



BATHURST DISTRICT FOOTBALL

2026

BATHURST DISTRICT FOOTBALL INCORPORATED

2026

**PLAYING
REGULATIONS**

*(PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS
COMPETITION BY-LAWS)*

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CLAUSE 1 JURISDICTION & RIGHTS

The Jurisdiction of Bathurst District Football Inc. (BDF) shall :-

1. Extend to all BDF officials, sub-committees, clubs, members, teams, spectators, coaches and all other persons concerned; with
2. Grounds and matches within the BDF's boundaries and referees officiating at BDF fixtures; it
3. May be extended beyond the BDF's boundaries with the permission of other associations and Football NSW when necessary; and shall
4. Cover all teams, players, officials and members when they are representing BDF outside BDF's boundaries;

The **Board**, as per rule 14 of the Association Constitution have the power to do all things that are necessary or convenient to properly control and manage the affairs of BDF. The **Board** shall take action against any club, player, spectator or official found to be, in it's opinion, either bringing the game into disrepute, or breaching any of the relevant Codes of Conduct. Any decision made by the **Board** is final and not subject to appeal.

CLAUSE 2 LAWS OF THE GAME

Except where modified to suit younger age groups, BDF shall adopt the laws of the game set down by the International Football Association Board and shall apply decisions, interpretations and amendments approved by the Football NSW.

CLAUSE 3 AFFILIATION OF BATHURST DISTRICT FOOTBALL INC.

BDF shall affiliate with Western NSW Football or their successor, and BDF shall do all such things necessary to implement and enforce any decision of Football NSW relating to any player, official or person who is a member of or a player with BDF or seeks to be a member of or a player with BDF.

CLAUSE 4 AFFILIATION OF CLUBS

ELIGIBILITY TO AFFILIATE

1. Except under special circumstances as determined by the *Board*, applications to affiliate with BDF can only be accepted from organizations domiciled with BDF's boundaries.
2. Organisations wishing to affiliate with BDF under special circumstances must first have permission to effect such affiliation from the Body within whose boundaries that organisation is domiciled.

AFFILIATION OF EXISTING CLUBS

3. Clubs affiliated with BDF in the previous year remain affiliated for the following year, unless they advise BDF of their desire to no longer be affiliated.
4. Each affiliated club shall be furnished with an updated copy of the current Playing Regulations, and a Statement of Objects and Rules of BDF, electronically, or in hard copy, at the beginning of each season.
5. Clubs that are not financial with BDF as at December 31st each year may have their affiliation terminated.
6. Each club will provide the Secretary of BDF with updated details of their Club Contacts, as per Clause 8 1) no later than March 1st each year.
7. Failure to comply with Clause 4 5) above could incur a fine of \$275 and cancellation of the club's affiliation with BDF.
8. Clubs must adhere to all instructions and or directions of the *Board*. Continued failure to comply with BDF directives, or severe breach of any of the Codes of Conduct may warrant immediate termination of the offending clubs affiliation.
9. All affiliated clubs are required to provide BDF with a list of both their home and away strips (including Jersey, Shorts and Socks) no later than 4 weeks prior to the first game of each season, regardless of whether changes have been made or not.

AFFILIATION OF NEW CLUBS

9. Any organisation may apply to affiliate as a club.
10. Applications to affiliate as a new club must be accompanied by a non refundable affiliation fee of \$330.00 inc GST.
11. Where the application to affiliate as a new club is rejected by the *Board*, the applicants shall be entitled to have their application reconsidered at a special general meeting convened specifically for this purpose.
12. Where the application to affiliate is rejected at a special general meeting, the applicant has the right to appeal to Western NSW Football
13. On applying for affiliation, each organisation, shall be furnished with a copy of the Statement of Objects and Rules of BDF together with a copy of the Playing regulations of BDF; such to be regarded as proof of knowledge of all incurred responsibilities.

NON-AFFILIATED CLUBS

14. Except under special circumstances, as determined by the *Board*, non-affiliated clubs are ineligible to take part in any competitive or non-competitive games held within BDF boundaries.

SUB-COMMITTEES OF AFFILIATED CLUBS

15. As provided by Rule 21 of the Objects & Rules of BDF, the *Board* shall, by instrument in writing, appoint sub-committees to administer specific areas of responsibility for affiliated clubs.
16. Each affiliated club shall have sufficient representatives as members of BDF to enable the *Board* to appoint a sub-committee to administer the affairs of that club.

CLAUSE 5 COLOURS

The official colours of BDF shall be approved by the *Board*. The colours must be approved by Western NSW Football. The approved colors are currently Dark Blue and Light Blue, with a White Trim.

CLAUSE 6 CUPS AND TROPHIES

1. All perpetual cups and trophies, which are the property of BDF, shall be held in BDF's trophy cupboard at Proctor Park.
2. The *Board* may approve the loan of any perpetual cup and / or trophy to any person the *Board* sees fit.
3. All perpetual cups and / or trophies on loan must be returned to the *Board* within the time stipulated by the *Board* for such loan.
4. Any cup or trophy lost or damaged whilst on loan must be replaced by the person to whom the cup or trophy was handed to, with one of similar value and distinction.

CLAUSE 7 EQUIPMENT

1. All BDF equipment, such as coaching manuals, videos, representative strips, soccer balls etc., shall be held in trust by the Property Officer.
2. BDF's equipment may be handed out, on loan, at the Property Officer's discretion.
3. Equipment handed out, on loan by the Property Officer must be returned to the Property Officer:
 - a) In the case of representative teams equipment, within 14 days of the representative team's last fixture of the season.
 - b) In the case of all other equipment, by the date set down for the return of such equipment by the Property Officer.
4. Any equipment handed back to the Property Officer under CLAUSE 7 3) must be replaced by the person to whom the equipment was handed, with equipment of similar appearance, make and value.
5. Equipment being purchased by District Representatives will only be released by the Property Officer once paid for in full by the representatives.

CLAUSE 8 STATISTICS

1. Each affiliated club shall supply the following information to BDF by March 1st of each year:
 - a) the name, mobile telephone, email address and official position of each *Board* member;
 - b) their club's colours, and their home and away playing strips;
 - c) two weeks before competition commences, the name, mobile telephone number, and email address of each team manager and coach; and
 - d) any other information requested by the *Board*.

CLAUSE 9 FINANCES

1. The financial year of BDF shall be from January 1st through to December 31st of the current year.
2. All fees payable to BDF by members, teams & players etc. for the coming season shall be set at the Annual General Meeting or at a special general meeting called especially to do so.
3. Such fees shall be circulated to all clubs by February 1st each year.
4. The **Board** reserves the right to set a one off special fee at any time should circumstances deem.
5. BDF will invoice all clubs for 60% of their previous years Registration Fees (also known as "Capitation Fees") on April 1st of the current year, which will be due and payable within 14 days of issue. ***NO PLAYERS OF ANY CLUB SHALL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THE FIELD AFTER THIS DATE, UNLESS SUCH PAYMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY BDF.***
6. All invoices issued by BDF, except as approved by the Treasurer, ***MUST BE PAID WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE DATE OF SUCH ACCOUNTS*** and may incur a ***LATE PAYMENT PENALTY OF 20% OF THE SAID ACCOUNT IF NOT PAID.*** Any club failing to pay within 14 days will also be declared ***UNFINANCIAL***, and as a result will incur any such penalty the **Board** deems.
7. All accounts must be paid by the November 30th of the same financial year as issue. If clubs still have outstanding accounts by December 31st of the same financial year, they will be classed as unfinancial and will have to pay the BDF affiliation fee as specified in Clause 4 10) of \$330 inc GST to participate in the following season.

CLAUSE 10 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICIALS

The outgoing executive must work along with the incoming executive for the remainder of the season.

CHAIR

The *Chair* shall:-

1. Chair all BDF meetings;
2. Hold the casting vote at all BDF (and it's *Board's*) meetings;
3. Oversee the general running of BDF, helping individual members where needed.
4. *Be the Public Officer of the Association and complete all such duties as required under the ACT and by the Office of Fair Trading*

VICE-CHAIR

The Vice-Chair shall:-

1. Carry out the duties of the Chair in *their* absence;
2. Check Dribl Match Sheets with the Registrar where Cautions and / or Send Offs have been received;
3. Inform the *FCM* of any suspended player;
4. Keep an up to date record of Suspended Players and supply to all clubs before the start of each season.
5. Act as Disciplinary *Chair* on any send offs, and or disputes;
6. Report on all Competitions;
7. Fill any vacancy in the Executive or *Board* until another member can be voted in or appointed as Casual Vacancy by the Board.
8. Advise the *FCM* of any Suspension or other penalty issued to players and officials.
9. Act on and report to the *Board*, and action taken against misconduct as noted on the official *Match Sheet*, and referred by the *FCM*
10. Inform the club concerned of any penalty, giving the reason for such penalty;
11. Any disputes regarding a penalty shall be in writing from the Club Secretary, addressed to the *FCM* for discussion by the Disputes *Sub-Committee*;

FACILITIES & COMPETITION MANAGER

The Facilities & Competition Manager (FCM) shall:-

- 1. Be a paid employee of Bathurst District Football Inc.*
- 2. Attend and report to the Board as required at all meetings.*
- 3. Have right to contribute to discussions at meetings*
- 4. Have NO voting rights at meetings.*

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

In addition to the Chair & Vice Chair the executive will consist of 3 additional members. Executive Board members shall:

- 1. Assist in the general day to day running and operations of the complex and competitions.*
- 2. Attend, contribute and vote at BDF board meetings, and Annual and or Special General Meetings*
- 3. Attend all BDF Events and assist in their preparation and operation.*

BOARD MEMBERS

The Board will also consist of 4 further members who shall:

- 1. Assist in the general day to day running and operations of the complex and competitions.*
- 2. Attend, contribute and vote at BDF board meetings, and Annual and or Special General Meetings*
- 3. One of the Board shall assume the Roles and responsibilities of Coaching CoOrdinator / Technical Director.*
- 4. Attend all BDF Events and assist in their preparation and operation.*

MINUTE SECRETARY

The role of Minute Secretary shall be part of the role of the F.C.M. who shall:

1. Keep minutes of all:-

- a. The names of member of the board present at a board meeting or a general meeting;*
- b. All proceedings at board meetings and general meeting;*
- c. The names of members of BDF present at a general meeting;*
- e. Distribute copies of the minutes of all board meetings, to each board member; and*

MINI FOOTBALL CO-ORDINATOR

One member of the board shall assume the role of Mini Football Coordinator and whose duties shall be to:-

1. Assist in the preparation and distribution of SSF draws;
2. Prepare, distribute and collate all mini Football publicity, coaching and development material;
3. Oversee all aspects of Mini Football;
4. Ensure both the rules and spirit of Mini Football is being adhered to by all clubs, players, officials and spectators;
5. Organise and conduct the annual Gala Day.

COACHING COORDINATOR / TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

One member of the board shall assume the role of Coaching Coordinator and whose duties shall be to:-

1. Arrange selection trials for all BDF representative teams;
2. Assist in the development and expansion of all BDF representative teams;
3. In conjunction with the executive appoint the coaches of all BDF representative teams;
4. Assist in the development and progress of all BDF representative players; and
5. Arrange for the recording and lodgment, with the registrar of Western NSW Football Inc and / or Football NSW, all BDF representative team sheets. Any team not registered in this manner shall be deemed to be unregistered.

MEMBER PROTECTION OFFICER

One member of the board shall assume the role of Member Protection Officer and whose duties shall be to:-

The Member Protection Officer shall:

1. Monitor the Child Protection forms process required by each Club. It is the duty of each Club to collect completed forms from Managers & Coaches of junior teams;
2. Advise the BDF **Board** on BDF policies and practices which may be prejudicial to the interests of any and all members of the BDF community;
3. Receive relevant complaints, observations and statements from the BDF community for submission to BDF **Board**; and
4. Act promptly and appropriately to handle any complaint or issue brought to his / her attention that involves the offences or inappropriate behaviour as specified under MPO legislation. *They shall provide all such relevant advice and assistance as is necessary.*
5. *They shall organize an independent third party to investigate any complaint or issue of concern that requires attention under the ACT, and or directives of the Office Of Childrens Guardian and or Sports Integrity Australia.*

DUTIES OF THE FACILITIES & COMPETITIONS MANAGER

- 1. Shall be required to perform all such duties as specified in the Roles & Responsibilities document, and in the Employment Contract between BDF and the FCM.***
- 2. These shall include but not be limited to:***
 - a. Assist the Public Officer in:***
 - i. Maintaining the Register of Board Members***
 - ii. Maintain the Disclosure of Interests Register***
 - iii. Maintain the Register of Members***
 - b. Maintain a Register of Club Contacts***
 - c. Act as Canteen Supervisor and perform all such duties required to successfully manage its operation***
 - d. Hold current Food Safety Supervisor Certification***
 - e. Complete all Bin Running Duties as required weekly.***
 - f. Conduct all duties required to maintain Grounds not maintained by Bathurst Council***
 - g. Perform all tasks required to create and maintain all BDF Competitions inc Dribl management***
 - h. Oversee and manage the Scoreboard Operating Team***
 - i. Keep and maintain all Financial records***
 - j. Maintain prompt and accurate Creditor and Debtor control***
 - k. Prepare all necessary Statutory requirements such as BAS, OFT Financial Statements and Audits***
 - l. Attend Complex as required during ALL match days and ensure the proper , efficient operation of the Complex.***
 - m. Manage BDF Fields including Wet weather inspections, use of the Super Sopper, Field rotation and allocations.***
 - n. Deal with all email enquiries and transactions***
 - o. Assist in promotion of all Football development programs***
 - p. Promote, develop, and expand commercial use of the Complex and Sponsorship opportunities.***
 - q. Oversee and manage registrations via PlayFootball 2 including ID Cards, Dual Registrations and PAAG's***
 - r. Manage all incoming and outgoing correspondence both written and electronic, reporting all notable pieces to the Board.***
 - s. Perform all aspects of Competition Recording as set out in the Roles & Responsibilities of the FCM.***
 - t. To perform all such duties and responsibilities in order to promote BDF Competitions, the Association and it's activities as per the role of Publicity Officer.***
 - u. Act as Minutes Secretary for the Board***
 - v. To perform all such duties as required to record and monitor the property of BDF Inc.***

CLAUSE 11 DISPUTES, JUDICIARIES AND APPEALS

As provided by Rule 21 of the Objects & Rules of BDF, the **Board** shall, by instrument in writing, appoint sub-committees to deal with any dispute, judiciary matter or any appeal, which may arise.

1. DISPUTES SUB-COMMITTEE

- 1) A Disputes Sub-Committee may hear and determine matters arising from any report alleging a breach, or breaches, under any section of Bathurst District Football Inc. Statement of Object and Rules, Playing Regulations, or Codes of Conduct. Also any dispute, allegation, determination or any matter arising from the day to day affairs of BDF or its members
- 2) The BDF **Board** shall examine the allegation and can either:
 - i) in the case of a major or serious breach refer the matter to a Disputes Sub Committee under the terms of Clause 11 1, or
 - ii) In the case of a lesser or smaller claim choose to examine the matter itself, to make a decision on the matter, and implement and enforce any penalty it deems.
- 3) Those matters considered to be major and or serious breaches, must be put in writing from a Club Secretary addressed to the **F.C.M.**, accompanied by a lodgment fee of \$275, or brought forward directly by the **Board** of BDF, will be discussed. The dispute must be lodged as per CLAUSE 11 within seven (7) days of the incident under dispute. The Disputes Sub Committee shall have the power to impose bans, fines, penalties and / or suspensions.
- 4) A disputes sub-committee formed to act on any report shall;
 - a) consist of three (3) neutral members of the sub-committee, one of whom shall act as chairperson and another as minute secretary;
 - b) meet no later than 21 days after the date the alleged offence is said to have occurred; and
 - c) meet on a date and at a time and venue, agreed to by its members.

- 5) The disputes sub-committee reserves the right to instruct any person connected with the incident for which the disputes sub-committee has been called, to appear and give any evidence deemed necessary to the hearing of the alleged offence.
- 6) Persons called to give evidence under CLAUSE 11 (1) f) shall be given, in writing either via hard copy or electronically, at least seven (7) days notice of their obligations under that clause. Such notice shall state the date, time, and venue of the hearing.
- 7) In the event of any person named in a report as having committed an offence, failing to appear as summoned, without reasonable cause as determined by the sub-committee, that person shall be banned from attending or playing in any matches conducted by BDF until such time as that person appears.
- 8) In the event of the misconduct being proved to the satisfaction of the sub-committee, the sub-committee shall impose such penalties as it sees fit. This may include financial penalty, suspensions or bans.
- 9) A portion of \$100 of the lodgment fee will be non-refundable. Should the Dispute be dismissed the balance of the lodgment fee (\$175) will be refunded. Should the Dispute be upheld, the entire fee of \$275 will be retained by BDF.
- 10) The person appearing may engage legal representation for the appeal but must provide 72 hours notice of this, and is then liable for all costs incurred by BDF in engaging it's own legal representation.

2. JUDICIARY SUB-COMMITTEE

- 1) The Vice *Chair* shall review all send offs and disputes, and apply whatever punishment seen fit, based on the FNSW P&D Guidelines. However the *Board* may, from time to time, as required by the severity of the incident, hear and determine matters, alleging that a player or players have breached the players' code of conduct.
- 2) The judiciary sub-committee formed to act on any report shall:-
 - a) consist of three (3) neutral members of the sub-committee, one of whom shall act as chairperson and another a minute secretary; and
 - b) meet as soon as practical following the alleged incident;
 - c) meet at a time and venue agreed to by its members.
- 3) The judiciary sub-committee reserves the right to instruct any person connected with the matter for which the judiciary has been called, to appear and give any evidence deemed necessary to the hearing of the alleged offence.
- 4) Persons called to give evidence under CLAUSE 11 (2) c) shall be given in writing, at least 48 hours notice of their obligations under that clause. Such notice shall state the date, time, and venue of the judicial hearing.
- 5) The judicial sub-committee shall have the power to impose such penalties as it sees fit and, using as a guideline, will follow the penalties prescribed in **Football NSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations 2025**.

3. APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

- 1) An appeals sub-committee shall hear and determine appeals against suspensions imposed under CLAUSE 18 9) and any decisions made by a Disputes Sub-Committee (Clause 11 (1)) and / or a Judiciary Sub-Committee (Clause 11 (2)).
- 2) Such appeals must be in writing and be received by the *F.C.M.* no later than **72 hours** after the date the decision was made and be accompanied by an appeal fee of \$275.
- 3) The Appeals sub-committee formed to hear the appeal shall;
 - a) Consist of three (3) neutral members of the sub-committee, one of whom shall act as chairperson and another as minute secretary;
 - b) Under normal circumstances, meet no later than seven (7) days after the date on which the appeal was received, or as soon as possible thereafter;
 - c) Meet on a date and at a time and venue agreed to by its members;
 - d) Allow none of its member to leave the room during the course of the meeting without the consent of the chairperson.
- 4) The appeals sub-committee reserves the right to instruct any person connected with the incident for which the appeal has been made to appear and give any evidence deemed necessary to the hearing of the appeal.
- 5) Persons called to give evidence under CLAUSE 11 3.4) shall be given in writing, at least 48 hours notice of their obligations under that clause. Such notice shall state the date, time and venue of the hearing.
- 6) An appeals sub-committee shall have the power to confirm, dismiss, suspend, revoke, increase, or decrease the imposed penalty, or impose its own penalty.
- 7) Should the appellant fail to appear, the appeal shall be deemed to have failed.
- 8) In all cases any party has the right of an appeal, initially to Western NSW Football, against any decision of the Appeals sub-committee. Such appeal should be accompanied by the current fee applicable to such appeals.
- 9) Should an appeal be withdrawn before its hearing, the fee shall be forfeited.

- 10) A portion of \$100 of the lodgement fee will be non-refundable. Should the Appeal be upheld the balance of the lodgement fee (\$175) will be refunded. Should the Appeal be dismissed, the entire fee of \$275 will be retained by BDF.

- 11) The appellant may engage legal representation for the appeal but must provide 72 hours notice of this, and is then liable for all costs incurred by BDF in engaging it's own legal representation.

CLAUSE 12 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business at an Annual General Meeting shall be:-

- 1) Roll call;
- 2) Apologies;
- 3) The confirmation of the preceding annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since that meeting;
- 4) Presentation for adoption of annual reports;
- 5) Presentation for adoption of the annual financial statement;
- 6) Presentation for adoption of the annual statement, as required by the NSW Office of Fair Trading;
- 7) Amendments to the Objects and Rules of BDF;
- 8) Advice as to changes to the BDF Playing Regulations;
- 9) Consideration of Honorariums;
- 10) Declaration of vacancy of all offices;
- 11) The election of life members, patrons, auditors, and delegates to Western NSW Football Inc., and Football NSW;
- 12) *The election of executive members, (Chair, Vice-Chair, and 3 executive Board Members);*
- 13) *The election of 4 additional Board of members*
- 14) The naming of all players declared to be unfinancial players; and

CLAUSE 13 UNOFFICIAL MATCHES/VISITATIONS

1. No club or team will be permitted to take part in matches with, or visits to or from another club, team or association without the approval of the *Board*.
2. No club or team will be permitted to take part in trips inside or outside the boundaries of Bathurst District Football without the approval of the *Board*.
3. Any club or team wishing to participate in any unofficial match or visitation must:
 - a) Apply to the *Board*, in writing, for such approval providing details of such unofficial matches, visits or trips; and
 - b) Receive the written approval of the *Board* for such matches, visits or trips before they take place.
4. Any club or team failing to comply with CLAUSE 13 1) to 3) will be dealt with as the *Board* sees fit.
5. All requests must be sanctioned by completion and submission of the Football NSW Inter-Association Trial Match Form found within the following link:

<https://footballnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/20200121-SAN-UNLOCKED-Inter-Association-Trial-Match-Form-Community-Football-Clubs-MK.pdf>

CLAUSE 14 TRAINING

Clubs must apply to BDF for approval to use BDF's facilities for training. Any team wishing to train at facilities outside the jurisdiction of BDF must first seek the approval of the *Board* to do so. Training spaces will be allocated per Policy 18 of BDF's Policy Document.

CLAUSE 15 TEAM NOMINATIONS

Clubs wishing to nominate teams to participate in competitive or Mini Football games within BDF's jurisdiction must:

1. Nominate such teams on the appropriate Team Nomination Form (*Appendix 1*);
2. Have submitted the nominations on or before the closing date for receipt of team nominations. Team nomination/s received after the set closing date for nominations may be accepted but only at the discretion of the **Board**.
3. Submit with all senior nominations a team list detailing the names of all players. This will be used by the BDF **Board** to appropriately grade all sides.
4. Provide at least one person being a Coach or Manager from each nominated team attend the Annual Coaches & Managers Meeting.
5. No Club may nominate more than 2 senior teams per grade. However BDF has the right based on the strength of any team to adjust grading so that a 3rd team may be included in 1 grade. Under these circumstances the principal will remain that on average a club may only have equivalent to 2 teams per grade.
6. Teams may be created in Dribl prior to nomination, and have players assigned, but these team details may be altered by the **Board** based upon the results of the Grading Committee meeting. Clubs that have not created teams must do so after the **Board** advises the results of team grading. Players must then be allocated into teams on Dribl if not already commenced.

CLAUSE 16 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

1. PERIOD OF REGISTRATION

- 1) Player registrations in all age groups will:-
 - a) Be accepted from January 1st until June 30th in any year;
 - b) Under special circumstances, and only with the permission of the BDF, be accepted after June 30th in any year;
 - c) Must be renewed after December 31st in any year.

2. REGISTRATION - Mini Football (Under 6 to 11)

- 1) BDF will exclusively use the FFA Play Football **2** registration system.
- 2) All registrations should be carried out by the player using self-registration.
- 3) All players must be registered on **PF2**, accepted and made active by the player's club prior to taking the field. Only players approved by clubs will be automatically remitted to the Dribl system.
- 4) The minimum acceptable data required for Registrations is First Name, Last Name, DOB, Address, Email Address, Parental / Emergency Contact and Phone Number.
- 5) All players **must** be allocated to a team on **Dribl**, prior to taking the field.
- 6) Players may be reallocated to other teams within the club and grade registered provided the request is made to the Association Registrar in writing, either in hard copy or electronically.
- 7) Registrations are valid until December 31st of the current year.
- 8) Registrations close June 30th each year, but consideration for late registration can be made upon written request to the BDF **Board**.
- 9) As per PF guidelines, any player not accepted and made active on PF by June 30th, will be deemed not to be registered.

3. REGISTRATION - Competitive (Under 12s to All Age)

- 1) BDF will exclusively use the FFA Play Football registration system.
- 2) All registrations should be carried out by the player using self-registration.
- 3) All players must be registered on PF, accepted and made active by the player's club prior to taking the field. Only players approved by clubs will be automatically remitted to the Dribl system
- 4) The minimum acceptable data required for Registrations is First Name, Last Name, DOB, Address, Email Address, Parental / Emergency Contact and Phone Number.
- 5) All players must be allocated, or graded, to a team on Dribl before the start of the competition. Players may only be allocated into 1 team, but may be included in other teams borrowed players list within their club, provided they comply with BDF Playing Regulations on Playing Up grades. Players in higher grades are not able to appear in lower grades borrowed players list.
- 6) Players may apply to be reallocated or graded to other teams within the club and grade registered provided the request is made to the **F.C.M.** in writing, either in hard copy or electronically, and must be referred to the BDF **Board** for approval / refusal.
- 7) Registrations are valid until December 31st of the current year.
- 8) In order to comply with FNSW policy effective Deregistrations close April 30. Any player registered at this date, regardless of whether they have played or not, will remain in that clubs player count with Football NSW. Players may still deregister after April 30 until June 30, but they will remain in the FNSW count. All Registration activity including Registrations, Deregistrations, and team allocations close June 30th each year.

Consideration for late registration can be made upon written request to the BDF **Board**. Only requests made to accommodate new players to the area will be considered. Late registered players are still subject to BDF rules regarding qualifications for Finals.

- 9) Each player shall have a clear recent colour photo uploaded onto PF, *that complies with the requirements noted within PlayFootball*, which shall translate into Dribl. *Approval by a club of a player registration includes approval of that player's photo ID. As such if a player is approved with an ineligible player ID, the registration will be revoked by BDF and the clubs penalised in accordance with these Regulations.*
- 10) Uploaded photo's must be updated after 2 years
- 11) Any deliberate attempt to falsify data on PlayFootball, and or Dribl is considered fraudulent, and any club found to be guilty of this will be liable for action under section 11 1) of these playing rules.
- 12) Offenses in section 11 include, but is not limited to, falsifying Photo IDs, Dates of Birth, and playing histories.
- 13) As per PF guidelines any player not accepted and made active on PF by June 30th, will be deemed not to be registered.

4. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS TO REGISTER

- 1) The registration of a player shall not be accepted by BDF if: -
 - a) The player is deemed to be unfinancial with BDF or any other FFA Affiliated Football Association;
 - b) The player has during the current season, been registered with another Football association affiliated with Football NSW, unless the player receives a clearance from that association.
- 2) A player may only be registered to play with one club at any one time unless the Dual Registration provisions within CLAUSE 16 4) have been complied with;
- 3) In the event of a player applying to register with two different clubs the registration with the earlier registration date on PF, shall be deemed to be the club with which the player is registered.
- 4) All players in senior grades must comply with the Grading Requirements as listed below:
 - a) *Any player that has played, at any time, at FNSW NPL, League 1 or 2, WPL or BYL18s or above in the past 3 years may only play in BDF Premier League.*
 - b) *Any other player is subject to the considerations of the BDF grading committee and will be graded as per their interpretation of that players level.*

5. PLAYING ABOVE AGE GROUP

- 1) As per FNSW Guidelines BDF Adopts the policy that the recommended age limit to play in a team above a player's own age group is - TWO (2) YEARS.
- 2) The maximum number of age groups that BDF will consider allowing to play up is **3** eg An Under 13 may be assessed to play up to Under **16s**
- 3) BDF will consider requests to play more than two (2) years above an age group for the following reasons:
 - a) Juniors into older junior age groups : **Player Development**
 - b) Female Juniors into Womens Seniors (**14yo & 15yo**)
 - i. **Player Development** into 3rd Grade and above
 - ii. **Engagement into the sport** into 3rd and 4th Grades
 - c) Male Juniors into Male Seniors (**15yo**)
 - i. **Player Development** into 4th Grade and above
 - d) Players involved and or eligible for BDF Representative programs can not apply for consideration under the need for player development as they are deemed to be receiving said development via that system.
- 4) A request to play more than two (2) years above an age group for the following reasons:
 - a) to play with friends or family members
 - b) to provide a space when the club has no spot in their actual grade
 - c) to make up numbers in a team

will be declined.
- 5) Requirements for Playing Above Age (P.A.A.) requests:
 - a) **Parental Consent Form** signed by the players parents / guardians, a club representative, and the independent BDF appointed assessor. The Consent Form is available on the FNSW website listed under Club resources, or can be obtained from any BDF Board Member

- b) **Player Development Plan** – A comprehensive plan identifying the developmental goals for the player and how they will be achieved. This must contain references to the experienced, preferably qualified coaching staff that will be involved.
 - c) **Player Assessment** – Must be conducted by an experienced, preferably qualified coach, and or assessor that will report on the players physical strength, skill level, maturity, stamina, and physique, emphasizing their ability to cope with the physical, and mental demands of playing above their age group. The report will be written and must be submitted and approved prior to any approval being granted.
 - d) **Player Grading.** All players requesting permission for PAA into seniors must be given a grading. The player can only play in the grade approved by the assessor. Should the player eventually develop to the point where a higher grade is requested, the club must request the grade to be adjusted in writing to the FCM. Should a player be “trialled” in the higher grade and play 4 or more times they will automatically be allocated that higher senior grade, and not be permitted to play back in the lower senior grade.
- 6) Approval is subject to an assessment of the player based on the player’s strength, skill level, maturity, stamina and physique. Assessment must be conducted by an independent qualified person, as approved by the FCM after consulting the BDF committee.
- 7) All applications will be correlated by the FCM who, **ONLY** once parental approval is received, (See 5a above), will schedule assessment, and only refer the player for approval once the written assessment has been received.
- The Coach of the team, or other member of the player’s club, may not assess the player.
- 8) Final approval to permit a player to play more than two (2) years above is a decision for the FCM with ample consideration given to duty of care of the player, and following consultation with the BDF **Board**.
- 9) The Association cannot transfer the responsibility of the decision to approve or decline an application to any other organisation or individual, it is a risk management and duty of care decision which is the responsibility of Bathurst District Football

- 10) All players playing up into grades under PAA regulations must still comply with Clause 21 2) to qualify to play in finals for the team they are playing up in to, that is they must play 50% of that team's games regardless of the player's individual virtual grading.
- 11) A player playing above their age group in juniors in a combined age group may only play in games that comply with these regulations. If the age group includes teams that represent playing 4 grades up, they may not play in games that involve these teams.
- 12) PAA will be based on the age the player turns in the current season, and the age group that the player wants to play up into as shown in the table immediately below:

Players Actual Age	Male			Female		
	Permitted	PAA Approval Needed	Not Permitted	Permitted	PAA Approval Needed	Not Permitted
12	13 , 14	15	16 , 17 , 18 , AA	13 , 14	15	16 , 17 , 18 , AA
13	14 , 15	16	17 , 18 , AA	14 , 15	16	17 , 18 , AA
14	15 , 16	17	18 , AA	15 , 16	17 , 18 , AA4+	N/A
15	16 , 17	18 AA4+	N/A	16 , 17	18 , AA4+	N/A
16	17 , 18 , AA	N/A	N/A	17 , 18 , AA	N/A	N/A

6. PLAYING FOR AN ADDITIONAL CLUB

In order to comply with the directives of FNSW, FFA and FIFA, BDF **does not** permit the Dual Registration of players.

1. Exception

Clubs may apply for an additional club under 1 circumstance:

Split Family

All requests must be in writing using the prescribed form <https://form.jotform.co/52011009935850>, which must be referred to WNSW for final approval.

2. Limits on Players

With the exception of the Over 35 Competition, **NO MORE THAN THREE (3)** players that are registered with another club are to appear on the match card or play in any one team in any one match so as to prevent “stacking” of the team to gain an unfair advantage.

3. Transfer of Players

- a) Any registered player seeking to transfer from a BDF club to another BDF club must have written clearance from the current club;
- b) Any club not providing written clearance to such a request within seven (7) days of that request shall be called before the disputes sub-committee to show cause;
- c) No player may transfer as in CLAUSE 16 5) 6) a) on more than one (1) occasion during the season, and no player shall be allowed to transfer after June 30th in any year, unless the **Board** grants permission.

7. AMATEUR STATUS, PAYMENTS & GRATUITIES

1. Scope

All competitions conducted by BDF are wholly Amateur competitions. Under no circumstance will clubs use financial incentives to attract players. One off payments to players, weekly or other periodic payments to players, and performance based payments are strictly prohibited.

2. Type

Payment or other remunerations subject to this clause include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Cash Payments to player of any amount from the club
- 2) Cash Payments to a player of any amount from a 3rd Party to a club, including sponsors, related businesses, members, patrons, and or supporters.
- 3) Gifts of goods and services in excess of \$100 to any player, spouse of a player or immediate family of a player or spouse, from a club, sponsor, related business, supporter or member.
- 4) The waiving or reduction of registration fees, over and above discounts listed on Play Football Registration Packages
- 5) Payment of Past Fees still owed.

3. Exceptions

The following types of gratuity are permitted under this rule:

- 1) Fee subsidies and discounts approved by BDF to assist hardship, or development causes.

4. Penalties

Any player found to be in breach of this rule:

- 1) Will be suspended from registering and playing by BDF for 5 years

Any club found to be in breach of this rule:

- 1) Will receive a fine of \$2,200
- 2) May at the discretion of BDF, have their affiliation with BDF cancelled and be ejected from all BDF competitions.

CLAUSE 17 UNFINANCIAL PLAYERS

- 1) Players registered with any club at the time that club has been declared unfinancial by the **Board**, shall also be deemed to be unfinancial;
- 2) Clubs shall report in writing to BDF, the details of any unfinancial member. Such report must be received by BDF at least 24 hours before the Annual General Meeting.
- 3) Players may be declared unfinancial for a debt relating to any year within the previous 5 years to the year of the current AGM.
- 4) For the declaration to be valid clubs **MUST** provide the player's first and last name, FFA Number and amount of the debt.
- 5) For reasons of privacy, the names of unfinancial players **CAN NOT** be circulated to all clubs, but will be monitored by the F.C.M. as per Clause 17 4);
- 6) A register of unfinancial players shall be kept and shall show the players name, club and the date on which those players were declared unfinancial. It shall also show the date on which the player is declared to be financial;
- 7) Unfinancial players shall be precluded from registering with any Football team until such time as the committee of the player's club declares, in writing to BDF, that player to be financial. This includes Summer Football and Futsal competitions, approved by and affiliated with BDF or FNSW.
- 8) It is incumbent upon the **Board** and upon the club to declare a player to be financial immediately the club or player fulfils their financial obligations;
- 9) It is incumbent upon the BDF **Board** to notify all clubs as soon as practicable when a player has been declared financial.
- 10) It is incumbent upon all Clubs to ensure that **ONLY** financial players are registered with them on PF and used on Dribl.

CLAUSE 18 THE COMPETITION

BDF may hold its own competitions and invite other areas to participate. Areas outside the jurisdiction of Bathurst District Football must provide written clearance to participate in a BDF Competition upon first entering.

1. AGE GROUP OR GRADE

Competition matches may be conducted by BDF in all age groups and / or grades as agreed to by the *Board*, to coincide with nominations received.

2. GROUNDS AND PLAYING FIELDS

- 1) All competition matches shall be played on grounds nominated by BDF;
- 2) Under special circumstances the *Board* may approve the use of grounds other than those under the supervision of BDF;
- 3) All fields shall be correctly marked and goal nets and flags erected when and where practicable;
- 4) Teams may protest as to the condition of any ground, however the referee is empowered to order a game to proceed despite such protests.

3. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

To be eligible to play in competition matches a player must:-

- 1) Be an amateur;
- 2) Be registered in accordance with CLAUSE 16;
- 3) Be financial;
- 4) Have had his / her insurance levy paid to BDF;
- 5) Appear as an available player in the Dribl Match Card, showing the players Name ID and shirt number.

Mini Football Players (Under 6s to Under 11s)

- 6) The player must be registered in the correct age group. Age eligibility is determined by the age the player turns between January 1st and December 31st of the current year. Under normal circumstances a player shall not be permitted to play in an age group below the player's actual age group, except at the discretion of the BDF **Board** where certain specified circumstances exist, as listed in Clause 18 3) 1). Should a player register in an age group outside their current age they may only return to play in their actual age group with the express written permission of BDF;

Junior (Competitive) Players (Under 12s to Under 17s)

- 7) The player must be registered in the correct age group. Age eligibility is determined by the age the player turns between January 1st and December 31st of the current year. Under normal circumstances a player shall not be permitted to play in an age group below the player's actual age group, except at the discretion of the BDF **Board** where certain specified circumstances exist, as listed in Clause 18 3) 1). A player allocated in an age group above their current age may NOT return to play in their actual age group. The player may request in writing to the **Board** to be reallocated into their actual (lower) age group. The player may not play in the lower age group until this is approved and allocation is modified by the **Board**.
- 8) Players wishing to register in a grade below the actual age group of the player must be made in accordance with the current FNSW Policy, directly to Football NSW:
 - a) Only applications due to diagnosed conditions or disabilities including neurodiverse, developmental, and or behavioral disorders which have been diagnosed by a Doctor, GP, or Medical Specialist are eligible.
 - b) These include but are not restricted to :
 - i) A diagnosed medical condition or impairment
 - ii) Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and associated diagnosed traits
 - iii) Generalised anxiety disorder (GAD)
 - iv) Social anxiety disorder (SAD)
 - v) Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
 - vi) Attention deficit disorder (ADD)
 - vii) Pathological demand avoidance (PDA)
 - viii) Intellectual disabilities
 - ix) Developmental delay
 - x) Down Syndrome

- 9) BDF, or any affiliated club through their executive, has the right to request 'Proof of Age' (that is, birth certificate) of any junior competitive player. Such proof must be produced within two (2) weeks of a request to do so. Any club, team, coach or manager, or any parent or guardian who knowingly allows an over-aged player to compete in any age or representative games without the consent of Bathurst District Football Inc. shall be called before the Disputes Sub-committee which shall hear and determine the matter.
- 10) Notwithstanding any other clause in these regulations, any team that has 6 or more representative players from the one representative team, may at the discretion of the **Board**, be required to play one age group higher than their actual age group.
- 11) The **Board** will consider applications from clubs to allow "all girls" teams in Junior grades from Under 6s to Under 17s to play 1 grade below their native age group to properly allow development of the players, and enhance engagement and enjoyment in the game as a whole. Final Approval and endorsement must come from the FNSW Risk Assessment Officer.

In considering applications for this the **Board** will consider the relative size, weight, skills and experience of all players within the team to ensure safety of all teams in the age group.

Senior Players

12) Senior Players

- i) As per Clause 15 4) all clubs must ensure all players are allocated to a team in Dribl prior to the first game of the current season.
- ii) At this time the BDF **Board** will monitor all registrations and regrade players as is necessary based on their suitability to their allocated / nominated grade.
- iii) Further Registration, Allocation, Allocation Change, and or deregistration may not be done without submission of a written request to the Registrar, and must be submitted with a minimum 5 years playing history for the player.
- iv) No changes to registration, and or Allocations is permitted after June 30th of the current year.
- v) Clubs will be advised of the result of said application within 7 days of the request.
- vi) Under no circumstances may a player play whilst this review is in process.
- vii) Any player whose grading is reviewed and reduced under appeal on the grounds of an inability to cope, be it mentally, physically or in any other way, will be prohibited from playing above their reviewed grade.
- viii) Should a player restricted by clause vi, vii, or ix, take the field they will be deemed to be an ineligible player, and the match will be forfeited.
- ix) Under no circumstances may a player play in a grade below their allocated grade.
- x) ***Clubs may borrow up to five players including juniors and lower grade players, and approved higher grade females (under Clause xiii below) into any match day team. The borrowing of players restricted by Dribl's borrowing restrictions will require addition by the F.C.M. each week. The Board reserves the right to regrade players that consistently play above their allocated grade.***

- xi) *Any player registered and allocated in a junior team, playing up into senior grades, including those under Clause 16 5) must request from the Board in writing, a “Virtual Senior Grading” (VSG). The player may not play any lower than that allocated VSG, and in the case of a player playing up under Clause 16 5) must only play in that allocated VSG, and can only play higher after assessment and approval as per Clause 16 5) 5) d).*
- xii) The BDF **Board** reserves the right to regrade players that it feels have been originally incorrectly graded.
- xiii) Players registered in the Women's Competition may only play in a Men's Grade lower to that they are registered as in Women's upon written application to the BDF **Board**.
- xiv) Each Allocated team **MUST** have a minimum of **twelve (12)** players. Failure to comply will mean the team will be withdrawn from the competition.
- xv) The Finals Qualifications provision of these Rules still apply.
- xvi) No Club may Register and Allocate more than 18 players per team. The Board may, at their discretion, increase this to 20 upon written request from a club, for clubs in remote regional locations, and for School & University based clubs.
- xvii) Notwithstanding any restrictions already made by the **Board**, a player already duly graded by the **Board** may play up into Western Premier League, and return to their original (Native) grade, that grade being lower than MPL
- xviii) Regardless of WPL Rules, any player that plays up into WPL on 8 occasions, after playing that 8th game shall have their registration transferred from BDF to WPL and will be prohibited from playing in BDF competitions. Any player that appears on a WPL Dribl team sheet shall be deemed to have played. Players that turn 18 in the current season, or younger are exempt from this requirement

General

- 13) Where a team is reduced to less than seven (7) players whether through injury or the sending off of a player or players, the match shall be abandoned and the opposing team shall be deemed to have won the match by technical forfeit. This is regardless of the score at the time the game was abandoned.

- 14) Clubs with two or more teams participating in the same age group or grade will not be allowed to play players, including players registered as juniors and playing up into senior grades, across from one team to the other.
- 15) Where a player is eligible to play in 2 age groups or grades, the player may only play in 1 age group or grade at the same time. Furthermore the game in which the player is first involved in must be completed before the player may take the field in another match.

Over 35's

- 16) Players must turn 35 or more in the year of the competition to be eligible.
- 17) Clubs with two or more teams participating in the same age group will not be allowed to play players across from one team to the other.
- 18) Clubs with one or more teams participating in different grades may allow a player from another grade to play in the over 35s, provided the player's name, ID number, and his or her registered team are noted on the referee's card, and provided the player is 35 or over.
- 19) The dual registration provisions as listed in Clause 16 will apply, except for Clause 16 5.3) f) which shall be read "only play within one (1) club in each of the Over 35 and Senior competitions".
- 20) For a player playing in both the Over 35 and All Age Competitions, his / her grading in the All Age Competition will be regarded as his / her PRIMARY team grading.

4. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS

To be eligible to play in competitive matches a team must :-

- a) Be nominated in accordance with Clause 15;
- b) Field a minimum of seven (7) eligible registered players at the commencement of a match.

5. COMPETITION - CONDUCT OF

- 1) The competition shall be conducted on a home and away basis where possible, with rounds determined by the BDF *Board* based on the number of teams nominated in each age group and grade.
- 2) Players in all matches must appear in proper uniform, comprising of shirts, shorts, socks, in team colours as approved by BDF, shin pads and approved footwear.
- 3) Where the colours of opposing teams in any competition are similar, the **AWAY** team shall change.
- 4) The home team shall be that team whose name appears first on the competition draw.
- 5) Matches shall commence at the time stipulated on the draw. Any team not appearing on the allotted field within ten (10) minutes of the stipulated starting time shall be deemed to have forfeited the match.
- 6) Should a Referee fail to appear within five (5) minutes of the stipulated starting time the Coaches of both teams shall each referee one half (1/2) of the match or agree to appoint a suitable person to referee that game. This rule shall also apply where no Referee has been appointed to the game. Under no circumstances shall the teams agree NOT to play the game.
- 7) If the appointed Referee appears after another person has taken control of and started the game, it will be the decision of both Coaches or Managers and the person in control of the game as to whether or not the game is handed over to the appointed Referee.
- 8) All players must be issued with an up to date photo ID uploaded into Dribl. Photo IDs on Dribl MUST be accessible at all competition matches and:-
 - a) It is compulsory for each team to check their opponents team details for each match on the Dribl Match Sheet, including verifying player identity, and submit their acceptance prior to each match.
 - b) Should doubt arise regarding eligibility, a dispute should be lodged via the Dribl Match Sheet post game detailing the dispute.
 - c) The Recorder will report such protests to the executive for consideration of penalty as seen fit by the executive.

- d) Teams playing unregistered, ineligible or disqualified players shall be dealt with under Clause 18 13).
 - e) Players that have played as unregistered, ineligible, or disqualified players shall be dealt with Under Clause 18 as if the player was sent off
- 9) Whilst a match is in progress no player may leave the field of play without the permission of the Referee.
- 10) Whilst a match is in progress no spectator may enter the field of play.
- 11) Whilst a match is progress Coaches, Managers and / or First Aid Officers may enter the field of play, but only after receiving permission from the Referee.

6. SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS

In all competition matches each team shall be allowed such interchanges as deemed by the By-Laws of Football NSW (Except where modified by the *Board*) provided that the total number of players does not exceed 16.

7. REFEREE'S FEES

All games run under the auspices of BDF, involving 2 BDF teams are to have the Match Official fees, shared equally by the participating teams. Games run under the auspices of BDF, involving 1 BDF team and 1 team playing in the BDF competition, but under the control of another Association, are to have the Match Official Fees paid wholly by the home team.

8. OFFICIAL DRIBL MATCH SHEET

The official Dribl Team Sheet shall:-

- 1) Only contain the names of players that actually took part in the match as a player. The names of players on the card not taking part in the match MUST not be selected as players in the pre match process. The act of deliberately including players on match cards not present at matches will be penalized as per Clause 18 12).
- 2) Contain the names of all participating players, including borrowed players.
- 3) Shall be submitted by each team no less than 10 minutes before the scheduled kick off time for each game.
- 5) Duly note any borrowed player as such on the electronic match sheet.
- 6) Be submitted by both teams prior to the start of the match.
- 7) The F.C.M. will report any breach to the executive for consideration of penalty as seen fit by the executive.
- 8) Players may only be added to the Dribl Match Sheet until final Submission and confirmation is made, which shall occur no less than 10 minutes prior to kick off.
- 9) Part of the pre-game submission process is the examination of your opponents team. Eligibility and ID must be checked at this time. Disputes may be raised post-game.
- 10) Match cards will be finalized and results recorded by the Match Official only in the case where an official accredited Referee be present. In the event of an unaccredited referee agreed upon by teams as per these playing regulations officiating the game, the results and submissions will be completed as per Dribl policy by the Home Team Manager. Opposing Managers may lodge a dispute for any information lodged by the Home Manager they do not believe to be accurate. For the purposes of this clause results include match score, goal scorers, and cards or sanctions. B&F points must be entered by each opposing teams recorder / reporter.

- 11) The post match submission by the “reporter” must be completed no later than 5pm of the day of the match, or in the case of night games within 2 hours of the completion of the match.
- 12) The minimum details required for a match card to be submitted as final are:
 - a. The Result
 - b. Goal Scorers
 - c. Sanctions / Cards
 - d. B&F points
- 13) **Should Finalized Dribl Match Sheets not be reported within 7 days of the completion of the match, the game will be recorded as a No Game, and no points or goals recorded.**
- 14) Should Match Sheets not be submitted to BDF within the time frame identified in Clauses 18 8) 11) but within the 7 day cut off period, the Recorder may fine the Club responsible for return of the card as per Clause 10) of these Regulations.
- 15) Failure to submit teams prior to the match will make that team ineligible to take part in the match.

9. DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

ACCUMULATED CAUTIONS

- 1) Any player receiving at least five (**5**) cautions (*yellow cards*) during the one (1) season shall receive an automatic **one (1)** fixture suspension to be served in the player's registered or allocated team. During this period the player is suspended from all football activity including playing, coaching, managing and refereeing in any competition sanctioned by Football NSW. Byes, Wash Outs, and Forfeits received or incurred are NOT counted as a fixture suspension.
- 2) Any player who accumulates a further three (3) cautions (yellow cards) after serving a mandatory one (1) fixture suspension for 5 accumulated cautions, irrespective of the grade in which they are received, must serve a further two (2) fixture suspension.
- 3) Any player who accumulates a further two (2) cautions (yellow cards) after serving a mandatory two (2) fixture suspension for 3 additional accumulated cautions, irrespective of the grade in which they are received, must serve a further three (3) fixture suspension.
- 4) Any player who receives a further caution (yellow card) will be required to appear before a BDF Disciplinary Tribunal (Disputes Committee) and may not participate in any fixture until they have appeared, and will serve whatever sanction that is deemed fit by the Tribunal.

PLAYERS SENT OFF

- 5) A referee (be they official or not) who has had cause to send a player from the field of play for either a direct red card (red card offence), or an indirect red card (two yellow cards – cautionable offences in the same match), must submit an official send off report to BDF within 72 hours of the offence.

SEND OFF : 2ND CAUTIONABLE OFFENCE

- a) Any player sent from the field for a 2nd Cautionable offence shall receive the MMS (Mandatory Minimum Sentence) of one (1) game suspension to be served in the player's registered or allocated team.
- b) A Send Off resulting from a second cautionable offence, and the resultant MMS, MAY NOT be appealed and the Suspension will commence immediately
- c) If a player is dismissed for receiving a second cautionable offence neither of the cautions (yellow cards) shall be counted in the players accumulation of cautions (yellow cards).

SEND OFF : DIRECT SEND OFF OFFENCE

- a) Based on the referee's report Clause 18 9) 2) the BDF P & D Chairperson will review the report, the player's record and any other relevant factor, and decide on the suspension for the dismissed player based on, but not solely restricted to FNSW's Disciplinary Guidelines, currently found at:

<https://footballnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2026/02/2026-Football-NSW-Grievance-and-Disciplinary-Regulations-06.02.2026.pdf>

- b) Suspensions may be in fixtures (games), or for a fixed period of time. In accordance with FNSW Guidelines s15.5(c) where some or all of the suspension coincides with a “Non Playing Period(s), then such “Non Playing Period(s) will NOT be counted towards the satisfaction of the suspension, provided in the case of a time suspension the suspension is less than 24 months.
- c) Players sent off may not play in any other game on the same, or subsequent day, and will receive notice detailing their suspension within 72 hours.
- d) The player shall be suspended from all football activity including playing, coaching, managing and refereeing in any competition sanctioned by FNSW for the period of the Suspension.
- e) Should the referee’s report be incomplete, late, or of a standard that precludes an informed accurate decision to be made, the Disciplinary Committee may disregard the report and advise the player that he / she is free to play.
- f) A player who receives a direct red card from the Referee, and wishes to appeal the suspension as allowed in Clause 11.3 may do so, only under the following circumstances:
 - i) A case of mistaken identity exists
 - ii) The player believes the suspension is too severe.
 - iii) The FIFA MMS (Minimum Mandatory Sentence) of one (1) week must still be served.
 - iv) Clear Unedited Video Evidence is provided proving the dismissal was in error, and such evidence with an accompanying notice is received by BDF within 48 hours of the incident.

In each case the reasons why the sentence is appealed must be supplied

- g) Should a Suspension be issued in fixtures (games), the player’s Suspension shall be from matches of the team in which the suspended player is primarily registered and / or graded, subject to Clause 18.9.2) d). Byes, Wash Outs, and Forfeits received or incurred are NOT counted as a game suspension.

COACHES SENT OFF

- 6) A team coach and / or other team official who is expelled by the Referee from the field of play and surrounds (including the interchange bench) during a match shall automatically incur an automatic and mandatory one match suspension from both coaching & officiating responsibilities, and from playing in any competition sanctioned by Football NSW. The Coaches suspension shall be from matches of the team in which the suspended coach was coaching at the time.

The Official is also subject to the terms of Clause 18) 9) 2) c) and may receive additional penalty at the discretion of the P&D Chairperson upon review of further Incident Reports submitted by the Match Referee's.

- 7) A team coach and / or other team official who is expelled by the Referee during a match, as per Clause c above, may appeal the Referee's decision as per Clause 18 9 f). The appeal process to be followed is prescribed in Clause 11 3).

REPORTS

- 8) Players sent off and wishing to appeal under Clause 18 may request copies of referee's reports, only after having submitted the appeal and appeal fee. All such requests MUST come from the player's club Secretary, and the reports must be provided by BDF within 48 hours of receiving said request.

PROCEDURE

- 9) Players that are issued with a red card and expelled during a match:
 - a) must leave the immediate field and technical area,
 - b) must return to their dressing room if applicable
 - c) can not return to the field or technical area at any time during or immediately after the game in which they were dismissed
 - d) must not participate in any awards presentation or ceremony that takes place after the match
 - e) must not have any contact with the match officials, any referee committee member, press representative or opposing team member or official for the rest of the day in which the player was dismissed.
 - f) May, at the discretion of the BDF *Board* be escorted to an area considered secure, including expulsion from the ground.

10. WASH OUTS

- 1) All competition rounds washed out by rain shall be abandoned and no points or goals will be awarded.
- 2) Should a team forfeit or defer before a wash-out is declared those matches will be declared washouts as per CLAUSE 18 10) a).
- 3) In the event of a partial washout those teams unable to play their match will have it rescheduled except where previously forfeited.
- 4) The decision to declare a competition round as being a wash-out or a partial wash-out shall be made by the **Board**, who shall take into account any directive from any local council regarding the condition of the grounds.

11. DEFERRED GAMES

- 1) Games drawn to be played on a set date shall be played on that date unless arrangements to change the date and / or venue are granted by the Bathurst District Football **Board**. Such change: -
 - a) Will **ONLY** be granted under the following circumstances:
 - i) A team has more than the prescribed number of **“Native allocated”** players (currently 3) unavailable due to representative football commitments. Players playing up into the team are not included in this clause.
 - ii) A team is a School or Uni based teams with more than 5 players unavailable due to holiday / boarding issues.
 - iii) The **Board** agrees that conflicts exist in the draw with regards to time and location and, in the opinion of the **Board**, a team will be disadvantaged by that schedule.
 - iv) Any other circumstance as approved by the BDF **Board**.
- 2) **MUST** be applied for in writing by the team requesting the deferment using the official “Deferment of Game” Form (*Appendix 2*).
- 3) **WILL** be received by the Bathurst District Football Inc. **F.C.M.** not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the scheduled match time [except for games scheduled in the first two weeks of the season].

- 4) Will only be deemed deferred when the official Match Deferral Form is signed by both teams, the Referee's Appointment's Officer or President, and the *F.C.M.* It shall be the responsibility of the applying team to advise all parties of the accepted deferral including the Referees. This must take place at least ten (10) days before the scheduled game.
- 5) Deferrals **CAN NOT** be accepted UNLESS a new date, time and venue has been agreed upon and confirmed by Bathurst District Football.
- 6) The rescheduled match must be set down to be played (subject to that date being one (1) week before the semi-finals) not more than three (3) weeks prior or three (3) weeks later than the original scheduled match date.
- 7) Any team failing to appear to play in the rescheduled match will be deemed to have forfeited the match.
- 8) Where clubs enter in competitions run by Football NSW and scheduled games in the local competition are disrupted by those competition commitments, the local competition games **MUST** be granted an automatic deferral, and be rescheduled in accordance with Clause 18 11)
- 9) Teams may not have more than two (2) games deferred at any one time, with the exception of School or Uni based teams as a direct result of Holidays, or games deferred in accordance with Clause 18 11.1)
- 10) Fixture Alterations made by the *Board or F.C.M.* for any reason **DO NOT** constitute deferrals in accordance with this Clause.
- 15) Teams that have players unable to play in a game due to verifiable positive Covid tests, and can field no more than 9 players in that team, after exhausting their available 5 players from a lower grade, may solely at the discretion of the BDF *Board*, be allowed to defer their next game. The match **MUST** be played within 10 days of the scheduled date of the original game.

12. ABANDONED GAMES

- 1) After the commencement of the Match, should any game be postponed due to injury, poor weather, failed lighting, state of the pitch or any other reason as determined by the referee, and the Match cannot be completed in full, BDF will reschedule the match to be completed within 14 days of the original match.
- 2) The game will recommence at the minute at which play was interrupted, with the same score as when play was interrupted, rather than being replayed in full. The following principles will apply to the recommencement of the Match:
 - a) The Match will recommence with the same Players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the Match was initially postponed unless a player has received a Suspension in matches conducted between the postponed match and the rescheduling of that match.
 - b) Should a player have received a Suspension in a match conducted between the postponed match and the rescheduling of that match that player:
 - i) Will not be eligible to participate in the rescheduled match
 - ii) Will not be able to count the match as a stand down in relation to any fixture Suspension
 - iii) The club will not be permitted to replace the player on the team sheet.
 - iv) If the player was on the field of play at the time of the postponement the player may be replaced by a substitute listed on the team sheet as long as the team has available substitutions as per the Regulations
 - v) If the player was a substitute the number of available players to substitute will decrease as they player cannot be replaced.
 - c) No additional substitutes may be added to the list of Players on the team sheet

- d) The Teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the Match was postponed
- e) Players sent off during the abandoned Match cannot be replaced
- f) BFRA will endeavour to appoint the same Match Officials to the completion of the Match, however may appoint replacements should any or all of the Match Officials be unavailable
- g) The referee is the sole arbiter of elapsed time, and no protest may be lodged against the actual elapsed time as recorded by the referee
- h) Should a Match be abandoned due to the fault of one (1) Team, or should it be determined by BSF that one (1) Team / Club is responsible for the delay to the Match, the remaining minutes will not be rescheduled for completion, and the Match will be determined as a forfeit against the Team / Club that is deemed guilty of the abandonment or responsible for the delay
- i) Where a fixture is incorrectly reported as abandoned by the Referee where circumstances show clearly that the match was actually postponed, BDF will treat the Match as postponed

13. FORFEITS

- 1) Any team playing unregistered, ineligible or disqualified players shall be deemed to have forfeited that match.
- 2) Any team failing to field a minimum of seven (7) players at the start of any competition match shall be deemed to have forfeited that match.
- 3) Where a team is reduced to less than seven (7) players whether through injury or the sending of a player or players, the match shall be abandoned and the opposing team shall be deemed to have won the match by technical forfeit. This is regardless of the score at the time the game was abandoned.
- 4) Teams forfeiting on two (2) consecutive occasions without satisfactory reasons **MAY** be removed from the competition.
- 5) Any team not giving at least 48 hours notice of their forfeiting of a match to the appropriate Referees Association shall be liable for full referees' fees for that match.
- 6) In the event of a forfeit being made before the match day, **BOTH** sides shall advise the recorder by email of the forfeit occurring.
- 7) Any team forfeiting a competition match without at least 48 hours notice shall be liable for full ground fees should that match be set down for their home grounds.
- 7) The team receiving a forfeit other than under CLAUSE 18 12) c) shall have three (3) goals awarded. Should a game be forfeited under Clause 18 12) c) the team receiving the forfeit shall receive the greater of either (3) goals, or the number of goals scored at the time of abandonment. All goals, B&F points, and Referee's Sanctions will still stand as valid under these games.
- 8) In the event of a team forfeiting to a team not in the same town, the forfeiting team will be fined in accordance with Clause 25 1), and should they be scheduled to play again in the season, any home ground privilege held by the forfeiting team may be swapped to their opponent.

14. DOUBLE POINTS

No competition match shall be played for double points.

15. GOAL DIFFERENCE

Goal difference will be determined by subtracting goals against from goals for.

16. RULE MODIFICATION - UNDER 12's

Corner Kicks, Goal Kicks & Free Kicks

On Pitches exceeding 72 metres long and a width of 45 metres:

- 1) Corner kicks shall be taken from the goal line at a point 7.32 metres (8 yards) outwards from the 18-yard line. This point on the goal line shall be marked appropriately but on the outside of the line.
- 2) Goal kicks shall be taken from inside the imaginary area drawn from the point bounded by 10.97 metres (12 yards) from the goal line and parallel thereto and extending for 9.14metres (10 yards) either side of the penalty spot.
- 3) Free kicks awarded to the defending side which occur in the penalty area shall be taken from inside the imaginary area drawn from the point bounded by 10.97 metres (12 yards) from the goal line and parallel thereto and extending for 9.14 metres (10 yards) on either side of the penalty spot.

17. BALL SIZES

For 12 years to 13 years, No. 4 (between 25/26 inches in circumference).

For 14 years to All Age and Ladies, No. 5 (between 27/28 inches in circumference).

18. MATCH DURATION

12 years	25 minutes each half
13-15 years	35 minutes each half
16 years	40 minutes each half
17-19 years	45 minutes each half
Mens PL – 5 th	45 minutes each half
Over 35s	40 minutes each half
Ladies PL	45 minutes each half
Ladies 2 nd	45 minutes each half
Ladies 3 rd & 4 th	35 minutes each half

Half time shall be 5 minutes.

Referees will not allow for time added due to injury or other cause in any competition round, except in the case of the final (3pm) game of either a Saturday or Sunday if that game is a Premier League match.

The decision to stop a game where injury or other cause prevents a game from being concluded is entirely up to the match referee who should consider time remaining in the match.

Time added will be permitted for all competitive finals matches as deemed appropriate by the match referee.

In the case of combined grades playing times will be **ALWAYS** be based on the higher grade.

19. POINT SCORE & OUTCOMES

All competition matches shall be played on a point score basis, being:-

A win	+ 3 points	
A draw	+ 1 point	
A loss	0 points	
A bye	+ 3 points	
A win by forfeit	+ 3 points	+ 3 goals
A loss by forfeit	- 3 points	- 3 goals

Goals for a win by forfeit may be modified as per Clause 18 13.8)

In all junior competitive matches ie Under 12s to 16s a mercy rule will apply.

If any game gets to the point where 1 team scores 10 goals against their opponent, the game will continue as usual, but scoring for that side will cease. Goals scored by their opponent will still be counted, but no further goals will be counted for the team reaching 10 goals above that 10 regardless of if their opponent scores.

It will be the duty of the match Referee to cease recording goals when the total of 10 is reached, and the match result will be recorded with the score for the “winning” team being 10 goals

20. MINOR PREMIERS

- 1) The team with the most points in each age group or grade at the end of the competition rounds shall be minor premiers.
- 2) Should two or more teams be on level points at the end of the competition rounds, the goal differences, then Goals For, will determine the minor premiers.

21. CLUB / TEAM / GRADE PROMOTION

Normally, and at the discretion of the BDF *Board*, at the beginning of each season, Club teams which -- in the same All Age Grade (Men's & Ladies') have contested the two immediately previous and successive Grand Finals, and / or won the Minor premiership, will be promoted to the next higher available competition Grade.

22. USE OF FIELD LIGHTING

- 1) Lighting is to be used for all night games on Field 1 or Field 2
- 2) In circumstances where games scheduled for day play run late and light is failing, Field Lights may only be turned on, by a BDF *Board* Member, in a break of play that will allow the lights to come on fully without disadvantaging, disturbing or penalising any one team in the match.

23. DRAWS

BDF will construct complete draws prior to the start of each season, on a home and away basis. It may, at it's discretion apply the following criteria:

- 1) Accept requests for Holiday break periods for school and or University/College based sides to be factored into draws
- 2) Consider requests from teams for special game times
- 3) Modify draws, as required, to facilitate special requests as approved by the *Board*
- 4) Modify draws, as required, to facilitate field usage
- 5) Should requests in a grade clash, ensure both requests are met based on a home and away basis.
- 6) Ignore any team requests based on matches being too early, to assist other sports or non BDF matters including other sport commitments, work and or religious demands

24. TEMPORARY DISMISSALS (SIN BINS)

Temporary Dismissals (TDs) or Sin Bins will be implemented in all BDF competitive competitions under the following provisions:

- 1) Only an officially badged and appointed referee officiating in a match may issue a TD. It will be that Referee's responsibility to monitor the time. They may delegate this to an Assistant Referee. The Referee's will be the sole judge of the time penalty. A player may not re-enter the field of play until they are advised they can do so, by either the Referee or Assistant.*
- 2) The TD time period shall be 10 minutes for all games of over 60 minutes duration, and shall be 5 minutes for all other games.*
- 3) TD's they may only be issued for dissent, and will not include equipment infractions.*
- 5) The Yellow Card will be shown to the player, and they will be advised that they are to leave the field as a TD. This Caution (Yellow Card) will be considered to be the first for the player in the match. A subsequent Caution (Yellow Card) will be the players second, and will constitute a dismissal.*
- 6) Sin Binned players will spend their penalty on their team's bench.*
- 7) Any further dissent or disruptive behavior whilst in the sin bin will be dealt with severely.*

25. CLUB REFEREE'S

A Club Referee refers to any person used by a club to referee part, or all of a BDF match as provided by Clause 18 5 6)

- 1) A Club Referee assumes all powers of an official Referee including:
 - i) The power to penalize players for infringements of the Laws of the Game.
 - ii) The power to Caution and dismiss players
 - iii) The Power to Start and stop the game as required
 - iv) The power to conduct interchanges
 - v) Timekeeping
 - vi) The power to award and disallow goals
 - vii) Abandon the game in situations where this is necessary
- 2) The Club Referee CAN NOT apply *Temporary Dismissals* (Sin Bins).
- 3) The Club Referee is obliged to submit details of any caution or send off issued during the game. These can be completed on the official forms, but are also acceptable as a written statement or advice, electronically or otherwise.
- 4) Completion and submission of the Dribl Match Sheet shall be the responsibility of the Home Team Manager / Reporter

CLAUSE 19 SPECTATORS

1. Under no circumstances are spectators to enter the field of play during a competition match.
2. Spectators interfering with play or using abusive language will be cited under CLAUSE 24 and dealt with by a disputes committee.

CLAUSE 20 GATE TAKINGS

All gate takings from BDF matches, played on BDF enclosed grounds, are strictly the concern of Bathurst District Football.

Gate Takings may not be collected for local games, and only be levied on "FNSW" games on enclosed fields, per stipulations and directions as set down by FNSW.

CLAUSE 21 SEMI FINALS, FINALS & GRAND FINALS

1. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

To be eligible to play in semi-finals, finals and / or grand finals a player must:-

- 1) Be registered with the Club in accordance with Clause 16;

All players permanently allocated in a team shall automatically be eligible to play for that team in Finals Series matches.

Any player playing up into a team from another grade, junior or senior, must comply with the following to be eligible to play for a team in Finals Series Matches:

- 2) The player must have played in not less than **50%** of the competition rounds with the team which is participating in the finals, *rounded down to the next nearest whole number;*
- 3) Byes and wash outs are counted as a reduction in the total number of games a TEAM has played by 1 per bye or washout.
- 4) Forfeits Received prior to the completion of the Dribl Match Sheet are counted as one game played for all **permanently allocated** players only. All borrowed players regardless of frequency playing up, including juniors, not approved by BDF to be a permanently allocated player DO NOT receive this as a game played.
- 5) Forfeits Received after completion of the Dribl Match Sheet are counted as one game played by all players listed on the match card and checked green.
- 6) Forfeits incurred are included in the total number of games for a team,
- 7) Dispensations for any other cause not listed under this Clause are no longer available.
- 8) Qualifications will be monitored on an "honesty" basis. It is up to each team and player to ensure they are playing qualified players in the finals series. Should the qualification status of any player be questioned, and a player found to be NOT qualified in accordance with these rules, any game in which that player participated shall be deemed to have been forfeited by that players TEAM.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS

- 1) At the completion of the competition rounds the first four (4) teams in each age group, or grade, shall participate in a final series consisting of two (2) semi-finals, a final and a grand final.
- 2) **Subject to Clause 21 3),** the teams to participate shall consist of **the four (4), five (5) or six (6) teams** with the most points at the end of the competition rounds.
- 3) In the event of two (2) or more teams being level on points at the end of the competition rounds, the positions will be allocated between those teams based on goal difference.
- 4) Should two (2) or more teams still be level the positions will be allocated between those teams based on goals scored.
- 5) Any team that is not fully financial with BDF 7 days prior to the Finals Series shall be deemed to have forfeited their spot in the Finals Play Off matches. All teams below them on the final Competition Table will move up one spot, and Finals places will be determined accordingly

3. FINALS FORMAT

The format of Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals shall be:-

- 1) In 9 or 10 team competitions, the 6 Team Finals System, or
- 2) In 7 or 8 team competitions, the 5 Team Finals System, or
- 3) In 5 or 6 team competitions, the 4 Team Finals System.

6 TEAM FINALS

Week 1

- a) The teams finishing third (3rd) and sixth (6th) in the competition will play the 1st Elimination Semi-Final;
- b) The teams finishing fourth (4th) and fifth (5th) in the competition will play the 2nd Elimination Semi-Final.

Week 2

- c) The team finishing first (1st) and second (2nd) will play in the Qualifying Semi Final
- d) The winner of the 1st Elimination Semi Final (a above) will play the winner of the 2nd Elimination Semi Final (b above) in the Preliminary Semi Final

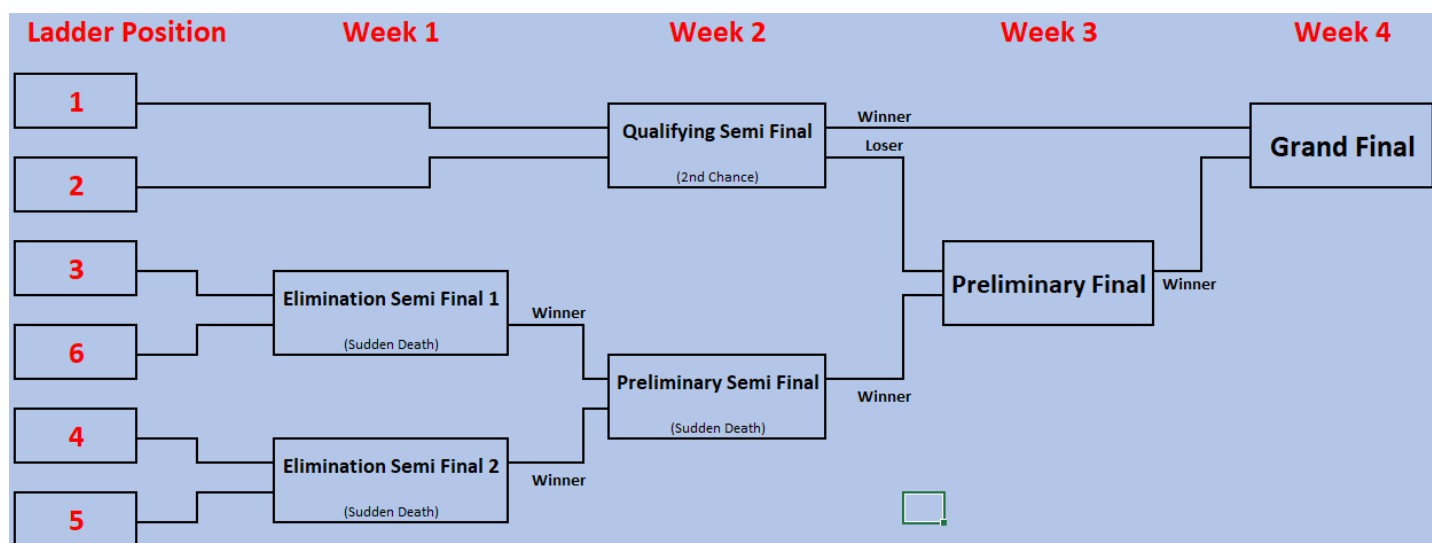
Week 3

- e) The loser of the Qualifying Semi Final (c above) will play the winner of the Preliminary Semi Final (d above) in the Qualifying Final.

Week 4

- f) The winner of the Qualifying Semi Final (c above) will play the winner of the Qualifying Final (e above) in the Grand Final.
- g) The winner of the Grand Final shall be declared the Premiers.

- h) In the event of any semi-final, final or grand final being a draw at the end of normal playing time, "Extra Time" shall be played. being a further ten (10) minutes extra each way will be played for all Senior Games, and Junior Games from Under 13 and over. Under 12s will play a further five (5) minutes extra each way. The team that scores the most goals at the completion of extra time will be declared the winner, as prescribed by the F.I.F.A. rules.
- i) For all BDF Competitions, from Under 12s up, should no result be obtained in extra time:-
 - i) A penalty shoot out, as prescribed by F.I.F.A. rules (that is, five on five and if still equal, one on one); shall determine the winner.
 - j) A game Washed Out during the Finals series will be played on the following Tuesday and if still unplayable on the next Thursday. In the event of the Semi Finals and Final game(s) still being unplayable, the team which is higher on the competition ladder, at the conclusion of normal competition rounds, will proceed to the next stage. In the event of the Grand Final being unplayable, the team that finished higher on the competition ladder at the end of normal competition rounds will be declared the Winner.



5 TEAM FINALS

Week 1

- a) The teams finishing second (2nd) and third (3rd) in the competition will play the 1st Elimination Semi-Final;
- b) The teams finishing fourth (4th) and fifth (5th) in the competition will play the 2nd Elimination Semi-Final.

Week 2

- c) The team finishing first (1st) will play the winner of the 2nd elimination Semi-Final (a above) in the Qualifying Semi Final
- d) The winner of the 2nd Elimination Semi Final (b above) will play the loser of the 1st Elimination Semi Final (a above) in the Preliminary Semi Final

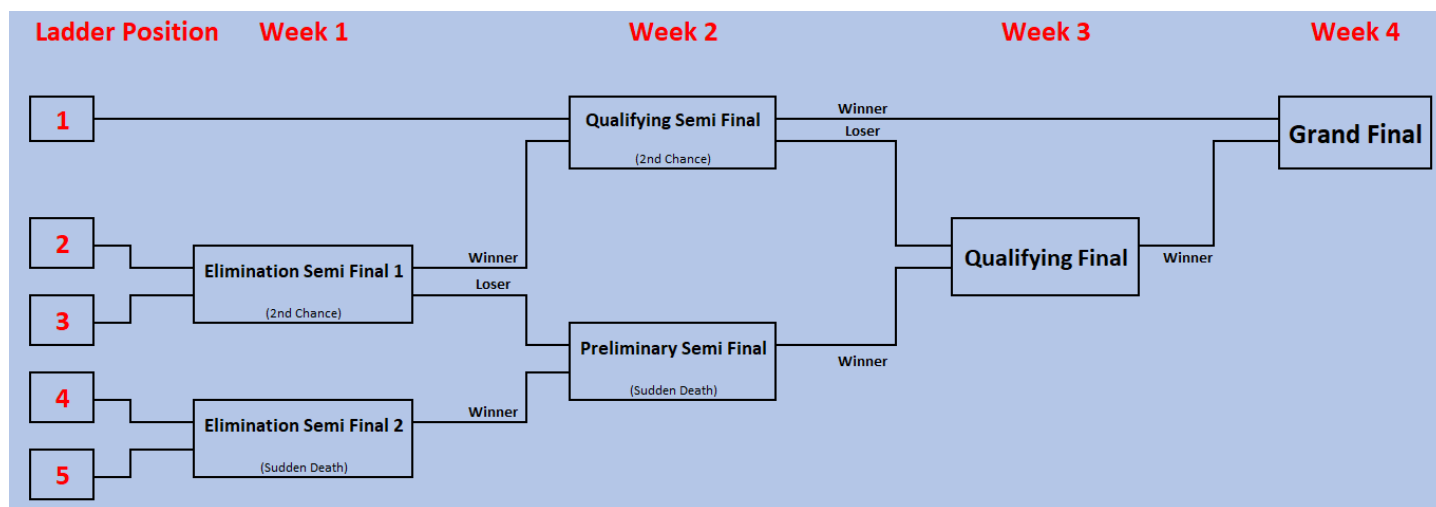
Week 3

- e) The loser of the Qualifying Semi Final (c above) will play the winner of the Preliminary Semi Final (d above) in the Qualifying Final.

Week 4

- f) The winner of the Qualifying Semi Final (c above) will play the winner of the Qualifying Final (e above) in the Grand Final.
- g) The winner of the Grand Final shall be declared the Premiers.
- h) In the event of any semi-final, final or grand final being a draw at the end of normal playing time, "Extra Time" shall be played. being a further ten (10) minutes extra each way will be played for all Senior Games, and Junior Games from Under 13 and over. Under 12s will play a further five (5) minutes extra each way. The team that scores the most goals at the completion of extra time will be declared the winner, as prescribed by the F.I.F.A. rules.

- i) For all BDF Competitions, from Under 12s up, should no result be obtained in extra time:-
 - i) A penalty shoot out, as prescribed by F.I.F.A. rules (that is, five on five and if still equal, one on one); shall determine the winner.
- j) A game Washed Out during the Finals series will be played on the following Tuesday and if still unplayable on the next Thursday. In the event of the Semi Finals and Final game(s) still being unplayable, the team which is higher on the competition ladder, at the conclusion of normal competition rounds, will proceed to the next stage. In the event of the Grand Final being unplayable, the team that finished higher on the competition ladder at the end of normal competition rounds will be declared the Winner.



4 TEAM FINALS

Week 1

- a) The team finishing first (1st) will play the team finishing second (2nd) in the Qualifying Semi Final
- b) The team finishing third (3rd) will play the team finishing fourth (4th) in the Elimination Semi Final.

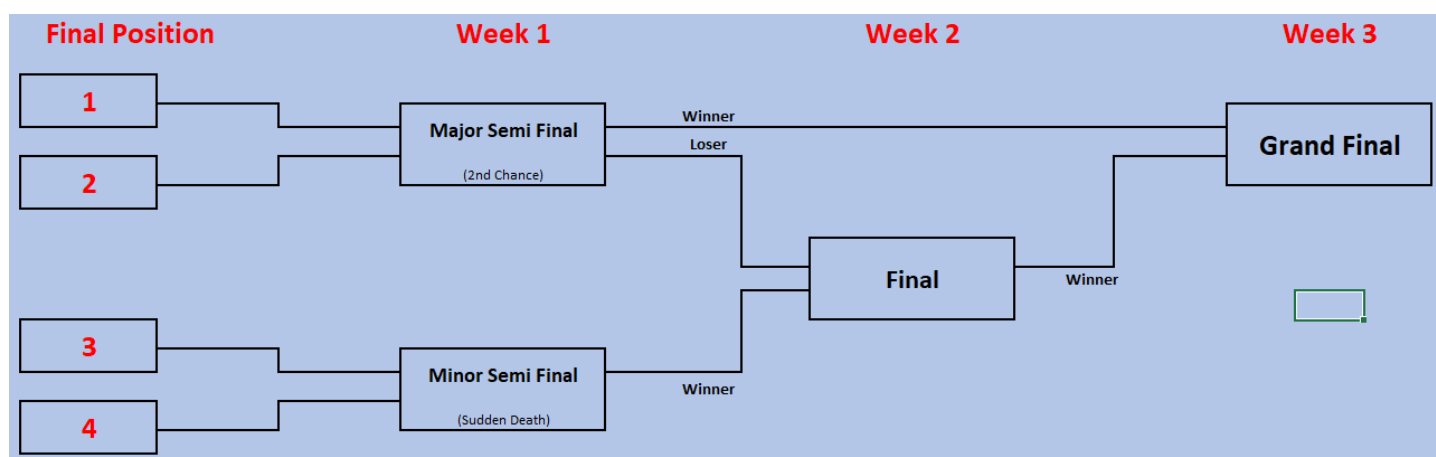
Week 2

- c) The loser of the Qualifying Semi Final (a above) will play the winner of the Elimination Semi Final (b above) in the Qualifying Final.

Week 3

- d) The winner of the Qualifying Semi Final (a above) will play the winner of the Qualifying Final (c above) in the Grand Final.
- e) In the event of any semi-final, final or grand final being a draw at the end of normal playing time, "Extra Time" shall be played. being a further ten (10) minutes extra each way will be played for all Senior Games, and Junior Games from Under 13 and over. Under 12s will play a further five (5) minutes extra each way. The team that scores the most goals at the completion of extra time will be declared the winner, as prescribed by the F.I.F.A. rules.
- f) For all BDF Competitions, from Under 12s up, should no result be obtained in extra time:-
 - i) A penalty shoot out, as prescribed by F.I.F.A. rules (that is, five on five and if still equal, one on one); shall determine the winner.

- g) A game Washed Out during the Finals series will be played on the following Tuesday and if still unplayable on the next Thursday. In the event of the Semi Finals and Final game(s) still being unplayable, the team which is higher on the competition ladder, at the conclusion of normal competition rounds, will proceed to the next stage. In the event of the Grand Final being unplayable, the team that finished higher on the competition ladder at the end of normal competition rounds will be declared the Winner.



4. FINALS DRAWS

- 1) All Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals are to be played, as set down, on the allocated date unless deferred due to inclement weather or special circumstances as approved by the *Board*.
- 2) Without exception, all Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals shall be played at Proctor Park – the home ground of Bathurst District Football.

5. FORFEITS

- 1) Any team forfeiting a semi-final or final may, *at the discretion of the BDF Board*, be deemed to have surrendered its position and may be declared ineligible to play in the final or in the grand final.
- 2) The *Board* shall have the right to decide when a forfeit has occurred.
- 3) Should a team be deemed to have forfeited any finals match due to a breach of these rules they will not be replaced in the relevant finals match. Their opponent will be declared the winner by forfeit, and progress in accordance with Clause 21 3).
- 4) Should a team have to forfeit any finals match for reason of insufficient players their place in the finals shall be taken by either:
 - a) where the team has already played a finals match, the team they defeated in the earlier finals round, or
 - b) Where the game concerned is the first of the finals matches, the team next on the competition ladder.
- 5) In the event of a team forfeiting any of it's last 2 competition rounds, the *Board* may at its discretion, disqualify the team from Finals regardless of their position on the competition table. In the event of this occurring all teams beneath the penalized team will move up the competition table 1 position. And or, impose a financial penalty of \$550 per offence

CLAUSE 22 MINI FOOTBALL

1. AGES AND GRADES

Mini Football shall be played from Under 6s to Under 11s, and will incorporate players from 5 years old and above.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 1) To be eligible to play in Mini Football games a player must: -
 - a) Be registered in accordance with CLAUSE 16 2);
 - b) Except as otherwise approved by the BDF *Board*, using the specific criteria available, be registered in the correct age group; age eligibility is determined by the age the player turns between January 1st and December 31st of the current year;
 - c) Be a financial player;
 - d) Must turn **5** years or over in the year of competition.

3. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS

- 2) To Eligible to play in Mini Football games a team must:-
 - a. Ne nominated in accordance with Clause 15
 - b. Be registered in accordance with Clause 16

4. COMPETITION CONDUCT

- 3) Mini Football games shall be conducted: -
 - a) According to the F.I.F.A. laws of Association Football with modifications as set down by FFA and FNSW;
 - b) As friendly games without match scores, point scores or tables;
 - c) Within Bathurst and Oberon Districts by BDF;
 - d) On a home and away basis, where possible, with the number of rounds based on the number of teams nominated in each age division;
 - e) In age groups based on the number of teams nominated in each age division.

- 4) All Mini Football games shall be played on fields which: -
 - a) Have the approval of BDF;
 - b) Are correctly marked with goal nets and corner flags erected when and where possible
- 5) All Players in all games should appear in proper uniform, comprising of shirt, shorts, socks, approved footwear and in team colours as approved by BDF and MUST be wearing shin pads.
- 6) Where the colours of opposing teams in any games are similar, the away team should change.
- 7) The home team is the team whose name appears first on the draw
- 8) Games shall commence at the time stipulated on the draw.
- 9) Interchange is to be used to give every player equal time on the Field.
- 10) Rules and Field Sizes for Mini Football Games will as per the those set down by FNSW under the following document, and as available as a separate PDF File from BDF.

<http://www.miniroos.com.au/media/91707/playing-rules-and-formats-high-res.pdf>

11) Ultimately, it's about the kids having fun with very few interruptions.

5. PLAYER SUBSTITUTION

Unlimited interchange shall take place

6. BALL SIZE

For 6 - 9 years	Size 3
For 10 - 11 years	Size 4

7. GAME DURATION

6-9 years	20 minutes each half
10-11 years	25 minutes each half

Half time = 5 minutes

8. GAME RECORDS

Completion of a Dribl Match Sheet is compulsory in order for the Association to track player involvement for statistical and insurance purposes. Results and goal scorers are not required, except in that a “dummy” result must be entered to be able to finalise the Dribl Match Sheet. BDF recommends a 0-0 result be entered.

9. SPECTATORS

Spectators interfering with play or using abusive language will be cited under CLAUSE 24 and dealt with by a disputes committee.

CLAUSE 23 REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

BDF may, from time to time, select club teams and / or teams of players in any age group or grade as its representative in internal, country, intrastate and / or interstate competitions.

1. SELECTION OF PLAYERS

- 1) The selection trials appropriate for various representative teams shall take place on a date to be fixed by the Coaching Coordinator.
- 2) The date, time and venue for each selection trial shall be circulated to each Club Secretary by email at least seven (7) days prior to the trials taking place. Notices shall also be placed on the Association Website, and Facebook Page.
- 3) Those eligible to attend selection trial shall be:-
 - a) Any registered player nominated by the representative coach;
 - b) Any registered player nominated by a team coach;
 - c) Any registered player wishing to offer his or her self for selection;
- 4) Selection of players at selection trials shall be made, in any age group or grade, by a panel no less than 3 experienced neutral coaches appointed by the BDF *Board*, one of which may be the coach of the team. The representative team coach shall have a deliberate and a casting vote.
- 5) A player may be approached individually by the representative coach and / or manager, and asked to offer his or her self for trials, even after selection trials have taken place.
- 6) A player not wishing selection in a representative team must advise so when approached for selection.
- 7) Each player must first try out for his or her own age group, (age turning that year) eg. 12th birthday this year, must first try out for U/12's.
- 8) If a player is unsuccessful in that age group, the player can then try out for another age group including boys' teams.

- 9) For girls turning 10, 11 & 12, they must first try out for U/12 girls' teams.
- 11) For girls turning 13 & 14, they must first try out for U/14 girls.
- 11) For girls turning 15 & 16, they must first try out for U/16 girls.
- 12) As a general rule, all players must be registered in their rightful age group. However at the discretion of the BDF **Board**, a player can be granted permission to trial above their age group on the grounds of player development, on a case by case basis, at the behest of the Coaching Co-Ordinator.

2. CONDITIONS OF REPRESENTATION

- 1) BDF shall have exclusive rights to the service of representative players on the day or days nominated and all clubs shall be deemed to have surrendered their claim on the player or players to BDF on that or those days.
- 2) Should the fixture be of sufficient importance, as decided by the *Board*, representative players may be instructed not to participate in any other match within 24 hours prior to the game for which they were selected. This rule will ONLY apply where the player previously agreed to and offered themselves for selections.
- 3) Any team disadvantaged by having three (3) or more players, inclusive of a registered representative coach, from that team in representative fixtures clashing with the team's commitments, will have the right to have their match deferred.
- 4) Any representative player unable or unwilling to fulfill his or her commitments as a representative player must advise the team coach immediately such a position arises.
- 5) Unless under special circumstances, as decided by the *Board*, any representative player unable or unwilling to fulfill his or her commitments as a representative player will be deemed to have forfeited their representative status.
- 6) Any club, team or player violating CLAUSE 23a) b) d) and / or e) shall be dealt with as the *Board* sees fit.
- 7) Should any club team, who is representing BDF in representative competition, fail to meet its obligation as to its representation, that club shall be responsible for any penalty incurred, and may be liable for further penalty as decided by the BDF *Board*.

CLAUSE 24 MISCONDUCT

1. It shall be incumbent on any player, official, member or spectator to report to BDF any cases, which may be prejudicial to the objects or interests of BDF.
2. Such reports must be received by the Secretary within 72 hours (Sundays excepted) of the incident, and shall name any person accused of conduct prejudicial to the objects or interests of BDF.
3. The report shall record full details of the alleged misconduct and must include the names and addresses of witnesses who may be called to give evidence before a Disputes Sub-Committee.

CLAUSE 25 FINES & PENALTIES

The **Board** shall use the following list as a guide when implementing penalties against Clubs and or Players breaching specific conduct breaches:

1) **Forfeits**

First Offence	\$ 55
First Offence (Away)	\$165
2nd Offence	\$110
2 nd Offence (Away)	\$330

Further Offences +\$110 per offence

Plus the team forfeiting may lose their right to have the next game between the 2 sides as a home match

Fines to reset after 12 months compliance

2) Breach of Liquor License

Any person identified with a club breaching the requirements of the Liquor License will incur the following penalties to that club (in addition to any penalty levied by the Act)

1st Offence	\$110
2nd Offence	\$220
3rd Offence	\$330
Further Offences	+\$220 per offence

Fines to reset after 12 months compliance

3) Breach of Playing Rules re Grading

4) Breach of Field Usage Requirements

\$22 per offence per player. Penalty to be charged to club.

5) Canteen Duty

Failure to Show: Lose Payment for day and fined equivalent amount.

Failure to Staff Adequately: Lose 50% of Payment for the day.

6) Animals

Dogs are banned from Proctor Park under the Companion Animals Act 1988 87 14 (1) (c) by direction of Bathurst Regional Council. Clubs will be fined for breaches of this on behalf of their members, spectators, players and officials.

1st Offence	\$44
2nd Offence	\$66
3rd Offence	\$88
Further Offences	+\$44 per offence

Fines to reset after 12 months compliance

7) Smoking

Smoking (*including vaping*) has been banned on all sporting fields since January 7 2013. Government fines of up to \$440 are possible to those found smoking at grounds. Smoking is prohibited at all areas of Proctor Park, except the designated smoking area, by FNSW, BDF and BRC. BDF will issue fines against Clubs, on behalf of their members, spectators, players and officials for smoking breaches:

1st Offence	\$44
2nd Offence	\$66
3rd Offence	\$88
Further Offences	+\$44 per offence

Fines to reset after 12 months compliance.

8) Rubbish (Litter)

Where BDF can identify a club as being responsible for Rubbish being left in any area at either Police Paddock, or Proctor Park, that club will be fined as below:

1st Offence	\$55
2nd Offence	\$110
3rd Offence	\$165
Further Offences	\$220 per offence

Fines to reset after 12 months compliance.

9) Match Sheet Submission (Dribl)

Breach Clause 18 8) 14)

First Offence	\$22
2nd Offence	\$44
3rd Offence	\$88
Further Offences	\$110 per offence

Incorrect Completion

First Offence	\$22
2nd Offence	\$44
3rd Offence	\$88
Further Offences	\$110 per offence

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Failure to include FFA Numbers, or shirt numbers
- Missing or non compliant player ID Photos
- Failure to complete B&F points (Votes)
- Failure to record Goals or Scores (when acting as the Home team Recorder in the absence of an accredited referee.)
- Failure to submit (lodge) the Match Sheet (when acting as the Home team Recorder in the absence of an accredited referee.)

10) Playing Ineligible players

In addition to whatever Point or Disciplinary Penalty the **Board** decides to implement, the **Board** may also apply a financial penalty based on:

- The Intent of the breach (Fraudulent or not)
- The Nature of the breach (Accidental v Deliberate)
- The Repetition of the breach (1st offence , 2nd offence etc)

11) Flag Duty

It is the duty of the Home club in the final game of the day on Police Paddock and Proctor Park, on any given field to return the Corner Flags to the clubhouse. Should the Home Team fail to do so their club will be fined as per the scale below:

1st Club Offence	\$33
2nd Club Offence	\$44
3rd Club Offence	\$55
Further Club Offences	\$66 per offence

Fines to reset after 12 months compliance.

Additionally should the flags remain on the field overnight, and as a result disappear, or be damaged the club of the Home Team whose responsibility it was to return the Corner Flags, will be charged the cost of a replacement set of Flags.

12) Canteen Duty

Should the club on duty for Canteen either not perform their duties for the day, or if their performance in whole or in part is unsatisfactorily poor, the Canteen will be closed, and the club shall be fined the average gross takings for the day, for the current year.

13) Points Penalty

The Board, at it's discretion, may choose not to impose a financial penalty ie (fine), and may instead apply a point deduction penalty, against a team, group of teams, or all teams within a club.

The size of the points deduction will be based on:

- a) The severity of the offence*
- b) Whether the offence is a continued repetition of an offence*
- c) Whether previous financial penalties have been ignored by the club, and or team (s).*

As a general guideline only initial application of this clause will incur a 3 point deduction from the teams competition total.

More severe or repeated breaches may incur penalties up to 12 points.

The decision to implement a point penalty shall be applied by the board, and it's application will be final.

CLAUSE 26 OBJECTS & RULES, & PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. BDF may make such Playing Regulations, not inconsistent with the letter or intent of the Objects and Rules, as it deems necessary for the proper and efficient management of BDF.
2. Objects and Rules may only be rescinded, amended or added to by a Special Resolution at either the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting of BDF.
3. A Special General Meeting shall be called at least one (1) calendar month prior to the Annual General Meeting to consider amendments to the Objects & Rules.
4. Amendments approved at the Special General Meeting called to consider such amendments by a majority of those present and entitled to vote shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting for approval.
5. Amendments approved as in CLAUSE 26.4 shall be circulated to members at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
6. Amendments to BDF's Objects & Rules shall be approved at each Annual General Meeting by a majority vote of those present and entitled to vote.

Last Update : December 9th, 2025

APPENDIX 1
CLAUSE 15 (b) By Laws
TEAM NOMINATION FORM

CLUB _____ . AGE GROUP _____ .

	AGE GROUP	TEAM NAME	NOMINATION FEE
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
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23			
24			

- a) The total nomination fee MUST accompany the nomination form.
- b) The application must be received by the Secretary no later than / /
- c) Nomination Fee In Accordance With Current BDF Fee Schedule Total amount \$ _____

NB: Late nominations will not be included in the draw.

(Signed) Club Secretary _____ Date ____/____/____

APPENDIX 2
MATCH DEFERMENT FORM
BATHURST DISTRICT FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS (2016)

I, _____ of _____
(Club Secretary of Team requesting the deferment) (Name of Club)

Representing, _____
(Name of Team and Age Group)

WISH TO APPLY FOR THE APPROVAL TO DEFER THE FOLLOWING MATCH:

The reason for our Deferment request is due to: _____

Original Match Details:

Grade: _____

Date Scheduled: _____

Time Scheduled: _____

Original Venue: _____

Home Side: _____

Away Side: _____

New Match Details:

New Date: _____

New Time: _____

New Venue: _____

Approvals

BDF

REFEREES

HOME SIDE

AWAY SIDE

This form must be FULLY COMPLETED at least 14 days PRIOR to the original scheduled match.

Deferring a match may mean that home ground advantage will be lost.

Matches MUST and WILL be rescheduled within the constitutional 6 week allowed period.