



SANCTIONING POLICY

Version Control

Date	Version	Details	Author
31 st October 2024	2025.01	Annual Review	FQ Customer Service Unit
31 st October 2025	2025.02	Annual Review	FQ Customer Service Unit

Approval

Delegation required for approval: Chief Executive Officer

Approving Officer

Name: Robert Cavallucci
Position: Chief Executive Officer
Dated: 31/10/2025
Term of Policy: Ongoing – replacing all previous versions

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Football Queensland (FQ) Sanctioning Policy is to provide clarity, support and guidance to FQ affiliated Football and Futsal Clubs when hosting events, programs and activities that may be considered outside the regular fixtured football/futsal season fixtured by Football Queensland.

Sanctioning is required for reasons including but not limited to club and player risk management and mitigation, club and player insurance, compliance with state and national regulations, duty of care, referees, football governance and administration purposes. The insurances provided by Football Queensland only apply to football, futsal and events sanctioned by Football Queensland, subject to the terms of the relevant policies and in accordance with Football Queensland affiliation agreements, all participants at affiliated clubs may only participate in sanctioned football and futsal activities.

The intent of this policy is to ensure events or programs hosted by FQ affiliated clubs and organisations adhere to the terms of their affiliation policies and licences and can be covered by the scope of the FQ insurance policies, and to assess the risk and football management of such events.

2. SCOPE

This policy covers all forms of events including, but not limited to, activities such as:

1. Community and Promotional Events

- Gala Days, Festivals, Carnivals, Tournaments
- Charity Events
- Come and Try Days
- Non-Affiliate Friendly Matches

2. In-House, Social and Modified Football Programs

- In-House Programs
- Walking Football
- Beach Football
- Summer Football Programs, Competitions and Events
- 7-a-side and 5-a-side Football
- Street Football

3. Player Development and Engagement Activities

- Holiday Clinics
- Camps
- Alternative Training Activities conducted outside standard programs

4. Club and Community Functions

- End-of-Year Presentations
- Events Involving Jumping Castles or Amusement Rides
- Off-site Club Events or Functions

5. Travel and External Participation

- Interstate Tour Permits
- International Tour Permits
- Participation in a Sanctioned Event

6. Off-Season or Non-Regular Football Activities

- Any football event, program, or activity undertaken outside the regular 'fixtured' football season and not recognised as a standard, sanctioned football activity within a club's normal operations.

3. BENEFITS OF GAINING SANCTIONING APPROVAL

- a) Compliance national regulations and constitutional obligations
- b) Compliance with FQ club licencing and FQ Affiliation agreements
- c) Public liability insurance cover (subject to policy terms) required by LGA
- d) Appropriate participant, referee and volunteer insurance (subject to **policy** terms)
- e) Access to FQ Referees (subject to availability)
- f) Club Directors/Management insurance
- g) Risk considerations; and
- h) Member Protection and Child Protection support and information

4. AIM OF SANCTIONING

Eligible FQ stakeholders that seek endorsement to conduct an approved Football Queensland event are required to complete the online application forms and provide supporting documents.

Eligible stakeholders include:

- FQ affiliated Football Clubs and/or organisations
- FQ affiliated Futsal Clubs and Competition Managers

Sanctioned events that attract fees do so for the purpose of covering administrative costs and additional insurance risk that is beyond normal standard football and futsal activity (i.e., regular week to week club competition). For commercial sanctioning, the use of the official comprehensive insurance coverage and brand intellectual property (IP) also contributes a re-investment back into the game.

Sanctioning operates on a user-pays principle, ensuring that any increases in public liability or public indemnity insurance premiums resulting from additional activity are borne by those hosting the events, rather than being distributed across all Queensland participants.

5. ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Entry into a sanctioned event is limited to eligible participants listed below:

- Teams from FQ affiliated clubs comprised of FQ/FA registered players
- Affiliated teams of other FA Member Federations
- All participants including but not limited to players, team officials, referees and volunteers that are current fully registered 'active' participants on the official FA PlayFootball Registration System, as well as being 'active' in FQ's Squadi platform; and
- All FA registered participants from outside FQ must have approval from the FA State Member Federation.

Individual participants who may not currently be registered with FA/FQ (i.e. not currently a member of an affiliated club), may be granted temporary exemption to participate. However, they must complete registration with FA/FQ and pay the applicable product or program fee before becoming eligible for official consideration.

6. COMPLIANCE

Affiliates and organisers who fail to follow the required processes, comply with the relevant policies, or meet the standards outlined in this document may be subject to disciplinary action, which may include:

- FQ removing the endorsement/sanction status of the event and notifying all affected participants, including, but not limited to players, team officials, referees and volunteers;
- Subject to the nature of offence - FQ reserves the right to notify the event organisation; and/or reject future event applications submitted by the applicant;
- Any other action that FQ deems appropriate in the specific circumstances.

7. POLICY DOCUMENTS

In addition to complying with relevant FQ rules and regulations, all organisers should be aware of the:

- [Football Queensland Heat Policy](#)
- [Football Queensland Lightning Policy](#)
- [FA National Member Protection Policy](#)
- [Code of Conduct](#)

Furthermore, as part of this Sanctioning Policy, clubs and participants are to ensure that they are compliant with the National Registration Status and Transfer Regulations (NRSTR).

These policies can be found on the [FQ website](#).

8. MEMBER PROTECTION

Football Australia and Football Queensland have a duty of care to all individuals and organisations involved in football and to those covered by the National Member Protection Policy. In accordance with this policy, Football Queensland must inquire into the background of any person undertaking work, coaching, or regular unsupervised contact with individuals under the age of 18.

All coaches, managers, referees and any other persons whether in a paid or voluntary capacity who work or volunteer with children under 18 years of age (who are not exempt) must apply for a Working with Children (WWC) Check and provide current information to the club, association or organisation to which they are registered.

Only team officials who have provided a valid WWC number or exemption card relevant to their volunteer or paid role are permitted to work or volunteer with children under 18 years of age.

Individuals under the age of 18, should refer to the relevant Queensland Government WWC legislation for information regarding eligibility and exemptions.

9. CONSULTATION OR ADVICE

This Sanctioning Policy has been developed to provide guidance to FQ Members and staff regarding the sanctioning process. Members or staff who are uncertain about their rights, responsibilities, or actions should seek clarification by contacting Football Queensland.

10. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

The terms *Sanction* and *Sanctioning* means: written authorisation issued by Football Queensland to applicants to conduct an event that aligns with the philosophies and principles of the National Curriculum and the guidelines outlined in this policy.

11. EVENT SANCTION TYPES AND CHARGES

NON-COMMERCIAL EVENT

Events such as gala days, carnivals, tournaments, charity events, holiday clinics, camps, and other similar activities shall be deemed **non-commercial** if:

- The club has a published 'per player charge' for entry of **less than** \$35 (including GST) per player; or
- The team total breakdown is less than \$35 inc GST per player for events that run for less than four (4) days.

Example:

If the team entry fee is \$350 (including GST) per team, with the maximum of 10 players per team, the per-player cost is \$35 per player (i.e., $\$350 \div 10 \text{ players} = \35 per player).

COMMERCIAL EVENT

Events such as gala days, carnivals, tournaments, charity events holiday clinics, camps, and other similar activities shall be deemed commercial if:

- The per-player **exceeds** \$35 (including GST) per player; or
- The team total breakdown equates to more than \$35 (including GST) per player for events that run for less than one week.

Example:

If the team entry fee is \$750 (including GST) per team, with a maximum of 10 players per team, the per-player cost is \$75 per player (i.e., $\$750 \div 10 \text{ players} = \75 per player).

COMMERCIAL EVENT FEES

A **per-player commercial fee** will be charged for **all participants** registered to a commercial event at the following rate:

- **\$3.30** (including GST) per player - for events

MATCH OFFICIAL MANAGEMENT

An additional '**Officials Sanctioning Fee**' of \$2.20 (inc. GST) is charged 'per event participant' by FQ, where the event organiser and FQ have agreed that FQ will manage the supply and coordination of match official for the event.

NON-REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

For events such as gala days, carnivals, tournaments, charity events, and other similar activities.

Registered participants:

All event participants who are currently registered as *outdoor players* with FA/FQ and are marked '**active**' for outdoor club football are **exempt** from paying an FQ Player Sanction Fee.

Non-registered participants:

Participants who are '**not registered**' for outdoor football are required to register under the relevant 'Program Fee', which is charged as follows:

Club Carnival - Junior	\$15.00 inc. GST
Club Carnival - Senior	\$20.00 inc. GST

FOOTBALL PROGRAM FEES

Programs such as in-house competitions, walking football, beach football, summer football, modified football competitions, and development programs are required to register under the relevant 'Program Fee', which is charged as follows:

Coles MiniRoos - In-House	\$50.00/player inc. GST
Coles MiniRoos (U3 – U7) - Term Fee	\$15.00/player inc. GST
Coles MiniRoos (U3 – U7) – Season Fee	\$37.50/player inc. GST
Regional Junior Modified Football Program – Term	\$15.00/player inc. GST
Regional Junior Modified Football Program - Season	\$37.50/player inc. GST
Regional Senior Modified Football Program – Term	\$35.00/player inc. GST
Regional Senior Modified Football Program – Season	\$65.00/player inc. GST
Club Program	\$15.00/player inc. GST
Play On Football	\$35.00/player inc. GST
Summer Football	\$20.00/player inc. GST

AFFILIATED MATCH

[For 2025-26 pre-season game process click here.](#)

If you are unsure whether an activity requires sanctioning, please contact the FQ Sanctioning team via email sanctions@footballqueensland.com.au

NON-AFFILIATE MATCH

Football Queensland aims to promote participation in football and recognises that affiliates may sometimes wish to play matches against schools, non-affiliated community groups, or independent teams.

In the spirit of fostering unity across all aspects of football, FQ will review all submitted sanction requests for one-off matches between affiliates and non-affiliates. Approval of such requests is at the sole discretion of FQ.

The charge for this type of match is **\$55 (including GST)** per match, regardless of age group or match duration. Any attempt to use this sanctioning option (or any other sanction type) to create a league or ongoing competition will be considered a breach of FQ sanctioning regulations. Other events requiring a sanction are listed below.

NO-FEE SANCTIONED ACTIVITIES

The following activities and events must be lodged via the sanction portal, but will not attract a fee from FQ:

- Events involving a jumping castle or amusement ride, including end of year presentations.
- Off-site club events or functions
- Alternative training activities that are not football activities
- Extended training requests
- International tour permits
- Participation in a sanctioned event
- Miscellaneous activities, any event or activity that is not part of normal winter football activities.

PROMOTIONAL EVENTS

All events that promote football registration and participation, such as come-try sessions, free promotional events, and competitions where the club does not charge for participation, must be lodged for sanctioning but will attract no fee from FQ.

SUMMARY OF FEES & CHARGES

Event Sanction Type	Fees & Charges
Non-Commercial Event (less than \$35 / player inc. GST)	No Fee
Commercial Event (more than \$35 / player inc. GST)	\$3.30 / player inc. GST
Match Official Management	\$2.20 / player inc. GST
Non-Registered Participant at Club Carnivals	
• Junior	\$15.00 / player inc. GST
• Senior	\$20.00 / player inc. GST
Football Programs	
• Coles MiniRoos – In-House Programs	\$50.00 / player inc. GST
• Coles MiniRoos – (U3 – U5) – Term Fee	\$15.00 / player inc. GST
• Coles MiniRoos (U3 – U5) – Season Fee	\$37.50 / player inc. GST
• Regional Junior Modified Football Program – Term Fee	\$15.00 / player inc. GST
• Regional Junior Modified Football Program – Season Fee	\$37.50 / player inc. GST
• Regional Senior Modified Football Program – Term Fee	\$35.00 / player inc. GST
• Regional Senior Modified Football Program – Season Fee	\$65.00 / player inc. GST
• Club Program	\$15.00 / player inc. GST
• Play On Football	\$35.00 / player inc. GST
• Summer Football	\$20.00 / player inc. GST
Affiliated Match	No Fee
Non-Affiliated Match	\$55.00 / match inc. GST
No-Fee Sanctioned Activities	No Fee
Promotional Events	No Fee

12. HOW TO APPLY

Having reviewed the Sanctioning Policy and determined that a sanction application is required, please complete the online Sanction Request Form via the Football Queensland website www.footballqueensland.com.au or [CLICK HERE to access](#).

FQ reserves the right not to approve a sanction request submitted within seven (7) working days of the event. Applicants are encouraged to provide as much notice as possible to allow sufficient time for assessment and to reduce the risk of the request being declined.

Should a sanction request be declined, the applicant may present their case to FQ, who will make a final decision regarding the sanction application. Following the review of the application and any additional supporting documentation, FQ will notify the applicant of the final outcome.

Upon approval of the sanctioned event:

- A copy of the approval confirmation will be emailed to the applicant.
- The organiser may begin promotion of the event.
- Promotion of FQ Sanction approval, including the use of the FQ logo, is prohibited until approval is confirmed in writing.
- FQ must be notified immediately of any changes to those formally approved in the initial application.

Please note: Any event that includes MiniRoos football age groups of U3 to U13 must apply the principles of Football Australia's [MiniRoos Playing Formats and Rules](#).