



AFL BARWON

To be read in conjunction with the 2021 AFL Victoria Country Handbook.
The information contained in this document may be subject to change without notice.
To the knowledge of AFL Barwon Commission all information was accurate as at time of printing.

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AFL BARWON STRATEGIC PLANS

Our Purpose

AFL Barwon is here to support the passion of our stakeholders, through responsible governance and professional leadership, to deliver a thriving competition and sporting community

Our Values

TRANSPARENT & FAIR

ACCESSIBLE & INCLUSIVE

COLLABORATIVE

STRONG & COURAGEOUS

PROGRESSIVE & PROACTIVE

OUR FOCUS AREAS FOR 2021

Return to Play in 2021

All football and netball training and competition to resume in Season 2021 in line with COVID safe procedures

Re-engage and Sustain Participation

Re-engagement of existing participants to mirror the participation numbers of Season 2019

Support our Affiliates

Provide leadership, communication, support and direction to all of our Affiliates to ensure a vibrant and sustainable competition

Support our Staff

Ensure AFL Barwon staff are well resourced and engaged to deliver their key objectives in a flexible manner

Engage with our Partners

Work with our partners to continue to advocate and highlight the value of community football and netball and to continually improve relationships



2021 AFL BARWON CALENDAR

Month/Day	Date	Time	Calendar Event	Venue
January				
Monday	4		AFL Barwon Office Opens	
Tuesday	26		Australia Day Public Holiday - Office Closed	
February				
Monday	1		Football Clearances & Registrations Open	
Mon - Thur	15-18		Educational Week	GMHBA Stadium
Monday	22		Football and Netball Presidents Meeting	GMHBA Stadium
March				
Monday	8		Labour Day - Office Closed	
Mon - Thur	15-18		Operational Week	
Wednesday	17		CDFNL Season Launch	
Monday	22		AFL Barwon Season Launch	
Saturday	27		CDFNL Round 1 - Alvie vs Irrewarra-Beeac	Central Reserve
April				
Friday	2		Good Friday - Office Closed	
Friday	2		Portarlinton vs Newcomb / Torquay vs Ocean Grove	Portarlinton / McCartney Oval
Saturday	3		BFNL Round 1	
Saturday	3		CDFNL Round 1 - Lorne vs Alvie	Stribling Reserve
Sunday	4		Easter Sunday	
Monday	5		Easter Monday Office Closed	
Saturday	10		CDFNL & GDFNL Round 1	
Saturday	10		GFNL Round 1 - St Albans v Colac / St Mary's v Leopold	The Gordon Tafe Oval / Anthony Costa Oval





2021 AFL BARWON CALENDAR

Month/Day	Date	Time	Calendar Event	Venue
Sunday	11		Senior Female Football Round 1	
Monday	12		Senior Team Entry Fees Invoiced (football & netball)	Invoice Date: 12/4/2021
Tuesday	13		Tuesday Night Netball Round 1	Kardinia Park
Friday	16		Friday Night Netball Round 1	Kardinia Park
Fri/Sat/Sun	16/17/18		GFNL, Senior Female, Under 19 & Junior Football Commences	
Sunday	25		ANZAC Day	
May				
Monday	10		Junior Team Entry Fees Invoiced (football & netball)	Invoice Date: 10/5/2021
Monday	31		GFNL & BFNL Netball Presidents Meeting	AFL Barwon
June				
Wednesday	2		GFNL & BFNL Football Presidents Meeting	AFL Barwon
Monday	13		Queens Birthday - Office Closed	TBC
Tuesday	29		Senior Female Coordinators Meeting	AFL Barwon
Tuesday	29		Tuesday Night Netball Bye	TBC
			Love the Game Round	
July				
Friday	2		Friday Night Netball Bye	
Sat & Sun	3 & 4		All Football & Netball Bye	
Tuesday	6		Tuesday Night Netball Bye	
Tuesday	13		AFL Barwon Junior Football Boys & Girls Coordinators Meeting	
July	17/18		Towards Zero Round	





2021 AFL BARWON CALENDAR

Month/Day	Date	Time	Calendar Event	Venue
August				
Sunday	8		Female Football U15, U18 & Senior's Semi Finals	TBC
Tuesday	10		Senior Female Football Vote Counts	Buckley's
Sat & Sun	14 & 15		AFL Barwon Junior Football Semi Finals	TBC
Saturday	14 & 15		BFNL & Div 2 Under 19's Qualifying & Elimination Finals	TBC
Sunday	15		Female Football U15, U18 & Senior's Preliminary Finals	TBC
Wednesday	18		Kempe AFL Barwon Juniors U15 Male, U15 Female & U17 Vote Counts	TBC
Sat & Sun	21 & 22		BFNL & Div 2 Under 19's Semi Finals	TBC
Saturday	21 & 22		AFL Barwon Junior Football U13, U15 & U17 Preliminary Finals	TBC
Sat & Sun	21 & 22		CDFNL Qualifying & Elimination Finals	Central Reserve
Sat & Sun	21 & 22		GDFNL & Div 3 Under 19's Qualifying & Elimination Finals	St Albans
Sunday	22		Female Football U15, U18 & Senior's Grand Finals	TBC
Monday	23		BFNL Presentation Dinner	Buckley's
Friday	27		Friday GJN Grand Finals	Kardinia Park
Saturday	28		BFNL & Div 2 Under 19's Preliminary Finals	TBC
Sat & Sun	28 & 29		AFL Barwon Junior Football U13, U15 & U17 Grand Finals	TBC
Sat & Sun	28 & 29		CDFNL Semi Finals	Central Reserve
Sat & Sun	28 & 29		GDFNL & Div 3 Under 19's Semi Finals	St Albans
Sat & Sun	28 & 29		GFNL & Div 1 Under 19's Qualifying & Elimination Finals	TBC
Monday	30		CDFNL Junior Vote Counts	Colac RSL
Monday	30		Under 19 Male, Under 18 Female Football & 19&U Netball Presentation Night	Buckley's
Tuesday	31		Kempe Junior Netball Presentation Night	TBC





2021 AFL BARWON CALENDAR

Month/Day	Date	Time	Calendar Event	Venue
September				
Wednesday	1		CDFNL Senior Vote Counts	Colac RSL
Saturday	4		BFNL & Div 2 Under 19's Grand Finals	TBC
Saturday	4		GDFNL & Div 3 Under 19's Preliminary Finals	St Albans
Saturday	4		CDFNL Preliminary Finals	Central Reserve
Sat & Sun	4 & 5		GFNL & Div 1 Under 19's Semi Finals	TBC
Wednesday	8		GFNL Presentation Dinner	Buckley's
Saturday	11		GDFNL & Div 3 Under 19's Grand Finals	St Albans
Saturday	11		CDFNL Grand Finals	Central Reserve
Saturday	11		GFNL & Div 1 Under 19's Preliminary Finals	TBC
Saturday	18		GFNL & Div 1 Under 19's Grand Finals	Kardinia Park
Friday	24		AFL Grand Final Public Holiday	
Saturday	25		AFL Grand Final	MCG
October				
Tuesday	12		GFNL & BFNL Football Presidents Meeting	
Wednesday	13		GFNL & BFNL Netball Presidents Meeting	
November				
Sunday	1		2022 Football Clearances & Registrations Open	
Wednesday	17	6.30pm	CDFNL Annual General Meeting	Central Reserve
Wednesday	24	6.30pm	GFNL Annual General Meeting	Buckley's
Wednesday	24	6.30pm	BFNL Annual General Meeting	Buckley's
Wednesday	24	7.00pm	AFL Barwon Annual General Meeting	Buckley's





ADMINISTRATION CONTACTS

AFL BARWON ADMINISTRATION

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Facebook: AFL Barwon
Instagram: @aflbarwon
Twitter: @aflbarwon

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Admin/Accounts Manager

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Netball Umpiring Coordinator

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ADMINISTRATION CONTACTS

AFL BARWON COMMISSIONERS

Chairman

Craig Keating

Commissioners

Bob Hallett

David Milsome

Ian McTaggart

Michelle Gerdtz

Nicola Wojcik

Pip Jankowski

Richard Underwood

RELATED CONTACTS

AFL Victoria

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AFL Victoria SportsTG Assistance

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COLAC & DISTRICT FOOTBALL

NETBALL LEAGUE

President

Peter Hickey

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GEELONG & DISTRICT FOOTBALL

NETBALL LEAGUE

President

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GEELONG FALCONS

Regional Talent Operations Lead

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Head Coach

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NETBALL VICTORIA

Netball Participation Coordinator

Maddie Okely

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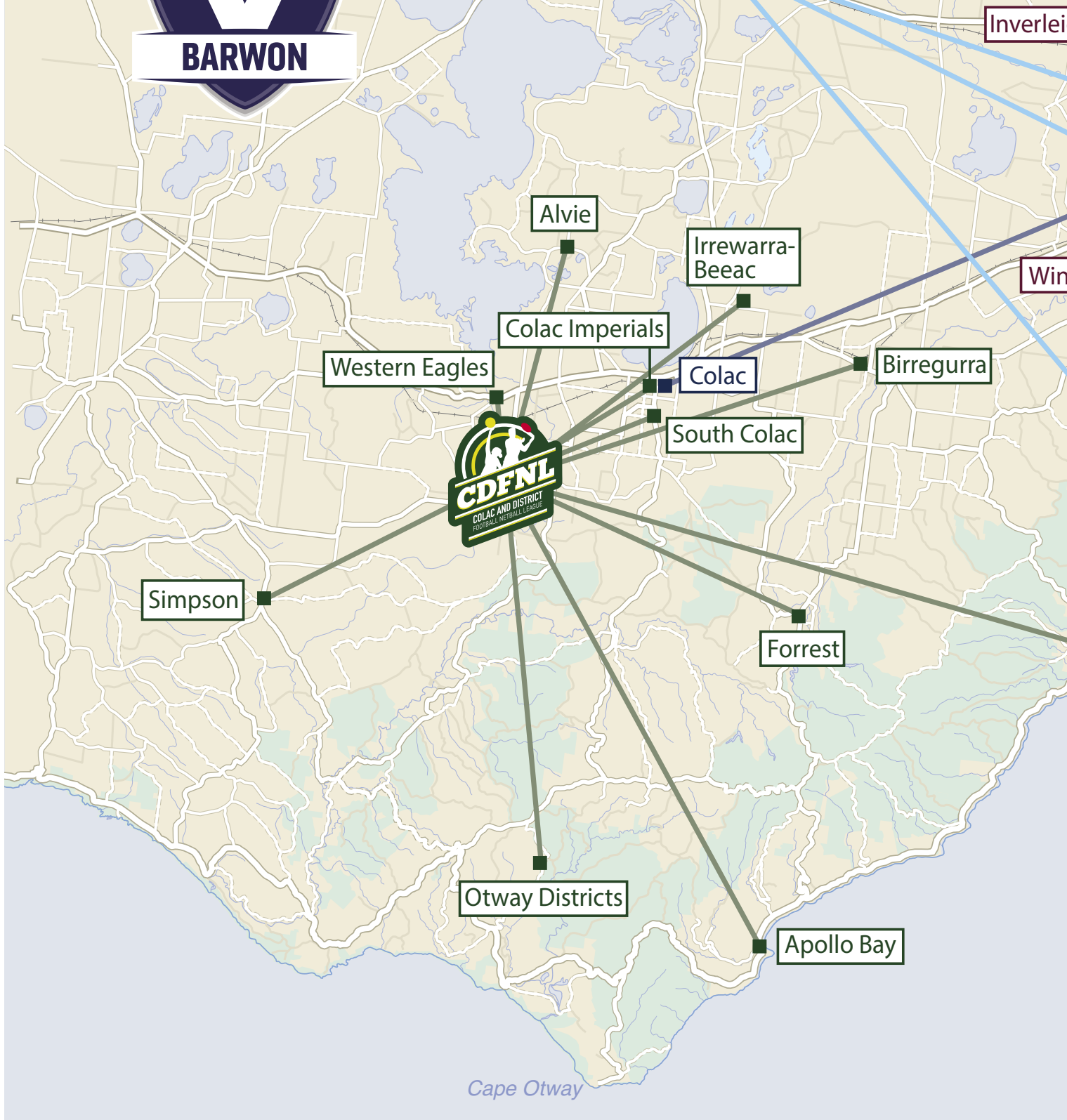
Email: maddie.okely@netballvic.com.au

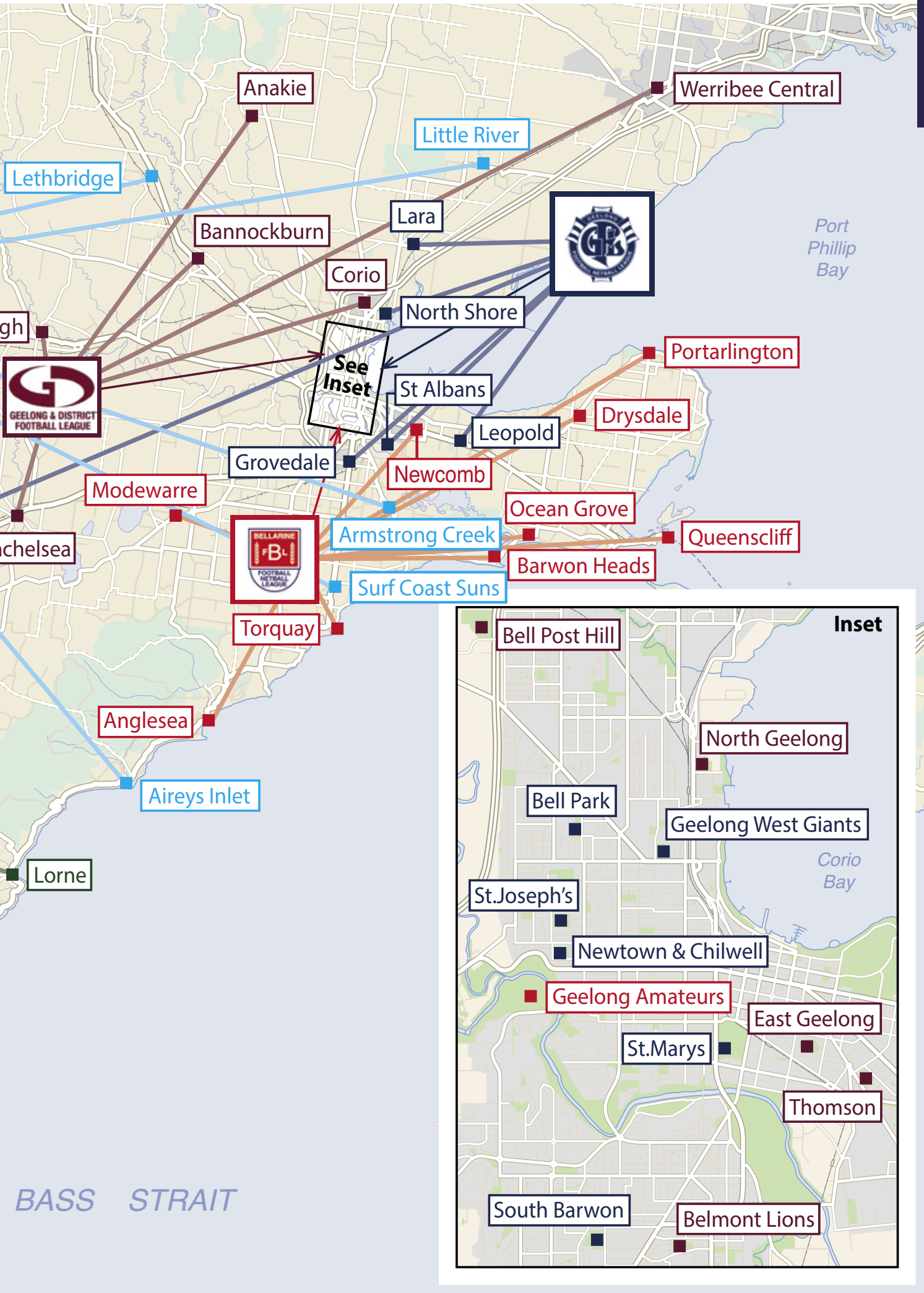


WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country AFL BARWON



Junior Only Clubs





BASS STRAIT

Port Phillip Bay

Corio Bay

Inset



FOOTBALL & NETBALL BY LAWS

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Preamble

These Rules take precedence over, but must be read in conjunction with

- **Laws of Australian Football**
- **AFL Vic Country Rules and Regulations**
- **Official Netball Rules as set down by Netball Australia**

1. Definitions And Interpretation

In these By-Laws unless the contrary intention appears:

“BFNL” means Bellarine Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “BFNL” or “the Bellarine Football & Netball League”.

“Commission” means the Commission of AFL Barwon.

“GFNL” means Geelong Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “GFNL” or “the Geelong Football & Netball League”.

“GDFL” means Geelong & District Football League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “GDFL” or “the Geelong & District Football League”.

“AFLBJ” means AFL Barwon Junior Football. In these rules referred to as “AFLBJ” Male or “AFLBJ” Female or “AFL Barwon Junior Football”.

“C.O.G.G.” means City Of Greater Geelong

“RGM” means AFL Barwon Regional General Manager

“FDM” means AFL Victoria Football Development Manager

“Laws of Australian Football” means the laws of the game of Australian Football adopted by the Australian Football League as modified for the League

“League” means BFNL or GFNL.

The appendices and schedules attached should be read in conjunction with and form part of the By-Laws of the GFNL & BFNL.

2 Club Affiliation

2.1 Affiliation

Each Club shall affiliate with AFL Barwon by signing an Affiliation and Agreement Form and submit the Affiliation and Agreement Form to AFL Barwon for both Football & Netball Sections.

2.2 Annual Affiliation Fee

Each Affiliated Club shall pay an annual affiliation fee of the sum prescribed by the Commission from time to time and payable in accordance with AFL Barwon invoicing provisions.

2.3 Player registration:

Football:

Every senior player must be registered with the BFNL or GFNL.

Netball:

Netball Victoria Membership: Players, coaches & umpires must be registered with Netball Victoria before taking the court or prior to commencing participation. Players must register themselves on the AFL Barwon MyNetball database prior to taking the court.

Registrations close on 30th June in line with clearances.

2.3.1 Relevant Fees:

	Senior Football	Junior Football	Senior Netball	
	inc. Reserves & U19 Male	U9-U18F	Saturday Competitions	AFL Barwon Junior Teams (Tues & Fri)
Team Fee	\$3500 - Male (\$2700 if no U19)	U13-U18F \$450	A & B Grade \$1425 (inc. umpire fees)	\$600 (inc. umpire fees)
	\$1000 - Female	U9-U12 \$250	U13&U - C Grade \$300	
	\$800 additional team e.g. second senior female, U19 team or standalone U19 team			
PLAYER (MyNetball Payment)			19&U-Sen: \$10	\$5

AFL Victoria – National Risk Protection Program: - Fee Structure

	Public & Products Liability/Club Management Liability (per club)	Asset Protect – Contents Insurance (per club)	Personal Accident (per senior team)	Personal Accident (per junior team)	Example (Club with 2 senior and 4 junior teams)
2020/2021	\$750	\$255	\$1,194	\$133.49	\$3,927

2.4 Definition of “Club”

For the purpose of this By Law the term “Club” (Incorporated Body) means any and all sections of the Club including Senior Male and Female Football, Junior Male and Female Football and all Netball sections irrespective of how they are managed internally by the Club including arrangements whereby the various sections are run by subcommittees with separate bank accounts or are separate incorporated bodies playing as that Club.

2.5 Payment of accounts

Each affiliated AFL Barwon Club must pay all outstanding tax invoices to AFL Barwon as determined by the Commission

All monies due to be paid to AFL Barwon by Affiliated Clubs (Football and Netball sections) shall be payable in full no later than Thirty (30) days after the date of the invoice issued by AFL Barwon.

2.6 Clubs in default of payments

AFL Barwon's Payments Default Policy

Failure to meet payment of any Invoice within specified 30-day time limit stated on the Invoice will result in that Club being subject to the following process.

2.6.1

If the payment of any Invoice has not been made within the time limit stated on the Invoice, a reminder statement will be sent to the Club Treasurer and President of both football and netball sections of the Club as applicable.

2.6.2

If the full amount of the statement has not been paid within 60 days of the date of the original Invoice, the Club will be penalised with a reduction of two (2) Total Team Player Points per game for the first offence (ie period of no payment) applicable to:

- Senior Male Football
- Senior Female Football and
- A Grade Netball

If the Invoice is still not paid within the next 10 days (and each subsequent 10-day period) the Club will be subject to a further one (1) Total Team Player point penalty per game for each 10-day period.

2.6.3

If the Club breaches this Payment Default Policy again in any season the penalty will be three (3) Total Team Player Points per game for each subsequent offence.

2.6.4

If the 60-day time frame expires without payment during the Finals series either of the Clubs team Senior Football (including Female Football) or A Grade Netball teams eligible to play in the finals will be subject to a reduction of two (2) Total Team Player Points per game.

2.6.5

All outstanding Invoices must be paid in full on or before 30 October each year.

2.6.6

Penalty for not meeting commitment in 2.6.5 above may include:

- Reduction of Club Allowable Player Payments (salary cap) for Senior Male Football equal to DOUBLE the value of the debt owed to AFL Barwon and A Grade Netball an equivalent percentage relative to the value of the Netball Allowable Player Payments for the whole of the next season.
- Reduction of Player Total Team Points for Senior Male Football, Senior Female Football and A Grade Netball for the following season.

2.7 Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional circumstances agreed to by the AFL Barwon Commission acceptable alternative arrangements may be entered into by a Club with the RGM.

- Where a member club cannot meet their financial responsibilities to AFL Barwon within their 30 days trading terms, the Club must make a formal written submission to AFL Barwon setting out all relevant particulars as to why the non-payment of their outstanding debts to AFL Barwon constitute exceptional circumstances.'
- The Club must also submit a payment proposal for full satisfaction of their outstanding debts within 60 days for consideration by the AFL Barwon Commission for their approval or rejection.
- Approved payment proposals are to be monitored by the RGM.

2.8 Disputed Invoices

Any dispute must be finalised within payment date period of the original Invoice (i.e., 30 days) through negotiation with the RGM. In such instances payment of original or negotiated amount must still be made within period indicated on original invoice.

3 Club Annual Meetings and Annual Reports

3.1 Club Annual Meetings

All affiliated Clubs must hold their annual meeting no later than 30 November unless the Commission gives approval. Penalty: \$100.

3.2 Club Annual Reports

Affiliated Clubs must submit to AFL Barwon a copy of their Annual Report including audited financial reports showing Profit and Loss Statements, Balance Sheet, and the AFL Barwon standard chart of accounts for the previous year within 14 days of the conduct of the Annual General Meeting. Penalty: \$500

4 Club Office Bearers

Within 14 days of a club's AGM, all senior affiliated clubs must lodge with the league (on the form provided from time to time), a list of all club office bearers for the ensuing year.

By January 31st, all affiliated clubs must lodge with the league (on the form provided from time to time), a list of all Junior club office bearers for the ensuing year.

Penalty: \$100

5 AFL Barwon Commission

The affairs of AFL Barwon shall be managed by the AFL Barwon Commission.

The Commission, in addition to any specific powers in these By laws and Competition Rules: Shall, subject to these rules, have power to perform all such acts and things as appear to the commission to be necessary for the proper management of the business and affairs of the leagues.

5.1

Shall have power to discipline, fine, suspend or expel members, officials of member clubs or registered players in such manner as is deemed by the commission as appropriate. And shall deal with at their absolute discretion

Any matter coming to its knowledge which it considers may not be in the best interests of the Leagues;
Any matter referred to it by the tribunal or any sub-committee

5.2

The Commission may make, amend, substitute, or cancel such By Laws as the Commission considers necessary for the Leagues to implement from time to time.

6 Rules Committee & Sub Committees

6.1 Appointment

An AFL Barwon Rules Committee shall be formed at the discretion of the Commission.

The Rules Committee will investigate required amendments to the rules and provide interpretations and application of the rules in the event of disputes over the rules.

AFL Barwon shall appoint relevant sub-committees to assist the Operations Staff throughout the season if required.

6.2 Alteration to By-Laws and Competition Rules

The Competition Rules and By-Laws may be amended by the Commission from time to time pursuant to the Rules and advised to affiliated Clubs.

6.3 Fines for breach of By-Laws and Competition Rules

Fines may be imposed by the Commission or RGM or his/her deputy for non-compliance with or violation of these by-laws.

(a) at the rates specified in the By Laws and or Competition Rules; or

(b) if no rate is specified in the By Laws and or Competition Rules, at the rate determined by the Commission or RGM.

6.4 AFL Victoria Community Club Sustainability Program Policy (Football)

It is a condition of the Club's Affiliation Agreement with AFL Barwon and their League that all AFL Barwon Clubs will comply in full with the AFL Victoria Player Points System (PPS) and Player Payment Rules & Guidelines (PPR) Policies.

Application of all Points assessments and consideration of club requests will be the responsibility of the Player Points Panel (PPP) who will use the AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws to guide their determinations.

Penalties will be determined as deemed appropriate by the AFL Barwon Commission as outlined in the AFL Victoria PPR, and may include but are not limited to;

- Club fines
- Loss of premiership points – current season and in the future
- Suspended from finals – current season and in the future
- Player / Official suspensions

7 Independent Regional Tribunal

7.1.1 Appointment

The Commission shall annually appoint an Independent Regional Tribunal panel in accordance with AFL Vic Country Rule 7 consisting of up to twenty persons, three of whom will comprise anyone sitting.

Such persons will not be directly associated with any Club in the Leagues but will be thoroughly conversant with the rules of the game and the Leagues and, in the opinion of the Commission, will be thoroughly capable of handling any cases or disputes which may be put before them.

This Independent Tribunal will deal with players and officials reported in accordance with the Laws of the Game, Rules of AFL Vic Country, INF Rules of Netball, the GDFL and AFL Barwon. They may also sit in judgment on any football or netball issue or matters for AFL Barwon at the direction of the Commission within its jurisdiction.

They are to meet when occasion demands, and their decision is to be final and binding. All divisions affiliated with AFL Barwon and the GDFL will come under the jurisdiction of the Independent Regional Tribunal.

7.1.2 Chairman of Independent Tribunal

The AFL Barwon Commission shall appoint the Chairperson of the Independent Tribunal.

7.2 Club Advocates

A Club advocate shall accompany any player attending the Independent Tribunal.

Penalty: \$100

Advocates must have attended the recognised AFL Barwon Advocate's Training session within the previous 36 months and are not permitted to be a member of the Legal profession.

Penalty: \$500 and the hearing will be adjourned to a later date.

7.3 Attendance at Tribunal hearings

7.3.1

Players or officials charged with an offence must attend the Independent Tribunal Meeting. If necessary, the Meeting will be adjourned and the player or official penalised until attendance is confirmed. Club Secretaries (unless an alternate club official is notified to AFL Barwon at the commencement of the season) will be contacted with dates and times of Tribunal hearings.

7.3.2

Players or officials as witnesses, who are personally unable to attend the tribunal hearing for business or schooling reasons only, can submit a Statement to the tribunal, outlining reasons for non-attendance, their impressions of the circumstances or events relating to the report. The statement must include a telephone contact number that the witness will be available on and contactable at the scheduled time of the tribunal hearing. Failure to supply contact number or be available may render the witness liable to punishment.

Submission of such statement must be approved by the RGM or deputy and be provided to AFL Barwon offices no later than 12 noon on the day of the tribunal hearing.

7.4 Hearings – Reported Players

In normal circumstances the AFL Barwon Regional Tribunal will meet when required on Tuesday nights commencing at 6.30pm but may schedule at other times or on other nights as deemed necessary by the AFL Barwon Operations Manager.

If more than one case is scheduled, they will be heard in the order determined by the Tribunal Secretary, allowing approximately 45 minutes for each case. Should there be more than 3 cases to be

heard on the one night a second Tribunal will be convened with a separate panel. The schedule of all cases will be published on the AFL Barwon Website.

If a player is found guilty of an offence that was referred to the tribunal by any other party (the reporting umpire, offended player, the league), their club will be levied \$100.

7.5 Video Evidence

Where video evidence is available from the AFL Barwon authorized media outlet video production team, this evidence WILL be made available to the Tribunal to be viewed as required.

Where a Club wishes to tender a Club or non-authorized video as evidence in a case, the Club must notify AFL Barwon no later than 10am and such video must be delivered to AFL Barwon no later than Noon on the scheduled day of the tribunal hearing.

7.6 Power to report GFUL

The AFL Barwon Umpire panel as nominated to the AFL Barwon Commission, and any AFL Barwon Commissioner will have the power to report players if deemed necessary.

7.7 Reporting of Players

7.7.1

A current year's official report pad/sheet is to be made available to the umpires at the beginning of the day and left there for the duration of the day's games (including Junior games).

Penalty \$100

7.7.2

If a report is made, a copy of the report must be provided electronically by the home club to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager, no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. Information required: Reported player & club, Offended player & club (if applicable), Reporting umpire, alleged offence, if a tribunal is required. If electronic hardware is not available, or not functioning, this information must be conveyed directly to the Operations Manager in the same time frame by mobile: 0438 416 774. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope regardless of whether a set sanction has been accepted or not.

Penalty \$100

7.8 Set Sanctions (Football)

Note the following variation to AFL Vic Country Rule 12.2

If after the game the reporting umpire doesn't indicate on the player report sheet that the offence warrants a tribunal hearing, the offending player can defer his decision or choose to accept the prescribed penalty by signing the player report sheet in the space provided. The reporting umpire, the offending player and the offended player's club secretary all have until 10.00am the first working day following the incident at the latest to inform the league that they wish the matter to be heard by a tribunal. If one party initially chooses the set sanction, they can change their decision within the time frame.

If there is no official indication within the designated timeframe that a tribunal is required, the relevant set sanction will be applied.

Players and/or team managers from both teams must sign the Player Report to acknowledge receipt of the form from the umpires.

Notifications regarding this section of the rule must be made to the Tribunal Secretary or nominated representative.

7.9 Match Review Panel (MRP)

Umpires may request a review of an incident during a period of the match (Senior Football Matches only) when giving 'all clear'. Both Clubs should be shown a copy of the request at this time. Clubs may also make an official request to review specific incident/s of concern to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager by 10am the first working day after the match. The AFL Barwon MRP will view the relevant footage, and if deemed appropriate may lay a charge to be heard by the Independent Regional Tribunal or recommend a set penalty. MRP procedures are outlined in AFL Barwon Procedures as distributed to all clubs.

The MRP will also assess all reports Monday as received throughout the weekend and have the power to impose or amend penalties as they deem appropriate. This will include involvement in melees (if captured on vision). The MRP will have a "Grading of Offences" table and a "Melee Matrix" available as a guide when deliberating on relevant penalties, with the aim to create more consistency. The charged player may challenge the imposed set penalty at tribunal. If a guilty plea is entered, the sanction to be applied will be at the discretion of the Tribunal Panel, but if a not guilty plea is made and the player is found guilty by the tribunal panel he or she will receive a penalty that is at a minimum that which was originally offered, and the club will be levied \$150. If a set penalty is applied or amended by the MRP, the charged player will have until 10.00am on the following day to request the charge be heard at tribunal or the set penalty will apply as offered.

8 Investigation Officer

An Investigation Officer will be appointed by AFL Vic Country from its panel of Investigation Officers to investigate any matter referred to him pursuant to AFL Vic Country Rule 5.2 (Unbecoming conduct).

9 Unbecoming Conduct

9.1

AFL Barwon Commission members or staff, Club members, Players or Umpires who allege that a player or an official of a Club has been guilty of conduct which is unbecoming to a Player or an Official of a Club or which is likely to bring the game of football or netball into disrepute may lodge with the League a notice in writing setting out the particulars of the allegation within 5 days.

A notice under this paragraph must be lodged with the Operations Manager within five days after the date of the act or omission to which it relates unless the Commission agrees to extend this period to a maximum of 30 days. An extension agreed to by the Commission may be for such period and subject to such conditions as the Commission thinks fit. Such investigation shall be completed within 21 days of the matter being referred to the Investigation Officer, unless, at the completion of the 21 days, the League at the request of the Investigation Officer then grants an extension of time up to a maximum of 10 days.

A Deposit of \$500 from a club requesting an investigation shall accompany the notice, which shall be forfeited in whole or part if the Investigation Officer or Independent Tribunal consider it frivolous.

If no charge is laid or is laid but found not guilty at tribunal; the club who requested the investigation will forfeit a minimum of \$300 to pay for the investigation.

If a charge is laid and player found guilty at tribunal, the club who requested the investigation will have their \$500 refunded, and the charged player's club will pay the \$300 for the investigation + the relevant levy for being found guilty at tribunal.

9.2

Notice of any allegation received under By-Law 8.1 shall be referred to the Investigation Officer for investigation. The Investigation Officer may investigate the allegation as he sees fit.

9.2.1

Within 2 days of receiving the official request for an investigation, the league is required to provide all parties notification of the investigation outlining details of the incident or matter for investigation.

9.3

If the Investigation Officer, after investigation of the allegation, is of the opinion that the Player or Official in question may have been guilty of conduct unbecoming to a Player or an Official of a Club or is likely to bring the game of football or netball into disrepute and that the allegation ought to be dealt with by the League Independent Tribunal as hereinafter provided, he may lodge with the League a notice in writing setting out details of the allegation.

9.4

If a notice is lodged with the League under By-Law 9.3, the Operations Manager or his delegate shall fix a date, time and place for a hearing of the allegation before the League Independent Tribunal, being a date not later than 9 working days after lodgement of the notice and shall advise the Player or Official in question of those particulars and forward to the Player or Official direct or care of the Club Secretary in question a copy of the notice lodged under By-Law 9.3

9.5

The League Independent Tribunal may regulate any proceedings brought before it under this Rule as it thinks fit, but in any such proceedings, the Player or Official against whom the allegation has been made and his advocate shall be entitled to appear before the League Independent Tribunal.

9.6

In any proceeding brought before a tribunal under this rule the Investigation Officer shall personally appear before it and lay any necessary charge or charges and may act as the prosecuting officer for the League.

9.7

If the League Independent Tribunal decides that the Player or Official in question has been guilty of conduct which, in the opinion of the League Independent Tribunal, is unbecoming to a Player or Official of a Club or which is likely to bring the game of football or netball into disrepute, it may make such orders and give such directions in the manner as it thinks fit.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the League Independent Tribunal may:

- (a) impose a fine of such amount as it thinks fit on the Player or Official in question; or,
- (b) may disqualify the Player or Official in question for such period as it thinks fit.

9.8

The decision of the League Independent Tribunal in respect of any allegation brought before it under this Rule shall be final and binding on all parties.

10 Player transfers and Appeals

10.1 Player transfers - Football

Player transfers are conducted under the current AFL Vic Country Rules.

All player transfers will be conducted using the AFL Vic Country approved electronic data base system.

The AFL Barwon Clearance Secretary will not endorse player transfers over the telephone.

10.2 Appeals against refused Transfer

All appeals against refused player transfers are handled under AFL Vic Country rules by the FDMs.

10.3 Player Clearances/transfers – Netball

A clearance is required if a senior or junior player wishes to transfer to another Club within AFL Barwon if the player has competed for a AFL Barwon Club in the previous AFL Barwon Football Netball Season.

10.3.1

Any player requiring a clearance must complete a current clearance application form.

10.3.2

Players must arrange for their new club to request a clearance online through the MyNetball Database.

10.3.3

No player will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season.

10.3.4

Players are ineligible to play for a club in each of the GFNL and BFNL leagues in the one season subject to normal clearance rules contained herein.

Penalty for breaching any part of rule 10.3 – 10.7: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team.

Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

Penalty \$100

11 Team Lists

11.1.1

All senior Affiliated Clubs shall forward to the League at least 10 days prior to the commencement of the first competition match in each season, one list for “Senior and Reserve” grades and one list for Under 19 grade accurately stating all the club registered players’ first name, surname and jumper numbers for inclusion in the AFL Barwon “Team App” for the first game.

Penalty: Post Round 4 in each competition - \$30 per name.

11.1.2

All senior Affiliated Clubs shall forward to the League, no later than 9.30am each Tuesday prior to the next round of the fixture, any changes of player names and numbers for “Senior and Reserve” grades or “Under 19” grades team lists for inclusion in the AFL Barwon “Team App” for the first game.

11.1.3

Team Lists for finals fixtures must be separated to reflect ‘Seniors’ ‘Reserves’ ‘Under 19s with a recommended maximum number of 30 players on each list.

12 Correspondence

The RGM must be advised, and provided with a copy, of any relevant correspondence with the AFL Barwon Umpires, AFL Vic Country, Netball Victoria or other Leagues.

12.1

All correspondence from the Club must be from the Club President, Secretary, or authorised person to the Relevant Staff member at AFL Barwon.

12.2

All correspondence from AFL Barwon will be addressed to the Club President, Secretary, Junior Co-ordinator or authorised person.

13 Unauthorised Media Statements

No club shall permit any of its officers or members to make any statement to the media (including social media, radio, television, and all newspapers) in connection with any policies or acts of the Commission, Independent Tribunal, Under 19s Committee, or in relation to any other club without the prior approval of the RGM (or his nominee). To do so shall render the club and/or the offending member concerned liable to:

- (a) a fine for any breach at the discretion of the Commission;
- (b) suspension;
- (c) expulsion from the League in accordance with the Rules of the Association

14 Competition and Fixtures

14.1 Fixture

The Commission shall be responsible for the organisation of matches in all competitions by preparing fixtures for each team in each Division for each season. The Commission may amend a fixture as required.

14.1.1 Night or Twilight Matches

All clubs are obliged to play in any scheduled Night or Twilight Match as deemed appropriate by the Commission

14.2 Home and Away Rounds:

The league shall conduct a series of 18 (or such number as the Commission shall from time to time determine) home and away matches for all affiliated Football & Netball Competitions.

Re-grading for all Junior Netball competitions may only occur at the conclusion of round 4 of the season by AFL Barwon. In cases of re-grading a team will 'carry' its premiership points (if any) to the higher or lower grade but not its percentage.

All Clubs must field teams in Senior & Reserve football Grades, and all Netball Grades from "A" Grade down.

14.3 Failure to fill an engagement:

Football

- (a) A fine of up to \$2,000 may be imposed on Clubs who withdraw a team from any obligatory competition section. All that Club's teams may be disqualified from the League's competition for that season by resolution of the Commission.

- (b)** Any Club forfeiting a match in any section of the League during the season will be subject to a penalty fine relevant to the circumstances as below and shall be liable for the cost of umpires scheduled for that match.
 - I.** On the day or night before the scheduled match \$500 & pay for umpires.
 - II.** Two days prior to the scheduled match \$300 & pay for umpires.
 - III.** More than two days' notice prior to the scheduled match \$100, doubled for repeat forfeit.
 - IV.** More than two forfeits the team withdrawn and \$300 fine.
- (c)** In the event of a Club failing to field a team or part thereof within half an hour of the arranged starting time of a match, the opposing Club may claim the match. The Commission shall investigate the circumstances and may apply provisions or By-Law 15.3 - Forfeit Calculations

Netball:

- (a)** A fine of \$200.00 per team may be imposed on Clubs who withdraw a team from any obligatory competition section.
- (b)** Should a Club be unable to field a team in any of these sections, a letter requesting exemption from ANY Grade must be sent to AFL Barwon as soon as possible. AFL Barwon will then assess the request.

14.4 Fixture Alterations - Football

Clubs desiring to conduct Senior, Reserve or Under 19s grade matches on a day or time other than that published by the league in the official fixture may do so providing the following requirements have been satisfied:

- (i)** that all appropriate licences and permissions to conduct the game have been received and copies forwarded to the League Office prior to the game;
- (ii)** that both participating clubs agree with the details of the proposed alteration;
- (iii)** that 14 days' notice in writing requesting approval from the League that the fixture be altered is forwarded to the League office from each club;

Netball:

- (i)** Starting times of Home and Away matches can only be changed, with consent of both teams, AFTER seeking and receiving approval from the AFL Barwon Netball Manager. If approval is not given, times are to be adhered to.
- (ii)** Requests for a re-scheduled match must be e-mailed to the AFL Barwon Netball Manager at least 14 days prior to the original match date. Requests within 14 days of the original match date will not be considered.
- (iii)** Both Club Presidents/Directors must be in agreeance with the request for rescheduling before submitting the request to AFL Barwon. Such request is to include the proposed venue for the match – either outdoor or indoor. Upon approval from AFL Barwon a match can be changed in accordance with the advised decision.
- (iv)** The AFL Barwon Umpire Co-ordinator must be advised immediately of rescheduled 'A' or 'B' grade matches.

15 Under 19s Competitions

15.1 Teams

15.1.1

Clubs with one team entered must have at least 14 Under 19s players registered 14 days prior to first scheduled round to allow the fixture to be completed.

15.1.2

Clubs wishing to enter a 2nd Under 19s Team, must have a minimum of 40 players registered as at the end of the grading rounds.

15.1.3

Clubs wishing to enter a 3rd Under 19s Team, must have a minimum of 70 suitably aged, registered players at their club, at least 2 weeks prior to the commencement of the relevant season.

Note: These 70 players must comprise only existing players currently registered to your club, new players who have transferred from competitions other than GFNL, BFNL, GDFL or AFLBJ or those who haven't played in the region for a minimum of 12 months.

Existing Forfeit Rules will apply, and Penalties will be enforced.

15.2 Age Qualification

The qualifying age date must be under 19 years of age on the 31st December of the previous year. For season 2021, players must have been born on or after 1st January 2002.

Initial placement of Teams will be determined by the Grading Committee.

Requests for Overage Permits will only be considered for any Underage Competitions according to the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy as deemed appropriate by the AFL Barwon Permits Panel.

15.3 Grading

15.3.1

Regrading will take place after the first 4 rounds, with the Divisions then set for the rest of the season at the discretion of the Committee.

15.3.2

Percentage from the first 4 Grading Rounds will not be retained, and points in those first 4 rounds will be halved. (ie 2 points for a win and 1 point for a draw)

15.4 Sponsor Badging

“Senior” League sponsor’s badges will be retained on jumpers regardless of the division in which the team is participating. (See AFL Barwon Style Guide)

15.5 Fixturing

Fixturing will be such that on every possible occasion, Teams will precede their Club Reserve and Senior Grade Teams at their Home venue and where possible when they are playing away from Home.

15.6 Finals

Finals will be fixtured in conjunction with the 3 Senior League Finals Series, relative to the participants’ Senior League where possible. To ensure maximized alignment with senior clubs, this will be determined at season’s end and reviewed on a weekly basis throughout the respective finals series.

15.7 Player Transfers

If clubs are reluctant to allow an eligible Under 19s player to be transferred out of the club due to the impact directly impeding the club's chances to field a team, the Under 19s Committee will assess their position, allow the club to negotiate with the player and where appropriate may deny the transfer application

16. Ladders

16.1 Point Allocation

- (a) In the home and away matches, four points will be allotted for a win or a bye, four points for a team in whose favor a forfeit or walkover is ruled, two points for a draw and zero points for a loss. Where an affiliated Senior Club deemed to be not financial competes in a home and away match, four points will be awarded to the opposition club.
- (b) The League shall prepare a weekly ladder for each Division/Grade and in addition to awarding points for each win, forfeit, walkover, draw or loss it shall also prepare a percentage table comparing the total points scored by each team against the total points scored against each team and in the event that selection for the finals series is between teams with the same number of points, the team with the highest percentage points will be entitled to participate in the finals series ahead of a team with lower percentage points. All decisions of the League in respect of the calculation of the points and percentages shall be final and binding.

16.2 Scores Used to Calculate

Football:

The scores used by the League to calculate the points and percentages for each individual ladder shall be based upon the scores contained in the goal umpires cards. Should these scores disagree; the timekeeping cards may be used as the basis for calculating points and percentages in accordance with Rule 12.7 of "Laws of the Game of Football" as published in the AFL Vic Country Handbook each year.

Netball:

The scores used by the League to calculate the points and percentages for each individual ladder shall be based upon the scores entered by the authorized club representative in the MyNetball System from the official Netball scoresheets signed by the umpires, scorers and captains at the end of each match.

16.3 Forfeit Calculations

Football

Will be determined by the AFL Barwon Operations Manager in accordance with AFL Victoria Country Rule 21, and in conjunction with Laws of Australian Football 10.7.

Netball:

If a team forfeits a match, the Club must notify the AFL Barwon Netball Manager in writing by 5.00pm the day prior to the match.

Penalty: 30 - nil score line awarded to the non-offending team.

- 'A' Grade: \$100 fine**
- 'B' Grade: \$80 fine**
- 'C' Grade: \$60 fine**
- 'D' Grade: \$40 fine**
- 'E' Grade: \$40 fine**
- 19U Grade: \$40 fine**
- Juniors: \$40 fine**

- (a)** In the event of a match-day forfeit, the penalties outlined above will be doubled.
- (b)** Qualifications will be awarded to the non-offending team entered on the database. 28 quarters will be allocated across the players at coaches instruction. If teams are not entered on the database by the time set by the league at the commencement of the season, qualification quarters will not be awarded.

16.4 Non-Completion of Matches

- (a)** Failure by any club to play an arranged match as set out in the fixture of the League from time to time shall render the club liable to a Fine for breach to be fixed by the RGM unless a satisfactory reason is received by 5.00 p.m. on the Monday following the failure to play the arranged match.
- (b)** If any match which has been started and cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the affiliated Senior or affiliated Junior Club or Clubs, or where a match has been cancelled at the direction of the officiating umpire, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (i)** Subject to clause (iii) below, if a game is concluded prior to half time and the match cannot proceed within the scheduled time, the teams shall depart the arena and the match will be declared a draw. Each team will be awarded two premiership points and the scores of the teams at the time the match was interrupted would be used to calculate the percentages.
 - (ii)** Subject to clause (iii) below, if a game has progressed beyond half time and is unable to proceed with the scheduled time for the match, the teams will depart the arena and the scores of the clubs at the time the match was interrupted shall be deemed to be final scores of the match and shall be used to calculate percentages.
The team with the highest score will be declared the winner and awarded four premiership points.
 - (iii)** If a match has been started and cannot be completed within the time scheduled for reasons within the control of any club, such club will be dealt with by the Commission at its absolute discretion in any way it sees fit.

17 Finals

17.1 Finals Arrangements

17.1.1

On completion of the home and away matches, the Affiliated Clubs gaining positions one to five on the premiership lists of each of the Senior, Reserves and Under 19s Div 1 – 3 Football grades and all GFNL Netball Competitions shall form the Final Five, except where altered by the Commission, and shall compete to determine the premiership under the system adopted by the Commission. All BFNL

Netball Competitions and The Under 19s Division 4 grade will conduct a Final Four series unless otherwise determined at the commencement of the season by the Commission. All decisions of the League in respect of the calculation of the points and percentages shall be final and binding.

17.1.2

All finals matches shall be played at venues to be decided by the Commission.

17.2 Fixtures and venues

The Commission shall exercise full control in relation to the arrangement of the times and places of the playing of all finals matches.

17.3 Entrance Fees

The Commission shall be responsible for the fixing and collection of all entrance fees at all finals series matches. The Commission may delegate its authority for the collection of entrance fees from time to time.

17.4 Finals Uniforms: Football

- (a)** The team placed highest on the ladder prior to the commencement of the finals series shall wear their registered guernsey and home shorts unless this is varied by the Commission. After the Elimination and Qualifying games, the first team to proceed to the next round will be considered the home team.
- (b)** The team placed highest on the ladder prior to the commencement of the finals series shall use the home team rooms and Coach's box unless this is varied by the League or its appointee. After the Elimination and Qualifying games, the first team to proceed to the next round will be considered the home team.

18 Ground Inspections

18.1

All clubs in C.O.G.G. who have home games are expected to complete the standard C.O.G.G. Ground Inspection Form on the Tuesday night prior to the game. Forms do not need to be forwarded to COGG if no issues have been identified.

18.2

For both home and away and finals matches, the Commission retains the right to take whatever action is deemed necessary to address any issue arising from the ground inspection report, including but not limited to; moving the game to another venue, cancelling the game or re-scheduling the game to another day or time.

18.3

On the day of any official senior, reserve, or Under 19s match arranged by AFL Barwon, a designated representative from each participating team must make a full inspection of the ground on which the match will be played prior to the match commencing. The representative shall complete the official Match Day Checklist (as provided each year by AFL Vic Country and their Insurer)

18.4

If the same Clubs are competing in all games on the same day at the same venue only one check is required, if more than two Clubs are competing on the same day at the venue then separate checks are to be completed by the Clubs competing in that match.

19 Interleague Matches – Football & Netball**19.1**

The Commission may select any players registered with the League from time to time to participate in inter-league matches to represent the Commission.

19.2

Any player selected to participate in inter-league matches must play for the Commission and any failure to do so shall be dealt with by the Commission as it sees fit.

19.3

In all cases under 18.2 of this Rule it shall be sufficient to answer:

- (a)** That the RGM received from the player not less than two clear days before the date of the match a written explanation of his inability to play satisfactory to the Commission.
- (b)** That the RGM received within two days after the date of the match a medical certificate that the player was unfit owing to illness or injury to play. (Refer to AFL BARWON Interleague Policy)

19.4

In the case of a registered playing coach of any Affiliated Club it shall not be sufficient explanation under 18.3 that business affairs prevented him/her from playing.

19.5

The Commission may continue with home and away matches notwithstanding any representative fixture on the same day. No player selected for a representative team shall take part in a home and away match on the same day.

19.6

No person shall be qualified to play in any interleague team unless he is qualified to play for a League Affiliated Club in matches played under the auspices of the League.

20 Coaching Requirements - Football

Refer AFL Vic Country Rule 15

All coaches of AFL Vic Country clubs are required to hold a current Foundation Coaching Accreditation prior to the commencement of the season. The penalty to be imposed by leagues if coaches continue to coach having not obtained the necessary accreditation must be i) a \$200 fine (Senior) or \$100 fine (Junior) and ii) the loss of match points for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach. In the event of no match points being received the league must apply the above fines. Fines are applied once only (\$200 or \$100) and are not applicable to every match.

In the instance where coaches are not accredited and commit to completing the relevant requirements within 7 days of receiving a request from AFL Barwon (or as otherwise agreed upon) the following bonds for clubs are to apply \$200 (Senior) and \$100 (Junior).

Where a coach fails to complete the relevant accreditation requirements in this timeframe, the bond paid by the club is forfeited and the above penalties will be enforced.

Netball:

- (a)** All coaches of AFL Barwon Clubs are required to obtain or update their Netball Victoria Foundation Accreditation 2 weeks prior to the commencement of the current season. The penalty to be imposed by AFL Barwon if coaches continue to coach having not obtained the necessary accreditation must be i) a \$200 fine (Senior) or \$100 fine (Junior) and ii) the loss of match points for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach. In the event of no match points being received the AFL Barwon must apply the above fines. Fines are applied once only (\$200 or \$100) and are not applicable to every match.
- (b)** All coaches must hold a current pass level, or sit and pass the All Australian Netball Section 1 Umpire Theory Exam prior to commencing their first coaching season.
- (c)** In the event of the appointed Coach being absent, the nominated person in charge of that team must be accredited.
- (d)** All club must submit a coaching list prior to the start of the season with all coaches' current accreditation details.
- (e)** A Grade Coaches must hold a minimum of a Development Coaching Accreditation to coach at this level.

21 Life Members and AFL Barwon Service Awards

AFL Barwon may at its discretion annually elect as AFL Barwon Life Members any person/s who has/have rendered outstanding service to the Commission.

In accordance with Rule 7 of Rules of Association for the Bellarine FNL Inc and Rule 7 of Rules of Association for the Geelong FNL Inc the Bellarine FNL and Geelong FNL may annually elect Life Members to the respective leagues.

AFL Barwon may at its discretion annually award AFL Barwon Service Awards to any person/s who has/have rendered outstanding service to the Commission.

21.1 Life Membership Criteria

The criteria for nomination for AFL Barwon Life Membership are that the nominee must have:

- served as an AFL Barwon Commissioner with a minimum 10 years' service or
- given outstanding service to AFL Barwon for a minimum total period of 15 years or
- acted as Chairperson of the Independent Tribunal serving for 10 continuous years or
- held a role appointed or ratified by the Commission
- and offered the service voluntarily

The criteria for nomination for Geelong FNL or Bellarine FNL Life Membership are that the nominee must have:

- held the position of Football Club President, Secretary or Treasurer with 10 years accumulated service in any of the three roles. This would also include service for a continuous period in a combination of any of the three positions or
- provided 15 years continuous service directly for either league or
- held the position of chairperson of Netball section of a Club serving for 10 continuous years
- and offered the service voluntarily

21.2 Service Award Criteria

The criteria for nomination for AFL Barwon Service Awards are that the nominee must have:

- acted as a Club personnel with 15 years or more continuous service with their Club or
- provided 10 years continuous service to AFL Barwon or
- provided service where a remuneration from AFL Barwon or
- provided 10 years continuous service in non-chairperson positions (ie: Tribunal Member) or
- been a player with 300 games at senior level for football or netball at an affiliated AFL Barwon Club

21.3 Nomination Process

Nominations for Life Membership or AFL Barwon Service Awards must be forwarded to the RGM no later than 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting on the appropriate nomination form.

Financial Members or Affiliate Clubs may nominate persons for Life Membership on a nomination form and in the manner approved by the Commission. (Form available from AFL Barwon).

Life Memberships for Club individuals for the Bellarine FNL and Geelong FNL must be on a club letterhead.

The person nominated does not have to be a member of the Association.

Each nomination form must be signed by the nominator and be seconded.

Both the nominator and the seconder must be financial Members of the Association at the time of the nomination.

- Details of the service of the nominee must be supplied on the nomination form with any appropriate support documents
- The relevant League Board or Commission will accept nominations and determine those nominees who meet the published criteria for the Award of Life Membership to be awarded Life Membership of the Association for recommendation to the Annual General Meeting
- Presentation will be at the Annual General Meeting or other appropriate function as determined by the Commission
- The Commission will accept nominations and determine those nominees who meet the published criteria for the award of an AFL Barwon Service Award for recommendation to the Annual General Meeting or other appropriate AFL Barwon function

21.4 Life Member Entitlements

Life Members of AFL Barwon, the Geelong FNL and Bellarine FNL are entitled to:

- Annually receive a letter from AFL Barwon acknowledging their Life membership of their respective League and
- Annually receive a complimentary BFNL & GFNL Season Pass for entry into all games within their League
- Receive notification of the AFL Barwon and Geelong or Bellarine FNL Annual General meeting or Special General meeting. Note: Life members are entitled to attend but NOT vote at a League General Meeting in their own right.

22. Meetings of Club Representatives

22.1

The Commission may convene compulsory meeting(s) for Club Presidents and/or officials as stipulated by the Commission from time to time. These meetings shall include, but are not limited to: Presidents, Club Administrators, Team Managers, Senior and Junior Coaches Forums and Junior Meetings.

22.2

The designated person may, with the prior approval of the RGM, appoint another person to attend Annual and Special Meetings or other compulsory meetings in their place.

22.3

All Clubs must be represented when requested at all official League meetings (e.g. presidents, secretaries, managers, coaches etc.) and functions. Penalty: \$100.

23. Codes of Conduct and Other Policies

23.1

All players, officials and Club members at all League matches shall be subject to the Policies and Codes of Conduct as issued by the Commission from time to time.

23.2

The Commission is required to adopt complementary rules and regulations in football & netball competitions under their respective control and jurisdiction as those of AFL Vic Country, AFL Victoria & Netball Victoria.

23.3

The Commission has also adopted a range of AFL Victoria, AFL Vic Country, Netball Victoria and AFL Barwon policies. These include, but are not restricted to:

- Infectious Diseases Policy;
- No Smoking & Alcohol Management Policy;
- AFL Vilification and Discrimination Policy;
- Anti-Doping Policy;
- Codes of Conduct - Players, Coaches, Parents & Umpires
- Gender Policy;
- De-Registration Policy;
- Privacy Policy;
- Responsible Serving of Alcohol;
- Looking After Mates;
- Junior Coach Code of Conduct
- AFL Kids First
- Netball Australia Member Protection Policy
- AFL Barwon Cybersafety Policy
- AFL Barwon Constitution
- AFL Barwon Local PPS By Laws
- AFL National Age Dispensation Policy

24 Annual Awards

24.1 Best and Fairest Awards

24.1.1

Official League field/court umpires shall immediately following the conclusion of the match select their three fairest and best players in the match. They shall then number one, two and three in order of preference in a sealed addressed envelope their three nominations. Their number one nomination to receive three votes, number two nomination two votes, and number three nomination one vote. They shall then hand the sealed envelope to the Home Club Secretary or Team Manager.

24.1.2

If the two or more Central Umpire system is in operation, then the Central Umpires shall confer, agree upon a joint nomination and otherwise comply with paragraph 24.1.1 hereof.

24.1.3

At the end of the Home and Away rounds of matches, the League shall gather all votes made during the minor rounds and the votes shall be counted and the player or players receiving the largest number of votes shall be awarded as the best & fairest. In the case of an equal number of votes being awarded to more than one player, then players receiving such equal number of votes shall be declared joint winners and separate medals/trophies shall be struck and awarded.

24.1.4

Any player found guilty by the Independent Tribunal on any charge or having accepted a Set Penalty during the current season shall be ineligible for the award of Best and Fairest, except where the charge relates to time wasting.

24.1.5

Where the highest vote getter has been ruled ineligible, the second highest vote getter will be declared the winner. If more than one player finishes second on votes, the winner will be decided on a count back based on most three votes; most two votes; and most one votes.

24.1.6

Netball: Best & Fairest & Runner-up awards will be presented for each Netball grade except 11 & Under.

24.2 Geelong Football & Netball League Football Awards

Mathieson Medal

An award known as the "Mathieson Medal" shall be made each year to the fairest and best player or players in the Geelong Football Netball League Senior Men's Football Competition.

Jim & Bill Allthorpe Medal

An award known as the "Jim & Bill Allthorpe Medal" shall be made each year to the fairest and best player/s in the Geelong Football Netball League Men's Reserve Football Competition Jim Vivian Medal An award known as the Jim Vivian Medal shall be made each year to the fairest and best Geelong Football Netball League player/s in the highest grade of the Under 19s competition.

24.3 Bellarine Football & Netball League Football Awards

Les Ash Medal

An award known as the “Les Ash Medal” shall be made each year to the fairest and best player or players in the Bellarine Football Netball League Senior Men’s Football Competition.

Don Cole Medal

An award known as the “Don Cole Medal” shall be made each year to the fairest and best player/s in the Bellarine Football Netball League Men’s Reserve Football Competition.

24.4 Geelong Under 19s Divisional Medals

As required an award known as the Geelong Under 19s Divisional Medal shall be made each year to the fairest and best player/s in each of the Geelong Under 19s competitions.

24.5 Club Championships

Each Year Club Championship Awards will be in both the Geelong and Bellarine Football & Netball Leagues. Individual trophies will be awarded separately for both Football & Netball. Combined awards will be presented as below.

The Geelong Football & Netball League Club Championship Award will be known as the Mal McArthur Cup – a perpetual cup trophy will be engraved accordingly, and an appropriate trophy awarded to the winning club.

The Bellarine Football & Netball League Club Championship Award will be known as the Bellarine Football & Netball League Club Championship – a perpetual shield will be engraved accordingly, and an appropriate trophy awarded to the winning club.

24.6 Goal Kicking/Shooting Awards

Goal kicking/shooting awards will be made in each of the grades of Senior football & netball conducted by AFL Barwon in the home and away fixtures but not finals fixtures.

The winner of each award will be the player scoring the most goals for each home and away season.

24.7 Interleague Awards

The player adjudged best by the Geelong Football & Netball League Football Interleague Match Committee over the current year’s Interleague carnival will be awarded the Bob Cahir Memorial Trophy:

The player adjudged best by the Bellarine Football & Netball League Football Interleague Match Committee over the current year’s Interleague carnival will be awarded the Brian Bennett Medal:

24.8 Special Awards

From time-to-time AFL Barwon may make awards for other categories or formats for each League. The Awards and Formats will be at the discretion of the League from time to time and may be sponsored by AFL Barwon Corporate Partners.

24.9 BFNL Netball Awards Only

- (i) Dow Junior Educational Scholarship
- (ii) Dow Educational Scholarship

25 Selected Football Teams – Media

25.1

Senior football teams must be entered with their playing position selected, onto the Sporting Pulse database each Thursday night prior to 6.00 pm. Penalty: \$100

25.2

Clubs must enter separate positions for eighteen players, four interchange and up to three emergencies.

Penalty: \$100

25.3

Fines will be issued for each player named on the official team sheets that were not named in the selected list of twenty-five. Penalty \$100

25.4

For all Finals games; Senior grade teams must be submitted in accordance with the above rules including their maximum bench numbers. (Normal penalties apply) Deadline for team entries during the Finals Series may vary and be advised by the Operations Manager prior to the finals commencing

26 Child Safety Standards

APPLICABLE TO ALL PERSONS WORKING WITH JUNIORS UP TO AND INCLUDING THE UNDER 19 GRADE.

This check replaces the police check and is free for volunteers. It is a mandatory by law as of January 2007 for coaches and volunteers to obtain this check if they undertake any of the following roles:

- (a)** Club personnel including coaches, trainers etc. appointed or seeking appointment for reward (\$70 charge for employees)
- (b)** Volunteer personnel who will or are likely to travel away overnight with teams of players under 18 years of age and
- (c)** Persons appointed or seeking appointment to a role in which that person is likely to have individual and unsupervised contact with players Under 18 years of age.

How to apply?

- Complete a Working with Children Check application form. Application forms are available online and from participating outlets of Australia Post.
- Organise your proof of identity documentation.
- Organise a Passport size photo.
- Take your completed application form, proof of identity documentation, passport size photo to a participating Australia Post outlet. If you are in PAID employment you must pay the \$70 fee. If you are a Volunteer, there is no fee payable.

We strongly suggest that you get this process underway ASAP and organize all your junior personnel to undertake the check. Perhaps organize a club representative to collect the forms from Australia Post and hand them out to each coach.

FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

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Preamble

These Rules must be read in conjunction with

- Laws of Australian Football
- AFL Victoria Country Rules and Regulations as published in the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Handbook each year or as amended by notification from AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY after the printing of the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Handbook.
- AFL Barwon By Laws

1. Definitions and Interpretation

In these Competition Rules unless the contrary intention appears:

“BFNL” means Bellarine Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “BFNL” or “the Bellarine Football & Netball League”.

“Commission” means the Commission of AFL Barwon.

“GFNL” means Geelong Football & Netball League Incorporated. In these rules referred to as “GFNL” or “the Geelong Football & Netball League”.

“Laws of Australian Football” means the laws of the game of Australian Football adopted by the Australian Football League as modified for the League

“League” means the BFNL or GFNL.

The appendices and schedules attached should be read in conjunction with and form part of the By-Laws of AFL Barwon.

2. Laws of Australian Football

All games shall be played in strict accordance with the “Laws of Australian Football” as determined by the AFL or modified by AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY or the League.

3 Registrations

3.1 Every player must be a registered member of their Club and approved by their Club Committee.

3.2 A player must be registered with AFL Barwon and the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY prior to the commencement of the first game he plays for the Club each year. The registration must be entered and confirmed on the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY database.

4 Ground Facilities

4.1 Each Club is to provide a ground that in the opinion of the Commission is suitable for match play.

4.2 Goal posts must be correctly padded in accordance with AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Rules.

Penalty: \$100

4.3 Goal posts must have flag-holders. **Penalty: \$100**

4.4 The ground must be marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game unless impractical to do so. Variations are to be approved by the Commission. **Penalty: \$100**

4.5 In terms of the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Acceptable Ground Conditions & Layout the actual boundary line of the playing area shall be no less than three (3) metres from the fence line.

4.6 A stretcher must be provided by the home Club and located in or near the coaches’ box.

Penalty: \$100

4.7 All clubs must provide locks on doors to visiting team and umpires' dressing rooms.

Penalty: \$100

4.8 A separate dressing room must be available for umpires. Clubs should also provide dressing room facilities for female umpires when applicable.

4.9 Clubs must provide suitable weatherproof coaches boxes of design approved by local council building regulations and AFL Barwon. Elevated coaches' boxes must be approved by AFL Barwon. Coaches are NOT permitted to use coaches' boxes in a manner that does not comply with local council building regulations or Occupational Health & Safety requirements.

4.10 A box 12 metres in length, one metre from the boundary line, with its sides returning to the fence shall be marked parallel to the boundary line in front of each of the coaches' boxes.

Penalty: \$100

4.11 Home Club must provide two (2) trainers tables in the visitor's rooms

Penalty: \$100

5 Interchange/Order Off

Interchange and order off rules are to operate for Seniors, Reserves and Under 19s as per **AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Rule 11.0 & AFL Laws of Australian Football Rule 7.**

Note: All underage competitions are to comply with the above Rules and are unable to replace carded players until the relevant playing time has elapsed.

(Yellow Card = 15 minutes. Red Card = 20 minutes)

In all AFL Barwon Senior & Reserve matches any player receiving a yellow or red card may be replaced immediately. A player receiving a red card is to remain off the field for the remainder of the game. A player receiving a yellow card can return to the field after 15 minutes of playing time has elapsed.

5.1 Interchange bench numbers in the Bellarine and Geelong Football Leagues are Seniors four (4), Reserves five (5) and Under 19s five (5).

5.2 For all AFL Barwon competitions, Clubs shall be required to field a minimum of 14 players to commence the game. Failure to do so will result in their side forfeiting the match.

5.3 If any irregularities are noted on the Interchange sheet, the Commission shall have the power to determine a fine and to deal with the match as they deem appropriate.

5.4 It is the responsibility of the timekeepers to ensure that players ordered from the ground under a yellow card, remain off for fifteen minutes of actual playing time and those ordered from the ground under a red card remain off for the remainder of the game. All Clubs must have installed red and green lights for the purpose of acknowledgment of the umpires' carding decisions and the notification to the Clubs when the player (yellow card only) is eligible to return the playing field. The timekeepers must therefore:

- (a)** identify the umpire's signal (a yellow or red card), which indicates a player has been ordered off;
- (b)** acknowledge the umpire's decision by flashing the red light on and off or another signal by holding aloft the appropriate card;
- (c)** record the relevant amount of actual playing time from the moment the player crosses the

interchange area in the space provided on the time cards (failure to record the implementation of this rule on the timecards will result in a \$30 penalty) ; and

- (d) signal the conclusion of the fifteen-minute penalty by signalling through the use of the green light. The interchange steward will continue to record the change as has been the case. The onus remains with the clubs to ensure that this procedure operates effectively.

NB: In the event of more than one player being off at any given time, the onus is on the Club to confer with the interchange steward/timekeepers to determine which player is eligible to come on.

- (e) any player ordered off under a red card is not permitted to take any further part in the game

5.5 Clubs in breach of procedure: In the event a Club believes an opposition **team has more than the permitted number on the field of play and/or a player has returned to the field early, the Team Captain or Runner must ask the officiating field umpire** to call a team count to verify the number of players on the ground and the score at that particular time. The Umpire will record the result of the count on the Umpire's Match Report. Where a Team has more than the permitted number of players on the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:

- (a) The field umpire shall award a Free Kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing team, which shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending team.
- (b) A Fifty (50) Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and
- (c) The Goal Umpires shall **record the time and**, write the current scores as at the time of the Head Count on their Score Card
- (d) The matter will be referred to the League to investigate and ultimately determine the outcome as they see fit - note that the offending team **does not lose all points** scored in the Match up to the time of the count **on matchday, but will have any score achieved in that quarter up to the time of the count removed pending the result of the league investigation.**

6 Interchange Steward

6.1 The Home Club is responsible for the appointment of an interchange steward for each game.

6.2 The responsibilities of the interchange steward are outlined in AFL Laws of the Game Rule 7. The Interchange Steward will record the jumper numbers of players who commence on the interchange bench at the commencement of each quarter. It is the responsibility of team managers from both competing Clubs to notify the appointed Interchange Steward of the jumper numbers of these players at the commencement of the game and then at the end of each quarter break. The interchange steward must also record details (time and jumper number) of players who have been ordered from the ground (yellow or red card), and those either stretchered off or sent off due to the blood rule, both when they leave the ground and when they return,

Penalty \$100 (offending Club)

7 Player Uniforms

7.1 All Club uniforms shall comply with AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY rules. The AFL Barwon Commission, before adoption, must approve club colours.

7.2 Every player must be fully uniformed in his Club colours with his number prominent and securely fixed on his back.

7.3 All playing jumpers and shorts must carry logos as specified by AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY and AFL Barwon. Clubs must formally request the Commission's approval to display sponsorship logos on Club jumpers. This request must include details such as size and positioning. **(Refer to the AFL Barwon Style Guide)**

7.4 White shorts shall be worn by sides playing away unless approval otherwise is granted by the Commission.

7.5 The Commission will decide choice of shorts for finals matches with priority going to the highest finisher of the two sides playing.

7.6 Bike shorts worn under playing shorts must be neutral or beige colour.

Penalty for incorrect attire: \$25 per garment.

8 Coaches

8.1 The non-playing coach of any team is not allowed on the playing arena during the progress of the match except at the quarter intervals. During the progress of the match the non-playing coach, interchange players (other than in warming up) and other officials must be in the restricted area as marked by the 12-metre line as per Rule 4.10.

8.2 Only the team captain of the day shall be permitted to speak to the Field umpire. This is only to occur at the intervals, but not during the progress of the match (other than if requesting the umpire for a count of players on the playing surface). Any breach of this rule shall be reported by the Umpire and be referred to the League Independent Tribunal and if found guilty shall incur the following maximum penalty:

1st offence – \$100.

2nd offence – \$200.

3rd or any further offence – \$400.

9 Runners

9.1 No of Runners

All grades are only permitted to have **1 (one) runner**.

9.2 Eligibility to act as runner

9.2.1 No person who is a registered player or an official of any club, other than his home club whether affiliated or not, nor who is under disqualification or suspension by his home club or League, shall act as an official runner in any competition match, or any other match in which a AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY affiliated Club or League is participating.

9.2.2 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY open age team shall act as a runner in a match in which a team of his club is participating.

9.2.3 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY team shall act as a runner, trainer or water carrier in a match in which the team that he coaches is participating.

9.3 Duties of Runners

9.3.1 The Team runner shall not have affixed to his or her person communication device which includes but is not limited to headsets, microphones or earpieces or water bottles.

9.3.2 Runners may enter and exit the playing arena from any point of the ground.

9.3.3 The sole duty of the runner shall be to confer with the player or players of his/her club and to immediately leave the playing arena.

9.4 Runners uniforms

All runners are to wear uniforms as approved by AFL Barwon at the commencement of each season. Runner tops must carry the club name and the word “Runner”.

Penalty \$100

10 Trainers and Medical Staff

10.1 Club trainers may enter the arena at any time during the match or intervals, but only to attend to an injured player or to replace a damaged uniform and for no other purpose whatsoever. Trainers may also carry water as part of their duties.

10.2 Club trainers will wear uniform dress consisting of a white top and white, navy blue or black pants or shorts. The top must bear the Club name, the word ‘trainer’, the approved CBHG signage on the back, and a number (trainers to be numbered 1 – 5).

10.3 Medical staff are to wear a clear and identifying armband. Medical staff means a qualified medical practitioner, physiotherapist or similar qualified person.

Penalty \$100

11 Water-Carriers

11.1 Eligibility to act as water carrier

11.1.1 A maximum of three (3) water-carriers is permitted in any game

11.1.2 Water carriers must be aged over fourteen years.

11.1.3 No coach or assistant coach of an AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY open age team shall act as a water carrier in any AFL Barwon match.

11.2 Water carrier uniforms

11.2.1 Water carriers are to wear a light blue AFL Barwon branded ‘water carrier’ vest with a white shirt underneath for all football competitions where water carriers are permitted. Water carriers names must appear on the official team sheet. **Penalty \$50**

11.2.1 Water carriers are to wear a white shirt bearing the Club name and the word ‘water carrier’ and be correctly numbered with black or blue shorts or tracksuit pants. **Penalty \$50**

11.2.2 Water carriers must be numbered 6, 7 and 8 respectively and names and number must appear on the official team sheet.

Penalty \$50

11.3 Water carrier duties

11.3.1 Water-carriers may enter the arena at any time during the match but only to provide water to players and for no other purpose whatsoever and to immediately leave the playing arena once the drink has been delivered, and before play recommences (Refer AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Rule 18.2.)

11.3.2 Water carriers are not permitted to operate constantly from the Coaches box area but must be around the boundary area against the fence while not delivering water.

12 Timekeepers

12.1 One responsible Timekeeper is to be provided by each competing Club. No person shall be permitted to act as a timekeeper unless they have attained the age of 18 years. Each Clubs must provide a suitable clock that is to be synchronized with the other Club's timekeeper at the commencement of each match. Where only one clock is available that shall be the official time.

Failure to supply a timekeeper – **Penalty \$50**

12.2 In finals matches competing Clubs are to also supply their own timekeepers unless provided by AFL Barwon.

12.3 Matches shall start at the times decided by the Commission.

12.4 Matches shall be played in accordance with the time intervals set out by the Commission.

12.5 A bell, gong, or siren, capable of being heard across the ground at its farthest point must be provided.

Penalty: \$50

12.6 Number of Occasions Siren To Be Sounded:

Start of Match

Five minutes prior to scheduled starting time of the Match and as Umpires enter the Arena (once)

Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice)

One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once)

Scheduled starting time (Start of Match) (once)

First Quarter time Interval

Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice)

One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once)

Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once)

Half Time Interval

Five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Quarter and as Umpires enter the Arena (once)

Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice)

One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once)

Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once)

Three Quarter Time Interval

Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time (twice)

One minute prior to the scheduled starting time (once)

Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter) (once)

12.7 Timekeepers shall keep accurate records of scores on cards supplied by AFL Barwon to each Home Club. Times of starts and finishes of quarters; appearance times of teams; elapsed playing time of players ordered from the ground. The timekeeper must sign the cards and return them to the Field umpire for counter signature. **Penalty \$30**

12.8 Light system to be used for order off rule as outlined in AFL Barwon Bylaws.

13 Team Managers

13.1 Home Team Manager

The Home Team Manager is responsible for the following match day duties

- Provide Timekeepers cards as issued by the League
- Provide Umpires with Score Cards as issued by the League, Best & Fairest Vote Cards and envelopes as issued by the League and a current years report form pad.
- Provide umpires with AFL Barwon Umpires Match Report form, Match Review Request Form (Seniors), Spirit Of Sport Vote Sheet (U19s only)
- Provide Interchange steward with Interchange Sheets as issued by the League
- Provide footballs as per Rules
- Provide any sponsors Special Award vote sheets where required
- Enter Match Details on AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY web-based data base as provided by both clubs at the end of each game in accordance with these rules, including Geelong Advertiser or Echo Votes for both teams (Seniors only)
- Email ALL player reports to AFL Barwon at the end of each game

13.2 Away Team Manager

The Away Team Manager is responsible for the following match day duties

- Provide opposition team manager with details of Goalkickers, Geelong Advertiser or Echo Votes and best players as soon as possible after the conclusion of the game.

13.3 Both Home and Away Team Managers

Both Team managers are responsible for the following match day duties

- Provide Team Sheet to the umpires, showing all players with correct jumper numbers and all officials with correct numbers where applicable generated from AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Data Base and signed by the Team Manager
- Complete the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Match Day Ground Safety checklist
- Ensure Time keeper is available
- Ensure Field, Goal and Boundary Umpires are available where no AFL BARWON appointment is made
- Ensure Umpire Escort is appointed, is aware of and fulfils their duties
- Obtain advice of any reported players or Review requests from the field umpires after each game, **sign** and collect a copy of any player reports from that game
- Complete Geelong Advertiser or Echo Votes for opposition team

14 Playing Times

14.1 Duration of Games

Playing times for Seniors, Reserves and Under 19s games will be:

Home & Away Games

	Teams on field – “by”	Start	Quarters	¼ time	½ time	¾ time
Seniors	2.05pm	2.10 pm	20 min +T0	5 min	15 min	7 min
Reserves	11.55am	12.00 pm	23 min	5 min	15 min	5 min
Under 19s	9.55am	10.00 am	20 min	5 min	10 min	5 min

Finals Schedules will be released each week of the Finals Series

Penalty: Clubs responsible for late starts at any point of any match will incur a fine of \$50 per occurrence.

In finals late start penalty will be \$100 per minute for each Club causing the delay

If early games (prior to Seniors) are running behind time at half time the last 2 quarters are to be shortened accordingly to allow the game to finish on time. **This provision is NOT applicable in finals games**

NB. Under 19s game times may vary according to the schedule

14.2 “Time On”

14.2.1 Home & Away Games

- Seniors “Time on” is be signalled by the field umpires by either raising one hand above his head OR by crossing both arms across his chest or when a goal umpire signals a score is recorded (NOT when he completes waving his flags). If the Field umpire fails to signal “time on” when the ball goes out of bounds the clock is to be stopped when the signal is given by the boundary umpire and restarted when the ball is thrown into play.
- Reserves and Under 19s Time on only where a team count is called, a stretcher is on ground or there is a lengthy delay as deemed by the umpire/s in charge

14.2.2 Finals

- Seniors will play Time On according to rules applicable during Home and Away season
- Reserves and Under 19s games will be played according to advertised times WITH Time On for excessive stoppages only. Ie: When the ball goes out of bounds time on will NOT be added unless the field umpire signals that he/she considers there will be an excessive delay caused by the ball going over the fence or another significant delaying factor.
- “Time on” is be signalled by the field umpires by either raising one hand above his head OR by crossing both arms across his chest or when a goal umpire signals a score is recorded (NOT when he completes waving his flags).

Teams must have entered the field by the designated time in table: Competition Rule 14.1

Penalty \$100

15 Extra time in Finals:

15.1 There shall be no drawn matches in any finals. In the event of scores being level at the elapsed time, the timekeepers are instructed to sound the siren. Coaches are permitted to address players at the end of the game whilst the Goal Umpires confer. Players must be in position to recommence the game prior to the goal umpires returning to their position.

15.2 On receiving confirmation that the scores are level, the match shall recommence with the teams kicking to the same end as in the final quarter and two five-minute periods with time on (as appropriate) shall be played with teams changing ends after the first five-minute period immediately the siren sounds. Coaches are not permitted to address players at any stage after the extra time period has commenced.

15.3 In the event of scores being level after the two five-minute periods the timekeepers are to be instructed to keep the second period of extra time continuing until the next score, at which time the siren will sound as soon as the goal umpire signals the score and receives the all clear from the Field umpire.

16 Footballs

- All footballs used for matches will be determined by the Commission including any sponsor brand requirements
- Football for all senior, reserves and Under 19s games will be Size 5
- Two new (or as new and approved by the officiating umpires) branded footballs are to be provided by the home Club in each senior match.
- Two suitable branded footballs in good order and condition are to be provided by the home Club for each Reserve and Under 19s match.
- In finals, branded footballs will be provided by AFL Barwon.

17 Team Sheets

17.1 Team sheets must include:

- Registered AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Player entered
- Registered AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Official entered
- Be signed by a Club Official or Captain
- Coach, Captain and Vice-captain should be identified on the team sheet
- Team Sheets will not generate unless an accredited Coach is listed. This coach must be the person present and undertaking the role of coach for that team on the day.
- Numbers opposite names in the Record must be the same as is on the team sheet

17.2 Players

Team sheets generated from the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Data Base and web site with the full name and numbers signed by Captain or Club Official responsible are to be handed to field umpire prior to the commencement of each game. Only players registered with the relevant AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY club, and in Senior Teams have been allocated applicable PPS points on the Sporting Pulse Database are eligible to compete.

Club Secretaries are responsible for ensuring all participating players are registered with their club

at the time of the game, names are correct, as well as seeing that the names of trainers, runners and medical staff are shown in the space provided. Coach, captain, and vice captain and any other official entering the arena should be identified on the team sheet.

Player number must match the number recorded in the football record. A notation of a variation of jumper number must be made on the team sheet to indicate exceptional circumstances.

Penalty for not signing – \$50

Penalty for failure to include all players in team list – \$100 and loss of match points

Penalty for failure to include other information – \$30

Penalty for player number not matching football record – \$30.

Penalty for including names of players not participating in match - \$500 and loss of match points

17.3 Officials

The maximum allowable number of officials is:

- Runners shall be one (1) for all grades (see Competition Rule 9) Trainers shall be no more than five (5) (inclusive of medical staff)
- Medical staff means a qualified medical practitioner, physiotherapist or similar qualified person
- Water carriers – no more than three (3).

All these officials are to be dressed according to the requirements outlined in AFL Barwon Competition Rule 9

“Officials” positions that are allowable on the team sheet and inside the fence are:

Coaching staff (not to exceed 3 (three))

Team Manager

Runner (1)

Trainer Number 1

Trainer Number 2

Trainer Number 3

Trainer Number 4

Trainer Number 5 (accredited trainers only)

Water Carrier Number 6

Water Carrier Number 7

Water Carrier Number 8

Doctor (qualified) (not to be in excess of 5 trainers)

Physiotherapist (qualified) (not to be in excess of 5 trainers)

All authorised persons, apart from Runners, Trainers and Water Carriers, are to remain in the Coaches Box at all times during play, or within the confines of the perimeter lines surrounding the Coach's Box.

This should not total more than 4 people + Interchange players.

Other match day staff must be stationed outside the perimeter fence or fence line.

18 Match Reports

18.1 The Secretary of the home Club must complete the match results, on line using the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Data Base, for the matches played that day. Scores must be entered no later

than 30 (thirty) minutes from the conclusion of each game. The final scores for the Senior Game (1st eighteen) must be entered no later than 5.15pm.

18.2 The Full Match Details must be entered on the Club AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY data base on the day the game is played by:

Seniors 6.00pm

Reserves 3.30pm

Under 19s 12.30pm (if played at 10.00am)

Where Friday night or Sunday games are played other arrangements MAY BE put in place.

18.3 If a report is made, a copy of the report must be scanned and emailed through by the **home club** to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager, no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. If a scanner is not available, the home club must either text a photo of the report sheet or email the following details to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager michael@aflbarwon.com.au within the same time frame. Reported player and their team, Offended player (if applicable) and their team, Reporting umpire, alleged offence, if a tribunal is required. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope, regardless of whether a set sanction has been accepted or not.

If for some unforeseen reason the home club is unable to send these details electronically. A detailed message is to be conveyed to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager by SMS (0438 416 774) within the required timeframe. Any MRP requests are also to be conveyed as above.

19 Match Day Paperwork

The Home Club secretary shall assume responsibility for the contents of the Match Envelopes and should ensure that they are delivered to AFL Barwon Headquarters by 9.30am on the Monday following the game. - **Penalty \$100**

20 Match Day Penalties

20.1 Team manager failing to receive the all clear regarding player reports from officiating umpires in Home and Away games and the AFL Barwon appointed Ground Manager at all finals. – Penalty \$50

20.2 Failing to include the signed Interchange/order off form in the Matchday envelope.

– **Penalty \$50**

20.3 Failing to submit Umpires' Notice Of Report Form, MRP Request, or required details to AFL Barwon Operations Manager by 6.00 pm on the day of the match.

Penalty: \$100

20.4 Approved paperwork must not be altered under any circumstances.

20.5 Match Details submitted via AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY on line web site to AFL Barwon must be entered by the required time and contain correct scores as per Goal Umpires Cards, accurate best players, Geelong Advertiser or Echo Vote getters as required, and goal kickers for both competing teams.

Penalty: \$50 for first occurrence, \$100 for subsequent occurrences.

21 Eligibility for Home & Away Games

21.1 A player playing in a game with the senior team of his Club, shall be ineligible to play in any lower grades in that round that are scheduled at a later date than the Senior game.

21.2 A Club playing an ineligible player will:

- (a)** In the event of it winning the game forfeit all match and scored points and be subject to a fine to be set by the Commission.
- (b)** In the event of it losing the game, forfeit all scored points and be subject to a fine to be set by the Commission.

The opposing Club shall be awarded the match points and retains its scored points.

22 Eligibility for Finals

22.1 Definitions:

A player must be in attendance, in suitable attire to take the field and at a minimum be on the field in the club's interchange area for the duration of the game.

In this rule a reference to Seniors = BFNL or GFNL Club's First Senior grade team, Reserves = BFNL or GFNL Club's Second Senior grade team, Under 19s = AFL Barwon Club's Under 19 grade team.

22.2 Eligibility for Club

A player must have played at least three (3) games with his Club during the season to be eligible to play in finals.

22.3 State League Players

22.3.1 For purposes of finals eligibility, a player who has played more than twelve (12) 1st 18 games for a club affiliated with a senior state league competition in that season will not be eligible to play finals with his local club. To qualify for the finals for their respective League, they must have played three (3) games with their GFNL or BFNL Club in the current season.

22.4 NAB Under 18 Player

22.4.1 Any player that plays ten (10) or more games in the NAB Cup Under 18 competition, may, provided he has qualified under the rules, return to play with the League in the finals of the senior competition only. (Existing Rule 22.7.2 does not apply for these players)

22.4.2 Any player that plays one (1) game in the NAB Under 18 Cup competition but less than ten (10) games must comply with section 22.7.1

22.5 Permit Player

22.5.1 A player who is playing on a day permit (refer AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY rule 2.0) must play a minimum of 7 games with their club.

22.5.2 A player who is playing under area permit (Refer AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Rule 2.10) must comply with all aspects of rule 22.7 of the AFL Barwon Handbook to qualify for finals in their respective section.

22.6 Higher grade Games

22.6.1 For the purpose of eligibility for finals, the higher-level game only will be applied to a player listed on the team sheet in two or more matches for his Club on the same weekend.

22.6.2 A game played by a player during the season in the first or reserve team of a Club affiliated with the **AFL, VFL, WAFL, SANFL, QAFL, ACTAFL, TAFL, or NTF or NAB** Under 18 Competition shall count as though it is a senior game played with his Club, only for the purposes of Rules 22.7 when assessing eligibility for finals in lower sections.

22.7 BFNL or GFNL games

22.7.1 A player who has played with the senior team of his BFNL or GFNL Club during the season is eligible to play with the BFNL or GFNL reserve or Under 19s teams in finals provided he has played at least six games in the respective lower section during the home and away season and satisfied all other relevant requirements.

22.7.2 A player who plays more than nine games with his BFNL or GFNL club's senior team during the home and away season, shall be ineligible to play in any lower section final, EXCEPT THAT, players ineligible through rule 22.7 will be eligible to play in a reserve or Under 19s Final if their senior team is also competing in the same weekend.

22.8 One Game per weekend

22.8.1 A player may not play a game for their BFNL or GFNL club and also for their VFL or NAB club on the same weekend, unless they play less than 25 minutes of actual playing time for their VFL or NAB club on that weekend. (see AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY & VFL player transfer agreement page 111 AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Handbook). If this occurs the BFNL or GFNL club will be deemed as having played an ineligible player and penalised accordingly.

22.8.2 A player may only play in one game over a weekend of finals if his Club is competing in more than one section. "This includes divisions of AFL Barwon Junior Football (cannot play in an AFL Barwon Junior final and an Under 19s, Reserve or Senior final on the same weekend)

22.9 Ineligible player in finals

A Club playing an ineligible player in a finals game will:

- (a) Forfeit the match in the event of it scoring more points than the opposing team.
- (b) Be subject to a fine to be set by the Commission.

23 Under 19s Competitions

23.1 Player Qualification Criteria

23.1.1 Divisions 1, 2 & 3 are deemed to be an "18 a side competition"

23.1.2 The Division 4 Competition is deemed to be a "16 a side competition" with a maximum of 23 players and a minimum of 14 players. If either side has less than 16, both teams must play with the same number of players.

If both sides have 20 or more players on the day, then both teams will field 18 players.

23.1.3 Should a club have less than the relevant, required number of players at the commencement of the game, then the opposing team shall only field one more than the same number of players respectively.

23.1.4 In the Under 19s Competition a player can only play ONE UNDER 19s game per weekend (including Friday night).

23.2 Byes

In the instance of a split round or bye (Senior grade or Under 19s), a player can be selected in a higher grade to that which he played in his most recent match, but not in a lower grade, unless he played less than four matches in a higher grade.

23.3 Finals

23.3.1 A player must play at least **five** Under 19s games with his or her club to play in any finals game. Official Under 19 Grading games are to be included for finals eligibility purposes (unless the game is deemed a “for no points” match).

23.3.2 If a team receives a forfeit due to their opponent withdrawing prior to the match, only players for the team receiving the forfeit, that are listed on the SP Team Sheet at Midnight on the Sunday of the match will have that game included for finals eligibility purposes.

23.3.3 For the purpose of eligibility to play with a team in Under 19s Finals, a player who has played in a higher grade/division must play at least six (6) games with a particular Under 19s team to be eligible to play in finals with that team.

23.3.4 Furthermore, any player who has played more than nine games with a higher grade or division is ineligible to play in the lesser grade of the Under 19s Competition.

23.3.5 Should a player qualify to represent more than one team, the Under 19s Committee has clarified that players may only play in one final on the same weekend, regardless of division.

23.3.6 To be eligible to play in a particular team during the finals series a player must meet the requirements of the above Under 19s Finals eligibility Criteria, EXCEPT THAT, players ineligible through rule 23.3.3 or 23.3.4 will be eligible to play in an Under 19s final if their Club's senior team or higher graded Under 19s Team is also competing in finals on the same weekend.

23.4 Higher Grade Games

AFL Barwon Competition Rule 22.6 will apply

23.5 NAB Under 18 players

AFL Barwon Competition Rule 22.4 will apply

23.6 Club Playing Uniform Clashes

23.6.1 Away clubs are responsible to obtain alternative playing strips if there is a clashing of playing uniform strips for all home and away games and finals.

23.6.2 For the purposes of finals, the lower positioned team is deemed to be the away team.

Alternative guernseys are obtainable through the Coaches Resource Centre at Highton Reserve. Please contact a Football Development Manager on 5241 6774 at least 4 days prior to the game to book the guernseys.

Recognised clashes are:

- **Torquay, Grovedale, St Josephs, Bannockburn, Colac,**
- **Queenscliff, Sth Barwon, Portarlinton, Bell Post Hill**
- **Corio, Ocean Grove, Surf Coast Suns**
- **Werribee Centrals, Leopold, Geelong Amateur**
- **St Albans, Winchelsea**
- **Inverleigh, Drysdale**
- **Newcomb, East Geelong, Belmont Lions**
- **Geelong Amateur, Bell Park, St Mary's**

If any other clashes are identified, please follow the above steps.

24 Umpires

24.1 Field umpires must make available to the home Club Secretary immediately after the match, the following:

- (a) Team sheets of opposing teams.
- (b) General report of match, starting time, uniforms, officials on AFL Barwon form.
- (c) Selection of three best and fairest players in order of preference marking the 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice using players' team name, names shown in team lists and numbers of such players. This vote card is to be placed in the separate sealed envelope.
- (d) Charges against Clubs or players (with numbers) for breaches of rules and any matter they consider should be brought up.
- (e) Spirit of Sport Award Scoring Sheet (Under 19s only)
- (f) Any requests for video reviews on appropriate form (Seniors only)

24.2 Field umpires must see that Club Goal and Boundary Umpires are properly uniformed. Goal Umpires must be appropriately attired and equipped in white coats, where provided, and equipped with suitable white flags, and two timekeepers are to be in position prior to commencement of the game.

24.3 The Field umpire shall have full control of the play and shall award penalties in accordance with the laws of the game. No appeal shall be entertained against any of his/her decisions.

24.4 In the event of an Official Umpire not being available, a substitute umpire shall be appointed by agreement of both Captains. Such Field umpires shall have the power to:

- (a) issue yellow cards;
- (b) issue red cards; and
- (c) report players.

A player can be reported by a non-AFL BARWON appointed Umpire. Normal reporting procedures are to be followed. AFL BARWON are to provide their advocate to support the non-AFL BARWON appointed Umpire.

24.5 Where a substitute Field umpire has been appointed, he shall fill in the Best and Fairest votes.

24.6 Where Goal Umpires are not provided by the Geelong Football Umpires League, they must be supplied by the competing Clubs. Any Club Goal Umpire officiating in an AFL Barwon match must be at least 16 years of age. They must be conversant with the rules, wear white coats and be provided with white flags at least 45 cm square by Clubs and must use the League scorecard which must be signed by both Goal Umpires, Timekeepers and Field umpires at the match conclusion, failing which it may not be recognised as official. They must keep their goal area clear of spectators.

Club-appointed goal umpires must wear a white coat. **Penalty \$50.**

24.7 Boundary Umpires & Out Of Bounds Rule

24.7.1 In all Senior & Under 19 games normal AFL Laws of The Game will apply.

24.7.2 In all Reserve Grade and all other Underage games the following
“Last Possession” variation will apply.

A free kick shall be awarded against a player who:

- Kicks or Handballs the football over the Boundary Line without the football being touched by another Player;
- For the purposes of defining a kick, a kick shall be an intentional action, not accidental. When the ball comes off the foot or lower leg of a player without the intent of the player being to kick the ball, it will be deemed accidental contact and will not be determined as a kick by the umpire and therefore will result in a ball-up 15 metres in from the boundary.
- Where a Player who does not have possession stops the football being touched by an Opposition Player by Shepherding the ball across the Boundary Line where the ball could have otherwise been touched by the player being blocked, then the umpire will not award a free kick but will instead order a ball-up 15 metres in from the boundary.

Where Boundary Umpires are not provided by AFL Barwon in any Senior or Under 19 match, it is expected that the participating clubs will provide their own club boundary umpires. If these cannot be sourced and the ball goes over the boundary line, but not on the full; the Field umpires are instructed to throw the ball up 15 metres in from the boundary line.

25 Club Umpires

As an AFL National Umpire Accreditation Policy requirement; it is mandatory that all community umpires whether being “League” or “Club” must have an active (Introductory – Level 1) or actively engaged in AFL Umpire Accreditation. (Introductory – Level 1) and be registered with AFL Barwon

26 Umpire Escorts

At all Senior, Reserve and Under 19s matches, both competing clubs shall supply an escort for umpires who shall (in accordance with the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Policy):

- (i) Be listed on the Official team sheet
- (ii) Move quickly to the umpires at the end of each quarter
- (iii) Escort the field and goal umpires from the ground at half time and at the completion of the game to the door of the umpires’ room;
- (iv) Where the club is the home club, offer umpires cool drinks between each quarter;
- (v) Remain in the centre of the ground with the umpires during quarter time and three-quarter time breaks;
- (vi) Show courtesy at all times and NOT question or give comment on the umpire’s performance;
- (vii) Be over the age of 18 years; and
- (viii) Wear approved League Escort Bib at all times whilst officiating as an umpire’s escort.

Penalty \$100

27 Ground Encroachment

27.1 With the exception only of the quarter time, half time and three-quarter time interval, no persons other than officials provided for in these Rules may encroach upon or enter the playing arena or stand sufficiently close to the boundary line to impede or hamper the progress or movement of the Boundary Umpires in the execution of their duties.

27.2 The officiating umpires are empowered to send off any of these officials if they are not correctly attired or are deemed to be exceeding their duties.

27.3 Team “huddles” at both quarter and three-quarter times (and extra time in finals) must be located outside the centre square.

Penalty: \$100

28 Disputes

To be read in conjunction with AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Rules

28.1 The Commission has the power to deal with and settle all disputes arising out of or in connection with this competition with the exception of appeals as defined in AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY rules. The Commission may have such disputes heard and decided by the Independent Tribunal. Should the party or parties concerned refuse or neglect to abide by such decision they shall be suspended from the competition for such time as the Commission or Tribunal may determine and shall be liable to a fine in default of payment of such fine the party or parties concerned may be excluded from playing in the competition.

28.2 Any party referring any dispute to the Commission shall forward a statement of such dispute in writing to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager not later than 5pm on the Monday following the match and 5pm on the Tuesday if Monday is a public holiday. This notice must be accompanied with a deposit for \$500.

29 Barrackers and Supporters

Any supporters or barrackers who are known to be members of any Club, within the League who, in the opinion of the Central, Boundary or Goal Umpire, Emergency Umpire, Commissioner or AFL Barwon Officer, behave in an offensive manner by spoken remarks, or openly incite players on the field to play in a manner not conducive to the best interests of the game, or are the cause of any disturbance between onlookers, will render the Club to which they belong liable to appear before the Commission or Tribunal who will have the power after dealing with the case to impose a special fine, suspend or expel such Club from the League.

30 Practice Matches

30.1 In all practice matches played by an affiliated Club whether within the League or against a Club from another League the Club Secretary shall ensure that a team sheet is completed and handed to the Field umpire.

30.2 As the host club, the Secretary shall forward copies of all such team sheets and other relevant paperwork to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager in the event of a player being reported. A copy of the report or required details, must be provided to AFL Barwon by 6.00pm on the day of the match.

30.3 Any player who plays in a practice match and is not a registered player of the participating Club must have his registered Club identified on the team sheet.

30.4 All practice matches will be conducted under AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY rules and under normal match conditions. Umpires will have the right to report and order off. Umpires have been instructed that the Order Off Rule will not be used in lieu of reporting a player when a reportable offence has been committed.

30.5 All reports will be heard by the Independent Tribunal of the league of the host Club and any investigations referred from a practice match, will be conducted by the Host Club's League Investigation Officer.

30.6 All practice matches played exclusively between GFL, BFL and GDFL clubs must engage the use of AFL BARWON umpires from this region when available.

30.7 Clubs shall deal directly with AFL BARWON for appointment of umpires for a practice match and shall forward umpires' fees direct to the AFL BARWON.



FEMALE FOOTBALL

SENIOR FEMALE FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

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Preamble

These Rules must be read in conjunction with

- Laws of Australian Football
- AFL Victoria Country Rules and Regulations as published in the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Handbook each year or as amended by notification from AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY after the printing of the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Handbook.
- AFL Barwon By Laws

1. Times of Play

The default scheduling of the Senior Female competition will be Sunday afternoons. Clubs have the option to arrange fixture changes within 2 weeks of the fixture being released. Clubs must arrange changes with the opposing club prior to discussing any potential changes with AFL Barwon.

2. Players Per Match

The Division 1 Senior Female Competition is deemed to be an 18 per side competition with 22 players to be selected for each game.

Any lower Divisions in the Senior Female Competition are deemed to be a 16 per side competition with a maximum of 23 players and a minimum of 14 players. If either side has less than 16, both teams must play with the same number of players.

If both sides have 20 or more players on the day, then both teams will field 18 players.

Any club who breaches this rule will receive a loss of match points and receive a \$500 fine

3. Team Managers

3.1 Home Team Manager

The Home Team Manager is responsible for the following match day duties

- Provide Timekeepers cards as issued by the League
- Provide Umpires with Score Cards as issued by the League, Best & Fairest Vote Cards and envelopes as issued by the League and a current year's report form pad.
- Provide umpires with AFL Barwon Umpires Match Report form
- Provide Interchange steward with Interchange Sheets as issued by the League
- Provide footballs as per Rules
- Enter Match Details on AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY web-based data base as provided by both clubs at the end of each game in accordance with these rules.
- Email ALL player reports to AFL Barwon at the end of each game

3.2 Away Team Manager

The Away Team Manager is responsible for the following match day duties

- Provide opposition team manager with details of goalkickers and best players as soon as possible after the conclusion of the game.

3.3 Both Home and Away Team Managers

Both Team managers are responsible for the following match day duties

- Provide Team Sheet to the umpires, showing all players with correct jumper numbers and all officials with correct numbers where applicable generated from AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Data Base and signed by the Team Manager
- Complete the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Match Day Ground Safety checklist via the AFL Match Day phone app.
- Ensure Timekeeper is available
- Ensure Field and Goal Umpires are available where no umpire appointment is made
- Ensure Umpire Escort is appointed, is aware of and fulfils their duties
- Obtain advice of any reported players from the central umpires after each game, sign and collect a copy of any player reports from that game

4. Playing Times

4.1 Duration of Games

Playing times for Senior Female games will be:

Home & Away and All Finals Games

Quarters	¼ time	½ time	¾ time
20 min	5 min	10 min	5 min

Penalty: Clubs responsible for late starts at any point of any match will incur a fine of \$50 per occurrence.

In finals late start penalty will be \$100 per minute for each Club causing the delay

4.2 Time On

Time on will only apply where a team count is called, a stretcher is on ground or there is a lengthy delay as deemed by the umpire/s in charge

5. Extra time in Finals

5.1

There shall be no drawn matches in any finals. In the event of scores being level at the elapsed time, the timekeepers are instructed to sound the siren. Coaches are permitted to address players at the end of the game whilst the Goal Umpires confer. Players must be in position to recommence the game prior to the goal umpires returning to their position.

5.2

On receiving confirmation that the scores are level, the match shall recommence with the teams kicking to the same end as in the final quarter and two five-minute periods with time on (as appropriate) shall be played with teams changing ends after the first five-minute period immediately the siren sounds. Coaches are not permitted to address players at any stage after the extra time period has commenced.

5.3

In the event of scores being level after the two five-minute periods the timekeepers are to be instructed to keep the second period of extra time continuing until the next score, at which time the siren will sound as soon as the goal umpire signals the score and receives the all clear from the Field umpire.

6. Interchange/Order Off

Interchange and order off rules are to operate for Seniors Female as per the relevant AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Rules & AFL Laws of Australian Football Rule.

In all AFL Barwon Senior Female matches, any player receiving a yellow or red card may be replaced immediately. A player receiving a red card is to remain off the field for the remainder of the game. A player receiving a yellow card can return to the field after 15 minutes of playing time has elapsed.

6.1

The maximum number of players a team can play is 22 in Division 1, and 23 in all other Grades.

6.2

For all AFL Barwon competitions, Clubs shall be required to field a minimum of 14 players to commence the game. Failure to do so will result in their side forfeiting the match.

6.3

If any irregularities are noted on the Interchange sheet, the Commission shall have the power to determine a fine and to deal with the match as they deem appropriate.

6.4

It is the responsibility of the timekeepers to ensure that players ordered from the ground under a yellow card, remain off for fifteen minutes of actual playing time and those ordered from the ground under a red card remain off for the remainder of the game. All Clubs must have installed red and green lights for the purpose of acknowledgment of the umpires' carding decisions and the notification to the Clubs when the player (yellow card only) is eligible to return the playing field. The timekeepers must therefore:

- a. identify the umpire's signal (a yellow or red card), which indicates a player has been ordered off;
- b. acknowledge the umpire's decision by flashing the red light on and off or other signal by holding aloft the appropriate card;
- c. record the relevant amount of actual playing time from the moment the player crosses the interchange area in the space provided on the timecards (failure to record the implementation of the rule on the timecards will result in a \$30 penalty); and
- d. Signal the conclusion of the fifteen-minute penalty by signaling through the use of the green light. The interchange steward will continue to record the change as has been the case. The onus remains with the clubs to ensure that the procedure operates effectively.

NB: In the event of more than one player being off at any given time, the onus is on the Club to confer with the interchange steward/timekeepers to determine which player is eligible to come on.

- e. any player ordered off under a red card is not permitted to take any further part in the game

6.5

Clubs in breach of procedure: In the event a Club believes an opposition player has returned to the field early, that Club must call a team count to verify the number of players on the ground and the score at that particular time. The Umpire will record the result of the count on the Umpire's Match Report. Where a Team has more than the permitted number of players on the Playing Surface, the following shall apply:

- a. a field umpire shall award a Free Kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing team, which shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending team.
- b. a Fifty (50) Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and
- c. The Goal Umpires shall write the current scores as at the time of the Head Count on their Score Card
- d. the matter will be referred to the League to investigate and ultimately determine the outcome as they see fit - note that the offending team does not lose all points scored in the Match up to the time of the count on matchday.

7. Interchange Steward

7.1

The Home Club is responsible for the appointment of an interchange steward for each game.

7.2

The responsibilities of the interchange steward are outlined in AFL Laws of the Game Rule 7. The Interchange Steward will record the jumper numbers of players who commence on the interchange bench at the commencement of each quarter. It is the responsibility of team managers from both competing Clubs to notify the appointed Interchange Steward of the jumper numbers of these players at the commencement of the game and then at the end of each quarter break. The interchange steward must also record details (time and jumper number) of players who have been ordered from the ground (yellow or red card), and those either stretchered off or sent off due to the blood rule, both when they leave the ground and when they return, Penalty \$100 (offending Club)

8. Player Uniforms

8.1

All Club uniforms shall comply with AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY rules. The AFL Barwon Commission, before adoption, must approve club colours.

8.2

Every player must be fully uniformed in her Club colours with her number prominent and securely fixed on her back.

8.3

All playing jumpers and shorts must carry logos as specified by the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY and AFL Barwon. Clubs must formally request the Commission's approval to display sponsorship logos on Club jumpers. The request must include details such as size and positioning. **(Refer to the AFL Barwon Style Guide)**

8.4

Away shorts are NOT required to be worn by sides playing away.

8.5

Bike shorts worn under playing shorts must be neutral or beige colour.

9. Coaches

9.1

The non-playing coach of any team is not allowed on the playing arena during the progress of the match except at the quarter intervals. During the progress of the match the non-playing coach, interchange players (other than in warming up) and other officials must be in the restricted area as marked by the 12 metre line as per Rule 4.10.

9.2

Only the team captain of the day shall be permitted to speak to the Field Umpire at the intervals during the progress of the match (other than if requesting the umpire for a count of players on the playing surface). Any breach of the rule shall be reported by the Umpire and be referred to the League Independent Tribunal and if found guilty shall incur the following maximum penalty:

1st offence – \$100.

2nd offence – \$200.

3rd or any further offence – \$400.

10. Runners

10.1 No of Runners

Teams in all AFL Barwon Female competitions are only permitted one (1) runner.

10.2 Eligibility to act as runner

10.2.1

No person who is a registered player or an official of any club, other than her home club whether affiliated or not, nor who is under disqualification or suspension by her home club or League, shall act as an official runner in any competition match, or any other match in which a AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY affiliated Club or League is participating.

10.2.2

No coach or assistant coach of an AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY open age team shall act as a runner in a match in which a team of her club is participating.

10.2.3

No coach or assistant coach of an AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY team shall act as a runner, trainer or water carrier in a match in which the team that he coaches is participating.

10.3 Duties of Runners

10.3.1

Team runners shall not have affixed to her or her person communication device which includes but is not limited to headsets, microphones or earpieces or water bottles.

10.3.2

The sole duty of the runner shall be to confer with the player or players of her club and to immediately leave the playing arena.

10.4 Runners uniforms

All runners are to wear uniforms as approved by AFL Barwon at the commencement of each season. Runner tops must carry the word "Runner". - Penalty \$100

11. Timekeepers

The timekeeper must record starting and finishing times of quarters on the scorecards. They must also record times of players being sent off the ground (on departure and re-entry to the ground). Time clocks should only be stopped when the stretcher enters the playing arena, a head count is taking place, blood rule or a player has been sent off. Scorecards must also correspond.

12. Out of Bounds

In the Senior Female competition, the Last Possession Rule will apply.

A Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player who:

- Kicks or Handballs the football over the Boundary Line without the football being touched by another Player;
- For the purposes of defining a kick, a kick shall be an intentional action, not accidental. When the ball comes off the foot or lower leg of a player without the intent of the player being to kick the ball, it will be deemed accidental contact and will not be determined as a kick by the umpire and therefore will result in a ball-up 15 metres in from the boundary.
- Where a Player who does not have possession stops the football being touched by an Opposition Player by Shepherding the ball across the Boundary Line where the ball could have otherwise been touched by the player being blocked, then the umpire will not award a free kick but will instead order a ball-up 15 metres in from the boundary.

13. Team Sheets

13.1

Team sheets must include:

- Registered AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Player entered
- Registered AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Official entered
- Be signed by a Club Official or Captain
- Coach, Captain and Vice-captain should be identified on the team sheet

13.2 Players

Team sheets generated from the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Data Base and web site with full name and numbers signed by Captain or Club Official responsible are to be handed to central umpire prior to commencement of each game. Only players registered with the relevant AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY club are eligible to compete.

Club Secretaries are responsible for ensuring all participating players are registered with their club at the time of the game, names are correct, as well as seeing that the names of trainers, runners and medical staff are shown in the space provided. Coach, captain, and vice-captain and any other official entering the arena should be identified on the team sheet.

Player number must match the number recorded in the football record. A notation of a variation of jumper number must be made on the team sheet to indicate exceptional circumstances.

Penalty for not signing – \$50

Penalty for failure to include all players in team list – \$100 and loss of match points

Penalty for failure to include other information – \$30

Penalty for player number not matching football record – \$30.

Penalty for including names of players not participating in match - \$500 and loss of match points

13.3 Officials

The maximum allowable number of officials is:

- Runners shall be one (1)
- Trainers shall be no more than five (5) (inclusive of medical staff)
- Medical staff means a qualified medical practitioner, physiotherapist or similar qualified person
- Water carriers – no more than three (3).

“Officials” positions that are allowable on the team sheet and inside the fence are:

- Coaching staff (not to exceed 3 (three))
- Team Manager
- Runner Number 1
- Trainer Number 1
- Trainer Number 2
- Trainer Number 3
- Trainer Number 4
- Trainer Number 5 (accredited trainers only)
- Water Carrier Number 6
- Water Carrier Number 7
- Water Carrier Number 8
- Doctor (qualified) (not to be in excess of 5 trainers)
- Physiotherapist (qualified) (not to be in excess of 5 trainers)

All authorised persons, apart from Runners, Trainers and Water Carriers, are to remain in the Coaches Box at all times during play, or within the confines of the perimeter lines surrounding the Coach's Box.

This should not total more than 4 people + Interchange players.

Other match day staff must be stationed outside the perimeter fence or fence line.

14. Match Reports

14.1

The Secretary of the home Club must complete the match results, online using the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Data Base, for the matches played that day. Scores must be entered no later than 30 (thirty) minutes from the conclusion of each game. The final scores for the Senior Game (1st eighteen) must be entered no later than 6.00pm.

14.2

The Full Match Details must be entered on the Club AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY data base on the day the game is played by 6.00pm

Where night games are played other arrangements MAY BE put in place.

14.3

If a report is made, a copy of the report must be scanned and emailed through by the home club to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager, no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. If a scanner is not available, the home club must either text a photo of the report sheet or email the following details to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager michael@aflbarwon.com.au within the same time frame. Reported player, Offended player (if applicable), Reporting umpire, alleged offence, if a tribunal is required. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope, regardless of whether a set sanction has been accepted or not.

If for some unforeseen reason the home club is unable to send these details electronically. A detailed message is to be conveyed to the AFL Barwon Operations Manager by phone (0438 416 774) within the required timeframe.

15. Match Day Paperwork

The Home Club secretary shall assume responsibility for the contents of the Match Envelopes and should ensure that they are delivered to AFL Barwon by 9.30am on the Monday following the game.

– **Penalty \$100**

16. Match Day Penalties

16.1

Team manager failing to receive the all clear regarding player reports from officiating umpires in Home and Away games and the AFL Barwon appointed Ground Manager at all finals. – **Penalty \$50**

16.2

Failing to include the signed Interchange/order off form in the Matchday envelope. – **Penalty \$50**

16.3

Failing to submit Umpires' Notice of Report Form or required details to AFL Barwon Operations Manager by 6.00 pm on the day of the match. – **Penalty \$100**

16.4

Approved paperwork must not be altered under any circumstances.

16.5

Match Details submitted via AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY online website to AFL Barwon must be entered by the required time and contain correct scores as per Goal Umpires Cards, accurate best players. – Penalty \$50 for first occurrence, \$100 for subsequent occurrences.

17. Eligibility for Home & Away Games

17.1

A player may only play in ONE game of Senior Female Football per weekend.

(Note: All Senior Female Football divisions are considered Senior competitions)

17.2

A player playing in a game with the senior team of her Club, shall be ineligible to play in any lower grades in that round that are scheduled at a later date than the Senior game.

17.3

A Club playing an ineligible player will:

In the event of it winning the game forfeit all match and scored points and be subject to a fine to be set by the Commission.

In the event of it losing the game, forfeit all scored points and be subject to a fine to be set by the Commission. The opposing Club shall be awarded the match points and retains its scored points.

18. Eligibility for Finals

18.1 Definitions:

A player must be in attendance, in suitable attire to take the field and at a minimum be on the field in the club's interchange area for the duration of the game.

In the rule a reference to Seniors = Club's First Senior grade team

18.2 Eligibility for Club

A player must have played at least three (3) games with her Club during the season to be eligible to play in finals.

18.3 State League Players

18.3.1

For purposes of finals eligibility, a player who has played more than eight (8) games for a club affiliated with a senior state league competition in that season will not be eligible to play finals with her local club. To qualify for the finals for their respective League, they must have played three (3) games with their Community Club in the current season.

18.4 Permit Player

18.4.1

A player who is playing on a day permit must play a minimum of 7 games with their Community Club.

18.4.2

A player who is playing under area permit must comply with all aspects of rule 18.2 of the AFL Barwon Handbook to qualify for finals in their respective section.

18.5 Higher grade Games

18.5.1

For the purpose of eligibility for finals, the higher-level game only will be applied to a player listed on the team sheet in two or more matches for her Community Club on the same weekend.

18.5.2

A game played by a player during the season in the first team of a Club affiliated with the AFLW, VFLW, AFL Canberra Women's Division, AFL Sydney Women's Premier Division, NT Women's Premier League, SA Women's FL, Tasmanian State League Women's, WA Women's FL or NAB Under 18 Competition shall count

as though it is a senior game played with her Community Club, only for the purposes of Rules 15.7 when assessing eligibility for finals in lower sections.

18.6 Senior Female games

18.6.1 A player who has played with the Senior Female team of their Community Club during the season is eligible to play with the Under 18 team in finals provided she has played at least six games in the respective lower section during the home and away season and satisfied all other relevant requirements.

18.7 One Game per weekend

18.7.1

A player may not play a game for their Community club and also for their VFLW or NAB club on the same weekend, unless they play less than 25 minutes of actual playing time for their VFLW or NAB club on that weekend. (see AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY & VFLW player transfer agreement outlined in the AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Handbook). If this occurs the Community club will be deemed as having played an ineligible player and penalised accordingly.

18.7.2

A player may only play in one game over a weekend of finals if her Club is competing in more than one section. "This includes divisions of the AFL Barwon Juniors (cannot play in a AFL Barwon Juniors and Under 18's final on the same weekend)

19. Ineligible player in finals

A Club playing an ineligible player in a finals game will:

- a. Forfeit the match in the event of it scoring more points than the opposing team.
- b. Be subject to a fine to be set by the Commission.

20. Second Senior Female Team Entry 90% Rule

Clubs wishing to enter a Second Senior Female Team, must have a minimum of 90% suitably aged, registered players at their club.

Players must meet one of the below criteria to be considered inside the 90%.

1. Are new to the game and have not played before.
2. Registered at the same community club in the previous season.
3. Transferred to the community club from outside the AFL Barwon region in the current season.
4. Are a home-grown player. The definition of a home-grown player is:
 - o Player who has played 40 or more games over a minimum of 3 seasons at the aligned junior club up to and including U18 Competition: or
 - o Player who has played a minimum of 5 games in each of any 5 consecutive seasons for the club or the aligned junior club up to and including Under 18's or
 - o A player who has played only at that Community Club or an aligned junior club, and for no other Community Club; or
 - o A player who has not played Competitive Football in the previous 36 months

If a club is wanting to enter a Second Senior Female Team and is under the 90% requirement, penalties will be applied to the Total Team Points of the clubs first team.

The Total Team Points will be reduced on a sliding scale with 1 point being deducted from the Total Team Points for every 3% below the 90%.

The sliding scale is as follows:

- 89.9% - 87% - 1-point reduction
- 86.9% - 84% - 2-point reduction
- 83.9% - 81% - 3-point reduction
- 80.9% - 80% - 4-point reduction

If a club's list represents less than 80% who meet the criteria for inclusion, they will not be permitted to enter a 2nd team in that season.

Clubs are required to submit their playing lists to the AFL Barwon Operations Department with all players on the list registered on the membership database no later than 14 days before that clubs first Match in each Football Year. Clubs must advise AFL Barwon of any registrations received after this date so individual player points can be entered and amendments to the club's 90% status can be made where a 2nd team has been entered.

Rules & Regulations	Senior Female
Players on Field	Div 1 - 18 (4 on bench) All other Divisions – 16 (max 5 on bench)
Minimum Players	14
Maximum ground size / use of zones	Full Size
Match length	4 x 20 min
Breaks	5 min; 10 min; 5 min
Competition details	Scoring, ladders & finals permitted. Recording of best players and goal kickers permitted. Representative teams permitted.
Contact	Tackling is permitted as per the Laws of Australian Football. (no sling tackle permitted)
Ball size	Leather size 4
Umpiring	2 field (Appointed), 2 goal (club)
Coaching position	Sideline
Bounces	Unlimited
Marking	A mark is awarded when a player catches the ball directly from another player's kick that has travelled at least 15 metres.
Out of Bounds	Last possession rule
Kick off the ground	Permitted
Stealing, smothering, shepherding, barging	Permitted as per Laws of the Game
Penalties	50m penalty can be applied at the umpire's discretion if they feel a player has been hindered in any way. Players can be ordered off at the umpire's desecration.



JUNIOR FOOTBALL

AFL BARWON JUNIOR FOOTBALL

To be read in conjunction with the 2021 AFL Victoria Country Handbook and 2021 AFL Barwon Handbook. The information contained in this document may be subject to change without notice.

To the knowledge of AFL Barwon all information was accurate as at the time of printing.

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AFL BARWON JUNIOR FOOTBALL RULES

AFL Barwon Junior Football acts under the rules and constitution of AFL Barwon, but also operate special rules for clubs, which are essential for the operation of Junior Football. These rules must be read in conjunction with:

- Laws of Australian Football
- AFL Victoria Rules and Regulations as published in the AFL VICTORIA Handbook each year or as amended by notification from AFL VICTORIA after the printing of the AFL VICTORIA Handbook.
- AFL Barwon By Laws

AFL Barwon Junior Football offers clubs age groups of Under 9, 10, 11 13 mixed, Under 15 & 17 male and Under 10, 12, 15 & 18 Female.

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Please refer to the AFL Barwon Football & Netball Bylaws for the rulings on the following:

- Player Transfers and Appeals
- Tribunal
- Investigations
- Payment of Accounts

By Laws

1 Registrations

Every player must be a registered member of their club and approved by that club committee. All players must be registered with AFL Barwon Junior Football before playing.

All initial registrations must be accompanied by suitable proof of age documents. A copy of such documentation must be retained by the club and provided to AFL Barwon Junior Football if requested prior to the player participating in another game.

Fine: Any player who plays without being registered for the 2020 season will be fined \$100 per player and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

2 Age Groups

A player must be 7 years of age by April 30th of the current season (AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Ruling). To be eligible for an age group, a player must be born on or after 1st January of the listed year on the table below.

Age Group	Year of Birth
Minimum	Born on or before 30/04/2013
Under 9's	2011
Under 10's	2010
Under 10's (Female)	2010
Under 11's	2009
Under 12's (Female)	2008
Under 13's	2007
Under 15's	2005
Under 17's	2003
Under 18's (Female)	2002
Under 19's	2001

3 Overage Permits

Requests for Overage Permits will only be considered for any Underage Competitions according to the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy as deemed appropriate by the AFL Barwon Permits Panel.

Fine: Any team found to have played an overage player without approval in writing by AFL Barwon will lose any match points and percentage and will be liable for a fine as deemed suitable by the AFL Barwon Commission. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

4 Coaches

All coaches of AFL Vic Country clubs are required to obtain or update Foundation Level Accreditation on Coach.AFL prior to the commencement of the season. All coaches must be able to be selected on the electronic version of the team sheet and cannot be 'written on'.

Coaches are to be seated in the Coaches' Box or if standing, stand directly in front of the Coaches' Box behind the marked white line positioned between the coach's box and the boundary line. Only team managers, trainers, water carriers and runners are allowed inside the playing arena. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that all spectators are behind the boundary fence. Also read the 'Junior Coaches' Code of Conduct' at the back of this handbook.

Fine: Any coach who coaches without being registered for the 2020 season will be fined \$100 per match and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

5 Umpires

Every attempt will be made to provide Appointed Field Umpires for Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female games. The home club is to notify the league where appointed umpires have not attended for Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female games.

Where clubs are required to provide umpires, please note the following:

- Ensure that two escorts are provided for the umpires (one from each competing club) at half and full time. The club runners are to perform this important function as they are clearly identified, and they must escort the umpires to their rooms unless instructed otherwise by the umpires.
- Where the club is the home club, offer umpires cool drinks between each quarter;
- Remain in the centre of the ground with the umpires during quarter time and three-quarter time breaks;
- All club Field and Goal Umpires must be a senior and mature person and be wearing appropriate attire. (i.e. AFL Barwon Junior Football umpire's top and White Goal Umpires Coat). Both the home and away teams must each supply 1 Field Umpire, who will umpire only in their team's defensive half of the field.

Umpires will be instructed to check players, runners and trainers in all grades to ensure that they are not wearing rings or jewellery that could be regarded as a danger to other participants. Plaster casts and injury protection type equipment will have to pass the umpire's inspection before being passed for use. Clubs should seek approval from AFL Barwon prior to this.

Ensure that all people within the playing area are authorized to be there. These must be included on the team sheet. It will be within the authority of any official of the AFL Barwon Football Umpires to order anyone off the ground who is not clearly identified. This includes players, trainers, runners, water carriers and medical staff.

Umpires have been instructed that no game is to commence without a stretcher provided in or near the coach's box.

Separate change rooms and shower facilities for the umpires are preferable.

Geelong Football Umpires League operates an Umpire Mentor Program for new umpires. They are identifiable by their trainee vests.

6 Club Playing Uniform Clashes

Away clubs are responsible to obtain alternative playing strips if there is a clashing of playing uniform strips for all home and away games and finals. For the purposes of finals, the lower positioned team is deemed to be the away team. Alternative guernsey's are obtainable through the Coaches Resource Centre at Highton Reserve.

Please contact any of the Football Development Managers at least four days prior to the game to book the guernsey's.

Recognised clashes are:

- Torquay, Grovedale, St Josephs, Bannockburn, Colac, Drysdale, Inverleigh
- Queenscliff, South Barwon, Portarlington, Bell Post Hill.
- South Barwon, North Shore,
- Corio, Ocean Grove, Surf Coast
- Leopold, Geelong Amateur
- St Albans, Winchelsea, Anakie, Portarlington
- Belmont, East Geelong, Newcomb

If any other clashes are identified, please follow the above steps.

7 Number of Players

There is a maximum of 23 players allowed to be on the team sheet for Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female games. The maximum of 23 players allowed to be on the team sheet does not differ for finals.

There is no maximum number of players for Under 9's, 10's, 11's and Under 10 & 12's female. AFL Barwon does strongly suggest that clubs have a due diligence to the children in ensuring they are all given similar playing time.

The minimum number of players allowable is fourteen (14) to constitute a game in Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female age groups. If a team has less than 14 players in these age groups, then that team shall forfeit the game. Game points will be awarded to the opposition team. Under agreement from both coaches, it is acceptable that the teams stage a 'no-play for points' game.

In Under 9's, 10's, 11's and Under 10 & 12's female the minimum number of players allowable to constitute a game is 12. However, under an agreement from both coaches, it is acceptable that the teams stage a "game with no scores".

Fine: Any club who play's in excess of the maximum players will be fined \$100 per match and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

8 Order Off Rule

A player ordered from the ground shall not be replaced in all age groups.

Depending on the severity of the offence, the central umpire can order a player off for the following:

1. 15 minutes and not be reported. (Yellow card)
2. 15 minutes and be reported. (Yellow card)
3. **Reported.** (Red card) Ordered off the ground for the remainder of the match. This player may be replaced after 20 minutes.

(i) Any player who is ordered off three times during the season will receive an automatic suspension of one game in home and away or finals matches. A player who is ordered off for a fourth time during the current season will face the AFL Barwon Tribunal whose decision will be binding.

(ii) A current player report pad is to be placed in the umpire's room at the beginning of the day and left there for the duration of the day's games

(iii) If a report is made, a copy of the report must be scanned/photo taken and emailed or sent via SMS through by the home club to the AFL Barwon Head of Operations (e - michael@ aflbarwon.com.au m - 0438 416 774), no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. Required Information includes: Reported player, Offended player (if applicable), Reporting umpire, alleged offence, if a tribunal is required. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope, regardless of whether a set sanction has been accepted or not.

Note the following variation to AFL Vic Country Rule 12.2

If after the game the reporting umpire doesn't indicate on the player report sheet that the offence warrants a tribunal hearing, the offending player can choose to accept the prescribed penalty by signing the player report sheet in the space provided. He can also delay this decision until noon the first working day following the incident at the latest.

The AFL Barwon Operations Manager, reporting umpire, the offending player and the offended player's club secretary all have until noon the first working day following the incident to confirm that they wish the matter to be heard by a tribunal. If one party initially chooses the set sanction, they can change their decision within the time frame.

Once one of the above parties indicates the matter should be heard at tribunal, the set sanction will not be an option. If there is no official indication within the designated timeframe that a tribunal is required, the relevant set sanction will be applied.

Notification must be made to the Tribunal Secretary or nominated representative. Clubs wishing to change venue and/or starting times shall forward their request to the AFL Barwon Head of Operations (e - michael@ aflbarwon.com.au m - 0438 416 774) by the Monday prior to the fixtured game following agreement established with the opposition team. During the grading period, clubs have 24 hours from the release time of the fixture to request a change of venue and/or starting times for that round.

AFL Barwon will contact umpires and confirm the outcome with the club that forwarded the request. Venues and start times of four game fixtures cannot be altered.

9 Grounds and Fixture Requests

Clubs can submit fixture requests for the season at the time of team entry, we'll endeavour to achieve these where possible.

During the season fixture requests will need to be received prior to 5pm Tuesday of upcoming weeks matches for it to be actioned. These fixture requests will only be considered under the following circumstances:

- Ground unavailability/weather affected
- Significant player unavailability
- Communication already made and agreed to by opposition Junior Coordinator

10 Footballs

All match day football must be purchased from AFL Barwon and have the correct badging for each particular age group.

For match day, the home team before each match must provide two footballs in good condition.

The first named team in the fixture or the home team will ensure a football in good condition is provided for the match.

Red footballs must be used for games played during the day and yellow footballs for twilight or night matches.

The following is a list of the football sizes for each age group.

Under 18 Female -	Size 4 Leather
Under 17 -	Size 5 Leather
Under 15 Female -	Size 4 Synthetic
Under 15 -	Size 4 Leather
Under 13 -	Size 4 Synthetic
Under 12 Female -	Size 3 Synthetic
Under 11 -	Size 3 Synthetic
Under 10 -	Size 3 Synthetic
Under 10 Female -	Size 2 Synthetic
Under 9 -	Size 2 Synthetic

All football branding across Community Football leagues in Victoria is to carry the WorkSafe logo on one panel. The following is a breakdown of each AFL Barwon competitions ball sponsor and sizing:

11 Player Apparel & Permissions

All players must only wear appropriate AFL VICTORIA club colored shorts. Thermal or support shorts must be neutral in color.

Gloves are BANNED in all AFL VICTORIA underage competitions unless they are required to be worn for medical reasons. In such incidents, a medical certificate must be furnished to the Football Coordinator of AFL Barwon Junior Football for validation and approval. Team Managers are to present certificates to the opposing team manager and umpires prior to each game. Please read the 'Junior Players' Code of Conduct' in the back of the book.

Be responsible and control language of players, particularly in juniors, including in the change rooms after the match. (Club theme songs)

12 Playing Equipment Badging

All playing jumpers and shorts must carry logos as specified by the AFL VICTORIA and AFL Barwon. Clubs must formally request the Commission's approval to display sponsorship logos on Club jumpers. The request must include details such as size and positioning. (Refer to the AFL Barwon Style Guide)

Penalty of \$10 per garment for players wearing unauthorized or incorrect uniform

13 Facilities

1. Ensure goal posts are correctly padded.
2. Ensure goal posts have flag holders.
3. Ensure all time clocks have been checked prior to the start of the season.
4. Ensure responsible people operate scoreboards and that the scores can be seen at all times. Attendants are to be instructed not to obscure the viewing of the scoreboard. **(There is to be no scoreboard in operation for any games of Under 12's, 11's, 10's and 9's)**
5. Ensure that stretchers are in or near the coaches' box and that the opposition is notified of its location.
6. Notify the central umpire where the spare football will be located.
7. Ensure grounds are marked correctly.
8. Ensure that Interchange stewards remain at their post for the duration of the entire game. This may mean that adequate shelter is to be provided.

14 Officials

Team officials should consist of coaches, team manager, runner, trainers, boundary umpire, goal umpire, timekeeper, interchange steward and water persons. All team officials shall be clearly marked on the team sheet. It is compulsory that the home club provides an interchange steward and the interchange sheet. Only personnel named on the team sheet are able to be on the playing side of the fence whilst the game is in progress. The officiating umpires have the jurisdiction to police this and can pause the game until the non-permitted personnel move.

It is Government legislation that all team officials engaged in activities where they are likely to work alone with children require a Working with Children Check prior to the commencement of the season. Clubs should keep a log of all club members with a Working with Children Check.

In AFL Barwon Junior Football Leagues, the maximum number of officials per team is:

3 x coaches

1 x team runner (No Runners allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's & Under 10, 12 Female Competitions)

2 x trainers

3 x water carriers (No Runners allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's & Under 10, 12 Female Competitions)

All on field officials must be identifiable in the correct AFL Barwon approved attire.

Club goal umpires and runners are not to become involved in melees or handling of players. Hefty fines and suspensions will apply.

15 Fines

In all age groups, maximum fines will be as follows:

Non-attendance at meetings or official functions	\$100
Forfeit prior to season	\$100 (Max)
Forfeit during season	\$500 (Max)
Forfeit during a match	\$1000 (Max)
Incorrect playing apparel	\$10/garment
No or late Results Entry	\$100
Incorrect Results Entry	\$50
Late start	\$40
No ground marking	\$30
No goal post padding	\$50
No Umpires' escort	\$50
No all-clear	\$50
No Timekeeper	\$50
No or late Match Envelope	\$100
Relevant paperwork not included in Match Envelope	\$25/Item
No notification of Player Report	\$100
Non-appearance at Tribunal	\$150
Substandard or non-approved footballs	\$100
No Goal Umpires	\$50
Incorrect attire for Goal Umpires	\$50
Player not on team sheet: loss of Match Points and	\$100
Coach not selected electronically on team sheet: Loss of Match Points and	\$100
Club representatives are not to speak to media about Junior Football	\$500
Incorrect Runner attire	\$50
Too many people in field of play and/or not on team sheet	\$100
Code of Conduct poster not displayed in rooms	\$50
Bringing the game into disrepute	\$ Discretion of AFL Barwon Commission

AFL BARWON JUNIOR FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

AFL Barwon Junior Football acts under the rules and constitution of AFL Barwon, but also operate special rules for clubs, which are essential for the operation of Junior Football. These rules must be read in conjunction with:

- Laws of Australian Football
- AFL Victoria Rules and Regulations as published in the AFL VICTORIA Handbook each year or as amended by notification from AFL VICTORIA after the printing of the AFL VICTORIA Handbook.
- AFL Barwon By Laws

Please refer to the AFL Barwon Football & Netball Bylaws for the rulings on the following:

- Player Transfers and Appeals
- Tribunal
- Investigations
- Payment of Accounts

AFL Barwon Junior Football offers clubs age groups of Under 9, 10, 11 13 mixed, Under 15 & 17 male and Under 10, 12, 15 & 18 Female..

AFL BARWON JUNIOR FOOTBALL COMPETITION RULES

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1 Registrations

Every player must be a registered member of their club and approved by that club committee. All players must be registered with AFL Barwon Junior Football before playing.

All initial registrations must be accompanied by suitable proof of age documents. A copy of such documentation must be retained by the club and provided to AFL Barwon Junior Football if requested prior to the player participating in another game.

Fine: Any player who plays without being registered for the 2021 season will be fined \$100 per player and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

2 Age Groups

A player must be 7 years of age by April 30th of the current season (AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY Ruling).

Age Group	Year of Birth
Minimum	Born on or before 30/04/2014
Under 9's	2012
Under 10's	2011
Under 10's (Female)	2011
Under 11's	2010
Under 12's (Female)	2009
Under 13's	2008
Under 15's	2006
Under 17's	2004
Under 18's (Female)	2003
Under 19's	2002

To be eligible for an age group, a player must be born on or after 1st January of the listed year on the table below.

3 Overage Permits

Requests for Overage Permits will only be considered for any Underage Competitions according to the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy as deemed appropriate by the AFL Barwon Permits Panel.

Fine: Any team found to have played an overage player without approval in writing by AFL Barwon will lose any match points and percentage and will be liable for a fine as deemed suitable by the AFL Barwon Commission. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

4 Coaches

All coaches of AFL Vic Country clubs are required to obtain or update Foundation Level Accreditation on Coach.AFL prior to the commencement of the season. All coaches must be able to be selected on the electronic version of the team sheet and cannot be 'written on'.

Coaches are to be seated in the Coaches' Box or if standing, stand directly in front of the Coaches' Box behind the marked white line positioned between the coach's box and the boundary line. Only team managers, trainers, water carriers and runners are allowed inside the playing arena. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure that all spectators are behind the boundary fence. All coaches are to have read the 'Junior Coaches' Code of Conduct' at the back of this handbook prior to the season commencing.

Fine: Any coach who coaches without being registered for the 2021 season will be fined \$100 per match and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage for the matches won by the team whilst the unaccredited coach continues to coach. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

5 Umpires

Every attempt will be made to provide Appointed Field Umpires for Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female games. The home club is to notify the league where appointed umpires have not attended for Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female games.

Where clubs are required to provide umpires, please note the following:

- Ensure that two escorts are provided for the umpires (one from each competing club) at half and full time. The club runners are to perform this important function as they are clearly identified, and they must escort the umpires to their rooms unless instructed otherwise by the umpires.
- Where the club is the home club, offer umpires cool drinks between each quarter;
- Remain in the centre of the ground with the umpires during quarter time and three-quarter time breaks;
- All club Field and Goal Umpires must be a senior and mature person and be wearing appropriate attire. (i.e. AFL Barwon Junior Football umpire's top and White Goal Umpires Coat). Both the home and away teams must each supply 1 Field Umpire, who will umpire only in their team's defensive half of the field.

Umpires will be instructed to check players, runners and trainers in all grades to ensure that they are not wearing rings or jewellery that could be regarded as a danger to other participants. Plaster casts and injury protection type equipment will have to pass the umpire's inspection before being passed for use. Clubs should seek approval from AFL Barwon prior to this.

Ensure that all people within the playing area are authorized to be there. These must be included on the team sheet. It will be within the authority of any official of the AFL Barwon Football Umpires to order anyone off the ground who is not clearly identified. This includes players, trainers, runners, water carriers and medical staff.

Umpires have been instructed that no game is to commence without a stretcher provided in or near the coach's box.

Separate change rooms and shower facilities for the umpires are preferable.

Geelong Football Umpires League operates an Umpire Mentor Program for new umpires.

They are identifiable by their trainee vests.

6 Number of Players

There is a maximum of 23 players allowed to be on the team sheet for Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female games. The maximum of 23 players allowed to be on the team sheet does not differ for finals.

There is no maximum number of players for Under 9's, 10's, 11's and Under 10 & 12's female. AFL Barwon does strongly suggest that clubs have a due diligence to the children in ensuring they are all given similar playing time.

The minimum number of players allowable is fourteen (14) to constitute a game in Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female age groups. If a team has less than 14 players in these age groups, then that team shall forfeit the game. Game points will be awarded to the opposition team. Under agreement from both coaches, it is acceptable that the teams stage a 'no-play for points' game.

In Under 9's, 10's, 11's and Under 10 & 12's female the minimum number of players allowable to constitute a game is 12. However, under an agreement from both coaches, it is acceptable that the teams stage a "game with no scores".

Where a team has the minimum number of players to start a match but not a full team (excluding bench), the team with the numerical advantage must either "loan" players to the opposition or play with an equal number of players on the field unless:

- A loan is offered but after evening up numbers there are still excess players in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play with one extra player; or
- The team with the numerical advantage only has one extra player than the opposition in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play with that extra player; or
- The team with minimum numbers refuses to accept "loan" players in which case the team with the numerical advantage can play at full strength.
- Team Managers and Umpires are required to sign off on player numbers on the competition match report prior to the match commencing

Fine: Any club who plays in excess of the maximum players will be fined \$100 per match and the team will receive loss of match points and percentage. Match points will only be lost if that competition plays for match points (Grading matches included).

7 Order Off Rule

A player ordered from the ground shall not be replaced in all age groups.

Depending on the severity of the offence, the central umpire can order a player off for the following:

1. 15 minutes and not be reported. (Yellow card)
2. 15 minutes and be reported. (Yellow card)
3. Reported. (Red card) Ordered off the ground for the remainder of the match.
This player may be replaced after 20 minutes.

(i) Any player who is ordered off three times during the season will receive an automatic suspension of one game in home and away or finals matches. A player who is ordered off for a fourth time during the current season will face the AFL Barwon Tribunal whose decision will be binding.

(ii) A current player report pad is to be placed in the umpire's room at the beginning of the day and left there for the duration of the day's games

(iii) If a report is made, a copy of the report must be scanned/photo taken and emailed or sent via SMS through by the home club to the AFL Barwon Head of Operations (e - michael@aflbarwon.com.au m - 0438 416 774), no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. Required Information includes: Reported player, Offended player (if applicable), Reporting umpire, alleged offence, if a tribunal is required. The original copy of the Notice of Report must be included in the match day paperwork envelope, regardless of whether a set sanction has been accepted or not.

Note the following variation to AFL Vic Country Rule 12.2

If after the game the reporting umpire doesn't indicate on the player report sheet that the offence warrants a tribunal hearing, the offending player can choose to accept the prescribed penalty by signing the player report sheet in the space provided. He can also delay this decision until noon the first working day following the incident at the latest.

The AFL Barwon Operations Manager, reporting umpire, the offending player and the offended player's club secretary all have until noon the first working day following the incident to confirm that they wish the matter to be heard by a tribunal. If one party initially chooses the set sanction, they can change their decision within the time frame.

Once one of the above parties indicates the matter should be heard at tribunal, the set sanction will not be an option. If there is no official indication within the designated timeframe that a tribunal is required, the relevant set sanction will be applied.

Notification must be made to the Tribunal Secretary or nominated representative. Clubs wishing to change venue and/or starting times shall forward their request to the AFL Barwon Head of Operations (e - michael@aflbarwon.com.au m - 0438 416 774) by the Monday prior to the fixtured game following agreement established with the opposition team. During the grading period, clubs have 24 hours from the release time of the fixture to request a change of venue and/or starting times for that round.

AFL Barwon will contact umpires and confirm the outcome with the club that forwarded the request. Venues and start times of four game fixtures cannot be altered.

8 Grounds and Fixture Requests

Clubs can submit fixture requests for the season at the time of team entry, we'll endeavour to achieve these where possible.

During the season fixture requests will need to be received prior to 5pm Tuesday of upcoming weeks matches for it to be actioned. These fixture requests will only be considered under the following circumstances:

- Ground unavailability/weather affected
- Significant player unavailability
- Communication already made and agreed to by opposition Junior Coordinator

9 Footballs

All match day football must be purchased from AFL Barwon and have the correct badging for each particular age group.

For match day, the home team before each match must provide two footballs in good condition.

The first named team in the fixture or the home team will ensure a football in good condition is provided for the match.

Red footballs must be used for games played during the day and yellow footballs for twilight or night matches.

The following is a list of the football sizes for each age group.

Under 18 Female -	Size 4 Leather
Under 17 -	Size 5 Leather
Under 15 Female -	Size 4 Synthetic
Under 15 -	Size 4 Leather
Under 13 -	Size 4 Synthetic
Under 12 Female -	Size 3 Synthetic
Under 11 -	Size 3 Synthetic
Under 10 -	Size 3 Synthetic
Under 10 Female -	Size 2 Synthetic
Under 9 -	Size 2 Synthetic

All football branding across Community Football leagues in Victoria is to carry the WorkSafe logo on one panel. The following is a breakdown of each AFL Barwon competitions ball sponsor and sizing:

10 Team Uniform

Player Apparel & Permissions

Shorts

All players must only wear appropriate AFL VICTORIA club coloured shorts. Thermal or support shorts must be neutral or beige in colour. Strictly no full-length compression tights or pants are to be worn.

Jumpers

The teams of each member club shall wear their registered club coloured jumpers, adhering to the AFL Barwon Style Guide at all games. The only permitted undergarment is another full-length same club coloured playing jumper e.g. no hoodies or full length compression tops.

No player will be permitted to compete in any official league match without a number on the back of their jumper. Each number shall be a whole number greater than zero with a maximum of three digits. No two players in the one team shall have the same number.

Where it is necessary for a player to change jumpers during a match, the field umpire shall immediately be notified of the change of jumper number. Such change must also immediately be recorded on the official team sheet by the Team Manager

Gloves

Gloves are BANNED in all AFL VICTORIA underage competitions unless they are required to be worn for medical reasons. In such incidents, a medical certificate must be furnished to the Football Coordinator of AFL Barwon Junior Football for validation and approval. Team Managers are to present certificates to the opposing team manager and umpires prior to each game. Please read the 'Junior Players' Code of Conduct' in the back of the book.

Uniform Clash

Away clubs are responsible to obtain alternative playing strips if there is a clashing of playing uniform strips for all home and away games and finals. For the purposes of finals, the lower positioned team is deemed to be the away team. Alternative guernsey's are obtainable through the Coaches Resource Centre at Highton Reserve.

Please contact any of the Football Development Managers at least four days prior to the game to book the guernsey's.

Recognised clashes are:

- Torquay, Grovedale, St Josephs, Bannockburn, Colac, Drysdale, Inverleigh
- Queenscliff, South Barwon, Portarlington, Bell Post Hill.
- South Barwon, North Shore,
- Corio, Ocean Grove, Surf Coast
- Leopold, Geelong Amateur
- St Albans, Winchelsea, Anakie, Portarlington
- Belmont, East Geelong, Newcomb

If any other clashes are identified, please follow the above steps.

Branding

All playing jumpers and shorts must carry logos as specified by the AFL VICTORIA and AFL Barwon. Clubs must formally request the Commission's approval to display sponsorship logos on Club jumpers. The request must include details such as size and positioning. (Refer to the AFL Barwon Style Guide)

JUMPER DESIGN – AFL Barwon Juniors (Male and Female)

SHORTS DESIGN – AFL Barwon Juniors (Male and Female)



Penalty of \$10 per garment for players wearing unauthorized or incorrect uniform

- AFL Barwon Juniors Off the Shelf purchase:
- WorkSafe AFL Victoria Country logo
 - Refer to AFL Victoria licensing rule 25 above.

11 Facilities

1. Ensure goal posts are correctly padded.
2. Ensure goal posts have flag holders.
3. Ensure all time clocks have been checked prior to the start of the season.
4. Ensure responsible people operate scoreboards and that the scores can be seen at all times. Attendants are to be instructed not to obscure the viewing of the scoreboard.
(There is to be no scoreboard in operation for any games of Under 12's, 11's, 10's and 9's)
5. Ensure that stretchers are in or near the coaches' box and that the opposition is notified of its location.
6. Notify the central umpire where the spare football will be located.
7. Ensure grounds are marked correctly.
8. Ensure that Interchange stewards remain at their post for the duration of the entire game. This may mean that adequate shelter is to be provided.

12 Officials

Team officials should consist of coaches, team manager, runner, trainers, boundary umpire, goal umpire, timekeeper, interchange steward and water persons. All team officials shall be clearly marked on the team sheet. It is compulsory that the home club provides an interchange steward and the interchange sheet. Only personnel named on the team sheet are able to be on the playing side of the fence whilst the game is in progress. The officiating umpires have the jurisdiction to police this and can pause the game until the non-permitted personnel move.

It is Government legislation that all team officials engaged in activities where they are likely to work alone with children require a Working with Children Check prior to the commencement of the season. Clubs should keep a log of all club members with a Working with Children Check.

In AFL Barwon Junior Football Leagues, the maximum number of officials per team is:

3 x coaches

1 x team runner (No Runners allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's & Under 10, 12 Female Competitions)

2 x trainers

3 x water carriers (No Runners allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's & Under 10, 12 Female Competitions)

All on field officials must be identifiable in the correct AFL Barwon approved attire.

Club goal umpires and runners are not to become involved in melees or handling of players.

Hefty fines and suspensions will apply.

13 Fines

In all age groups, maximum fines will be as follows:

Non-attendance at meetings or official functions	\$100
Forfeit prior to season	\$100 (Max)
Forfeit during season	\$500 (Max)
Forfeit during a match	\$1000 (Max)
Incorrect playing apparel	\$10/garment
No or late Results Entry	\$100
Incorrect Results Entry	\$50
Late start	\$40
No ground marking	\$30
No goal post padding	\$50
No Umpires' escort	\$50
No all-clear	\$50
No Timekeeper	\$50
No or late Match Envelope	\$100
Relevant paperwork not included in Match Envelope	\$25/Item
No notification of Player Report	\$100
Non-appearance at Tribunal	\$150
Substandard or non-approved footballs	\$100
No Goal Umpires	\$50
Incorrect attire for Goal Umpires	\$50
Player not on team sheet: loss of Match Points and	\$100
Coach not selected electronically on team sheet: Loss of Match Points and	\$100
Club representatives are not to speak to media about Junior Football	\$500
Incorrect Runner attire	\$50
Too many people in field of play and/or not on team sheet	\$100
Code of Conduct poster not displayed in rooms	\$50
Bringing the game into disrepute	\$ Discretion of AFL Barwon Commission

14 Times of Play

Under 9 - Matches will be 4 x 12-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.

Under 10 - Matches will be 4 x 12-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.

Under 10 Female - Matches will be 4 x 12-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.

Under 11 - Matches will be 4 x 15-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 7 mins & 5 mins.

Under 12 Female - Matches will be 4 x 12-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 6 mins & 3 mins.

Under 13 - Matches will be 4 x 15-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.

Under 15 Female - Matches will be 4 x 15-minute quarters with breaks of 3 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.

Under 15 Male - Matches will be 4 x 18-minute quarters with breaks of 5 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.

Under 17 Male - Matches will be 4 x 18-minute quarters with breaks of 5 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.

Under 18 Female - Matches will be 4 x 18-minute quarters with breaks of 5 mins, 10 mins & 5 mins.

15 Team Managers

The team managers' duties are to prepare and handle all match day paperwork with reference to the following:

1. The home team manager is responsible for the team sheet (These are to be constructed using the online facility and presented to the umpires prior to the commencement of the game), results entry, umpire's report, match day checklist, scorecards and timekeeper's cards, goal kickers, best players and the match day envelope. A current reporting of players pad must be placed in the umpires' room prior to commencement of the play.
2. The away side team manager is responsible for their team sheet and this should be given to the umpires prior to the start of the match. The paperwork for best players and goal kickers is to be forwarded to the home team manager at the earliest opportunity after the conclusion of the match. Players that were listed on the team sheet but did not play, need to be removed from the team sheet.
3. During the Finals series, a ground manager will be appointed to coordinate and distribute the relevant paperwork to the respective team managers as required. All communication relating to match details in Finals, including the Reporting of players is to be directed through the Ground Manager.

16 Match Day Paperwork

Results are to be submitted by the home club via SportsTG online web site no later than 6pm on the day the match is played and must contain correct scores as per Goal Umpires Cards, accurate best players and goal kickers for both competing teams. The home team manager is required to make the relevant changes to the team sheets for both teams. Players that were listed on the team sheet but did not play need to be deleted from the team sheet by the home team manager.

**\$100 Fine for information not being entered by the required time,
\$50 fine for incorrect details.**

The home side is required to send details of any players reported via the Report of Umpires. A copy of the report must be scanned and emailed through by the home club to the Football Coordinator, no later than 6.00pm on the day of that match. If a scanner is not available, the home club must email the report details to the Football Coordinator within the same time frame

Match Day envelope is also required by 10.30am Monday at AFL Barwon Offices. Maximum fine \$100.

(The above duties will be performed by the appointed Ground Manager during the Finals Series.)

U13, U15 & U17's Male & U15 & U18's Female		
2	Team sheets – Original	Produced using the Footyweb Database, signed and handed to umpire
1 or more	Interchange Sheet	signed by interchange steward
2	Goal Umpire cards	signed by both goal umpires and central umpire
2	Timekeepers cards	signed by both timekeepers and central umpire
1	Umpires Report	signed by all Central umpire/s officiating
1	Best & Fairest envelope	completed and sealed by umpires (EXCLUDING U13's)
	Player Reports	original copy of reports of players
9's, 10's, 11's mixed and 10's & 12's Female		
1	Umpires Report	signed by all Central umpire/s officiating
2	Team sheets – Original	Produced using the AFL Vic Country Data Base, signed and handed to umpire
2	Goal Umpire cards	Signed by both goal umpires and central umpire

\$25 Fine for each document not submitted.

All clubs are to receive the “all clear” to confirm any potential player reports and pick up match report, score cards and Best and Fairest envelope from the central umpire or AFL Barwon appointed Ground Manager during Finals Series.

17 Runners

Runners must be in a fluoro vest stating “Runner” on the back and black track suit pants or shorts as their uniform dress. Nominated Team Coaches and/or Club Senior Coaches must not act as runners. There must be only 1 team runner allowed in AFL Barwon Junior Football. There are no Runners allowed in Under 9's, Under 10's and Under 10 & 12 female.

Runners are permitted to convey messages with two players only each time the runner enters the playing arena. Runners found to be coaching on the field will be sent from the field, repeat occurrences may result in the runner being sent from the ground for the remainder of the game.

Club runners are not to become involved in melees or handling of players. Hefty fines and suspensions will apply.

18 Trainers

The minimum competency an individual must hold to officiate as a sports trainer in a junior game is an Emergency Response Coordinator.

Trainers / Medical Staff must be in a white top and white, navy blue or black pants or shorts. The top must bear the Club name, the word “trainer” and a number (trainers to be numbered 1 – 5). There is a maximum of 2 trainers for all junior football.

They are not to become involved in melees or handling of players.

Hefty fines and suspensions will apply.

Any suspended player cannot act as a trainer or runner. No person who is a registered player or an official of any club, other than their home club whether affiliated or not, nor who is under disqualification or suspension by their home club or League shall act as an official runner in any competition match, or any other match in which AFL VICTORIA affiliated club or league is participating. Any club, which infringes this rule, shall automatically forfeit the match, provided an Independent Tribunal sustains the charge.

An injured player cannot act as a trainer unless that player has a trainer’s qualification.

Training staff should be accredited, and clubs should ensure that the education and re-education of the training staff is continually updated.

19 Water Carriers

Water carriers must wear AFL Barwon light blue bibs. There is a maximum of 3 water carriers permitted for all junior football.

Water carriers must be over the age of 12 years of age for Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female. There are no water carriers allowed in Under 9’s, Under 10’s, Under 11’s or Under 10 & Under 12 female.

They must also only attend a maximum of three players at any one time on entering the field. Umpires have been instructed to send off any officials not correctly attired.

20 Interchange Steward

The home club is to provide an interchange steward for the entire game. Paperwork is to be provided by home club. The responsibilities of the interchange steward are outlined in AFL Laws of the Game Rule 7. The Interchange Steward will record the jumper numbers of players who commence on the interchange bench at the commencement of each quarter. It is the responsibility of team managers from both competing Clubs to notify the appointed Interchange Steward of the jumper numbers of players on the interchange bench at the commencement of the game and then at the end of each quarter break. There is no requirement for an interchange steward in Under 9’s, Under 10’s, Under 11’s or Under 12 female.

21 Timekeepers

The timekeeper must record starting and finishing times of quarters on the scorecards. They must also record times of players being sent off the ground (on departure and re-entry to the ground). Time clocks should only be stopped when the stretcher enters the playing arena, a head count is taking place, blood rule or a player has been sent off. Scorecards must also correspond.

22 Goal Umpire

The Goal Umpire must be a senior and mature person, be attired in a white coat and have flags.

23 Out of Bounds / Boundary Umpire

In all AFL Barwon Junior competitions, the following “Last Possession” rule will apply.

A free kick shall be awarded against a player who:

- Kicks or Handballs the football over the Boundary Line without the football being touched by another Player;
- For the purposes of defining a kick, a kick shall be an intentional action, not accidental. When the ball comes off the foot or lower leg of a player without the intent of the player being to kick the ball, it will be deemed accidental contact and will not be determined as a kick by the umpire and therefore will result in a ball-up 15 metres in from the boundary.
- Where a Player who does not have possession stops the football being touched by an Opposition Player by Shepherding the ball across the Boundary Line where the ball could have otherwise been touched by the player being blocked, then the umpire will not award a free kick but will instead order a ball-up 15 metres in from the boundary.

In junior finals matches, boundary umpires should be supplied, however, the season practice will take place.

24 Advantage

Advantage is to be called in all Under 13, 15 & 17 male and Under 15 & 18 female games but not in Under 10 and 12 female or 11's 10's & 9's games. Where the field Umpire intends to or has signaled that they intend to award a Free Kick to a Player, the field Umpire may, instead of awarding the Free Kick, allow play to continue if a Player of the Team who receives the Free Kick has taken the advantage.

25 Eligibility for Season/Finals

1. In AFL Barwon Junior Football a player can only play ONE game in a particular age group per weekend (including Friday night).
2. A player must play at least three AFL Barwon Junior Football games in a particular age group with his or her club to play in a finals game in that age group.
3. For the purpose of eligibility to play with a particular team in AFL Barwon Junior Football Finals, a player who has played in a higher grade/division must play at least six (6) games in lower grades/age groups to be eligible to play in finals with a lower graded team.
4. Furthermore, any player who has played more than half the season with a higher grade or division is ineligible to play in the lesser grade of AFL Barwon Junior Football finals. (This rule does not apply to Under 18 NAB League Girls)
5. Should a player qualify to represent more than one team, AFL Barwon Junior Football has clarified that players may only play in one final on the same weekend, regardless of division, gender of competition and/or age group.

6. To be eligible to play in a particular team during the finals series a player must meet the requirements of 25.1, 25.2 and 25.3. Regardless of the participation in finals of any other teams from their club on that weekend.

Higher grade/division definition: Any match played in a higher graded division or older age group or a representative competition will be deemed as a higher grade/division match and the player will need to meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the above Eligibility for Season/Finals to be eligible for the lower grade/division during finals.

Fine \$100.00 and loss of match points.

26 Extra Time in Finals

1. There will be no drawn games in any finals. In the case of equal scores at the end of scheduled time, the teams will play two (2) five (5) minute periods. The match will recommence with the team kicking to the same end as they were in the last scheduled quarter, with an immediate change of ends at the conclusion of the first extra time period.
2. Coaches are permitted to address players at the conclusion of the fourth quarter. Players must be in position to recommence the game prior to the goal umpires returning to their position.
3. In the event of scores still being tied at the conclusion of these periods of extra time, play will recommence (without change of ends) and the team to score first will be the winner.

AFL BARWON JUNIOR CODES OF CONDUCT

Player And Officials Code Of Conduct

Players and Official Code of Conduct is in place to ensure football is a positive and enjoyable for everyone. All players are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct.

Each Player and Official must:

- a) Not bring the game of Australian Football, the AFL, or the League or the Club into disrepute;
- b) Participate in Competition Matches in accordance with the Laws of Australian Football;
- c) Respect the spirit of the Laws of Australian Football and fair play, and behave accordingly;
- d) Display and foster respect for Umpires, opponents, Coaches, administrators, Officials, parents and spectators;
- e) Never argue with or dispute a decision of an Official or Umpire. If a Participant disagrees with a decision, they should deal with their dispute in accordance with the relevant Rules, Regulations, Policies and Determinations;
- f) Control their emotions, and not engage in verbal abuse of or swearing at or in the vicinity of others, sledging Players and/or Coaches or behaviour that deliberately distracts or provokes an opponent;
- g) Comply with the AFL and LEAGUE XXX Rules and Regulations including the National Member Protection Policy, the League By-Laws and this Code of Conduct;
- h) Never engage in any type of violence either on or off the field;
- i) Contribute to a safe sporting environment and respectful culture which is accepting of individual differences, and behave accordingly;
- j) Cooperate with their Club Officials, Coaches and team-mates;
- k) Participate for their own enjoyment and benefit and for the enjoyment and benefit of their teammates, Coaches and Club Officials;
- l) Comply with and observe the AFL Vilification and Discrimination Policy including respecting the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of gender, ability, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion;
- m) Not engage in conduct that is, unethical, unbecoming or likely to cause harm to the reputation of the Participant or the Club;
- n) Not take part in any form of bullying including via the use of social media;
- o) Not make or post inappropriate, offensive or discriminatory comments in public, including via social media, about Players, Clubs, Umpires, Officials, the AFL, or the League. Social media includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including social media such as, but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, websites and blogs) and;
- p) Use appropriately the facilities and equipment made available for administration, coaching, training, Competition Matches and events, including facilities provided by the opposing teams;

AFL BARWON JUNIOR CODES OF CONDUCT

Parents and Spectators Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct aims to provide a safe environment for participation. Aggressive, threatening or other inappropriate behaviour by members, their families, their friends, and other sporting personnel while attending a game or event will not be tolerated.

Each Parent and Supporter must:

- a) Support the participants and enjoy the Match;
- b) Encourage participation, but don't force it;
- c) Teach that enjoyment is more important than winning;
- d) Not ridicule mistakes or losses;
- e) Lead by example and respect all Players, Coaches, Umpires, Officials and spectators. Physical or verbal abuse will not be tolerated;
- f) Recognise all volunteers who give up their valuable time;
- g) Not publicly criticise Umpires and instead raise personal concerns with Club Officials in private;
- h) Do not use remarks based on race, religion, gender or ability as many such comments are politically incorrect and it is your Coach, team-mates, Club and family that are let down with such remarks;
- i) Respect the facilities and equipment of their own and opposing Clubs;
- j) Not engage in physical and/or verbal intimidation, abuse or conduct toward any Player, Official, Umpire or supporter;
- k) Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, Coaches, Officials or Players;
- l) Not to enter the field of play in any sanctioned Competition Match unless granted permission by an Official to do so;
- m) Not take part in any form of bullying including via the use of social media;
- n) Not make or post inappropriate, offensive or discriminatory comments in public, including via social media, about Players, Clubs, Umpires, Officials, the AFL, or the League. Social media includes, but is not limited to, email, instant messaging, text messages, phone messages, digital images, website postings (including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, websites and blogs).

Non-Compliance

Parents or others found to have behaved inappropriately, and who are associate members or have agreed to abide by our club's Code of Behaviour and this policy, may face disciplinary action as outlined in our Member Protection Policy.

AFL BARWON JUNIOR CODES OF CONDUCT

Coaches Code of Conduct

"I _____ of _____

hereby commit to the best of my ability, to uphold the following requirements of the AFL Coaches' Code of Conduct whilst representing myself and the Australian Football League (AFL).

I understand that as an integral component of my AFL National Coaching Accreditation, I must maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct in the best interests of the sport of Australian football and the players and/or staff in my care.

By signing this Code of Conduct, I understand and agree that:

1. I will respect all individuals within the context of my involvement in Australian football, and will refrain from any discriminatory practices including, but not limited to, discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender, ethnic background, special ability/disability or sexual orientation, preference or identity.
2. I will abide by and teach the AFL Laws of the Game and the Rules of my Club and League/Association.
3. I will be reasonable in the demands I make on the time commitments of the players in my care, having consideration for their health and well-being.
4. I will be supportive at all times and I will refrain from any form of personal or physical abuse and unnecessary physical contact with the players in my care.
5. I will show consideration for varying maturity and levels of ability of my players when designing practice schedules, practice activities and involvement in football competition.
6. Where I am responsible for players in the 5-18 year old age group, I will use best endeavours to ensure that players gain equal playing time.
7. I will monitor and ensure the safety of players in my care.
8. In recognising injury and sickness, I will seek and follow the physician's advice concerning the participation and / or return to training of injured or ill players.
9. I will keep up to date with the principles of coaching and skill development, and of factors relating to the welfare of my players.
10. I will at all times display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that players understand and practice fair play.
11. I will display and foster respect for umpires, opponents, coaches, administrators, officials, parents and spectators.
12. I will ensure that players are involved in a positive environment where skill learning and development are priorities and are not overshadowed by a desire to win.
13. I reject the use of performance enhancing substances in sport and will abide by the guidelines in the AFL Anti-Doping policy.
14. I acknowledge that the AFL, or a body affiliated with the AFL, may take disciplinary action against me if I breach any part of this Code of Conduct. I understand that the AFL, or a body affiliated with the AFL, is required to implement a complaints handling procedure in accordance with the principles of natural justice, in the event of an allegation against me.
15. I acknowledge that disciplinary action against me may include de-registration as a Coach and a member of CoachAFL.
16. I have read, understood and agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of Accreditation as a coach and member of CoachAFL.

NAME:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

“

NETBALL COMPETITION RULES

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These are the rules governing the internal affairs of AFL Barwon, incorporating the Geelong Football Netball League & the Bellarine Football Netball League. They are the operating procedures that determine the conduct and direction of the organisations.

AFL Barwon shall follow the Official Netball Rules as set down by International Netball Federation, unless these have been superseded by Local By-Laws or Competition Regulations.

1. NETBALL VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP

1.1 Netball Victoria membership fee is set annually by the Victorian Netball Association Inc.

VNA Prices for 2021 are as follows:

Senior: \$78 (incl. GST) 18 years and over. Born on or before 31/12/2003

Junior: \$58 (incl. GST) All Junior players Under 18 years of age

All Abilities: \$58 (incl. GST) Netballers with a disability – must show current annual Disability Service Pension Care or Health Care Card.

Off the Court: \$46 Committee members, volunteer's parents and others (Players, coaches and umpires must be a current senior, junior or AA member)

Players, coaches & umpires must be registered with Netball Victoria before taking the court prior to commencing participation.

Penalty for a player, coach or umpire who is not registered with Netball Victoria:

Loss of 4 Premiership Points and \$50 fine to the offending club on each occurring occasion.

2. Player Registration

2.1 Registrations close on the 30th of June in line with clearances.

Every player must be a registered member of their club on the clubs MyNetball database.

Penalties for not registering players with their club before they take the court:

Loss of 4 Premiership Points and \$50 fine to the offending club on each occurring occasion.

3. GFNL/BFNL/AFL Barwon JN PLAYERS ELIGIBILITY

3.1 Participant age is determined as at 31st December of that year – 2021

3.2 Males who are 13 years of age (and older) are not permitted to participate in a female competition. To avoid any doubt:

3.2.1 males must be less than 13 years of age (actual age) as at the first day of the competition or season; and

3.2.2 males that turn 13 during that competition or season will be permitted to participate for the duration of that competition or season.

3.3 In 11 & under and 13 & under competitions, boys can participate on an unrestricted basis with respect to number of boys on court and positions played.

3.4 In 15 & under and 17 & under competitions, boys can participate but must be less than 13 years of age (actual age) as at the first day of the competition or season.

3.5 Players may not take the court in more than two games over any given weekend/round. 2 x senior, 1 x senior & 1 x junior or 2 x junior games.

3.6 In the GFNL competitions a junior player is not able to play in the same age group more than once – for example a player cannot play in both Division 1 & 2 in the same age group over a weekend.

3.7 Juniors are eligible to play in a senior grade in the year they turn 15 years of age.

3.8 In the GFNL competitions any player who plays in either 'A Grade' or 'B Grade' senior grade competitions during a season are not permitted to participate in the 19/U competition for that season.

3.9 Once a senior player has taken the court in a specific division they are ineligible to play in a division 2 grades lower i.e. – A Grade & C Grade/D Grade/E Grade or B Grade & D Grade/E Grade or C Grade & E Grade. This applies to senior grades only.

3.10 In The GFNL, 19/U players only, are allowed to play C Grade, D Grade & E Grade finals also as long as they are qualified 4.1.

3.11 Players who play 24 quarters in a lower senior grade automatically qualify for any senior grade higher. (Players must still adhere to all other applicable competition regulations that restrict player movement eg: 3.9).

4. PLAYER QUALIFICATION: GFNL

4.1 Players must take the court in at least 24 quarters in a division throughout the home and away season to be eligible to participate in that division's finals series. If the minimum of 24 quarters is not played the player is ineligible to play finals.

NOTE – to be eligible under this rule – a player MUST have PLAYED ON COURT during the games that player team sheets have been submitted throughout the home and away game series. Where teams play less than 80% of the maximum number of scheduled games, a pro rata system will apply.

4.2 Junior players qualified in Division 2 of their age group automatically qualify to play in Division 1 finals of that age group.

4.3 Once a player takes the court in the 25th quarter they are ineligible to play in a lower grade/division in the same age group.

4.4 A player can only play in one senior game over one weekend of finals

4.5 Any junior is eligible to play in two finals (one junior and one senior) over one weekend of finals as long as they are qualified as per 4.1.

Penalty for breaching any part of rule 4: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

5. PLAYER QUALIFICATION: BFNL

5.1 Players must take the court in at least 24 quarters (minimum) in a division throughout the home and away season to be eligible to participate in that division's finals series. If the minimum of 24 quarters is not played the player is ineligible to play finals.

NOTE – to be eligible under this rule – a player MUST have PLAYED ON COURT during the games that player tea, sheets have been submitted throughout the home and away game series. Where teams play less than 80% of the maximum number of scheduled games, a pro rata system will apply.

5.2 Once a player takes the court in the 25th quarter they are ineligible to play in a lower grade/division in the same age group.

5.3 A player can only play in one senior game over one weekend of finals.

Penalty for breaching any part of rule 5: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

6. PLAYER QUALIFICATION: AFL Barwon JN

6.1 Players must take the court in at least 20 quarters in a division throughout the home and away season to be eligible to participate in that divisions finals series. If the minimum of 20 quarters is not played the player is ineligible to play finals.

NOTE – to be eligible under this rule – a player MUST have PLAYED ON COURT during the games that player team sheets have been submitted throughout the home and away game series. Where teams play less than 80% of the maximum number of scheduled games, a pro rata system will apply.

Penalty for breaching any art of rule 6: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

7. AFL Barwon Junior Netball

7.1 Overflow 11/U, 13/U, 15/U and 17/U teams will participate at Kardinia Park (outdoor courts) on a Friday and Tuesday afternoon following a fixture that will be devised according to the number of teams entered.

7.2 Once a player takes the court for a Division 1 Saturday team they are unable to play in the Friday Night competition.

7.3 Players commencing the season in the Division 2 Saturday competition are permitted to play the Friday night competition but only in the next age group above i.e.: 13/U – 15/U.

7.4 Once the Friday night player steps on the court in the 25th quarter in the Saturday Division 2 team they can no longer play Friday nights in that age group.

Netball manager can grant approval for players to swap division if request is received within the first 3 weeks of competition. i.e. – Division 2 Saturday to Division 3 Friday in the same age group.

7.5 In the event of a club fielding 2 or more teams in the same age group, movement of players between teams is allowed throughout the first 4 weeks whilst grading takes place, after which players may not move between teams.

7.6 A player playing in the AFL Barwon Junior Netball Friday Night competition can play a maximum of two games over one night but not in the same age group.

7.7 In the event of inclement weather or dangerous court conditions a decision will be made by AFL Barwon to cancel matches by 3:30pm and teams will be notified via the AFL Barwon website and Facebook Page. Team managers will be notified via email.

7.8 In AFL Barwon JN any player is only allowed to play in one final over the night

7.9 Players cannot play in both Saturday Division 2 & Friday night Finals over one weekend.

7.10 All teams on Friday and Tuesday nights are responsible for their own First Aid. Ice Packs are available from the AFL Barwon Kardinia Park Office.

Penalty for breaching any art of rule 7: Score line will be recorded as 10 – Nil in favour of the non-offending team or match result, whichever is the better outcome for the non-offending team. Fine is \$100 for the offending club.

8. UMPIRES

8.1 All clubs must appoint an umpire co-ordinator for the season. It is preferred that this person is a badged umpire who within the last 2 years (minimum) completed, or enrolled to complete, the 'Rules in Action Course' or the AFL Barwon regional umpiring workshop.

8.2 AFL Barwon will appoint an umpire development panel to oversee the development and badging of all umpires throughout the season and to roster panel umpires for all GFNL & BFNL 'A Grade' & 'B Grade' Senior Matches.

8.3 All club and panel umpires must have a current season VNA membership.

8.4 Umpires shall not be changed during a game, but for exceptional circumstances. Refer to rule 9.10.

8.5 Voting for Best & Fairest shall be as follows

8.5.1 The match umpires shall award votes of the best and fairest three players in each game, Voting shall be 3 votes for the best and fairest player, 2 votes for the second best and fairest player and 1 vote for the third best and fairest player.

8.5.2 Club & Panel umpires shall register the votes on respective League and Club vote cards where requested/supplied. Votes shall be placed in the envelope provided by AFL Barwon and included in the Match Day Envelope. It is to be clearly signed by both umpires on the card and also across the seal of the envelope once the card is enclosed.

8.5.3 Club umpire co-ordinators, panel umpire or a nominated person within the club, may assist trainee umpires with voting.

Penalty: \$20.00 fine to the offending Club or Panel Umpire

8.6 Umpires must supply their own whistle and clubs must have a current rulebook and the competition by-laws at the court.

8.7 Club and Panel Umpires are to be dressed appropriately in umpire's attire: White t-shirt or jumper, white shorts or skirt, correct sports shoes. White or navy tracksuit pants and white rain jacket are permitted.

Penalty: \$20.00 fine to the offending Club or Panel Umpire

8.8 Umpires are authorised to umpire three (3) games on any given match day. However, umpires are only allowed to umpire two (2) consecutive games and must have a one match break and then return and umpire another game. Unless authorised by the AFL Barwon Netball Manager.

9. CLUB UMPIRES

9.1 Umpires officiating at the 17 & Under Division 1 & 2, 19/U, E Grade, D Grade and C Grade matches must have a minimum C Grade Umpires Badge.

Note: Special circumstances will apply for the assessment and badging of trainee umpires. These will be determined by AFL Barwon.

- 9.2** Club umpires are not permitted to coach the team for which they are umpiring. If, in an emergency, a coach needs to umpire his/her team, then a substitute coach must take over.
- 9.3** Club umpires must complete a Theory Exam/Introduction to umpiring prior to the start of the season.
- 9.4** With the exception of 'A Grade' & 'B Grade', one club umpire from each club will officiate at each Home and Away game.
- 9.5** Friday and Tuesday afternoon matches will be umpired by trainee/beginner & badged umpires as organised by the Friday Night umpire co-ordinator as part of the umpire Development Program.
- 9.6** Proposed payment scheme for club umpires for 2020 is:
- 9.6.1** 11U, 13/U, 15/U & 17/U Matches - \$15 per game (\$10 without a badge)
- 9.6.2** 19/U, 'C Grade', 'D Grade' & E Grade - \$20 per game (must have a minimum C Grade badge)
- 9.7** AFL Barwon junior Netball competition umpire payments: Beginner: \$8.00, Trainee: \$10.00, Badged: \$12.00 and mentor \$15.00.
- 9.8** In the case of a forfeit the offending team must pay the umpire fees for both teams.
- 9.9** Trainee umpires may have a badged umpire or badged umpires co-ordinator of that club running with them in junior and senior games.
- 9.10** When one or more trainee umpire is to officiate in the game, a change of umpire is permitted, provided both captains and the opposition umpire are advised before the match commences.

10. PANEL UMPIRES

- 10.1** Panel umpires shall be appointed by AFL Barwon and the umpire high performance panel
- 10.2** Panel umpires must register all relevant contact details with AFL Barwon before the current season
- 10.3** Panel Umpire fee structure: Club Umpire \$45, C Badge Trainee \$45, C Badge Panel Umpire \$50 & A & B Badge Panel Umpire \$55
- 10.4** Umpires will be paid electronically by AFL Barwon. Clubs will be charged the Panel umpire fees through annual team fees.
- 10.5** Panel umpires must be available to support and assist club/trainee umpires when requested by AFL Barwon or the league umpire co-ordinator.
- 10.6** Panel umpires shall support the participation of representative teams in other competitions, and be paid a fee as will be determined by AFL Barwon.

11. DRESS CODE

- 11.1** Each club must register its playing uniform – which includes all uniform colours and designs – prior to the commencement of the season for AFL Barwon approval.
- 11.2** AFL Barwon must sight a proof of any new dress/bib order regardless of supplier before order is placed.
- 11.3** AFL Barwon will review each clubs submitted uniforms/proofs and advise clubs of the review outcome. The AFL Barwon uniform review outcome is final.
- 11.4** Clubs must also notify AFL Barwon in writing of **any proposed changes** to their uniform.

AFL Barwon will review proposed changes and advise clubs of the reviewed outcome. The AFL Barwon outcome is final.

11.5 Bibs must contain the appropriate logo's based of the AFL Barwon Style Guide..

11.6 All players must be in correct approved uniform by the first match. If uniforms are not ready – approval must be requested from AFL Barwon on an agreed interim uniform.

11.7 No bikini pants, see through pants, slacks, bike pants, or tracksuit pants – except in extreme circumstance (refer 11.9) and with the approval of AFL Barwon Netball Manager – are permitted. The ONLY EXCEPTION is the 11/U players, who may wear matching coloured leggings and long sleeve top under dress. Club uniform must be visible – if the weather is inclement.

11.8 Players wearing compression socks must ensure they are neutral or black.

11.9 Skirts must be an appropriate length and may not contain badges or any other advertising.

11.10 Club and panel umpires shall ensure that players

11.10.1 Are wearing no jewellery, earrings or piercings. No taping of piercings allowed

NOTE – wedding ring or medical alert bracelet may be taped.

11.10.2 Fingernails are short & smooth. No taping allowed

11.10.3 No gloves except where a qualified and registered medical certificate is provided to the officiating umpires prior to the player taking the court for medical conditions requiring the wearing of gloves.

11.10.4 Sunglasses are not permitted

Penalty for breaking any part of rule 11 thru 11.10: the offending player may not take the court until rectified.

12. CONDUCT OF MATCHES

12.1 Timing

12.1.1 11/U, 13/U (Divisions 1 & 2); 15/U (Divisions 1 & 2); 17/U (Division 1 & 2), 19/U; 'D Grade & E Grade matches- 4 x 10 minute quarters with an interval of 2 minutes between the first – second quarters; an interval of 3 minutes at half time; and another 2 minute interval between third and fourth quarters.

12.1.2 C Grade 4 x 12 minute quarters with a two (2) minute interval at $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ time with a three (3) minute interval at $\frac{1}{2}$ time.

12.1.3 'A Grade' & 'B Grade' matches – 4 x 15 minute quarters with an interval of three minutes between the first and second quarter; an interval of five minutes at half time; and another 3 minute interval between the third and fourth quarters.

12.2 Injury/Illness or Blood

12.2.1 The umpires hold time for blood when noticed or for injury/illness when requested by an on-court player (in extreme circumstances the umpires may hold time without a request being made).

12.2.2 The player concerned must leave the court within 30 seconds and receive any treatment off the court. The timekeepers advise the umpires when 10 seconds remain

12.2.3 Only primary care person/s are permitted on the court to assess the player's medical condition and to assist the player from the court.

12.2.4 In the event that the primary care person/s advise the umpires that the player concerned cannot be removed safely within 30 seconds, the umpires will extend the time for the player to leave the court,

12.2.5 The umpires may authorise other person (including team officials) to assist the player to leave the court if needed.

12.2.6 Any blood on the ball or the court must be cleaned before play restarts and any blood stained clothing replaced.

12.2.7 During the stoppage both teams may make substitutions and/or team changes, provided these are completed within the time allowed for the stoppage by the umpires.

12.2.8 If no substitution is made for the injured/ill player, or for a player who is bleeding, play may resume with the position left vacant. If the player is the Centre and no substitution is made, one player must move to play as centre to allow the match to continue.

12.2.9 If the position is left vacant the player concerned or a substitute may subsequently, after advising the umpire, take the court immediately after one of the following:

A goal has been scored (in this case the player or the substitute must play in the position left vacant)

Sanction: Free pass where ball was when play stopped – the player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry

12.2.10 Player Conduct: Swearing

12.2.10.1 Any player who swears and it is audible to the umpire whether it be at themselves, another player or an umpire must be suspended from the court immediately

12.3 Officials

12.3.1 The Match officials are: Umpires

12.3.2 The Technical officials are: Scorers & Timekeepers

12.3.3 The team officials: A team may have up to five team officials. These will include a coach and at least one primary care person.

12.3.4 In addition – the maximum of five players not on court at start of play, shall constitute the Team Bench.

12.3.5 The bench must only consist of the personnel in rules 12.3.2 & 12.3.3. No Babies, Children, Animals or unauthorised persons.

13. 2021 GFNL Game Times

13.1 2 Court Venues

8:15am 13 & Under Division 1 & 13 & Under Division 2

9:10am 15 & Under Division 1 & 15 & Under Division 2

10:05am D Grade & 17 & Under Division 1

11:00am C Grade & 17 & Under Division 2

12:00pm B Grade & 19 & Under

1:35pm A Grade and (12:55pm E Grade)

13.2 2021 BFNL Game Times

8:15am 15/U Sec 2 and 13/U Sec 2

9:15am 13/U Sec 1 and 17/U Sec 1

10:15am D Grade and 19/U

11:15am C Grade and 15&U Sec 1

12:15pm B Grade and 17&U Sec 2

1:45pm A Grade and (1:15pm E Grade)

13.2.1 The home captain shall toss the coin and visiting captain shall call.

13.2.2 Any team failing to start play on time shall, after 5 minutes, forfeit 5 goals to the opposition, and a further goal per minute until 10 minutes have elapsed. A forfeit shall then be declared, providing the opposing team has at less than 5 or more players present.

13.2.3 Players who umpire must be given appropriate time to change between games. Under these circumstances conditions of a forfeit do not apply. Players who umpire must not delay between games.

13.2.4 All matches are to be played irrespective of weather conditions. However, if the conditions are considered by either of the officiating umpires, or the executive members of both participating clubs, to present a physical risk to either the players or the umpires, then the umpires shall call a ten (10) minute break. Following this ten (10) minute break the officiating umpires, in consultation with the executive members of both participating clubs, will make a decision as to the future of the match.

13.2.5 If only one match is being played at the time and there are two courts available, the other court can be considered. However, the venue is NOT to be changed.

13.2.6 A decision made by two (2) umpires to abandon a game due to weather conditions must be recorded on the score card, stating the time, and at what stage in the match that decision was made

13.2.7 If a junior umpire or trainee umpire is officiating with a senior umpire for either a junior or senior match, one (1) executive member from the club represented by the junior umpire/s should make the decision, along with the senior umpire, to abandon a game.

13.2.8 Play in any match, delayed due to weather conditions, is to commence, or resume, upon the direction of two (2) officiating umpires.

13.2.9 Should a match be abandoned due to dangerous conditions before half time, a draw will be awarded. Should a match be abandoned due to dangerous conditions at half time or after half time, the score will stand.

Penalty: Any team, which fails to take the court when so directed, will be declared as forfeiting the match and four (4) premiership points will be awarded to the non-offending team. Payment of the fees applicable to the two (2) umpires will be charged to the offending team.

13.2.10 It is compulsory for clubs to use AFL Barwon match day balls as nominated by AFL Barwon this season for all junior and senior matches. These balls are provided for each team as part of their AFL Barwon fees.

14. SCORING

14.1 Each team must provide a trained non-participating scorer for all matches

14.2 Scorers must be 14 years of age or over.

Penalty: \$20 fine to the offending club.

14.3 Each home team must provide a scoreboard and a non-participating score board attendant for all matches

14.4 The home team scorer is to record on the official scoresheet. The away team scorer is to act as check scorer and time-keeper. The time-keeper will sound siren/horn at the conclusion of each quarter and as directed in 14.5.

14.5 The time keeper will notify the umpire by sounding the horn/siren when there are **30 seconds and 10 seconds** remaining prior to the **start of the game and each interval stoppage.**

14.6 The official scoresheet and timing device must, at all times, be placed in full view of both scorers for the duration of matches.

Penalty: \$20 fine for the offending club.

14.7 The official scorers must sit together for the duration of the match at the location to be known as the score bench. Scorers **MUST** be allowed a clear and uninterrupted view of the game when locating a score bench.

14.8 AFL Barwon official scoresheets are to be used.

14.9 Alterations can only be made to the score sheet immediately at the time the goal is scored. For example, if you record the goal to the wrong team it must be crossed out immediately and the goal recorded against the correct team.

The only other time a score sheet can be altered is when the scoresheet is checked and the error in the addition/calculation of goals (strokes/tally marks) is discovered, then the final score can be adjusted – but no additional goals may be added or subtracted from that score sheet. Hence, the final match score is calculated by the addition of the goals recorded (strokes/tally marks) against the GS or GA.

14.10 The score sheet is official once it is signed by the scorers, captains etc. if a human error has occurred when adding the goals scored and the mistake is not discovered until the scoresheet is checked by the recorder or administrator. Then the procedure listed under dispute resolution competition regulation 17 must be followed.

14.11 Procedure used for recording goals during the game:

- Enter goals (tally marks), per line or position
- Cross off cumulative total.
- Record next centre pass as it is taken
- Goals recorded against GS and GA in each quarter is the official score.

14.12 Procedure for completing the official score sheet at interval breaks:

- Total goals scored at the end of each quarter.
- At the end of each quarter, circle the current cumulative score.

14.13 Other general duties of the scorer

- Confirm centre pass with umpires when required.
- At the end of the game ensure captains', umpires' and scorers' names are **PRINTED** on the score sheet.

14.14 Essential Duty.

- Watch the umpires and play at all times and be aware of the 'no goal' call by the umpire.

14.15 The scoresheet will list the complete names (both given and surname) of all players intending to take the court.

14.16 Names on the scoresheet must not be added or altered after the commencement of play. Any players who take the court without having been named on the scoresheet, must be removed immediately and cannot participate in the rest of the match. The scoresheet shall also indicate the positions played each quarter, the goals scored and the match score.

Penalty 14.16: Offending player to be removed immediately from the court. For the period the player was on the court, the score for that team is removed – scorers to notate on scoresheet – plus \$100.00 fine to the offending club.

14.17 At the match conclusion, to indicate their satisfaction that the information on the official scoresheet is correct, it is to be signed by:

- The captains of both competing teams
- Both the scorers

Umpires must sign the scoresheet to advise that they have officiated the game

Penalty: \$20 fine to club or Panel Umpire

14.18 On match day, the Home Club is responsible for entering the results onto the MyNetball Database by 4:30pm. And is to include the following:

- quarter by quarter scores and final score
- Best Players (no team effort)
- Successful goals
- No. of Goal Attempts (not in 11/U, 13/U and 15/U)
- Quarters played for each player

Please note: It is the responsibility of the **HOME** club team to ensure all this information is correct before entering the data.

Penalty: \$100 fine.

14.19 It is the responsibility of the Home Club to ensure that all match day paperwork (score sheets, votes, playing are checklist) be sealed in the AFL Barwon Match Day Envelope and delivered to AFL Barwon by 10:00am on the first working day following the match. Outside office hours, it should be placed in the window slip at AFL Barwon.

Penalty: \$100.00 fine.

15. FINALS

15.1 Teams found playing an ineligible player during finals will be considered to have lost that match and be subject to a fine set by AFL Barwon

15.2 Matches shall be conducted for finals as for home and away matches. The starting times may vary and clubs will be advised accordingly.

15.3 Drawn matches in finals:

- There is a four (4) minute interval at the end of full time to enable scores to be verified on the score sheet.
- Positional changes and substitutions may be made during change over time.
- 2 x 5 minute halves will be played (13/U thru E Grade); C Grade- 2 x 6 minute halves; A Grade & B Grade – 2 x 7 minute halves.
- At the end of the first half teams have a 1 minute break, teams change ends, positional changes & substitutions are allowed.
- Should there still be a draw at the end of the second half of extra time, Play continues until one team has a two goal advantage and therefore declared the winner.

15.4 In each finals match the captain whose team finished lowest at the conclusion of the Home & Away games shall toss the coin and the captain whose team finished the higher at the conclusion of the Home & Away games shall call

15.5 In the **GFNL ONLY** any junior is eligible to play in two finals – one junior and one senior – over one weekend of finals as long as they are qualified as per rule 4.

15.6 In the **BFNL ONLY** any junior is eligible to play in two finals on the same day but not in the same age group. All players must be qualified as per rule 5.

15.7 Senior players are only eligible to play in one final, per weekend.

15.8 Presentation ceremonies for both junior and senior divisions will be determined by AFL Barwon in consultation with member clubs.

15.9 If requested by AFL Barwon – all clubs will be allocated a responsibility during the final series.

15.10 In the event of a team being unable to contest a final series match, the AFL Barwon Netball Manger must be notified by the Tuesday prior to the scheduled day of the match.

Walkover fees will apply.

15.11 Where a team, scheduled to play in the first round of the final series, advise that it is unable to contest that match, the team which was placed 6th at the conclusion of the Home & Away series will be promoted, and each other team within the top 5 promoted accordingly.

15.12 Where a team, scheduled to play in any subsequent round of the final series, advises that it is unable to contest to that match, a walkover will be given to the opposing team which will then have automatic entry to the next round of the final series.

15.13 A team which is unable to contest one final will not be permitted to take part in subsequent finals in the same season.

15.14 Club officials are responsible for submission of the starting team list to the convener of finals for that day – at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the commencement of the match. Players must take the court in the nominated positions.

15.15 Final matches are to be played irrespective of weather conditions. However, if the conditions are considered by either or both of the officiating umpires, or AFL Barwon representative, to present a physical risk to either players or umpires, then the umpires shall call a ten (10) minute break. Then after the break, the officiating umpires, in consultation with AFL Barwon netball manager, will make a decision as to the future of the match.

15.16 Play in any match, delayed due to weather conditions, is to commence, or resume, upon the direction of the two (2) officiating umpires or AFL Barwon representative.

15.17 A decision made by the two (2) officiating umpires and/or AFL Barwon representative to abandon a match due to weather conditions must be recorded on the score card, stating the time, and at what stage in the match that decision was made.

15.18 Alternative arrangements will be determined by AFL Barwon in consultation with member clubs.

15.19 Independent scorers and timers will be allocated to each junior and senior finals game by AFL Barwon.

15.20 Blood Policy and injury time rules must be adhered to during matches as per netball Victoria rules. At no time is a player allowed to leave the court unless directed to do so by the Umpire/Primary carer in order that any bleeding and/or injury can be assessed.

16. RISK MANAGEMENT

16.1 Injury reporting

16.1.1 All clubs are responsible for recording ALL injuries at the club discretion of the injured player or player's guardian (if aged under 18) clubs are to store the injury reporting sheets.

16.1.2 All players in AFL Barwon representative teams are responsible for recording all injuries at the discretion of the injured player or player's guardian (if under 18) on the Injury reporting sheet.

16.2 First Aid

16.2.1 Clubs shall be responsible for their own first aid through the home and away season and finals.

16.2.2 Clubs are to have ice available courtside.

16.3 Playing area safety checklist

16.3.1 Checklist to be completed before any games played. There may be a need to review this checklist throughout the day – e.g. inclement weather.

16.3.2 If after the review has taken place, a category has the answer "NO", then actions should be taken to fix the problem before any matches begin.

16.3.3 Any matters concerning court surface, goal posts or weather should be referred immediately to the AFL Barwon netball manager.

16.4 A copy of completed match day checklist must be submitted in the match day paperwork envelope.

16.5 A copy of the match day checklist can be found on the AFL Barwon website. (www.aflbarwon.com.au) or electronically through the Safe Netball App.

16.6 Heat Policy

In the event of extreme weather conditions above 28 degrees, the following steps must be taken:

16.6.1 All quarters will be reduced and breaks extended by the following:

- 11,13,15,17,19 and Under Matches:
7 minute quarters
3 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ Breaks, 5 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ Break.
- C Grade, D Grade & E Grade Matches:
7 minute quarters
3 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ Breaks, 5 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ Break.
- A Grade & B Grade Matches:
12 minute quarters
5 minute $\frac{1}{4}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ Breaks, 7 minute $\frac{1}{2}$ Break.

In the event of weather conditions of **over 35 degrees** it will be up to the discretion of the two clubs and umpires as to whether games will go ahead.

Clubs will be emailed on the Friday to advise if the above changes will be put in place on the weekend's matches. It is up to the clubs to inform both club umpires of these changes on match day. AFL Barwon will notify Panel Umpires of any changes.

16.6.2 Clubs will be emailed on the Friday/Tuesday for AFL Barwon Junior Netball matches of **over 35 degrees at 3:30pm** the decision will be made by AFL Barwon to cancel the matches. And all clubs will be notified by email by 3:30pm.

Please ensure sunscreen is readily available courtside for players and umpires.

16.7 Photography/Video Footage

No photographs or video footage is to be taken at matches without written consent of the opposing team manager or coach.

Clubs will be given a list of teams within the league that may not be photographed under any circumstances.

17. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

17.1 AFL Barwon will impose the prescribed penalty or any other penalty to any member/team that fails to adhere to these Bylaws. AFL Barwon as the governing body have the authority to identify breaches and enforce the by-law penalties to ensure the integrity of the competition is maintained at all times.

A team wishing to protest a scoring issue must:

17.1.1 Not sign the Official scoresheet; but mark it with notice of intention to protest - then notify AFL Barwon Netball Manager of the protest.

17.1.2 Lodge the protest in writing with the AFL Barwon Netball Manager within 48 hours of the match being played / finished.

17.1.3 AFL Barwon will then discuss the issue with the relevant Club or Teams and make a decision regarding the matter. AFL Barwon shall inform the party/ies involved of their decision either verbally or in writing; or

17.1.4 Have an informal meeting with the relevant party/ies in order to discuss and resolve the dispute.

17.1.5 AFL Barwon's decision on all By law breaches is final and cannot be appealed.

Any member of a Club or Team who does not agree with a penalty imposed by AFL Barwon for breaches of Netball Victoria/Australia codes of conduct, policies & regulations, may appeal through the AFL Barwon Appeals Officer (Region General Manager) as per the process stipulated in the by-laws.

The appeal must be accompanied by a \$250 cheque of which:

17.1.6 \$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is upheld.

17.1.7 Up to \$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is dismissed.
(At the discretion of the Appeals Board)

17.1.8 Up to \$150 will be returned to the Club if the appeal is not heard.
(At the discretion of the Appeals Board)

18. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Where a by-law or competition regulation is silent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of AFL Barwon Netball Competitions is maintained at all times. An appropriate penalty may also be enforced.

The appeals committee may, in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in these competition regulations relating to AFL Barwon.

19. INDEMNITY

Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded, AFL Barwon and its representative directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage, however caused, arising whilst participating as a member.

Uniform Register

Club	Dress	Shorts	Socks
Anglesea	Anglesea Netball Dress	Royal Blue	White
	Royal Blue & White		
Barwon Heads	Barwon Heads Netball Dress	Navy Blue or Black	White & Club Socks
	Navy, Sky Blue & White		
Bell Park	Bell Park Netball Dress	Black	White & Club Socks
	Green & White		
Colac	Colac Netball dress	Black	Any colour
	Black, gold and white		
Drysdale	Drysdale Netball Dress	Black or brown	White or black
	Brown & Gold		
Geelong Amateur	Geelong Amateur Dress	Black	White, Black or Club socks
	Green, Blue & White		
Geelong West Giants	Geelong West Dress	Black shorts or briefs	White or black
	Charcoal, Orange & White		
Grovedale	Grovedale Netball Dress	Club shorts or black	White, Black or Club socks
	Black and Yellow		
Lara	Lara Netball Dress	Lara Shorts	White or club socks
	Blue & White		
Leopold	Leopold Netball Dress	Black	White, Black or Club socks
	Green & Gold		
Modewarre	Modewarre Netball Dress	Maroon	White, Black or Club socks
	Maroon and Light blue		
Newcomb	Newcomb Netball Dress	Black or Maroon	White, Black or Club socks
	Maroon, Sky Blue & Yellow		
Newtown	Newtown Netball Dress	Black	All white or All black per team
	Red & Black		
North Shore	North Shore Netball Dress	Black or Blue	White, Black or Club socks
	Royal Blue & Yellow		
Ocean Grove	Ocean Grove Netball Dress	Black	White Socks
	Red & White		
Portarlington	Portarlington Netball Dress	Black or Navy	Any colour
	Red, Navy and White		
Queenscliff	Queenscliff Netball Dress	Royal blue shorts	White, Black or Club socks
	Royal blue, Red & White		
South Barwon	South Barwon Dress	Club Shorts- Royal Blue, Red & White	White, Black or Club socks
	Royal Blue, Red & White		
St Albans	St Albans Netball Dress	Black	White, Black or Club socks
	Black & White		
St Joseph's	St Joseph's Netball Dress	Black	White, Black or Club socks
	Red, Black & Gold		
St Marys	St Marys Netball Dress	Navy or Black	White, Black or Club socks
	Navy & Green		
Torquay	Torquay Netball Dress	Black	White or club socks
	Black & Yellow		

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