the duration of the match. The match official will return the match report card to the FQ representative at the conclusion of the match once signed by managers of both teams.
- (c) The results will be recorded in Squadi by FQ at the conclusion of each round of matches.

### Match Balls

- (a) Football Queensland is responsible for providing three (3) match balls for each field in operation. The match officials will remain in charge of these match balls throughout each day.
- (b) Size 4 match balls will be used for all games.

### Strip Colours

- (a) All teams competing in the FQ Junior Cup are required to confirm their strip colours to Football Queensland prior to the tournament commencing.
- (b) Teams may not vary from their nominated strip colours. Failure to comply with nominated strip colours may result in the guilty team being penalised and the result being recorded as a 3-0 in favor of the opposing team. The referee and tournament directors are asked to rule on any misinterpretation or strip clash and seek an alternate option (strip change).

### Technical Area & Ground Officials

- (a) Football Queensland staff will be available throughout the day if issues arise.
- (b) For all matches played during the tournament, a maximum of seven (7) people are permitted to occupy the technical area for each team. This includes the five (5) substitutes and up to two (2) registered team officials.
- (c) Injured players are not to occupy the technical area, only players & team officials are permitted.
- (d) Suspended players or officials cannot occupy the technical area.
- (e) All substitutes must be seated in the technical area. Substitutes are permitted to warm up outside the technical area, provided they are wearing bibs or an alternative coloured uniform to both team strips. Balls are not to be used in warm-ups throughout the duration of the match.
- (f) Under the FIFA Laws of the Game, all occupants of the technical area who are behaving in an irresponsible manner may be expelled from the technical area by the match officials and/or referee coaches. The match will not commence until such time as the match officials deem that the individual is an adequate distance from the field of play.

### Tournament & Playing Format

- (a) All matches will be played at Maroochydore Football Club, as per the fixture list prepared by Football Queensland.
- (b) FQ will provide all participating teams with the fixture list prior to the FQ Junior Cup.
- (c) All Fixtures will be played as per the FIFA Laws of the Game, as outlined in the following Academy Playing Format:

- (d) The only exception to these regulations is the offside rule, which will **APPLY** to these fixtures. Teams are, however, strongly encouraged to play within the spirit of the game and ensure players are occupying inside positions.

### Competition Format

(a) The FQ Junior Cup shall consist of 2 stages:

- Group Stage: All teams playing against each other within their designated groups
- Finals Stage: Consisting of knockout matches outlined in the table below

Competition	Group Stage Format	Finals Stage Format
FQ Academy Junior Boys Gold Cup	2 Groups of 7 Teams (6 Fixtures per Team)	<p><b>Semi Finals:</b> Semi Final 1 – Group A 1<sup>st</sup> v Group B 2<sup>nd</sup> Semi Final 2 – Group B 1<sup>st</sup> v Group A 2<sup>nd</sup></p> <p><b>Grand Final:</b> Winner Semi Final 1 v Winner Semi Final 2</p>
FQ Academy Junior Boys Silver Cup	4 Groups of 7 Teams (6 Fixtures per Team)	<p><b>Semi Finals:</b> Semi Final 1 – Group A 1<sup>st</sup> v Group B 1<sup>st</sup> Semi Final 2 – Group C 1<sup>st</sup> v Group D 1<sup>st</sup></p> <p><b>Grand Final:</b> Winner Semi Final 1 v Winner Semi Final 2</p>
FQ Academy Junior Girls U12 Gold Cup	3 Groups of 7 Teams (6 Fixtures per Team)	<p><b>Semi Finals:</b> Semi Final 1 – Group A 1<sup>st</sup> v Group B 1<sup>st</sup> Semi Final 2 – Group C 1<sup>st</sup> v Best 2<sup>nd</sup> Place A/B/C/D</p> <p><b>Grand Final:</b> Winner Semi Final 1 v Winner Semi Final 2</p>
FQ Academy Junior Girls U13 Gold Cup	4 Groups of 6 Teams (5 Fixtures per Team)	<p><b>Semi Finals:</b> Semi Final 1 – Group A 1<sup>st</sup> v Group B 1<sup>st</sup> Semi Final 2 – Group C 1<sup>st</sup> v Group D 1<sup>st</sup></p> <p><b>Grand Final:</b> Winner Semi Final 1 v Winner Semi Final 2</p>

- (b) The determination as to the teams participating in the relevant Finals Stage matches defined above will be based on the rankings of each team on the competition ladder of each Group.
- (c) The Best 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams as outlined in the U12 Girls Cup will be determined by the ranking of teams as outlined in 'Competition Placings'
- (d) An overall final ladder will be established as determined by the result of the Grand Final Matches. The team who loses the Semi Final to the eventual winner of the Grand Final will be ranked third on the final ladder, with the losing team from the other Semi Final finishing fourth.
- (e) Penalty shootout will take place if Semi/Final ends in a draw. Three (3) Penalty are allowed for each team.

### Competition Points

(a) The following points will be awarded for all FQ Junior Cup fixtures during the Group Stage of the competitions:

Result	Points Accumulated
Win	3 Points
Draw	1 Point

Loss	0 Points
Forfeit Given	0 Points and a 0-3 Losing Result
Forfeit Received	3 Points and a 3-0 Winning Result
Bye	0 Points

### Competitions Placings

- (a) Football Queensland will use the following criteria when determining the ranking of Teams within each Competition:
- i. Highest number of points accumulated during the Group Stage.
  - ii. If two (2) or more Teams are equal 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 Goals For
    - c. Highest number of points accumulated in the Group Stage Matches between the Teams concerned (head-to-head)
    - d. Highest number of goals scored in the Group Stage Matches between the Teams concerned (head-to-head)
    - e. Lowest number of red cards accumulated; and
    - f. Toss of a coin in the event of a tie of two (2) teams or drawing of lots in the event of a tie of three (3) or more teams.

### Duration of Matches

- (a) The duration of matches for each age group is outlined in the table below.

Competition	Match Duration	Half Time Interval
All Competitions	2 x 15 Minute Halves	5 Minutes

- (b) There will be no injury/additional time added to any matches during the tournament.
- (c) There will be no extra time or penalties in matches during the Group Stage of the competitions in the event of a draw at the conclusion of normal time.
- (d) In the event of a draw at the conclusion of normal time for Finals Stage matches, alternate kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedures described in the Laws of the Game. For clarification, no extra time will be played in the event of a draw at the end of normal time.

### Return Substitutions (Interchange)

- (a) In all FQ Junior Cup fixtures, unlimited Return Substitutions (Interchange) are permitted. A player who has been substituted may return to the field for another player.
- (b) Referees are to be notified before changes are made. Substitutions happen at dead-ball moments, breaks, or unless of injury and fatigue.
- (c) Substitutions will be able to be made throughout the first 15 minutes of each half and at half-time, but not within the last 5 minutes of either half unless required due to injuries.

### Red Cards/Expulsions

- (a) If a red card or send off is issued throughout the FQ Junior Cup, the sent off player may not play any further part in that fixture but may be replaced by another player.
- (b) Any Player sent from the field during a match, may only be permitted to play the next match in accordance with the sanctions outlined in the following table:

Offence	Eligible to Participate in the Following Match
R1 – Serious Foul Play	Yes
R2 – Violent Conduct	No
R3 – Spits at an opponent or any other person	No
R4 – DOGSO - Handball	Yes
R5 – DOGSO - Foul	Yes
R6 – Uses offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	No
R7 – Second Caution	Yes

- (c) A disciplinary committee will be formed by Football Queensland to oversee and administer all disciplinary matters relating (including red card suspensions) to the FQ Junior Cup.
- (d) The Football Queensland Disciplinary Committee will attend the FQ Junior Cup and will address all matters in an urgent manner due to the structure of the tournament.
- (e) All disciplinary sanctions will be by the Football Queensland Disciplinary Committee.
- (f) Any match suspension/s are to be served in the team's next FQ Junior Cup match/es. The suspended player/team official is ineligible to participate until the suspension has been served in full.
- (g) The Sin Bin rule will not apply to fixtures in the FQ Junior Cup

### Appeals

- (a) A player or team official cannot appeal against a mandatory match suspension, except in the case of alleged mistaken identity.
- (b) All appeals will be lodged with and handled by the Football Queensland Disciplinary Committee, who will attend the tournament.
- (c) There will be no appeal fee payable by the teams.

### Misconduct

- (a) All instances of players, spectators, officials, or teams conducting themselves in a manner contravening the rules of the competition or behaving in an unseemly manner likely to bring the game into disrepute, shall be immediately investigated by Football Queensland for consideration and subsequent action.

### Duration of Matches

- (e) All fixtures will consist of two (2) 15-minute halves, and a maximum 5-minute half time break.
- (f) There will be no injury/additional time added to any matches during the tournament.

### Match Format

- (a) If a player is offside and it is clear and obvious to the referee, an offside call **will** be made and an indirect free kick shall be awarded.
- (b) All other fouls a direct free kick shall be awarded

### Match Officials

- (a) Football Queensland will be responsible for the allocation of a match official to each match throughout the tournament.
- (b) No payments are to be made to the match officials throughout the course of the tournament. Football Queensland will coordinate any referee payments if required.
- (c) In the event of referee injury or misadventure, FQ will determine whether the fixture is abandoned, delayed, or postponed. Whichever is most applicable.

### Trophies, Medals and Awards

- (a) All medals and trophies will be presented after the Grand Final in each competition.
- (b) Football Queensland will present the following awards in each Competition:
  - Grand Final Winners
  - Grand Final Runners Up

### Wet/Adverse Weather Procedure

- (a) In the event of wet or adverse weather, FQ representatives along with the appointed match official will determine in their sole and absolute discretion whether the match is to take place.

### Abandoned Matches

- (a) In the event of a match being abandoned before full-time due to adverse weather or any other cause which neither team nor the match officials have control, the match result at the time of the abandonment will be declared the final result.
- (b) Any team who is found to be responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the abandonment or forfeit of a fixture may be subject to sanctions. The match will be recorded as a 3-0 win in favor of the opposing team, unless the score at the time of abandonment was of a greater margin in favor of the opposing team, and the points will be awarded to the opposing team.



Sunshine  
Coast

Visit  
Sunshine Coast