

Competition Rules and Regulations (as at Nov 08)

In order to ensure proper communications between the Association and the Clubs (teams) it is the responsibility of the Club (team) management to ensure that their contact details are current at all times. There must be a valid email address available at all times. Any changes to be notified to the Competition Secretary info@iafa.com.au

1.
 - a) A maximum of **sixteen (16) players** shall be permitted in any first, second, third division or Masters Competition game with the number of interchanges unlimited.
 - b) While more than sixteen (16) names are allowed on the team sheet, the players who actually take part must be noted with a number identification from team shirts.
2.
 - a) A player must be registered on the approved registration forms, together with player photos (2), BEFORE he can play his first game. Registration must be approved by registrar before playing first game.
 - b) Registration fee of \$90 per player (compulsory insurance, public liability) must be paid at time of registration, if not included in first 20.
 - c) Each competing Team MUST complete teamsheet before playing game with Player signing team sheet before playing.
 - d) Clubs playing an ineligible player shall be deducted 3pts and shall be deemed to have forfeited the game. The Club shall also be liable for a \$100 fine. Result as per Rule 8.
3.
 - a) The Management Committee shall decide annually, the number of teams that shall participate in each division
 - b) Where a Club has **two (2)** or more teams in the Association competitions the following will apply: -

- i. Up to **three (3) players** registered in a lower division team or Masters team may be borrowed to the higher division team competition games. Club shall inform opposing team and show registration identification card when applying rule.
- ii. If a club has two (2) or more teams in the same division, then neither team can borrow players from each other.
- iii. If a club has three (3) or more teams, the higher division team can only borrow players from one (1) nominated lower division team.
- iv. If a club has three (3) or more teams, a lower division team can only be nominated to one (1) higher division team.
- v. A player may only be borrowed by a higher division team in the same club for a maximum of **five(5)** competition games
- vi. A borrowed player is eligible to play for his registered team and the higher division team in the same club on the same competition day.
- vii. Up to **three (3) players** from the lower division team or Masters team will be eligible to be borrowed to play in the higher division team semifinal series if the players have played in **five (5)** games in the higher division teams competition games
- viii. Where a player from the lower division team or Masters team wishes to transfer to the higher division team the transfer can only happen before June 30th. As per Rule 11 a player can only transfer once per season.
- ix. Any team found guilty of playing ineligible players will be dealt with under rule 2(d) of the Rules and Regulations

4. Points allocation for competition games shall be a WIN – 3pts; Draw – 1pt; Loss – 0pts.

5. Linesmen SHALL be provided by the Duty Team, as designated by the roster. A Team failing its duty shall be deducted **one (1) point** for EACH LINESMAN failing to turn up for duty. Points shall be deducted from competition table. The Club will also be fined **\$20** for first offence. **\$50 and one (1) point per linesman** deduction for 2nd Offence. Any further occasions the Club must face the Executive Committee.
6. A kick-off delayed more than 10 minutes from scheduled time may result in the offending team forfeiting the game. Referees may reduce both halves of the game accordingly for late kick-offs. Where no delay is experienced the scheduled starting time for competition matches shall be 1pm and 3pm.
7.
 - a) A team must have 7 players (one of whom must be a goalkeeper) to be able to commence the game.
 - b) If a game is **abandoned** due to insufficient players, then the offending team shall be deemed to have forfeited the game. The Management Committee will decide on any further penalty (if any), for the offending team.
8.
 - a) A forfeited game shall be worth 3 points to the non-offending team. A score of 2 – 0, OR the average loss of the offending team, whichever is the greater, shall be awarded to their opponents. (A 2-0 forfeit is still applicable for a technical forfeit).
 - b) A team forfeiting a game, such that the Referee cannot be notified, shall pay the Referee **half** of his match fee.
 - c) The offending club shall also be fined \$100.
9. The competition table shall be decided by the following sequence:-
 - a) Highest number of competition points; then
 - b) Aggregate head to head total score in competition between the (2) equal finishing teams in 9(a). Note: If more than (2) teams are equal on points in any position then this rule does not apply. Then;
 - c) Goal Difference; then
 - d) Most Goals Scored
10. A player to be eligible for the semifinal series shall have played in at least **five (5)** of his teams competition games.

11. Last date for Player Transfer within the Association shall be **June 30th**.
A Player can only transfer ONCE per season.
*** Player must be financially sound with transferring Clubs.***
- 12.
- a) A Player registered with the Illawarra Football Association OR a Higher known Association, must have clearance **BEFORE** **June 30th** to be eligible to play for a team in the IAFA.
 - b) Players from the Leisure Coast; B.H.P.Interworks; and Illawarra Churches Associations are eligible to play in the IAFA competition (dual registered), but must be registered **BEFORE** June 30th.
 - c) Players from other Associations MUST have approval from the IAFA Management Committee.
13. A Player sent from the field during an IAFA game must get changed, and leave the area of the game (e.g. sit in his car on the nearby road or car park).
14. Any Club in arrears in excess of its Bond money, shall forfeit games (and may incur a financial penalty), until the excess is paid. Payment must be received by the Association at least 24 hours prior to the competition game.

15. **Wash-Out and Deferred Game Procedures**
- a) Games postponed due to bad weather, will be arranged, where possible for the SUNDAY, two weeks later. If clubs cannot mutually decide on date and time executive committee will have final say on date and time.
 - b) A game postponed by request of the teams, must be played within **FOUR** weeks – and not left until the end of the season.
 - c) When private grounds are called off due to wet ground conditions the home team must notify the opposing team official and competition secretary by the morning of the game.
 - d) Referees will be entitled to half fee when not notified from home team on private grounds
 - e) The referee will have the final say on council grounds if games are not called off by council
 - f) Masters divisions DO NOT replay wash-outs. 3 points will be awarded to all Masters teams for a wash-out.
16. Team Kit must be standardised, including shorts and socks. Away team shall change shirts if there is a clash. NO PLAYER to be allowed to take the field unless properly attired.
17. Teams not sending a Representative to monthly Club Meetings will be fined **\$10 for the first offence**, and the fines shall escalate by \$10 for any further offence. In addition the deduction of one point from the competition table for a **third** or any further offences.
18. **A club will be fined \$5 for not completing a team sheet correctly.** Teamsheet must be IAFA approved. This is available from the IAFA website.
19. A player must attain the age of 16 years during the year to be considered eligible to play in the IAFA. competition.

20. **Promotion and Relegation**

- a) Promotion and Relegation shall be decided at the end of the playing season by the team's final position in the full competition (NOT the playoffs).
- b) The top two (2) teams in a division will be promoted to the division immediately above them, with the bottom two (2) teams in the higher division being relegated to the division below
- c) The top two teams must be accept promotion or disband.
- d) If, due to teams withdrawing, 2 teams are not required to be relegated, then the bottom 2 teams can still request relegation – this can only be granted if other teams (asked in order on the table then new applicants) are willing to be promoted.
- e) If more than 2 teams are required to be promoted then the other teams (top 2 must go up) are asked in the order of the table the new applicants. If no other teams wish to be promoted then the teams in order on the table MUST accept promotion.
- f) The adjusting of promotion / relegation due to teams withdrawing, etc; will only take place up to 3 weeks after the A.G.M – the exception being if a team requests a change and it simplifies the draw.

21. **Playing Season, Semi-Finals, Finals and Grand Finals.**

- a) The commencement of the playing season shall be decided by the number of rounds to be played in the competition – working back from the Grand Final.
- b) The Grand Final shall be played on the Saturday one week before the October long weekend (decided by the first (1st) Monday in October). The Finals and Semi-Finals will be played one week and two weeks prior to the Grand Final respectively with the only exception being the

Masters competition with the dates to be determined by the management committee

- c) A “blank” Saturday should be left during or after the competition and before the semi-finals to accommodate any postponed games (if possible.)
- d) All semifinals, finals and grand finals will be finalised on the day. I.e. no replays. If games are drawn at fulltime fifteen (15) minutes each way will be played. In the event of no score in extra time penalty kicks will be used to determine winner.

22. Fees

- a) A **\$200 team Nomination Fee** is charged per team and payable on team nomination. Non payment will void the nomination. This is non-refundable, unless the nomination is not accepted for entry into the competition.
- b) A **Registration Fee of \$200** will be charged for the FIRST 20 player registrations. This fee and any additional fee as per rule 22c. and 22d. shall be paid before the first competition game. Any more than 20 players MUST be paid for at the time of registering, unless another player is de-registered. Any extra players registered \$10 per player at time of registration.
- c) An additional fee for each player for public liability and personal insurance will be charged on registration as determined by the management committee. *This fee will only be charged where made compulsory from the insurance company*
- d) **All fees, along with any ground fees shall be paid by June 30th**, unless stated otherwise above.
- e) \$100 bond is payable after acceptance by management committee into the competition. This must be paid before the competition begins.

- f) Referees are paid \$45 by the home team per competition game
- g) Ground fees are charged at the appropriate rate i.e. WCC or private ground rates
- h) Each team will be charged for a minimum of four (4) tickets for presentation night. **This is compulsory.**
- i) The IAFA provides for 16 individual trophies for each team winning their respective division, plus both grand finalists. The Association also pays for the Finals series referees and ground hire for the finals series.

23. **Masters (Over 35's Rules)**

- a) **All players age for eligibility to play in the Masters League** is determined by the player turning 35 years of age in the calendar year.
- b) A copy of drivers licence or birth certificate is required to be attached to the registration form for proof of age. If no copy attached registration will not be accepted
- c) In all Masters Competition matches **five (5)** players may be used as substitutes.
- d) The number of interchanges during a match shall be unlimited. i.e. A player who has been replaced may return to the field of play.

General Information

24. The appointment of Referees and Linesmen to officiate at all Association matches shall be vested in the Management Committee. The M.C. shall be authorised to enlist the assistance of the Association Referees in making such appointments.

25. The Referee and/or Linesmen shall select 3 Players from the **GAME** for "Best and Fairest", and award points of 3, 2, 1, on the team sheets. Team sheets to be in the hand of the referee before kickoff. The referee shall forward teamsheets to registrar.

26. a) In the event of the Referee failing to turn up, then the Duty Team should referee.
- b) If both Referee and Duty Team fail to turn up, then competing teams should mutually agree on a referee. (In this event the Duty Team shall be deducted points as per Rule 5.)
27. The Referee's Fee should be paid by the Home Team (first on draw), prior to the commencement of the game.
28. The Three (3) game Officials are totally in charge of the game, and any action taken to interrupt an Official carrying out his duties shall be dealt with severely.
29. It is the Home Team's responsibility to provide the match balls, and also goal nets and corner flags. (5 ft. high) Since there are usually 2 games on the one pitch (1.00pm. & 3.00pm.), both games should use the same nets and flags for convenience.
30. Team shirts are to be numbered to assist Referees in noting goal scorers, best and fairest, and cautions, etc.
31. It is the Away Team's duty to change their strip if there is a colour clash. If a Team does not have a second strip, then they should make some arrangements with the other team(s) sharing the ground.
32. Please leave the grounds in a neat and tidy state (collect all tape, orange peel, cans, etc.). Under no circumstance should **glass bottles** be brought onto the grounds. If teams are deemed to be found guilty of bringing glass bottles to the ground, the team will be fined \$50 for the first offence and \$100 for any subsequent offences.
33. Cancelled or washout games will be announced on local radio usually commencing 7:00 am on the Saturday morning.

34. The HOME team should phone the result of their game to the results coordinator on the number displayed on the IAFA website by 10am Sunday morning.

Home Teams will be fined 1 point if the results are not received by the stipulated time.

35. Judiciary Policy & Procedure

The management committee has the power to

A: consider the reports of the referees, Linesman and others...

B: decide if the offence is proved

C: determine and set whatever punishment or sanctions that it consider appropriate in accordance with the guidelines of the IFA (Refer to the IFA handbook)

The Judiciary Board shall consist of Independent Persons appointed by the Management Committee who are not associated with the Association, but are, or have been, associated with the sport.

The board shall meet as required. Meetings will be convened within 2 weeks of receiving the Referee's report.

- a) A player accumulating **4 cautions** (YELLOW CARD) shall serve an automatic one **(1)** match suspension on the next scheduled game following notification by the association secretary by email or phone **by Thursday 5pm** preceding the next scheduled game. If not notified by due time player is available to play next scheduled game and shall serve one match suspension on following scheduled game. **There shall be no appeal against this one (1) match suspension.**
- b) A player sent-off (RED CARD) shall serve an automatic suspension of one (1) game. No notice is required by the management committee on this automatic suspension. **There is no appeal against the automatic match suspensions.**
- c) **Once a player has served the automatic one game suspension the player is then eligible to play again. A player can still be asked to confront the judiciary committee for the offence (see point 2d). If**

a player is given additional games suspension by the judiciary committee for the offence the player is suspended again immediately and must serve the extra suspension handed down by the judiciary committee.

- d) Upon receipt of a referees match report, the Judiciary may impose additional penalties. The club will be advised accordingly and the player will be required to confront the judiciary prior to any additional penalties are imposed.
- e) At the judiciary hearing players shall be entitled to have one (1) club representative in attendance and may call on witnesses to the events on the send off or reported incident.

36. APPEALS.

Since the Association does not have an Appeals Board, but is affiliated to the Illawarra Football Association, any appeal against the Judiciary Board decision or IAFA management committee must be made to the Illawarra Football Association. The Appeal **must include new evidence**, and be accompanied by a **\$200 fee** within 7 days of notification from the IAFA management committee. Legal representation will be incurred at each clubs own cost.

37. Other Associations

- a. This Association will inform the Leisure Coast, B.H.P Interworks and the Illawarra Churches Soccer Associations of a player's suspension.
- b. Any player suspended by the above Association or affiliated association will also be barred from playing in our Association, until the players suspension by that Association is completed.
- c. A Club found playing such a player should be deemed to have

broken Rule 2d.

d. The Player shall also have one(1) extra game added to his suspension

e. It is the Club's responsibility to ensure the player is not suspended

38. Discipline Generally

The Management Committee may investigate any complaint of: -

- a) Any breach of the Constitution and these Rules and Regulations;
- b) Unsporting or unbecoming conduct against any club, member, official, player or coach;
- c) Violence, or threats of violence or intimidation;
- d) Conduct which brings the game into disrepute
- e) Any fines or decisions against clause 38 a,b,c,d can be appealed against by following clause 36 Appeals as stated under Judiciary Policy and Procedure